

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE — BILBIES

2017. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment:
- (1) For the one day workshop conducted by the Department of Parks and Wildlife on 10 October 2013 on Bilbies, with the purpose to determine the highest-priority research needs to ensure survival of viable populations of Bilbies I ask, does the Department of Parks and Wildlife propose to provide the participants of that workshop with an annual report on its achievements in implementing the agreed actions?
 - (2) What were the actions agreed to by the participants at that workshop?
 - (3) What was the dollar value of offset funds under Department of Parks and Wildlife control on 9 October 2014 that related to Bilbies?
 - (4) What offset funds were expended between 10 October 2013 and 9 October 2014 on Bilby projects?
 - (5) How much and on what projects were these funds expended?
 - (6) Against each of the actions agreed to by the workshop participants, what has been specifically achieved between 10 October 2013 and 9 October 2014 on Bilby projects?
 - (7) What research reports or other publications indicating outcomes have been published between 10 October 2013 and 9 October 2014 that relate to the agreed actions for Bilbies?

Hon Helen Morton replied:

- (1) No. The Department will provide annual progress reports of research activities to the companies providing offset funds for the bilby, as stipulated in the Memoranda of Understanding for those funds.
- (2) The main actions agreed to by workshop participants for the bilby included the development of a State Recovery Plan and investigating opportunities to progress agreed research priorities.
- (3) \$61 827.
- (4) \$250 544.
- (5) \$250 000 has been spent on three projects identified in the draft 2012–2021 Bilby Project Plan, developed by the Commonwealth and the Department. As the projects have been run concurrently, individual expenditure is not available. However, it is estimated that approximately \$38 000 has been spent undertaking a review of unpublished literature to better understand current knowledge on bilbies and identify knowledge gaps, approximately \$125 000 on development of a survey and monitoring program and approximately \$87 000 on establishing the Pilbara bilby monitoring program.
- (6) Progress continues on research projects associated with the bilby, including:
 - development of a bilby records database;
 - refinement of survey and monitoring methods;
 - establishment of the Pilbara-wide bilby survey and monitoring program and subsequent sampling to inform distribution, habitat requirements, biology and ecology.
- (7) One annual progress report on research activities associated with the Pilbara Bilby Project was published. The Pilbara Threatened Species theme in NatureMap, which facilitates the capture of bilby records, was launched. A Pilbara bilby information poster was produced.

[See tabled paper no 2314.]