

Question on Notice

No. 620

Asked on Tuesday, 21 June 2022

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide the total revenue generated by each National Park (reported separately by source of revenue (from permits, fees, commercial activities, lease income, etc)), by location and year, for the last five years?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

Queensland has more than 300 national parks and over 700 other protected areas, State forests and land that are managed by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) in partnership with First Nations peoples.

QPWS supports millions of visitors to these areas annually. QPWS regulates camping on protected areas, recreation areas and State forests through a range of mechanisms including the requirement for visitors to obtain and pay for a camping or vehicle access permit. Activities such as recreational and commercial tours, scientific or educational research and permits to occupy protected areas also require a paid permit.

A suite of permit systems ensure the management of these areas and their ecologically sustainable use. These permit systems allow QPWS to regulate aspects of where, what and when activities occur, and to what extent. The Department of Environment and Science's financial system does not identify revenue generated by each individual national park.

The financial system records revenue by type of revenue. Revenue received for the last five years across QPWS managed areas is provided in the table below.

Account Group	Financial Year				
	2017/18 \$M	2018/19 \$M	2019/20 \$M	2020/21 \$M	2021/22 \$M
Camping Permits	8.54	8.73	7.81	12.02	10.96
Vehicle Access Fees	8.09	8.95	7.71	12.02	11.90
Occupation Permits	1.43	2.99	1.42	3.60	3.65
Commercial Activities *	5.24	5.26	4.31	1.44	1.71
Other Licences / Fees	0.40	0.38	0.22	0.46	0.50
Rent and Royalties	2.56	2.56	2.42	2.22	2.63
Sale of Products and Services	0.69	0.71	0.93	0.73	0.79
Total	26.95	29.58	24.82	32.49	32.14

*Commercial Activities – Lower revenue is due to the impact of COVID-19 and also reflects the fee waivers extended to tourism operators as part of the Queensland Government Industry Recovery Package.

A portion of this revenue is transferred directly to third parties that have service agreements with the department such as the Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) who manage the Minjerribah Recreation Area.

QPWS is continuing to invest in the management of our national parks including \$33.4 million to deliver capital works in the 2022-23 budget. This is in addition to the \$262.5 million over four years announced to expand our protected area network.