

Question on Notice

No. 828

Asked on Thursday, 15 June 2023

MS S BOLTON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (HON L LINARD)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Budget providing \$52m for the delivery of the ‘Values Based Management Framework’ for National Parks—

Will the Minister identify what increases this funding will deliver to improve maintenance, monitoring, weed and fire management and rehabilitation of national parks located on urban fringes with high visitation rates, including Noosa, Tewantin, Tuckekoi and the Great Sandy National Parks?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The \$52 million announced in the budget is to deliver the Revitalising National Parks Program, which includes delivery of high-quality visitor infrastructure, to support nature-based tourism in Queensland’s national parks.

The Values-Based Management Framework comprises \$8.8 million of the funding envelope, to be delivered over the next four years, with \$2.3 million per annum ongoing to support the Department of Environment and Science’s capacity to deliver effective park management across the existing 13 million hectare estate as it continues to grow.

The Values-Based Management Framework is a management effectiveness evaluation model that aligns with international best practice that will support the modernisation of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, with a focus on achieving good conservation outcomes for natural values, cultural values, and visitor experiences.

In 2023-24, the department’s key deliverables include the development of a management effectiveness evaluation strategy for parks, forests and reserves and the development and implementation of a new condition monitoring system that will identify Queensland’s most important values that are at risk.

The application of the Values-Based Management Framework will ensure evidence-based decision-making informs prioritisation of effort and focus in our business plans.

Parks, forests, and reserves in urban areas, such as the Noosa region are already benefitting from the Values-Based Management Framework. It has enabled the identification of the most important values, uses and risks for each park by setting management direction and allocating resources accordingly.

Additionally, \$37.5 million of the \$52 million announcement will deliver high-quality visitor infrastructure in high-visitation parks across Queensland including \$1.9 million for upgrades to the Coastal Walking Track and Lookout at Noosa National Park.