

northern territory department of  
infrastructure, planning and environment

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annual report  
annual report  
2004-05  
2004 - 05

Working together for the *Conservation*  
and sustainable **Development**  
of the **Territory**

department of infrastructure, planning and environment

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Minister for Transport and Infrastructure  
Minister for Planning and Lands  
Parliament House  
DARWIN NT 0800

Minister for Natural Resources, the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Parks and Wildlife  
Parliament House  
DARWIN NT 0800

Dear Ministers

I am pleased to present you with the annual report of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment for the year ended 30 June 2005. The report describes the performance and key achievements of each of the department's output groups, as required by section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

I advise that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- a) proper records of all transaction affecting the department are kept and that employees under my control observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act*, its regulations and applicable Treasurer's Directions;
- b) procedures within the department afford proper internal control and a current description of such procedures is recorded in the accounting and property manual which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*;
- c) no indication of fraud, malpractice, major breach of legislation or delegation, major error in or omission from the accounts and records exists;
- d) in accordance with section 15 of the *Financial Management Act* I advise that as at 30 June 2005 the department had adequate internal audit capacity. Further, the results of all internal audit matters have been reported to me;
- e) the financial statements included in the annual report have been prepared from proper accounts and records and are in accordance with Treasurer's Directions; and
- f) all Employment Instructions issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment have been satisfied.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Butterworth  
Chief Executive Officer

September 2005

## How to Contact Us

### Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment

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Australia

**Katherine Regional Office:**

Government Centre, First Street  
Katherine Northern Territory  
Australia

**Nhulunbuy Regional Office:**

Lot 43 John Flynn Drive  
Nhulunbuy Northern Territory  
Australia

**Tennant Creek Regional Office:**

33 Leichardt Street  
Tennant Creek Northern Territory  
Australia

**Alice Springs Regional Office:**

Greatorex Building  
Corner Bath and Parsons Streets  
Alice Springs Northern Territory  
Australia

## From the Chief Executive Officer

Over 2004-2005, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and the Environment continued to work for conservation and sustainable development across the Territory, in line with the overall strategic directions of the Northern Territory Government. As part of DIPE Corporate Directions 2005-2008, all business plans integrated the goals of protecting our environmental heritage and biodiversity, while promoting development and economic growth.

Staff across the department were involved in the development and implementation of our business plans. Staff commitment is the most critical factor in achieving all our outcomes and ensuring our services are delivered effectively and efficiently. This annual report reflects the results of that commitment.

One component of staff commitment and satisfaction is communication across the department of goals, needs, ideas and achievements. This year, the regular flow of intradepartmental information was enhanced through electronic surveys, as well as through the extensive IT infrastructure upgrade.

One of the year's highlights was the completion of the Parks Masterplan. The plan was based on the latest scientific and environmental research, together with thorough consultation with stakeholders. Cultural, social and economic values are all incorporated into a framework resting on the importance of conserving biodiversity. The Masterplan has received international recognition as a model of environmental planning and is now open for public comment.

Another significant environmental milestone was the completion of the Integrated National Resource Management plan for the Northern Territory. Natural Resource Systems launched the Community Engagement and Communication component, so the community is aware of and can be involved in this program which gives us an overarching direction to managing the Territory's rich natural resources.

The two year Beef Roads program commenced this year, incorporating extensive, ongoing consultation with stakeholders. The road improvements have already made a difference to road users in the Katherine, Barkly and Alice Springs regions, facilitating the Territory's economic development.

All areas of the department continued to work with and for the community in implementing government services to the public. Transport safety has had a high profile this year, with road, rail, air and marine components, and an emphasis on ensuring that groups with special needs become familiar with safe strategies for travel.

The cane toad management strategy was successful in making Territorians in affected areas aware of this significant environmental threat – and of what they could do about it. The strategy had urban, rural and remote components, each adapted to the needs of the local community, and involving close liaison with diverse groups across the Territory.

The community gained a more convenient method of paying registration fees through the Motor Vehicle Registry Quickpay scheme, which was widely publicised and has had a positive response from our increasingly electronic society.

Our department has played a major role in the economic, cultural and environmental development of the Territory, providing wide-ranging essential services, implementing major infrastructure projects, keeping transport moving and safe, and managing and conserving our natural resources and heritage.



Sarah Butterworth  
Chief Executive Officer

## Our Vision

DIPE Corporate Directions 2005-2008 was developed this year. The directions are represented visually below:



### Working Together

Our vision statement is central to the department's directions, and so is in the centre of the graphic: *Working together for the conservation and sustainable development of the Territory*. Our vision statement succinctly reflects government objectives for DIPE's areas of responsibility. We work together with all our stakeholders: community, industry, and other government agencies, as well as internally.

All staff have responsibility to consider both conservation and sustainability in their everyday work, while promoting our key role in facilitating the growth and development of the Territory.

The four core outcomes shown in the four quadrants of the circle are shared by all groups and units across the department, helping us to work together towards our common goal.

**Integrated planning** requires all business units to have in place strategic plans appropriate to their area, which can then guide decision making across the department. All business plans must include strategies to achieve the core outcomes.

**Community alignment** requires strategic and operational activity to be clearly aligned to the environmental, economic and social needs and expectations of the government and the community.

**Effective legislation** requires units to ensure they use contemporary legislative and administrative frameworks, for fairness, efficiency and consistency.

**Competent, committed people** highlights the need to align staff with the vision of the organisation and the outcomes it has set itself to achieve.



The six business outcomes on the next band of the circle also reflect the integration of the department’s business units. They highlight synergies between groups, and provide a context for the detailed group/divisional outcomes, which are outlined in the *What we do* section (Performance Reporting starting on page 42). They are generic and each one applies to more than one business unit, as shown in the following matrix:

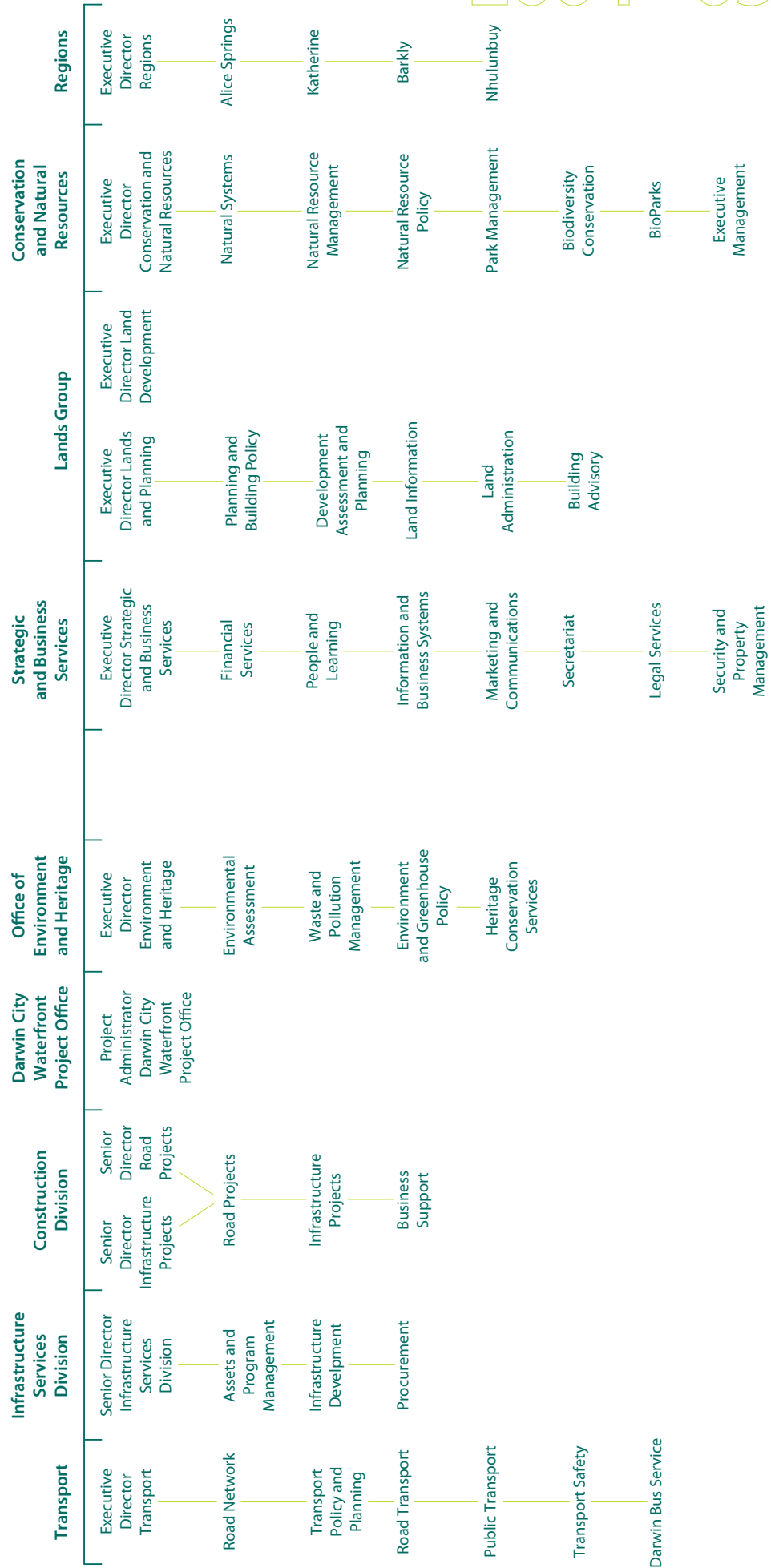
	Sustainable environment	Strategic land use	Sustainable built environment	Safe, effective transport systems	Regional development	High performing organisation
CNR	✓	✓			✓	✓
OEH	✓		✓		✓	✓
Lands		✓	✓		✓	✓
Transport	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ISD			✓		✓	✓
CD			✓	✓	✓	✓
Regions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SBS					✓	✓

- ✓ denotes core business
- denotes lead role

Outcome measures are in place for each outcome.

# Organisational Chart

## Chief Executive Officer

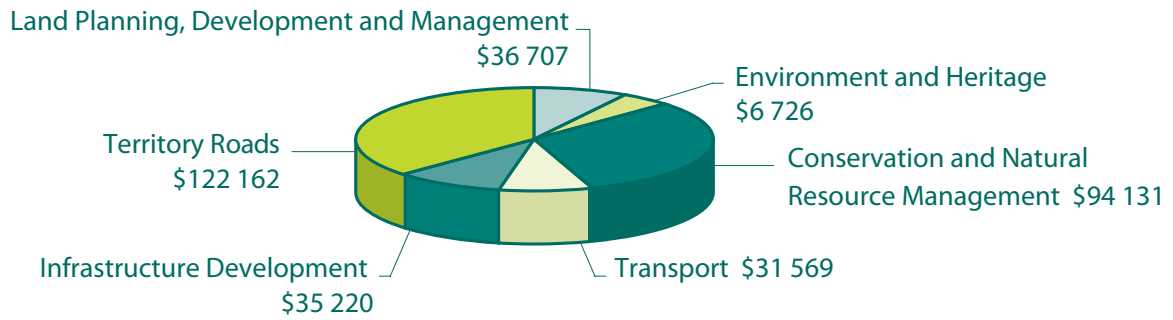


## Summary of outcomes and outputs

<b>Outcomes</b>	Land available for sustainable economic development	Sustain the Territory's environment protection and conservation of heritage and implementation of Greenhouse strategy	Sustainable use of land and water resources, effective ecosystem and parks management	Effective transport systems and services meet environmental and economic objectives	Government infrastructure meets community needs	Safe and efficient roads
<b>Output Groups</b>	<b>Planning Building and Development and Management</b>	<b>Environment and Heritage</b>	<b>Conservation and Natural Resource Management</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Infrastructure Development</b>	<b>Territory Roads</b>
<b>Outputs</b>	Land Information Infrastructure	Environmental Protection Services	Policy and Planning	Transport Policy and Planning	Infrastructure Development	Road Network Management
	Land Use Planning and Regulation	Heritage Conservation Services	Parks and Reserves Management	Marine and Rail Safety Regulation		Road User Management
	Building Regulation	Greenhouse Policy	Natural Resource Management	Passenger Transport Services		
	Land Management		Biodiversity Conservation *1	Transport Facilities		
	Land Development		Natural Systems			
	Darwin City Waterfront Development *2					

1. Originally Wildlife Management
2. New Output

### Expenditure by Output Group



- Territory Roads
- Land Planning, Development and Management
- Infrastructure Development
- Environment and Heritage
- Transport
- Conservation and Natural Resource Management

# About the Department

## Engaging with the Community

In 2004/05, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment continued to place a high priority on effectively engaging with the community. Several senior staff members participated in a community engagement 'Masterclass' facilitated by the Department of the Chief Minister. We adopted a Community Engagement Implementation Guide for use across the agency.

The department consulted extensively with the community throughout the year on a range of projects including:

- The Darwin Harbour Plan of Management
- Proposed land rezoning at Myilly Point
- The Daly Region Plan of Management
- Parks visitor surveys in various NT locations
- Larapinta Trail Management Strategy
- Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan for the NT
- Water Allocation Plans for Alice Springs, Katherine/Daly and Ti Tree
- Alice Springs Water Resource Strategy
- Katherine Weed Management Strategy
- Review of the *Pastoral Lands Act*
- EnvironmentNT Grants
- NT Parks Master Plan
- Litter and Recycling Grants
- Heritage Grants
- Stuart Highway Duplication
- Humpty Doo School Bus Interchange
- Public Environment Reports for:
  - Alice Springs Water Reuse Proposal
  - Aussie Prawns Aquaculture Proposal
  - Biodiesel proposal for East Arm Wharf
  - Bootu Creek Manganese Mine
  - Harts Range Garnet Mine
- Environmental Impact Statements on:
  - Fin Fish Farm, Port Patterson
  - Fin Fish Farm, Snake Bay

## Our Role in Crime Prevention

The Northern Territory Government is focused on making the Northern Territory a safer place to live and work and is implementing a range of crime prevention initiatives to achieve this.

Within the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment, our crime prevention initiatives during 2004/05 have included:

### Reducing opportunities for registering stolen and rebirthed vehicles

The Vehicle Theft Reduction program continued, with Motor Vehicle Registry working together with the police. This program is underpinned by the Territory's Written Off Vehicle Register and our participation in the National Exchange of Vehicle and Driver Information System (NEVDIS), a national 'mirror' database of currently registered and licensed drivers. NEVDIS allows the checking of all stolen, wrecked and written off vehicles to prevent their re-registration. Vehicle theft statistics gathered by the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council published in March 2005 indicate that the Northern Territory had 28% fewer vehicle thefts for 2004 compared to 2003. In the March 2005 quarter snapshot, the Council reported that the Northern Territory has had 186 vehicles stolen, of which 42 had not yet been recovered, giving the Northern Territory a 77% theft recovery rate to that time.

**Continued security upgrades** of Motor Vehicle Registry offices in Darwin, Palmerston, Casuarina and Katherine.

### Improved bus interchange security measures

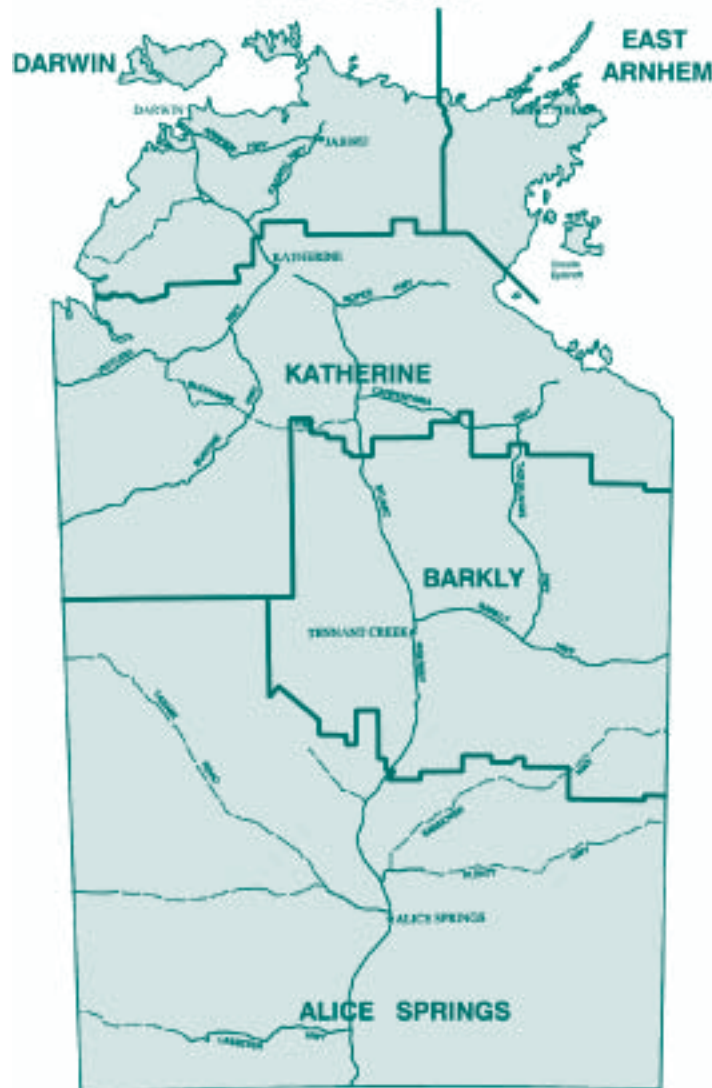
- There is now a security presence at Darwin, Casuarina and Palmerston interchanges from 6.30pm to 11.30pm Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.
- Monitoring systems are in place across the network (CCTV systems on board buses and at interchanges).
- Travel routes and shelter placements have been designed to take security concerns into account.
- Demand-responsive transport systems have been introduced, such as flexi-rider in Palmerston, which meets last buses at night and transports passengers to their door.
- Options to expand demand-responsive transport systems across the suburbs (particularly at night in the Northern suburbs, Palmerston and city areas) are being considered.

### Parks involvement in Diversionary Programs

- At risk individuals employed on remote area parks to assist with repairs and maintenance contracts and park management activities, with the guidance of Rangers.
- Maintained facilities at Leanyer Recreation Park which provides a venue for local youth to participate in recreation and sport.

## Many Places: Our Work in the Regions

NT Regions



Working together for conservation and sustainable development is a Territory-wide vision. Every region is involved in conserving our natural resources; every region is involved in creating and encouraging sustainable development. Our outcomes, from safe and efficient roads to sustainable use of land and water, are achieved cross-regionally.

The majority of our projects are developed and implemented on a Territory-wide basis. Some examples from last year include the Parks Masterplan, which provides a long-term framework for environmental management of all of our rich natural heritage; the cane toad control strategy; and the Beef Roads program, which involved pastoralists and other stakeholders in road improvements for the benefit of all Territorians.

Some projects have a specifically regional focus, and these are highlighted in the following sections. The variety of the projects also highlight the breadth and range of responsibilities and outcomes of our department.

## Darwin and Nhulunbuy Regions

- Completed environmental assessment of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alcan Alumina Refinery Expansion; the planning and grant of a lease for part of the new Pre-Assembled Modules (PAMs) Wharf in Melville Bay; and the preparation of a revised town plan for Nhulunbuy.
- Coordinated agency responses to Woodside's requirements for the proposed Blacktip gas plant at Wadeye, including EIS comments and the preparation of amended planning regulations for the facility.
- Captured or updated topographic mapping or photography over the Cox Peninsula and Marrakai areas, 11 small towns and 20 remote Aboriginal communities.
- Cross-agency involvement in assessment, evaluation and planning of the Darwin City Waterfront redevelopment.
- Started construction of Stage 1 of a Darwin rural school interchange to improve services and safety for rural school students.
- Developed numerical groundwater models for the major aquifers in the Darwin Rural Area.
- Developed a hydrodynamic and sediment transport model for the Daly River estuary in collaboration with the Australian Institute of Marine Science.
- Completed a major survey of plants and animals in Garig Gunak Barlu National Park.
- Completed the first major review of the insectivorous bat fauna of the Top End.
- In collaboration with Indigenous Ranger groups, monitored the ongoing success of the northern quolls translocated to two islands off Arnhem Land.
- Built a barge landing to the lighthouse precinct at Cape Don.
- Improved the walking tracks at Florence Falls in Litchfield National Park.

## Katherine Region

- Organised and implemented joint management camps and information sharing with Traditional Owners in national parks.
- Completed vegetation mapping, and analysed the seeding patterns and response to fire regimes of grass species in Nitmiluk National Park.
- Achieved the off-take of 147 280 horses and donkeys from pastoral land as part of the six year Victoria River District Pest Declaration program, primarily through aerial removal operations, as well as through ground shooting and some pet meat operations.
- Commenced preconstruction work on the Victoria Highway for bridges over the Victoria River, Lost Creek, Sandy Creek and Joe Creek.
- Commenced upgrade of pastoral roads under the Beef Roads program.
- Developed numerical groundwater models for the Tindal Limestone aquifer.



- Commenced the Katherine Regional Weed Management Strategy, with consultation with the Katherine Regional Weed Advisory Committee.
- Upgraded remote schools and homeland centres under the ongoing \$6 million remote schools upgrade program.

## **Barkly Region**

- Completed the rangelands assessment of the Barkly Pastoral District for the Australian Collaborative Rangeland Information System State of the Environment Report.
- Facilitated the resumption of air services for the Tennant Creek community.
- Developed educational material about biodiversity for pastoralists in the Barkly Tablelands, which will be delivered on-property as part of the Department of Business Industry and Resource Development's Rangeland Management Course.
- Completed construction of a \$1.5 million renal clinic in Tennant Creek, facilitating better health outcomes for renal patients in the Barkly region.
- Continued construction of government employee housing in remote areas with a budget of \$2.8 million.
- Commenced upgrade of pastoral roads under the Beef Roads program.
- Completed 164 km of re-gravelling of the unsealed road network to maintain access to remote communities and the pastoral industry at a cost of \$3.62 million.
- Completed improved access to Borroloola via the Carpentaria Highway.
- Completed a landscaping masterplan for Mary Ann Dam in Tennant Creek.
- Translated an instructional seat belt/child restraint training video into Indigenous languages for use in the Tennant Creek area.

## **Alice Springs Region**

- Developed new interpretive displays on geology for the Alice Springs Desert Park and new audio interpretation to complement the display at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station Post and Telegraph Office.
- Continued detailed investigations of the groundwater behaviour of aquifers in the Alice Springs and Ti-Tree Regions.
- Designed a Soil Aquifer Treatment (SAT) system with CSIRO to treat the effluent from the Alice Springs Water Stabilisation Ponds for the Power Water Corporation.
- Worked to attract a national airport conference to Alice Springs.
- Commenced upgrade of pastoral roads under the Beef Roads program.
- Continued the Stage 3 upgrade of the Tanami Road, to improve access for mining, pastoralists, tourists and remote communities and reduce maintenance costs.

- Commenced the three year upgrade of the West MacDonnell Range Tourist Loop Road.
- Approval granted for remote area subdivisions in Harts Range and Ti Tree for residential development.
- Jointly hosted a National Indigenous Road Safety Forum with the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.
- Entered into a sponsorship agreement with the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association to develop road safety advertising targeting Indigenous people.
- Developed a water efficiency program for Alice Springs.
- Consulted on the draft Alice Springs Region Water Allocation Plan.
- Continued implementation of the Ti Tree Water Allocation Plan.
- Delivered the WaterWise schools education program for Alice Springs.

# Corporate Governance

## Overview

For organisations to perform well and maintain their reputation, sound governance is important. Effective performance by the Executive Management Board helps ensure that objectives are realised, resources are well-managed, that structures encourage compliance with procedures, and the interests of stakeholders are reflected in decisions. Performance management procedures are reported on in the human resource accountability section: Many People.

The annual report is a component of governance, and provides formal accountability for the department's performance, finances, mission and management philosophy.

## Business Planning

Over 2004-2005, the corporate directions and business plans for the organisation were extensively reviewed, incorporating wide consultation with business units and stakeholders. New plans will be delivered during 2005-06. This planning process enabled development of a clear vision of the strategic issues the department will focus on in the future.

Business planning workshops were developed in all divisions and Government Business Divisions (GBDs) to:

- provide an overview of the strategic directions of the agency; and
- facilitate an understanding of how divisional and regional service delivery fits in with the agency's objectives.

Staff participation created an opportunity for input and ownership of projects and outcomes.

Procurement delegations and finance delegations are currently in the process of being reviewed and re-issued.

## Decision Making

The Executive Management Board includes the Executive Directors and the Chief Executive. It meets monthly, with several meetings each year in the regions.

DIPE has a number of sub committees, listed below, which report to the Executive Management Board, and provide an increased focus on the critical areas of the agency's activities.

In addition to these, regular reviews are conducted of the agency's performance in delivering the government's Capital Works, Minor New Works and Repairs & Maintenance programs.

DIPE is responsible for administering a range of statutory authorities and bodies. These are listed in full in the Statutory Authorities and Bodies page 190.

These actions and committees provide a strong and relevant governance framework which will receive further emphasis during 2005-06.

## Sub-Committee Reports

### Risk Management and Security

The committee oversees risk management audits, principles and practices in the department. Risks include environmental, financial, operational, business continuity, legal and occupational health and safety. A risk register has been compiled, and a risk assessment framework is followed in implementing control and prevention measures.

Each director is responsible for reviewing the register, identifying new risks and ensuring controls are in place.

#### Key Outcomes

- Chaired the NT Transport Security Committee, which includes representation from key Northern Territory and Federal Government agencies.
- Participated in the National Transport Security Working Group, which reports to the Standing Committee on Transport and is responsible for developing policy in support of national transport security.
- As a public awareness initiative, displayed stickers and posters on all buses and at bus interchanges advising customers to report potential security issues such as unattended bags.

### Sustainability

The committee was established by Executive Management Board in November 2004 in recognition that the Department has a number of areas that are engaged in advising on sustainability issues. The sub-committee develops strategies to avoid inconsistencies and duplication of effort.

The committee is currently chaired by the Office of Environment and Heritage with representatives from areas of the department involved in sustainability activities.

#### Key Outcomes

- Provided a forum for coordination of sustainability policy and advice across the Department.
- Focused on the built environment including industry and transport.
- Clarified roles within the Department on sustainability issues.
- Identified gaps in sustainability policy development and implementation.

### Audit and Compliance

#### Key Outcomes

- Provided advice to ensure that audits impact upon procurement practices.
- Developed systems to use internal audit as a governance tool.
- Reviewed Procurement Delegations and Financial Delegations.

## Information Management

### *Key Outcomes*

- Established a business information systems support service.
- Significantly improved the department's records management practices.
- Successfully processed all access to information (FOI) applications.

## People Development

### *Key Outcomes*

- Implemented a comprehensive learning and development program for the department.
- Established senior management forums to promote mentoring, succession planning and flexible work practices across the department.
- Completed departmental staff satisfaction survey.
- Established Recruitment and Retention Taskforce.
- Completed Recruitment and Retention survey with staff that left the Department between June and December 2004.
- Completed a review of People and Learning branch's human resources role.
- Reviewed a range of Department policies including: Acceptance of Gifts and Benefits Policy; Staff Selection Policy; Media Policy, Corporate Polo Shirt Policy; Workplace Bullying Policy and Community Engagement Implementation Guide.
- Improved processes and resources for early careers staff and managers.
- Participated in the Futures Expo held in Katherine, Darwin, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek. The Expo is targeted at more than 2000 secondary school students, parents, teachers and other young people who are exploring their future training, education and career choices and is part of a longer term strategy to increase awareness amongst future graduates of careers available in DIPE.
- Provided support for an Indigenous student to participate in the Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School in Sydney.

## Regional Development

### *Key Outcomes*

- Reported on the outcomes from Regional Development Board meetings.
- Provided feedback on regional development plans as they impact on the department.
- Identified departmental issues that will have or are having an impact on achieving regional objectives.
- Identified departmental issues that are impeding the achievement of regional objectives, recommended solutions and sought Executive Management Board support.
- Provided monthly Regional Co-ordination Committee reports with departmental implications.

## Corporate Communication

Corporate governance is most effective in an environment where information flows through established channels, across groups, sections and levels. The department has developed strategies and tools to achieve effective internal and external communication.

### Intranet and Internet

The department has an intranet site for staff, which provides access to a wealth of information from news stories on current projects, to employment information and training opportunities.

Our internet site is the electronic interface between the public and the department. It provides a broad range of information on departmental services, products and responsibilities and also provides the opportunity for the public to give us feedback. In the 2004/05 year, we received approximately 300 emails asking us for information or providing us with feedback on our department.

Both sites are managed internally and reviewed on a regular basis to ensure accuracy of information and ultimate accessibility.

### CEO's Newsletter

A weekly newsletter from the CEO is distributed to all staff across the agency via email. It is also available on the intranet site. The newsletter provides staff with updates on corporate initiatives and developments, as well as acknowledging their contributions to key projects and events. Whilst many of these were internal projects involving different groups within the department, there were also other community-based activities, such as shows and events, that staff contributed to in a significant way.

### Friday Round-Up

The Marketing & Communications Unit continued to produce a weekly wrap up of local media coverage reflecting the department, known as *Friday Round-Up*. It is distributed at the end of each week via email and is also accessible through the intranet site.

### Communications Network

The Marketing & Communications Unit runs a Communications Network meeting several times a year to bring together staff across the agency who play a lead role in education or communications activity. The forum aims to share information, resources and ideas and build communications and marketing capacity across the department. In 2004/05, two meetings were held with approximately 20-25 people attending each one. The agenda covered a range of communications topics including advertising, media liaison and at the second meeting, a guest speaker presented on Crisis Communication during the Bali bombing. It is hoped that the meetings will continue to run 2-3 times per year.

# Executive Management Board in Profile

## **Sarah Butterworth – Chief Executive Officer**

Sarah was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment in July 2004 after 32 years of service in the public sector in the Northern Territory. She has a Graduate Diploma in Public Sector Executive management and is a member of the Institute of Company Directors. Before moving to the Department, Sarah was Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Corporate and Information Services, a position she had held since its inception in October 1998. She is a former Chief Executive Officer of the Work Health Authority and Deputy Secretary of the Department of Asian Relations, Trade and Industry; the then Power and Water Authority; and the Department of the Chief Minister. She has also served as 'alternate' Commissioner for Public Employment and acted in the role for extensive periods.

## **David Ritchie - Executive Director Conservation and Natural Resources**

David joined the Department in 2002 and has been working in the Northern Territory for 25 years, mostly in the areas of cultural heritage management and Indigenous policy. His academic background is in anthropology. David was Chief Executive of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority and he has also worked for the Northern Territory Museum, Northern Land Council, the Australian Heritage Commission and the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs. David was a foundation member of the NT Heritage Advisory Council and currently serves on the Boards of the Tropical Savannas CRC and Conservation Land Corporation. He is a fellow of the Australian Anthropological Society and Australian Institute of Company Directors.

## **Neville Jones - Executive Director Land Development**

Neville has worked in broad-ranging Northern Territory public sector roles for more than 30 years. He transferred to the new department from his position as Deputy Secretary (Projects) with the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment. He worked as the Department of Lands' Alice Springs-based Assistant Director, Planning and Development, in the 1980s and was later the Director of Land Excision Branch. Neville spent three years working for two Chief Ministers before becoming the Senior Policy Advisor with Lands and Housing in 1989. A graduate of the Australian School of Pacific Administration, he also headed the Department of the Chief Minister's Policy and Coordination Division and Office of Aboriginal Development.

## **Rod Applegate – Acting Executive Director Lands and Planning**

Rod graduated in 1978 from the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Hons). He started his career as a Soil Conservation Officer in 1979 with Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission overseeing the development of the 2 uranium mines in the Alligator Rivers Region and the rehabilitation of the Rum Jungle mine site. He has extensive experience in natural resource management, planning and policy development. Rod has also been instrumental in developing satellite based monitoring systems to track change in the condition of the Territory's landscapes. He has overseen the successful delivery of Commonwealth Natural Heritage Trust funding for natural resource management projects across the Territory for the past 9 years. Rod has a Graduate Certificate in Business Administration (Executive) from Mt Eliza Business School and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

### **Chris Bigg - Executive Director Transport**

Chris joined the department in 2003 from the Department of the Chief Minister where he was Deputy Chief Executive. He has a wide transport and policy background with two years in the former Department of Mines and Energy, 15 years with the former Department of Transport and Works (culminating in Deputy Secretary Transport) and 10 years in the airline industry. Chris is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and has a Masters Degree in transport economics.

### **Lyn Allen – Executive Director Environment and Heritage**

Lyn was appointed to the position of Executive Director in the Office of Environment and Heritage in August 2004. Lyn has a long-standing commitment to ecologically sustainable development, and widespread experience in the environment area with both government and non-government organisations. Before moving to her current position, Lyn worked for the Queensland Government providing high-level policy advice on significant environmental and land management issues through her role as Director of Environment and Resource Policy in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. However Lyn is no stranger to the Territory, having first moved to Darwin in 1984 as the inaugural coordinator of the newly established Environment Centre NT. She has also worked for several Territory organisations such as Greening Australia NT, Katherine Regional Aboriginal Legal Aid Service and the Menzies School of Health Research. Lyn has an honours degree in environmental studies, a Masters of Business Administration and in 2003 completed a Graduate Diploma in Technology Management focused on understanding and promoting innovation.

### **Nick Pellissier – Executive Director Strategic and Business Services**

Nick has been in the public service in the Northern Territory for 30 years. Nick has worked in predominantly finance or customer service roles with some time as the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. Nick's formal qualification is in IT and management accounting with post graduate completion of the Executive Development Program. Nick has worked in remote communities and a range of agencies including 13 years in the former Department of Transport and Works.

### **John Baskerville - Executive Director Regions**

John was born in Mudgee, the premier wine growing area in New South Wales. After having spent a considerable period of his working life throughout the Pacific regions, the Philippines and Papua New Guinea working on World Bank development projects, John and his family moved to Darwin in 1975 after Cyclone Tracy to help with the rehabilitation of Darwin's electricity supply. John was project manager for the Darwin city electricity supply undergrounding project, and transmission tower line projects. He managed the Ben Hammond workshop complex for a number of years. John has an electrical engineering background with extensive experience in power transmission construction and maintenance. This led to the request in 1984 to transfer to Alice Springs for three weeks to address a problem with the Northern Territory Electricity Commission (NTEC). Twenty years later, John remains in Central Australia as the NT Government's senior representative. As Chairman of the Regional Coordination Committee, John is instrumental in progressing the Alice in Ten projects. John also has responsibility for the economic, resource and infrastructure development of the regions.



## **Greg Mariager – Senior Director Road Projects**

Greg joined the Department in 2004, following a civil engineering career with VicRoads. He has worked primarily in regional road construction and maintenance, together with a period in Melbourne undertaking strategic and project planning. Greg was involved with setting up performance based routine maintenance contracts, commercialisation of in-house sealing operations, setting up quality assurance, and regional change to the Purchaser/Provider model. Prior to his appointment in the Territory, Greg was the Manager Program Delivery, Northern Victoria, based in Bendigo. Greg has delivered papers on 'Managing Heritage Bridges' and 'Development of an Overtaking Lanes strategy' at Australian Road Research Board conferences in Cairns and Canberra. Greg completed a Master Business Administration at Monash University in 1990.

## **Kevin Williams – Senior Director Infrastructure Projects**

Kevin joined the Northern Territory Government in 1979, following the granting of self-Government, as a structural engineer responsible for the rapid development of bridgeworks and transport infrastructure in the developed centres of the Territory and its road network. Following a decade of achievements in this field, Kevin transferred to senior management roles in the portfolios of lands, housing, libraries and local government, with an additional period of time operating in the policy, intergovernmental and operational functions for the delivery of health services in the Territory. Kevin returned to the transport and infrastructure role for the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment in 2002 and is responsible for project managing the delivery of much of Government's infrastructure programs.

## **Chris Smith – Acting Senior Director Infrastructure Services**

Chris has been in the Territory since July 2004 having moved from Western Australia where he enjoyed various design, development and management roles in the mining industry, State government and Local government. Chris' academic background is in Planning and Business and he has considerable experience in project development and management and in public sector asset management.

## Information Act

Under section 11 of the *Information Act* ("the Act"), the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment is required to prepare an annual report detailing:

- (a) the structure and functions of the organisation;
- (b) the kinds of government information usually held by the organisation;
- (c) the organisation's procedures for providing access under Part 3 (Access and Correction Rights) to government information held by the organisation; and
- (d) the organisation's procedures for correcting under Part 3 (Access and Correction Rights) personal information held by the organisation.

This is the second Annual Report meeting these requirements since the commencement of the Act on 1 July 2003.

The report has been prepared by the Strategic and Business Services' Information Unit, which manages the responsibilities of the Act for the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment.

### Types of government information held by the Department

The department holds a number of different types of government records:

- personnel records, including personal and private information;
- recruitment records;
- policies and procedures, including manuals;
- forms, including applications, licences, and permits and approvals;
- administration files;
- ministerial correspondence and cabinet documents;
- training records;
- management files, including:
  - strategic records;
  - financial and retail records;
  - contractual and tender records;
  - property and security records;
  - management program records;
  - asset management records;
- databases of electronic records and departmental functions;
- legal files, including hardcopy legislation;
- regulatory enforcement actions;
- registers;
- for boards, tribunals, committees and working parties, records of members, agendas, minutes, and papers;
- for event management, records of sponsorship, funding agreements, and grants;

- maps;
- surveys;
- designs and technical drawings;
- research, study, technical and road condition reports;
- visual media, including photographs;
- parks administration records;
- works programs records;
- volunteer programs records;
- community consultation records, including information programs discussion papers, and liaison;
- newsletters and information brochures; and
- library records, including reference material, collections and publications.

A comprehensive list of publications is accessible via the department's internet site: [www.dpi.nt.gov.au/foi/publicinfo.html](http://www.dpi.nt.gov.au/foi/publicinfo.html).

### **Procedures for making an application for government and personal information under Part 3 of the Act**

Information on how to make an application under the Act can be obtained from:

- the department's internet site at [www.dpi.nt.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nt.gov.au);
- an information brochure available at the lodgement points in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs; or
- the Information Unit.

#### **Contact details are:**

##### *Information Unit*

Office: The Manager  
Information Unit  
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment  
Energy House  
Level 2  
18 Cavenagh Street  
DARWIN NT 0800

Postal address: The Manager  
Information Unit  
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 2520  
DARWIN NT 0801

Telephone: (08) 8924 7213      Fax: (08) 8924 7079      Email: [Infoact.DIPE@nt.gov.au](mailto:Infoact.DIPE@nt.gov.au)

### **Lodgement Points**

Darwin: Development Assessment/Building Advisory Services  
Ground Floor  
38 Cavenagh Street  
Darwin NT 0800

Katherine: Lands  
1st Floor Government Centre  
First Street  
Katherine NT 0850

Alice Springs: Lands and Planning  
1st Floor Alice Plaza  
Todd Mall  
Alice Springs NT 0870

### **Completing an application**

Applications may be made in writing, by email or by completing an official application form.

Lodgement of applications can be made by post, email or in person at a lodgement point. Applications from remote centres may be lodged at police stations.

Applications must:

- be written;
- include the name of the applicant;
- provide sufficient details to identify the information sought;
- specify an address to which correspondence regarding the application may be sent; and
- include the application fee of \$30.00 (not applicable for personal information).

An application cannot be accepted until this information is supplied.

Any difficulties will be discussed with the applicant by telephone or in writing.

### **Application and processing fees**

Fees apply for obtaining government information and are set out in the Regulations to the Act. The application fee is \$30.00. The application fee (if applicable) must be paid before an application is accepted.

In addition there is provision for the charging of processing fees that are calculated in accordance with the Schedule of Fees in the Regulations to the Act.

Applications for personal information do not attract an application fee, nor fees for searching, retrieving, considering and making a decision. However, fees do apply for reproduction of personal information.

### **Application to waive or reduce fees**

Applicants may apply for a waiver or reduction of fees. Applications are assessed on the grounds set out under section 156 of the Act. A public sector organisation may waive or reduce a fee because of financial hardship or other special circumstances.

Application forms are available from the department's internet site and at all lodgement points within the Territory.

### Review of decisions

Under section 38 of the Act, applicants have a right to seek a review of a decision made after 1 July 2004. A person aggrieved by a decision of a public sector organisation may apply for review of a decision for either government or personal information. Applicants are advised of their review rights in their letter of decision.

Applications for review must:

- be in writing;
- specify the name of the applicant;
- identify the decision and the application on which it was made;
- set out the reasons for seeking a review of the decision; and
- specify an address to which correspondence regarding the review may be sent to the applicant.

Reviews are conducted by a person of equivalent or higher level than the original decision-maker. Fees and charges may apply.

### Procedures for correcting personal information under Part 3 of the Act

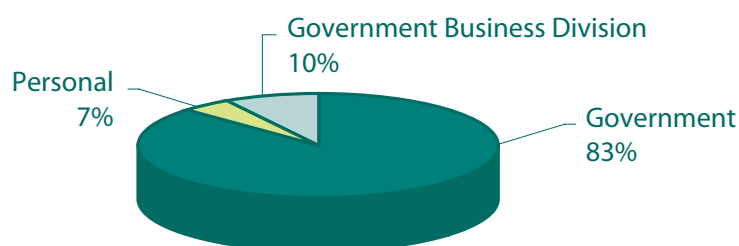
People have the right to request that the department correct personal information they believe is inaccurate, incomplete or out of date.

The department may decide to:

- make the correction specified in the application;
- make a correction different from the one requested; or
- refuse to correct the information.

If the department refuses to correct the information, it must supply the reasons for the refusal. If the department has refused to correct the information and the applicant feels the information is inaccurate, incomplete or out of date, they may request the department add a statement to that effect to the information.

### Information Act statistics for Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment



## Many People: Our Staff

### Overview

The department's work in balancing development with conservation can only be achieved through its people. The department has taken a strategic approach to workforce planning and supporting staff in continuously striving to realise our corporate goals and their individual potential.

The department's philosophy is underpinned by three overarching principles:

- Engage with people to encourage the flow of information across the department.
- Invest in people through training targeted to our goals.
- Empower people to take responsibility and commit themselves to their work.

As part of our focus on communication, review, and improvement, a staff survey across the whole agency was undertaken to gauge satisfaction. The anonymous electronic survey provided an opportunity for everyone to voice their views and proved to be an excellent starting point for more detailed discussions about issues within business groups. This led to agreed strategies to improve job satisfaction over time. The agency gained baseline data on which to build programs and directions, which was used to inform the revised Human Resources (HR) Strategy.

This three year plan focuses on developing competent committed people capable of meeting the organisational challenges and presents strategies to deliver longer term human resource needs and priorities.

A Recruitment and Retention Taskforce with cross agency membership was established to research and address issues identified through consultation.

The People and Learning Consultants continued to act as business partners with work groups across the agency providing advice and support to managers on a range of people issues.

### Our Staff

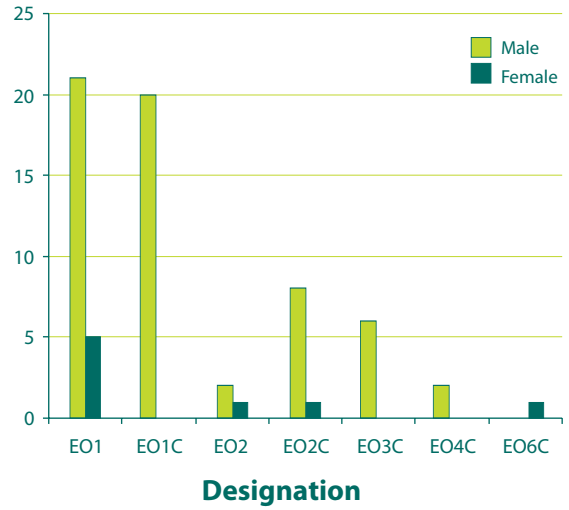
Our wide-ranging department means that we have a staff made up of a diverse range of people with a wide range of expertise and abilities. There are 1528 staff members in 28 locations across the Territory.

See graphs on next page for more details.

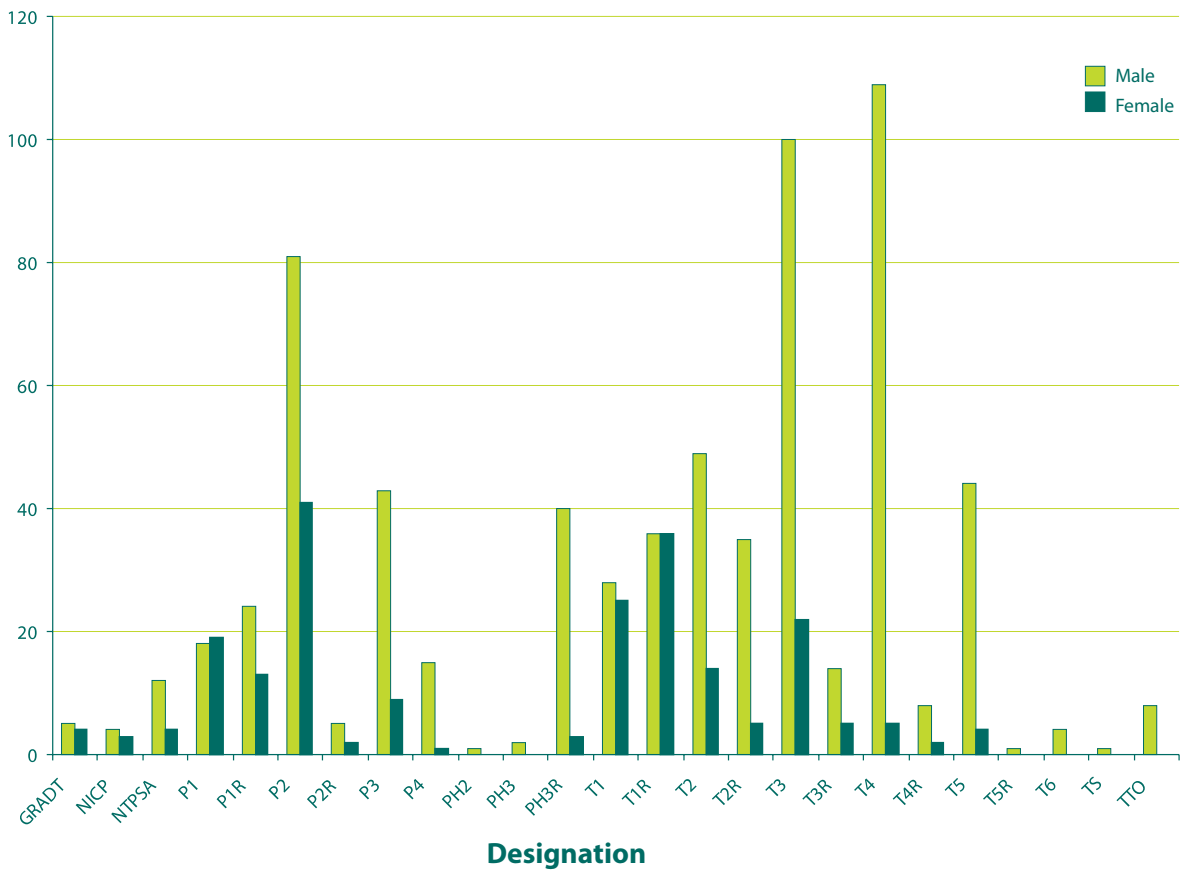
### Administration



### Executive



### Professional, Trainees, Physical and T4Technical



## Diversity

The department is committed to recognising staff diversity and a workplace culture that supports the balance of work, family and lifestyle responsibilities. A Diversity Policy is in place to address equal opportunity, harassment, discrimination, flexible work practices and valuing diversity. Staff can access the policy easily through the intranet site.

The agency now offers employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities. In this reporting period, two participants who commenced on a training opportunity have successfully gained fulltime permanent employment with the department. Further expansion of this trial program is anticipated with the assistance of Disability Works Australia, a specialised disability recruitment agency.

The department has commenced a pilot program (Diversity At Work) to raise awareness of harassment issues in the workplace. It is anticipated that the program will be expanded across the agency.

## Equal opportunity program

The Department's Diversity Policy reinforces its commitment to managing individuals from different backgrounds to achieve organisational outcomes.

Equal opportunity, harassment, discrimination, flexible work practices and valuing diversity are addressed in the Diversity Policy which is available on the department's intranet site for ease of access and transparency.

The Agency has more than 30 diversity contact officers who are trained in anti-discrimination legislation and who are able to provide information and support to employees. The names of the contact officers are available on the intranet. Diversity Officers are located in all regions and have been trained as a first point of contact for other employees with concerns, issues or questions. Taking on the responsibility of Diversity Officer is voluntary.

Employees are encouraged to undertake diversity, anti-discrimination and cultural awareness training.

The department conducted a Census Day on 30 July 2004 to collect Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) data to support of whole of government strategies such as Indigenous Employment, Indigenous Career Development, and Workforce Planning. Capturing the EEO data assists the department to address the needs of its workforce and plan for the future. Prior to the Census Day, 368 people within the department had recorded their EEO data, post Census Day this number rose to 721 (95% increase).

## Indigenous career development

The department has 18 Indigenous trainees and apprentices under the following programs:

- Cadetships through the National Indigenous Cadetship Program
- Technical Trainee Program (Civil)
- School Based Apprenticeships and New Apprenticeships through the NTPS Entry Level Program
- Apprenticeships through Aboriginal organisations
- Other programs such as joint training initiatives with Aboriginal organisations



## **Training and Staff Development**

Training and staff development programs are devised and implemented in line with the government and corporate directions, to maximise the potential for achievement of targets through a trained and supported work force.

### **Induction and Probation Process**

The induction program provides new employees with a snapshot of the department, its strategic direction, its core business and outcomes. The program also covers topics such as the Executive Management Board, code of conduct, occupational health and safety, work life balance and the On-line Self-Service Centre. This program is offered on a regular basis in Darwin and Alice Springs, with visits to Tennant Creek and Katherine.

Information on the probation process is provided to all new staff at agency induction courses and is available on the department's On-line Self-Service Centre.

### **Corporate training**

More than 747 people took part in corporate training initiatives in 2004-05 including:

- Induction
- Taking responsibility for doing the right thing
- Mentoring – the missing link
- Leadership Coaching (GROW)
- Financial fitness
- You and your career
- Staff selection
- Salary sacrifice
- Trim information sessions
- You've got email
- Clear writing, making writing easier
- Work-life balance
- Working Smart with Microsoft Outlook
- Introduction to Microsoft Outlook.

### **Management training**

A number of staff participated in a range of senior management programs, including the Executive Development Program, the Leadership Development Program, the Strategic Leadership Program, and the Leadership and the Middle Manager Program. 20 are currently involved in the Public Sector Management Program, and there are 13 participants in the Certificate IV in Government.

### **Gender specific training**

Seven staff also participated in the Springboard Development Program for women, which is designed to enhance self-esteem and confidence.

### **Studies Assistance**

Studies assistance was used by 108 staff to undertake studies ranging from certificates to masters qualifications. The department strongly supports employees gaining relevant professional, technical and other skills through tertiary study.

## **Trainees**

### *Futures Expo*

DIPE participated in the Futures Expo held in Katherine, Darwin, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek. The Expo is targeted at more than 2000 secondary school students, parents, teachers and other young people who are exploring their future training, education and career choices and is part of a longer term strategy to increase awareness amongst future graduates of careers available in DIPE.

The department employed 43 trainees from the following categories:

### *Graduate Development Program*

The Graduate Development program provides university graduates the opportunity to begin their career in an environment that continues their professional training in a supervised workplace. The agency employed nine graduates in a range of disciplines, including ecology, botany, aquaculture, and engineering.

### *National Indigenous Cadetship Program (NICP)*

The NICP is a career development program for Indigenous people which offers financial support during their tertiary studies. The program is funded by the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments and is aimed at improving the professional employment prospects of Indigenous people. The agency employed eight cadets in the following disciplines: business; resource management; natural and cultural resource management; science and architecture.

### *New Apprenticeship Program*

The New Apprenticeship Program provides Territorians the opportunity to gain a qualification through structured employment and training. The Apprenticeship Program has given 18 trainees opportunities in horticulture, conservation & land management, animal management, business office skills, refrigeration mechanics and electrical work.

### *Technical Traineeship*

The Technical Traineeship provides trainees with the skills, knowledge, experience and opportunity to gain a higher level certificate or diploma level qualification in the technical field. There were eight technical trainees in a range of disciplines including civil engineering and building.

The agency has reviewed the traineeship process and has developed a comprehensive handbook for each of the programs that assist both agency staff and the trainees.

## Human Resource Accountability

The department employs diverse and comprehensive strategies to ensure accountability and transparency in human resource management, in line with government policy.

Performance agreements and policies and legislation are highlighted below. Details of industrial relations issues and occupational health and safety policies can be found in the relevant sections of the following Report Against Employment Instructions.

### Performance agreements

Performance agreement discussions were held in all divisions and GBDs. Discussions enabled staff to highlight achievements, receive feedback on performance against job description and feedback on their contribution to the area's business plan, as well as to identify goals for Individual Learning Plans, and assist employees with career development.

New forms were developed to make the process more user-friendly for managers and employees and short sessions on giving feedback were made available for work teams through the department's People and Learning consultants.

### Policies and legislation

A range of departmental policies were developed and reviewed including Acceptance of Gifts and Benefits Policy; Staff Selection Policy; Professional Development Allowance, Home Garaging, Study Assistance, Media Policy; Corporate Polo Shirt Policy; Workplace Bullying Policy, and Community Engagement Implementation Guide.

All the content on the On-line Self-Service Centre is constantly reviewed to ensure legislative compliance and alignment with the agency's corporate directions.

## Section 28 Reporting Against Employment Instructions

EMPLOYMENT INSTRUCTION	KEY FEATURES
<p><b>No 1</b> <b>Advertising, Selection, Appointment, Transfer and Promotion</b></p>	<p>During the reporting period 315 applicants were selected for positions advertised through the Employment Opportunities Website.</p> <p>131 short term vacancies were advertised across the Agency as development opportunities.</p> <p>During the reporting period six promotion appeals were lodged. Of these five appeals were finalised with four being disallowed and one being withdrawn during the reporting period.</p> <p>People and Learning staff provided assistance to managers with writing Job Descriptions and Job Analysis Questionnaires.</p> <p>People and Learning also provided assistance to managers and staff with staff selection processes</p>
<p><b>No 2</b> <b>Probation</b></p>	<p>The probation process is explained to all new staff during the Induction Program.</p> <p>Information about the probation process is available on the agency's On-line Self Service Centre web site.</p> <p>An in-house Probation Workshop is currently being updated and will be presented in the new year.</p>
<p><b>No 4</b> <b>Performance Management</b></p>	<p>Employees at all levels participated in business planning sessions. This provided staff with an appreciation for opportunities and restrictions in NTPS service delivery as well as an understanding of how service delivery fits within the big picture.</p> <p>Performance agreements discussions were held for all staff across the agency. This process is a mechanism for each employee to seek constructive feedback, discuss with their manager skill gaps, career plans and suitable projects, mentoring, or training to meet their individual and work unit goals aligned to their respective business plan.</p>
<p><b>No 6</b> <b>Inability to Discharge Duties</b></p>	<p>Nil return.</p>
<p><b>No 7</b> <b>Discipline</b></p>	<p>People and Learning staff provide assistance to managers in dealing with discipline issues.</p> <p>The Discipline Policy is available on the On-line Self Service web site.</p> <p>One employee was terminated during the reporting period.</p>

<p><b>No 8 Management of Grievances</b></p>	<p>People and Learning staff worked closely with managers to promote sound practices in the workplace, thus minimising the number of grievances.</p> <p>The Grievance Policy and procedures information is available on the On-line Self-Service Centre website</p> <p>A total of seven Section 59 Grievances were received during the period, four from Alice Springs and three from Darwin. Six of these were finalised during period.</p>
<p><b>No 10 Employee Records</b></p>	<p>All personal files are securely maintained by DCIS on behalf of DIPE.</p> <p>Access to personal files and the PIPS database is restricted to an 'in-confidence' level.</p>
<p><b>No 11 Equal Opportunity Management programs</b></p>	<p>The department has developed a Diversity Policy to reinforce its commitment to managing individuals from different backgrounds to achieve aligned organisational outcomes.</p> <p>The key issues of equal opportunity, harassment, discrimination, flexible work practices, and valuing diversity are addressed in the policy.</p> <p>The Diversity Policy is available on the On-Line Self Service Centre website for ease of access and transparency in process.</p> <p>To ensure wider recognition and sources of support and information of equity and diversity issues, identified employees from all regions and locations have been provided training to become a first point of contact for other employees with concerns, issues or questions.</p> <p>154 employees undertook diversity, anti-discrimination, harassment and cultural awareness training.</p> <p>There was an increase of employees utilising flexible work practices including part time and job sharing arrangements, long and short term arrangement for working from home and tele-communiting arrangements.</p> <p>Carer's Rooms have been established at various departmental locations so staff can continue to work while providing short-term emergency care for their family members.</p>
<p><b>No 12 Occupational Health and Safety Programs</b></p>	<p>DIPE has a partnership arrangement with DCIS to provide an Occupational Health and Safety (OH&amp;S) Program which reflects our commitment to continuous improvement in the area of OH&amp;S.</p> <p>New employees are introduced to the OH&amp;S On-line Self Service Centre website during the Induction Program and are encouraged to become familiar with the contents.</p> <p>An early intervention program has reduced actual number of workers compensation claims.</p> <p>DCIS conducted work place inspections on behalf of the agency.</p>

<b>No 13</b> <b>Code of Conduct</b>	<p>On joining the agency all staff are provided with a copy of <i>the Code of Conduct</i> booklet.</p> <p>The information contained in the <i>Code of Conduct</i> booklet is discussed at the department's Induction Program.</p> <p>DIPE staff have access to the electronic version of <i>the Code of Conduct</i> booklet via the NTG Intranet.</p>
<b>No 14</b> <b>Part-time employment</b>	<p>112 employees were working on a part-time basis at the end of the reporting period.</p> <p>Of the employees who worked part time, 70 were female and 42 were male.</p>

# Audit

Audit is viewed as adding value to the corporate management of an organisation. When conducting an audit it is not necessarily the intent to find fault. Confirmation that an agency employs adequate, transparent and accountable processes in delivering its outcomes is considered equally important if not better than one that may find fault. Internal audit personnel, although officers of the agency are independent, professionally trained and approach each assignment with an unbiased mind. Internal audit reports to the agency's audit committee however if there is a need, officers are able to make direct representation to the Chief Executive Officer. The audit committee is government by a charter that is the subject of review to ensure its currency.

Legislation and Treasurer's Directions specify that there must be an adequate internal audit capacity. One criterion is that there should be an internal auditor who must be independent, objective, qualified and has authority to act. The agency employed an internal auditor for the reporting period. This capacity was supplemented by Risk Management Services an arm of the Department of the Chief Minister, who in turn engaged private sector qualified auditors to undertake specific reviews.

## Membership

Membership of the Audit Committee and attendance at meetings:

Position	Name	Meetings Attended
<b>Chairman</b>		
Chief Executive Officer	Sarah Butterworth	3
<b>Members</b>		
Executive Directors	Chris Bigg	2
	Nick Pellissier	3
Alternative for Chris Bigg	Vic Stephens	1
Senior Director	Kevin Williams	2
Chief Financial Officer	Ken Tinkham	2
Manager - Internal Audit	Kieth Boakes	3

## Audits and Reviews

Audits conducted by the Auditor-General

Financial Statements 2003-04 (Audit completed during 2004-05)

Audit	Audit Outcome	Action
Construction Division	Unqualified Audit  Issue regarding the material deterioration in the financial performance of the entity	Appointment of a business manager to review and manage the business process
Darwin Bus Service	Unqualified Audit  Issue regarding contract between Darwin Bus Service and the Public Transport Branch of the Department	Issue has been flagged for attention
Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Management Board *	Unqualified Audit  Issue arose that the statutory reports were not completed within the prescribed timeframe	With the approval of the Auditor-General, the contents of the financials statements have been revised allowing for a more timely presentation of the statements for audit
Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary & Marine Park Board *	Unqualified Audit  Issue arose that the statutory reports were not completed within the prescribed timeframe and the Plan of Management has not been formally adopted by the governing Board	The timely presentation of the financial statements has been addressed. The Plan of Management is in the process of being accepted by all parties connected with the Park
Territory Wildlife Parks	Unqualified Audit  Issue arose concerning the correct allocation of assets between buildings and infrastructure	Issue has been addressed

\* Responsibility for these entities rests with the respective Boards. The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment, as the responsible agency, draws together the financial statements and facilitates the audit of the statements on behalf of the Boards.



Audit	Audit Outcome	Action
Agency Compliance 2005	The operation of the accounting systems that were the subject of audit allows for reasonable assurance that the Accountable Officer's responsibilities will be met  A number of issues arose that suggested improvements could be made to procurement procedures and reconciliations of trust accounts, work in progress and land assets	Procurement officers have been directed to address the procurement concerns  Reconciliation issues were primarily the result of timing issues
End of year 2003-04 review to support the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement	The accounting and control procedures were found to be generally satisfactory  A number of issues were identified for improvement relating to prepayments, accounting for property , plant & equipment capital work in progress and reconciliations of some accounts	In general the recommendations of the Auditor-General are accepted  Timing issues and the use of ILIS as an accounting register are issues to be addressed
Australian Land Transport Development Act	Unqualified audit  No matter arose from the audit	
Interstate Road Transport Act	Unqualified audit  No matter arose from the audit	

### Audits conducted by Internal Audit

Audit	Audit Outcome	Action
Review of Procurement processes for goods and services less than \$10 000	Conducted by Risk Management Services – Department of the Chief Minister  Found areas of the government's procurement policy were breached	The recommendations from the audit are to be implemented
Probity audit on the ballot for Taxi Licences	Conducted by Risk Management Services – Department of the Chief Minister  Found ballot conducted within the rules of the draw. Suggested minor refinement of the ballot process	Suggested refinements to be implemented for future ballots
End of Year Payments	Conducted by internal audit  Found that a number of pre-payments were made prior to work completed by contractors	The Chief Executive Officer took carriage of this issue and directed that such payments were not to reoccur
Procurement practices at Darwin Bus Service	Conducted by Internal Audit  Allegations contained in an anonymous letter could not be substantiated	
Audit of Consultancy Contracts	Conducted by Internal Audit  Found a number of areas that were inconsistent with the government's procurement policy	The Chief Executive Officer took carriage of this matter. Directions given to senior management



# Performance Reporting

# Lands and Planning Division

Outcome: Land and the information relating to it is available and used to support the sustainable development of the Territory.

## Overview

Through planning, building and land management, the department ensures land is available for sustainable economic development. It provides land use planning and building control, government land information, land administration and land development services.

## Land Information

### What we do

Provide spatial (land related) data and information, and a consistent framework of land information policy, standards and distribution networks to service Government, business and the community.

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Completed aerial photography, satellite imagery, geodetic infrastructure, land valuation, topographic mapping and cadastral coordination capture and maintenance programs.
- The *Place Names Amendment Bill 2004*, which has a broader scope and provides for streamlined administrative processes, was passed by the Legislative Assembly.
- Assumed responsibility for the pre-registration functions of the *Unit Titles Act* from the Department of Justice.
- Continued Stage 2 development of the Integrated Land Information System (ILIS), to support changes to the *Planning Act* and *Building Act*. ILIS provides a leading edge, web-based technology environment for all aspects of NT land administration and development.
- Enhanced the ILIS Government Land Register to support improved management of government land assets.
- Developed and implemented a new version of ILIS Maps, a web based on-line mapping service.
- Introduced new systems and processes to automate the generation of standard mapping products, providing the basis for increased efficiencies.
- Met all national commitments to provide Territory data for the construction and maintenance of national data sets, including land boundaries, topography, roads and administrative boundaries and the Geo-coded National Address File (G-NAF).
- Delivered mapping and other land information services to support the Darwin City Waterfront, Glyde Point industrial estate and the proposed Trans-Territory Pipeline and to complete the 2004 Electoral Redistribution.
- Provided spatial information support for the planning and operational stages of the April 2005 ICMEX counter terrorism exercise in Darwin.

## Our Services

Land Information  
Land Information Services  
Northern Territory Land Information Systems  
Survey  
Valuation Services

Land Use Planning and Regulation  
Planning Branch  
Development Assessment Services  
Development Consent Authority

Building Regulation  
Building Advisory Services  
Electrical Safety Unit  
Statutory boards and tribunals

Land Administration  
Land Sales  
Property Purchasing  
Aboriginal Land  
Land Maintenance  
Lease Management

Land Development

## Our Customers

Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment  
Ministers and other Members of the Legislative Assembly  
Northern Territory Government Departments  
Commonwealth agencies, local government organisations and land councils  
Private sector organisations  
Construction industry  
Real estate industry  
Oil and gas industry  
Major land developers  
Northern Territory public

- Captured or updated topographic mapping or photography over the Cox Peninsular and Marrakai areas, 11 small towns and 20 remote Aboriginal communities.
- Redefined NT regional boundaries and statistical geography in a joint project with the Department of the Chief Minister, consistent with Australian Bureau of Statistics boundaries, and successfully obtained the support of all NT Government agencies for their adoption.

#### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Implement an on-line integrated land information visualisation service, including three dimensional perspective capability.
- In cooperation with NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services, further develop spatial information capability to support counter terrorism and emergency management activities.

## **Land Use Planning and Regulation**

### **What we do**

Develop land use policies, manage the planning and development framework for the Northern Territory Planning Scheme, and provide administrative support to the Development Consent Authority.

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Amended the Planning Scheme to facilitate the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
- Processed development applications for the community and marine infrastructure elements of the project.
- Finalised the review of the *Planning Act* culminating in the passage of the Planning Amendment Bill through the Legislative Assembly.
- Amended the Planning Scheme to rezone land at Lee Point in Darwin to facilitate the subdivision and development of the new suburb of Lyons.
- Processed over 1 000 development applications to support the seven divisions of the Development Consent Authority.
- Processed 39 requests for amendments to the NT Planning Scheme.
- Progressed strategic planning for Palmerston East as part of the Palmerston Partnership Agreement.
- Finalised the Capital City Charter under the auspices of the Capital City Committee. The charter commits the NT Government and Darwin City Council to working collaboratively to achieve excellence in Darwin's built form.
- Approval granted for remote area subdivisions in Harts Range and Ti Tree for residential development.
- Subdivision of land in Emily Hills into 264 lots for rural residential purposes.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Examine the development controls in the Planning Scheme relating to the Central Business District according to the Capital City Charter.
- Implement the Planning Amendment Bill to introduce limited rights for third party appeals.
- Develop a masterplan for the Myilly Point headland and old Darwin Hospital site and environs.
- Finalise the new Northern Territory Planning Scheme for statutory exhibition under the *Planning Act*.
- Develop a strategic plan for the Darwin Region to 2020.
- Introduce planning controls for King Ash Bay Fishing Club.

**Building Regulation**

**What we do**

Manage the regulatory framework to ensure structures meet minimum structural, fire, safety, health and amenity standards.

Develop and implement policy in relation to built structures.

Provide advice and assistance to industry and the general public.

Provide support to statutory boards and tribunals including registration and licensing.

**Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Amended the *Building Act 1993* to introduce builders' registration and home warranty insurance. Extensive consultation was conducted through a Construction Industry Reference Group and public meetings.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Implement the amended *Building Act 1993* to introduce builders' registration and home warranty insurance.
- Develop and implement education and promotion programs for the new legislation.
- Develop and implement programs to facilitate builders' registration.

**Land Administration**

**What we do**

Manage the Crown estate.

Provide land to meet the requirements of government and the community.

Advise on Aboriginal land issues.

Release of land for private development.

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Commenced stage one of the Batten Road subdivision to provide land suitable for use by community based organisations.
- Finalised the issue of title to 4.37 hectares of land at East Arm for maritime industrial development.
- Issued title to five Community Living Areas.
- Secured land from seven lots for addition to the Rapid Creek conservation corridor.
- Negotiated the purchase of land from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) for inclusion in the Desert Knowledge Precinct.
- Issued two subdivision residential development leases in Palmerston: Rosebery Heights and Rosebery Park.
- Provided two residential lots, one in Palmerston and one in Alice Springs, for the Year of the Built Environment Greenhouse Friendly House competition.

### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Provide land for the Marrara Fire Station.
- Turn-off stage one, Batten Road subdivision.
- Secure land for the construction of the Litchfield Park Road.
- Secure land for community purposes at Dundee.
- Negotiate the purchase of land at Berrimah from CSIRO to house Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts' scientific staff.

## **Land Development Division**

### **What we do**

Provide policy advice relating to strategic land use.

Provide project management services for the servicing of residential, industrial and commercial land.

Undertake technical investigations for reporting on the feasibility of proposals and strategies to implement projects .

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Design and document Mt Johns Valley Residential Subdivision – headworks to service a further one hundred residential lots.
- Completed Larapinta Residential Subdivision - headworks to service 85 residential lots off Larapinta Drive, west of Alice Springs and adjacent to Stage 3.
- Facilitated development of an Ecological Risk Assessment and Remedial Action Plan for the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
- Completed urban renewal projects including upgrading Rapid Creek, Westralia Street and Malak shopping centres.

- Completed a landscaping masterplan for Mary Ann Dam in Tennant Creek.
- Finalised negotiations for the issue of a lease by the Land Development Corporation for the construction of the \$55M Vopak – Darwin Industry Fuel Terminal at East Arm and facilitated the provision of site headworks.
- Coordinated the land administration and planning processes to enable the leasing of part of the Vopak option area for development of a biodiesel manufacturing facility.
- Represented DIPE on the Alcan Refinery Expansion, Blacktip and Trans Territory Pipeline Major Project Task Forces.
- Coordinated departmental responses on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alcan Refinery Expansion, the planning and final grant of a lease for part of the new Pre-Assembled Modules (PAMs) Wharf in Melville Bay and the preparation of a revised town plan for Nhulunbuy.
- Coordinated agency responses to Woodside’s requirements for the proposed Blacktip gas plant at Wadeye, including EIS comments and the preparation of amended planning regulations for the facility.
- Coordinated the development of a ‘whole of government’ spatial data base for the 940 kilometre Trans Territory Pipeline corridor. Coordinated agency responses to the Environmental Impact Statement and the town planning, road access and land tenure requirements for the project.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Complete the demolition and removal of structures for the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project – Site Decontamination Works, such as the Boom Shed and old Fort Hill Wharf. Construct groundwater subsoil drains and, with the Consortium, implement the Remediation Action Plan. Coordinate the planning and delivery of external headworks to service the development area.
- Complete design trunk drainage and subdivision of Mt Johns Valley – Alice Springs Residential Development to maximise use of available land, after negotiations with Native Title Holders.
- Complete design and documentation of an elevated water tank and ancillary works at Larapinta to enable further subdivisional development, after negotiations with the Native Title holders.
- Investigate the feasibility of a rail loading facility at the Darwin Industry Fuel Terminal.
- Implement the Financial Incentives Agreement with major fuel companies to enable decommissioning and remediation of the Stuart Park Fuel Farm site.
- Finalise negotiations on services and access to a new development lease to allow Natural Fuels biodiesel project construction.



## Land Planning, Development and Management

Provide land use planning and building control, government land information, land administration and land development services.

### Outcome

The outcome is land and the information relating to it, is available and used to support the sustainable economic development of the Territory.

### Land Information Infrastructure

Provide spatial (land-related, geographical) data and information, and a consistent framework of land information policy, standards and distribution networks to service government, business and the community.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Corporate spatial data sets maintained	18	18	18	
Client requests for products and services	2 500	2 500	2 681	
Data sets accessible through NTLIS <sup>1</sup> environment	120	120	120	
<b>Quality</b>				
Corporate data sets maintained to target specifications	40%	40%	50%	The original performance measure depends on development of national standards and there is insufficient progress on these. Actual result reflects better than anticipated performance in developing standards
Compliance with statutory requirements	100%	100%	100%	
Client satisfaction	85%	85%	88%	Result of 2005 client survey

<sup>1</sup> NTLIS is the Northern Territory Land Information System

### Land Information Infrastructure continued

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Client requests met by agreed time	90%	90%	95.6%	Result of 2005 client survey
Availability of access to NTLIS environment	99%	99%	99.3%	

<sup>1</sup> NTLIS is the Northern Territory Land Information System

### Land Use Planning and Regulation

Land use policies, management of the planning and development framework for the Northern Territory Planning Scheme, and administrative support to the Development Consent Authority.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Capacity to provide policy advice	\$1.98M	\$1.98M	\$2.18M	A revised estimate of \$2.25m was approved but not reflected in BP3
Applications processed under the <i>Planning Act</i> <sup>1</sup>	1 100	1 100	1 190	
<b>Quality</b>				
Stakeholder satisfaction	90%	90%	92%	Result of 2005 client survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Advice provided within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	95%	Result of 2005 client survey
Applications processed to enable Development Consent Authority to make determinations within statutory timeframes	90%	90%	100%	All applications were processed within statutory timeframes

<sup>1</sup> Applications include development and subdivision applications and planning scheme amendments

## Building Regulation

Management of a regulatory framework to enable structures within proclaimed building areas to achieve minimum structural, fire, safety, health and amenity standards and provide support for the statutory boards.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Registration of applications under the <i>Building Act</i>	3 500	3 550	3 710	Applications are lodged by clients and numbers vary in line with building activity
Building permits audited	200	200	189	Includes onsite inspections of plumbing works
Electrical investigations and audits	340	460	632	Activity responds to client requirements and is difficult to predict
<b>Quality</b>				
Stakeholder satisfaction	90%	90%	99%	Result of 2005 client survey
Private sector building practitioners complying with statutory requirements	90%	90%	n/a	Regular audits will be conducted in line with amendments to the <i>Building Act</i>
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Applications processed within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	82%	
Advice to statutory boards within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	100%	

## Land Management

Management of the Crown estate, provision of land to meet the requirements of government and the community, advice and related administrative activities on land issues, and the release of land for private development.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Active land sale/grant projects completed	32	32	21	A reallocation of resources and 34% lower than anticipated applications
Active land acquisition projects completed	72	72	30	Decrease in volume due to return of electricity easement responsibilities to Power Water Corporation (PWC) and complexity of some projects
Leases/licences administered	950	950	950	
Advice on Aboriginal land matters	40	40	40	
Crown land parcels actively managed	311	311	310	
<b>Quality</b>				
Compliance with statutory requirements	100%	100%	100%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Land transactions completed within target and statutory timeframes	80%	80%	80%	
Milestones for land sales/grants projects met	90%	90%	90%	

## Land Development

Provide policy advice relating to strategic land use planning and advisory services for the administration, planning and development of special land use zones.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Capacity to provide policy advice and advisory service	\$1.46M	\$2.64M	\$2.38M	Increased expenditure relates to achievement of financial close on Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project
Urban Enhancement Program	-	\$3.0M	\$2.40M	New output measure in 2004-05
<b>Quality</b>				
Ministerial satisfaction	100%	100%	90%	Result of 2005 stakeholder survey
Satisfaction of private sector proponents with advisory services	100%	100%	90%	Result of 2005 client survey Complexity of issues resulted in less than anticipated satisfaction
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Provision of advice within agreed timeframes to Minister and private sector proponents	90%	90%	80%	Some advisory issues were particularly complex

## Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment <sup>1</sup>

Management of the Territory's obligations and entitlements in relation to construction and ongoing operation of the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Capacity to deliver the project and provide strategic advice	-	\$7.34M	\$8.96M	
<b>Quality</b>				
Conditions of agreements met	-	100%	No Data	No performance measures implemented as project has just commenced
Stakeholder satisfaction	-	90%	No Data	No performance measures implemented as project has just commenced
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Milestones for Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment met in agreed timeframes	-	95%	No Data	No performance measures implemented as project has just commenced

<sup>1</sup> New output created during 2004-05

# Office of Environment and Heritage

Outcome: Sustain the Territory's environment, protection and conservation of the Territory's heritage and effective implementation of the NT Greenhouse Strategy.

## Our Services

Environment Protection Services  
Environmental and Greenhouse policy  
Heritage Conservation Services

## Our customers

Ministers and other Members of the  
Legislative Assembly  
Northern Territory public  
Northern Territory business and  
industry  
Northern Territory Government  
Departments

## Overview

The Office of Environment and Heritage promotes conservation and sustainable development in the Northern Territory. It provides advice to government and the community to assist decision making in relation to environmental impact assessment, waste and pollution management, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change and the conservation and promotion of the Territory's unique heritage.

## What we do

- Undertake environmental assessment of all major development projects.
- Regulate waste discharge, and approve and licence scheduled activities to minimise pollution.
- Coordinate whole of government greenhouse and climate change policy.
- Assess, conserve and promote Northern Territory heritage.
- Operate 24 hour pollution service.
- Administer grants to provide community involvement in environment and heritage conservation.

## Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Led development of whole of government advice on establishing an Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in the Northern Territory, including chairing an Interdepartmental Committee.

## Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

- Establish and support a three member independent EPA board which will undertake further public consultation on the model for the EPA.

## Environment Protection Services

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Completed environmental assessment of the Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for:
  - the expansion of the Alcan Alumina Refinery, Nhulunbuy; and
  - the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
- Completed environmental assessment of the Public Environment Reports (PER) for:
  - Bootu Creek Manganese Mine;
  - Harts Range Garnet Mine;
  - Biodiesel Plant, East Arm;
  - Aussie Prawns Aquaculture Proposal; and
  - Alice Springs Water Reuse (Soil Aquifer Treatment) project.

- Commenced environmental assessment of:
  - Environmental Impact Statements for the proposed Blacktip Gas and Trans-Territory Pipeline projects;
  - Notice of Intent for the proposed sand mining operations, Tiwi Islands;
  - Brown's Oxide proposal (PER guidelines issued);
  - Marine Harvest fin fish farm proposals, Port Patterson and Snake Bay (EIS guidelines issued); and
  - Mt Porter Gold Mining proposal (PER guidelines issued).
- Assessed Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) for a variety of developments, including aquaculture proposals, construction activity at East Arm Wharf, and development activity at the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
- Worked with the approving agencies to ensure works undertaken are consistent with the recommendations of the respective Environmental Impact Statements, Public Environment Reports and subsequent Assessment Reports. This has included:
  - the Alcan expansion, particularly with regard to social impact assessment;
  - Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
 specifically the individual assessment of each separate development application; and
  - assessment of further water studies produced to support the Bootu Creek Manganese Mine proposal.
- Monitored the construction activities associated with:
  - ConocoPhillips Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Plant as required by the construction EMP;
  - Phelps Aquaculture; and
  - Vopak Fuel Terminal, East Arm Wharf.
- Negotiated a draft operating licence for the ConocoPhillips LNG Plant under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act*.
- Issued or renewed licences for local government waste management facilities and undertook compliance monitoring of those facilities.
- Issued annual waste discharge licences for mining operations and completed compliance monitoring consistent with Part 7 of the *Water Act*.
- Advised government on environmental issues associated with the Mt Todd Gold Mine and its rehabilitation.
- Issued annual waste discharge licences for Power and Water Corporation treatment facilities consistent with Part 7 of the *Water Act*.
- Completed a report on the operation of the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act* in accordance with section 116 of the Act.
- Advised local government councils, including Tennant Creek, regarding the management operation of regional waste facilities.



### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Complete a stormwater strategy and implementation plan for Darwin Harbour.
- Complete environmental assessment of:
  - Black Tip Gas and Trans Territory Pipeline projects;
  - McArthur River Mine expansion (EIS); and
  - Brown's Oxide proposal (PER).
- Oversee compliance with Environmental Management Plans for construction of the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
- Commence a joint compliance evaluation of all Northern Territory aquaculture projects with the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development (DBIRD).
- Undertake environmental assessment of all major development projects in the Northern Territory.
- Issue an environmental protection licence for the ConocoPhillips Wickham Point LNG plant.
- Issue waste discharge licences and provide appropriate advice on the management of the Mount Todd mine site.

### **Environmental & Greenhouse Policy**

#### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Implemented the Government's Litter Abatement and Resource Recovery (LARR) Strategy by establishing the LARR committee and administering the first round of litter grants in the Northern Territory.
- Promoted and implemented the first round of Northern Territory Environment Grants.
- Hosted a national Environment Protection and Heritage Ministerial Council meeting.
- Successfully ran a Greenhouse Friendly House competition, with houses built and displayed in Palmerston and Alice Springs.
- Worked with government on the development of the proposed NT Strategy for Greenhouse Action 2005.
- Provided financial support for the implementation of the Cool Communities program in Darwin and Alice Springs.
- Worked with the Australian Greenhouse Office to obtain Commonwealth recognition of greenhouse gas emission offsets through management of savanna burning.
- Contributed to the development of Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory for the year 2002.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Undertake analysis and economic modelling of the impact of proposed emissions trading schemes on the Northern Territory.
- Develop plans to assist the Northern Territory in adapting to climate change.
- Participate in the national Council of Australian Government's climate change initiative.

**Heritage Conservation**

Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Implemented the government's new \$1M heritage asset repairs and maintenance program in 19 heritage places owned by the Northern Territory Government.
- Finalised an extensive public review of the *Heritage Conservation Act* and obtained cabinet approval to develop drafting instructions for a new Act which will provide the Territory with the best practice towards the protection and conservation of our heritage places.
- Undertook assessments for the Heritage Advisory Council leading to the declaration of the following sites as heritage places: Christ Church Cathedral; Old Owen Springs Homestead Complex; the former Rum Jungle Mine Manager's House at Batchelor; the wreck of the 'Kelat' in the Roper River; and the wreck of the 'Booya' in Darwin Harbour.
- Actively promoted the Territory's heritage through a range of activities, including providing support for 'Heritage Week' in Alice Springs and Darwin, and the production of a twice-yearly newsletter entitled 'Heritage News'.
- Conserved heritage assets in regional settings including: the Old Court House, the Residency and Heavitree Gap Police Station in Alice Springs; Owen Springs Homestead; Illamurta Springs Conservation Reserve; Jones Store in Newcastle Waters; the Old Sheep Dip at Elsey and Hunter House in Katherine.
- Provided detailed advice about heritage impacts and strategies for proposed developments, including Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project, the Trans Territory Pipeline, and the Blacktip Gas project.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Develop a draft bill to amend the *Heritage Conservation Act* 1991.
- Deliver the next stage of the \$1M heritage asset repair and maintenance program.
- Complete a strategy for the conservation of submerged heritage in Darwin Harbour.
- Work with community organisations and other Government agencies to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

## Environment and Heritage

Effective advice to government, industry and the community in relation to environmental, heritage and greenhouse strategy issues.

### Outcome

Sustain the Territory's environment, protection and conservation of the Territory's heritage and effective implementation of the Northern Territory Greenhouse Strategy.

### Environmental Protection Services

Assessments and advice on the environmental impacts of development proposals and policy advice and regulatory services to provide for effective waste management and pollution control.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Environmental assessments undertaken				
• Notice of Intent <sup>1</sup>	260	260	247	
• Public Environmental Reports and Environmental Impact Statements <sup>2</sup>	-	-	12	New performance indicator
Regulatory services performed <sup>3</sup>	350	300	240	Regulatory service results reveal Pollution calls not increasing at the rate predicted
Capacity to provide policy advice	\$0.95M	\$0.95M	\$0.95M	
<b>Quality</b>				
National assessment standards met	100%	100%	100%	
Pollution incidents resolved	80%	80%	74%	
Stakeholder satisfaction with advice	100%	100%	91%	Result of 2005 stakeholder survey

*continued...*

<sup>1</sup> Notice of Intent is when any proposed development that may have environmental impact is referred to the Minister for the Environment to determine whether or not it should be formally assessed. The referral is called a 'Notice of Intent'

<sup>2</sup> Public Environmental Report (PER) is if the Minister determines that a proposed development has significant environmental implications and the Minister may call for further assessment in the form of a Public Environmental Report (PER). Environment Impact Statement (EIS) is when the development is more complex. These take considerably more time and resources

<sup>3</sup> Regulatory services include pollution incidents responded to, licences issued and enforcement actions undertaken

**Environmental Protection Services ...continued**

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Assessments completed within statutory timeframes	100%	100%	100%	
Pollution responses resolved within:				
• Major – 60 days	80%	80%	100%	Of the 74% of pollution responses, all major pollution incidents were resolved within 60 days. The type of incidents to be resolved were less complex than anticipated in the estimates
• Minor – 48 hours	80%	80%	92%	The type of incidents to be resolved were less complex than anticipated in the estimates
Advice provided meets agreed timeframes	90%	90%	90%	

## Heritage Conservation Services

Provide advice, assistance and regulatory services to protect and conserve the Territory's heritage assets.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Heritage assessment undertaken	250	250	207	The number of assessments is lower than anticipated, due to the large amount of resources focused on large priority projects, such as the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project
Conservation and management projects completed	80	80	80	
Capacity to provide advice and assistance	\$0.63m	\$0.63m	\$0.62m	
Capacity to maintain heritage facilities	\$1.0m	\$1.0m	\$0.65m	This is a new output measure in 2004-05 to undertake repairs and maintenance on Government owned heritage assets  As a new program, it took some time to identify and implement projects. A number were not completed by the end of the financial year
<b>Quality</b>				
Stakeholder satisfaction with advice	80%	80%	92%	Result of 2005 stakeholder survey
Conservation plans and works completed to Heritage Advisory Council standards	90%	90%	90%	Result of 2005 client survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Assessments completed within statutory timeframes	100%	100%	100%	Result of 2005 client survey
Conservation projects completed within agreed timeframes	80%	80%	80%	Result of 2005 client survey

## Greenhouse Policy

Provide policy advice and coordination of the Northern Territory Government's response to greenhouse matters.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Capacity to provide policy advice	\$0.47M	\$0.50M	\$0.50M	
<b>Quality</b>				
Stakeholder satisfaction with advice	90%	90%	88%	Result of 2005 stakeholder survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Advice delivered within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	100%	Result of 2005 stakeholder survey
Northern Territory Greenhouse Strategy Implementation Plan <sup>1</sup> milestone met	90%	90%	n/a	

<sup>1</sup> The NT Greenhouse Strategy Implementation Plan was linked to the 1998 National Greenhouse Strategy. Governments of Australia have progressed beyond this Strategy, so the performance measure no longer applies

# Conservation and Natural Resources

Outcome: Sustainable use of land and water resources, conservation of biodiversity and management of parks and reserves.

## Overview

The Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR) Group works to monitor, manage and conserve the Territory's biodiversity and to achieve ecologically sustainable development of natural resources, including management of erosion, land clearing, weeds, bushfires and feral animals.

The Group develops policy and partnerships with land managers and the community to encourage adoption of best practice natural resource management.

The Group also manages a representative system of parks and reserves, and provides nature based recreation and tourism facilities.

## What we do

- Monitor and research the biodiversity of the Northern Territory.
- Research and manage conservation of endangered species.
- Assess plant, animal and land resources.
- Oversee new plans of management for parks and reserves jointly with Traditional Owners.
- Increase the involvement of Indigenous groups in contemporary land management.
- Manage the Northern Territory Park estate for conservation, recreation and tourism.
- Provide environmental education.
- Administer the *Water Act* and Regulations and deliver water allocation plans in consultation with stakeholders.
- Administer the *Pastoral Land Act*, *Weeds Management Act*, *Bushfires Act* and the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*.
- Measure the surface and groundwater resources of the Northern Territory.
- Provide flood forecasts, hydrographic, drilling and test pumping services.
- Maintain and present major natural resource data sets and mapping.

## Policy and Planning

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Prepared the Draft Parks and Conservation Masterplan.
- Supported the Daly Region Community Reference Group in its work on regional land use and water allocation planning.
- Participated in audit of legislation relevant to establishment of an Environmental Protection Authority.

### Our Services

#### Policy and Planning

Conservation Policy  
Natural Resource Policy

#### Natural Systems

Land and Vegetation  
Water Resources  
Hydrographic and Drilling  
Spatial Data Mapping  
Coastal and Marine Hydrology

#### Natural Resource Management

Pastoral Land  
Fire and Weed Management  
Advisory and Regulatory Services  
Community Programs  
Water Monitoring  
Land Monitoring

#### Bio Parks

Territory Wildlife Park  
Alice Springs Desert Park  
George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens  
Window on the Wetlands

#### Park Management

Regional Parks North  
Regional Parks Katherine  
Regional Parks South  
Interpretation  
Community Education  
Technical Services  
Commercial Operations  
Concessions and Permits  
Conservation Operations  
Parks Planning

#### Biodiversity Conservation

Biodiversity  
Herbarium  
Wildlife Management

- Conducted widespread community consultation to develop the Northern Territory Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM) Plan, through the Joint Steering Committee for the Natural Heritage Trust and National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality.
- Assisted the Landcare Council through the Joint Steering Committee in achieving accreditation of the INRM Plan and its associated Regional Investment Strategy.
- Assessed the Howard River Region water balance in continuing development of the regional water allocation plan.
- Negotiated Territory participation in the Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement.
- Supported development of the National Water Initiative through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) and the Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council.
- Delivered the WaterWise schools education program for Alice Springs.
- Developed a water efficiency program for Alice Springs.
- Collated information on sites of conservation significance across the Territory.
- Continued implementation of the Ti Tree Water Allocation Plan.
- Consulted on the draft Alice Springs Region Water Allocation Plan.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Release the draft Parks Masterplan for public comment.
- Commence implementation of the Parks and Conservation Masterplan Project for the management of biodiversity over the next 15 years.
- Continue to assist the Landcare Council in implementing the accredited INRM Plan and its associated Regional Investment Strategy.
- Negotiate agreements and conditions to manage and prevent cross-border impacts of groundwater use in the Great Artesian Basin.
- Establish an Adaptive Management Framework for implementation of the approved recommendations from the Daly Region Community Reference Group report.
- Review the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* and the *Water Act*, and other related natural resource management legislation with a view to better integration of decision-making.
- Develop the Coastal and Marine Policy for the Northern Territory.
- Develop proposals for an *Invasive Species Act* and related administrative processes.
- Prepare for the establishment of Bynoe Harbour Marine Park, including development of a Plan of Management.



## Parks and Reserves Management

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Record number of volunteers involved in the Devils Claw Festival at Gregory National Park.
- Facilitated research into:
  - cane toad invasion of wetlands;
  - social and economic effects of the banteng population at Garig Gunak Barlu National Park;
  - gamba grass and paragrass invasion;
  - lotus lilly harvesting; and
  - crocodile egg collection.
- Completed the biophysical mapping of Watarrka National Park including fauna, vegetation, weeds and threatened species surveys.
- Built barge landing to the light house precinct at Cape Don in Garig Gunak Barlu National Park.
- Improved the walking tracks at Florence Falls in Litchfield National Park.
- Employed two additional Indigenous Ranger trainees at Garig Gunak Barlu National Park and one Indigenous Ranger apprentice at the proposed Mary River National Park.
- Five Indigenous Ranger trainees gained permanent Ranger positions.
- Implemented co-operative work programs, including surveying golden bandicoots with Larrakia and the Gumurr Marthakal community Ranger groups, and controlling weeds across the Territory.
- Involved Traditional Owners and Rangers in all regions in employment and research projects.
- Continued the Junior Ranger Program, with increased membership to 128 members in Darwin, 14 members in Tennant Creek and 35 members in Alice Springs.
- Conducted community education visits for 1 775 participants on topics such as crocodile and cane toad awareness, feral animals, bush survival skills and wildlife rescue.
- Developed interpretive displays about geology for the Alice Springs Desert Park and audio interpretation to complement the display at the Alice Springs Telegraph Station Post and Telegraph Office.
- Created Parks and Wildlife show display which was visited by 4 850 people.
- Improved interpretive signage program at Florence Falls, Buley Rockhole, Garig Gunak Barlu National Park, Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve and Alice Springs Telegraph Station.

### Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

- Construct 4WD track from Limestone Gorge to Jasper Gorge in Gregory National Park.
- Build boat ramp and infrastructure at Victoria River for access to Victoria River and Gorge.
- Plan and develop visitor infrastructure for Mereenie Loop Road construction and the Capital Works Program.
- Upgrade visitor facilities within West MacDonnell National Park (\$1M).
- Develop Litchfield National Park – Stage 1 – Wangi Falls Campground and Day Use Areas (\$1.95M).

- Complete first stage of planning for Litchfield National Park visitor centre.
- Establish a long-term Marsupial Mole monitoring program at Watarrka National Park; the site selected by Australia's leading Marsupial Mole expert, Dr Joe Benshemensh.
- Increase the use of volunteers in park programs.
- Initiate additional Flexible Employment Program (FEP) projects for Traditional Owners in Watarrka National Park.
- Increase Indigenous employment of Traditional Owners on Parks and Reserves.

## Bio Parks

This division includes the Territory Wildlife Park and the Alice Springs Desert Park. For the full report on these parks, refer to Territory Wildlife Parks in the Government Business Divisions section.

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

#### *George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens*

- Completed the Cycad Garden.
- Completed stage one of the interpretation sign program, *Senior Citizens of the Plant World*, for the Cycad Garden.
- Hosted the Tropical Gardens Spectacular.

#### *Window on the Wetlands*

- Generated revenue and provided a high quality visitor experience through the daily sunset wine and nibbles service for Australian Pacific Touring, thus contributing to the centre's self sufficiency.
- Successful submission made to Northern Territory Tourist Commission (NTTC) for financial and in-kind assistance for projects including:
  - purchase and installation of a second set of binoculars for viewing of the wetlands from the visitor centre;
  - proposal for the development of a café;
  - restoration of the heritage listed Beatrice Hill Well, development of a picnic area at the site and interpretation board providing information on the European, Chinese and Aboriginal history of the area; and
  - upgrade of a nature and culture trail linking the visitor centre to the historic well.

### Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

#### *George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens*

- Develop and construct a new rainforest visitor experience pathway.
- Complete second and final stage of planning for George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens visitor centre.

#### *Window on the Wetlands*

- Commence NTTC submission projects.
- Increase involvement and employment of Traditional Owners at the centre.

## Biodiversity Conservation

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Completed a major survey of plants and animals in Garig Gunak Barlu National Park, the first since the 1960s. It provides a measure of changes in wildlife over a 30 year period; and is a major benchmark from which to measure the impacts upon biodiversity of Cyclone Ingrid and cane toads.
- Completed the first major review of the insectivorous bat fauna of the Top End of the Northern Territory, highlighting aspects of their ecology, biogeography, conservation significance and management response.
- Completed a detailed survey and population size assessment of the highly endangered Slater's Skink.
- Completed vegetation mapping, and analysed the seeding patterns and response to fire regimes of grass species in Nitmiluk National Park.
- Completed recovery actions for the critically endangered Carpentarian Rock Rat, and initiated long-term monitoring of the wild population.
- Commenced a survey of the threatened Carpentarian Grass Wren.
- Commenced a radio tracking and disease surveillance program on the Little Red Flying Fox.
- Produced mapping products, including for the Burt survey and report, threatened species reports, botanical surveys, fire projects and feral animal projects.
- In collaboration with Indigenous Ranger groups, monitored the ongoing success of northern quolls translocated to two islands off Arnhem Land, as an emergency response to their rapid decline in mainland areas invaded by cane toads.
- Participated in the North Australian Marine Biodiversity Survey (NAMBS).
- In collaboration with Indigenous Ranger groups, monitored the mammal fauna on the Sir Edward Pellew Islands.
- Developed educational material about biodiversity for pastoralists in the Barkly Tablelands, which will be delivered on-property as part of the Department of Business Industry and Resource Development's Rangeland Management Course.
- Held a national workshop to develop an action plan for managing feral camel impacts in Australia.
- Participated in developing a national strategy to manage pest animals in Australia.
- Celebrated 50 years of the Northern Territory Herbarium.
- Launched the Australian Virtual Herbarium (AVH) Northern Territory Node ([www.ipe.nt.gov.au/avh/index.html](http://www.ipe.nt.gov.au/avh/index.html)), a world first shared botanical database of information on Australia's native plants.
- Completed plant and animal knowledge surveys for the following language groups: Walmajarri, Jaru, Jawoyn, Wagaman, Kwini, Marri Ngarr and Magati Ke.
- Undertook to provide Kew Gardens (London) with seeds of 550 species from both arid and Top End habitats as part of the International Millenium Seedbank Project (MBSP), which aims to conserve the world's flora by establishing long-term seed banks for use if species become extinct in the wild.

- Completed draft threatened Acacia recovery plan.
- Completed the first national recovery plan for the threatened Greater Bilby.
- Produced the "Preliminary report: Towards a resource assessment of the Burt Plain bioregion for conservation planning".
- Awarded 2005 Animal Control Technologies Award, which included attending the 13<sup>th</sup> Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference to present an overview of the complexity of broad-scale feral management in remote areas.
- Allocated \$422 000 to the Frogwatch Community Campaign.
- Committed \$300 000 to explore a long-term biological solution to the control of cane toads, with \$100 000 allocated in 2004-05.
- Committed \$300 000 to establish the Island Ark Project, which protects threatened species such as the northern quoll on islands off the Territory coast, with \$100 000 expended in 2004-05.
- Organised the Great Cane Toad Trap Competition, with a first prize of \$10 000.
- Conducted public awareness campaign to advise Territorians in regional centres and remote communities how they can help protect our native wildlife and reduce the impact of cane toads.
- Produced the film 'No Cane Toads on Our Islands' in collaboration with Formation Studios and local Rangers to help stop the spread of cane toads to northern islands. The DVD was produced specifically for an Indigenous audience and can be played in five of the most widely used languages on the islands.
- Participated in the Marine and Coastal Committee National Taskforce on Dugong and Marine Turtle Populations and contributed to the document, "Sustainable and legal Indigenous harvest of marine turtles and dugongs in Australia – a national approach". Hosted a series of workshops with coastal Indigenous communities and people to consult on and discuss issues associated with the proposed document.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Complete the first major update and review of the Northern Territory's threatened species list, involving public consultation and publication of information.
- Provide simplified public access to the Department's wildlife databases, through web delivery and publications.
- Complete threatened species information kits and action plans for all regions.
- Assemble information for the development of a Flying Fox Management Plan.
- Finalise and implement the Management Program for Dingoes.
- Draft a national action plan for managing feral camels.
- Finalise the development of a target-specific bait delivery device to control foxes.
- Complete the report on arid wetlands.
- Complete a strategy for the management of feral animals in the Territory.
- Map marine habitats in Fog Bay, Darwin Harbour and Bynoe Harbour.

- Establish a collaborative project with MSBP partners in South Australia, Western Australia & Kew Gardens (UK) to research Australian arid plants and further our understanding of latitudinal variation in plant responses, potentially providing valuable data for climate change modelling.
- Complete traditional plant and animal use surveys for the following language groups: Wagaman, Jaru, Marri Ngarr and Magati Ke.

## Natural Resource Management

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Provided advice on soil conservation for major infrastructure projects such as the gas and rail corridors, for developers of urban and rural subdivisions and for private citizens concerned with soil erosion issues.
- Reported on the health of the aquatic environment in the Darwin Harbour region, based on water monitoring.
- Completed the rangelands assessment of the Barkly Pastoral District for the Australian Collaborative Rangeland Information System State of the Environment Report.
- Completed the final assessment report on whether satellite imagery can monitor land conditions for the Tropical Savannas CRC – Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrodiometer satellite program.
- Completed a draft Mimosa strategic plan for the Northern Territory.
- Completed a draft Bellyache Bush strategic plan for the Northern Territory.
- Finalised the new Northern Territory Planning Scheme – Clearing of Native Vegetation development provisions, culminating in their official declaration on 24 November 2004.
- Conducted 29 Level 1 Wildfire Fighting Operations Courses, training a total of 316 people.
- Inspected 120 new bores drilled in the Northern Territory.
- Coordinated the implementation of the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management, and provided executive support to the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee.
- Developed and implemented the Community Engagement and Communication strategy for the Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM) Plan.
- Sourced funding from the Northern Territory Government for a two year Aquatic Weeds program (2005–2007) as a result of the Cabomba outbreak.
- Sourced funding for coordination of the National Strategy for the Management of Athel Pine in Australia.
- Successfully applied for funding of \$1.158 M over three years from the Commonwealth Government, as part of the National Disaster Mitigation Program.
- Launched a native vegetation clearing website to support the new clearing controls.
- Achieved the off-take of 147 280 horses and donkeys from pastoral land as part of the six year Victoria River District Pest Declaration program, primarily through aerial removal operations, as well as through ground shooting and some pet meat operations.

**Future achievements for 2005-06 include:**

- Implement improved legislative compliance under the *Water Act*.
- Improve mechanisms for ensuring landholder compliance with the *Territory Weeds Management Act*.
- Complete the review of the *Pastoral Land Act* and lodge a Pastoral Land Bill.
- Implement legal processes and provide training to enable native vegetation assessment officers to more effectively enforce the Act.
- Revise draft of Land Clearing Guidelines.
- Undertake an inventory of aquatic and terrestrial habitats in the Darwin Harbour region to identify significant knowledge gaps for the Darwin Harbour Regional Plan of Management.
- Implement the Natural Heritage Trust and National Action Plan for Water Quality and Salinity as directed in the Northern Territory/Commonwealth Bilateral Agreement.
- Monitor the water quality of the Darwin River following application of herbicide to eradicate the exotic weed Cabomba.
- Assist with coordinating and developing weed management programs by applying for funding from the Natural Heritage Trust INRM Investment Strategy and the Weeds Of National Significance (WONS) Weeds Threat programs.
- Complete development of Weed Risk Assessment Process and assess new plant species.
- Prepare an impact study to assess the effects of feral animals on land condition in the Victoria River District.
- Undertake a review of fire management in the rural/urban interface in conjunction with the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service.
- Introduce an annual rural fire management risk assessment program.
- Expand the automated Northern Australian Fire Information site to cover the southern half of the Northern Territory.
- Continue to provide fire fighting training to volunteers and stakeholders.
- Implement strategic fire management programs and provide wildfire suppression support in ten Fire Control Regions.
- Improve public access to information, through use of the Internet and translation into Vietnamese and Cambodian.
- Implement Commonwealth funded National Disaster Mitigation Program over the next three years.

**Natural Systems Division**

**Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Developed a hydrodynamic and sediment transport model for the Daly River estuary in collaboration with the Australian Institute of Marine Science.
- Continued detailed investigations of the groundwater behaviour of aquifers in the Alice Springs and Ti-Tree Regions.

- Designed a Soil Aquifer Treatment (SAT) system with CSIRO to treat the effluent from the Alice Springs Water Stabilisation Ponds for the Power and Water Corporation.
- Developed numerical groundwater models for the major aquifers in the Darwin Rural Area and the Tindall Limestone aquifer in Katherine.
- Conducted a field study to improve our understanding of the hydrodynamics, fine sediments and salinity in Darwin Harbour in collaboration with the Australian Institute of Marine Science.
- Provided a website to enable public access to river and flood information in real time.
- Assisted the Alcan Gove extension project by:
  - drilling nine groundwater investigation bores; and
  - assessing aquifer performance for the siting of two large production bores, which were subsequently drilled, constructed, developed, and tested.
- Drilled 54 investigation and four production water bores across the Northern Territory (including bores for Indigenous and other community groups).

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Research and facilitate accessibility to data on water flows and capacities in the Territory network of surface and groundwater systems.
- Continue the development of models to manage the potential impacts of use of water in the Daly River region, and the related effects of clearing and agricultural development.

## Conservation and Natural Resource Management

Effective land, water and biodiversity management resulting from improved understanding of these natural resources and possible threats to them, and effective management of parks and reserves, enabling the conservation of biodiversity and the provision of nature-based recreation and tourism facilities. The development of policy and partnerships with land managers and the community to encourage adoption of best practice natural resource management.

### Outcome

Sustainable use of land and water resources, conservation of biodiversity and management of parks and reserves.

### Policy and Planning

Provide planning services, legislative administration and advice for conservation and sustainable use of the Territory's natural resources.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Parks Masterplan	50%	80%	80%	The Parks Masterplan progressed ahead of planned program and the 2004-05 estimate was revised upwards
Regional natural resource development strategies established or reviewed	3	4	3.7	As a consequence of the initial budget not including the externally funded NHT Project for the NT Intergraded Natural Resource Management Plan and associated Investment Strategy, the quantity performance measure for regional Natural Resource Development Strategies established or reviewed was increased from 3 to 4
Legislative and policy reviews drafted	2	2	2	
<b>Quality</b>				
Stakeholder satisfaction with regional strategies	100%	100%	90%	Result from 2005 stakeholder survey
Legislative and policy reviews implemented	100%	100%	n/a	Reviews of the <i>Water Act</i> and <i>Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation Act</i> were each progressed to draft bill stages but not taken further due to competing priorities of Parliamentary Counsel and Government. It is intended that this work will be completed in 2005-06

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Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Timeliness</b>				
CoAG <sup>1</sup> water reform agenda milestones achieved	100%	100%	100%	
Legislative and policy reviews completed within agreed milestones	100%	75%	n/a	Due to competing priorities of Parliamentary Counsel and Government, no milestones were set for the completion of reviews of the <i>Water Act</i> and <i>Soil Conservation Act</i> during 2004-05. It is intended that this work will be completed in 2005-06

<sup>1</sup> CoAG refers to the Council of Australian Governments

## Parks and Reserves Management

Manage a representative system of parks for conservation, enabling the provision of quality tourism facilities and nature-based recreational experiences, incorporating the George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens. This includes provision of financial assistance to the Territory Wildlife Park and Alice Springs Desert Park for non-commercial and scientific research functions performed on behalf of the community.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>	16	16	16	
Management plans produced				
Planned conservation programs implemented	103	103	103	
Parks with established stakeholder involvement	58	58	58	
Managed living botanical collections <sup>1 &amp; 2</sup>	-	1	1	
Off-reserve conservation agreements planned or implemented <sup>3</sup>	-	3	3	
Community Service obligation payments to Territory Wildlife Parks	\$7.68M	\$7.44M	\$7.44M	
<b>Quality</b>	82%	90%	81%	Visitor satisfaction reports have not been issued by the service provider
Visitor satisfaction				
Standard of curation of botanical collections <sup>2</sup>	-	90%	90%	
<b>Timeliness</b>	90%	90%	90%	
Management plans prepared within agreed timeframes				
Conservation programs prepared within agreed milestones	80%	80%	80%	
Stakeholder groups/ committees established in accordance with proposed timeframe	90%	90%	90%	

<sup>1</sup> Measure refers to the botanical collection held at the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

<sup>2</sup> The budget for this performance measure was previously reported in Natural Systems output prior to the restructure within Conservation and Natural Resource Management output group

<sup>3</sup> The budget for this performance measure was previously reported in Biodiversity Conservation output prior to the restructure within Conservation and Natural Resource Management output group

## Natural Resource Management

Provide an integrated support, advisory, monitoring and regulatory services in respect of the Territory's natural resources and the mitigation of potential threats such as erosion, weeds, bushfires and feral animals, with the involvement of the community and land managers.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Annual condition reports on natural resources	14	14	13	
Regulatory instruments issued	400	400	553	The actual number of regulatory instruments far exceeds the estimated number given due to the increased development in the NT
Community/client natural resource management groups supported	111	111	114	
Value of natural resource management Commonwealth grants	\$6.54M	\$13.11M	\$8.327M	The Australian Government receipts received exceeded expenditure by approximately \$4.5M. These funds were receipted; however there was no opportunity to disseminate the funds to the projects. These funds will be disseminated in the 2005-06 financial year
<b>Quality</b>				
Client satisfaction with services	80%	80%	85%	Result of 2005 client survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Service and product delivery within statutory and agreed timelines	90%	90%	87%	

## Biodiversity Conservation

Undertake the survey, inventory and documentation of flora and fauna native to the Northern Territory and provide a scientific basis for decision making on biodiversity conservation planning, the sustainable use of wildlife, the recovery of threatened species, sustainable development and the abatement of threatening processes. This output was previously called Wildlife Management.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Wildlife management programs planned or implemented	7	7	6.7	
Off-reserve conservation agreements planned or implemented <sup>1</sup>	3	3	-	
Biodiversity regional assessments and conservation plans completed and in preparation <sup>2</sup>	-	6	5.7	Commenced with preparation of two new conservation plans
Managed Herbarium botanical collections <sup>2 &amp; 3</sup>	-	2	2	
<b>Quality</b>				
Wildlife species assessed as data deficient	910	910	910	
Wildlife species assessed as threatened	159	159	159	
Standard of curation of Herbarium botanical collection <sup>2</sup>	-	90%	92%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Project milestones met	90%	90%	88%	

<sup>1</sup> This performance measure is reported in Parks and Reserves Management due to the restructure of the Conservation and Natural Resources Management output group

<sup>2</sup> This performance measure was previously reported in Natural Systems output prior to the restructure of Conservation and Natural Resources Management output group

<sup>3</sup> Measure refers to the botanical collection held at the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Herbarium

## Natural Systems

Provide value-added information on land and water in support of natural resource management decision makers.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Biodiversity regional assessments and conservation plans completed and in preparation <sup>1</sup>	6	-	-	
Botanical collections managed <sup>2</sup>	3	-	-	
Land and water information sets managed	8	8	8	
Land and water resource capability assessments completed and in preparation	30	30	30	
Water resource monitoring stations maintained	850	850	953	There has been additional attention paid to maintaining bore sites in Central Australia, ensuring that stream gauging stations in the Top End are fully operational prior to onset of wet season, and additional monitoring in the Katherine Region due to probability of local flooding
Metres of bore holes drilled	5 500	5 500	4 771	Reduced drilling is due to positioning of rig and staff at Gove and the complexity of drilling investigation and production bores for the Alcan Project
<b>Quality</b>				
Client satisfaction with information	90%	90%	80%	Result of 2005 client survey
Standard of curation of botanical collections <sup>2</sup>	90%	-	-	
Reliability of information provided	90%	90%	91%	Result from audit conducted in 2005

*continued...*

**Natural Systems ...continued**

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Project milestones met	90%	90%	85%	Result of 2005 client survey
Information provided within agreed time frames	90%	90%	89%	

<sup>1</sup> This performance measure is reported in the Biodiversity Conservation output due to the restructure of the Conservation and Natural Resource Management output group

<sup>2</sup> This performance measure is reported in the Parks and Reserve Management and Biodiversity Conservation outputs due the restructure of the Conservation and Natural Resource Management output group

# Transport Group

Outcome: Effective transport systems and services to meet community and government needs, and safe and efficient roads.

## Overview

In March 2005 the Transport Division merged with Territory Roads to form the Northern Territory Transport Group. The Group ensures the Northern Territory has a reliable, safe transport system, and includes:

- Policy and Planning Division, which provides transport sector advice, analysis and policy development, aiming to ensure our transport system is efficient, sustainable, secure and maximises community access.
- Transport Safety Division, which provides regulatory services for rail, marine and road safety, management of road safety awareness campaigns and support to the Road Safety Council.
- Public Transport Branch, which is responsible for public bus and ferry services and is committed to a sustainable future for public transport in the Territory, including safe transportation of school students.
- Road Network and Road Transport Divisions, which are responsible for strategic asset management of the Territory road network and transport facilities, including regulation of road users and vehicles. The Road Transport Division supports the Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) Board which focuses on the management of the CPV industry.

## Policy and Planning

### What we do

Consult with and advise community, industry and government.

Carry out research analysis, economic and policy evaluation.

Plan for a sustainable future for transport.

Coordinate transport input to the environmental impact assessment process.

Assist in the development of air services to and within the Northern Territory.

Participate in the development and implementation of national road and rail reforms.

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Developed draft transport plan for circulation 2005/06.
- Developed draft minimum service level model for public transport.
- Determined new maximum taxi fare levels.
- Worked with industry to address community aviation needs for the central corridor.
- Developed and implemented amendments to the *Traffic Act* to address anti social driving (hooning).
- Developed and introduced amendments to the traffic regulations to allow local government authorities to apply for introduction of a 50 km/h urban default speed limit.

### Our Services

Economics and Policy  
Aviation  
National Reform and Legislation  
Customer Services  
Registration and Licensing Policy  
Vehicle Policy and Compliance  
Commercial Passenger Vehicles  
Support Services  
Public Transport Network Management  
Rail Safety Unit  
Marine Safety Unit  
Road Safety Unit  
Road Network Planning Management  
Traffic Management  
Asset Management  
Business and Program Management

### Our customers

Community  
Industry  
Northern Territory Government  
The local and national road transport industry  
Pedestrians  
Motorists  
Tourists  
Trainee drivers  
State and Commonwealth Government  
Department of Infrastructure Planning and Environment  
Public transport passengers  
School students and special needs students  
Public transport and school transport providers  
Commercial railway organisations  
Heritage railways  
Private sidings  
Commercial vessel operators  
Certified crew on commercial vessels  
Hire and dive boat operators  
Ship repairers and boat builders  
Road transport authorities  
Local Government Associations  
Local councils  
Australian Trucking Association  
Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association  
Automobile Association of the Northern Territory  
Northern Territory Livestock Exporter Association  
Regional Tourist Association  
Australian Hotels Association  
Wayside Inns Association

- Participated in the development of national guidelines to support the consistent implementation of compliance and enforcement legislation.
- Funded and participated in the establishment of national studies into fatigue in the livestock transport industry and into long distance driving with two drivers.
- In conjunction with the Commonwealth and State Governments, completed the project assessment guidelines for the new national transport funding program, Auslink.
- Facilitated the resumption of air services for the Tennant Creek community.
- Worked to attract a national airport conference to Alice Springs.
- Assisted community airports to meet new aviation security requirements.
- Assisted in development of new air services between Darwin and Singapore.

#### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Finalise Transport Plan and submit to government for sign-off on plan and work program.
- Complete a legislative review of the *Motor Vehicle Act*, the *Traffic Act* and the *Control of Roads Act*.
- Implement the national model of compliance and enforcement legislation.
- Commence transport corridor studies to direct long term Commonwealth funding of Auslink projects in the NT.
- Reach agreement with the Commonwealth and other State Governments on the next determination of heavy vehicle user charges.
- Introduce a new traffic code book for new and young drivers and tourists.
- Work to maintain competition in the domestic aviation market.

## **Public Transport**

### **What we do**

Provide urban public transport services to the Darwin, Palmerston, rural and Alice Springs communities.

Provide dedicated school transport services throughout the Territory, including transport for special needs students.

Provide public transport for all major events in Darwin.

Create a sustainable public transport industry.

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Started construction of Stage 1 of a rural school interchange to improve services and safety for rural school students, to be operational by the start of the 2006 school year.
- Installed over 20 new closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras on the urban fleet, bringing coverage to 80%.
- Installed new CCTV cameras and security systems at City, Casuarina and Palmerston bus interchanges to integrate with the systems installed on the buses.



- Carried over 4 million passengers.
- Provided transport for the Arafura Games competitors, officials and visitors.
- Started planning of a school bus interchange for Berry Springs.

#### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Develop and implement a transport service for seniors to major shopping districts in Darwin (a Seniors Shopper Service).
- Implement a major increase of services to the Darwin rural community.
- Complete construction of of the Berry springs school bus interchange.
- Develop a sustainable service delivery framework for urban services to determine the appropriate levels of service required in urban communities.
- Facilitate a detailed review and analysis of the urban network ticketing system with a view to upgrading or replacing the system.

## **Transport Safety**

### **What we do**

#### *Rail Safety*

Accredit and register railway organisations and private sidings.  
Conduct compliance audits and inspections and investigate incidents.

#### *Marine Safety*

Provide survey and inspection regimes for marine commercial and hire and drive vessels.  
Assess crew competencies and issue certificates of competency for seafarers employed on commercial vessels.

#### *Road Safety*

Undertake road safety education and awareness programs.  
Advise and support the Road Safety Council and regional committees in Katherine, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Darwin and Yulara.  
Maintain vehicle crash databases.

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

#### *Marine Safety*

- Ensured legal compliance for conversion of a very old historic timber vessel from a fishing vessel to a passenger vessel, to carry tourists on Darwin Harbour.
- Brought twelve new vessels into Northern Territory survey.
- Completed vessel surveys.
- Completed hire and drive boat inspection program.
- Participated in national committees and working groups under the auspices of the National Marine Safety Committee.

- Achieved no fatalities on commercial vessels.

#### *Rail Safety*

- Accredited Patrick Rail Operations Pty Ltd, John Holland Rail and Lithgow State Mine Heritage Railway, as train operators in the Territory.
- Conducted two major inspection trips from Darwin to the South Australian border.
- Participated in national annual audits.
- Amended the Rail Safety Regulations to allow for the testing of railway employees for alcohol and drugs, and developed a Memorandum of Understanding between DIPE, NT Police and the Department of Health & Community Services to ensure each department understands their respective roles.
- Approved material change for new type of rolling stock operated by Australian Southern Rail Road.
- Organised the NT Rail Safety Committee meeting.

#### *Road Safety*

Undertook the following education and awareness programs:

General Community Campaigns including:

- Show Circuit.
- Christmas campaign and Starlight Bus (Free New Year's Eve bus service) sponsorship.
- Easter campaign.
- Back to School campaign.
- Level Crossing Safety campaign.

Aboriginal Road Safety Programs including:

- Community displays.
- Translation of seat belt training video.

School-based Programs including:

- Presentations to primary and high schools.
- Use of Road Safety Centres.

Visitor Programs including:

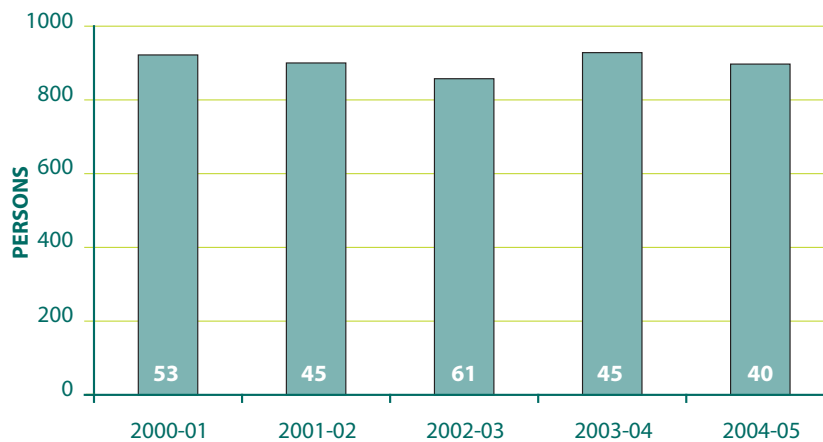
- Coffee Brake campaign.
- Vehicle Awareness campaigns.
- Jointly hosted national Indigenous Road Safety Forum in Alice Springs with the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.
- Contributed to national initiatives, including the Indigenous Internet Clearing House project, media monitoring service, and fatigue research.
- Assisted in the presentation of a rail safety drama for primary school children in the Top End.

- In partnership with Police, established a permanent road safety display on the Stuart Highway near Darwin.
- Entered into a sponsorship agreement with the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association to develop advertising targeting Indigenous people.

**Northern Territory Road Fatalities**



**Northern Territory Road Injuries Requiring Treatment**



**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

*Marine Safety*

- Commence auditing of maritime training establishments.
- Explore how parts of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels can be adopted in NT legislation.

*Road Safety*

- Conduct major road safety campaign aimed at reducing the level of injury to pedestrians, cyclists, young people and the elderly.
- Examine options for the development of road safety curriculum resources for school children from Transition to Year 10.

- Undertake a review of the appropriateness of current road safety programs.
- Continue to foster links with other government agencies and the community in road safety projects and campaigns.

#### *Rail Safety*

- Accreditation of North Australia Heritage Railway and Ghan Preservation Society.
- Progress material change applications for expansion of operations by Freightlink.

## **Road Transport**

### **What we do**

License drivers and inspect and register vehicles.

Support the Commercial Passenger Vehicle Board to achieve its objectives.

Collect revenue.

Train motorcyclists through METAL training centres situated in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs.

License commercial passenger vehicle drivers and operators.

Accredit commercial passenger vehicle operators.

Protect the safety of all road users.

Protect the road asset by monitoring heavy vehicles to ensure compliance with maximum loadings.

Develop and implement road transport and commercial passenger vehicle policy.

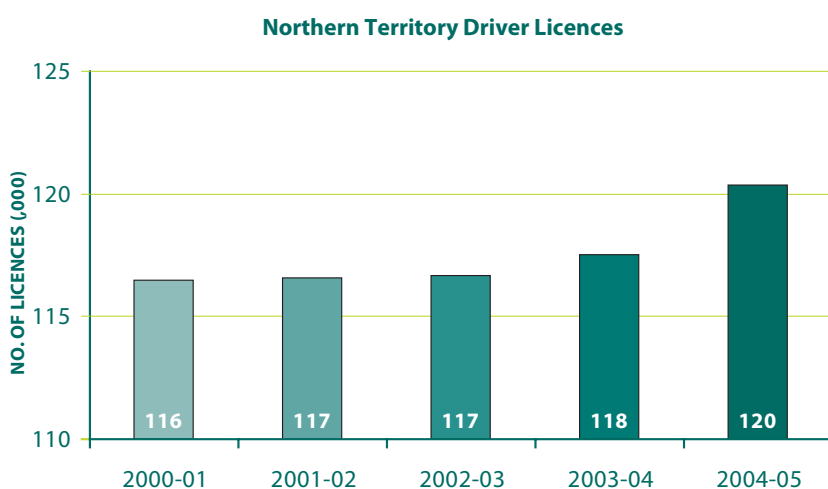
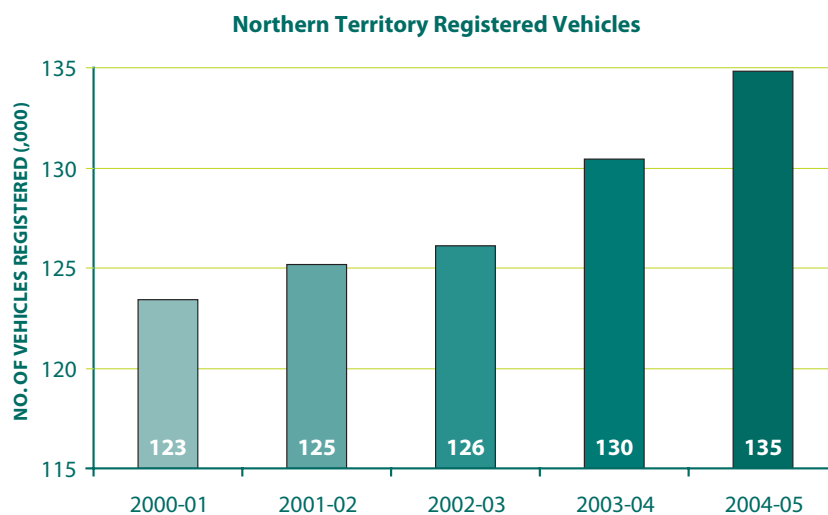
Monitor compliance and manage complaints related to the commercial passenger vehicle industry.

Review transport legislation to ensure that it is kept up to date and in line with community needs.

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Launched the Motor Vehicle Registry (MVR) Quick Pay system in December 2004 to enable customers to renew vehicle registrations (where no inspection is required) and driver licences (where no eyesight test is required), over the internet, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Customers can also change their address details via the Quick Pay internet service. As at 30 June 2005, some 5 000 customers have taken advantage of MVR Quick Pay online services.
- Completed the 2004 taxi fare review in consultation with the taxi industry and Consumer Affairs Council.
- Reviewed and amended assesment guidelines for commercial passenger vehicle industry drivers.
- Approved taxis designed to carry more than five passengers.
- Released taxi licences in Darwin and Alice Springs through strictly administered ballots.
- Conducted information forums for the commercial passenger vehicle industry in Darwin and Alice Springs.
- Developed and released revised Northern Territory Vehicle Roadworthy Inspection manuals for Authorised Inspectors and Transport Inspectors, aimed at achieving nationally consistent vehicle inspection standards.

- Continued to work with industry to support the development of innovative road train combinations that will improve environmental, productivity and safety outcomes.
- Expanded the capabilities of MOVERS, MVR's computerised registration and licensing system database, to enable test bookings to be done electronically. This replaced the manual test booking system.
- Completed the joint agency review of the Driver Training and Licensing (DTAL) Program in partnership with the Department of Employment, Education and Training, to report on the road safety outcomes for eligible entry level drivers. The final report was presented to government in December 2004.
- Upgraded Motor Vehicle Registry's Evidence of Identity and Residency processes in line with the National Transport Commission's minimum standards. The upgraded process will give greater protection to customers against identity fraud and identity theft.



In the Northern Territory, the Commercial Passenger Vehicle industry comprises of nine sectors. These sectors and the number of vehicles within each are provided in the table on the next page.

Sector	Number of vehicles
Motor omnibus	632
Tourist vehicle	252
Taxi*	160
Minibus	53
Courtesy vehicle	19
Private hire car	19
Limousine	14
Special passenger vehicle	3
Special function vehicle	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1157</b>

\* Includes Multi Purpose Taxis (MPTs) but does not include substitute or 'on hold' taxis

#### Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

- Launch the telephone based Interactive Voice Response system to enable Motor Vehicle Registry customers to renew vehicle registrations (where no inspection is required) and driver licences (where no eyesight test is required), over the telephone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Continue to develop and launch online system for Licensed Motor Vehicle Dealers to register vehicles on behalf of their customers with Motor Vehicle Registry for their customers.
- Expand the type of registration renewals that can be paid via internet or phone to include those where roadworthy inspections are conducted by a private Authorised Vehicle Inspector.
- Develop an on-line system for vehicle fleet operators to transact bulk registration renewals of their vehicles.
- Increase customer use of internet and phone transactions.

### Road Network

#### What we do

Develop and maintain the road network and transport facilities, as well as related policies and standards, in line with customer and stakeholder requirements.

Provide strategic advice to government in planning the road network.

Set the requirements for preserving the network for 'whole of life' effectiveness and efficiency.

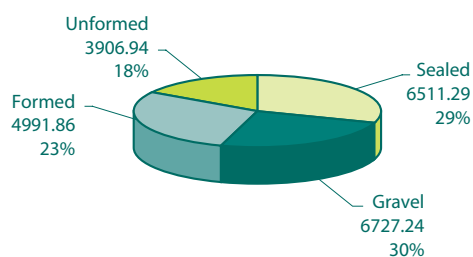
Manage the delivery of the works programs for the road network and transport facilities.

#### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Provided secretariat services for Austroads, with senior officers representing the department on the program taskforces and working groups.
- Continued to acquire data on traffic management and weigh in motion (technology for measuring the weight of moving trucks) programs.
- Commenced upgrade of the West McDonnell Range tourist loop road with the award of two contracts to a value of \$ 7.55M.
- In conjunction with local government councils, implemented 50 km/h urban default speed limit in Darwin, Palmerston, Tennant Creek and Jabiru.

- Established a partnership agreement with the Local Government Association for discussing work on local roads in unincorporated areas of the Northern Territory.
- Commented on 150 development applications.
- Commented on 250 documents in relation to service authorities, acquisitions, development approvals and conveyancing inquiries.
- Completed a \$4.8M project to improve access to Borroloola, involving the strengthening and widening of 20kms on the Carpentaria Highway and 18kms of graveling on the Wollogorang Road.
- Improved the Road Information Management System for asset data.
- Assessed 22 signalised intersections on Tiger Brennan Drive and the Stuart Highway, from Darwin to the Arnhem Highway, to improve traffic flow on the major arterial road network.
- Commenced preconstruction work and associated roadworks on the Victoria Highway for bridges over the Victoria River, Lost Creek, Sandy Creek and Joe Creek, to prepare for the award of a design and construct contract.
- Continued the bridge strengthening program on the Stuart Highway with the \$1.33M upgrading of the Coomalie and Chinamen Creek bridges.
- Under the \$10M Beef Road Program, \$4.06M was expended to upgrade the following roads to a better gravel standard: Buntine Highway, Central Arnhem Road, Buchanan Highway, Roper Highway, Barkly Stock Route and Rankine Road.
- Extended the upgrading and sealing of the Cox Peninsula Road by six kilometres and Fog Bay Road by seven kilometres.
- Implemented a Roads and Environment Strategy through an environmental action plan including:
  - Introduced and promoted the Roads and Environment Strategy through information sessions across the department.
  - Assisted in developing a technical directive for environmental and cultural project clearances.
  - Assisted in developing an environmental works master and templates for use by contractors to complete and submit with their tenders.
  - Completed a strategic review of the Darwin and Palmerston arterial cycle path network.

### NT Road Network Road Surface Classification



**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Complete the Tennant Creek Main Street Landscape Masterplan.
- Complete the Greater Darwin Arterial Roads Landscape Masterplan.
- Continue to improve the Road Information Management System.
- Construct a new weigh in motion site in the Darwin Region for heavy vehicles.
- Provide roads input and technical advice on the Darwin City Waterfront Redevelopment Project.
- Release and implement Roads to the Future 2005–2015 program.
- Develop and commence the \$16M Australian Government Roads to Recovery Program for 2005 to 2009.
- Prepare a Road Maintenance Strategy.
- Prepare asset management plans for transport facilities.
- Continue the upgrading and sealing of the West McDonnell's Range tourist loop roads.
- Continue the upgrading and sealing of the Litchfield Park Road.
- Complete the \$10M Beef Roads Program.
- Complete the construction of the \$6.8M Palmer River Bridge on the Stuart Highway to complete the flood immunity bridge upgrading between Alice Springs and the South Australian border.
- Complete the \$6.6M duplication of ten kilometres of the Stuart Highway from Noonamah.
- Continue to implement the Roads and Environment Strategy through the environment action plan.

**Transport**

Provision of transport systems that are safe, equitable, efficient and ecologically sustainable.

**Outcome**

Effective transport systems and services that meet community and government needs.

**Transport Policy and Planning**

Provide research, analysis, planning, economic valuation and policy development service.



## Transport policy and Planning

Provide research, analysis, planning, economic valuation and policy.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Capacity to provide research and policy services	\$1.70M	\$1.79M	\$1.78M	
<b>Quality</b>				
Stakeholder satisfaction with services	90%	90%	90%	Result of 2005 client survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Research projects and advice within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	90%	Result of 2005 client survey

## Marine and Rail Safety Regulation

Provide regulatory services covering vessel and rail safety.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Seafarer qualifications and vessel certificates of survey issued	1 150	1 150	1 342	More surveys requested than anticipated
Rail Safety audits and inspections	12	12	19	The revised estimate was based on the number of audits only where as the actual includes both audits and inspections
<b>Quality</b>				
Marine certificates issued in accordance with prescribed standards	100%	100%	100%	
Rail Safety audits and inspections conducted in accordance with ISO standards	100%	100%	100%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Marine certificates issued in accordance with approved standards	95%	95%	95%	
Rail Safety audits and inspections conducted within timeframes	100%	100%	100%	

## Passenger Transport Services

Manage urban public transport services in Darwin and Alice Springs, and dedicated transport services for students in the Northern Territory.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Passengers carried on public transport services	3.70M	3.70M	2.69M	Actual passenger numbers are significantly down due to the progressive failure of the ticketing system. Anecdotal evidence from drivers and supervisors suggests true passenger numbers are close to the estimates
Passengers carried on school transport services	1.20M	1.20M	1.17M	
Service kilometres on public transport services	3.50M	3.50M	3.50M	
Service kilometres on school transport services	1.60M	1.60M	1.49M	Some services moved to daily rates plus efficiency review
<b>Quality</b>				
Passenger satisfaction with service	99%	99%	99%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Services run on-time	99%	99%	98%	

## Transport Facilities

Maintain and manage transport facilities, including assistance to Darwin Port Corporation for non-commercial activities.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Facilities maintained	532	532	532	
Community Service Obligation payments to Darwin Port Corporation	\$2.37M	\$3.10M	\$3.04M	
<b>Quality</b>				
Ministerial satisfaction <sup>1</sup>	90%	90%	85%	Result of 2005 stakeholder survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Projects completed within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	90%	

<sup>1</sup> Measurement is based on Ministerial satisfaction with responses to inquiries made

## Territory Roads

Develop, maintain and manage the use of the Northern Territory road network.

### Outcome

Safe and efficient roads.

### Road Network Management

Develop strategies and programs managing the Territory's road network.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Lane kilometres of roads maintained	41 403	41 403	41 403	
Lane kilometres of new sealed roads	35	35	21	Target not achieved due to changing priorities in capital works program
Lane kilometres of new gravelled roads	25	180	26	The revised budget of 180 in BP3 should be 25
<b>Quality</b>				
User satisfaction	70%	70%	69%	Austrroads survey of NT road users
National Highways in the Territory maintained at National Highway standard	100%	100%	100%	
Availability of road network <sup>1</sup>	70%	70%	98%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Achievement of annual maintenance program	100%	100%	100%	

<sup>1</sup> Availability is measured as a percentage of roads formally closed compared to total roads

## Road User Management

Regulate and manage road users and vehicles, support Road Safety Councils and deliver road safety education programs.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Driver licence transactions	0.17M	0.17M	0.19M	
Vehicle registration transactions	0.35M	0.35M	0.39M	
Cost to support road safety program	\$1.27M	\$1.51M	\$1.54M	
<b>Quality</b>				
Customer satisfaction with Motor Vehicle Registry service	100%	100%	97%	Result of 2004-05 customer survey
Decrease in road fatalities <sup>1</sup>	10%	10%	16%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Reminder notices sent 5 weeks prior to expiry date for vehicle registration and driver licences	100%	95%	97%	
Key road safety promotion programs delivered in accordance with agreed timeframes	100%	100%	76%	Delay to Road Safety Council appointment and skills shortages impacted on outputs

<sup>1</sup> This is an effectiveness measure and is based on road fatalities per 100 million annual vehicle kilometres travelled

# Infrastructure Services Division

Outcome: Government infrastructure meets community needs.

## Overview

The Infrastructure Development Group has been restructured in 2005 and is now Infrastructure Services Division. The division still provides whole-of-government strategic and policy advice on infrastructure planning, energy and asset management with additional responsibilities in procurement, specification services, program management and industry liaison. The division facilitates and manages improved project development and asset planning across government.

The Infrastructure Services Division provides professional advice and services to government agencies to ensure:

- government built assets support agency service delivery at optimal lifecycle cost;
- government programs support a viable and sustainable local design and construction industry; and
- DIPE procurement activities meet government requirements and industry expectations.

## What we do:

- Provide support to agencies during the built asset acquisition process, to ensure that all major project proposals satisfy government requirements.
- Assist agencies to develop Functional Design Briefs that accurately reflect the service delivery requirements.
- Undertake post construction reports and post occupancy reports.
- Continue to improve the built asset acquisition process.
- Involve the design and construction industry in all stages of the built asset acquisition process.
- Contribute to an annual report to government on the state of the industry within the Territory.
- Provide whole of government Asset Management Services, including:
  - maintaining infrastructure information and inventories;
  - supplying annual condition based draft requirements; and
  - assisting agencies to develop repair and maintenance programs.
- Provide technical policy advice and services, benchmarking and reporting tools, and oversee projects to promote ecologically sustainable government infrastructure.
- Provide guidance and advice to ensure that procurement processes are competitive and transparent and that annual audits show increasing compliance with government procurement regulations.

### Our Services

Asset and Program Management Branch

Program Management

Building Asset Management Services

Infrastructure Development Branch

Strategic Planning

Project Development

Building Sustainability

Procurement Branch

Industry Liaison

Procurement Advice

Specification Services

### Our customers

Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment

Northern Territory Government departments

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Building design and construction industry

## Asset and Program Management

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Coordinated the development of whole of government programs for capital works, minor new works, and repairs and maintenance, and provided a centralised reporting service to Treasury.
- Managed the Building Asset Management System (BAMS) which provides agencies with complete building infrastructure condition reports and identifies repair and maintenance requirements.
- Provided support to Territory Housing's web enabled building assets management system (HOMES) and facilitated enhancements to the system to improve access.

### Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

- Refocus Building Asset Management Services from producing built asset maintenance liability reports to assisting agencies to produce fully scoped and prioritised repair and maintenance programs.

## Infrastructure Development

### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Designed and constructed the \$4.2M hospice (palliative care facility) at Royal Darwin Hospital against a budget of \$4.2M.
- Completed construction of a \$1.5M renal clinic in Tennant Creek, facilitating better health outcomes for renal patients in the Barkly region.
- Continued construction of government employee housing in remote areas with a budget of \$2.8 million.
- Assisted agencies to develop Strategic Asset Plans.
- Developed the Functional Design Briefs for the Senior Secondary College at Palmerston and the George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens Visitor Centre.
- Produced templates and guidance material for development of Facility Plans for all schools.
- Assisted with the project development of the Cruise Ship Passenger Terminal and the Marrara Fire Station.
- Completed extensive concept development work on the proposed Rosebery Primary and Pre-schools and Borroloola Primary School.
- Prepared tender documentation relating to the Mount Todd Containment Project.
- Obtained Cabinet approval for the Energy Smart Buildings Policy.
- Energy audited 14 government sites.
- Managed energy efficiency upgrades at three DIPE sites.
- Developed a discussion paper and facilitated a workshop on ecological sustainability guidelines for Alice Springs residential developments.
- Completed initial testing of an Australian-first house energy rating tool for the tropics (AccuRate).



### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Administer the \$2M Infrastructure Planning Fund to assist government agencies with the development of built asset masterplans.
- Provide the support and tools needed by client agencies to develop strategic plans and to work within the whole of government process for the Capital Works Program.
- Assess the national sustainable building initiatives to ensure that they are implemented where practicable.
- Complete the first NT Government Building Energy and Greenhouse Report.
- Assist agencies to achieve a 1% saving in their energy use and identify opportunities for further energy and water savings.
- Ensure that all new capital works projects pass ecological sustainability criteria.

## **Procurement**

### **Key achievements for 2004-05 include:**

- Developed and implemented the Agency Procurement Management Plan in accordance with Government Procurement Policy and Legislation.
- Coordinated commitment from industry to employ greater numbers of apprentices on government contracts involving the procurement of capital infrastructure.
- Collated and disseminated the details of ongoing and future construction projects and predicted manpower requirements for the construction industry publicised through the monthly Construction Snapshot publication.
- Developed complex technical specification sections which have been adopted nationally by the National Building Specification Authority (NATSPEC).
- Developed and implemented an environmental management section and integrated a simplified quality assurance system into documentation systems across the department.

### **Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Ensure a consistent approach is achieved in all procurement activity across the department in-line with NT Government Policy and Legislation.
- Facilitate partnerships between the department, service providers, industry and other government agencies to enhance agency capital project stakeholder relationships.

## Infrastructure Development

Provide strategic advice and policy on whole-of-government infrastructure management and maintain a whole-of-government infrastructure asset management system.

### Outcome

Government infrastructure that meets community needs.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Capacity to provide service	\$12.07M	\$32.22M	\$35.74M	Actual variation, relates to one off legal fees reclassification of infrastructure expenditure from capital to operational
Capital Grants	\$3.25M	\$3M	\$3.9M	Actual relates to the \$3m capital grant for Power Water Corporation and \$0.5m grant was paid for the recreational fishing at Mule and Rocky Creeks
<b>Quality</b>				
Client satisfaction with the asset management policies/ strategies	90%	90%	86%	Client survey has not been undertaken due to departmental restructure. Result from client survey 2004
Client satisfaction with asset management systems	90%	90%	86%	Client survey has not been undertaken due to departmental restructure. Result from client survey 2004
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Deadlines met	90%	90%	79%	Client survey has not been undertaken due to departmental restructure. Result from client survey 2004

# Darwin Bus Service

## Overview

The Darwin Bus Service (DBS) operates the Government Bus Fleet providing scheduled urban and school bus services for the greater Darwin area. This service is provided to the community by the operation of modern, reliable buses, driven by courteous employees. Through continual improvement of its overall operation, Darwin Bus Service aims to encourage more Northern Territorians and visitors to utilise the Darwinbus network.

## What we do

Operate passenger vehicles on the Darwin and Palmerston public bus routes at least cost to the government.

Transport school children safely to and from school every school day.

Support special events through providing bus transportation.

## Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Increased safety and security by purchasing an additional 10 closed circuit television (CCTV) monitoring units, so all buses will have these facilities by the end of 2005.
- Provided buses for major community, sporting and cultural events, including the New Year's Eve celebrations in Darwin, the V8 Supercar races, Arafura Games, Bass in the Grass, Seniors Week, ANZAC Day, Darwin Cup, cricket and AFL games.
- Developed collaborative partnerships with police, security contractors, operators and driver representatives to improve safety and reduce security risks on and around buses.

## Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

- Proposed replacement of one articulated bus, to the value of approximately \$670 000.
- Develop bus replacement contract for period of three years.
- Award \$1.5M three year repairs and maintenance contract for the workshop.

### Darwin Bus Service

#### Our Services

Bus drivers  
Repair workshop  
DBS Administration

#### Our customers

Public Transport Branch of the  
Department of Infrastructure Planning  
and Environment  
Darwin and Palmerston communities

### Territory Wildlife Parks

#### Our people

Alice Springs Desert Park  
Territory Wildlife Park

#### Our customers

Parks and Wildlife Service (Park  
Management and Wildlife Operations)  
Tourism industry  
Park visitors  
Department of Infrastructure, Planning  
and Environment  
Department of Education, Employment  
and Training  
Northern Territory Tourist Commission  
Northern Territory Government  
Research institutions

## Darwin Bus Service

### Urban Public Bus Service

Efficient and cost-effective management of the Government bus fleet.

#### Outcome

A safe, comfortable, reliable and courteous bus service.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Kilometres travelled	1.74M	1.74M	1.73M	
Scheduled services	88 550	88 550	88 286	
<b>Quality</b>				
Customer satisfaction level <sup>1</sup>	>99%	>99%	>99%	
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Services on time	99%	99%	99%	
<b>Cost</b>				
Average cost per kilometre	\$3.74	\$3.82	\$3.83	Rising fuel costs, additional depreciation and bus upgrades resulted in the increased revised budget

<sup>1</sup> Less than 1 per cent of customer complaints require action

# Territory Wildlife Parks

## Overview

The Territory Wildlife Parks are Alice Springs Desert Park and the Territory Wildlife Park in Darwin. The Territory Wildlife Parks are designed to help visitors to better enjoy, understand and respect the environment by providing entertaining and educational experiences.

Alice Springs Desert Park is widely recognised as a leader in its field and attracts visitors from all over the world, including a well publicised visit from Prince Charles in 2005. Visitor numbers are increasing.

Both parks are further developing their links with business, community and government.

## What we do

- Provide a quality visitor experience that showcases the biodiversity of the unique environments of the Top End and Central Australia.
- Contribute to the growth and development of the Northern Territory's tourism industry by providing quality tourism products.
- Contribute to the preservation of the Northern Territory's biodiversity through breeding rare and threatened plants and animals.

## Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

### *Alice Springs Desert Park*

- Produced 200 audio guides in three languages to allow visitors to listen to the stories of the desert.
- Attracted approximately 15 600 Gold Pass Ghan travellers through inclusion of Desert Park passes as part of their package.
- Signed on as a partner in the international Millenium Seed Bank project based at, and funded by, Kew Gardens, UK. The project collects and stores seeds as part of an international conservation effort.

### *Territory Wildlife Park*

- Developed and implemented the *Burning for Biodiversity* fire research, best land management, and education program in collaboration with CSIRO.
- Introduced a sleepover program for schools and the public so visitors can experience wildlife in the evening and early morning.
- Launched the Woollybutts and Wallabies exhibit, an educational, woodland habitat exhibit that allows visitors to get very close to wildlife.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

*Territory Wildlife Park*

- Develop more visitor experiences based on research into interstate and international expectations, including new habitats, cultural experiences and guide presentations.
- Improve visitor interaction with displays through new guide presentation schedule.
- Develop Indigenous interpretation and visitor experiences in collaboration with Indigenous groups.

*Alice Springs Desert Park*

- Install new Nature Theatre seating for greater visitor comfort and safety.
- Promote the Desert Park to Red Kangaroo Ghan travellers.
- Further develop Indigenous interpretation and visitor experiences at the park in collaboration with Traditional Owners.
- Work with the Northern Territory Tourist Commission and tour operators to improve links and help develop tourism in Alice Springs and regionally.

## Territory Wildlife Park

Provides a quality experience to visitors through the presentation of flora and fauna in a variety of natural habitats in the Top End

### Outcome

A visitor experience that showcases the biodiversity of the unique environment of the Top End and contributes to the growth and development of the Territory's tourism industry

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Visitors	70 000	70 000	69 582	
Project milestones met	95%	95%	81%	Two milestones were under achieved. The Development of the indigenous interpretation programs are delayed until 2005-06, and the development of the educational packages and experiences for schools and the community has been placed on hold due to internal resources temporarily unavailable
<b>Quality</b>				
Visitor satisfaction	95%	95%	98%	

## Alice Springs Desert Park

Provides a quality experience to visitors through the presentation of flora and fauna in a variety of natural habitats in Central Australia

### Outcome

A visitor experience that showcases the biodiversity of the unique environment of Central Australia and contributes to the growth and development of the Territory's tourism industry

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Visitors	78 000	78 000	92 842	Visitor numbers have increased due to the Great Southern Rail
Project milestones met	95%	95%	100%	
<b>Quality</b>				
Visitor satisfaction	95%	95%	99%	



# Construction Division

## Overview

The Construction Division provides project management services for design, procurement and supervision of the construction and maintenance of built assets for the Northern Territory Government's client agencies. The division's key functional responsibility is delivering the government's capital works, repairs and maintenance and minor new works programs.

## What we do

Implement capital works projects (including public buildings, roads, bridges, port infrastructure and remote area essential services).

Maintain roads and public infrastructure.

Develop and manage construction projects.

Provide design, procurement and documentation services for construction projects.

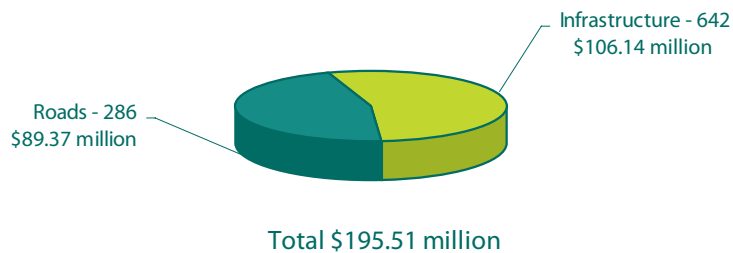
Report on road conditions.

Construct and maintain traffic signals.

## Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

Awarded 928 contracts to the Territory construction industry to the value of \$195.51M.

### Contracts Awarded 2004-05



### Infrastructure Projects

- Designed and constructed the \$4.2M hospice (palliative care facility) at Royal Darwin Hospital against a budget of \$4.2M.
- Completed construction of a \$1.5M renal clinic in Tennant Creek, facilitating better health outcomes for renal patients in the Barkly region.
- Continued construction of government employee housing in remote areas with a budget of \$2.8 million.
- Upgraded boat ramps as part of an ongoing program.
- Commenced works on the \$8.1M science and home economics block at Darwin High School, due for completion in December 2005.
- Continued works on Stage 2 of the \$93.2M East Arm Wharf Development, due for completion in July 2005.

### Our services

Infrastructure Projects  
Roads Projects  
Business Support

### Our clients

Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment  
Ministers  
Northern Territory Government Departments  
Commonwealth agencies  
Local councils  
Construction industry  
Contractors  
Northern Territory public

- Commenced works on the \$10M East Arm Wharf Oil Pipeline, due for completion in July 2005.
- Commenced works on the \$11.2M East Arm Wharf Bulk Handling Facility, due for completion in September 2005.
- Commenced work on the Marrara Soccer Stadium.
- Upgraded remote schools and homeland centres under the ongoing \$6 million remote schools upgrade program.
- Commenced tender process for the construction of the \$2.94M Traeger Park Grandstand, due for completion in January 2006.
- Continued works on the \$3.78M upgrade of remote community airstrips.
- Constructed a \$1.8M, 'state of the art' waste treatment facility, which uses a low emission steam sterilisation process to safely dispose of clinical and related waste, at Royal Darwin Hospital.
- Commenced construction of an \$8M low security detention centre.

**Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:**

- Continue construction of Marrara Soccer Stadium.
- Construct a Business and Innovation Centre at the Desert Knowledge Precinct.
- Construct Program and Living Unit Facilities at the Darwin Correctional Centre.
- Upgrade Ward 4 of Alice Springs Hospital.
- Construct Marrara Fire Station.
- Construct a school at Minjilang, Croker Island.
- Implement Stage 1 of the Litchfield National Park development.

## Roads Projects

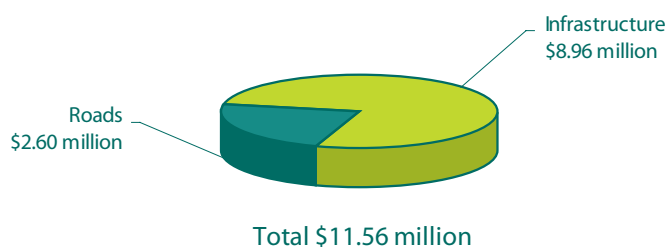
### Key achievements for 2004-05 include:

- Continued the Stage 3 upgrade of the Tanami Road, to improve access for mining, pastoralists, tourists and remote communities and reduce maintenance costs.
- Commenced the three year \$38M upgrade of the West MacDonnell Range Tourist Loop Road.
- Completed 25.5 km of rehabilitation works on the sealed highway network at a cost of \$5.5M.
- Completed 322.55 km of road resealing works at a cost of \$7.96M.
- Completed 164 km of re-gravelling of the unsealed road network to maintain access to remote communities and the pastoral industry at a cost of \$3.62M.
- Completed improved access to Borroloola via the Carpentaria Highway at a cost of \$4.6M.

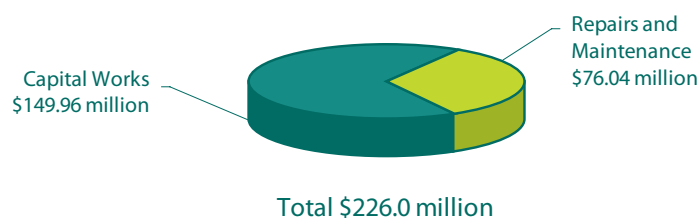
### Priority Targets for 2005-06 include:

- Complete Stage 2 of the Victoria Highway upgrade.
- Complete Stage 2 of the Mereenie Loop Road upgrade.
- Complete Stage 2 of the Litchfield Loop Road upgrade.

### Total Value of Projects Delivered 2004-05



### Consultancies delivered 2004-05



## Construction Division

### Project Management

Project management of the construction and maintenance of built assets for the Northern Territory Government.

### Outcome

Efficient and customer-focused delivery of both construction and maintenance services.

Performance measures	2004-05 estimates	2004-05 estimates revised	2004-05 actuals	Comments
<b>Quantity</b>				
Number of projects managed	2 500	2 500	2 234	
Available hours charged to projects	80%	80%	57%	Recorded time is increasing steadily, however it is still below the specified target and is receiving management attention
Value of projects managed	\$400M	\$400M	\$416M	
<b>Quality</b>				
Clients satisfied with service and product	80%	80%	73%	Result of 2005 client survey
<b>Timeliness</b>				
Projects completed within agreed timeframe	80%	90%	97%	Budget revised upward to reflect government works programs



# Financial Statements

## Financial Statement Overview

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2005

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (the Agency) provides a coordinated approach to infrastructure provision, transport services, development planning and environment protection as well as the sustainable use of land and water resources and preservation of native flora and fauna.

#### Statement of Financial Performance

An operating loss of \$50.6m before significant items was incurred for the 2004-05 financial year, resulting in an improvement of some \$8m, against an expected loss of \$58.6m. Financial Management Principles issued by NT Treasury require agencies to manage resources so that the operating result is better than the approved budget by optimising agency revenue and delivering outputs at or below budgeted cost.

The \$8m improvement was mainly due to better than anticipated revenue collections relating to \$5m in Commonwealth funding for Auslink and an additional \$5m Commonwealth funding for Conservation and Natural Resource external projects.

Before significant items, the Agency exceeded its expenditure budget by \$3.9m. This was largely contributed by the \$3.8m unbudgeted repairs and maintenance expenditure on roads and infrastructure as a result of cyclone and flooding. This expenditure is claimable in part by the NT Government from the Commonwealth under the Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements. In addition there was a \$3.7m unfunded component of the East Arm Port settlement costs. This was funded by utilising budget capacity provided by unspent external grant funding and savings in other categories.

The operating loss after significant items was \$59m; this is \$46m lower than last financial year (\$105m loss). This reduction was achieved by identifying infrastructure projects in construction work in progress that, by accounting definitions, were of an operational rather than a capital nature, and reclassifying the projects as operating expenditure in the budget process. This involved transferring the funding of specific types of projects from capital appropriation (equity injection) to output appropriation (revenue).

The refinement to our systems surrounding the capitalisation of expenditure has resulted in only one significant adjustment being made to the Agency's account for 2004-05. The construction work in progress included a project valued at \$8.7m that was duplicated in the asset register of Power Water.

#### Statement of Financial Position

The Agency's net assets as at 30 June 2005 were \$1 339m compared to a budgeted result of \$1 352m. The decline in Net Assets of \$13m was largely due to additional (\$20.6m) construction works in progress projects being completed and transferred to other agencies. This was offset by an increase in cash at bank due to additional Commonwealth funding being received in 2004-05.

Taking this into account, the Agency has achieved a better than budgeted result as required by Financial Management Principles.

## Other Highlights

Other major items affecting the Statement of Financial Position for 2004-05 were:

- \$132m spent on constructing/acquiring new assets
- \$97m of construction works completed during the year, with \$51m transferred to controlling agencies (owners)
- Depreciation expenses totalled \$64m
- Work in progress for the Darwin Convention and Exhibition Centre was valued at \$9.4m as at 30 June 2005

## Territory Revenue

The Agency collected \$30m revenue on behalf of the Central Holding Authority, against a budget of \$28m. The better than anticipated result of \$2m was due to increased receipts from the Motor Vehicle Registry and from crown land leases.

## Certification of the Financial Statements

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment have been prepared from proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance for the year ended 30 June 2005 and the financial position on that date.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Dated the eighth of September 2005



Sarah Butterworth  
Chief Executive Officer



Ken Tinkham  
Chief Financial Officer



## Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>			
Current		21 996	13 395
Capital		24 500	27 827
<i>Sales of Goods and Services</i>			
Output revenue		203 630	158 100
Other agency revenue		13 364	13 229
Interest revenue		-	16
Miscellaneous revenue		886	1 773
Services received free of charge	14	11 155	10 939
Profit on disposal of non-current assets	3	3 841	1 638
Other asset revenue		530	281
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>279 902</b>	<b>227 198</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Employee expenses		69 110	62 564
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>			
Purchases of goods and services		92 829	66 158
Repairs and maintenance		66 240	57 536
Depreciation and amortisation	8	63 674	71 681
Services received free of charge		11 155	10 939
Other administrative expenses		2 096	41
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>			
Current		10 235	5 508
Capital		4 650	8 181
Community service obligations		10 483	13 701
Interest expense		3	8
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES before significant items</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>330 475</b>	<b>296 317</b>
<b>NET OPERATING (DEFICIT) before significant items</b>		<b>(50 573)</b>	<b>(69 119)</b>
Less: Significant items			
Write-off of construction work in progress		8 726	25 130
Other asset write downs		-	10 401
<b>NET OPERATING (DEFICIT) after significant items</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>(59 299)</b>	<b>(104 650)</b>

The Statement of Financial Performance is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

## Statement of Financial Performance

As at 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and deposits	5	20 738	11 053
Receivables	6	7 481	5 622
Prepayments	7	106	2 365
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>28 325</b>	<b>19 040</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Advances and investments		3 503	3 515
Property, plant and equipment	8	1 345 847	1 339 200
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>1 349 350</b>	<b>1 342 715</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1 377 675</b>	<b>1 361 755</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Deposits held		6 506	3 456
Payables	9	11 655	7 279
Borrowings and advances	10	10	21
Provisions	11	11 301	10 834
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>29 472</b>	<b>21 590</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings and advances	10	9 415	12
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>9 415</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>38 887</b>	<b>21 602</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1 338 788</b>	<b>1 340 153</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Capital	12	1 741 607	1 692 346
Reserves	12	48 587	39 914
Accumulated funds	12	(451 406)	(392 107)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>1 338 788</b>	<b>1 340 153</b>

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statement

## Statement of Cash Flow

For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)	2004 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Operating receipts</b>			
<i>Grants and Subsidies received</i>			
Current		21 996	13 395
Capital		24 500	27 827
<i>Receipts from Sales of Goods and Services</i>			
Output revenue received		203 630	158 100
Other agency receipts		12 692	45 504
Interest received		-	16
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>		<b>262 818</b>	<b>244 842</b>
<b>Operating Payments</b>			
<i>Grants and Subsidies paid</i>			
Current		(10 235)	(5 508)
Capital		(4 650)	(8 181)
Community service obligations		(10 483)	(13 701)
Payments to employees		(68 420)	(64 254)
Payments for goods and services		(151 269)	(156 437)
Interest paid		(3)	(8)
<b>Total Operating Payments</b>		<b>(245 060)</b>	<b>(248 089)</b>
<b>Net Cash From / (Used In) Operating Activities</b>	13	<b>17 758</b>	<b>(3 247)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Investing Receipts</b>			
Proceeds from asset sales		7 638	2 069
<b>Total Investing Receipts</b>		<b>7 638</b>	<b>2 069</b>
<b>Investing Payments</b>			
Purchase of assets	7, 8	(132 278)	(139 574)
Advances and investing payments		11	(33)
<b>Total Investing Payments</b>		<b>(132 267)</b>	<b>(139 607)</b>
<b>Net Cash (Used In) Investing Activities</b>		<b>(124 629)</b>	<b>(137 538)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Financing Receipts</b>			
Deposits received		3 051	(2 603)
Capital appropriation	12	113 075	134 288
Equity injection	12	538	-
<b>Total Financing Receipts</b>		<b>116 664</b>	<b>131 685</b>
<b>Financing Payments</b>			
Finance lease payments		(21)	(31)
Equity withdrawals		-	-
<b>Total Financing Payments</b>		<b>(21)</b>	<b>(31)</b>
<b>Net Cash From Financing Activities</b>		<b>116 643</b>	<b>131 654</b>
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash held		9 685	(9 131)
Cash at beginning of financial year		11 053	20 184
<b>CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	5	<b>20 738</b>	<b>11 053</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the year ended 30 June 2005

#### 1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (a) Objectives and funding

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (the Agency) provides a coordinated approach to infrastructure provision, transport services, development planning and environment protection as well as the sustainable use of land and water resources and preservation of native flora and fauna.

The Agency is predominantly funded by parliamentary appropriations. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the Agency controls resources to carry on its functions.

In the process of reporting on the Agency as a single entity, all intra agency transactions and balances have been eliminated.

##### (b) Central Holding Authority

The Central Holding Authority (CHA) is the 'parent body' that represents the Government's ownership interest in government controlled entities.

The CHA records all Territory items. Territory items are revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled by the government and managed by agencies on behalf of the government. The main Territory item is that of revenue, that includes taxation and royalty revenue, Commonwealth general purpose funding, such as Goods and Services Taxation (GST) revenue, fines, and statutory fees and charges.

Although some Territory items are managed by this agency on behalf of government they have not been included in these financial statements. However, as the Agency is accountable for these items, they have been separately disclosed in a Schedule of Territory Items Note 21.

The CHA also holds certain Territory assets not assigned to agencies as well as certain Territory liabilities. The latter includes unfunded superannuation and long service leave that are not practical or effective to assign to individual agencies and as such, are not recorded in these financial statements.

##### (c) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

Except where stated, the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

These financial statements do not comply with Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards, as Australia is not adopting these requirements until reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. However, the potential impact on accounting policies that will arise from the transition to the new Standards is disclosed in Note 22.

##### (d) Changes in accounting policies

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

## **(e) Revenue recognition**

Revenue is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received net of (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration are not recognised as revenues.

### ***Output revenue***

Output revenue represents government funding for agency operations and is calculated as the net cost of agency outputs after taking into account funding from agency revenue. Revenue in respect of this funding is recognised in the period in which the agency gains control of the funds.

The net cost of agency outputs for output appropriation purposes does not include any allowance for major non-cash costs such as depreciation.

### ***Grants and other contributions***

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the agency obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

### ***Sale of goods***

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when control of the goods passes to the customer.

### ***Rendering of services***

Revenue from rendering services is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion of the contract.

### ***Interest revenue***

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

### ***Sale of non-current assets***

The gross proceeds of non-current asset sales are included as revenue at the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed.

The profit or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal.

### ***Contribution of assets***

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non-reciprocal transfers, are recognised, unless otherwise determined by government, as revenue at the fair value of the asset received when the Agency gains control of the asset or contribution.

**(f) Goods and services tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset, or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities that is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO.

**(g) Interest expense**

Interest expense includes interest and finance lease charges and are expensed as incurred.

**(h) Cash and cash equivalents**

For the purpose of the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and cash held in the Agency operating account.

**(i) Receivables**

The ability to collect receivables is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts.

Trade debtors and other debtors to be settled within 30 days, are carried at amounts due.

**(j) Property, plant and equipment**

***Acquisitions***

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$5 000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment that do not meet the criteria for capitalisation, are expensed as incurred.

The cost of property, plant and equipment constructed by the Agency includes the cost of materials and direct labour, and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

***Complex assets***

Major items of plant and equipment comprising a number of components that have different useful lives, are accounted for as separate assets. The components may be replaced during the useful life of the complex asset.

### ***Subsequent additional costs***

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the Agency in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their useful lives.

### ***Construction work in progress***

As part of Stage 1 of *Working for Outcomes*, the Agency is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole of government basis. Therefore appropriation for most capital works is provided directly to the Agency and the cost of construction work in progress is recognised as an asset of the Agency. Once completed, capital works assets are transferred to the client agency.

### ***Revaluations***

Assets belonging to the following classes of non-current assets are progressively revalued on a rolling basis with sufficient regularity to ensure that an asset's carrying amount does not differ materially from its fair value at reporting date:

- Land;
- Buildings;
- Infrastructure assets and
- Cultural assets

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arms length transaction.

Other classes of non-current assets are not subject to revaluation and are measured on a cost basis.

The unique nature of some of the heritage and cultural assets may preclude reliable measurement. Such assets have not been recognised in the financial statements.

### ***Depreciation and amortisation***

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated or amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

Amortisation applies in relation to intangible non-current assets with limited useful lives and is calculated and accounted for in a similar manner to depreciation.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset, for the current and previous years, are in accordance with Treasurer's Directions and are provided as follows:

Asset Class	Period
Buildings	20 – 50 Years
Plant and equipment	4 – 15 Years
Infrastructure assets	20 – 50 Years
- Bridges	50 Years
- Sealed pavement	25 Years
- Unsealed pavement	8 Years
- Road formation	50 Years
- Streetlights and traffic control systems	20 Years
Leased plant and equipment	Over term of lease
Cultural assets	100 Years
Intangibles	25 Years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or, in respect of internally constructed assets, from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

#### (k) Leased assets

Leases under which the Agency assumes substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases.

##### **Finance leases**

Finance leases are capitalised. A leased asset and a lease liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments are recorded at the inception of the lease.

Lease payments are allocated between the principal component of the lease liability and the interest expense.

##### **Operating leases**

Operating lease payments made at regular intervals throughout the term are expensed when the payments are due, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the lease property.

#### (l) Payables

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts payable are carried at cost that is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Agency. Trade creditors are normally settled within 30 days.



### **(m) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates that are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

No provision is made for non vesting sick leave as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken indicates that accumulated sick leave is unlikely to be paid.

Employee benefit expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee benefits

### **(n) Superannuation**

Employees' Superannuation entitlements are provided through the NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS), Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The Agency makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees to the CHA or the non-government employee nominated schemes. Any liability for government superannuation is met directly by the CHA and the Agency has and will continue to have no direct superannuation liability.

### **(o) Rounding of amounts**

Amounts in the Financial Statements and Notes to the Financial Statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

### **(p) Comparatives**

Where necessary, comparatives have been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

**2 Statement of Financial Performance by Output Group**

	Land Planning, Development and Management		Environment and Heritage		Conservation and Natural Resource Management		Transport		Infrastructure Development		Territory Roads		Total	
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>														
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>														
Current	-	-	39	37	9 185	13 148	-	5	-	-	12 772	205	21 996	13 395
Capital	-	-	-	-	(40)	151	-	-	-	-	24 540	27 676	24 500	27 827
<i>Sales of Goods and Services</i>														
Output revenue	33 402	19 142	6 061	4 086	79 199	63 612	26 828	25 748	33 092	17 356	25 048	28 156	203 630	158 100
Other agency revenue	906	1 028	355	326	1 693	1 449	4 600	4 464	1 302	1 579	4 508	4 383	13 364	13 229
Interest revenue	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Miscellaneous revenue	50	352	9	112	207	872	13	13	(730)	(838)	1 337	1 262	886	1 773
Goods and services free of charge	2 013	1 991	439	427	5 909	5 774	594	606	480	478	1 720	1 663	11 155	10 939
Asset revenue	4 315	1 625	1	-	17	7	1	-	-	-	37	287	4 371	1 919
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>40 686</b>	<b>24 154</b>	<b>6 904</b>	<b>4 988</b>	<b>96 170</b>	<b>85 013</b>	<b>32 036</b>	<b>30 836</b>	<b>34 144</b>	<b>18 575</b>	<b>69 962</b>	<b>63 632</b>	<b>279 902</b>	<b>227 198</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>														
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>														
Employee expenses	12 998	12 131	3 068	2 578	36 392	32 354	4 036	3 836	3 155	2 857	9 462	8 808	69 110	62 564
<i>Purchases of goods and services</i>														
Purchases of goods and services	17 968	12 361	1 215	1 183	26 466	23 119	21 301	19 633	19 176	3 126	6 703	6 736	92 829	66 158
Repairs and maintenance	3 885	690	654	2	3 117	2 921	889	1 147	10 352	7 958	47 343	44 818	66 240	57 536
Depreciation and amortisation	614	495	17	11	3 139	4 035	503	657	991	2 586	58 410	63 897	63 674	71 681
DCIS services free of charge	2 013	1 908	439	412	5 909	5 881	594	587	480	502	1 720	1 649	11 155	10 939
Other administrative expenses	46	(1)	-	-	70	3	283	-	1 594	-	102	39	2 096	41
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>														
Current	197	240	1 099	743	7 674	3 905	625	513	463	-	177	107	10 235	5 508
Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	95	-	3 438	7 303	1 117	878	4 650	8 181
Community service obligations	-	-	-	-	7 445	9 102	3 038	4 599	-	-	-	-	10 483	13 701
Interest expense	1	2	-	-	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	8
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>37 722</b>	<b>27 826</b>	<b>6 492</b>	<b>4 929</b>	<b>90 214</b>	<b>81 325</b>	<b>31 364</b>	<b>30 973</b>	<b>39 649</b>	<b>24 332</b>	<b>125 034</b>	<b>126 932</b>	<b>330 475</b>	<b>296 317</b>
<b>NET OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>2 964</b>	<b>(3 672)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>5 956</b>	<b>3 688</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>(137)</b>	<b>(5 505)</b>	<b>(5 757)</b>	<b>(55 072)</b>	<b>(63 300)</b>	<b>(50 573)</b>	<b>(69 119)</b>

Financial Statements - Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>3 Profit/Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets</b>		
Proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	7 638	2 069
Less: Written down value of non-current assets disposed	(3 797)	(431)
<b>Profit on the disposal of non-current assets</b>	<b>3 841</b>	<b>1 638</b>
<b>4 Operating Expenses</b>		
The net operating deficit has been arrived after charging the following significant expenses:		
<b>Purchase of goods and services expense</b>		
Consultants (1)	8 359	5 791
Advertising (2)	641	442
Marketing and promotion (3)	581	402
Document production	649	529
Legal expenses	17 011	1 481
Recruitment (4)	1 046	1 070
Training and study	987	1 007
Official duty fares	1 172	1 448
Travelling allowance	873	832
(1) Includes marketing, promotion and IT consultants		
(2) Does not include recruitment advertising or marketing and promotion advertising		
(3) Includes advertising for marketing and promotion but excludes marketing and promotion consultants' expenses, which are incorporated in the consultants' category		
(4) Includes recruitment related advertising costs		
<b>5 Cash and Deposits</b>		
Cash on Hand	91	58
Cash at Bank	20 647	10 995
	<b>20 738</b>	<b>11 053</b>
<b>6 Receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade Debtors	3 511	1 466
Less: Provision for doubtful trade debtors	(46)	(55)
	<b>3 465</b>	<b>1 411</b>
<b>Sundry Debtors</b>		
Other receivables	4 016	4 211
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>7 481</b>	<b>5 622</b>
<b>7 Prepayments</b>		
Operational expenditure	19	39
Capital expenditure	87	2 326
<b>Total Prepayments</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>2 365</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>8 Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
<b>Land</b>		
At fair value	215 789	220 922
	215 789	220 922
<b>Buildings</b>		
At fair value	151 809	143 087
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(57 490)	(55 121)
	94 319	87 966
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
At fair value	2 292 818	2 272 011
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1 424 102)	(1 364 941)
	868 716	907 070
<b>Construction (works in progress)</b>		
NT Capital works program	152 163	118 028
Darwin Convention and Exhibition Centre	9 413	-
	161 576	118 028
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
At cost	10 219	8 964
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(5 477)	(4 499)
	4 742	4 465
<b>Leased Plant and Equipment</b>		
At capitalised cost	202	212
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(184)	(174)
	18	38
<b>Cultural Assets</b>		
At fair value	197	197
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(7)	(4)
	190	193
<b>Intangibles</b>		
At fair value	540	540
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(43)	(22)
	497	518
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>1 345 847</b>	<b>1 339 200</b>

Over a two year period, the Australian Valuation Office carried out valuations to 'fair value' on specific Building and Infrastructure assets that had not previously been valued on this basis. These valuations have impacted on both the 2004 and 2005 financial years

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>Purchase of non-current assets</b>		
Payments for acquisition of land	2 104	2 164
Payments for acquisition of buildings	-	8
Payments for acquisition of infrastructure assets	-	51
Payments for construction works in progress	131 346	137 248
Payments for acquisition of plant and equipment	1 154	1 248
	134 604	140 719
Less: Accruals on purchase of non-current assets	(2 326)	(1 145)
<b>Total Cash Payments</b>	<b>132 278</b>	<b>139 574</b>

## 8 Property, Plant and Equipment (Continued)

### Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

30 June 2005	Note	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Capital Works in Progress \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Leased Plant & Equipment \$'000	Cultural Assets \$'000	Intangibles \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Cost/Valuation</b>										
Balance at the beginning of the year		220 922	143 087	2 272 011	118 028	8 964	212	197	540	2 763 961
Additions		2 104	-	-	140 759 <sup>1</sup>	1 154	-	-	-	144 017
Disposals		(3 783)	-	-	-	(125)	-	-	-	(3 908)
Transfers (net)	12 (a)	(11 954)	8 657	20 914	(97 211)	226	(9)	-	-	(79 377)
Revaluation (net)	12 (b)	8 500	65	(107)	-	-	-	-	-	8 458
Balance at the end of the year		215 789	151 809	2 292 818	161 576	10 219	203	197	540	2 833 151
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>										
Balance at the beginning of the year		-	(55 121)	(1 364 941)	-	(4 499)	(174)	(4)	(22)	(1 424 761)
Depreciation and amortisation		-	(3 501)	(59 164)	-	(965)	(20)	(3)	(21)	(63 674)
Disposals		-	-	-	-	111	-	-	-	111
Transfers (net)	12 (a)	-	1 023	-	-	(124)	9	-	-	908
Revaluation (net)	12 (b)	-	109	3	-	-	-	-	-	112
Balance at the end of the year		-	(57 490)	(1 424 102)	-	(5 477)	(185)	(7)	(43)	(1 487 304)
<b>Written down value</b>										
Balance at the beginning of the year		220 922	87 966	907 070	118 028	4 465	38	193	518	1 339 200
Balance at the end of the year		215 789	94 319	868 716	161 576	4 742	18	190	497	1 345 847

Note <sup>1</sup> Includes Darwin Convention and Exhibition Centre value at \$9.413M

## 8 Property, Plant and Equipment (Continued)

### Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

30 June 2004	Note	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Capital Works in Progress \$'000	Plant & Equipment \$'000	Leased Plant & Equipment \$'000	Cultural Assets \$'000	Intangibles \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Cost/Valuation</b>										
Balance at the beginning of the year		219 360	166 684	2 259 969	138 705	7 612	236	14	540	2 793 120
Additions	8	2 164	8	51	137 340	1 248	-	-	-	140 811
Disposals	(422)	(422)	-	-	-	(35)	-	-	-	(457)
Transfers (net)	11 (a)	(39 975)	3 581	35 588	(158 017)	139	(24)	183	-	(158 525)
Revaluation (net)	11 (b)	39 795	(27 186)	(23 597)	-	-	-	-	-	(10 988)
Balance at the end of the year		220 922	143 087	2 272 011	118 028	8 964	212	197	540	2 763 961
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>										
Balance at the beginning of the year		-	(61 656)	(1 335 460)	-	(3 811)	(167)	(2)	-	(1 401 096)
Depreciation and amortisation		-	(5 273)	(65,604)	-	(750)	(30)	(2)	(22)	(71 681)
Disposals		-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-	26
Transfers (net)	11 (a)	-	11 808	36 123	-	36	23	-	-	47 990
Revaluation (net)	11 (b)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at the end of the year		-	(55 121)	(1 364 941)	-	(4 499)	(174)	(4)	(22)	(1 424 761)
<b>Written down value</b>										
Balance at the beginning of the year		219 360	105 028	924 509	138 705	3 801	69	12	540	1 392 024
Balance at the end of the year		220 922	87 966	907 070	118 028	4 465	38	193	518	1 339 200

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>9 Payables</b>		
Trade Creditors	5 542	3 722
Other Creditors	6 113	3 557
	11 655	7 279
<b>10 Borrowings and Advances</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Finance lease liability (Note 16)	10	21
<b>Non Current</b>		
Finance lease liability (Note 16)	9 415	12
<b>Total Borrowings and Advances</b>	9 425	33
<b>11 Provisions</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
<i>Employee benefits</i>		
Recreation leave	9 135	8 549
Leave loading	976	1 136
<i>Other current provisions</i>		
Other provisions	1 190	1 149
<b>Total Provisions</b>	11 301	10 834
<b>(a) Reconciliations</b>		
<i>Employee Benefits</i>		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	9 685	10 077
Reductions arising from payments/other sacrifices of future economic benefits	(7 240)	(6 868)
Additional provisions recognised	7 666	6 476
Balance at the End of Year	10 111	9 685
<i>Other Provisions</i>		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	1 149	1 041
Reductions arising from payments/other sacrifices of future economic benefits	(4 410)	(4 153)
Additional provisions recognised	4 451	4 261
Balance at the End of Year	1 190	1 149
<b>Total Provisions</b>	11 301	10 834



	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>12 Equity</b>		
<b>(a) Capital</b>		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	1 692 346	1 684 193
Equity injections		
Capital appropriation	113 075	134 288
Equity injection	538	-
Equity withdrawals	(64 352)	(126 135)
Balance at the End of Year	1 741 607	1 692 346
<b>(b) Reserves</b>		
<b>Asset Revaluation Reserve</b>		
(i) <i>Nature and purpose of reserve</i>		
The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets in accordance with AASB 1041		
(ii) <i>Movements in reserve</i>		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	39 914	-
Revaluation increment on		
Land	8 500	39 914
Buildings	173	-
Balance at the End of Year	48 587	39 914
<b>(c) Accumulated funds</b>		
Balance at the Beginning of Year	(392 107)	(287 457)
Current Year Operating (Deficit)	(59 299)	(104 650)
Balance at the End of Year	(451 406)	(392 107)
<b>13 Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows</b>		
<i>Reconciliation of net (deficit) to net cash used in operating activities</i>		
<b>Net operating (deficit)</b>	(59 299)	(104 650)
<i>Non Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation	63 632	71 630
Amortisation	42	51
R&M non-cash	3 885	12 580
Asset write-off/down	10 774	19 427
Assets donated	52	5
(Profit) on disposal of non-current assets	(3 841)	(1 638)
Other asset revenue	(489)	(277)
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</i>		
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(1 859)	1 805
Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments	19	(10)
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable	4 118	(1 818)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provision for Employee Benefits	426	(393)
Increase in Other Provisions	41	109
Increase/(Decrease) in deferred income	257	(68)
<b>Net Cash Flows From/(Used In) Operating Activities</b>	17 758	(3 247)

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>14 Services Received Free of Charge</b>		
<b>Corporate and Information Services</b>		
Accounts payable	930	1 110
Accounts receivable	350	285
Asset management	505	593
Contract and procurement	1 143	866
Financial and reporting systems	766	637
Human resource systems	382	363
Information technology	569	597
Leased property management	4 972	4 895
Taxation services	119	162
Miscellaneous other	1 419	1 431
<b>Total Cost of Services received free of charge</b>	<b>11 155</b>	<b>10 939</b>

**15 Financial Instruments**

A financial instrument is any contract resulting in a financial asset of one agency and a financial liability of another agency.

**(a) Interest Rate Risk**

The Agency is not exposed to interest rate risks on its liabilities and does not earn interest on its cash balances.

**(b) Credit Risk**

The Agency principally deals with Government agencies. In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the Agency has adopted the policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any provisions for losses, represents the Agency's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

**(c) Net Fair Value**

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective net fair values.

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>16 Commitments</b>		
<b>(i) Capital Expenditure Commitments</b>		
Estimated capital expenditure contracted for at balance date but not provided for and payable:		
Within one year	115 630	17 452
One year or no later than five years <sup>1</sup>	96 540	-
Greater than five years	-	-
	212 170	17 452
<sup>1</sup> Includes capital expenditure commitment for the Darwin Convention and Exhibition Centre, which will be capitalised progressively in the Agency Statement of Financial Position. The full capitalisation liability will be brought to account on completion of the facility in 2008, and will be repayable over 25 years from that time		
<b>(ii) Finance Lease Payment Commitments</b>		
Future finance lease commitments are payable:		
Within one year	11	24
One year and no later than five years	2	13
Greater than five years	-	-
Less: Future lease finance charge	(1)	(4)
	12	33
Lease liabilities provided for in the financial statements:		
<b>Current</b>	10	21
<b>Non Current</b>	2	12
<b>Total Lease Liability</b>	12	33

The Agency leases plant and equipment under finance leases expiring from 1 to 4 years. At the end of the lease term, the Agency has the option to purchase the equipment at market value, or at a price deemed to be a bargain purchase option

## 17 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

### (a) Contingent Liabilities

The Agency maintains a register of contingent liabilities. Information is reviewed, updated and annually reported to Treasury for inclusion in whole of government reporting. Contingent liabilities are not reported in the Agency annual financial reports as they are not expected to exceed the materiality threshold.

### (b) Contingent Assets

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment had no contingent assets as at 30 June 2005 (30 June 2004 nil).

## 18 Events Subsequent to Balance Date

On 11 July 2005, the Government introduced new administrative arrangements. As a result of those changes, the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment (DIPE) was replaced by two new departments; the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure. The functions of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts include:

- All environment, heritage, conservation and natural resources of the former DIPE
- Arts and museums functions from the former Department of Community Development, Sports and Cultural Arts

The functions of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure include:

- All land, planning, transport and infrastructure aspects of the former DIPE
- All infrastructure delivery from the Indigenous Housing and Indigenous Essential Services programs of the former Department of Community Development, Sports and Cultural Arts

The new administrative rearrangements took effect from 1 July 2005 and accordingly the financial effect of the changes are not reflected in these financial statements. Assets and Liabilities currently reported in the financial statements of DIPE will be transferred to the new agencies and no financial impact is expected at a whole of government level.

## 19 Accountable Officer's Trust Account

In accordance with Section 7 of the *Financial Management Act*, an Accountable Officer's Trust Account has been established for the receipt of money to be held in trust. A summary of activity is shown below.

Nature of Trust Money	Balance at the End of Year	Receipts	Payments	Balance at the Beginning of Year
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Commonwealth petrol subsidy	(326)	1 521	(1 206)	(11)
Liquidated damages	70	(8)	-	62
Other	451	8	(5)	454
Retention/security	151	57	(73)	135
Surveyors board	14	8	(3)	19
Tjuwaliyn (Douglas Hot Springs)	1	10	(10)	1
Barranyi	1	-	-	1
	362	1 596	(1 297)	661

## 20 Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers under the *Financial Management Act*

	2005 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2004 \$'000	No. of Trans.
Amounts written off, waived and postponed by Delegates				
Losses or deficiencies of money written off	0.3	2	1.5	4
Public property written off	0.6	2	1.3	1
Total	0.9	4	2.8	5
Amounts written off, waived and postponed by the Treasurer				
Losses or deficiencies of money written off	-	-	39	1
Total	-	-	39	1
<b>Total Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>6</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>21 Schedule of Territory Items</b>		
<b>Territory Revenue and Expenses</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
Taxation revenue	19 870	19 696
<i>Sale of Goods and Services</i>		
Fees from regulatory services	6 115	5 491
Royalties and rents	4 360	3 705
Other revenue	9	9
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>30 354</b>	<b>28 901</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Central Holding Authority revenue transferred	30 354	28 901
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>30 354</b>	<b>28 901</b>
<b>Revenue less Expenses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Territory Assets and Liabilities</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Royalties and rent receivable	167	117
Other receivables	756	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Central Holding Authority revenue payable	923	117
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## 22 Disclosing the Impact of Adopting Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

At this point in time the entity is managing the transition through continuing professional development seminars. In addition NT Treasury, through its accounting policy branch, will identify and communicate changes required to Treasurer's Directions and future reporting requirements. An impact assessment has been undertaken in conjunction with NT Treasury and the likely key differences in accounting policy are anticipated to be:

### Impairment Testing

Under the Australian equivalent of IAS 36 *Impairment of Assets*, the recoverable amount of an asset is determined as the higher of net selling price and value in use. This will result in a change in the entity's current accounting policy, as currently under AAS10, the recoverable amounts test do not apply to not-for-profit entities.

The future financial effects of the above changes in accounting policy cannot be reliably estimated at this stage.

## Financial Statement Overview

### For the year ended 30 June 2005

The Darwin Bus Service (DBS) operates the government bus fleet providing scheduled urban and school bus services for the Greater Darwin area. In addition, services are provided for special events including the V8 Super Cars, Darwin Cup Carnival, Royal Darwin Show and Christmas / New Year activities. All services are provided under a service level agreement with Public Transport Branch (PTB) of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment.

The DBS has increased revenue earned during 2004-05 resulting essentially from an increase in kilometre rates paid by the PTB. The charter under which DBS currently operates restricts any growth in the share of work undertaken on the Darwinbus network, and also limits opportunities for competition with the private sector.

DBS has come under increased cost pressures during the financial year with a substantial rise in personnel expenditure due to the negotiated EBA in the public sector, and rising fuel prices. Although revenue increased in 2004-05 by some 2.7 per cent, this rise has been more than offset by a 4 per cent increase in operating expenditure, resulting in reduction in Net Profit after taxes (\$54 000) in comparison to the previous financial year (\$113 000).

The DBS financial position remains strong with \$8.7m in Net Assets, including a sound liquidity position with \$2.4m in cash. Cash assets are some 43 per cent higher than last financial year, reflecting a reduction in investment in new assets during 2004-05. This position is expected to diminish in the new financial year as a new bus replacement program of \$1.57m is implemented.

Investment in new assets in 2004-05 included the completion of a program to equip all buses in the DBS fleet with security cameras to enhance the safety of employees and the travelling public.

The profit result for 2004-05 has allowed DBS to provide for the payment of taxation equivalents and dividends to Treasury of \$23 000 and \$27 000 respectively.



## AUDITOR-GENERAL

### AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT DARWIN BUS SERVICE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

Page 1 of 2

#### Scope

##### *The financial report and the Accountable Officer's responsibility*

The financial report of Darwin Bus Service comprises statement by the Accountable Officer and statements of financial position, financial performance and cash flows and accompanying notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2005.

The Accountable Office of the Agency is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the *Financial Management Act*. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

##### *Audit Approach*

I conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control systems and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements or control deficiencies have been detected.

I performed procedures to assess whether, in all material respects, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia and of the *Financial Management Act*, a view which is consistent with my understanding of Darwin Bus Service financial position and its financial performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

I formed my audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report; and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Accountable Officer.

While I considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of my procedures, my audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

My audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by the Accountable Officer or management.

Level 12 Northern Territory House 22 Mitchell Street Darwin 0800 Tel: 08 8999 7155 Fax: 08 8999 7144



AUDITOR-GENERAL

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**Independence**

I am independent of Darwin Bus Service and, in conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of the *Audit Act* and of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Audit Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial report of Darwin Bus Service:

- presents fairly the financial position of Darwin Bus Service at 30 June 2005, and its financial performance for the year ended on that date: and
- is presented in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. McGuiness'.

Frank McGuiness  
Auditor-General for the Northern Territory  
Darwin, Northern Territory  
14 October 2005



## Statement by the Accountable Officer

In my opinion:

- i. The accompanying financial statements and notes are based on proper accounts and records and are in agreement with the accounts. They have been properly drawn up so as to present fairly the financial position of Darwin Bus Service as at 30 June 2005, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date
- ii. The financial statements are in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the *Financial Management Act*
- iii. At the time of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate

**Dated the twenty-sixth of September 2005**



**Sarah Butterworth**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
Revenue from rendering of services		6 367	6 120
Other revenues from ordinary activities		332	400
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6 699</b>	<b>6 520</b>
Supplies and services		2 501	2 435
Employee expenses		3 203	3 122
Depreciation	3	918	802
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>6 622</b>	<b>6 359</b>
<b>Profit from ordinary activities before income tax expense</b>		<b>77</b>	<b>161</b>
Income tax (expense) relating to ordinary activities	4	(23)	(48)
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>113</b>

The statement of financial performance is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash assets	5	2 451	1 710
Receivables	6	691	737
Inventories	7	309	266
Other	8	12	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>3 463</b>	<b>2 713</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	9	5 967	6 685
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>5 967</b>	<b>6 685</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>9 430</b>	<b>9 398</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	10	203	150
Income tax liabilities	4	23	48
Provisions	11	470	437
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>696</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>696</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>8 734</b>	<b>8 763</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained Profits	12	8 387	8 416
Contributed Equity	13	347	347
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>8 734</b>	<b>8 763</b>

*The statement of financial position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements*

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)	2004 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)
Cash receipts in the course of operations		7 202	6 324
Cash payments in the course of operations		(6 269)	(5 624)
Interest received		132	156
Income tax paid		(48)	(174)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	14	<b>1 017</b>	<b>682</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(220)	(1 598)
<b>Net cash (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(220)</b>	<b>(1 598)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Dividends paid		(56)	(203)
<b>Net cash (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>(56)</b>	<b>(203)</b>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		741	(1 119)
Cash at the beginning of year		1 710	2 829
<b>Cash at the end of the year</b>	5	<b>2 451</b>	<b>1 710</b>

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2005

### 1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report that have been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and, except where stated, do not take into account changing money values or fair values of non-current assets. These accounting policies have been consistently applied and, except where there is a change in accounting policy, are consistent with those of the previous year.

The Treasurer has determined that Darwin Bus Service ("the entity") is a Government Business Division as defined in Section 3(1) of the *Financial Management Act*. In accordance with Section 10 of the *Financial Management Act*, the financial statements of the entity have been prepared on commercial accounting principles.

These financial statements do not comply with International Accounting Standards, as Australia is not adopting these requirements until reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. However the potential impact on accounting policies that will arise from the transition to AASB equivalents of IASB pronouncements is disclosed in note 19.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies, that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

#### (b) Changes in Accounting Policies

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

#### (c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received net of Goods and Services Tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration are not recognised as revenues.

##### **Rendering of services**

Revenue from rendering services is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion of the contract.

##### **Interest revenue**

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

##### **Sale of non-current assets**

The gross proceeds of non-current asset sales are included as revenue at the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed.

The profit or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal.

**(d) Goods and Services Tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities that is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO.

**(e) Taxation**

The entity is required to pay income tax on its accounting profit, excluding extraordinary items, at the company tax rate of 30 per cent in accordance with the requirements of the Treasurer's Directions and the NT Tax Equivalents Regime.

**(f) Cash**

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and cash held in the entity's operating account.

**(g) Inventories**

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

**(h) Receivables**

The ability to collect receivables is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts.

Trade debtors and other debtors to be settled within 30 days are carried at amounts due.

**(i) Property, plant and equipment**

***Acquisitions***

Items of property, plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost when the cost is greater than \$5 000 and depreciated as outlined below. Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment that does not meet the criteria for capitalisation are expensed as incurred.

***Complex assets***

Major items of plant and equipment comprising a number of components that have different useful lives, are accounted for as separate assets. The components may be replaced during the useful life of the complex asset.

***Subsequent additional costs***

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the entity in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their useful lives.

## **Depreciation**

Items of property, plant and equipment have limited useful lives and are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

The estimated useful life for each class of asset, for the current and previous years, is as follows:

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Period</b>
Buses	15 years
Plant and equipment	5 – 10 years
Computer equipment and software	3 – 10 years
Furniture and Fittings	10 years

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use. Assets may be constructed internally or acquired assets may have modifications and accessories installed or equipment calibrated and tested that will affect the date held ready for use.

### **(j) Leased assets**

Leases under which the entity assumes substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases. The entity does not have any assets under a finance lease.

#### **Operating leases**

Payments made under operating leases are expensed on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

### **(k) Recoverable amount of non-current assets valued on the cost basis**

The carrying amounts of non-current assets valued on the cost basis are reviewed to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amount at balance date. If the carrying amount of a non-current asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the lower amount. The write-down is recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance in the reporting period in which it occurs.

Where a group of assets working together supports the generation of cash inflows, the recoverable amount is assessed in relation to that group of assets.

In assessing recoverable amounts of non-current assets the relevant cash flows are not discounted to their present value, except where specifically stated.

### **(l) Payables**

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost that is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the entity. Trade accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

**(m) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates that are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

No provision is made for non vesting sick leave as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken indicates that accumulated sick leave is unlikely to be paid.

Employee benefits expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee benefits

**(n) Superannuation**

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS), Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The entity makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees. Any liability for superannuation is met directly by the NT Government and the entity has and will continue to have no other direct superannuation liability.

**(o) Rounding of amounts**

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

**(p) Comparatives**

Where necessary, comparatives have been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.



	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>2 REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
Rendering of services revenue from operating activities	6 367	6 120
NT Treasury	134	153
Other revenue	198	247
<b>Total revenue from ordinary activities</b>	<b>6 699</b>	<b>6 520</b>
<b>3 PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE</b>		
<i>(a) Profit from ordinary activities before income tax expense has been arrived at after charging the following items:</i>		
Depreciation of:		
Transport Vehicles (Buses)	762	712
Plant and equipment	154	86
Computer equipment and software	2	4
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>802</b>
Administrative Expenses:		
Recruitment	1	1
Training and study	11	8
Official duty fares	2	-
Audit and other services	12	13
Corporate support by external agencies	163	143
Net expenses from movements in provision for employees benefits	312	15
Operating lease rental expense	31	29
<b>4 TAXATION</b>		
<i>(a) Income tax expense:</i>		
Prima facie income tax expense calculated at 30 percent (2004: 30 percent) on the profit from ordinary activities:	23	48
<b>5 CASH ASSETS</b>		
Operating account	2 450	1 709
Cash advances	1	1
	<b>2 451</b>	<b>1 710</b>
<b>6 RECEIVABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade debtors	680	690
Other receivables	-	37
Interest receivable	11	10
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>737</b>
<b>7 INVENTORIES</b>		
Raw materials and stores	<b>309</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>8 OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Prepayments	<b>12</b>	<b>-</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>9 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
<b>Transport Vehicles (Buses)</b>		
At fair value	11 386	11 582
Accumulated depreciation	(5 718)	(5 208)
	5 668	6 374
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
At cost	800	700
Accumulated depreciation	(504)	(394)
	296	306
<b>Computer equipment and software</b>		
At cost	52	52
Accumulated depreciation	(49)	(47)
	3	5
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>5 967</b>	<b>6 685</b>
<b>Reconciliations</b>		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:		
<b>Transport Vehicles (Buses)</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	6 374	5 748
Additions	220	1 338
Disposals	(20)	-
Transfers	(144)	-
Depreciation	(762)	(712)
Carrying amount at end of year	5 668	6 374
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	306	138
Additions	-	254
Transfers	144	-
Depreciation	(154)	(86)
Carrying amount at end of year	296	306
<b>Computer equipment and software</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	5	4
Additions	-	5
Depreciation	(2)	(4)
Carrying amount at end of year	3	5
<b>10 PAYABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade creditors	112	111
Other creditors	91	39
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>150</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>11 PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
<b>Employee Benefits:</b>		
Recreation leave	346	341
Leave loading	46	49
	<b>392</b>	<b>390</b>
Income tax	23	48
Other provisions	78	47
<b>Total current provisions</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>485</b>
<b>Employee benefits</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	390	354
Provisions made during year	291	280
Payments made during year	(289)	(244)
Carrying amount at end of year	392	390
<b>Income tax</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	48	174
Provisions made during year	23	48
Payments made during year	(48)	(174)
Carrying amount at end of year	23	48
<b>Other provisions:</b>		
<b>Dividends</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	0	203
Provisions made during year	27	-
Payments made during year	-	(203)
Carrying amount at end of year	27	0
<b>Fringe benefits tax and superannuation</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	6	11
Provisions made during year	256	248
Payments made during year	(255)	(253)
Carrying amount at end of year	7	6
<b>Payroll tax</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	41	17
Provisions made during year	133	144
Payments made during year	(137)	(120)
Carrying amount at end of year	37	41
<b>Workers compensation</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	0	0
Provisions made during year	137	17
Payments made during year	(130)	(17)
Carrying amount at end of year	7	0

The entity employed 56 employees as at 30 June 2005 (2004: 53)

## 12 RETAINED PROFITS

<b>Retained Profits</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	8 416	8 303
Net profit	54	113
Dividends provided for and/or paid	(83)	-
Balance at the end of year	<b>8 387</b>	<b>8 416</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>13 CONTRIBUTED EQUITY</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	347	347
Balance at the end of year	<b>347</b>	<b>347</b>
<b>14 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>		
<i>Reconciliation of net profit from ordinary activities after income tax to net cash used in operations</i>		
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>113</b>
<i>Non-Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation	918	802
Assets written down	20	-
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</i>		
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables	46	(40)
(Increase) in inventory	(43)	(46)
(Increase)/Decrease in prepayments	(12)	3
Increase/(Decrease) in payables	52	(58)
Increase in provision for employee benefits	2	14
Increase/(Decrease) in other provisions	5	20
(Decrease) in income tax liabilities	(25)	(126)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>1 017</b>	<b>682</b>

## 15 Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract resulting in a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability of another entity.

The entity's operating account earns monthly interest at a variable interest rate (NT Treasury Corporation's average 11am cash rate less 25 basis points).

### (a) Interest Rate Risk

The entity's exposure to interest rate risk and the average interest rate for classes of financial assets and financial liabilities is set out below. The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balance at the end of the year.

	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Variable interest \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>2005</b>				
<b>Financial Assets</b>				
Cash assets	4.74%	2 451	-	2 451
Receivables		-	691	691
		2 451	691	3 142
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>				
Payables		-	261	261
Dividends payable		-	27	27
Employee entitlements		-	392	392
		-	680	680
		<b>2 451</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2 462</b>
<b>2004</b>				
<b>Financial Assets</b>				
Cash assets	4.85%	1 710	-	1 710
Receivables		-	737	737
		1 710	737	2 447
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>				
Payables		-	198	198
Employee entitlements		-	390	390
		-	588	588
		<b>1 710</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>1 859</b>

### (b) Credit risk

In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the entity has adopted the policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any provisions for losses, represents the entity's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

### (c) Net fair value

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective net fair values

**16 Contingent Subsequent To Balance Date**

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustments to or disclosure in these financial statements.

**17 Events Subsequent To Balance Date**

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to or disclosure in these financial statements.

**18 Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers under the *Financial Management Act***

Amounts written off, waived and postponed by Delegates

	2005 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2004 \$'000	No. of Trans.
Public property written off	20	1	-	-
<b>Total Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**19 Disclosing The Impact Of Adopting AASB Equivalents To IASB Pronouncements**

At this point in time the Darwin Bus Service is managing the transition through continuing attendance at professional development seminars. In addition NT Treasury, through its accounting policy branch, will identify and communicate changes required to Treasurer's Directions and future reporting requirements. An impact assessment has been undertaken in conjunction with Treasury and the current assessment is that there are no likely material differences in accounting policy.

# Financial Statement Overview

## For the Year Ended 30 June 2005

Visitor numbers to the Territory Wildlife Parks increased by about 10 000 in 2004-05. The increase was due to the Gold Pass Ghan tourists, who have lunch at the Desert Park and a visit to the Desert Park built into the purchase price of their tickets.

These sales resulted in an increase in sales of goods and services of about \$180 000. Reductions in other areas of goods and services, including concessions reduced by \$46 000, interest reduced by \$96 000 and the reduction in income due to the cessation of the commercial nursery at the Desert Park of \$33 000 meant that goods and services income remained about the same with the exception of the return of \$326 000 in GST.

The return in GST was made possible by the achievement of Deductible Gift recipient status, the Community Service Obligation was decreased by a similar amount during the year.

The Territory Wildlife Parks were well within budget for the year. Continued focus on cost control meant that wages were kept below budget and other expenditure was reduced from 2004 levels.

Depreciation costs were reduced because of the revaluation of the assets. The non-funding of depreciation resulted in a considerably greater overall loss than in 2004. The Community Service Obligation, which reflects the cash actually expended by Government on the Parks was considerably reduced.

The Parks continued to develop their environmental and sustainability education programs, indigenous employment programs, marketing programs and threatened species breeding programs.



## AUDITOR-GENERAL

**AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT TO  
THE MINISTER FOR PARKS AND WILDLIFE  
TERRITORY WILDLIFE PARKS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005**

Page 1 of 2

**Scope***The financial report and the Accountable Officer's responsibility*

The financial report of Territory Wildlife Parks comprises the statement by the Accountable Officer and statements of financial position, financial performance and cash flows and accompanying notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2005.

The Accountable Officer of the Agency is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the *Financial Management Act*. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

*Audit Approach*

I conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the Minister for Parks and Wildlife. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control systems and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements or control deficiencies have been detected.

I performed procedures to assess whether, in all material respects, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia and of the *Financial Management Act*, a view which is consistent with my understanding of Territory Wildlife Parks' financial position and its financial performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

I formed my audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report; and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Accountable Officer.

While I considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of my procedures, my audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

My audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by the Accountable Officer or management.

Level 12 Northern Territory House 22 Mitchell Street Darwin 0800 Tel: 08 8999 7155 Fax: 08 8999 7144





## AUDITOR-GENERAL

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### Independence

I am independent of Territory Wildlife Parks and, in conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of the *Audit Act* and of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of Territory Wildlife Parks:

- presents fairly the financial position of Territory Wildlife Parks at 30 June 2005, and its financial performance for the year ended on that date: and
- is presented in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. McGuinness'.

Frank McGuinness  
Auditor-General for the Northern Territory  
Darwin, Northern Territory

24 October 2005

### Statement by the Accountable Officer

In my opinion:

- i. The accompanying financial statements and notes are based on proper accounts and records and are in agreement with the accounts. They have been properly drawn up so as to present fairly the financial position of Territory Wildlife Parks as at 30 June 2005, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date;
- ii. The financial statements are in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the *Financial Management Act*.
- iii. At the time of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Dated the fifth of October 2005



**Sarah Butterworth**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Statement of Financial Performance For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
Revenue from sale of goods		2 277	1 957
Other revenues from ordinary activities		7 520	9 270
<b>Total revenue</b>	2	<b>9 797</b>	<b>11 227</b>
Salaries and employee benefits expenses		5 204	5 123
Depreciation expenses	3	1 452	1 716
Other expenses from ordinary activities		4 263	4 655
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>10 919</b>	<b>11 494</b>
<b>Loss from ordinary activities before income tax expense</b>		<b>(1 122)</b>	<b>(267)</b>
Income tax relating to ordinary activities	1(f)	-	-
<b>Net Loss</b>	3	<b>(1 122)</b>	<b>(267)</b>

*The statement of financial performance is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements*

## Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash assets	4	1 502	1 371
Receivables	5	452	333
Inventories	6	4	7
Other	7	-	4
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>1 958</b>	<b>1 715</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	32 313	33 410
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>32 313</b>	<b>33 410</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>34 271</b>	<b>35 125</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	9	416	466
Provisions	10	538	564
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>954</b>	<b>1 030</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>954</b>	<b>1 030</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>33 317</b>	<b>34 095</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained profits	11	1 945	3 066
Reserves	11	17 103	17 103
Contributed equity	12	14 269	13 926
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>33 317</b>	<b>34 095</b>

*The statement of financial position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements*

## Statement of Cash Flows

### For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)	2004 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)
Cash receipts in the course of operations		2 962	1 733
Cash payments in the course of operations		(10 340)	(9 770)
Community service obligations received		7 445	9 103
Interest received		82	159
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	13	<b>149</b>	<b>1 225</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(18)	(30)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(18)</b>	<b>(30)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Equity injections	12	-	65
Equity withdrawals	12	-	(2 248)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(2 183)</b>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		131	(988)
Cash at the beginning of the year		1 371	2 359
<b>Cash at the end of the year</b>	4	<b>1 502</b>	<b>1 371</b>

*The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements*

# Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2005

## 1 Statement Of Significant Accounting Policies

### (a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and, except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or fair values of non-current assets. These accounting policies have been consistently applied and, except where there is a change in accounting policy, are consistent with those of the previous year.

The Treasurer has determined that Territory Wildlife Parks ("the entity") is a Government Business Division as defined in Section 3(1) of the *Financial Management Act*. In accordance with Section 10 of the *Financial Management Act*, the financial statements of the entity have been prepared on commercial accounting principles.

These financial statements do not comply with International Accounting Standards, as Australia is not adopting these requirements until reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. However the potential impact on accounting policies that will arise from the transition to AASB equivalents of IASB pronouncements is disclosed in note 21.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

### (b) Changes in Accounting Policies

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

### (c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received net of Goods and Services Tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration are not recognised as revenues.

#### **Sale of goods**

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when control of the goods passes to the customer.

#### **Interest revenue**

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

#### **Sale of non-current assets**

The gross proceeds of non-current asset sales are included as revenue at the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed.

The profit or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal.

### **Community service obligation funding**

Community service obligation funding is generally received from the Northern Territory Government when the entity is required to carry out activities on a non-commercial basis. Revenue in respect of this funding is recognised in the period in which the entity gains control of the funds.

### **Contribution of assets**

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non-reciprocal transfers, are recognised, unless otherwise determined by government, as revenue at the fair value of the asset received when the entity gains control of the contribution.

### **(d) Goods and services tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities that is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

### **(e) Borrowing Costs**

Borrowing costs include interest and are expensed as incurred.

### **(f) Taxation**

The entity is required to pay income tax on its accounting profit, excluding extraordinary items, at the company tax rate of 30 per cent in accordance with the requirements of the Treasurer's Directions and the NT Tax Equivalent Regime. The entity does not have a present income tax liability as it has incurred a loss for income tax purposes and has not taken to account any future income tax benefits arising from this loss as the potential future income tax benefit is not certain.

The future income tax benefits will only be realised if:

- (a) the entity derives future assessable income of a nature and amount sufficient to enable the benefit to be realised;
- (b) the entity continues to comply with the conditions for deductibility imposed by the Treasurer's Directions; and
- (c) there are no changes to the NT Tax Equivalent Regime that adversely affects the entity.

The tax loss to be carried forward is \$4.354m (\$3.232m – 2004).

### **(g) Cash**

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and cash held the entity's operating account.

### **(h) Inventories**

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

**(i) Receivables**

The ability to collect receivables is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts. The accounts to be settled within 30 days are carried at amounts due.

**(j) Property, plant and equipment**

**Acquisitions**

Items of property, plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost when the cost is greater than \$5 000 and depreciated as outlined below. Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment that do not meet the criteria for capitalisation, are expensed as incurred. The cost of property, plant and equipment constructed by the entity includes the cost of materials and direct labour, an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads and capitalised interest.

**Complex assets**

Major items of plant and equipment comprising a number of components that have different useful lives, are accounted for as separate assets. The components may be replaced during the useful life of the complex asset.

**Subsequent additional costs**

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the entity in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their useful lives.

**Revaluations**

The entity obtains an independent valuation of its property every three years. Property is currently carried at a value not materially different to its fair value. Plant and equipment is carried at cost.

**Depreciation**

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings have limited useful lives and are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful life for each class of asset, for the current and previous years, is as follows:

Asset Class	Period
Buildings	20 – 50 years
Plant and equipment	5 years
Furniture and fittings	5 years
Infrastructure	10 years

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use. Assets may be constructed internally or acquired assets may have modifications and accessories installed or equipment calibrated and tested, that will affect the date held ready for use.



### **(k) Leased assets**

Leases under which the entity assumes substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases. The entity does not have any assets under a finance lease.

#### ***Operating leases***

Payments made under operating leases are expensed on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

### **(l) Recoverable amount of non-current assets valued on the cost basis**

The carrying amounts of non-current assets valued on the cost basis are reviewed to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amount at balance date. If the carrying amount of a non-current asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the lower amount. The write-down is recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance in the reporting period in which it occurs.

Where a group of assets working together supports the generation of cash inflows, the recoverable amount is assessed in relation to that group of assets. In assessing recoverable amounts of non-current assets the relevant cash flows are not discounted to their present value, except where specifically stated.

### **(m) Payables**

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost that is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the entity. Trade accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

### **(n) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates that are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

No provision is made for non-vesting sick leave, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken indicates that accumulated sick leave is unlikely to be paid.

Employee benefits expense is recognised against profits on a net basis in the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee benefits

**(o) Superannuation**

Employees' Superannuation entitlements are provided through the NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS), Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The entity makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees. Any liability for superannuation is met directly by the NT Government and the entity has and will continue to have no other direct superannuation liability.

**(p) Dividends**

The entity has not provided for a dividend.

**(q) Economic Dependence**

Territory Wildlife Parks established by the *Financial Management Act (1995)* is subject to the direction of the Minister for Parks and Wildlife. Territory Wildlife Parks is partially funded by Northern Territory Treasury in recognition that it carries out activities on a non-commercial basis. Such partial funding is termed 'Community Service Obligation' and this funding is reflected in the Statement of Financial Performance.

These financial statements are prepared on a "going concern" basis in the expectation that such funding will continue.

**(r) Rounding of amounts**

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

**(s) Comparatives**

Where necessary, comparatives have been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>2 REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
Sale of goods revenue from operating activities	2 277	1 957
<b>Other revenue:</b>		
<i>From operating activities</i>		
Community service obligations	Note 16	7 445
<i>From outside operating activities</i>		
Other revenue	2	-
NT Treasury interest	73	167
<b>Total revenue from ordinary activities</b>	<b>9 797</b>	<b>11 227</b>
<b>3 LOSS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE</b>		
<i>Loss from ordinary activities before income tax expense has been arrived at after charging the following items:</i>		
<i>Depreciation:</i>		
Buildings	731	1 270
Plant and equipment	47	47
Infrastructure	674	399
Total	1 452	1 716

continued...

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<i>Administrative expenses:</i>		
Consultants	1	2
Marketing and promotion	232	249
Document production	26	8
Legal expenses	89	-
Recruitment	34	9
Training and study	36	55
Official duty fares	32	34
Travelling allowance	27	24
Audit and other services	12	51
Corporate support by external agencies	799	821
Net bad and doubtful debts expense including movements in provision for doubtful debts	3	5
Net expenses from movements in provision for employees benefits	538	564
Operating lease rental expense	5	6
Net (gain) on disposal of non-current assets	(2)	-
<b>4 CASH ASSETS</b>		
Operating Account	1 489	1 358
Cash on hand	13	13
	<b>1 502</b>	<b>1 371</b>
<b>5 RECEIVABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade debtors	117	281
Less: Provision for doubtful trade debtors	(13)	(11)
	104	270
Other receivables	342	48
Interest receivable	6	15
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>333</b>
<b>6 INVENTORIES</b>		
Raw materials and stores	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7 OTHER ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Prepayments	-	4

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>8 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
<b>Buildings</b>		
At independent valuation 30 June 2004	19 697	19 697
At cost	295	123
	19 992	19 820
Accumulated depreciation	(730)	-
<b>Total Buildings</b>	<b>19 262</b>	<b>19 820</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
At independent valuation 30 June 2004	13 289	13 289
At cost	304	139
	13 593	13 428
Accumulated depreciation	(674)	-
<b>Total Infrastructure</b>	<b>12 919</b>	<b>13 428</b>
<b>8 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT continued</b>		
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
At cost or deemed cost	1 362	1 344
Accumulated depreciation	(1 230)	(1 182)
<b>Total Plant and equipment</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>32 313</b>	<b>33 410</b>
<b>Reconciliations</b>		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:		
<b>Buildings</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	19 820	27 673
Internal transfers	-	(5 725)
Additions	172	123
Depreciation	(730)	(1 270)
Net revaluation decrement	-	(981)
Carrying amount at end of year	<b>19 262</b>	<b>19 820</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	13 428	6 728
Internal transfers	-	5 725
Additions	165	139
Depreciation	(674)	(399)
Net revaluation increment	-	1 235
Carrying amount at end of year	<b>12 919</b>	<b>13 428</b>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	162	179
Additions	18	30
Depreciation	(48)	(47)
Carrying amount at end of year	<b>132</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>9 PAYABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade creditors	182	179
Other creditors	234	287
	<b>416</b>	<b>466</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>10 PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
<b>Employee Benefits:</b>		
Recreation leave	454	476
Leave loading	84	88
	<b>538</b>	<b>564</b>
<b>11 RESERVES AND RETAINED PROFITS (ACCUMULATED LOSSES)</b>		
Asset revaluation reserve 11(a)(ii)	17 103	17 103
Retained Profits 11(b)	1 945	3 066
<b>(a) Asset revaluation reserve</b>		
<b>(i) Nature and purpose of reserve</b>		
The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets in accordance with AASB 1041.		
<b>(ii) Movements in reserve</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	17 103	16 849
Revaluation increment on buildings and infrastructure	-	254
Balance at the end of year	<b>17 103</b>	<b>17 103</b>
<b>(b) Retained Profits</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	3 066	3 333
Net loss	(1 121)	(267)
Balance at the end of year	<b>1 945</b>	<b>3 066</b>
<b>12 CONTRIBUTED EQUITY</b>		
Balance at the beginning of year	13 926	15 847
Equity injections - non cash SLA	343	262
Equity injections	-	65
Equity withdrawals	-	(2 248)
Balance at the end of year	<b>14 269</b>	<b>13 926</b>
<b>13 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>		
<i>Reconciliation of net loss from ordinary activities to net cash used in operations</i>		
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>(1 122)</b>	<b>(267)</b>
<i>Non-Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation	1 452	1 716
Repairs & Maintenance acquired at nil cost - SLA	6	-
Sale of asset	(2)	-
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</i>		
(Increase) in trade and other receivables	(119)	(231)
Decrease / (Increase) in inventory	3	(4)
Decrease / (Increase) in prepayments	4	(1)
(Decrease) / Increase in trade and other creditors	(50)	8
Increase in provision for doubtful debts	3	5
(Decrease) in provisions for employee benefits	(26)	(1)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>1 225</b>

## 14 Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract resulting in a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability of another entity.

The entity's operating account earns monthly interest at a variable interest rate (NT Treasury Corporation's average 11am cash rate less 25 basis points).

### (a) Interest Rate Risk

The entity's exposure to interest rate risk and the average interest rate for classes of financial assets and financial liabilities is set out below. The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balance at the end of the year.

	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Variable interest \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>2005</b>				
<b>Financial Assets</b>				
Cash assets	5.08%	1 489	13	1 502
Receivables		-	452	452
		<b>1 489</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>1 954</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>				
Payables		-	416	416
Provisions		-	538	538
		-	<b>954</b>	<b>954</b>
		<b>1 489</b>	<b>(489)</b>	<b>1 000</b>
<b>2004</b>				
<b>Financial Assets</b>				
Cash assets	4.04%	1 358	13	1 371
Receivables		-	333	333
		<b>1 358</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1 704</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>				
Payables		-	466	466
Provisions		-	564	564
		-	<b>1 030</b>	<b>1 030</b>
		<b>1 358</b>	<b>(684)</b>	<b>674</b>

### (b) Credit risk

In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the entity has adopted the policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security when appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any provisions for losses, represents the entity's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

### (c) Net fair value

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective net fair values.

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>15 COMMITMENTS</b>		
<b>Non-cancellable operating lease expense commitments</b>		
Future operating lease commitments not provided for in the financial statements and payable:		
Within one year	5	5
One year and no later than five years	1	6
	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>16 COMMUNITY SERVICE OBLIGATIONS</b>		
Community Service Obligation received	7 445	9 103

There are four non-commercial functions carried out by the parks. These are Tourism Industry Support, Biodiversity, Education and, at the Alice Springs Desert Park, Botanic Gardens Management.

#### 17 Contingent Liabilities And Contingent Assets

The entity had no contingent liabilities or assets as at 30 June 2005. (2004 – nil)

#### 18 Events Subsequent To Balance Date

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to, or disclosure in these financial statements.

#### 19 Segment Information

Business segments	Territory Wildlife Park		Alice Springs Desert Park		Entity	
	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
Revenue	5 205	5 269	4 592	5 958	9 797	11 227
Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities	(323)	(995)	(799)	728	(1 122)	(267)
Net non-current assets	16 741	17 314	15 572	16 096	32 313	33 410
Unallocated assets	-	-	-	-	1 958	1 715
Unallocated liabilities	-	-	-	-	(954)	(1 030)

Both segments derive income from the delivery of a tourist focused wildlife experience and from CSO's for the preservation of unique and endangered flora and fauna. The entity operates wholly within Australia.

Unallocated assets and liabilities are those that cannot be specifically attributed to a particular segment.

#### 20 Write Offs, Postponements And Waivers

The entity had no write offs, postponements or waivers in 2005. (2004 - nil).

#### 21 Disclosing The Impact Of Adopting AASB Equivalents To IASB Pronouncements

At this point in time the entity is managing the transition through continuing professional development seminars. In addition NT Treasury, through its accounting policy branch, will identify and communicate changes required to Treasurer's Directions and future reporting requirements. An impact assessment has been undertaken in conjunction with Treasury and the current assessment is that there are no likely material differences in accounting policy.

## Financial Statement Overview

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2005

The Construction Division is responsible for the project management of design, procurement and supervision of the construction and maintenance of built assets for Northern Territory Government client agencies. It has no construction charter of its own and arranges private contractors for all construction work on behalf of its clients. It provides a full range of technical expertise in the supervision of construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, buildings, mechanical and electrical plant and hydraulics.

Following the significant loss last year, management concentrated on a more commercial focus for Construction Division. While these changes were not all completed before the end of the financial year, there was a major financial turnaround which resulted in a profit of \$1.24m. As a consequence of the previous losses and the fact that growth in the business required additional working capital, the organisation was still encountering pressure on cash flows and cash reserves as at 30 June 2005. This is expected to gradually abate as the organisation continues to operate profitably.





## AUDITOR-GENERAL

### AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT CONSTRUCTION DIVISION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

Page 1 of 2

#### Scope

##### *The financial report and the Accountable Officer's responsibility*

The financial report of Construction Division comprises the statement by the Accountable Officer and statements of financial position, financial performance and cash flows and accompanying notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2005.

The Accountable Officer of the Agency is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the *Financial Management Act*. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

##### *Audit Approach*

I conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control systems and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements or control deficiencies have been detected.

I performed procedures to assess whether, in all material respects, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia and of the *Financial Management Act*, a view which is consistent with my understanding of Construction Divisions' financial position and its financial performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

I formed my audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report; and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Accountable Officer.

While I considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of my procedures, my audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

My audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by the Accountable Officer or management.

Level 12 Northern Territory House 22 Mitchell Street Darwin 0800 Tel: 08 8999 7155 Fax: 08 8999 7144



**AUDITOR-GENERAL**

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**Independence**

I am independent of Construction Division and, in conducting my audit, I followed applicable independence requirements of the *Audit Act* and of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Audit Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial report of Construction Division:

- presents fairly the financial position of Construction Division at 30 June 2005, and its financial performance for the year ended on that date: and
- is presented in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank McGuinness'.

Frank McGuinness  
Auditor-General for the Northern Territory  
Darwin, Northern Territory  
11 November 2005

## Statement by the Accountable Officer

In my opinion:-

- i. The accompanying financial statements and notes are based on proper accounts and records and are in agreement with the accounts. They have been properly drawn up so as to present fairly the financial position of Construction Division as at 30 June 2005, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date;
- ii. The financial statements are in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the *Financial Management Act*.
- iii. At the time of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Dated the seventh of November 2005



Sarah Butterworth  
Chief Executive Officer

## Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
Revenue from rendering of services		41 377	32 809
Other revenues from ordinary activities		87	57
<b>Total revenue</b>	2	<b>41 464</b>	<b>32 866</b>
Salaries and employee benefits expenses		18 971	17 902
Other expenses from ordinary activities		20 882	18 197
Borrowing costs	3	322	207
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	3	51	26
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>40 226</b>	<b>36 332</b>
<b>Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities before income tax expense</b>		<b>1 238</b>	<b>(3 466)</b>
Income tax (expense) relating to ordinary activities	1(f)	-	-
<b>Net Profit / (Loss)</b>	14	<b>1 238</b>	<b>(3 466)</b>

*The statement of financial performance is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements*

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash assets	4	1	1 693
Receivables	5	5 432	1 823
Other	6	8	12
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>5 441</b>	<b>3 528</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Receivables	5	1 046	1 046
Property, plant and equipment	7	167	46
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>1 213</b>	<b>1 092</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>6 654</b>	<b>4 620</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Overdraft	4	860	-
Payables	8	579	888
Provisions	11	3 354	3 292
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>4 793</b>	<b>4 180</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Interest bearing liabilities	9	2 500	2 500
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2 500</b>	<b>2 500</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>7 293</b>	<b>6 680</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>(639)</b>	<b>(2 060)</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Asset revaluation reserve	12	-	-
Accumulated losses	12	(822)	(2 060)
Contributed equity	13	183	-
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>(639)</b>	<b>(2 060)</b>

The statement of financial position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2005

	Note	2005 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)	2004 \$'000 INFLOWS/ (OUTFLOWS)
Cash receipts in the course of operations		41 513	35 273
Cash payments in the course of operations		(43 769)	(38 048)
Interest received		3	20
Borrowing costs		(299)	(207)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	14	<b>(2 552)</b>	<b>(2 962)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	-
<b>Net cash from / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Dividends paid		-	(490)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(490)</b>
Net decrease in cash held		(2 552)	(3 452)
Cash at the beginning of the year		1 693	5 145
<b>Cash at the end of the year</b>	4	<b>(859)</b>	<b>1 693</b>

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

# Notes to the Financial Statements

## For the year ended 30 June 2005

### 1 Statement Of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and, except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or fair values of non-current assets. These accounting policies have been consistently applied and, except where there is a change in accounting policy, are consistent with those of the previous year.

The Treasurer has determined that Construction Division ("the entity") is a Government Business Division as defined in Section 3(1) of the *Financial Management Act*. In accordance with Section 10 of the *Financial Management Act*, the financial statements of the entity have been prepared on commercial accounting principles.

These financial statements do not comply with International Accounting Standards, as Australia is not adopting these requirements until reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. However the potential impact on accounting policies that will arise from the transition to AASB equivalents of IASB pronouncements is disclosed in note 20.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

#### (b) Changes in Accounting Policies

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

#### (c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received net of Goods and Services Tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration are not recognised as revenues.

##### **Rendering of services**

Revenue from rendering services is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion of the contract.

##### **Interest revenue**

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

**(d) Goods and services tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities that is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO.

**(e) Borrowing costs**

Borrowing costs include interest and lease finance charges and are expensed as incurred.

**(f) Taxation**

The entity is required to pay income tax on its accounting profit, excluding extraordinary items, at the company tax rate of 30% in accordance with the requirements of the Treasurer's Directions and the NT Tax Equivalents Regime. The entity has achieved a \$1.24M profit, however for income tax purposes the entity does not have a present income tax liability due to carried forward losses of \$3.466 million. Any future income tax benefit arising from this loss has not been taken into account as the potential future income tax benefit is not certain.

The future income tax benefit will only be realised if:

- (a) the entity derives future assessable income of a nature and amount sufficient to enable the benefit to be realised;
- (b) the entity continues to comply with the conditions for deductibility imposed by the Treasurer's Directions; and
- (c) there are no changes to the NT Tax Equivalent Regime that adversely affects the entity.

**(g) Cash**

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and cash in the entity's operating account. Bank overdrafts are carried at the principal amount.

**(h) Receivables**

The ability to collect debtors or receivables is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts. Trade debtors to be settled within 30 days and other debtors to be settled within 30 days are carried at amounts due.



## (i) Property, plant and equipment

### **Acquisitions**

Items of property, plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost where the cost is greater than \$5 000 and depreciated as outlined below. Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment, that does not meet the criteria for capitalisation, are expensed as incurred.

### **Revaluations**

Plant and equipment is carried at cost.

### **Depreciation**

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding freehold land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset, for the current and previous years, are as follows:

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Period</b>
Plant and equipment	3 – 15 years
Computer equipment and software	3 – 5 years

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or when held ready for use.

## (j) Leased assets

Leases under which the entity assumes substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases. The entity does not have any assets under a finance lease.

### **Operating leases**

Payments made under operating leases are expensed on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the lease property.

## (k) Recoverable amount of non-current assets valued on the cost basis

The carrying amounts of non-current assets valued on the cost basis are reviewed to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amount at balance date. If the carrying amount of a non-current asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the lower amount. The write-down is recognised as an expense in the net profit or loss in the reporting period in which it occurs.

In assessing recoverable amounts of non-current assets the relevant cash flows are not discounted to their present value, except where specifically stated.

## (l) Payables

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost that is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the entity. Trade accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

**(m) Government loans**

Government loans are carried on the Statement of Financial Position at their principal amount and described as interest bearing liabilities. Interest expense is accrued at the contracted rate and included in "Other creditors and accruals".

**(n) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates that are expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

No provision is made for non vesting sick leave, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken indicates that accumulated sick leave is unlikely to be paid.

Employee benefits expenses are recognised against profits on a net basis in the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee benefits

**(o) Superannuation**

Employees' Superannuation entitlements are provided through the NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS), Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The entity makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees. Any liability for superannuation is met directly by the NT Government and the entity has and will continue to have no other direct superannuation liability.

**(p) Dividends**

The entity has not provided for a dividend for the 2004-05 financial year. Due to the current financial position of the entity the Treasurer has approved under section 36(2) of the *Financial Management Act* that the entity declare a zero percent dividend.

**(q) Economic Dependence**

These financial statements are prepared on a "going concern" basis in the expectation that the Northern Territory Government will supply financial support.

**(r) Rounding of amounts**

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

**(s) Comparatives**

Where necessary, comparatives have been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>2 REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>		
Revenue from operating activities	41 377	32 809
Interest:		
NT Treasury	3	16
Other parties	-	4
Total interest	3	20
Other	84	37
Total other revenues	84	57
<b>Total revenue from ordinary activities</b>	<b>41 464</b>	<b>32 866</b>
<b>3 PROFIT / (LOSS) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE</b>		
<i>Profit / (Loss) from ordinary activities before income tax expense has been arrived at after charging / (crediting) the following items:</i>		
Depreciation of:		
Plant and equipment	47	24
Computer equipment and software	4	2
Total depreciation	51	26
Borrowing costs:		
NT Treasury loans	322	207
Total depreciation	322	207
Administrative Expenses:		
Consultants (1)	11 230	8 476
Advertising	15	6
Marketing and Promotion	1	-
Document Production	55	42
Legal Expenses (2)	83	588
Recruitment (3)	230	109
Training and Study	201	208
Official Duty Fares	470	397
Audit and other Services	42	36
Corporate Support by external agencies	1 471	1 691
Operating lease rental expense	645	632
(1) Includes marketing, promotion and IT consultants		
(2) Includes legal fees, claim and settlement costs		
(3) Includes recruitment related advertising costs		
<b>4 CASH ASSETS</b>		
Operating Account/(overdraft)	(860)	1 692
Cash on hand	1	1
	(859)	1 693

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>5 RECEIVABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade debtors	5 432	1 823
<b>Non-current</b>		
Other receivables	1 046	1 046
<b>Total receivables</b>	<b>6 478</b>	<b>2 869</b>
<b>6 OTHER ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Prepayments	8	12
	8	12
<b>7 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
At cost	558	387
Accumulated depreciation	(398)	(352)
	160	35
<b>Computer equipment and software</b>		
At cost	15	15
Accumulated depreciation	(8)	(4)
	7	11
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Reconciliations</b>		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:		
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	35	59
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Transfers in	172	
Depreciation	(47)	(24)
Carrying amount at end of year	160	35
<b>Computer equipment and software</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	11	13
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Transfers in	-	-
Depreciation	(4)	(2)
Carrying amount at end of year	7	11
<b>8 PAYABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade creditors	161	212
Other creditors	418	676
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>888</b>

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>9 INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Non-current</b>		
Government loans	2 500	2 500
<b>10 INCOME TAX LIABILITIES</b>		
Current income tax payable	-	-
<b>11 PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
<b>Employee Benefits:</b>		
Recreation leave	2 638	2 582
Leave loading	243	325
	2 881	2 907
<b>Other Current Provisions</b>		
Other provisions	473	385
<b>Total Current Provisions</b>	<b>3 354</b>	<b>3 292</b>
<b>(a) Reconciliations:</b>		
<b>Employee Benefits</b>		
Carrying amount at the beginning of year	2 907	2 707
Provision made during the year	1 893	2 026
Payment made during the year	(1 919)	(1 826)
Carrying amount at the end of year	2 881	2 907
<b>Dividends</b>		
Carrying amount at the beginning of year	-	490
Provision made during the year	-	-
Payment made during the year	-	(490)
Carrying amount at the end of year	-	-
<b>Fringe Benefit Tax</b>		
Carrying amount at the beginning of year	41	32
Provision made during the year	176	115
Payment made during year	(182)	(106)
Carrying amount at the end of year	35	41
<b>Payroll Tax</b>		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	244	245
Provision made during year	1 136	967
Payment made during year	(1 071)	(968)
Carrying amount at end of year	309	244
<b>Superannuation</b>		
Carrying amount at the beginning of year	33	43
Provision made during year	2 029	1 952
Payment made during the year	(1 963)	(1 962)
Carrying amount at the end of year	99	33

		2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>Other Provisions</b>			
	Carrying amount at the beginning of year	67	35
	Provision made during year	-	32
	Payment made during the year	(37)	-
	Carrying amount at the end of year	30	67
The GBD employed 243 employees as at 30 June 2005 (2004: 287)			
<b>12</b>	<b>RESERVES AND RETAINED PROFITS (ACCUMULATED LOSSES)</b>		
	Asset revaluation reserve	12(a)	-
	Accumulated Losses	12(b)	(822)
	<b>Total Reserves and Accumulated Losses</b>	<b>(822)</b>	<b>(2 060)</b>
<b>(a)</b>	<b>Asset revaluation reserve</b>		
<b>(i)</b>	<i>Nature and purpose of reserve</i>		
	The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets in accordance with AASB 1041.		
<b>(ii)</b>	<i>Movements in reserve</i>		
	Balance at the beginning of year	-	49
	Transferred to accumulated losses	-	(49)
	Balance at the end of year	-	-
<b>(b)</b>	<b>Retained Profits/(Accumulated Losses)</b>		
	Balance at the beginning of year	(2 060)	1 357
	Net profit / (loss)	1 238	(3 466)
	<i>Total available for appropriation</i>	(822)	(2 109)
	Dividends provided for or paid	-	-
	Aggregate of amounts transferred from reserves	-	49
	Balance at the end of year	(822)	(2 060)
<b>13</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTED EQUITY</b>		
	Balance at the beginning of year	-	-
	Additions for the year	183	-
	Balance at the end of year	183	-

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>14 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>		
<i>Reconciliation of net profit/(loss) from ordinary activities after income tax to net cash used in operations</i>		
<b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>1 238</b>	<b>(3 466)</b>
<i>Non-Cash Items</i>		
Depreciation	51	26
Repairs & Maintenance Noncash	12	-
Disposal of non-current assets	(1)	-
<i>Financing activities</i>		
Provisions paid	-	490
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</i>		
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables	(3 722)	1 447
(Increase) in prepayments	-	(4)
Decrease in interest receivable	4	
(Decrease) in trade and other creditors	(197)	(1 151)
(Decrease)/Increase in provision for employee benefits	(26)	200
Increase/(Decrease) in other provisions	89	(504)
Increase/(Decrease) in income tax liabilities	-	
<b>Net cash flows from (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(2 552)</b>	<b>(2 962)</b>

#### 15 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is any contract resulting in a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability of another entity.

The entity's operating account earns monthly interest at a variable interest rate (NT Treasury Corporation's average 11am cash rate less 25 basis points).

Borrowings are through NT Treasury Corporation on the following terms and conditions.

Principal	Maturity date	Interest Rate	Interest Due
\$859 000	Current	Variable	Monthly
\$2.5 m	30 October 2005	Variable	Quarterly

Negative cash balances of \$50 000 or less attract the average 11am cash rate for the month plus 50 basis points.

Negative cash balances over \$50 000 that has an overdraft facility or by prior arrangement with NT Treasury Corporation, attracts the average 11am cash rate for the month plus 50 basis points.

Negative balances without overdraft facilities or prior arrangement with NT Treasury Corporation will be charged the overdraft rate applied to the Government Bank Account by the Westpac Banking Corporation.

**(a) Interest Rate Risk**

The entity's exposure to interest rate risk and the average interest rate for classes of financial assets and financial liabilities is set out below. The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balance at the end of the year.

2005	Weighted Average Interest Rate %	Variable interest \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>Financial Assets</b>				
Cash assets		-	1	1
Receivables		-	5 441	5 441
		-	5 442	5 442
Payables		-	579	579
Government loans	5.31%	2 500	-	2 500
Provisions			3 354	3 354
Overdraft		860	-	860
		3 360	3 933	7 293
<b>Net Financial Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<b>(3 360)</b>	<b>1 509</b>	<b>1 851</b>
<b>2004</b>				
Cash assets		1 693	-	1 693
Receivables		-	1 835	1 835
		1 693	1 835	3 528
Payables		-	888	888
Government loans	6.075%	2 500	-	2 500
Provisions		-	3 292	3 292
		2 500	4 180	6 680
<b>Net Financial Liabilities</b>		<b>(807)</b>	<b>(2 345)</b>	<b>(3 152)</b>

**(b) Credit risk**

In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the entity has adopted the policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any provisions for losses, represents the entity's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

**(c) Net fair value**

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective net fair values.

	2005 \$'000	2004 \$'000
<b>16 COMMITMENTS</b>		
<b>Non-cancellable operating lease expense commitments</b>		
Estimated capital expenditure contracted for at balance date but not provided for and payable:		
Within one year	11	38
One year or no later than five years	-	11
Greater than five years		
	11	49



**17 Contingent Liabilities And Contingent Assets**

As at 30 June 2005 there were no contingent liabilities or assets (30 June 2004 – nil)

**18 Events Subsequent To Balance Date**

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require disclosure in or adjustment to these financial statements.

**19 Write-offs, Postponements And Waivers**

Construction Division had no write-offs, postponements or waivers in 2003-04 and 2004-05.

**20 Disclosing The Impact Of Adopting AASB Equivalents To IASB Pronouncements**

At this point in time the Construction Division is managing the transition through continuing attendance at professional development seminars. In addition NT Treasury, through its accounting policy branch, will identify and communicate changes required to Treasurer's Directions and future reporting requirements. An impact assessment has been undertaken in conjunction with Treasury and the current assessment is that there are no likely material differences in accounting policy.

Financial Statements - Construction Division

# Legislation

## Legal Services Unit

The unit manages and coordinates the legal, legislative and prosecutions program for the department. The unit provides advice and assistance on legal, legislative and prosecution matters and processes. A list of DIPE legislation, administrative responsibilities and the new or amended legislation is at [www.dpi.nt.gov.au/foi/index.html](http://www.dpi.nt.gov.au/foi/index.html)

## LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

### The Hon Chris Burns, MLA

MINISTERIAL ROLE	LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED	DEPARTMENTAL UNIT RESPONSIBLE
<b>Minister for Transport and Infrastructure</b>	Aerodromes Act Repeal	Transport Policy
	Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport	Road Network Management
	Control of Roads (except Part IV)	Road User Management
	Marine	Road, Rail and Marine Safety
	Marine Pollution	Public Transport
	Motor Vehicles	Commercial Passenger Vehicle Regulation
	Northern Territory Rail Safety	Infrastructure Development
	Petroleum Products Subsidy	
	Road Safety Council	
	Road Transport Reform (vehicles and traffic)	
<b>Minister for Lands and Planning</b>	Traffic	
	Aboriginal Land	Crown Land Management (including Administration of Crown leases)
	Architects	Pastoral Land Management
	Building	Rural Bushfire Management
	Bushfires	Survey, Mapping and Land Information Systems
	Control of Roads (Part IV)	Land Valuation Services to Government and Local Government
	Crown Lands (except section 79)	Aboriginal Land Matters
	Crown Lands Freehold (Conversion from Crown Leasehold)	Strategic Planning for Land Use and Development
	Crown Lands (Validation of Leases)	Provision of Developed Land
	Crown Lands (Validation of Proclamations)	Development Assessment and Consent
	Dangerous Goods (Licensing of Gasfitters)	Building Regulation
	Electrical Workers and Contractors	Land and Water Resources Assessment and Management
	Lands Acquisition	Weed Management
	Lands Acquisition (Pastoral Leases)	Electrical Safety and Plumbing Regulation
	Licensed Surveyors	Regulation of Occupations
	Miscellaneous Acts Amendment (Aboriginal Community Living Areas)	
	Northern Territory Land Corporation	
	Pastoral Land	
	Palmerston Development Authority Act Repeal	
	Place Names	

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MINISTERIAL ROLE	LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED	DEPARTMENTAL UNIT RESPONSIBLE
<b>Minister for Parks and Wildlife</b>	Planning	
	Plumbers and Drainers Licensing	
	Plumbers and Drainers licensing (Validation)	
	Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation	
	Special Purposes Leases	
	Valuation of Land	
	Water	
	Weeds Management	
	Cobourg Peninsula Aboriginal Land, Sanctuary and Marine Park	Management of Territory Parks and Reserves
	Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park	Wildlife Management
Parks and Wildlife Commission	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory	
Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation	Biodiversity Assessment	
	Botanic Gardens	

**The Hon Marion Scrymgour, MLA**

MINISTERIAL ROLE	LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED	DEPARTMENTAL UNIT RESPONSIBLE
<b>Minister for Environment and Heritage</b>	Environment Assessment	Environment Protection
	Environmental Offences and Penalties	Greenhouse Policy
	Heritage Conservation	Heritage Conservation
	National Environment Protection Council (Northern Territory)	
	National Trust (Northern Territory)	
	Ozone Protection	
	Waste Management and Pollution Control	

# NEW OR AMENDED LEGISLATION FOR 2004-05

## LANDS AND PLANNING

### **Place Names Amendment Act 2004**

The purpose of the amendments was to redefine the meaning of place so that the Act covers the naming of more places of significance and to delegate the Minister's power to name certain classes of place. It also included wider consultation provisions in regard to the organisations and individuals whose views must be sought for the consideration of new place names. Finally makes provision for the establishment of a public Place Names Register.

The Bill was introduced on 6 October 2004, was passed on 2 December 2004 during the ninth sittings of the Legislative Assembly. The Act was assented to on 21/12/04.

### **Building Amendment Act 2004**

The Bill was assented to on 21 December 2004, but implementation has not yet commenced.

The purpose of the amendments was to require home builders and certain contractors to be registered to carry out certain building works, with registration being subject to demonstrated competence and qualifications. It also requires home warranty insurance for non-completion and non-compliance of works to be provided by the insurance industry.

### **Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Act 2004**

The Act commenced on 4 November 2004.

The purpose of the Act is to prohibit nuclear waste from outside the Territory being transported to the Territory and stored in the Territory, where the prohibition does not contravene Commonwealth law. )The Act provides a Ministerial capacity to seek an injunction to prevent the transport and storage of nuclear waste. This Act does not relate to the transport, storage and disposal of radioactive waste produced in the Territory.

### **Parks and Wildlife Commission Amendment Bill 2004**

The Act commenced on 15 September 2004.

The purpose of the Bill was to reconstitute the Parks and Wildlife Commission so that the Chief Executive Officer of the agency responsible (under the Administrative Arrangements Order) for managing parks, reserves and wildlife, may validly fulfill the responsibilities and obligations of the Commission. It also established a Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council so that community and expert involvement is maintained in Ministerial decision-making processes in respect of parks and wildlife management

### **Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment Act 2005**

### **Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment Bill 2004 (now the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment Act 2005*)**

The Act commenced 31 May 2005

The purpose of this Act was to enact consequential amendments subsequent to the assenting of the *Parks and Reserves (Framework for the Future) Act*. It provides the framework for joint management of parks and reserves by the Territory and Traditional Aboriginal owners, including principles of joint management, joint management plans (contents, development and implementation), roles in respect of mining, functions of the land councils, and by-law making powers.

### **Building Amendment Act 2005**

Assented to 17 March 2005

Commenced - Parts 1 and 3 on 17 March 2005.

The remainder not commenced (commencement dependent on commencement of the *Building Amendment Act 2004*, above, or by the Administrator).

The purpose of the Bill was to address three distinct provisions in the Building Act related to the Building Amendment Bill 2004. The provisions were introduced to:

- Clarify the powers of, and restructure, the Building Practitioners' Board, so that principles of law and procedural fairness are followed in its inquiries into allegations against building practitioners and adjudication of complaints;
- Require that the Director of Building Control is not a Board member; however the Director may prosecute matters of conduct and performance to the Board;
- Remove the requirement for pre-1993 building work to have a certificate of occupancy and
- Validate all action taken in relation to certification that the building work has been completed in accordance with the building permit, and that the building is fit for occupation) if the work was carried out in substantial compliance with prescribed requirements.

### **Marine Amendment Act 2005**

Commenced 17 March 2005.

The purpose of the amendment was to redefine the meaning of "Northern Territory waters" to remove any doubt that the term may include waters of any kind, ensuring the Act may apply to vessels operating on inland waters.

### **Planning Amendment Act 2005**

The Act was assented to on 17 March 2005. Yet to commence.

The purpose of the amendment was to:

- Provide the legal basis for the new Planning Scheme, including planning for transport corridors and public infrastructure;
- Expand the matters to be taken into account by the Development Consent Authority (DCA) when assessing a development application, including crime prevention, design principles, water safety and disability access;
- Change the power of the Minister to determine a development application, so that notice is required if the Minister is to be the consent authority;
- Allow the DCA to manage its operating procedures more efficiently;
- Extend the time limit for bringing a prosecution to two years;
- Provide specific offences for native vegetation clearing;
- Provide a framework for the Minister to set up advisory committees for special purposes, like the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee;
- Where a decision on a development application can be and is appealed to the Lands and Mining Tribunal, the Tribunal can override the decision only if the planning outcome is manifestly wrong; and
- Provide for limited third party appeal.



## **Statutory Authorities and Bodies**

## Statutory Authorities and Bodies

### Barranyi (North Island) National Park Local Management Committee

The committee is a statutory body under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* and Barranyi (North Island) Local Management Committee Regulations. The committee assists the Parks and Wildlife Commission to manage Barranyi (North Island) National Park.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Phillip Timothy
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Neil Bradley
	Mr John deKoning
	Mr Graeme Dingwell
	Ms Adrienne Friday
	Mr David Fuller
	Ms Annie Isaccs
	Ms Kathy Jupiter
	Ms Stephanie Jupiter
	Ms Roxanne Jupiter

### Building Advisory Committee

The Building Advisory Committee is a statutory body under section 9(1) of the *Building Act*. The committee advises the minister on appropriate technical standards and matters arising from administration of the Act. The committee is also responsible for the accreditation of building products, construction methods, design and component systems.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Colin Pascoe
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b>	Mr Ross Tonkin
<b>Members:</b>	Mr George Curran
	Mr Bevan Pratt
	Mr Fabio Finocchiaro
	Mr Paul Nowland
<b>Registrar:</b>	Mrs Glenda Thornton

### Building Appeals Board

The Building Appeals Board was established under section 17(1) of the *Building Act* to determine and decide on:

- modifications to the applications of building regulations with regard to specific building work;
- appeals by owners or their agents against decisions of a building certificate;
- appeals by the director against the decision of a building certifier; and
- appeals against decisions of the director.



*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr John Brears
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b>	Mr Ross Tonkin
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Peter Johnson Mr Roger Perfrement Mr Stuart Delahay Mr Bevan Pratt Mr Craig Leslie
<b>Registrar:</b>	Mrs Glenda Thornton

## **Building Practitioners Board**

The Building Practitioners Board was established under the *Building Act* to ensure that the qualifications and performance of building practitioners are commensurate with their responsibilities under the Act.

The Northern Territory's building control system is supported by private sector certification. Building practitioners are responsible for certifying, within their respective level of registration, that building works are designed and constructed in accordance with the Northern Territory *Building Act*, the Building Code of Australia and associated Australian Standards. Building practitioners also must be registered with the Building Practitioners Board.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Ms Penelope Whinney-Houghton
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b>	Mr John Scott
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Gary Nielsen Mr John Brears Mr Leslie Platt Mr Randal Jones Mr Kerry Osborne (inquiry panel member) Mr John Gersekowski (inquiry panel member)
<b>Registrar:</b>	Mrs Glenda Thornton

## **Bushfires Council of the Northern Territory**

The Bushfires Council is a statutory body established by the *Bushfires Act*, and is subject to the direction of the Minister for Parks and Wildlife. The council has a legislated responsibility to advise the Minister on bushfire prevention and control in the Territory, including policy and issues affecting the operational efficiency and strategic direction of bushfire management. The Minister appoints an independent chairman, a deputy chairman and members of the Bushfires Council for a three-year term of office.

The council has 16 members. Ten members chair the regional bushfires committees. They act as spokesmen for rural landowners and managers of pastoral, horticultural and agricultural enterprises in the Territory. Representatives from the Bureau of Meteorology, Police, Fire and Emergency Services, CSIRO and the Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development provide professional input.

The *Bushfires Act* does not apply to the 0.5% of Northern Territory land within main urban centres, which comes under the control of Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

The council meets biannually to consider policy and debate issues affecting operational efficiency and future strategic direction.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Brian Hill
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Peter Saint
	Mr Bruce Sawyer
	Mr Richard Williams
	Mr John Mora
	Mr Ashley Severin
	Mrs Dianne Tynan
	Mr Peter Cooke
	Mr James Arthur
	Mr Jeffrey Little
	Mr Bruce Mouatt
	Mr Don Roeuck
	Mr Sean Leigh

### **Bushfires Committees - Regional**

The Northern Territory is divided into ten fire control regions that reflect varying land use, population density, climate, soil and vegetation type.

A bushfires committee represents each region and the six members are selected on a basis of local knowledge, experience or skills in bushfire management. Together with the Bushfires Council, the committees have a combined membership of 60 principal shareholders or clients. Their main statutory function is the prevention and control of wildfires in their fire control regions.

Committees meet two to four times annually. The Minister appoints a chairman and deputy chairman for each committee, on advice from members. There is a Regional Fire Control Officer (RFCO) on each committee. The committees are statutory bodies in their own right and have a high degree of autonomy in establishing operational and administrative policies.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

#### **Alice Springs East**

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Sean Leigh
<b>Members:</b>	Mr David Bird
	Mr Ben Hayes
	Mr Edward Hayes
	Mr David Weir
<b>RFCO:</b>	Mr Rod Herron

#### **Alice Springs West**

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Ashley Severin
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Walter Braitling
	Mr Douglas Simms
	Mr Roy Chisolm
	Mr Thomas Hall
<b>RFCO:</b>	Mr Shane Brumby

### **Arafura**

**Chairman:** Mr Jeffrey Little  
**Members:** Mr Doug McKean  
Mr Brian Muir  
Mr Sam Forwood  
Mr Ian Bradford

**RFCO:** Mr Christopher Whatley

### **Barkly**

**Chairman:** Mr John Mora  
**Members:** Mr Ernie Holt  
Mr Stephen Peatling  
Mr David Mylrea  
Mr Cameron Rasheed

**A/RFCO:** Mr Brian Dohnt

### **Elliot / Wauchope**

**Chairman:** Mr Peter Saint  
**Members:** Mr Ian Rush  
Mr Ken Ford  
Mr Benjamin Wratten  
Mr Geoffrey Murrell

**RFCO:** Mr Brian Dohnt

### **Gulf**

**Chairman:** Mr Thomas Stockwell  
**Members:** Mr Keith Holzwart  
Mr Felix O'Brien  
Mr Eddie Webber

**RFCO:** Mr Bob White

### **Katherine**

**Chairman:** Mr Brian Hill  
**Members:** Ms Sarah Kerin  
Mr Gary Riggs  
Mr George Thompson  
Mr Robert Wright

### **Vernon**

**Chairman:** Mr Donald Roebuck  
**Members:** Mr David McLachlan  
Mr Andrew Firley  
Mr Ian Stewart  
Mr Eric Shuker

**RFCO:** Mr John Whatley

## Victoria River

<b>Chairman:</b>	Vacant
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Allan Andrews Mr Steven Craig Mr Alexander McColm Mr Russell Teece Mr Mark Neilsen
<b>RFCO:</b>	Mr Rob Maloney

## Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary and Marine Park Board

The board is a statutory body under section 8 of the *Cobourg Peninsula Aboriginal Land and Sanctuary Act*. Its purpose is to jointly manage Garig Gunak Barlu National Park.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr John Christopherson
<b>Deputy Chair:</b>	Mr Kenny Wauchop
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Ronnie Ngundiwuy Mr Richard Sellers Mr David West Mr Edward Williams Ms Mary Yarmirr

## Commercial Passenger Vehicle Board

The Commercial Passenger Vehicle Board is a statutory body under the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act*. The board provides advice to the Minister on all matters relating to commercial passenger vehicles.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr John Pinney AM
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Ken Armstrong Mr Col Newman Mr David Fleming Mrs Mary Johnson Mr Renton Kelly Ms Monica Kraft Ms Casey Morgan Mr Jason O'Brien Mr Leigh Shacklady Dr Siva Ram Vemuri

## Community Living Areas Tribunal

The Community Living Areas Tribunal is constituted under part 8 of the *Pastoral Land Act* as an independent body to consider and make recommendations to the Minister in relation to applications for the excision of Aboriginal community living areas from pastoral leases.

Applications are referred to the tribunal by the Minister, who appoints two members, one selected from nominations provided by the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association and the other from nominations provided by the relevant land council. Together with the chairman or the deputy chairman, these two comprise the tribunal for the purpose of hearing that particular matter.

*At 30 June 2005 members were:*

**Chairman:** Mr Hugh Bradley  
**Deputy Chairman:** Mr Stephen Southwood

## Development Consent Authority

The Development Consent Authority was established under the *Planning Act*, and comprises seven divisions in the areas of Alice Springs, Batchelor, Darwin, Katherine, Litchfield, Palmerston and Tennant Creek.

Each division of the Authority is constituted by the Chairman and four members. The relevant local or community government council provides nominations to the Minister for two members and an alternate member for each division. The other members are appointed directly by the Minister, and the Minister may also appoint a division member to be the deputy chairman for the division. Should a direct appointment of the Minister be absent from a meeting, the Chairman may appoint a member of another division to attend in their place.

The Authority determines development applications under the *Planning Act* and the NT Planning Scheme, and conducts hearings into other matters as requested by the Minister under the provisions of the Act.

Under section 85 of the *Planning Act*, the Minister is able to direct the Authority in relation to the determination of a particular application but must table a summary of the development application, terms of direction and the reasons for the direction in the Legislative Assembly. Two directions were given under this provision during 2004-05.

The Authority met on 61 occasions during 2004-05, including conducting 28 public hearings on behalf of the Minister.

The Authority issued 434 development permits, approved 228 variations to permits and issued 23 notices of refusal in relation to development applications.

*As at 30 June 2005 members were:*

**Chairman:** Mr John Pinney AM  
**Alice Springs:** Mr John McBride  
Ms Libby Prell  
Alderman Melanie van Haaren  
Alderman David Koch  
Alderman Ernie Nicholls (alternate for Council nominees)

<b>Batchelor:</b>	Mr Richard Luxton Vacant Councillor Carolyn Bilston Councillor Wendy Leach Shire President Bruce Jones (alternate for Council nominees)
<b>Darwin:</b>	Mr Michael Mooney Mr David Hibbert Alderman Robert Elix Alderman Garry Lambert Alderman Heather Sjoberg (alternate for Council nominees)
<b>Katherine:</b>	Mr Robert Dennis Ms Nannette Helder Mayor Anne Shepherd Alderman Mark Gage Alderman William Daw (alternate for Council nominees)
<b>Litchfield:</b>	Mr Richard Luxton Vacant Vacant Councillor Narelle Williams Councillor Michael Bowman (alternate for Council nominees)
<b>Palmerston:</b>	Mr Bob Lee Mr Steve Ward Alderman Ian Abbott Alderman Judy Joyce Alderman Robert Brennan (alternate for Council nominees)
<b>Tennant Creek:</b>	Mr Kenneth Jones Mr William Boulter Mayor Rodney Swanson Alderman Barry Sharples Mr Hal Ruger (alternate for Council nominees)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ms Margaret Macintyre

## Djukbinj National Park Local Management Committee

The committee is a statutory body under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* and the Djukbinj National Park Local Management Committee Regulations. Its purpose is to assist the Commission in the management of the Djukbinj National Park.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr David John Kenyon
<b>Members:</b>	Ms Joan Kenyon
	Mr Brian Kenyon
	Mrs Lynette Kenyon
	Mr Bill Panton
	Mr David West

## Drillers Qualification Advisory Committee

The Drillers Qualification Advisory Committee is an advisory group with expertise in the water well drilling industry. The committee provides advice to the Controller of Water Resources on the granting, renewal and variation of drilling licenses.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman</b>	Mr John Hickey
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Laurence Ah Toy
	Mr Brian Kunde
	Mr Grant Unsted
	Mr Daryl Gibbons
	Mr Michael Haynes
	Mr Trevor Haig

## Heritage Advisory Council

The Heritage Advisory Council is a statutory body under section 7 of the *Heritage Conservation Act*. The Council advises the Minister on declaration and management of heritage places.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Bob Alford
<b>Members:</b>	Ms Susan Dugdale
	Ms Elizabeth Close
	Ms Leshay Maidment
	Mrs Ruth Murphy
	Mr Vic Stephens
	Ms Lesley Mearns
	Ms Anna Malgorzewicz
	Mr David Curtis

## Land and Valuation Review Tribunal

The Land and Valuation Review Tribunal is established under section 21 of the *Valuation of Land Act*. The tribunal reviews any decision of a Valuation Board of Review which is referred to it by an objector who is dissatisfied with the board's decision. Under the *Crown Lands Act*, the tribunal has a review function in relation to a decision of the Minister or the Valuer-General on an objection to a reappraisal of lease rent, an assessment of compensation for improvements on land or a determination to forfeit a lease of Crown lands. The tribunal has a similar review function under the *Special Purposes Leases Act* in relation to a decision of the Minister or the Valuer-General.

As required by the Act, the president and all members of the tribunal are judges of the Supreme Court.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

**Chairman:** Hon Brian Martin AO, MBE, QC, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory

**Members:** Hon Justice David Angel QC  
Hon Justice Dean Mildren QC  
Hon Justice Sally Thomas AO  
Hon Justice Trevor Riley QC  
Hon Justice Stephen Southwood

**Registrar:** Ms Margaret Rischbieth

## Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board

The board is a statutory body under the *Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act*. Its purpose is the management of the Nitmiluk National Park.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

**Chairman:** Mr Robert Lee

**Members:** Ms Noeleen Andrews  
Mr Ryan Barrawei  
Mr John deKoning  
Mr Greg Leach  
Ms Lisa Mumbin  
Mr G James Walla  
Mrs Anne Shepherd  
Mr Jim Grant  
Mr Nell Brown  
Ms Mildred Brennan  
Northern Territory Architects Board



## Northern Territory Architects Board

The Northern Territory Architects Board is constituted under the *Architects Act* to authorise or refuse the registration of an applicant (subject to conditions) as an architect, an architectural partnership, or an architectural company.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Ross Finocchiaro
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b>	Mr Richard Layton
<b>Member:</b>	Mr Geoffrey Samuels
	Vacant
	Vacant
<b>Registrar:</b>	Mrs Bernadette McKirdy

## Northern Territory Electrical Workers and Contractors Licensing Board

The board is a statutory authority established under section 6 of the *Electrical Workers and Contractors Licensing Act*. It exercises powers under the Act relating to licensing electrical workers and electrical contractors to enhance electrical safety.

The board's main objective is ensuring the safety of electrical workers, other workers, consumers and the general public by:

- ensuring electrical work is carried out by people who are competent and appropriately qualified;
- ensuring electrical workers and contractors working in the Northern Territory are properly licensed through a licensing and regulatory system that recognises local as well as equivalent licenses issued in other states and New Zealand; and
- investigating and conducting hearings into complaints relating to electrical work and taking disciplinary action where appropriate.

The Minister appoints the members and deputy members to the board under the *Electrical Workers and Contractors Act*. Members are drawn from various representative groups within the electrical industry.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Colin Freeman
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Darrol Sachs
	Mr Kenneth Kernich
	Mr Alan Patton
	Mr Stephen Versteegh
	Mr Geoffrey Cowie
	Mr Daryl Byerley
	Mr Tim Hallen

## Northern Territory Great Artesian Basin Water Advisory Committee

The committee was established in 1997. Members are stakeholders in the area of the Territory covered by the Great Artesian Basin and represent Aboriginal, pastoral, tourism and potential horticultural interests. The committee provided input to the national Great Artesian Basin Consultative Council which has since completed the strategic plan and is being restructured. The Territory is taking a "watching brief" position and the NT Great Artesian Basin Water Advisory Committee is now in recess.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Richard Tuckwell
<b>Members:</b>	Mrs Jo Bloomfield
	Mr David Doolan
	Mr Graham Ride
	Mr Craig Catchlove

## Northern Territory Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Board

The Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Board is a statutory authority established under section 5 of the *Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Act*. It is responsible for issuing advanced tradesman licences, journeyman registration cards and reciprocity certificates.

The board administers the *Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Act*, and ensures that only qualified persons obtain licences, registration cards and certificates. It is also responsible for assessing and maintaining standards of workmanship and protecting consumers by investigating complaints, and where appropriate, taking disciplinary action.

The board fulfils its role by functioning in conjunction with other authorities that, under their respective legislation, require authorised plumbing and drainage works to be carried out by licensed tradesmen.

Meetings are held monthly or as required to attend to business at hand. Meetings usually deal with applications for advanced tradesmen licences, journeyman registration cards, reciprocity certificates and complaints.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Stephen Say
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b>	Mr Peter McDonald
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Gary Neilsen
	Mr Rodney Cryer
	Mr Darrol Sachs

## Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council

The Minister must establish a Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council to advise the Commission on matters concerning the management of parks and wildlife.

The members of the council must be appointed by the Minister and must be persons who have an interest or expertise and knowledge in matters relating to the environment and the management and conservation of natural resources.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

**Members:** Mr Willem Goedegebuure (Chair)  
Ms Penelope Figgis  
Mr Robert Fox  
Prof Gordon Duff  
Mr Mick Jerram  
Mr Matthew Ryan  
Ms Jane Weepers  
Mr Peter Wellings  
Mr Djawa Yunupingu

### **Parks and Wildlife Commission Board**

The Parks and Wildlife Commission Board is appointed by the Minister. The board has legislative responsibility for the strategic direction of all Parks and Wildlife activities.

*The member at 30 June 2005 was:*

**Members:** Ms Sarah Butterworth

### **Pastoral Land Board**

The Pastoral Land Board was established under section 11 of the *Pastoral Land Act*. The board's functions are outlined under section 29 of the *Pastoral Land Act*. These include monitoring of the condition of pastoral land, annual reports to the Minister, determination of applications to clear pastoral land, administration of non-pastoral uses, and recommendations to the minister on applications to subdivide pastoral leases.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

**Chairman:** Mr Jim Forwood AM  
**Members:** Mr Steven Craig  
Mr Jim Hayes  
Mr Russell Anderson  
Mr John Childs

### **Place Names Committee for the Northern Territory**

The Place Names Committee is established under section 5 of the *Place Names Act* to make recommendations to the Minister on the naming of public places (streets, roads, suburbs, localities and natural features).

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

**Chairman:** Dr Bill Wilson  
Ms Pearl Ogden  
Mr Des Buckerfield  
Mr Garry West

## Road Safety Council of the Northern Territory

The Road Safety Council is a statutory body under the *Road Safety Council Act*. The purpose of the council is to encourage best road practice and minimise road accidents through the provision of community based advice to the Minister, to provide public focus for education and awareness of road safety and the promotion of road safety initiatives.

*Members at 30 December 2004 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Peter Poole
<b>Deputy Chair:</b>	Mr David Rolland
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Bob Bradley
	Mr Ray Brittingham
	Ms Kathryn Fry (deceased)
	Mr Alan Maroney
	Mr Alasdair McLay
	Mr Mark Payne
	Mr Michael Potts
	Mr Ken Simpson
	Ms Eve Somssich
	Mrs Merrilyn Stopp (resigned 2 December 2004)
	Mr William Tilmouth (resigned 12 October 2004)
	Mr Doug Webb

Note: As at 30 June 2005, the Council had not been re-appointed, because of administrative issues, including the election.

## Surveyors Board of the Northern Territory

The Surveyors Board is a statutory body under part III of the *Licensed Surveyors Act*. The board's purpose is to regulate the practice of land boundary surveys in the Northern Territory.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr Garry West
	Mr Terrance Gadsby
	Mr Gregory Leach
	Mr Robert Sarib
	Mr Philip Verrall

## Ti Tree Water Advisory Committee

The Ti Tree Water Advisory Committee was established in 1997 to advise the Controller of Water Resources on allocation and management of ground water resources in the Ti Tree Water Control District. Local horticulture, pastoral, Aboriginal and community interests, as well as specialist agronomic and hydrological expertise are represented on the committee. The committee reports annually to the Minister.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Vacant
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Peter McKeand Mr Gary Dann Mr Trevor Sowman Mr Gavin Kahl Mr Neil Feazy Mr Richard Tuckwell Vacant (CentreFarm nominee)
<b>Department Reps:</b>	Mr Geoff Kenna Mr Anthony Knapton

### **Tnorala Local Management Committee**

The Tnorala Local Management Committee is a statutory body under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* and the Tnorala Local Management Committee Regulations. The committee's purpose is to advise and make recommendations on all matters relating to the management of the Tnorala Conservation Reserve.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chair</b>	Mr Bevan Malbunka Mr Justin Malbunka Ms Maxine Malbunka
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### **Valuation Board of Review**

The Valuation Board of Review is constituted under the *Valuation of Land Act* to review objections to valuations made under the provisions of the Act, usually for rating purposes. Sections 20B - 20G of the *Valuation of Land Act* provide for the establishment by ministerial appointment of a Valuation Board of Review Panel.

*Members at 30 June 2005 were:*

<b>Chairman:</b>	Vacant
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b>	Vacant
<b>Members:</b>	Mr Douglas Fraser Mr John George Mr Michael Mooney Mr Peter Moffatt Mr Peter James Mr Timothy Jacobs Mr Peter Doyle Mr Trevor Dalton



**Northern Territory Government**  
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment