



Northern
Territory
Government

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, THE ARTS AND SPORT

Annual Report 2008–2009



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The Northern Territory Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport would like to advise readers that this document might contain pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people that may offend.

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Northern Territory Department of Natural Resources,
Environment, The Arts and Sport
PO 496
Palmerston NT 0831
www.nt.gov.au/nretas

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Purpose of the Report

This Annual Report provides a record of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts and Sport and the Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division's achievements for the 2008–09 financial year.

Pursuant to Section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*, the report aims to inform Parliament, Territorians and other stakeholders of:

- The primary functions and responsibilities of the Agency;
- Significant activities undertaken during the year highlighting specific achievements against budgeted outputs; and
- The Agency's fiscal management and performance.

In the report 'the Agency' is used when referring to the Chief Executive's complete area of responsibility, including both the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts and Sport and the Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division.

When referring to the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts and Sport in isolation the term 'the Department' is used.

The Government Business Division, Territory Wildlife Parks, is responsible for managing the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Territory Wildlife Park.

Target Audience

This Annual Report provides information to numerous target audiences on the Agency's activities and achievements for the 2008–09 financial year. It's tabled in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly as an accountability reporting mechanism for the Agency's respective Ministers and the Parliament. The Annual Report is a finalisation of the Agency's achievements, income and financial expenditure from the Northern Territory Treasurer's Budget 2008.

The Agency works in partnership with the Northern Territory community to ensure the Territory's natural and cultural heritage, and its values, are protected. The Agency also works in collaboration with our stakeholders in such areas as sport and recreation, environment protection, natural resources, wildlife management, arts, film and museums, national parks estate and tourism to achieve this protection.

For such a wide ranging stakeholder audience, this Annual Report provides a summary of the range of Agency services and activities undertaken. This Annual Report also formally acknowledges the achievements carried out by Agency employees. It also provides another source of information to Northern Territory Government employees and tax payers about the full scope of Agency programs that may not be fully appreciated from the perspective of individual workplaces.

Additionally, this Annual Report provides information for other government agencies and the wider public about the wide range of activities undertaken by the Agency – a lot of which occurs outside the main population area – the purpose of these activities, and how successful they are.



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT, THE ARTS AND SPORT

PO Box 496
Palmerston NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8999 4840
Facsimile: 08 8932 3849

Karl Hampton MLA
Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage
Minister for Parks and Wildlife
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Parliament House
Darwin NT 0800

Gerry McCarthy MLA
Minister for Arts and Museums
Parliament House
Darwin NT 0800

Dear Ministers

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport for the financial year 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

The report describes the performance and key achievements of each of the Department's Output Groups and the Territory Wildlife Parks, as required by Section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

With regard to my duties as Accountable Officer, pursuant to Section 13 of the *Financial Management Act*, to the best of my knowledge and belief,

the system of internal control and audit provides reasonable assurance that:

- a) proper records of all transactions affecting the Agency 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 Agency 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) under Section 15 of the *Financial Management Act* the Agency is required to have adequate internal audit capacity. As of 30 June 2009 the Agency did not have this function in place;
- 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

Jim Grant
Chief Executive
15 October 2009

Contents

Introduction

Purpose of the Report	1
Target Audience	1
Transmittal Letter	2
Table of Contents	3

Overview

An Overview by the Chief Executive	6
Strategic Objectives	7
4 Year Priorities	8
Progress of 4 Year Priorities	12
Operational Structure	15
Organisational Chart	16
Achievements	17
Future Priorities	23
Income and Expenditure at a Glance	26
Regional Snapshot	28

Corporate Governance

Snapshot of Corporate Governance	33
Framework	34
Management Environment	35
Agency Culture	39
Business Planning	41
Risk Management and Audit Practices	42
Audits	44
Internal Reviews	44
Grant Acquittals	46
Infrastructure Management	46
Ethical and Responsible Decision Making	49
Greener Government	50
Governing Legislation	54
Legal Proceedings	54
Access to Information	55
Corporate Communication	56

Strategic Partnerships	57
Community Engagement	61

Our People

Overview	66
In Profile	67
Key Initiatives Implemented	70
Learning and Professional Development	72
Trainees	74
Equity, Diversity and Flexibility	75
Employment Instructions	78
Induction, Probation and Industrial Relations	81
Occupational Health and Safety	82
Employee and Agency Achievements	83

Performance Reporting

Parks and Reserves	86
Biological Parks	93
Natural Resources	96
Environment and Sustainability	109
Heritage Conservation	113
Scientific and Cultural Collections	116
Arts and Screen Industry Support	128
Sport and Recreation	131
Territory Wildlife Parks	139

Financial Statements

The Department Financial Statement Overview	144
The Department Financial Statements	152
Territory Wildlife Parks-GBD-Financial Statement Overview	185
Territory Wildlife Parks-GBD-Financial Statements	190

Appendixes

Appendix 1. Auditor-General Audits and External Funding Audits	210
Appendix 2. Insurable Risks	212
Appendix 3. Special Purpose Grant Acquittals	214
Appendix 4. Arts Grants	218
Appendix 5. Film Grants	231
Appendix 6. Grants Program	233
Appendix 7. Statutory Authorities	236
Appendix 8. Legislation Administered	242
Appendix 9. New or Amended Legislation	243
Appendix 10. Capital Works Program	244
Appendix 11. Responses to Whole of Government Frameworks	254
Appendix 12. Agency Contact Details	257
Appendix 13. Feedback Form	262

Graphs

Income and Expenditure (Department)	26
Income and Expenditure (Territory Wildlife Parks)	27
Employees by Age	67
Employees by Region	67
Staffing by Employment Status	67
Employees Stream Profile	68
Employees Stream and Classification	69
Employees Identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	76
Revenue by Source (Department)	146
Expense by Activity (Department)	147
Department's Assets	148
Department's Liabilities	149
Government Business Division Revenue	185
Government Business Division Expenses	186

Tables

Legal Proceedings	54
Information Act Requests	55
Media Releases Issued	56
Secretariat Services	56
Learning and Development Expenditure	73
Probation	81
Workers' Compensation Claims	82
Performance Measures	
• Parks Joint Management Programs	86
• Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs	89
• Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs	91
• Biological Parks	93
• Natural Resource Management	96–104
• Water Resources	105
• Flood Forecasting	107
• Environment and Sustainability	109
• Heritage Conservation	113
• Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory	116
• Archives	120
• Libraries	122
• Herbarium	124
• Araluen Cultural Precinct	126
• Arts and Screen Sector	128
• Sports Development	131
• Northern Territory Institute of Sport	134
• Facilities and Events	136
• Alice Springs Desert Park	139
• Territory Wildlife Park	141
Insurable Risks	212
Special Purpose Grant Acquittals	214
Arts Grants	218
Film Grants	231

Overview



An Overview by the Chief Executive

It has been a great pleasure and privilege to work with the very dedicated, passionate and knowledgeable staff across the Agency this past year. The diversity of the Agency is its great strength. The opportunity to mesh environment, sport and the arts, which are at the very heart of Territory cultures and lifestyles, presents great opportunities and challenges and even greater rewards. The establishment of the Agency's very clear four year priorities and the great dedication and good will of employees has resulted in very solid success for the Department in 2008–2009. The inclusion of the Sport and Recreation and Northern Territory Library functions from another government department has further enhanced our ability to deliver on our cultural responsibilities to Territorians.

In the area of policy and legislation, considerable progress has been made. The delivery of the Living Rivers Policy is well underway with the public comment phase complete, revised Land Clearing Guidelines finalised, the Saltwater Crocodile Management Program has now been approved by the Australian Government, and a discussion paper for a Sport and Active Recreation Policy was released for public comment. These frameworks will be implemented in the coming year. There will be a major emphasis on delivering the Natural Resource Framework of legislation and policy developed by the Agency in 2008–09. The Agency also developed the advice and mechanisms to deliver government's declaration of Gamba Grass as a weed in 2008–09. Regional water allocation planning and preparations for the second stage of the [Water Act](#) review are well under way.

Ensuring the development of involved, healthy and creative communities across the Territory saw the Agency review of the government's arts policy and funding programs. The review will see the Agency move beyond managing arts grants in 2009–10 to actively brokering arts partnerships at a regional level. The Agency also fulfilled a 2008 election commitment by completing the \$5.2 million works at Leanyer Recreation Park, which included the construction of three waterslides. It also commenced planning for a similar facility in Palmerston, and a \$33 million sporting complex, also in Palmerston. The development of the new Sustainability for Education Unit within the

Agency and the creation of community gardens at the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens signal a more community based approach to all our work.

The *Remembering Territory Families* initiative has commenced and will see a travelling exhibition across the Territory once complete. The development of the Defence of Darwin World War II Museum at East Point also commenced this year and the Agency awarded tenders worth \$1.186 million for the creation of digital content for the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre, near Alice Springs.

New Joint Management arrangements with Traditional Owners of our National Parks and Reserves were another highlight this year. The Devils Marbles (Karlukarlu) Conservation Reserve was formalised as a jointly managed park in February 2009. Watarkka and West MacDonnell National Park's Joint Management Plans were also drafted this year and will be open for community consultation early in 2009–10. In 2009–10 the [Territory Eco-link](#) project will commence with funding of \$1.8 million over three years, which will see a nationally and globally significant linking of conservation corridors from the north to the south of the Territory.

The Agency also continued to improve its systems and staff development, which included the ongoing roll-out of its Leadership Development Program for senior staff and a Performance Enhancement System training program, which equips managers with the tools to effectively provide feedback to employees. The development of our leaders within the Agency and the ability for managers to provide staff with feedback is crucial to our ongoing success.

This was the first year of delivery on our 4 Year Priorities. With the frameworks of many of our future accomplishments now in place, I look forward to 2009–10 and the opportunity for this Agency, and the government, to continue delivering solid legislative policy and on ground results. I would also like to acknowledge and thank all employees for their hard work, commitment and ongoing efforts in 2008–09 that have seen the Agency deliver for the community and for the environment.



Jim Grant
15 October 2009

Strategic Objectives

Our Vision

The inclusion of the Sport and Recreation Output Group and the Libraries Output functions into the Agency in 2008–09 resulted in the Agency re-aligning its Strategic Objectives.

This occurred through several planning meetings that resulted in the Agency's *Strategic Objectives 2009–14* being finalised to reflect the new composition of the Agency. The *Strategic Objectives 2009–14* also includes the Agency's Context, Vision, Purpose and Values, as outlined below. The Agency also created a 4 Year Priorities plan, ensuring whole of government approaches and election commitments will be achieved by the Agency.

Context

The long-term economic and social well-being of the Territory depends on us living in a healthy natural environment and fulfilling our potential through work, education, culture, sport and recreation.

Vision

Healthy creative people, involved communities and healthy environments.

Purpose

The Agency is here to work with Territory communities to:

- Ensure the demands on natural resources are kept within sustainable limits;
- Celebrate their unique histories; and
- Foster life long artistic expression and involvement in sport and recreation.

Strategic Objectives

The Agency can only fulfil our role through strong and effective partnerships and by our ability to influence others to share our vision.

The Agency will therefore pursue its role by supporting the Territory community to:

- Appreciate its place in history and in the environment;
- Develop creative expressions that help shape the Territory identity;
- Enjoy and participate in sport and recreation;
- Foster new and creative approaches for stewardship and use of our natural and cultural resources;
- Understand the diverse values it has towards the Territory's natural and cultural assets and continue our role in protecting these;
- Realise the many opportunities, while recognising the varied constraints, in obtaining benefits from the sustainable use of renewable natural resources;
- Build capacity to meet obligations and realise economic social and environmental opportunities; and
- Evaluate how well the Agency and the Territory have met our goals and fulfilled opportunities to secure the well-being of present and future generations.

Values

Within the Agency we value:

Our People

- Personal commitment and responsibility
- Creativity and innovation
- Lifelong learning

Our Community

- Healthy relationships built on trust, respect and honesty
- Strong partnerships

Our Environment

- Sustainability

4 Year Priorities

In conjunction with developing the Agency's *Strategic Objectives 2009–14*, a 4 Year Priorities plan was also created that clearly defines the work the Agency must complete by 2012. This 4 Year Priority plan was created in alignment with the Northern Territory Government's election commitments and whole of government approaches. The priorities were developed to emphasise a shift from traditional conservation, towards a broader environmental, social and economic sustainability role, including strong roles for sport, recreation and the arts. The 4 Year Priorities plan is outlined below.

1. Create a legislation and policy framework to deliver sustainable development and preserve Territory lifestyles

- **A key approach will be a new Natural Resources Framework that will take a strategic and ordered approach to legislation work. It will include:**
 - An overarching Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for the Northern Territory ('Our Life').
 - Approaches to water including a Living Rivers policy, Water Resource Strategy, roll-out of Water Allocation Plans and Stage Two revision of the [Water Act](#) and commitments under the National Water Initiative.
 - A new *Native Vegetation Act* that will address Climate Change implications and soil conservation issues.
 - *Pastoral Land Act* to be reformed, including new processes to pastoral land management that better support non-pastoral uses such as conservation and tourism and set a future vision for pastoral lands, within which decisions such as subdivision and land clearing can be better considered.
 - An Invasive species strategy including feral animals and weedy species.
- Incorporation of sustainability principles emerging from work of the Environment Protection Authority, into natural resource policy and legislation.
- **A more formalised and expanded role for off-sets (biodiversity, carbon and social) will be developed including:**
 - A clearly articulated policy describing the circumstances within which off-sets will be considered.
- **Other initiatives will include:**
 - Develop a Sport and Active Recreation policy.
 - Deliver a new policy to guide strategic development of sport and recreation in the Northern Territory.
 - Further support for Bushfires Northern Territory.
 - Best practice environmental regulation – including a review of environment assessment legislation in association with work by the Environment Protection Authority and review of the [Waste Management and Pollution Control Act](#).
 - Involvement in planning approaches (with Department of Planning and Infrastructure).
 - Sustainable Use plans for emerging industries, especially crocodiles.
 - Continued climate change focus across the Department.
 - Encouraging Indigenous involvement in climate change initiatives.
 - Complete review of the [Heritage Conservation Act](#) and oversee introduction and implementation of a new [Heritage Act](#).
 - A more active and strategic effort to large [Caring for Our Country](#) grants, potentially partnering with other non-government organisations.
 - A Review of [Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act](#).

2. Developing involved, healthy and creative communities

The Agency will involve itself much more strongly with communities, programs and infrastructure to create involved, healthy and creative communities. The key elements will be Indigenous employment, sport and recreation, education and interpretation, grants and cultural activities and institutions.

- **Engagement**
 - Review of current advisory committees across the Agency and development of an efficient, integrated system of community engagement.
 - Expand the Indigenous Ranger Development Program.
- **Indigenous employment**
 - The Agency will aim for 14 per cent Indigenous employees by the end of 2012.
 - Expand Indigenous ranger programs including Marine Ranger programs by developing and strengthening partnerships.
 - Grow Indigenous businesses related to our natural and cultural assets. (Two per year that the Agency helps to establish).
- **Sport and recreation**
 - Deliver the new Palmerston Sports Complex (Stage One in 2011 and Stage Two in 2012) and the new Palmerston Water Park in 2011.
 - Deliver the Leanyer Recreation Park upgrades.
 - Deliver all Northern Territory 2008 Election commitments including the Hidden Valley Motor Sport Complex and boxing initiative.
 - Deliver the Northern Territory Government's *Working Future* activity targets for Indigenous people.
- **Education and interpretation**
 - Deliver Audio visual web based interpretations across the Territory including, West MacDonnell Visitor Centre.
- Deliver the *Remembering Territory Families* stories project.
- Create substantial volunteers programs.
- **Grants**
 - Administer Northern Territory 2008 Election Commitments for environment grants including funding to the Arid Lands Environment Centre and the Environment Centre of the Northern Territory.
 - Deliver Arts, Festival and Sports Grants as per Northern Territory 2008 Election commitments.
 - Implement a new grants management system within the Agency to more efficiently manage and administer grant funding to external parties.
 - Introduce the Northern Territory Water Tank Rebate Scheme.
 - Implement household climate change initiatives including funding for Cool communities and the [Energy Smart Rebate](#) scheme for Territory households.
- **Arts, Museums, Collections, Libraries and Archives**
 - Implement a Creative Industries Framework, which also incorporates the Northern Territory Film Office.
 - Deliver the World War II Defence of Darwin Museum at East Point.
 - Deliver a conservation and consultation program for the Papunya Boards Project.
 - Deliver the *Building Our Museums Sector* 10 year vision.
 - Complete Araluen Cultural Precinct Development Plan.
 - Explore the concept of a National Indigenous Art Gallery for the Northern Territory.
 - Review and renew the Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards.
 - Deliver the Northern Territory Library's *Our Story* Version 2 database for management and access to cultural and historical resources.

3. Introducing conservation systems for the 21st century that provide a strong long term platform for regional development and tourism

- Further implement Joint Management to help deliver *Working Future* targets.
- Continue to develop infrastructure and conservation programs in National Parks.
- Develop a Parks Development policy that includes greater opportunities for public/private partnerships and more explicit linkage to economic drivers to fund infrastructure development and conservation.
- Develop and deliver Marine Parks for the Northern Territory, by finalising and implementing a Marine Protected Areas Strategy.
- Develop Territory Eco-link and an integrated protected areas system to deliver on the Parks and Biodiversity Framework. This will involve greater engagement with the Australian Government, Indigenous land holders on Indigenous Protected Areas and with the philanthropic sector.
- Establish an incentives and covenanting program on pastoral and other lands.
- Consolidate the Island Ark Program that identifies and protects conservation values on Territory islands.
- Develop new approaches for the Daly and Mary Rivers using research and monitoring.
- Support Healthy Country Healthy People and other People on Country initiatives.
- Develop Western Desert Renewal and Northern biodiversity proposals for *Caring for Our Country* funding partnerships.
- Deliver new Biological Parks' developments to build tourism and Indigenous employment.
- Deliver an improved Heritage protection program by:
 - Working through and providing clarity on the nominations not yet finalised;
 - More active participation in adaptive re-use opportunities; and
 - Development of a 'heritage use' strategy for Darwin's Central Business District.
- Build support for better management of our priceless collections.
- Create enforcement capacity for Indigenous ranger groups and developing mechanisms to support.
- Improved engagement with the Australian Government with a view to better accessing National Reserve System funding.

4. Improve systems to help deliver and measure our success

- **Research, monitoring and evaluation**

- Deliver a Territory State of the Environment reporting system.
- Improve monitoring, evaluation and communication of all projects through a clear framework.
- Develop an integrated Research Strategy with partners.
- Develop systems for knowledge management and E Research.
- Review flood forecasting functions taking into account possible climate change scenarios.

- **Emphasise our role as a government agency**

- Emphasise that the Agency's key role is to advise on, initiate, develop and deliver Policy and Legislation.
- Emphasise that our best programs include excellent data and knowledge, excellent communications, strong relationships, appropriate compliance and diverse teams.
- Build employee competency and leadership.
- Continue leadership development.
- Deliver the Performance Enhancement System.
- Develop employee development plans that focus on the Agency's role.

- **Walk the talk**

- Continue the internal actions towards Greening of the Agency.
- Complete the Solar Cities airconditioning upgrades at the Araluen Cultural Precinct.
- Implement the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory energy reduction plans.

- Support an independent and effective Environment Protection Authority.

- Increased use of video conferencing to reduce the Agency's carbon footprint by reducing travel.

- **Risk management and Internal Audit**

- Ensure that the Agency's Risk Management Plan is in place and implemented.
- Ensure that internal audit procedures are in place and in use.

- **Grow our influence**

- Ensure that we create things that the public understand and value to ensure community and government support for the Agency, to attract staff and resources.

Progress of 4 Year Priorities

The Agency has made significant progress in the first year of its 4 Year Priorities, with many initiatives, policies, plans and election commitments either already completed or well underway. The details of this plan is recorded in the Agency's Performance Reporting of Output Groups on [page 86](#) of this Annual Report. Detailed below is an overview of the progress of the 4 Year Priorities Plan:

1. Create a legislation and policy framework to deliver sustainable development and preserve Territory lifestyles

- Conducted community consultation on a draft *Living Rivers Issues Paper*, with more than 1649 public submissions received.
- Commenced development of a paper for the second stage of the *Water Act* review, to facilitate public consultation.
- Water allocation planning is being undertaken in five locations across the Northern Territory.
- Assessed the draft 2007–09 biennial review of the National Water Initiative together with the PowerWater Corporation prior to submission to the National Water Commission.
- Conducted public consultation on revised Land Clearing Guidelines that contain thresholds to limit clearing in the Daly moratorium area, strict soil conservation requirements and a requirement for accurate calculation of greenhouse gas emissions from clearing. 19 Submissions were received from stakeholders and individuals.
- Continued to develop reform of the *Pastoral Land Act* to ensure it is consistent with Government natural resource management policies.
- Conducted community consultation on a discussion paper *Towards a Sport and Active Recreation Policy*. The draft Policy will be issued for public consultation in 2009–10.
- Commenced developing an Invasive Species Strategy including feral animals and weedy species.

- Implemented a \$2 million Strategic Bushfires Risk Mitigation Program, which included:
 - Increasing the training program to a total of 35 courses delivered across the Territory, and the recruitment of a Training Manager.
 - New fire fighting equipment was purchased including 6 new medium attack trucks and 2 new loaders.
 - A new Volunteer support program was created including the recruitment of a Support Officer to run the program.
 - Funding was used towards aerial fire suppression and the fire fighting capacity in the Darwin Rural area was increased.
- Developed and released for public consultation the draft Saltwater Crocodile Management Program.
- Successfully developed a plan, with Desert Knowledge, for managing feral camel impacts, through *Caring for Our Country*, which resulted in \$19 million from the Australian Government for implementation.

2. Developing involved, healthy and creative communities

- Commenced the review of the government's arts policy and funding programs, to reposition arts as central to Territory community life. This will see the Agency actively engage in delivering a new policy framework moving beyond managing grants to actively brokering arts partnerships at a community level.
- Commenced upgrading the Agency's Indigenous Sport Officer positions and making them permanent positions rather than annual contracts to make the positions more attractive to Indigenous applicants and increase Indigenous employment.
- Successfully increased Indigenous employment at the Territory Wildlife Park to 14 per cent and 20 per cent at the Alice Springs Desert Park.

- Employed an Arrernte Cultural Education Officer at the Araluen Arts Centre, to deliver Cultural Art Tours in association with the permanent exhibition, “Origins to Innovations: Aboriginal Art in Central Australia”.
- Commenced work on the delivery of the Palmerston Sports Complex 2008 Northern Territory Government election commitment, through the development of a steering committee involving government, Charles Darwin University and Palmerston City Council. Consultation with user groups will commence in 2009–10.
- Commenced planning on the Palmerston Water Park 2008 Northern Territory Government election commitment to identify a suitable community site for the facility.
- Completed in March 2009 the 2008 Northern Territory Government election commitment of \$5.2 million upgrades to the Leanyer Recreation Park. This upgrade included installation of a waterslide improving the recreational facilities and user experience of the Park.
- Worked with Motor Sports NT to finalise \$1.75 million worth of a 2008 Northern Territory Government election commitment for the Hidden Valley Motor Sport Complex.
- Awarded two tenders worth a total of \$1.186 million for the design and production of an extensive digital interpretation website for Stage One of the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre, near Alice Springs.
- Commenced the *Remembering Territory Families* story project, a 2008 Northern Territory Government election commitment, by identifying possible families, conducting consultation; with the first family stories to be showcased in mid 2010.
- Developed the [Energy Smart Rebate](#) Scheme for household energy efficiency that provides Territorians with a \$200 rebate when purchasing energy saving devices; for launch in July 2009.

- Formed a Steering Committee made up of Darwin City Council, Tourism NT and Northern Territory Government representatives, to oversee the development of the World War II Defence of Darwin Museum at East Point. A museum scoping and content brief was finalised, with options for the location of a new building at East Point being explored.

3. Introducing conservation systems for the 21st Century that provide a strong long term platform for regional development and tourism

- Commenced the development of an Indigenous Employment and Training Strategy for Jointly Managed National Parks and Reserves. This Strategy will seek partnership arrangements with Commonwealth agencies, education and training providers and Indigenous organisations to improve recruitment, retention and career development for Indigenous employees.
- Developed a systematic assessment of biodiversity values for all conservation reserves that will be used to prioritise conservation programs.
- Commenced drafting a policy for commercial accommodation development on National Parks and Reserves, which will address how the Agency will facilitate and manage commercial accommodation within Territory Parks and Reserves.
- Continued work on the draft Northern Territory Marine Protected Areas Guidelines and Strategy.
- Commenced working with Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation on potential Marine Protected Areas development adjacent to the Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Areas.
- Successfully sought funding from the Australian Government under the [Caring for Our Country](#) program for the Territory Eco-link project. The project will create land bridges or ‘links’ between existing protected areas to create conservation corridors.

- Commenced the Biodiversity Conservation Values and Management for the Northern Territory Islands project to undertake systematic assessment of all remaining high priority and previously poorly surveyed islands off the Territory coastline. Islands to be surveyed included those in the Sir Edward Pellew, Groote, English Company, Crocodile and Crocker Groups.
 - Continued collaboration with Gumurr Marthakal rangers on the Island Ark Project for monitoring of translocated populations of the threatened northern quoll (Pobasso and Astell islands) and of golden bandicoot (Marchinbar island).
 - Commenced the 'clearing native vegetation biodiversity monitoring and adaptive management program' in the Daly region. This project aims to identify responses of biodiversity to clearing at the property and regional scales, identify threshold values, and work with landholders to manage biodiversity.
 - Obtained funding from the Northern Territory Natural Resource Management Board to collect and store Indigenous Ecological Knowledge of mammals in the Western Desert region in collaboration with the Central Land Council and Parks Australia.
 - Commenced development of long term storage and preservation strategies for the Territory Archives collections, which involves additional storage options that meet the preservation requirements for the collections.
- #### 4. Improve systems to help deliver and measure our success
- Engaged Charles Darwin University to review current theory and practice in State of Environment reporting, to ensure the framework for the inaugural 2012 Territory State of the Environment report is all encompassing.
 - Continued working on indicators and reporting for coastal, estuarine and marine ecosystems for the Northern Territory (in consultation with national and regional bodies).
 - Developed a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to monitor, assess and report on Northern Territory coastal, estuarine and marine ecosystems. The Framework includes development of risk assessment and monitoring software.
 - Completed an Agency wide strategic business risk assessment on the 4 Year Priorities plan, and on each of the Agency's Divisional Business Plans. The information was used to populate the Agency's Risk Register.
 - Continued the Agency's Leadership Development Program, where senior staff developed their leadership potential and building upon the Agency's culture.
 - Commenced training across the Agency of the Performance Enhancement System that equips team leaders and managers with the skills to understand the need for feedback, identifying the appropriate feedback styles and preparation for feedback, both positive and negative.
 - Formation of the Agency's 'Green Team', whose responsibility is to oversee the reduction of the Agency's carbon footprint commenced. The Green Team commenced developing a sustainability action plan for the Agency, with a view to commencing small scale pilot programs to focus on the reduction of resource use, eg energy and waste. The planning for a system to monitor and measure Agency greenhouse gas emissions also commenced.

Operational Structure

The Agency's Operational Structure and Outputs (service delivery) contribute to the achievement of planned Strategic Outcomes.

The Operational Structure includes Corporate Support Services that service all areas in the Agency. Details of these Output Groups and the Outcomes they deliver are detailed on the following pages.

The Agency's Organisational Structure is detailed (below and at right), which is made up of Divisions, that are responsible for delivering the Agency's Outputs as per the Northern Territory Governments' [Budget Paper 3](#).

Territory Wildlife Parks Operational Structure

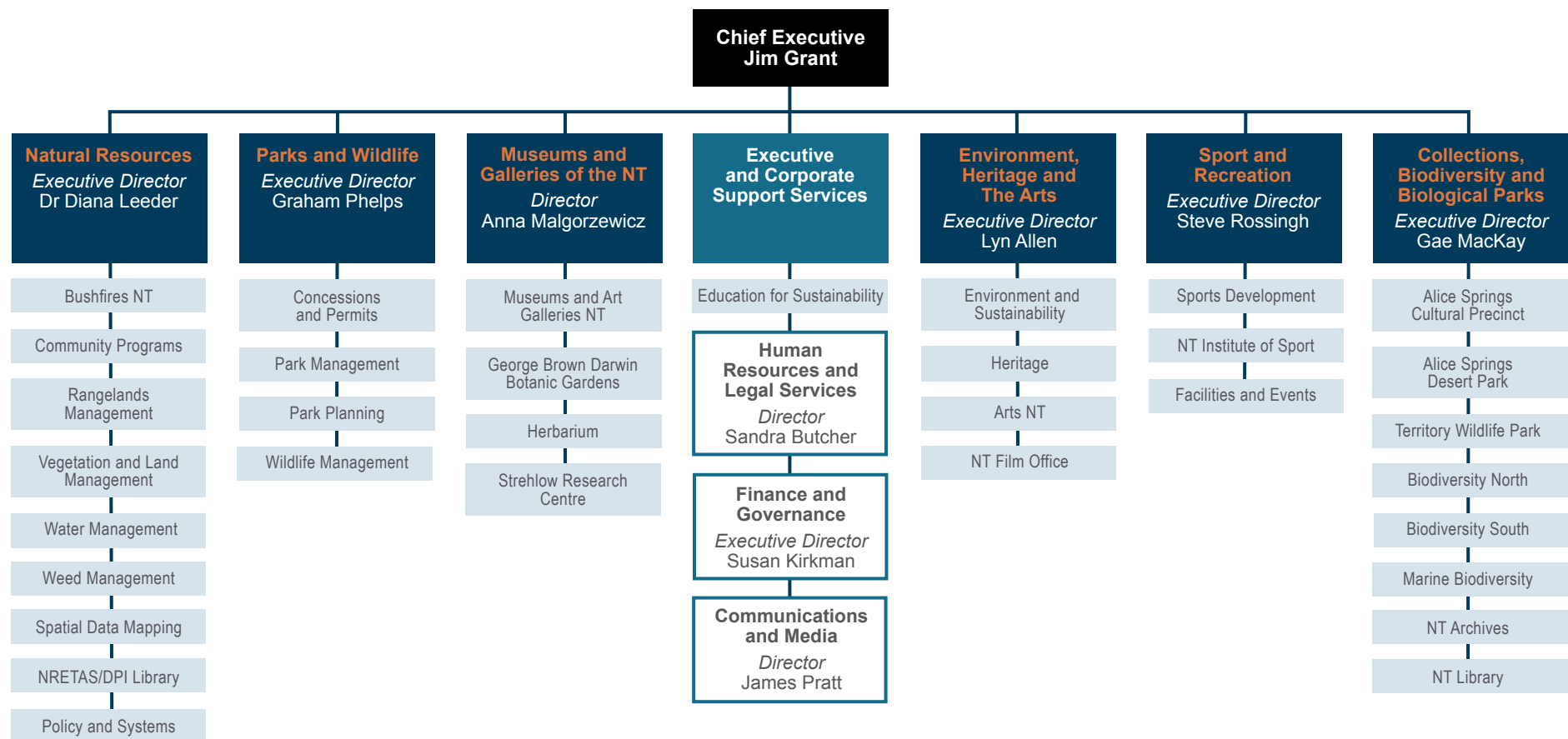


Department Operational Structure



Organisational Chart

The organisational chart for the Agency indicates its physical and administrative structure, with six operational divisions and their associated business units, supported by the Corporate Support Services Division.



■ Division ■ Business Unit As at 30 June 2009

Achievements 2008–09

The Agency's Output Groups and Government Business Division are in line with Budget 2009 [Budget Paper No.3](#), which provides details on the budget, services and outputs of these areas.

The Agency's achievements in 2008–09 and priorities for 2009–10 are detailed for the eight Output Groups and the Government Business Division of Territory Wildlife Parks. A full account of these achievements and priorities is available in Performance Reporting beginning on [page 86](#).

Output Group: Parks and Reserves

Visitor Facilities

- Completed the \$5.2 million Stage Two upgrade to Darwin's Leanyer Recreation Park in March 2009. This included installation of three waterslides, shade structures, BMX moguls, a half-pipe and new barbecue areas; improving the recreational facilities and user experience of the facility.
- Completed the Stage One upgrades to Litchfield National Park, near Darwin, in April 2009. This included upgrades to the day use and camping areas at Wangi Falls; resulting in improved traffic flow and visitor experience.
- Awarded two tenders worth a total of \$1.186 million for the design and production of an extensive digital interpretation website for Stage One of the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre, near Alice Springs. The website will enhance visitor experience and appreciation of the Park's world heritage nominated natural and cultural values. Planning for the construction of the Stage Two West MacDonnell Visitor Centre commenced in 2008–09.

Joint Management

- Successfully transferred the title and leased back 11 Parks and Reserves subject to the [Parks and Reserve \(Framework for the Future\) Act](#).
- Completed the Joint Management Plan for the Devils Marbles (Karlukarluk) Conservation Reserve, near Tennant Creek, which was put into operation in February 2009.
- Facilitated the second Joint Management Forum in May 2009, involving Traditional Owners of jointly managed Parks and Reserves from across the Northern Territory to exchange experiences, ideas and issues associated with implementing joint management in Parks and Reserves across the Territory.
- Amended the [Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act](#) to simplify the process of declaring joint management parks.

Planning

- Completed an assessment of all Parks in the Northern Territory to assess the natural cultural and tourism values; to develop a reporting framework for improved reporting on performance and programs.

Output Group: Biological Parks

- Hosted elements of the Darwin Festival at the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens in August 2008, including the Star Shell (the major event hub for the festival), Food Court held on the Flag Pole lawn, and the Replant Art exhibition and outdoor gallery which were held in the Wesleyan Church and on the Coconut Lawn.
- Developed the Eco-House and Wildlife Gardens at the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, for use by community members with ten garden plots developed, irrigated and connected with walking paths. Partnerships were established with local businesses to provide tools, including a grey water system and a rainwater tank, with the Eco-House to be developed to demonstrate low energy and green living.

- Partially completed the Primary Loop to facilitate visitor circulation and enhance presentation of views and collections of the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens. The Primary Loop is to be the main visitor passageway that connects the top and bottom sections of the Gardens.
- Maintained high levels (80–100 per cent) of Indigenous employment at Window on the Wetlands, which is in keeping with the wishes of the Traditional Owners of the land the Limilngan-Wulna people. Window on the Wetlands continues to provide flexible employment opportunities for Indigenous people.

Output Group: Natural Resources

Research and Projects

- Reviewed the current saltwater crocodile management program and began developing a new draft strategy, 'Crocwise', to improve the effectiveness of management and enhance community awareness about crocodiles. 'Crocwise' will be implemented in 2009–10.
- Completed a detailed assessment of sites of high biodiversity conservation value across the Northern Territory, in order to direct conservation management actions to the most significant sites. This study will provide information to landholders regarding their property's conservation values and how to best manage these.
- Completed a major series of biodiversity monitoring at Kakadu National Park, with analysis of trends indicating an ongoing major decline of native mammals.
- Facilitated and supported the ongoing West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement project which delivered 152 000 tonnes of carbon emissions abatement. This world first project, funded by Conoco Phillips, uses fire management by Traditional Owners to reduce savanna burning greenhouse emissions.
- Implemented the Strategic Bushfires Risk Mitigation program which included \$2 million in upgrades to volunteer support, equipment and training for fire management. Six new trucks, two loaders, a transporter, support for wildfire suppression aircraft and a nationally accredited training program were part of the program.

Feral Animal Management

- Revised 1080 poison bait management activities for landholders in the Northern Territory to more effectively manage pigs, wild dogs and foxes on their properties. This change in management activity has enabled landholders to undertake training and apply for a permit to use dry manufactured baits to manage pest animals, rather than rely on the Agency to perform this function.

Water Allocation Planning

- Completed the work required to facilitate the declaration of the Katherine Water Allocation Plan, by the Northern Territory Minister for Natural Resources by June 2009. It is expected the Minister will formally declare the Plan in August 2009.
- Completed Stage One of the [Water Act](#) review with the gazettal of the new Act in November 2008. This gazettal stated that all applications and consequent decisions regarding water extraction are to be advertised, and facilitate the publication of a register of water extraction licenses as required by the National Water Initiative.
- Obtained \$300 000 in external funding over two years from the National Water Commission to commence the first Water allocation Plan in collaboration with Traditional Owners on the Tiwi Islands. This is expected to provide a blue print for future planning on Indigenous owned land where water resource based development is desirable.
- Commenced Water Allocation Plans for Mataranka, Daly and the Darwin Rural area which will result in better planning and allocation of available water resources to users in the areas. These plans will be open for community consultation once drafted.

Drilling and Hydrographic Programs

- Completed the major operational stages of National Water Initiative funded projects in the Gulf, Daly and Darwin regions, to investigate groundwater resources, that includes investigative drilling programs.
- Installed a new gauging station on Daly River at Theyona to collect data, increasing the Daly River flood monitoring system's ability to provide information.

Monitoring and Advice

- Completed an acid sulphate soil survey and report for the Darwin Region that provides an inventory on acid sulphate soils and a risk assessment associated with their disturbance for use in development evaluations.

Managing Key Weed Species

- Declared gamba grass (*Andropogon gayanus*) and Mexican feather grass (*Nassella tenuissa*) as weeds under the [Weeds Management Act](#).
- Developed a draft Weed Management Plan for *Andropogon gayanus* (gamba grass) which was released to key stakeholders, including members of the Regional Weed Reference Groups, Northern Territory Weed Advisory Committee and Northern Territory Government departments for comment prior to undertaking public consultation. This consultation is expected to commence in 2009–10.
- Contained the spread of Cabomba weed in the Darwin River, with only a limited number of seedlings and juvenile plants found during the year. Since 2006 no new plants have been identified in three of the four infestation sites. The Darwin River Quarantine Zone was extended for a further three years until 2011 to prevent the weed's spread.
- Protected the Top End wetlands from the infestation and establishment of the weed of national significance, *mimosa pigra*, through facilitating management activities by Aboriginal ranger groups and undertaking surveys to limit the weed's range.

Output Group: Environmental Sustainability

Climate Change

- Developed the [Energy Smart Rebate](#) Scheme where Territory households can improve energy efficiency and reduce electricity costs by purchasing and installing selected energy saving devices with rebates of up to \$200 per household. The scheme is due to be launched in July 2009.
- Assisted Territorian households to reduce energy use by providing operational funding of \$100 000 to the COOLmob project, which works with the community to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through improved home energy efficiency. Funding of \$50 000 was granted to Darwin and Alice Springs programs respectively.
- Provided \$30 000 in funding for the report *Risks from Climate Change to Indigenous Communities in the Tropical North of Australia*. The development of the report was led by the University of New South Wales Climate Change Research Centre and was supported by the Australian and Western Australian Governments. The final report will be released in 2009–10.
- Granted \$225 000 to the Power and Water Corporation for the Energy Efficient Hot Water Rebate (Retrofit) Scheme.
- Progressed the establishment of a comprehensive air quality monitoring system for Darwin by tendering for the supply of two self-contained air quality monitoring stations. One will be located at the Bureau of Meteorology site in Winnellie, with a second suitable location still to be determined. The stations are expected to be operational by the end of 2009.

EnvironmeNT Grants

- Encouraged community environmental management in the Northern Territory by implementing the fifth round of the [EnvironmeNT Grants](#) Program. Awards are given in three categories awarding a total of \$560 000 including Operational Grants (\$263 086); Individual Projects(\$268 314); and School Projects(\$28 600). A new category for Wildlife Conservation was established which contributed \$100 000 in funding for schools, community and operational funding.

Sustainable Development

- Facilitated environmental assessments for new development proposals in the Northern Territory by providing Environmental Impact Statement guidelines for the following developments:
 - BHP Billiton Olympic Dam expansion (Northern Territory transport option);
 - Redbank Mines Ltd expansion of Redbank oxide copper leaching operations;
 - Inpex Browse Ltd Ichthys gas field development project;
 - Arafura Resources Nolan's Bore rare earths phosphate mine;
 - Tenax Energy Clarence Strait tidal energy project;
 - Gorrie Station land clearing proposal; and
 - Larrizona Station land clearing proposal.
- Facilitated and supported the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee in developing the [Darwin Harbour Strategy 2009–15](#) to guide stewardship and development of the Darwin Harbour region as well as facilitating government and public consultations on the new Strategy.
- Worked with Northern Territory Shires to improve waste management in remote communities, providing input in developing Waste Management Guidelines for Small Communities in the Northern Territory - Working Towards Best Practice 2009.

Cash for Containers

- Provided advice to the Northern Territory Government's Cash for Container's Reference Group on a Northern Territory container deposit scheme to improve litter management and resource recovery.

Output Group: Heritage Conservation

Heritage Register Additions

- Declared 21 places as heritage places in 2008–09 under the [Heritage Conservation Act](#).

Repairs and Maintenance Program

- Implemented the \$1 million annual Northern Territory Government Repairs and Maintenance Program to government-owned heritage places including; Stella Maris Hostel, Sandfly Steam Locomotive, East Point Military Museum, Former Batchelor Primary School, Timber Creek, Emungalan Cemetery, Barrow Creek Telegraph Station, Ryan's Well and Glen Maggie Homestead.

Output Group: Scientific and Cultural Collections

Indigenous Culture

- Successfully held the [25th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award](#) featuring the works of 117 contemporary Indigenous artists from around Australia. This exhibition also included a virtual online gallery allowing video and audio recordings of the artists and their works to be viewed on the Agency's website.
- Commenced a community engagement program with the Unmatjere community, near Alice Springs, to identify the rights to cultural material held at the Strehlow Research Centre. Consultation with the Western Arrernte community was undertaken in regards to the repatriation of secret/sacred objects from the collections.

- Launched the early years literacy strategy *The Walk to School* designed to help Indigenous parents and carers prepare young children for school by developing an understanding of text and a joy of reading and learning.
- Developed a new permanent exhibition at the Araluen Arts Centre, *Origins to Innovation: Aboriginal Art in Central Australia*, which documents and analyses the history and development of Aboriginal Art in the region. This exhibition opened in March 2009.
- Developed and operated Cultural Art Tours in consultation with the Arrernte Custodians, which were conducted four times a week at the Araluen Arts Centre by an Arrernte Cultural Education Officer. This was a new flexible position established to provide employment and training opportunities to local Arrernte people.

Collections

- Launched the exhibition *Husi Bei Ala Timor Sira Nia Liman: From the Hands of our Ancestors*, with the National Directorate of Culture, Timor-Leste. This exhibition featured works from the National Collection of Timor-Leste, the Agency's Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, the Australian Museum and private loans.
- Implemented *Territory Stories*, an online repository containing documents, images that record the history and development of the Northern Territory.
- Launched the second in the triennial series of exhibitions *Arafura Craft Exchange: trajectory of memories, tradition and modernity in ceramics in 2008* which featured contemporary craft of three Indonesian artists and the internationally renowned guest curator Sudjud Dartanto.
- Provided identification and advice on Northern Territory flora and plant species for 562 separate enquiries including 1261 plant identifications. This provision was to the general public, Charles Darwin University, interstate and international agencies, industry and consultants, and Northern Territory Government agencies.

- Developed an Internet front end for the Northern Territory Herbarium specimen data base (Holtze) to provide enhanced reporting and query facilities to a wider range of stakeholders.

Archives

- Provided 405 researchers with access to archives in the Darwin and Alice Springs search rooms and more than 8 600 archival items were copied for researchers.

Output Group: Arts and Screen Industry Sector

Arts, Film and Screen

- Successfully delivered \$5.7 million in grants funding through the Arts and Screen Grants Programs. \$225 000 was provided through Screen Grants, including \$80 000 for the *Yarning Up* program and \$20 000 to assist with the post production of the feature film *Samson and Delilah*.
- Staged the sixth biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference *art at the heart* in October 2008 in Alice Springs, hosting 959 delegates, 192 presenters and 254 artists from diverse cultural backgrounds across Australia.
- Implemented a four year \$955 000 funding agreement with the Australian Government's Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, to administer and deliver the Regional Arts Fund grants program in the Northern Territory commencing on 1 July 2008.
- Released an independent report *Review of theatre and performance in the Northern Territory*, in conjunction with the Australia Council for the Arts, following a review of theatre across the Territory. Twenty nine recommendations were accepted by the Northern Territory Government and the Australia Council, with the recommendations being implemented in 2009.

- Led the development and production of the second series of *Yarning Up* in association with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA), resulting in four documentaries being produced in remote communities.
- Commenced development of a Territory Screen Industry Framework, including a Northern Territory Film Office Strategy 2010–13, to drive innovation and the development of the screen industry in the Territory with an Indigenous industry focus. The Steering Committee has made recommendations for Northern Territory Government consideration and key priorities and roles have been identified.

Output Group: Sport and Recreation

- Provided grants of \$12.06 million to fund a variety of sports development projects and events designed to promote and increase participation at all levels in the community, from grass roots to elite athletes in sport and active recreation including the one-off grants which are listed on [page 132](#).
- Completion of the \$6.2 million Netball Complex in the Marrara Sporting Complex, Darwin.
- Completion of \$1.3 million upgrade and repair of the Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex electrical supply.
- Completion of \$1.6 million VIP Lounge at Speedway, Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex.
- Completion of the \$2.38 million Stage One Alice Springs Aquatic Centre upgrades, which included the paddle pool and learn to swim pool. Tendering for the Stage Two developments have commenced, and includes heated indoor facilities and a 25 metre, eight lane lap pool.
- Implemented an Individual Athlete Case Management Program. This will ensure Northern Territory Institute of Sport individual athlete scholarship holders benefit from an in-house, multi-disciplined, specialist high performance servicing approach.

- Provided high performance advice and use of facilities to the national men’s Hockey and U/23 Football (soccer) teams, along with the National Basketball League’s Perth Wildcats and the Australian Football League’s Port Adelaide Power.
- Achieved national/international representation standard by 24 Northern Territory Institute of Sport athletes achieved in the following sports:
 - Rugby League
 - Cycling
 - Hockey
 - Judo
 - Yachting
 - Swimming
 - Tennis
 - Tenpin Bowling
 - Touch Football
 - Wheelchair Basketball
 - Pistol Shooting
 - Weightlifting

Business Line: Territory Wildlife Parks

- Received a five year accreditation from the Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria (ARAZPA) certifying the Alice Springs Desert Park appropriately cares for all its animals and supports species conservation through education, research and provides a quality visitor experience.
- Awarded with the 2008 Northern Territory Broлга Awards for Major Tourist Attraction and for Ecotourism as well as the 2008 Tourism Central Award for New Tourism Innovation for the Alice Springs Desert Park’s Nocturnal Tour.
- Developed volunteer programs at the Alice Springs Desert Park aimed at 12 to 20 year olds providing opportunities for participants to experience the diverse fauna of Central Australia, while contributing to scientific research and biodiversity conservation.
- Developed six new visitor experiences.
- Successfully completed seven threatened species breeding programs.

Future Priorities for 2009–10

Output Group: Parks and Reserves

- Complete title transfer of the remaining six Parks and Reserves subject to the *Parks and Reserve (Framework for the Future) Act*.
- Complete Joint Management Plans for the West MacDonnell, Flora River and Watarrka National Parks, Fogg Dam Nature Park, Black Jungle/Lambells Lagoon and Harrison Dam Conservation Reserves and Melacca Swamp Conservation Area.
- Complete and implement an Indigenous Employment and Training Strategy to increase Indigenous employment in Parks and Reserves.
- Design the Visitor Services Centre at the Wangi Falls site in Litchfield National Park, south of Darwin, to be constructed in 2010–11. This facility will improve visitor experience in the Park and assist in managing increasing visitor numbers.
- Design and implement a trial water quality monitoring and maintenance program for the waterhole in Howard Springs Nature Park, near Darwin.
- Undertake community consultation for the development of Joint Management Plans for the Mary River and Finke Gorge National Parks, Corroboree Rock Conservation Reserve, Trephina Gorge, and N'Dhala Gorge Nature Park.

Output Group: Biological Parks

- Further develop facilities at the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens to attract visitors and educate them about making environmental changes in their lives including improvements to the Fruit Tree Terraces, Eco-House, Wildlife Garden, Tropical Woodland, Heritage Area and Sandstone Escarpment.
- Develop a three year plan that will review and upgrade the Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre's interpretative displays.

Output Group: Natural Resources

- Develop and implement a management program for the freshwater crocodile.
- Develop a community education and extension program to ensure the community has a sound and responsible understanding of fire management. This will require working with the Northern Territory Education Department, Aboriginal organisations, other government agencies, private beneficial organisations and the community itself.
- Review and update the *Bushfires Act* to ensure it captures current fire management practice and deals with emerging issues such as greenhouse abatement projects.
- Development and implementation of a strategic program to manage infestations of bellyache bush in the Upper Daly and gamba grass in the Coomalie region, to reduce the environmental, social and economic impacts of these weeds.
- Generate a soil landscape map of the Coomalie region, which includes Batchelor, Manton Dam and Adelaide River, to support sustainable land use, conservation and economic development of the region.
- Commence new externally funded projects to investigate ground water resources in Darwin, Daly and Central Australia.

- Progress Water Allocation Plans to determine the amount of water available and equitable distribution of that amount to the users in the Western Davenport (Ali Curung), Howard East and Berry Springs aquifers and Tiwi Islands regions.
- Upgrade existing monitoring sites in the Daly River, McArthur River and upper and lower Adelaide River catchments to deliver improvements to the Territory's flood monitoring systems.
- Implement the Northern Territory Government's rainwater tank subsidy scheme, which provides rebates for purchasing materials for installing and utilising rainwater tanks.
- Commence a review of declaration classes under the *Weeds Management Act* for weed species assessed using the weed risk management system. This will ensure appropriate management obligations are placed on landholders in consideration of the risks posed by the weed species.

Output Group: Environmental Sustainability

- Assess the environmental impact of major developments proposed for the Northern Territory, including the Inpex Browse Ltd Ichthys gas field development project, BHP Billiton Olympic Dam expansion (Northern Territory transport option), and the Wonarah phosphate mine project.
- Continue to lead the development of a Northern Territory container deposit scheme.

Output Group: Heritage Conservation

- Finalise the Northern Territory's new *Heritage Act*.
- Enable the newly rebuilt Northern Territory Heritage Register database for public use on the Agency's website.
- Work with Tourism NT and the Darwin Military Museum developers and designers to develop a World War II heritage park for Darwin and surrounding region.

Output Group: Scientific and Cultural Collections

- Increase public accessibility to the Museum of Central Australia and Strehlow Research Centre through new displays and exhibitions and digitisation and indexing of collections.
- Implement procedures and standards to meet the Northern Territory Archive Service's responsibility for the retention and disposal of government records under the *Information Amendment Act*.
- Finalise a strategy to achieve long term archive storage and accommodation requirements for the Northern Territory Archives Service in Darwin.
- Negotiate a new Public Library Agreement with local governments.
- Develop the Northern Territory Library's 30th anniversary plans for 2010 and associated public programs.
- Develop FloraNT, a publicly available flora website for the Northern Territory that will allow the community to access and search the Herbarium's corporate plant record database. The website will generate fact sheets on plants of the Northern Territory including their conservation status, images and identification tools.
- Finalise the Araluen Cultural Precinct Development Plan through community consultation, due to commence in August 2009.
- Complete design and headworks of the solar powered airconditioning system for the Araluen Arts Centre by June 2010.

Output Group: Arts and Screen Industry Sector

- Progress Stage One of the Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct, working with Katherine Town Council, regional stakeholders and other organisations to ensure Stage One design meets their needs and that public art and sustainability are strong features of the design.
- Implement the Screen Industry Visioning Project to include new programs and policies, while developing a framework for these programmes to be delivered to further develop the Northern Territory Screen Industry 2010–15.
- Manage the *Building Strong Arts Business* Plan of Action 2006–09 as a whole of government strategy, by supporting positions in the non-government sector such as Indigenous arts practitioners with Music Northern Territory, Artback Northern Territory, Arts Touring and Ausdance.

Output Group: Sport and Recreation

- Commence planning and future development of the \$33 million Palmerston International Sports Complex that includes facilities for Australian Football League, Rugby League, Football (Soccer) and Tennis.
- Commence planning and future development of the \$5 million Palmerston Water Park project.
- Deliver Year One projects totalling \$2.5 million as part of the three year \$4 million 2008 election commitment for upgrades at Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex.
- Assist in implementing SAFE Northern Territory through the establishment of Working with Children Checks across the sporting industry, including shires, required by all persons having contact with children from sporting groups to volunteers as part of the *Care and Protection of Children Act*.

- Progress the proposal for a regional and remote area Talent Identification and Development Program to be supported by the Northern Territory Institute of Sport.
- Develop a proposal for new, world class training and recovery facilities at the Northern Territory Institute of Sport to attract Australian Institute of Sport and National Sporting Organisation interest in using the Northern Territory as a training and competition preparation base.
- Finalise the outsourcing of the Leanyer Recreation Park to an external vendor to run Park operations.

Business Line: Territory Wildlife Parks

- Commence the development of a tourism product to encompass the natural and cultural assets of the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Agency's Araluen Cultural Precinct.
- Develop a five year vision for the Territory Wildlife Park to showcase the Top End's unique flora and fauna and ensure visitor experiences remain high for both local residents and visitors to the Northern Territory.

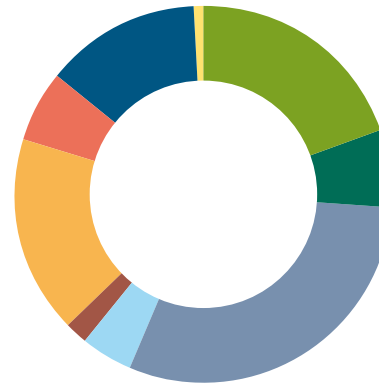
Income and Expenditure at a Glance

Income by Output Group – Department

The total operating income for the Department was \$161.5 million.

The Department receives its principal source of revenue, 84 per cent or \$135.4 million, from the Northern Territory Government as output appropriation. The balance is made up of grants and subsidies received from the Australian Government and other external sources for specific purposes, income received from the sale of goods and services, and notional revenue to recognise service charges of the Northern Territory Department of Business and Employment. Output appropriation is allocated to Output Groups on a budgeted 'breakeven' basis after allowing for depreciation.

Income by Output Group is presented graphically at right.



Output Group Income

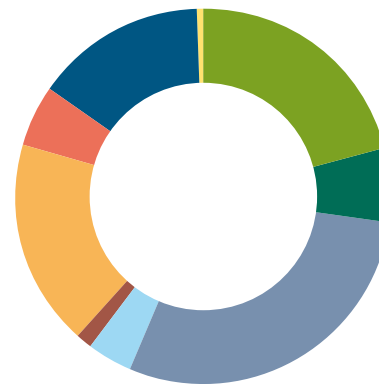
	2008-09	2007-08
Parks and Reserves	\$31.74M	\$29.98M
Biological Parks	\$10.70M	\$10.47M
Natural Resources	\$49.00M	\$46.03M
Environment and Sustainability	\$7.01M	\$5.36M
Heritage Conservation	\$3.02M	\$2.57M
Scientific and Cultural Collections	\$27.42M	\$14.94M
Arts and Screen Industry Support	\$10.11M	\$12.88M
Sport and Recreation	\$21.66M	N/A*
Environment Protection Authority**	\$0.86M	\$0.25M
Total	\$161.52M	\$122.48M

Expenditure by Output Group – Department

The operating expenses for the Department were \$173 million.

Employee expenses make up 37 per cent of the Department's expenses and totalled \$64.2 million. Administrative expenses totalled \$70 million and comprised of purchase of goods and services, repairs and maintenance, depreciation and amortisation, and services from the Northern Territory Department of Business and Employment rendered free of charge. The Department paid out \$38.5 million in grants and subsidies including a Community Service Obligation payment of \$7.9 million to the Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division.

Expenditure by Output Group is presented graphically at right.



Output Group Expenditure

	2008-09	2007-08
Parks and Reserves	\$36.31M	\$34.30M
Biological Parks	\$10.98M	\$10.69M
Natural Resources	\$50.65M	\$44.73M
Environment and Sustainability	\$6.39M	\$5.12M
Heritage Conservation	\$2.84M	\$4.13M
Scientific and Cultural Collections	\$30.68M	\$15.22M
Arts and Screen Industry Support	\$9.08M	\$13.34M
Sport and Recreation	\$25.17M	N/A*
Environment Protection Authority**	\$0.92M	\$0.12M
Total	\$173.02M	\$127.65M

Detailed Operating Statements for the Department can be found in the Financial Statements section of this report at [page 152](#).

* Output Group Sport and Recreation joined the Agency in 2008-09 therefore no previous income and expenditure data available.

** This Output Group's financial accountability lies with this Agency. However its achievements and priorities are reported separately within the Annual Report of the Environment Protection Agency 2008-09

Revenue – Territory Wildlife Parks – Government Business Division

The Territory Wildlife Parks’ total operating revenue for 2008–09 was \$9.86 million.

The principal source of income for the Parks is \$7.9 million received as a Community Service Obligation payment from the Department for the performance of non-commercial functions including tourism industry support, biodiversity, education and botanical gardens management.

The Parks’ commercial income includes admission fees to the Parks, sales of goods, interest and income from businesses trading within the Parks.

Revenue of the Territory Wildlife Parks is presented graphically at right.



Government Business Division

- Territory Wildlife Park
- Alice Springs Desert Park

Income

	2008–09	2007–08
Territory Wildlife Park	\$4.91M	\$5.48M
Alice Springs Desert Park	\$4.95M	\$5.08M
Total	\$9.86M	\$10.56M

Expenditure – Territory Wildlife Parks – Government Business Division

Territory Wildlife Parks’ total operating expenses totalled \$11.85 million.

Employee expenses make up 46 per cent of the Parks’ expenses and totalled \$5.49 million. Expenses from ordinary activities of \$4.45 million comprised of purchases of goods and services, repairs and maintenance, property management, and services from the Northern Territory Department of Business and Employment rendered free of charge. Depreciation and amortisation expenses for the year totalled \$1.9 million.

Expenditure by the Territory Wildlife Parks is presented graphically at right.



Government Business Division Expenditure

- Territory Wildlife Park
- Alice Springs Desert Park

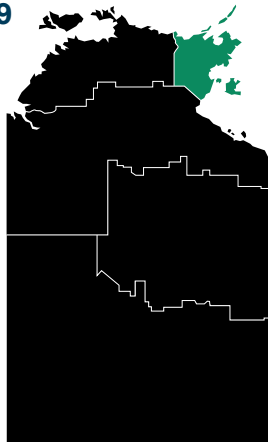
	2008–09	2007–08
Territory Wildlife Park	\$6.08M	\$6.57M
Alice Springs Desert Park	\$5.77M	\$6.05M
Total	\$11.85M	\$12.62M

Detailed Operating Statements for the Territory Wildlife Parks can be found in the Financial Statements section of this report on [page 190](#).

Regional Snapshot

Highlights: East Arnhem Region 2008–09

- Successfully engaged and trained Traditional Owners in the Sir Edward Pellew Islands, near Borrooloola, to undertake feral animal management activities on their lands.
- Surveyed plants and animals on Northern Territory Islands including Sir Edward Pellew Islands, Victoria River Island and Groote Island.
- Facilitated the signing of two new Memoranda of Understandings with the Northern Land Council to develop new greenhouse abatement savanna burning projects in Central Arnhem Land and the Gulf of Carpentaria. These agreements will deliver \$2 million for project research and capacity building.
- Completed a report on pre-clearing assessment of species of conservation significance on the Rio Tinto Alcan Gove mine site.
- Provided grant funding of \$25 554 for Monitoring Biodiversity and Cultural Values of Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Areas in the East Arnhem region.
- Completed installation of a new cyclone shelter at the Garig Gunak Barlu National Park on the Cobourg Peninsular.

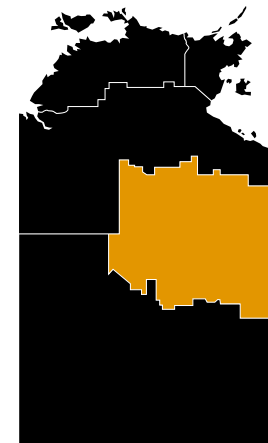


Future Priorities: East Arnhem Region 2009–10

- Deliver the *Remembering Territory Families* initiative which will gather major family groups to record oral histories and compile memorabilia and photographs to form a touring exhibition which will travel through the Territory including Nhulunbuy.

Highlights: Barkly Region 2008–09

- Completed the Devils Marbles (Karlukarlu) Conservation Reserve, near Tennant Creek, [Joint Management Plan](#) which was put into operation in February 2009.
- Implemented the \$1 million annual Northern Territory Government Repairs and Maintenance Program to Government owned heritage places which included Bonney Well Windmill and Barrow Creek Telegraph Station.
- Declared sites of historical significance as heritage places including Warloch Ponds Road Bridge, south of Mataranka and the Barrow Creek Hotel, south of Tennant Creek.



Future Priorities: Barkly Region 2009–10

- Progress the Western Davenport (Ali Curung) Water Allocation Plan to determine the amount of water available and equitable distribution of that amount to the users in the region south of Tennant Creek.
- Deliver the *Remembering Territory Families* initiative which will gather major family groups will record oral histories and compile memorabilia and photographs as part of a touring exhibition which will travel through the Territory including Tennant Creek.

Highlights: Katherine Region 2008–09

- Removed ten saltwater crocodiles from the Parks, Reserves and management zones in the Katherine region, in accordance with crocodile management plans. A crocodile management study was also conducted at Flora River Nature Park, near Katherine, to enable the Agency to establish guidelines for risk management of crocodiles.
- Continued eradication of the Devils Claw weed from Gregory National Park, south-west of Katherine, and control of belly-ache bush in Elsey and Flora River Nature Parks, near Katherine, in order to manage the spread of weeds as part of ongoing control programs and surveys.
- Completed trials in joint management monitoring and evaluation at Flora River Nature Park, west of Katherine, as part of a three year partnership research project with Charles Darwin University.
- Hosted four ‘back to country’ Joint Management camps in the Katherine region with Traditional Owners and Agency Parks and Wildlife employees, to facilitate discussion on park management issues.
- Completed improvements to the Mataranka thermal pool board-walk and pool entry at Elsey National Park, near Katherine.
- Conducted fauna surveys to monitor the health and dynamics of species in the Katherine region such as marine turtles in Barranyi (North Island) National Park at the mouth of McArthur River, near Borrooloola; pig nose turtles in Flora River Nature Park, west of Katherine; and Gouldian finches and Leichhardt grasshoppers in Limmen National Park, east of Katherine.

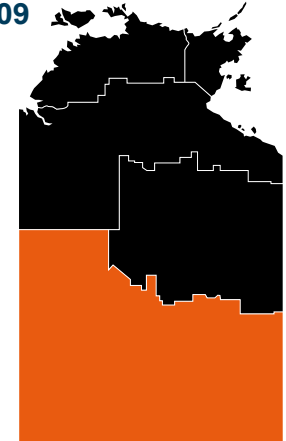


Future Priorities: Katherine Region 2009–10

- Progress Stage One of the Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct, working with Katherine Town Council, regional stakeholders and other organisations to ensure Stage One design meets their needs and that public art and sustainability are strong features of the design.
- Identify areas for improvement in the Katherine Gorge flood forecast model to better predict flood heights for the Nitmiluk Centre.

Highlights: Alice Springs Region 2008–09

- Provided planning assistance and guidance, in conjunction with the Central Land Council, for the development of an Indigenous Rainbow Valley Cultural Tour to be conducted at Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve art sites, south of Alice Springs.
- Continued a collaborative study to establish the impact buffel grass has on the biodiversity values of the Simpson Gap in West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs, with Charles Darwin University students and the Agency’s Alice Springs Desert Park employees.
- Upgraded the Alice Springs’ Todd River Flood Forecast Model to improve the efficiency of the model’s usage.
- Developed and operated Cultural Art Tours in consultation with the Arrernte Custodians, which were conducted four times a week at the Araluen Arts Centre by an Arrernte Cultural Education Officer.
- Completion of the \$2.38 million Stage One Alice Springs Aquatic Centre upgrades, which included the paddle pool and learn to swim pool. Tendering for Stage Two developments have commenced, and includes heated indoor facilities and a 25 metre, eight lane lap pool.



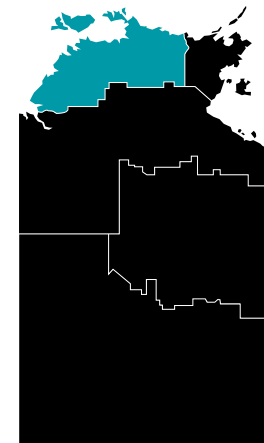
- Staged the sixth biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference *art at the heart* in October 2008 in Alice Springs, hosting 959 delegates, 192 conference presenters and 254 festival artists from diverse cultural backgrounds across Australia.
- Commenced a community engagement program with the Unmatjere community, near Alice Springs, to identify the rights to cultural material held at the Strehlow Research Centre.
- Awarded two tenders worth a total of \$1.186 million for the design and production of an extensive digital interpretation website for Stage One of the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre, near Alice Springs. Planning for the construction of the Stage Two West MacDonnell Visitor Centre also commenced in 2008–09.
- Continued planning the development of a new solar powered airconditioning system for the Araluen Arts Centre, through a jointly funded Solar Cities program between the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments.

Future Priorities: Alice Springs Region 2009–10

- Complete the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre project near Alice Springs, that includes the production of an extensive digital interpretation website and two visitor centres located at the Alice Springs Desert Park Exhibition Centre and in downtown Alice Springs. These facilities will enhance visitor experience and appreciation of the Park's world heritage natural and cultural values.
- Expand the lookout on the Ghost Gum walk at Ormiston Gorge in West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs.
- Increase public accessibility to the Museum of Central Australia and Strehlow Research Centre through new displays and exhibitions and digitisation and indexing of collections.

Highlights: Darwin Region 2008–09

- Completed the \$5.2 million Stage Two upgrade to Darwin's Leanyer Recreation Park in March 2009, including installation of three waterslides, shade structures, BMX moguls, a half-pipe and new barbecue areas; improving the recreational facilities and use experience of the facility.
- Completed the Stage One upgrades to Litchfield National Park, near Darwin, in April 2009 that included upgrades to the day use and camping areas at Wangi Falls, resulting in improved traffic flow and visitor experience.
- Successfully held the [25th Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award](#) featuring the works of 117 contemporary Indigenous artists from around Australia. This exhibition also included a virtual online gallery allowing video and audio recordings of the artists and their works to be viewed on the Agency's website.
- Maintained high levels (80 –100 per cent) of Indigenous employment at Window on the Wetlands, which is in keeping with the wishes of the Traditional Owners of the land the Limilngan-Wulna people.
- Completed a major series of biodiversity monitoring at Kakadu National Park, with analysis of trends indicating an ongoing major decline of native mammals.
- Obtained \$300 000 in external funding over two years from the National Water Commission to commence the first Water Allocation Plan in collaboration with Traditional Owners on the Tiwi Islands. This is expected to provide a blue print for future planning on Indigenous owned land where water resource based development is desirable.



- Facilitated and supported the ongoing West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement project which delivered 152 000 tonnes of carbon emissions abatement. This world first project, funded by Conoco Phillips, uses fire management by Traditional Owners to reduce savanna burning greenhouse emissions.
- Completed an acid sulphate soil survey and report for the Darwin Region that provides an inventory on acid sulphate soils and a risk assessment associated with their disturbance for use in development evaluations.
- Commenced Water Allocation Plans for Mataranka, Daly and the Darwin Rural area which will result in better planning and allocation of available water resources to users in the areas. These plans will be open for community consultation once drafted.
- Progressed the establishment of a comprehensive air quality monitoring system for Darwin by tendering for the supply of two self-contained air quality monitoring stations. One will be located at the Bureau of Meteorology site in Winnellie, with a second suitable location still to be determined. The stations are expected to be operational by the end of 2009.

Future Priorities: Darwin Region 2009–10

- Commence planning and future development of the \$33 million Palmerston International Sports Complex that includes facilities for Australian Football League, Rugby League, Football (Soccer) and Tennis.
- Development and implementation of a strategic program to manage infestations of bellyache bush in the Upper Daly and gamba grass in the Coomalie region, to reduce the environmental, social and economic impacts of these weeds.
- Work with Tourism NT and the Darwin Military Museum developers/designers to develop a World War II heritage park for Darwin and surrounding region.
- Design and complete Stage Two of upgrades to Litchfield National Park, south of Darwin, which includes works at the Cascades, Florence Falls and Buley Rockhole, to offer alternative recreation opportunities and improve the visitor experience.
- Design the Visitor Services Centre at the Wangi Falls site in Litchfield National Park, south of Darwin, to be constructed in 2010–11.
- Design and implement a trial water quality monitoring and maintenance program for the waterhole in Howard Springs Nature Park, near Darwin.
- Generate a soil landscape map of the Coomalie region, which includes Batchelor, Manton Dam and Adelaide River, to support sustainable land use, conservation and economic development of the region.
- Upgrade existing monitoring sites in the Daly River, McArthur River, and upper and lower Adelaide River catchments to deliver improvements to the Territory's flood monitoring systems.

Corporate Governance



Snapshot of Corporate Governance

- The Executive Leadership Group (ELG) is the Agency's principal planning and decision making body and met twelve times during 2008–09 in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs.
- The Agency finalised its Strategic Objectives 2009–16 and 4 Year Priorities plan, following the inclusion of the Sport and Recreation Output Group and Libraries Output in the Agency's structure.
- In 2008–09 the Executive Leadership Group (ELG) facilitated six Culture Sensing Workshops with employees in Alice Springs, Darwin and Katherine, designed to obtain information and feedback about the current culture and beliefs within the Agency.
- A trial of the Performance Enhancement System (PES) Agreement was rolled-out to selected staff with feedback from those who participated implemented into the PES Agreement system before the commencement of its implementation across the Agency. At 30 June 2009 the Agency's ELG, Human Resources staff and 115 Directors and Senior Managers have completed the PES Agreement training program.
- Two Leadership Development Programs were delivered, with 30 Directors and Senior Managers in the Agency participating.
- The Agency continued its Senior Manager Forum workshops in 2008–09, with more than 60 employees attending the five forums held throughout the year.
- The Agency's Code of Conduct training program was held in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs with a total of 140 employees participating in 2008–09.
- The Agency's Audit Committee, established in 2006–07, met three times in 2008–09 on 16 December 2008, 19 February and 28 May 2009.
- A series of risk assessment practices and reviews of Agency operations were conducted, including a review of the Agency's Cyclone Procedures and contingent liabilities.
- Four external audits were performed by the Auditor-General's Office in 2008–09.
- The Agency delivered a number of grants totalling \$31.6 million in 2008–09 which includes One-off Special Grants and a number of recurring Grants Programs
- The Agency continued to make significant efforts in its aim to be 'green', implementing a Fleet Greenhouse Policy and through the formation of the Green Group.
- The Agency had two prosecutions for the period 2008–09. One was finalised in the 2008–09 period which resulted in a conviction and is yet to be finalised in court.
- In 2008–09, the Agency responded to two new formal information requests, both related to government information, one of which was finalised and the other request is still ongoing as at 30 June 2009.
- The Northern Territory Ombudsman conducted one inquiry with the Agency during 2008–09.

Framework

Corporate governance describes the processes by which the Agency is directed, controlled and held to account for its actions. Governance encompasses frameworks of authority, accountability, stewardship, leadership, direction and control exercised throughout the Agency.

Key elements of this framework are the Agency's:

- Management Environment (in terms of how decisions are made, communicated and implemented);
- Leadership and Direction;
- Accountability Frameworks;
- Identification and Management of Risk;
- Legislative Environment; and
- Performance Reporting.

Significant guidance regarding appropriate public sector governance framework is provided by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) in its publications Public Sector Governance 2003 (Volumes 1 and 2). In developing its governance framework the Agency has adopted the principles advocated by the ANAO – Leadership, Accountability, Integrity, Transparency, Efficiency and Stewardship.

The ANAO models emphasis the importance of the relationships between the elements of good governance, stating that without leadership, ethical conduct and a performance culture there would be no governance foundation to build on.

During 2008–09 the Agency continued its drive to build leadership capability; recognising the significant impact leadership behaviours and actions have on organisational performance.

Principles of Agency Governance

Leadership

Refers to the tone at the top and is critical to achieving a commitment to good governance across the Agency.

Accountability

Is the process whereby the Agency and its employees are responsible for their decisions and actions and submit themselves to appropriate external scrutiny.

Integrity

Relates to straightforward dealing and completeness. It is based upon honesty and objectivity and high standards of propriety and probity in the stewardship of public funds and resources and management of the Agency's affairs. It is dependent on the effectiveness of the control framework, influenced by legislation and ultimately determined by the personal standards and professionalism of the individuals within the organisation.

Transparency

Is required to ensure stakeholders, including the Legislative Assembly and the community, have confidence in the decision making processes and actions of the Agency, in the management of its activities, and its employees.

Efficiency

The best use of resources in order to further the outputs and outcomes of the Agency with a commitment to evidence-based strategies for improvement.

Stewardship

Agency employees are stewards of the powers and resources of the Territory allocated to the Agency to manage. It is important that the Agency is governed so that its capacity to service government and the community is maintained and improved.

Management Environment

Decision Making

The Executive Leadership Group (ELG) is the Agency's principal planning and decision making body on governance matters. The Chief Executive has the primary responsibility for providing strategic leadership and systems development for the Agency.

As at 30 June 2009, the ELG comprised the Chief Executive, six Executive Directors and three Directors. Its composition includes representatives from all Output Groups of the Agency, the Government Business Division along with Corporate Support Service units from Human Resources and Legal Services, Finance and Governance and Communications and Media. Other Agency officers attend ELG meetings as required to make presentations to the group.

The ELG met twelve times during 2008–09 in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs. This is an increase of three meetings from the previous year. During the year the ELG continued to refine meeting and planning processes, including the introduction of alternating business and strategic meetings. The introduction of a formal strategic meeting structure provides the opportunity to focus on the Agency's 4 Year Priorities plan and other strategic issues it faces.

Jim Grant – Chief Executive



Jim was appointed Chief Executive of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport in 2008. Jim previously held the position of Executive Director Museums, Galleries and Biological Parks in the Agency. He has a background in environmental education, commercial wildlife tourism development, interpretation, and innovative delivery of education for sustainable development. Jim has worked for Melbourne Zoo, Earth Sanctuaries in South Australia and the Gould League/Gould Group. His skills are in organisational culture change and developing visitor experiences that deliver commercial, social and educational outcomes.

Dr Diana Leeder – Executive Director – Natural Resources



Prior to joining the Northern Territory Government in 2003, Diana worked in local government, firstly in New South Wales regional library services until 1985 and then in Community Services with the Darwin City Council. Diana's academic background is in German language and literature but she also has formal qualifications in librarianship and urban and regional planning. She is a Graduate Member of the Planning Institute of Australia, an associate of the Australia Library and Information Association and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Diana is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Darwin Entertainment Centre.

Gae Mackay – Executive Director – Collections, Biodiversity and Biological Parks



Gae has held leadership and management positions in Western Australia and the Northern Territory for the past ten years. Gae’s career has focused on recreation, conservation and education with the environment forming a common thread.

Gae joined the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport in January 2008 and has degrees in education (environmental studies), applied science (parks, wildlife and recreation) and a Master of Management.

Graham Phelps – Executive Director - Parks and Wildlife



Graham has worked in conservation for 21 years, initially as a wildlife veterinarian and later as curator and manager of the Alice Springs Desert Park for nine years from 1996.

Graham’s work at the Alice Springs Desert Park, linking environmental education and tourism with Indigenous employment and development, led him to Groote Eylandt where he was the Northern Territory Government’s Regional Coordinator for two years. He commenced his current position in November 2006.

Lyn Allen – Executive Director - Environment, Heritage and the Arts



Lyn has held this position since August 2004. Lyn has wide experience working at the Territory, national and international levels. Before returning to the Northern Territory in 2004, Lyn was Director Environment and Resource Policy in the Queensland Government Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Lyn has also worked for a number of Territory organisations including the Menzies School of Health Research, Katherine Regional Legal Aid Service, Greening Australia Northern Territory (NT) and the Environment Centre NT. Lyn has an Honours degree in Environmental Studies, a Masters of Business Administration, and is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Steve Rossingh – Executive Director – Sport and Recreation



Steve commenced as Executive Director, Sport and Recreation in January 2007. Prior to this he was Executive Director, Corporate Services at the former Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport. Steve was previously General Manager of a national law firm for five years and Corporate Services Director at the Northern Land Council.

Prior to moving to the Northern Territory in 1997, Steve held senior management positions with the Australian Taxation Office in Perth and with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission in Kununurra, Western Australia. He has extensive experience in financial management, human resource management, corporate governance and Information Technology management. Steve is a Certified Practising Accountant, has a Bachelor of Business and holds a Master of Business Administration, with a focus on human resource management.

Susan Kirkman – Executive Director – Finance and Governance



Susan commenced with the Agency as Chief Financial Officer in February 2007 and undertook the role of Executive Director Finance and Governance in August 2008. Susan is responsible for Financial Services, Asset Management, Information Communications Technology and Governance within the Agency.

Susan has a broad range of experience in Financial Management in the public and private sectors over the past 20 years both in Australia and overseas.

Susan graduated with a Bachelor of Business from the Northern Territory University and has been a Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) since 1996. She is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

James Pratt – Director – Communications and Media



James joined the Northern Territory Government in 2003 and has worked in various Marketing and Communications' Units across government, including Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment and the Office of Sport and Recreation. James has been in this role since 2005.

James has a Bachelor of Communications (Journalism and Public Relations) from Griffith University Gold Coast, and a Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management from Curtin University. He worked as a journalist in the Riverina area of New South Wales, before returning to the Territory in 2003.

Sandra Butcher – Director Human Resources and Legal Services



Sandra has wide corporate experience, particularly in managing change. She has worked in a number of Northern Territory Public Sector agencies, including the Department of Health and Community Services, the Northern Territory Employment and Training Authority, the Department of Corporate and Information Services, and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment. Sandra joined the Department in October 2005. Sandra has business qualifications and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Anna Malgorzewicz – Director – Museums and Galleries of the Northern Territory



Anna has a background in migration history and cultural diversity and has worked in the museum and gallery sector for over 25 years. Anna has been a foundation team member of four important cultural initiatives, including as a curator at the Migration Museum and Museum Victoria, Director at the Canberra City Museum and Gallery (formerly Canberra Cultural Centre) and the Director of the Immigration Museum, Melbourne. Anna is currently the Director of Museums and Arts Galleries of the Northern Territory.

ELG Sub-committees

The Agency has two sub-committees which independently report to the Executive Leadership Group (ELG) to support the Agency's activities and provide an increased focus on their respective purposes. Each Committee has a member from the ELG who act as a champion, which also ensures a direct link between the ELG and the Committee as part of the Agency's governance framework.

Occupational Health and Safety Committee

Following the introduction of the *Workplace Health and Safety Act* the Agency's focus during 2008–09 was establishing its Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Framework and a draft Management Plan. The Framework received in-principle endorsement from the Community and Public Sector Union and NT WorkSafe in early 2009.

A key part of the Framework included the introduction of a whole of Agency, OHS Steering Committee. The Committee is comprised of members drawn from each Divisional OHS Committee, as well as six members appointed by the Chief Executive. Its purpose is to advise the Chief Executive, through the ELG on occupational health and safety issues for employees and clients.

Under the Framework the Divisional OHS Committees consist of nominated staff members and assist with staff consultations and the work of the Agency OHS Steering Committee. The Framework is designed to ensure a coordinated and consultative approach to OHS across the Agency.

The priority for 2009–10 is to fully implement the Framework and progress the draft Management Plan.

Indigenous Reference Group

The Indigenous Reference Group was established in early 2008 to promote the Agency's Indigenous Employment and Career Development Action Plan. The Group currently has seven members drawn from self nominated staff, including a representative from both the Human Resources and Learning and Development Sections. The Group met twice in 2008–09 and focussed on issues relating to recruitment and retention, mentoring and coaching, cross-cultural training and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander reporting by staff.

In response to some of the matters considered by the Group, the Agency held a 'My Details' week in May 2009 during which all staff were encouraged to update their personal details, including their equal employment opportunity information. This resulted in a slight increase of staff identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (from 69 to 76 people).

A cross-cultural training program delivered in Darwin and Katherine was also expanded to incorporate additional information and proposed changes to some recruitment practices, for example interviewing apprentices.

A priority for 2009–10 will be a review of the Group and its current strategies. This will ensure a continuing alignment to the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment's proposed Indigenous Employment and Career Development Strategy, which outlines the Indigenous Employment Policy for the Northern Territory Public Sector.

The Group will be a driving force behind the Agency achieving its 4 Year Priority of achieving 14 per cent Indigenous employment, as a total percentage of Agency employees.

Members of the Indigenous Reference Group in 2008–09 include:

- Teresa Atie
- Lara Hammond
- Kerri Watkins
- Shael Martin
- Dave Miller
- Prue Adamson
- Doug Martin

Agency Culture

For governance arrangements to be effective an organisation must have a culture that supports strong governance.

In 2008–09 the Executive Leadership Group (ELG) facilitated six Culture Sensing Workshops with employees in Alice Springs, Darwin and Katherine. The annual workshops are designed to obtain information and feedback about the current culture and beliefs within the Agency for the purpose of making more informed decisions and continued development of Agency systems, symbols and leadership behaviour.

The workshops were facilitated by the Chief Executive with two alternating members of the ELG co-facilitating. Approximately 75 employees participated this year, representing a range of ages, roles and employment streams, experience and work programs. The findings from the workshops were presented by the Chief Executive at the May 2009 Senior Managers' Forum. This year's results showed that employees work well within their roles and teams, and that feedback, collaboration and communication between Divisions requires ongoing attention.

The ELG has confirmed that the workshops will be held again in 2009–10, with the addition of an online survey for those employees who are unable to attend the workshops due to various reasons, including remote locality.

Leadership Development Program

The Agency continued the implementation of its Leadership Development Program, the third year the program has been conducted. The program is designed to support senior staff in developing leadership skills and enhance their ability to utilise the capability and creativity of their staff.

The program originally commenced as the ELG recognised that leaders through their behaviour and action, have a fundamental impact on culture. The ELG recognised that ultimately it is the acts or omissions of the people charged with leadership that determines whether governance objectives are achieved.

This year's Leadership Development Program was held in August 2008 and February 2009 with 30 Directors and Senior Managers participating. The program was a three and a half day residential program delivered by the Chief Executive and ELG members, with support from a management advisor. The program focused on introducing and teaching through practice, the Agency Team Work and Task Assignment models, as well as building a shared understanding of communication concepts, organisational culture and accountability and authority.

Participants are given the opportunity to directly contribute to the re-shaping of the systems and structures which underpin the functioning of the Agency. This is achieved through the formation of Syndicate Groups who are assigned a Syndicate Task involving the examination of an issue or challenge facing the Agency. In 2008–09 the Syndicate Tasks focussed on issues such as:

- A collaborative model for sharing and communicating the results of Agency research;
- Improving the involvement of community and stakeholders in Agency work;
- Facilitating government support;
- Outlining steps needed to create sustained improvement in the quality and effectiveness of formal advice to government;
- Developing involved, healthy and creative communities; and
- Increasing community involvement through embedded Indigenous employment.

The ELG is committed to continuing the development of the Agency's leadership capability, with another program scheduled for September 2009. Since its inception, more than 74 employees have completed the program.

Senior Managers' Forum

During 2008–09 five Senior Managers' Forums were held. Each forum is led by the Chief Executive and attended by approximately 60 senior staff. The forums continue to develop leadership capacity through focussing on the Agency's strategies and priority business areas. Each forum has a number of sessions with key speakers external to the Agency addressing a broad range of topics.

This year's topics included the introduction and requirements of the new *Northern Territory Work Health and Safety* and *Working with Children Acts*, recruitment within the Northern Territory Government, Government and Ministers' priorities, and Eco-efficiency. Senior Managers also present sessions on major or new work program initiatives which provides an opportunity to share their achievements and plans with the rest of the organisation. This results in a shared understanding and stronger linkages being forged between the Agency's business units.

Each forum continues to include presentations by Syndicate Groups from the Agency's Leadership Development Program. The groups present and report on their Syndicate Task assigned at the Leadership Development Program which includes a focus on solutions to identified Agency issues, and provides an opportunity for an open Senior Managers discussion on the issue.

Performance Enhancement System

An effective feedback system for managers and employees within the Agency was identified as a critical need through the Culture Sensing Workshops in previous years. In 2007–08 a pilot Performance Enhancement System (PES) was developed to provide managers and employees with the tools and training to have formal and constructive feedback sessions. The PES identifies the attitudes and behaviours needed by each employee to achieve their agreed key business deliverables.

The principles underpinning the PES are:

- Valuing regular communication between all parties in relation to discussing individual performance (workplace tasks and behaviours);
- Encouraging clear communication and trust; and
- Maximising individual potential through the support of individual development growth and work satisfaction.

During 2008–09 a trial rollout of the PES occurred to selected employees with feedback from those who participated implemented into the System before the commencement of its implementation across the Agency.

At 30 June 2009 the Agency's ELG, Human Resources staff and 115 Directors and Senior Managers have completed the PES training program, which comprises two parts. The first introduces the PES as a behaviour based model and includes its principles and objectives, developing role statements, timelines and templates. The second session builds skills for enhancing performance and 'dealing with the tough stuff'.

The priority for 2009–10 is to implement the PES across the whole Agency and planning has commenced which includes, as a first step, providing training sessions to all staff. The development of a PES Agreement is required to be undertaken by all employees with their direct manager or supervisor.

Accountability and Authority

The Executive Leadership Group (ELG) recognises that clear accountabilities and authorities are crucial to effective governance. The importance of accountability and authority is emphasised in the Agency's Leadership Development Program, with the Chief Executive delivering a session focusing on building a shared understanding across the Agency of accountability and authenticity. This session details what it is reasonable to hold people accountable for, and the types of accountabilities that exist.

Business Planning

4 Year Priorities

The Chief Executive held a number of discussions with the Agency's Ministers responsible for the portfolios of Parks and Wildlife, Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage, Arts and Museums and Sport and Recreation in September 2008. These discussions were to inform and assist the development of the Agency's 4 Year Priorities plan by ensuring whole of government approaches and Government's election commitments were included.

In addition to the ELG business and strategic meeting program, the ELG held a planning meeting in June 2009 to collectively review and refine Divisional strategic business plans and to ensure their alignment to the Agency's 4 Year Priorities plan.

The 4 Year Priorities plan and the status of its actions are outlined in the Overview of this Annual Report on [page 12](#).

Strategic Objectives 2009–16

The addition of the Sport and Recreation Output Group and the Output of Libraries to the Agency following the Northern Territory General Election in August 2008, required the creation of new Strategic Objectives to ensure these new functions were incorporated. This included the creation of a new vision, purpose and strategic objectives for the Agency.

The June 2009 ELG planning meeting saw discussions occur on the redrafting of the Agency's Strategic Objectives to incorporate these new functions. The ELG agreed on the re-aligned Strategic Objectives and endorsed the dissemination of them to the Agency in 2009–10.

The Strategic Objectives 2009–16 are outlined on [page 7](#) of this Annual Report.

Divisions and Business Units

All divisions and business units within the Agency undertake regular business planning to ensure the alignment of their plans to the Agency's 4 Year Priorities plan, which incorporates government priorities, initiatives and outcomes, and that they are placed to meet their core business commitments.

Risk Management and Audit Practices

The establishment of effective corporate services capacity, particularly governance and financial structures, is fundamental to an organisation’s ability to develop and institute an effective risk management framework.

The Agency’s Corporate Governance Unit has responsibility for instilling governance, risk management and internal audit frameworks and processes across the Agency. The Northern Territory Government self insures its insurable risks. See the appendix of [page 212](#) for a list of the Agency’s Insurable Risks.

Internal audit and risk management activities play critical roles in providing assurance to the Chief Executive, and stakeholders in relation to the Agency’s compliance and performance against its legislative obligations and assurance in relation to the Agency achieving its strategic objectives. Accordingly, both risk management and audits are to be key elements of the Agency’s governance framework.

Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Agency’s Audit and Risk Management Committee provides independent advice and assistance to the Chief Executive on the effectiveness of the Agency’s audit, risk management and internal controls processes. This assists the Chief Executive to achieve his external accountability (including financial reporting) and legislative compliance responsibilities.

The Committee met three times in 2008–09 on 16 December 2008, 19 February and 28 May 2009. In addition the Chairperson met with the Chief Executive on 14 August 2008.

Committee Role	Committee Members	No. Attended	Maximum Possible
Chairperson	Iain Summers – Governance Consultant and past Auditor-General for the Northern Territory (1995–2002)	3	3
Member	Catherine Wauchope – Assistant Under Treasurer Northern Territory Treasury	3	3
Member	Lyn Allen – Agency’s Executive Leadership Group	3	3
Member	Dr Diana Leeder – Agency’s Executive Leadership Group	3	3

Key outcomes from the Agency’s Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings for 2008–09 included:

- Redrafting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee’s Terms of Reference;
- Developing the Agency’s Internal Audit Charter which sets out the purpose of conducting both performance and compliance audits, who is responsible, how and the standards to which audits will be conducted and reporting, review and evaluation of the Agency’s internal audit function;
- Introduction of a Summary of Key Issues report to the Chief Executive following each Committee meeting;

- Refinement of the Agency's Risk Register;
- Oversight and review of the Agency's strategic business risk assessment process, and reports;
- Review and follow-up of management's implementation of audit recommendations, specifically progress towards meeting the Northern Territory Auditor-General's Agency report on *Compliance Audit and Internal Audit Function* reviews;
- Advised the Chief Executive that as the Agency's risk assessment process has not yet identified topics for inclusion in an internal audit plan, there were no internal audits commissioned in the year. Accordingly, the Agency could not demonstrate an adequate internal capacity in 2008–09 for the purpose of this Annula Report's Transmittal Letter; and
- Advised the Chief Executive that the Committee were satisfied with management's responses to and progress in, implementing external audit recommendation, following a number of external audits in during 2008–09. This included four audits by the Northern Territory Auditor-General on the Agency (refer to [page 210](#) in the appendix).

Audits

During 2008–09 a series of audits and reviews were conducted in the Agency. These audits and reviews were conducted through a combination of external auditors, the Northern Territory Auditor-General and an internal review process. Please see the appendix on [page 210](#) for a list of reviews conducted by the Auditor-General in 2008–09.

External Funding Audits

The Agency receives a significant amount of external funding in the form of grants from the Australian Government and other funding providers. Some of this funding requires an audited acquittal. A list of the grants the Agency arranged to be audited by external auditors in-line with the program's grant agreement can be found in the appendix on [page 214](#).

Internal Reviews

A number of internal Agency and Output Group reviews were conducted in 2008–09 for the purpose of improving program performance. These reviews were conducted outside of the Agency's risk assessment process and accordingly fall out of the scope of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Scientific and Cultural Collections Output Group

The Museums and Galleries of the Northern Territory arranged a review to value the collections, particularly as the Territory is currently the only jurisdiction not to have valued its assets. The outcome of the review will be known in 2009–10.

Sport and Recreation Output Group

Sport and Recreation undertook three reviews during 2008–09.

The reviews were:

- A Grants Review for the purpose of identifying ways to improve the Output Group's internal grant management processes. Recommendations from the review will reduce the bureaucratic burden for applicants while shifting the focus of internal grant management to monitoring and acquittal processes to ensure accountability in usage of grant funds.
- A Venue Charges Review which considered the hire charges for the Agency's Marrara Indoor Stadium and Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex. Recommendations from the review will ensure hire charges are at commercial rates.
- An Infrastructure Assessment Report at the Agency's Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex. Recommendations from the review have assisted in prioritising maintenance and upgrade tasks for essential services, stormwater drainage systems and erosion controls.

Biological Parks Output Group

The Alice Springs Desert Park was involved in a review which consisted of a site inspection by the Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria for the purpose of the Desert Park becoming a fully accredited member institution. Accreditation was approved in July 2009.

The Northern Territory Treasury conducted a review to consider its Community Service Obligation allocation to the Territory Wildlife Park to ensure it is consistent with competitive neutrality principles. The outcome of the review is to be presented in 2009–10.

Corporate Support Services Division

The Division undertook an internal Corporate Credit Card Controls and Usage Review in April 2009. This was to test performance and to continue to support improvements to the Agency's internal controls and processes for managing corporate credit cards. The outcome of this review and implementation of the audit recommendations will continue to be monitored by the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Delegations relating to financial and procurement legislation, including the *Contracts Act* were reviewed during the year and amended to reflect Agency changes that had occurred during the year. This Agency changes involved the inclusion of the Sport and Recreation Output Group and Libraries Output into the Agency from the former Northern Territory Government Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport.

Delegations provide the formal mechanism for the assignment of authority and responsibility to another person to exercise certain powers or functions on behalf of a delegate, for example the Chief Executive or Minister.

Risk Review and Assessment

In 2008–09 targeted reviews were undertaken on the Agency's Cyclone Procedures and contingent liabilities. These reviews resulted in improved processes and streamlined procedures for both areas. As part of the Agency's governance framework and commitment to safe work practices in late June 2009 a series of information pages were developed for staff and managers on influenza pandemics, with particular focus on the H1N1 influenza strain. These pages will be available to staff and managers in early 2009–10 through the Agency's Online Service Centre.

The Executive Leadership Group (ELG) undertook an Agency wide strategic business risk assessment on the 4 Year Priorities plan in December 2008. Following this, each Division's Executive Director and senior management team undertook a strategic business risk assessment between March and May 2009 with the subsequent risk management plans being incorporated into their business plans. These sessions were facilitated by the Northern Territory Government's Department of the Chief Minister's Policy Implementation Branch, using its proprietary *Risk Mat* methodology.

The risks identified during these sessions have been used to develop and populate the Agency's Risk Register which the Audit and Risk Management Committee will monitor.

A priority for early 2009–10 is the development and implementation of a risk based strategic three year internal audit plan, finalisation of the year's annual internal audit plan as well as implementation of the Agency's formal risk management framework.

Grant Acquittals

The Agency is responsible for administering a number of grants totalling \$31.6 million in 2008–09 which includes one-off Special Purpose Grants and a number of recurring Grants Programs listed on [page 233](#) in the Appendix.

All grants, regardless of type, are distributed under a grant agreement which includes the grant purpose and the reporting process for confirming that the objective of the grant has been achieved.

In addition to the Grants Programs identified on [page 233](#), in 2008–09 the Agency administered a number of one-off Special Purpose Grants which are reported on [page 214](#) (showing grants exceeding \$20 000).

Infrastructure Management

Infrastructure management is vital in ensuring the Agency's assets are developed and maintained to meet government's priorities and business needs. Infrastructure management covers all aspects of asset management including capital works, minor new works and repairs and maintenance activities.

The Agency's outcomes have a strong reliance on asset management, in providing protection of and public use or access to the Territory's natural and cultural assets. This extends from Parks and Reserves visitor infrastructure such as walkways, car parks, shelters, park signage and water treatment areas to permanent collection houses in the Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, Northern Territory Archives, Northern Territory Library, and Herbarium. The integration of the Sport and Recreation Output Group into the Agency has also seen sporting infrastructure such as Marrara Indoor Stadium incorporated into infrastructure assets.

The Agency was successful in securing external funding from the Australian Government through a competitive bidding process for two major infrastructure projects during the 2008–09 financial year. These projects include upgrades to the Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex Drag Strip (\$3 million) and for 50 per cent of the project value for replacement of the Alice Springs Cultural Centre's airconditioning system with a solar-powered alternative (estimated \$4.5 million).

Repairs and Maintenance to Agency Infrastructure carried out in 2008–09 include:

- Repairs and resealing of spalling concrete to Vestey's Tank - Bullocky Point, Darwin;
- Stonemasonry repairs - Barrow Creek Telegraph Station;
- Repairs and maintenance - Stella Maris Hostel, Darwin;
- Replacement of roof - Territory Craft Building, Araluen Cultural Precinct, Alice Springs;

- External painting of building - Frogs Hollow, Darwin;
- Remedial work to athletics track - Arafura Stadium Marrara, Darwin;
- Repairs to thermal pool board walk - Eusey National Park, near Katherine;
- Stonemasonry repairs - Glen Maggie Homestead Ryans Well;
- Repairs to electrical services - East Point Military Museum, Darwin;
- Relocation and Refurbishment of Sandfly Steam Locomotive - Old QANTAS Hangar, Darwin; and
- Repair irrigation in rainforest - George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens.

Key infrastructure outcomes for 2008–09 include the upgrade and maintenance to sites such as:

- Construction of Larapinta Trail Shelters - West MacDonnell National Park, near Alice Springs;
- Stage Two of the Leanyer Recreation Park Development, Darwin; upgrade to include waterslides and life guard towers, expansion of the skatepark, carpark, shelters, barbecues, fencing and seating areas;
- Ablution facilities and upgrade to 1st and 2nd gorge creeks, Nitmiluk National Park, near Katherine;
- Electrical Supply Upgrade - Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex, Darwin;
- Conversion of Gallery Three function area to Gallery space - Araluen Art Centre, Araluen Cultural Precinct, Alice Springs;
- Replacement of billboard signs, TIO oval - TIO Stadium, Darwin;
- Construction of a new toilet block at the Nitmiluk National Park, near Katherine.

Significant progress was made during the year on the following projects:

- Reconstruction of boardwalk and wetlands lookout at Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve, near Darwin;
- Redevelopment and upgrade of camp ground and day-use facilities at Buley Rockhole and Florence Falls, Litchfield National Park, near Darwin;
- Construction of new fuel storage infrastructure and remediation works at Black Point Coburg Peninsula, near Darwin;
- Replacing airconditioning system at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Bullocky Point, Darwin; and
- Major upgrade to drainage, sewerage and electrical works across the complex at the Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex, Darwin.

These projects are expected to be completed in 2009–10 financial year.

Infrastructure Challenges in 2008–09

The remote locality of the Agency's infrastructure and assets continues to pose significant challenges for infrastructure management. Other factors impacting on the achievement of the Agency's infrastructure activities include climate extremes and natural disasters.

In September 2008, Alice Springs was hit by severe storms causing significant flooding damage to the Agency's infrastructure and assets which resulted in the repairs to be carried out to the roof at the Araluen Cultural Precinct, Simpsons Gap walking tracks paths, and repairs to the Larapinta Trail.

In October 2008 the Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex, Darwin, required electrical repairs due to damages resulting from lightning strike.

Infrastructure Priorities for 2009–10

The Agency works in association with the Northern Territory Government's Department of Planning and Infrastructure, to achieve its long-term objectives which are detailed in the Agency's 10 year infrastructure plan.

Infrastructure priorities for 2009–10 include:

- Develop building infrastructure to house interactive media and to provide a point of contact for distribution of visitor information as part of Stage Two Developments for the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre and facilities at the Alice Springs Desert Park;
- Upgrade electrical distribution to visitor nodes including the campground and visitor centre at Nitmiluk National Park, near Katherine;
- Establish areas of conservation significance to link National Parks throughout the Northern Territory via the [Territory Eco-link](#) initiative;
- Replace the airconditioning system at the Araluen Cultural Precinct, Alice Springs, with 50 per cent of total project value to be funded by the Australian Government;
- Develop a new Water Park in Palmerston incorporating a free form swimming area, soft fall water area, barbecues and lawns, beach volleyball courts and a walking/running track;
- Upgrade the Drag Strip at Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex Darwin, with \$2.5 million funding secured from the Australian Government;
- Upgrades to drainage, sewerage and electrical infrastructure at the Speedway totalling \$750 000 and \$250 000 for upgrades to the Go Kart Track; and
- Replacement of the existing public address system at the TIO Stadium, Darwin.

Ethical and Responsible Decision Making

Employees are expected to uphold the *Northern Territory Public Sector Principles and Code of Conduct*. Policies and procedures in place to promote ethical conduct include:

- Code of Conduct for Visiting Properties in the Northern Territory
- Code of Conduct and Supervisory Practices for Commission Employees Working with Children
- Code of Conduct for the Junior Ranger Program

The Agency's Code of Conduct training program was held in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs with a total of 140 employees participating in 2008–09. The program is designed to enhance employee's knowledge of ethical business practices and to provide practical strategies for dealing with situations that arise at work. It also draws on the *Northern Territory Public Sector Principles and Code of Conduct* as the source document which sets out the conduct expected of all Northern Territory Public Sector employees and the values they are obliged to uphold.

In addition the Agency has a Complaints Handling Policy which is supported by procedures, a flowchart and a sample complaints form. The framework provides a best practice model for handling complaints from Agency clients in recognition that effective complaint handling is a key component of good customer service.

Greener Government

The Agency has continued to make progress in reducing its carbon emissions and energy usage in 2008–09. This has been achieved by reducing and improving resource consumption and developing better environmental working practices to reduce its carbon emissions.

Eco Efficiency Audit

To provide some independence and transparency to the Agency's commitment to reducing its eco-footprint the services of environmental auditor Missing Link were engaged in 2007–08 to conduct an environmental audit to review the Agency's operations, identify new opportunities to offset carbon emissions and estimate the Agency's carbon footprint.

In 2008–09 results from the Missing Link report were collated and compiled to reveal a number of positive steps and initiatives to further help reduce the Agency's carbon footprint. The report found the Agency's carbon footprint to be 8674 Tonnes of Carbon equivalent per year.

The report recognised that the Agency was already undertaking many actions to reduce its carbon footprint and recommended a more coordinated approach to its actions and provided the following major recommendations:

- Ongoing management support and resources;
- Policy support for funding additional eco-efficiency measures;
- Modifications to the financial system for monitoring and reporting;
- Facilitating reporting of achievements;
- Re-branding the project for greater engagement across the Agency;
- Develop engagement reasons to be involved;
- Systematic and regular reporting; and
- Training through interactive materials.

The Agency began implementation of the major recommendations through its Education for Sustainability business unit, targeting behaviour change of employees to reduce the Agency's carbon footprint. The Education for Sustainability Unit is also responsible for leading the Agency's Green Group to help implement the behaviour change in the Agency to achieve the goal of reducing its carbon footprint.

The Green Group

The initial phase of implementing the recommendations from the report by Missing Link saw the establishment of the Agency's Green Group in 2008–09. This Green Group will be working to ensure involvement across the Agency to meet the goals related to reducing its carbon footprint.

The Green Group is a re-branding and expansion of the previous Green Initiatives Team, as outlined in the Agency's 2007–08 Annual Report. The Green Group is made up of representatives from across the Agency, from a range of employment streams and levels.

Members were divided into two categories, making up a Strategic Green Group and an Action Green Group, each providing different functions but both working to achieve the same goals.

The Strategic Green Group mobilised to begin developing an Agency Sustainability Strategic Plan which is to cover eco-efficiency in Agency offices, vehicle fleet, infrastructure and procurement. The Action Green Group worked with Agency divisions to suggest ways to pilot local action in their work areas.

These members are encouraged to motivate others in the workplace to change their daily behaviours towards a more sustainable practice and ensure that information about the greening of the Agency is being communicated to all areas.

The Action Green Group has identified and begun to implement the following new initiatives in 2008–09:

- Use of and provided instructions for 'Think before you print' email signatures;
- Staff to request not to receive any paper pay slips and use the Agency's online facility to access this information;
- Reminder to staff, and provide instructions, on how to activate the sleep function on computers;
- Encouraged the use of video conferencing between the Agency's facilities in Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs;
- Purchase environmentally friendly office products ie recycled paper and toilet paper;
- Registered the Agency and participated in Earth Hour on March 28 2009; and
- Registered the Agency and participated in *Ride to Work Day* 2008.

The formation of the Green Group, development of a strategic plan for eco-efficiency and commencement of behaviour change in the Agency were key achievements of the Green Group in 2008–09.

The Green Group will continue to identify opportunities for action and improvements across the Agency through the Education for Sustainability Unit in 2009–10.

Improving Systems for Eco-efficiency

The Agency is working on improving systems for the collection and recording of energy use to improve the current system for energy data collection which can result in inaccuracies. Due to the difficult nature of collecting data, such as recording diesel usage for government operations at remote ranger stations, a pilot program has been set-up in an effort to combat these inaccuracies.

The pilot program aims to measure greenhouse gas emissions and energy use at six selected sites across the Territory using a tracking tool.

The sites initial sites being tested include;

- Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory;
- George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens;
- Herbarium;
- Alice Springs Desert Park;
- Window on the Wetlands; and
- Territory Wildlife Park.

The tracking tool provides a way for Agency employees to enter billing data on power and water usage into a database via an online system. This data can then be converted to reflect equivalent greenhouse gas emissions used. The tool will enable building managers to track and report energy use in their work areas and will assist in the communication of Agency improvements to the wider public.

Reducing Energy Usage

Energy reduction is an Agency priority and it currently reports on energy use at 66 Agency sites across the Northern Territory in accordance with the Northern Territory Government's [Energy Smart Buildings Policy](#). Energy consumption during this reporting year decreased at 37 sites and increased at 21 sites.

Accurate data collection and recording is difficult for some of the Agency's infrastructure due to the remote nature of many sites, such as remote ranger stations which rely upon diesel generation. As a result, some of the sites recording an increase in energy consumption may be attributed to erroneous data collection and recording.

There are five sites which currently do not have energy data.

Other energy reduction projects were undertaken during the year and include upgrades to the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory by;

- Replacing the airconditioning in the Flinders and Link Gallery at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory in Darwin to a more efficient system helping to reduce energy consumption and lower carbon emissions; and
- Implementing sensor lighting throughout the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's main museum building in Darwin. This includes all office areas, corridor's and back of house work areas to turn on lights only when necessary helping save on energy use for times when lights are not needed or in low access areas.

Operational Policy Changes

In considering the environmental impact of the Agency's operations two substantial policy changes were made in the areas of procurement and its vehicle fleet:

Vehicle Fleet

In 2008–09 the Agency implemented a Fleet Greenhouse Policy which sets out an Agency Fleet minimum greenhouse emission standard of 5.5, as determined by the Australian Government, for passenger vehicles and 3.5 for light commercial vehicles. The greenhouse emission standard is aligned to the emission targets specified in the Northern Territory Government Green Fleet Strategy which is expected to be implemented in 2009–10.

The Agency's Fleet Greenhouse Policy is not only being used for Northern Territory Government plated vehicles but for privately plated vehicles as used by Executive level employees.

Executive Leadership Group (ELG) members within the Agency have committed to leading by way of example to reduce carbon emissions by reducing the engine size of their vehicles. All ELG members' vehicles were changed to 4 cylinders or hybrid vehicles when they required renewal in 2008–09.

As a result of the Agency's Fleet Greenhouse Policy the following changes have taken place;

- Increased the amount of hybrid vehicles by 4 to a total of 9;
- Six cylinder and above vehicles remained the same in 2008–09 with a total 140; and
- Agency vehicle holdings increased by 22 to a total 273.

Due to the transfer into the Agency the Output Group of Sport and Recreation and the Libraries Output, an additional 17 vehicles were consequently added to the Agency's fleet.

The Fleet was further expanded to provide new resources for Bushfires Northern Territory to support volunteer fire fighters providing for new vehicles for training (1), volunteer support (1) and fire fighting (2) as approved by the Bushfires Council of the Northern Territory.

Due to the varied and ranging duties undertaken by various staff across the Agency a comprehensive fleet is required for staff to conduct field work and activities across various terrains in remote areas of the Northern Territory.

In order to perform work duties in a safe and efficient manner, the use of 4WD vehicles that have the capacity to carry and tow heavy loads through various terrains are required, as standard hybrid and small four cylinder vehicles are not suited to this type of work.

A majority of the Agency's Fleet that are six cylinders and above and are specifically fitted out to include hydro drilling, mobile fire fighting, tow boats, park ranger vehicles with capacity to transport quad bikes and water storage units, and wildlife management vehicles.

A complete review of the Agency's fleet is proposed in 2009–10, with new vehicle technology providing options that both meet field work and bush driving requirements and also provide better carbon outputs than the current fleet mix.

Green Priorities for 2009–10

- The Agency will continue to change employees' behaviours and reduce Greenhouse gas emissions through the efforts of the Green Group and the Education for Sustainability Unit, and identify opportunities for action and improvements.
- Continue support of the Government's [Energy Smart Buildings Policy](#) by undertaking new projects during 2009–10 to reduce its energy consumption that include:
 - Defaulting all Agency computers to double sided and black and white printing;
 - Switching to 100 per cent recycled paper (approximately 85 per cent of the Agency already uses 100 per cent recycled paper);
 - Activating the Energy Star mode on computer systems;
 - Installing paper recycling bins in all work areas with staff encouraged to use them;
 - Additional recycling bins in kitchens for plastics and other recyclable items;
 - Decrease in airconditioning use through increases to the thermostatic temperature;
 - Installation of occupancy sensors in suitable areas and introducing timers on lights through infrastructure projects; and
 - A reduction in printing and copying, utilising Intra/Internet to publish large documents.

- Seek funding in 2009–10 from the Northern Territory Government's [Energy Efficiency Program](#) (GEEP). This program provides funding of \$6 million over three years for projects that will reduce the energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of the highest energy using Northern Territory Government agencies.

The following projects are being investigated as potential projects to fund under the GEEP:

- Installation of meters at all remote ranger stations to assist with the collection of data to reporting and monitoring;
- Lighting upgrade at the Alice Springs Desert Park using light-emitting diodes commonly known as LED lighting; and
- Introduce a carbon offset policy requiring Agency staff to select the carbon offset option when travelling.
- Implement an energy efficiency lighting trial at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory for the Cyclone Tracey exhibit. This will involve removing existing lighting and replacing it with a more energy efficient lighting without compromising the quality and volume of lighting necessary for the display. This project is funded through the Northern Territory Government's [Energy Efficiency Program](#) (GEEP).

Governing Legislation

The Agency is responsible for administering 44 pieces of legislation, with 23 Acts and 21 pieces of subordinate legislation, on behalf of the Ministers for Arts and Museums, Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage, Parks and Wildlife, and Sport and Recreation.

This legislation provides an overriding direction for many functions that the Agency performs and is the foundation to a number of its Outputs.

The Agency has developed a program of review aimed at ensuring its legislation remains relevant to its functions and incorporates best practice in the areas it administers. The Agency also has a statutory responsibility for certain authorities and bodies as listed in the Appendix on [page 236](#).

Legal Proceedings

The Agency had two prosecutions instigated under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* for the period 2008–09. One of these proceedings was finalised in the 2008–09 period, which resulted in a conviction and a \$560 fine. The other proceeding is yet to be finalised in court.

Table 1: New legal proceedings in 2008–09

Act	Section of Act for Alleged Breach	Charge	Result	Total Penalty	Status as at 30 June 2009
<i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act</i>	Section 66 (2)	Unauthorised Possession of Protected Wildlife	Conviction recorded and fined	\$560	Case closed
<i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act</i>	Section 66 (1)	Unauthorised taking of Protected Wildlife	N/A	N/A	Adjourned for hearing

Access to Information

Under section 11 of the *Information Act* the Agency is required to annually prepare a report detailing:

- Its structure and functions;
- The kinds of government information it usually holds;
- Its procedures for providing access under Part 3 (Access and Correction Rights) to government information it holds; and
- Its procedures for correcting under Part 3 personal information it holds.

Accessing Information

The Agency has policies and procedures to enable people to access information and to request corrections to personal information. The policies and procedures are available at www.nt.gov.au/nreta/foi/

Applications must be in writing and identify the name of the applicant; provide sufficient details to identify the information sought or the information to be corrected; specify an address to which correspondence regarding the application may be sent and where applicable, and include the application fee of \$30.

Applications can be lodged via post, facsimile or email.

Manager HR and Legal Services
PO Box 496, Palmerston NT 0831
08 8999 4723 (fax)
foi.nreta@nt.gov.au

Applications from remote centres may be lodged at local police stations.

Request for Access to Information in 2008–09

The Agency had one outstanding information request from the period 2007–08 which was withdrawn in the period 2008–09.

In 2008–09, the Agency responded to two new formal information requests.

Both requests related to government information, one of which was finalised in the period 2008–09. The other request is yet to be completed and is still ongoing as at 30 June 2009.

Information Act Requests	2008–09	2007–08	2006–07
Applications carried over from previous year	1	0	1
Applications to access personal information	0	0	0
Applications to access government information	2	1	2
Requests withdrawn	1	0	1
Responses completed within 30 day period	0	0	2
Responses completed exceeding 30 day period	1	0	0
Applications on hand as at 30 June	1	1	0

Types of Government Information Held by the Agency

The Agency's Information Management Strategy centres on ensuring compliance with Part 9 of the *Information Act* Activities that take place within the Strategic Records Unit are in-line with advice and standards provided by the Northern Territory Archives Service under Part 9 of the Act. The Agency is developing processes and procedures to ensure types of records are captured accurately. A comprehensive list of the Agency's publications is available on the Internet.

Ombudsmen Inquiries

The Agency received no enquiries by the Northern Territory Ombudsman during 2008–09.

There was one enquiry outstanding from 2007–08 in relation to the outcome of the provision of grants by the Key Arts Organisation assessment panel. The issue was reviewed resulting in recommendations by the Ombudsman which have been addressed in the interim through an internal review of Theatre and Performing Arts in the Northern Territory and the matter was closed.

Corporate Communication

Dissemination of information across all levels is paramount for effective corporate governance. The Agency has developed several mechanisms for ensuring effective internal and external communication.

Internet and Intranet

The Agency maintains an employee only Intranet resource and publicly accessible Internet site, with each containing over 1000 pages of information. The Internet site provides an online presence for the Agency to present its information and services to an ever expanding audience. The Agency received 119 emails through Internet feedback regarding its activities and requests for information.

The Intranet site for Agency employees provides access to Executive Leadership Group meeting minutes, governance protocols, staff training opportunities, employment information and news. Both sites are regularly reviewed for content accuracy and technological improvements.

Future Priorities

- Implement a new content management system for the Agency’s Internet and Intranet Systems to ensure up to date content and ease of use in managing the sites.
- Enable a web application that will allow users to search for activities within the Parks area of the Internet, specific to activities and facilities of regions in the Northern Territory.

Chief Executive’s Newsletter

A regular newsletter penned by the Chief Executive is posted on the Intranet. This newsletter keeps employees informed of corporate initiatives and developments, key achievements by employees within the Agency, across Agency projects and community based interaction.

Friday Round Up

The Communications and Media Business Unit provides a weekly summation of the Agency’s activities as covered by local, national and international media across print, radio, television and web and is posted on the Intranet.

Media Release Distribution

The Communications and Media business unit issued 282 media releases to local, national and international media in relation to the Agency’s activities. This figure incorporates both proactive and reactive releases to media inquiries, and does not include general requests for interviews by media with Agency staff. Media training for 16 staff was also coordinated by the Communications and Media Unit.

	2008–09	2007–08	2006–07
Media Releases Issued	282	181	216

Secretariat

The Secretariat Business Unit provides a coordination service between the two Ministers who share the Agency’s Ministerial portfolios of Arts and Museums, Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage, Sport and Recreation and Parks and Wildlife, to the Chief Executive, as well as Cabinet, on all operational areas of the Agency. It also provides administrative support with the coordination of statutory appointments for the Agency.

Secretariat Services	2008–09	2007–08	2006–07
Ministerials	1606	1266	1373
Cabinet Comments for other government agencies	76	78	48
Cabinet Submissions for the Department	41	40	64
Legislative Assembly Briefings	527	311	298
Estimates Committee Briefings	369	196	140
Executive Council Submissions	4	2	10
Business Agenda NT	5	8	10

Strategic Partnerships

Cooperative Partnerships

Achieving the Agency's vision requires effective working relationships with other organisations and individuals. We have collaborated and created partnerships with:

- Other Northern Territory Government agencies to achieve whole of government targets;
- Other governments to achieve outcomes of mutual benefit, reduce duplication and optimise returns on investment;
- Non-government organisations;
- Landowners and resource managers to promote sustainability of use and optimise benefits from use;
- Indigenous groups to jointly manage lands and resources in which Indigenous people have a special interest;
- Research providers to provide new information and analysis on important questions;
- The arts and related sectors to create new understandings and expressions of Territory identity; and
- Community groups and members of the general public, including young people, to broaden the range of people who understand and contribute to achieving the Agency's goals.

Northern Territory Government agencies

1. Worked with the Department of Education and Training to:
 - Deliver public library services through joint-use school/public libraries at Taminmin, Nhulunbuy and Alyangula.
 - Build long term relationships in jointly managing the Artists in Schools Program to provide Artists in Schools Grants Program.

- Develop the exhibition *ExitArt: Contemporary Youth Art of Northern Territory Year 12 Students 2008* including development of education resources, public events, senior art study days and the publication of a full-colour catalogue.
 - Reviewed School Sport in the Northern Territory.
 - Establish partnerships with local schools to provide training in conservation and land management through Vocational Education and Training programs.
2. Partnered with the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources to:
 - Liaise on water planning in priority areas in the Northern Territory including Mataranka, Katherine, Ooloo, Darwin Rural Area and the Western Davenport ranges.
 3. Worked with the Department of Justice to:
 - Manage a landscaping program to assist Alice Springs inmates with rehabilitation and contribution to the local community to aid in reducing return visits at the Araluen Art Precinct and the Alice Springs Desert Park.
 - Partner with Darwin Correctional Services Centre and the Territory Wildlife Park to help build inmate skills to improve future employment options through landscaping and cleaning activities.
 - Present a *Prisoner Art* exhibition at Fannie Bay Gaol.
 4. Worked with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to:
 - Partner with the Darwin City Council and the Darwin Entertainment Centre on managing the Centre's building maintenance and repairs.
 - Discuss development in the Northern Territory where raw water is required, eg Darwin Rural area.
 - Sign a Memorandum of Understanding to develop a Northern Territory Crown Land Strategy to manage fire and weeds, incorporating vacant Crown Land, roads and Northern Territory Land Corporation land.

- Construct of the new Netball Centre at Marrara Sporting Precinct.
 - Review the condition of the Arafura Athletics track.
 - Complete construction of the VIP Lounge at Speedway at the Hidden Valley Motor Sport Complex.
 - Consult for the future Palmerston Water Park and Palmerston Sporting Precinct.
5. Maintained a joint approach with Tourism Northern Territory supporting tourism planning and development on Parks, and jointly creating procedures to enable commercial accommodation facilities on parks.

Other Governments (local, state, federal, international)

1. In partnership with the Australian Government's Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts:
 - Continued the long-term monitoring of frogs, birds, reptiles and mammals in Kakadu National Park.
 - Continued to work closely with the Historic Heritage Branch including carrying out administrative duties as the Northern Territory delegate for the Commonwealth's *Historic Shipwrecks Act*.
 - Administered and delivered the Regional Arts Fund grants program and negotiated a four year funding agreement commencing on 1 July 2008.
 - Entered into a funding agreement to develop an Indigenous Employment Strategy for the Northern Territory music sector.
2. Partnered with the Department of Defence to construct holding mews for the birds of prey collection at the Territory Wildlife Park and reciprocal training of Army staff in the handling of their animal mascots.
3. Partnered with the Australian and Western Australian Governments to research the risks of climate change to Indigenous communities in tropical Northern Australia.

4. Successfully negotiated partnerships with the Australian Government's Screen Australia and Tasmania's Screen Tasmania and the South Australian Film Corporation to be involved with the Northern Territory Film Office's feature film script development initiative IGNITE.
5. Developed and Presented the exhibition *Husi Bei Ala Timor Sira Nia Liman: From the Hands of our Ancestors* in partnership with the National Directorate of Culture, Ministry of Education and Culture, Timor-Leste.
6. Continued a Memorandum of Understanding with the South Australian Country Fire Service to provide Registered Training Organisation services to enable the delivery of national accredited fire management and related training.
7. Worked with Queensland and Western Australian Governments on national water programs with regards to the Northern Australian connections, being implemented under the Council of Australian Governments water reform programs.

Non-Government

1. Partnered with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) to access materials held by AIATSIS through the Library and Knowledge Centres in Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti facilitating access and return of material to Indigenous Communities.
2. Worked with the Australian and South Australian Government on a cooperative environmental assessment of the BHP Billiton Olympic Dam expansion proposal, bilateral assessment of the Energy Resources Australia Ranger Heap Leach Facility and Tenax Clarence Strait Tidal Energy proposals.

Landowners and Resource Managers

1. Assisted pastoralists in Central Australia to develop and implement remedial plans to address land condition issues including track and fence line erosion.

2. Provided technical advice and strategic planning support to land owners and resource managers for conservation and management of heritage assets across the Northern Territory.
3. Worked with Threatened Species Network to produce a set of cards on little known Northern Territory arid plants.
4. Worked with Rio Tinto Alcan Gove in assessing plant species of conservation significance prior to clearing for mining.
5. Delivered educational activities in partnership with Roper River Landcare Group to children in Mataranka rural area and Katherine.
6. Worked with Greening Australia to pot up seeds and prepare seedlings to be used in revegetation projects in the Katherine region.
7. Consolidated relationships generated through joint management planning processes with neighbours engaged in pastoral, horticulture, tourism and defence businesses which adjoin parks and reserves in the Adelaide and Mary River catchments.
8. Continued to undertake mass rearing, release and monitoring of biological control agents for *mimosa pigra* with the cooperation and assistance of multiple landholders in the Daly, Moyle, Docherty, Adelaide and Finnis catchments.

Indigenous Groups

1. Partnered with Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre to continue providing technical and physical assistance to the development of the bush tomato plantation research project aimed at finding out where different species of bush tomato come from, and selecting the more appropriate varieties to grow.
2. Partnered with the Warlpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT) to conduct additional visits to the Lajamanu community library to ensure continuation of service delivery and delivery of the early literacy program.
3. Partnered with the Marthakal Resource Centre, to contribute to the development of management planning for a proposed Indigenous Protected Area for islands off north-eastern Arnhem Land. It is anticipated that it will be completed by September 2009.
4. Worked with the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation to examine options for managing cultural sites of significance by the Larrakia Minbeni Ranger Program in the Middle Arm Region.
5. Supported the development of Indigenous visual arts and communities through the high profile and effective [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands Arts Award](#) program.
6. Coordinated with Tjanpi Desert Weavers to present a workshop at Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory during [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards](#).
7. Worked in partnership with Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation's Ranger program to provide opportunities for employment and work experience on local Darwin parks and reserves to develop land management capacity and experience to participants.
8. Worked with Traditional Owners of Nitmiluk and Gregory National Parks to plan and deliver educational activities for children attending overnight 'country camps'.
9. Maintained and enhanced partnerships with Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation and the Laynhapuy Homelands Indigenous Association in north-east Arnhem Land by providing training and implementation of work programs on the Dhimurru and Laynhapuy Indigenous Protected Areas by experienced Senior Parks and Wildlife rangers.
10. Built partnerships and engaged with the Indigenous arts sector to achieve Building Strong Arts Business outcomes through consultation with peak bodies, establishing funding partnerships and negotiating with local art organisations.

11. Worked with the Borroloola Community Education Centre through the River Region Youth Development Services to provide expert advice on native species and habitat regeneration for the school landscaping project.
12. Liaised with Indigenous groups in the Mataranka, Katherine, Ooloo, Darwin Rural Area and the Western Davenport ranges to advise and inform them of Water Allocation activities as well as provide an opportunity for involvement with the water allocation planning.
13. Worked with the North Australian Indigenous Land Management Alliance and the Indigenous Water Policy Group to ensure that Indigenous policy issues related to water management are understood and implemented where appropriate.
14. Worked directly with Traditional Owners on the Tiwi Islands to provide advice on the sustainable yield for agricultural water use on the Islands in line with the Water Allocation Plan.
15. In partnership with the Anindiliakwa Land Council undertook land and property surveys targeting rubber vine and pond apple on Groote Eylandt.
16. Co-ordinated with the Wangamaty Landcare Group and Women Rangers and undertook mass rearing, release and monitoring of biological control agents for *mimosa pigra*.
17. Worked with the Northern Land Council to:
 - Build a fire management capacity in the Port Keats and Wagait Land Trusts.
 - Undertake research and capacity building to establish savanna burning greenhouse emissions abatement projects in Central Arnhem Land and the Gulf of Carpentaria.
18. Continued to maintain close working relationships with the Northern and Central Land Councils to ensure the continued development of relationships with traditional Aboriginal owners of jointly managed Parks and Reserves.

Arts and Related Sector Groups

1. Continued a long term relationship with the Asialink Arts Residency Program which promotes cultural understanding, information and artistic exchange between Australia and Asian countries.
2. Ongoing partnership with the Australia Council to implement the Visual Arts And Crafts Strategy (VACS). This is a four year commitment of the Australian and Territory Governments on the basis of matched funding to the visual and craft sector to build a strong, sustainable and dynamic contemporary visual arts sector, characterised by a stable base of organisations.

Community Engagement

Output Group: Parks and Reserves

- Held workshops and conducted consultation targeting tourism industry operators that visit National Parks at West MacDonnell, Finke Gorge, Watarrka and Litchfield National Parks to share information, perspectives and issues to better understand the tourism and protected area management.
- Established a local steering committee for the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre and conducted industry briefings on the government tender process to assist community and industry engagement in the production process of the Centre's digital interpretation.
- Continued working with children, youth and families in the Darwin, Katherine, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek regions through the Junior Ranger Program. The program offers a range of Parks and Wildlife activities such as team building, community leadership, volunteering, park management, career awareness and environmental education.

Output Group: Biological Parks

- Hosted 40 schools and over 1500 students at Window on the Wetlands, offering free of charge guided tours of the centre and activity sheets for the students to complete.
- Developed volunteer programs aimed at 12 to 20 year olds at the Alice Springs Desert Park to expose participants to the diverse fauna of Central Australia, while contributing to scientific research and biodiversity conservations.
- Worked with Aboriginal students from regional schools to experience career options, develop employability skills and build self esteem at the Alice Springs Desert Park.

- Hosted two DesArt Indigenous art night markets at the Alice Springs Desert Park attracting 1300 visitors and generating \$64 000 sales to art centres.
- Assisted Yipirinya School with developing a bush garden and Alice Springs High School students to propagate *callitis* at the Alice Springs Desert Park for potted Christmas trees.
- Conducted four cane toad busts at the Territory Wildlife Park with members of the local community volunteering in the collection and removal of toads from various areas on the park.
- Hosted a Community Carnival at the Alice Springs Desert Park celebrating the Parks partnership with the Friends of the Desert Park and included carnival activities, guided presentations, local live entertainment and food stalls that attracted 500 visitors.
- Hosted community markets at the Territory Wildlife Park as part of a twilight night activity, celebrating Mother's Day in May 2009 with markets stalls run by local traders selling art and craft from the region.
- Hosted 21 camps for schools and community groups such as Scouts, Girl Guides and Junior Rangers at Territory Wildlife Park's Camp Calytrix. The Camp Calytrix program aims to increase awareness and understanding of Top End ecosystems.
- Hosted activities at the Alice Springs Desert Park for Science Week in August 2008, such as "Scinema", a festival of science films screening for National Science Week and free screenings of the DVD series "Animal Kingdom" and "To the Moon and Back".
- Held a Christmas Pageant at Territory Wildlife Park for six local schools from the rural Darwin area.

Output Group: Natural Resources

- Engaged with the local Katherine community to develop the Katherine Water Allocation plan which won the Chief Minister's award for excellence in the Public Sector-Engagement with the Community category.
- Conducted community forums soliciting feedback on the Living Rivers program in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs and promoted the importance for public submissions on the development. Submissions closed on 30 June 2009 and 1645 were received.
- Presentations were held for industry groups upon development of the Howard East Aquifer Water Allocation Plan in the Darwin rural area.
- Organised meetings with the Water Advisory Committee which is made up of industry, and indigenous, environment and local sectors of the Mataranka community, for consultation during the development of the Mataranka Allocation Plan.
- Consulted with Tiwi Land Council, Traditional Owners and the Tiwi Islands community on commencement of a Water Allocation Plan for the Tiwi Islands.
- Coordinated input from members of the community interested in Northern Territory weed matters through their participation in the Weed Risk Reference Group who reports to the Weed Advisory Committee made up of industry representatives.
- Contributed to and participated in the Tropical Garden Spectacular, Fred's Pass Show and regional centre shows.
- Compiled, printed and launched the Best Practice Management Manual for Athel Pine and *Mimosa pigra* with an accompanying DVD that was distributed throughout Australia to natural resource management organisations, community interest groups and Governments.

- Continued to work with schools in the Darwin region to deliver the national Weed Warriors program, designed to give school-aged children the opportunity to learn, about invasive pest plants and how to control them.
- Produced and distributed community reporting brochures to Indigenous Communities for inshore dolphins, giant clams and leatherback turtles, designed to encourage the public to report sightings and known nesting sites for these animals.

Output Group: Environmental Sustainability

- Held public forums in Howard Springs, Wagait Beach and Darwin to receive feedback on the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee's draft [Darwin Harbour Regional Management Strategic Framework 2009–13](#) with over 50 community members participating in the meetings.

Output Group: Heritage Conservation

- Led an expedition to confirm the identity of the World War II shipwreck, the *Florence D* working closely with members of the community, in Jim Miles and Wayne Keeping, who first discovered the wreck.
- Worked with the community and students from local and interstate Universities to conduct an excavation of the rear block of the heritage-listed Sue Wah Chin stone building.
- Participated in a Taminmin High year 11 visit to Fenton Airfield heritage site and provided handouts to students on information on Northern Territory heritage.

Output Group: Scientific and Cultural Collections

- Hosted 25 public events at the Northern Territory Library at Parliament House with over 4000 people in attending exhibitions, displays, lectures and workshops all showcasing library services and collections.
- Opened the exhibition *Husi Bei Ala Timor Sira Nia Liman: From the Hands of our Ancestors* which featured music by traditional Timorese artist Ego Lemos, a welcome ceremony by local Timorese children and the Timor-Leste delegation.
- Presented the annual Desert Mob exhibition and associated events at the Araluen Cultural Precinct to increase audiences, achieving increased financial return to participating art centres and Araluen as the venue.
- Hosted a series of well attended community forums in Darwin and Alice Springs on theatre sector issues and arts policy and funding priorities.
- Hosted public screen industry forums in Darwin, Alice Springs and Yuendumu, north-west of Alice Springs.
- Floor talks were conducted by artists and curatorial teams for numerous exhibitions such as *Supercrocodylians: Darwin's ultimate survival story*; and *Exit Art: contemporary youth art of Northern Territory Year 12 students 2008*.
- Hosted a highly successful evening talk by internationally renowned palaeontologist Dr Paul Sereno, and local crocodile expert Adam Britton for *Supercrocodylians: Darwin's ultimate survival story*.
- Held an opening day for the *Supercrocodylians: Darwin's ultimate survival story* where three local schools were invited to participate.
- Conducted art workshops for children in ceramic construction methods by artist Michael Doolan, held in conjunction with *Arafura Craft Exchange*.
- Hosted School Holiday Program *Tekee Tokee Tomak* facilitated by Australian musician and musicologist, Ros Dunlop aimed at bringing to life aspects of Timor-Leste's culture through music, story-telling and interactive fun and games.
- Facilitated school visits to the Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, including exhibition tours complementing the curricula, reached approximately 12,500 students and teachers, and were supported by over 20 Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory Education volunteers.
- Provided guided tours of Herbarium facilities to the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, Palmerston High School, Sandalwood Feedlots, Taminmin High School, and interested members of the public. The tours were tailored specifically for the respective audience and highlighted the services available to professionals and visitors.
- Delivered multiple natural science talks, workshops and field excursions to community groups such as the Northern Territory Field Naturalists; school children and the general public.
- Hosted eight work experience students from schools at the Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory, Darwin, and participated in the St Philips Secondary School, Alice Springs, annual Careers Night.
- Facilitated a meeting between Traditional Owners from Jay Creek and the Agency's Heritage unit and provided archival film and photographic material.

Output Group: Arts and Screen Industry Support

- Staged the sixth biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference *art at the heart* in October 2009 in Alice Springs where local community input was sought from a Local Engagement Group and Indigenous Advisory Group throughout the development and programming of the conference. A free public festival program was also held requiring an extensive volunteer program.

Output Group: Sport and Recreation

- Undertook extensive community consultation to develop the proposed Sport and Active Recreation Policy, hosting more than 50 forums where feedback from the general public, peak sporting and recreation personnel, local shire councils, national sporting groups, and the Australian and Northern Territory Governments were received.
- Implemented Shire reforms and the development of the Active Remote Communities Grants Program supporting the employment of Community Sport and Recreation Officers in Shires to achieve Sport and Recreation and indigenous training and employment outcomes.
- Engaged with Shires, communities and Softball Northern Territory to develop and implement the inaugural Shire Softball Competition.
- Delivered the Australian Sports Commission Indigenous Sport Program that benefits Indigenous people in remote communities.

Our People



Overview

Employee commitment and satisfaction is critical in achieving the Agency's outcomes and ensuring its business services are delivered effectively and efficiently.

The Agency's Human Resource Services has responsibility for facilitating effective workplace leadership of employees by providing a People Management Framework supported by relevant and effective policies and procedures. The goal is to ensure the Agency has the right number of employees with the right skills, and a workplace culture that will ensure it's positioned to meet its business requirements now and into the future.

The Human Resource Services also provides specialist advice to management and employees on a range of people management issues, and supports the Agency in achieving its business outcomes by ensuring it operates within the appropriate legislative frameworks.

The Human Resource Services supports the Agency to build its capacity by facilitating a number of learning and development programs. This includes an active early careers program aimed at 'growing our own' to meet emerging business needs through the provision of entry level programs such as work experience, apprenticeships, graduates and traineeships.

Snapshot of Our People

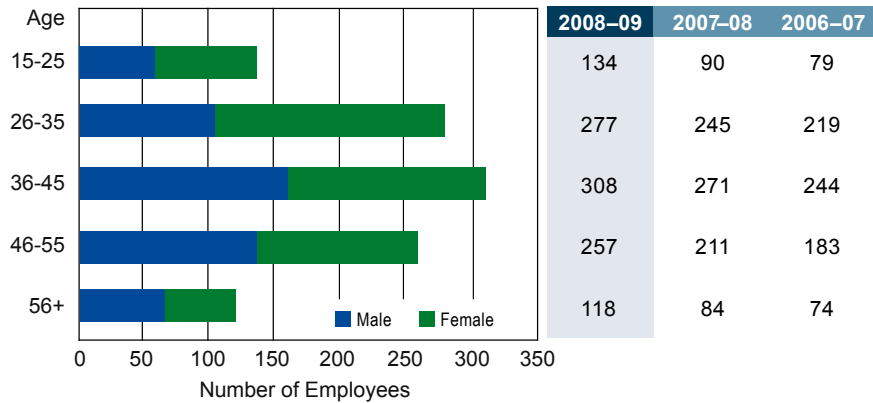
- 1094 people were employed with the Agency and located in 50 sites across the Territory, including in the major centres of Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Darwin; and at remote ranger stations and some remote communities. As field work is a critical component of many jobs, a substantial number of staff spend significant amounts of time in remote areas of the Northern Territory each year.
- 60 per cent of staff were employed in the Technical and Professional streams, 31 per cent in the Administrative stream and the remaining 9 per cent in the Physical, Executive and Trainee streams.

- 188 employees were part-time; 142 were females and 46 were male.
- Over half (55 percent) of all employees were in the 31 to 50 year old age bracket.
- Male to female ratio in the Agency was approximately 1:1.
- Key initiatives included the refinement of and implementation of managerial level training for the new Performance Enhancement System and delivery of two programs to 33 senior managers as part of the Agency's Leadership Program.
- Agency corporate training initiatives attracted 727 employee attendances, with sessions held in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs.
- Expenditure on learning and development totalled approximately \$1.16 million and averaged \$1062 per employee.
- 20 work experience students were hosted, 19 adult apprentices were employed, 14 of whom were Indigenous and six graduate trainees were employed.
- 33 employees negotiated flexible work agreements.
- Eight face-to-face corporate induction programs were conducted in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs.
- 66 accident and injury reports were received, of which 37 resulted in a claim for workers' compensation. A total of \$42 8435.66 was spent on these and existing open claims.
- 91 employees and their family members accessed the Agency's Employee Assistance Program.
- Three Section 49 Discipline actions were commenced against employees and two cases were finalised from the previous reporting period.
- The development of women as leaders was promoted through the provision of a Winning Working Women program and financial support for attendance at a Discovery Program.

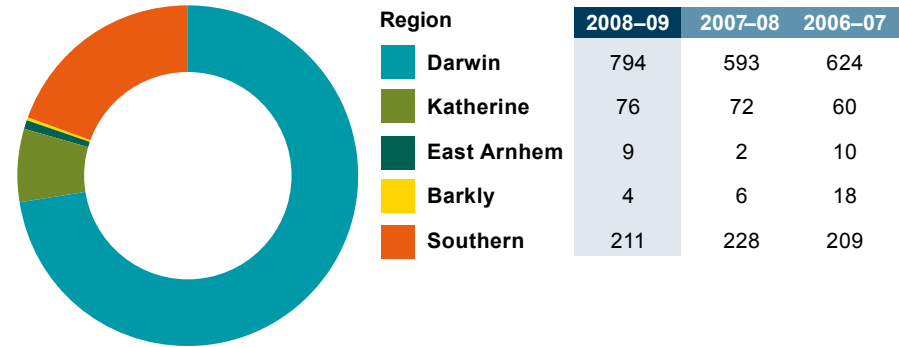
In Profile

The following graphs detail the make-up of employees in the Agency.

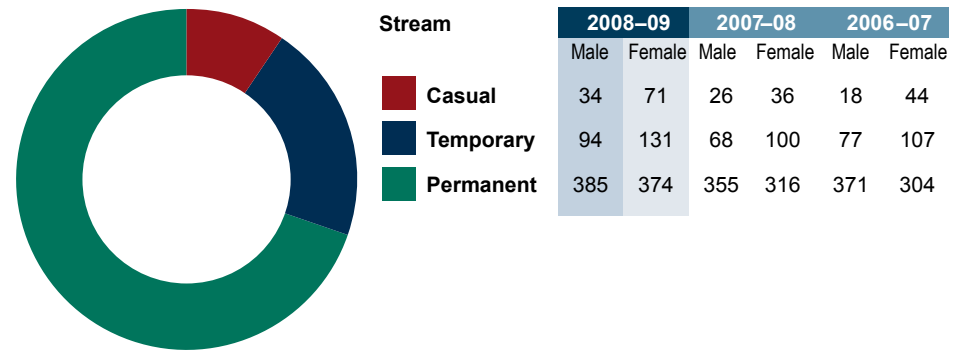
Employees by Age



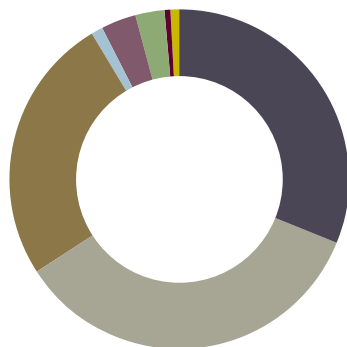
Employees by Region



Employees by Status



Employees by Stream Profile



Stream	2008-09		2007-08		2006-07	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Administrative	55	288	32	209	42	202
Technical	259	121	226	98	225	105
Professional	147	131	142	119	149	120
Physical	8	3	8	7	10	10
Executive	24	14	22	12	21	13
Grad/Trainee	15	15	19	7	19	5
Head Coach	3	2				
Other	4	5				

Administrative Stream Occupations: Marketing Officer, Board Administration Officer, Human Resource Consultant, Accountant/Finance Officer, Journalist/Media Officer, Records and Information Officer, Personal Assistant, Parks and Wildlife Permits Officer, Concessions/Contract Officer, Grants Officer, Exhibition Officer, Visual Arts and General Arts Officer, Communication/IT Officer, Customer Service Officer, Project Officer, General Administrative Assistant.

Technical Stream Occupations: Bore/Drill Test Officer, Ranger, Wildlife Officer, Facilities Management Officer, Natural Resource Management Officer (eg Weed, Soil, Landcare), Bushfire Control Officer, Hydrologist, Cartographer/Mapping Officer, Horticulturalist, Interpretative/Education Officer.

Professional Stream Occupations: Scientist (eg Biodiversity, Ecologist, Marine, Botanist, Geophysicist, Geologist, Anthropologist), Heritage Conservation Officer, Curator, Taxonomist, Taxidermist, Ranger, Librarian, Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS) Officer, Water Engineer, Zoologist, Environmental Scientist (eg Development Assessment, Pollution, Environment Monitoring and Compliance).

Physical Stream Occupations: Cleaner, Park Maintenance Ranger.

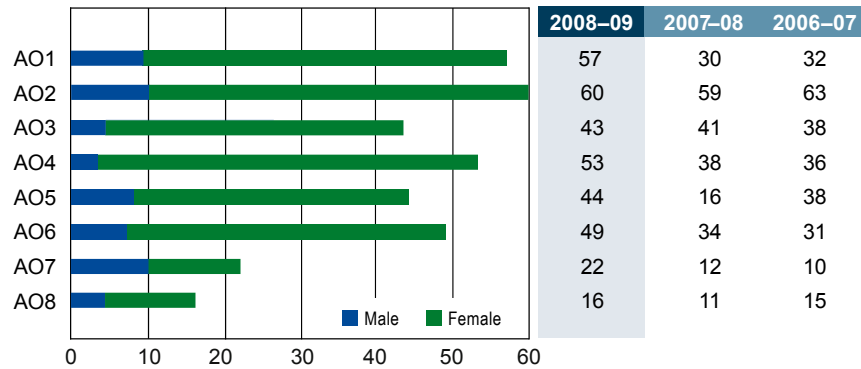
Executive Stream Occupations: Chief Executive, Executive Director, Director.

Graduate/Trainees: Graduates, National Indigenous Cadets, Apprentices, School-Based Apprentices, Joint Management Trainees.

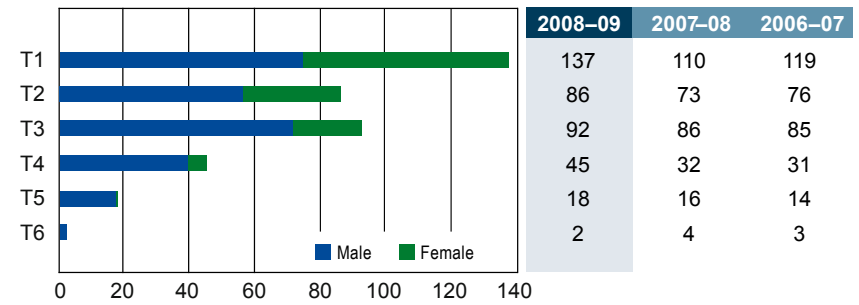
Head Coach: Coaches employed by the Northern Territory Institute of Sport.

Other Classifications: Aboriginal Interpreters, Worker's Compensation, External, Senior Teacher, Theatrical Employee.

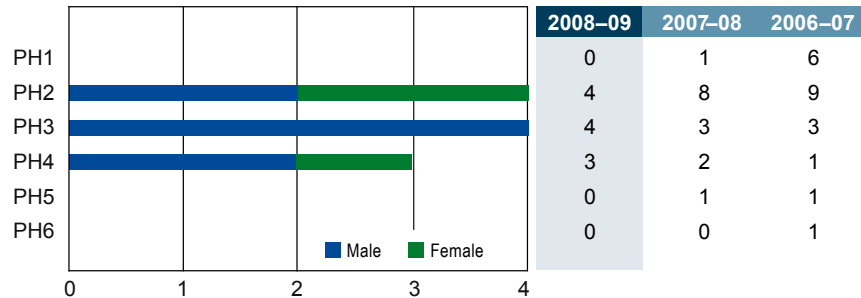
Employees by Stream – Administrative



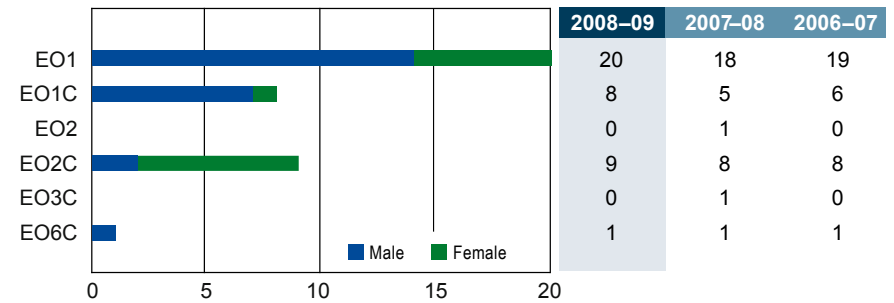
Employees by Stream – Technical



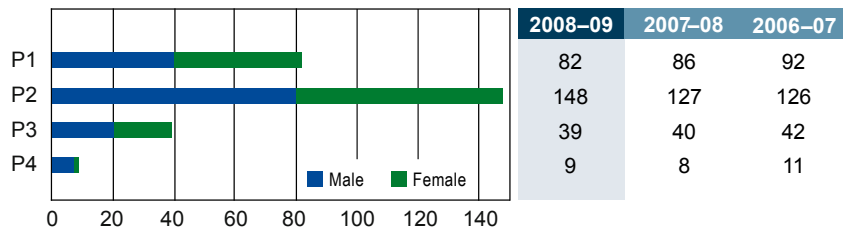
Employees by Stream – Physical



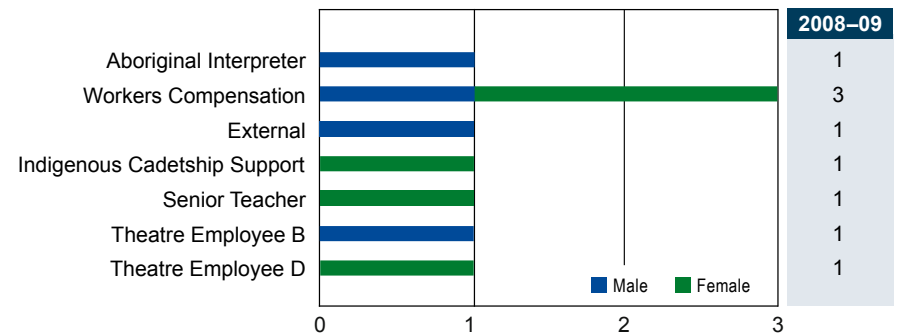
Employees by Stream – Executive



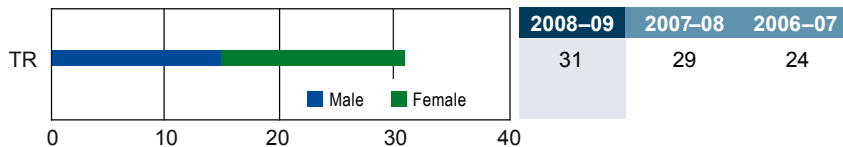
Employees by Stream – Professional



Employees by Stream – Other



Employees by Stream – Trainee



Note: Due to the changing technical description of the Other Employee Stream no historical data is provided.

Key Initiatives Implemented

To continue to further build and strengthen the Agency's People Management Framework the following training initiatives were implemented during 2008–09.

Performance Enhancement System

The Agency commenced implementation of its Performance Enhancement System in 2008–09, following the development of the system the previous year. The behaviour based Performance Enhancement System replaced the previous performance agreement process and focuses on enhancing the working relationship between managers and the people reporting to them. It also integrates related activities such as succession planning, annual performance reporting and individual learning and development.

The commencement of the Performance Enhancement System across the Agency in 2008–09 involved 131 senior leaders and managers attending the training program designed to equip them with the skills to undertake the Agency's performance enhancement process. Rollout to all staff will continue in 2009–10.

As part of the Performance Enhancement System training, senior leaders and managers also attended a Giving and Receiving Feedback Training Program. The program equips managers with the skills to understand the need for feedback, identifying appropriate formal and informal styles of feedback and preparing for giving and receiving feedback sessions, both positive and negative.

Leadership Development Program

The Agency continued its Leadership Development Program, which commenced in 2006–07. Fifteen employees completed the sixth program in 2008–09. The program is three and half days and culminates in participant Syndicate Groups being formed to progress and present assigned tasks to the Executive Leadership Group and the Senior Managers' Forum. The Program is integral to the Agency's Performance Enhancement System as key concepts are introduced to support the daily work of leaders the Agency.

Since 2006–07 the program has been delivered to the Executive Leadership Group, Directors and Section Heads. The employees involved in the 2008–09 Leadership Program also included senior managers from the Agency's new Output Groups of Sport and Recreation and Libraries.

Anti-Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying

An Anti-Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Program was piloted in May 2009 in response to feedback which indicated that managers needed better skills to prevent and identify these behaviours in the workplace. The Program is now on the Agency's training calendar as a corporate training initiative.

Team Building

The Agency's Parks and Wildlife Service ranger staff, many of whom live and work in remote areas, face unique challenges in both their personal and professional lives. There are 87 National Parks and Reserves spread throughout the Northern Territory, some with ranger stations operated by only three people and requiring a rolling roster to ensure ranger availability 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

These rangers do not live on communities and therefore have to live and work together in isolated and at times very challenging circumstances (eg. dealing with car accidents, undertaking searches for missing visitors etc). For these reasons rangers need to be especially resilient and emotionally mature to ensure that workplace relationships and professional behaviours remain positive and productive.

In recognition of these special needs team building sessions with various ranger groups have been rolled out across the Northern Territory. The Team Management System and the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator have been used to give rangers an insight into diversity, personality preferences, team dynamics and the intricacies of effective communication. At the end of these sessions teams developed ground-rules for themselves to follow as a code of practice.

Ongoing feedback after the sessions has been positive and in many areas managers now have greater confidence and ability to tackle a range of problems in a positive and constructive manner. For example, better communication has led to improved performance management; better understanding of personality preferences has led to better delegation of tasks; insight into communication preferences has led to a decrease in frustrations between individuals with different preferences; and staff are more assertive and confident in giving feedback to one another.

Learning and Professional Development

The purpose of learning and development activities is to ensure the Agency has the organisational capability to respond to current and future business challenges. The Agency actively encourages the professional development of its employees to ensure they are adequately equipped to carry out their responsibilities.

The Agency has a two-pronged approach for learning and development, where business units are responsible for facilitating employee access to operational training and development focused on core business needs. Additionally Human Resource services facilitates a number of learning and development activities to strengthen corporate capabilities and accountabilities and Agency leadership. These corporate training activities inherently support the work of the Agency's business units, but are in addition to core business learning and development activities.

Corporate Training

In 2008–09 there were 727 attendances in Agency corporate training initiatives, with sessions held in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs. This was an increase of 126 attendees from 2008–08 figures. The corporate training initiatives included:

- Recruitment – Employee Selection Training - designed to provide supervisors and managers with the skills to select, induct and retain a skilled workforce.
- Recruitment – Chairperson Training - designed to provide the selection panel Chairperson with specific skills required to chair a selection panel effectively.
- Anti Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying – designed to develop an understanding of the Anti Discrimination legislation and the behaviour that constitutes bullying and harassment in the workplace.
- Preventing Harassment and Bullying for Managers and Supervisors – designed to empower managers to deal with harassment and bullying in the workplace through the application of practical tools.
- Code of Conduct - designed to enhance employees' knowledge of ethical business practices and to provide practical strategies for dealing with situations that arise at work. This workshop draws on the *Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) Principles and Code of Conduct*, as set out in Regulations under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*, as the source document which sets out the conduct expected of all Northern Territory Public Service employees and the values they are obliged to uphold.
- Cross Cultural Awareness – designed to improve and explore the complexities of cross cultural interaction.
- GROW your Coaching Skills – provides leaders and managers with the skills to influence performance and learning of staff.
- Certificate IV in Government (Investigations) – 71 staff across the agency are enrolled in this course which will strengthen environmental protection efforts across the Northern Territory.
- How to write a Job Analysis Questionnaire – designed to develop skills for writing Job Analysis Questionnaire's and understanding the difference and link between Job Analysis Questionnaire's and Job Descriptions.
- Job Evaluation System - designed to develop the skills to assess the work value of a particular job relative to other jobs.
- Team Building Programs – 94 staff across the Agency have taken part in team building sessions designed to give work teams an insight into diversity, personality preferences, team dynamics and effective communication. This is a dynamic and ongoing program.

Public Sector Management Program

In 2008–09 three employees were enrolled in the Public Sector Management Program. The Program, a joint venture between commonwealth, state and territory governments equips middle to senior managers to meet challenges by providing them with the knowledge and abilities required to become effective public sector leaders. All three employees completed the program and graduated in 2009.

The four employees enrolled the Public Sector Management Program in 2007–08 all graduated.

Studies Assistance

Forty employees accessed Studies Assistance during 2008–09 to undertake studies ranging from certificates to masters programs. The Agency strongly supports employees gaining relevant professional and technical skills through higher education studies. Of the 40 employees 32 received financial assistance, equating to an average rate of \$1361 per employee.

The number of Agency employees who applied for Studies Assistance in 2008–09, decreased by one from 2007–08 figures.

Supporting Remote Area Staff

In 2008–09 three employees were awarded grants worth \$5081, through the Northern Territory Government’s Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment’s Remote Workforce Development Strategy. These Scholarships were to attend conferences to enhance their career and personal development. Four remote area work sites covering 40 geographically spread staff engaged in team building programs.

The number of Agency employees who received these scholarships in 2008–09 increased by two from 2007–08 figures.

Learning and Professional Expenditure

The Agency’s commitment to learning and professional development for its employees saw the total amount of learning and development expenditure increase to \$1.16 million.

With an increase in 193 employees from 2007–08, the training expenditure per employee has slightly decreased.

In 2008–09 the Agency developed a policy, accessible on the Agency’s Intranet that outlines the approach to supporting and developing professional staff. The policy provides relevant information on accessing the Professional Development Allowance. There has been an increase in one professional employee accessing the allowance taking the total to four employees for 2008–09.

Employees were encouraged to attend conferences, seminars and workshops on topics ranging from managing people, tools for assertive and effective communication, Australian Library and Information Association Biennial Conference, Tropical Rivers Future Forum and Diploma of Management. Attendance at conferences, seminars and workshops aids in the continued development and skilling staff in both technical and human management areas.

Learning and development expenditure	2008–09 Agency	2007–08 Agency	2006–07 Agency
Total employees (1)	1094	901	921
Total learning and development expenditure	\$1 162 176	\$1 044 006	\$659 457
Total employee expenditure (2)	\$69 705 170	\$57 627 890	\$55 450 000
Learning and development costs as a % of employee expenditure	1.67%	1.81%	1.19%
Training expenditure per employee	\$1 062	\$1 159	\$716

(1) Actual headcount and includes full-time, part-time and casual employees

(2) Includes Trainees expenditure

This table does not include the Agency’s commitment to its study assistance program.

Challenges for Professional Development in 2008–09

Providing opportunities for learning and development across the Northern Territory continues to provide a challenge for Human Resource Services, with travel expenses for ensuring remote area employees can attend training in regional centres can be cost prohibitive. This has resulted in low attendance numbers at some corporate training initiatives in the past and Human Resource Services strives to ensure that these needs can be met.

Future Priorities for Professional Development in 2009–10

- Changes in recruitment practice across the Northern Territory Public Sector provides a challenge in bring about a more flexible and accountable approach across the entire agency.
- Upskilling of technical and operational managers and supervisors in human resource and administrative management.
- Continued rollout of training for Agency employees of the Performance Enhancement System.

Trainees

The Agency offers a range of early careers programs aimed at ‘growing our own’ employees. These programs encompass school-based apprenticeships, adult apprenticeships, Indigenous cadetships and graduate traineeships.

Apprenticeships

The Australian Apprenticeships initiative provides Territorians with an opportunity to gain a trade-level qualification through a structured employment and training program in the Agency. The length of apprenticeships varies depending on the qualification being obtained. For example a Certificate III in Captive Animals (Zoo Keeping) takes four years to obtain while a Certificate III in Business takes one year.

In 2008–09 the Agency employed or hosted three school-based apprentices, all of whom were Indigenous. This was a decrease of two school based apprentices on 2007–08 figures.

A total of 19 adult apprentices were employed in 2008–09, including 14 Indigenous apprentices. This was a decrease of two adult apprentices on 2007–08 figures. Five apprentices successfully completed the program and have all remained with the Agency. One school-based apprentice completed the program and remained with the Agency to commence an adult apprenticeship. Four apprenticeships were not completed, with two contracts terminated and two leaving for personal reasons. Nine adult apprenticeships have continued into 2009–10.

Graduate Trainees

The Graduate Traineeship Program provides recent university graduates with a broad range of workplace experiences and challenges to equip them to become future leaders and managers. In 2008–09 six graduate trainees were employed and four remained in the program at the end of the reporting period. This is an increase of two graduate trainees being employed in the program, and an increase of one remaining in the program, compared to 2007–08 figures.

Work Experience Students

The Agency officially hosted 20 work experience students who were participating in school-based work-ready programs. This is an increase of 11 work experience students compared with figures from 2007–08. Eleven of the work experience students in 2008–09 were Indigenous people and from remote areas. The program was designed to provide an experience working within the Northern Territory Government. These placements were for two weeks and required a high degree of commitment and supervision from Agency employees to support and guide students through the requirements of their particular program.

Equity, Diversity and Flexibility

The Agency is committed to meeting its responsibilities in relation to the key whole of government employment strategies that promote equity, diversity and flexibility in the workplace.

The Agency has participated in the following consultative groups and committees:

- Indigenous Employment and Career Development; and
- Willing and Able focus group.

Work Life Balance

The Agency is committed to assisting its employees achieve a balance between the needs of the Agency and their personal life under the whole of government employment strategy, Work Life Balance.

A number of different arrangements have been negotiated across the Agency in 2008–09:

- Two AO3 employees job share, one AO3 employee has a flexible working agreement in place and one AO3 employee has negotiated to work part time;
- One AO4 employee has a flexible working agreement in place and one AO4 employee is part time;
- Three AO5 employees have a flexible working agreement in place;
- Three AO6 employees have a flexible working agreement in place, another three AO6 employees have negotiated to work part time and one AO6 employee took a career break;
- Two AO7 employees have a flexible working agreement in place;
- One EO1 employee has a flexible working agreement in place;
- One ECO2 employee has a flexible working arrangement in place combining work from home and office;

- One P1 employee and one P2 employee have a flexible working agreement in place;
- Two P2 employees have negotiated to work part time and two P2 employees work in a job share arrangement;
- One P3 employee took a career break; and
- Two T3 employees and one T2 employee have a flexible working agreement in place.

The Human Resource Services Branch facilitates employees' attendance of Superannuation and Retirement Seminars designed to assist participants understand and plan for their financial future. The seminars are held at various sites across the Northern Territory.

Indigenous Employment and Career Development

The Agency is committed to improving Indigenous career outcomes. This commitment is highlighted in the Agency’s 4 Year Priorities plan, which sets a target of 14 per cent for the total number of Indigenous employees by the end of 2012.

In 2008–09 the Agency formed an Indigenous Reference Group to promote its Indigenous Employment and Career Development Action Plan. The Group met twice in 2008–09 and focussed on issues relating to recruitment and retention, mentoring and coaching, cross-cultural training and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander reporting by staff.

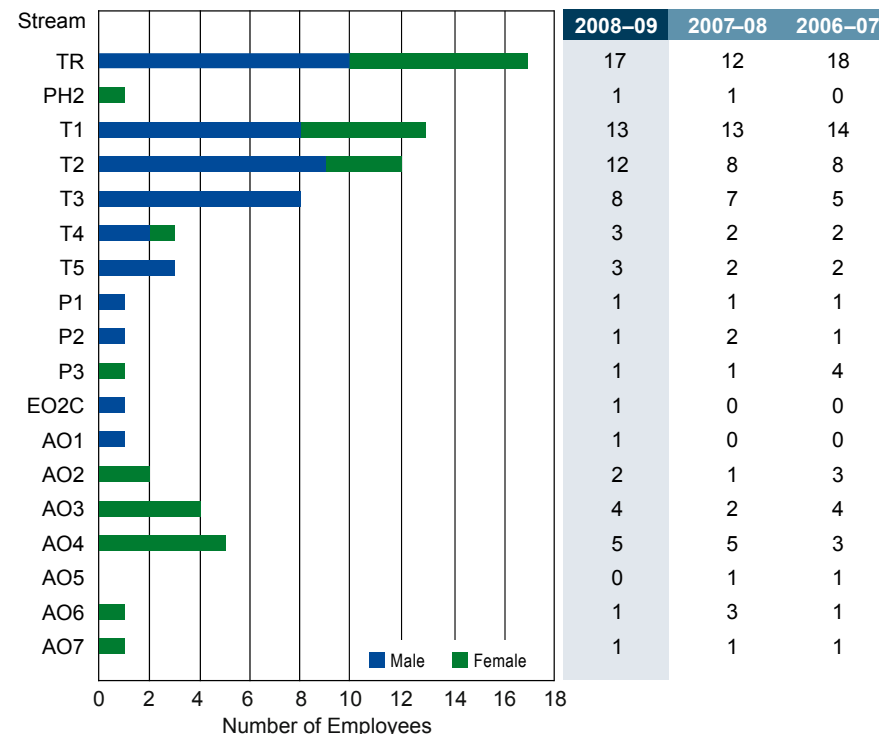
In response to some of the matters considered by the Group, the Agency held a ‘My Details’ week in May 2009 during which all staff were encouraged to update their personal details, including their Equal Employment Opportunity information. This allows people to choose whether, for reporting purposes, they wish to be identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island person. ‘My Details’ week resulted in a slight increase of staff identifying themselves as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, from 69 people to 76 people.

The cross-cultural training program delivered in Darwin and Katherine was extended to incorporate additional information and proposed changes to some recruitment practices, for example interviewing apprentices, have been recommended for use in some work areas.

The Agency’s early careers program employs a majority of Indigenous participants, and the work experience program prioritises Indigenous youth. To support the early careers program, the Agency’s Parks and Wildlife rangers regularly give talks at local schools, often targeted at Indigenous students, about careers in natural resource management.

The Agency has also become an active member of the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment’s Indigenous Employment and Career Development advisory group which meets monthly to share information and discuss matters of mutual interest in this area.

Employees Identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



Under the Agency’s Parks Joint Management Program initiative a Flexible Employment Program (FEP) continues to provide opportunities for Traditional Owners to gain work experience and training, by working alongside rangers on a casual basis on park management projects. The program has proven success in building work-readiness in Traditional Owner participants and contract-readiness in partner Aboriginal organisations. A report was commissioned in early 2009 with the aim of improving Joint Management approaches to the training and career development of Indigenous stakeholders. The recommendations from this Report are being considered and implementation will occur in 2009–10.

Indigenous Apprentices

In 2008–09 the Agency retained six Indigenous apprentices who completed their traineeships in 2007–08 and have continued with employment in the Agency in the following fields:

- Parks and Wildlife ranger at Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve, near Darwin;
- Parks and Wildlife trainee ranger at Nitmiluk National Park, near Katherine;
- Parks and Wildlife trainee ranger at Mataranka, near Katherine;
- Park guide at Alice Springs Desert Park;
- Trainee driller with the Natural Resource Division in Darwin; and
- Apprentice, continuing to further studies in conservation and land management with the Natural Resource division in Alice Springs.

Over the next 12 months the Agency will be focussing on supporting a school-to-work transition for Indigenous students, particularly those from outside of the urban centres. For example, a pilot program is being undertaken in the Katherine region where Parks and Wildlife Service rangers are working with local high schools to promote enrolment in Vocational Education and Training programs in schools and then to provide work experience for these students on local national parks. This pilot program aims to produce a pool of work-ready students over the next few years who are willing and able to work as rangers in regional and remote locations.

Women in Leadership

The Agency actively supports the whole of government initiative *Women in Leadership and Management* and in 2008–09 five employees from the Alice Springs region participated in the Discovery Women as Leaders Program.

The Agency will continue to support the Northern Territory Public Sector Discovery Women as Leaders program by assisting employees to participate in the program.

The program is designed to assist women develop greater confidence, learn leadership skills and build valuable support and business networks.

The Agency supported the Winning Working Women program in 2008–09, which will be available to women across the Agency in 2009–10. The program uses coaching strategies to help women explore their story, find their pathway in life and career and take positive action. The program will be offered to all women within the Agency as a tool to assist in career planning.

Diversity

The Agency has a diverse workforce and is committed to recognising and supporting its employees. Diversity in the Agency is promoted through its Diversity Policy, which acknowledges the contribution that all employees bring to a workplace.

It strives to maintain an environment that is free from bullying, harassment and discriminatory practices by continuing to encourage employees to participate in employee selection training, anti-discrimination, harassment and cross cultural training as well as providing relevant policy and procedure documentation on the Agency's Intranet.

Equal Opportunity

The Agency is committed to meeting its statutory equal employment obligations and to ensure fairness in relation to employment procedures. The Agency conducted a 'My Details week' in May 2009 in which all staff were encouraged to record their Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) details. Approximately four per cent of employees recorded their EEO details in the Personal Integrated Pay System.

The data gathered assists in the planning of workforce strategies and identifies areas for further training opportunities. 'My Details' week will be continued in 2009–10.

Employment Instructions

Employment Instructions and Agency Requirements	Agency Action
<p>No 1. Advertising, Selection, Appointment, Transfer and Promotion Agency to develop procedures on recruitment and selection for internal use. Chief Executive required to report annually on the number of employees in each designation and variations since the last report.</p>	<p>Recruitment policy and documentation is available on the Agency’s Intranet and staff are encouraged to attend regular refresher training. A workshop with senior Agency staff was conducted to gauge the issues faced by Agency staff in recruitment.</p> <p>Educating the Agency in relation to the changes in recruitment practice across the Northern Territory Public Sector. These changes in recruitment practices, implemented by the Northern Territory Government’s Office of the Commissioner of Public Employment sees a more flexible and accountable approach towards recruitment and selection processes and will be implemented in 2009–10.</p> <p>During the reporting period Agency advertised a total of 319 vacancies on the Employment Opportunities website, some with various positions available. This resulted in 191 commencements, comprising of 78 temporary positions and 113 permanent positions.</p> <p>Three appeals were lodged with the Office of the Commission for Public Employment during the reporting period. Two were disallowed and one was resolved within the Agency.</p>
<p>No 2. Probation Chief Executive shall develop a probationary process for their Agency and convey details of the probationary process to employees within their first week of reporting for duty.</p>	<p>Information about the probation process is available on the Agency’s Intranet. New employees are directed to the site on their commencement.</p> <p>The Human Resources Branch provided regular advice to senior management on the status of employee probations.</p>
<p>No 3. Natural Justice The rules of natural justice to be observed in all dealings with employees.</p>	<p>The principles of Natural Justice are required to be observed in all dealings with employees.</p>
<p>No 4. Performance Management Chief Executive is to report annually on management training and staff development programs. Chief Executive shall develop and implement performance management systems for their Agency.</p>	<p>Information and documentation relating to the Agency’s new Performance Enhancement System is available on the Agency’s Intranet.</p> <p>Training in the new system has been delivered to 131 Managers and Supervisors across the Agency in 2008–09.</p>

Employment Instructions and Agency Requirements	Agency Action
<p>No 5. Medical Incapacity No Agency action or reporting requirements.</p>	<p>Advice is provided to Managers as required by the Human Resource Branch.</p>
<p>No 6. Inability to Discharge Duties Chief Executive to provide the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment with information on the extent to which this Employment Instruction has been used by the Agency. Chief Executive may establish procedures regarding this Employment Instruction within their Agency.</p>	<p>No action was taken under Section 44 Inability to Discharge Duties in the reporting period.</p>
<p>No 7. Discipline Chief Executive to provide the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment with information on the extent to which this Employment Instruction has been used by the Agency. Chief Executive may establish procedures regarding discipline within their Agency.</p>	<p>Three Section 49 Discipline actions were commenced against employees and two cases were finalised from the previous reporting period. The other two remained open for the reporting period.</p>
<p>No 8. Management of Grievances Chief Executive shall establish written grievance setting procedures for the Agency that should be available to employees and outline steps for dealing with grievances.</p>	<p>Grievance policy documents are available on the Agency Intranet. Three Section 59 Grievances were received during the reporting period, two in Darwin and one in Alice Springs. Two were resolved within the Agency and one is ongoing. The case from 2007–08 was finalised in this reporting period.</p>
<p>No 9. (Incorporated in Employment Instruction 1).</p>	
<p>No 10. Employee Records Agencies are required to maintain appropriate employee records and implement procedures for maintaining and accessing these records.</p>	<p>All personnel files are securely maintained by the Department of Business and Employment on behalf of the Agency. Access to personnel files and the Personnel Integrated Pay System database is restricted to an ‘in-confidence’ level.</p>
<p>No 11. Equal Employment Opportunity Management Programs Chief Executive to devise and implement programs to ensure equal employment opportunities and outcomes are achieved. Chief Executive to report annually on programs and initiatives the Agency has developed. Report should also include details on specific action in relation to Aboriginal Employment and Career Development, and also measures to enable employees to balance work and family responsibilities.</p>	<p>Equal Opportunity policies are available on the Agency’s Intranet. The Human Resources Branch of the Agency conducts an annual Equal Employment Opportunity census to encourage employees to update their details in the Personnel Integrated Pay System. Although only a small number of employees updated details the census will continue to be promoted on an annual basis.</p>

Employment Instructions and Agency Requirements	Agency Action
<p>No 12. Occupational Health and Safety Programs Chief Executive to develop programs to ensure employees are consulted in the development and implementation of Occupational Health and Safety programs. Chief Executive to report annually on Occupational Health and Safety programs. Records must be kept on risk assessment, maintenance control and information, instruction and training provided to employees.</p>	<p>Occupational Health and Safety Program policy and procedures are available on the Agency's Intranet.</p> <p>Occupational Health and Safety training is part of the Agency's Induction program.</p> <p>Following the introduction of the <i>Workplace Health and Safety Act</i> the Agency's focus during 2008–09 was establishing its Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Framework and a draft Management Plan. The Framework received in-principle endorsement from the Community and Public Sector Union and NT WorkSafe in early 2009.</p> <p>A key part of the Framework included the introduction of a whole of Agency, NRETAS Occupational Health and Safety Steering Committee. The priority for 2009–10 is to fully implement the Framework and progress the draft Management Plan.</p>
<p>No 13. Code of Conduct Chief Executive may issue guidelines regarding acceptance of gifts and benefits to employees. Chief Executive may issue an Agency specific Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>New employees are provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct booklet as part of their commencement package. All employees have access to the electronic version of the Code of Conduct booklet via the Northern Territory Government Intranet.</p> <p>The Code of Conduct training program was delivered in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs to 140 participants. The program is designed to enhance people's knowledge of ethical business practices and to provide practical strategies for dealing with situations that arise at work. The workshop uses the <i>Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) Principles and Code of Conduct</i> as the source document which sets out the conduct expected of all Northern Territory Public Sector employees and the values they are obliged to uphold.</p>
<p>No 14. Part Time Employment Chief Executive to advise unions on a six monthly basis of the number of part time employees by salary stream.</p>	<p>The Agency is supportive of part-time working arrangements and other flexible arrangements. At the end of the reporting period 188 employees were employed on a part time basis. Of those, 142 were female and 46 were male.</p>

Induction, Probation and Industrial Relations

Induction

Eight face-to-face Induction Programs were conducted in 2008–09 in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs for new employees. A Code of Conduct Workshop was delivered in conjunction with the Induction Program to ensure employees were informed of their obligations and rights as public service employees.

The joint Program is scheduled four times per year to allow all new employees to participate. The Induction Program provides an overview of the Agency's responsibilities and strategic objectives, and provides an introduction of key contacts such as payroll and records management.

Human Resource Services also provides a Welcome Pack for all new employees which contains information relating to Conditions of Service, key contacts and a checklist for supervisors to ensure appropriate site specific workplace inductions are conducted.

Probation

In 2008–09, 19 employees were subject to probation. The outcomes were as follows:

Outcome	2008–09 No. of Employees	2007–08 No. of Employees	2006–07 No. of Employees
Currently under probation	19	18	19
Confirmed at 3 months (within probation period)	13	13	9
Confirmed at 6 months (within probation period)	17	19	16
Probation extended to 12 months	2	1	1
Resigned	7	2	0
Transferred to Executive Contract	0	1	0
Probation automatically confirmed	0	0	0
Total	58	54	45

Industrial Relations

There was one matter heard before the Australian Industrial Relations Commission in 2008–09, regarding working conditions which was resolved satisfactorily.

As part of the *Northern Territory Public Sector 2004–07 Certified Agreement* all Physical and Technical classification positions that had not been evaluated since 1 August 2002 were required to be reviewed by January 2007. Of the 371 Agency positions affected by the review, 351 required evaluation. At the end of 2007–08, five positions' review remained outstanding. These remaining five positions were reviewed and completed in 2008–09.

Occupational Health and Safety

The Agency is committed to the health, safety and welfare of all its employees and continued to work in conjunction with the Northern Territory Government's Department of Business and Employment (DBE) Workplace Injury Solutions Unit to provide its Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) program.

The Agency utilised the following DBE services:

- advice and assistance;
- reporting; and
- compensation claims management.

Briefing sessions with both DBE and the Northern Territory Government's Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment have occurred regarding employer and employee obligations resulting from the introduction of the new *Workplace Health and Safety Act*.

Following the introduction of the *Workplace Health and Safety Act* the Agency's focus during 2008–09 was establishing its Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Framework and a draft Management Plan. The Framework received in-principle endorsement from the Community and Public Sector Union and NT WorkSafe in early 2009.

A key part of the Framework included the introduction of a whole of Agency Occupational Health and Safety Steering Committee. The Committee is comprised of members drawn from each Divisional OHS Committee, as well as six members appointed by the Chief Executive. Its purpose is to advise the Chief Executive, through the Executive Leadership Group on occupational health and safety issues to ensure the health and safety of its staff and clients.

Under the Framework the Divisional OHS Committees consist of nominated staff members and assist with staff consultations and the work of the Agency OHS Steering Committee. The Framework is designed to ensure a coordinated and consultative approach to OHS across the Agency.

The priority for 2009–10 is to fully implement the Framework and progress the draft Management Plan.

Workers' Compensation Claims

A total of 66 accident and injury reports were received in the reporting period, an increase of 16 reports from 2007–08. Of these 66 reports in 2008–09, 37 resulted in a claim for workers' compensation, an increase of 6 claims from the previous year. \$428 435.66 was spent on these and existing open claims in 2008–09, representing a decrease of \$84 234.09 on the previous year.

The Agency's Early Intervention Program, which is designed to minimise the risk of potentially protracted compensation claims, continued in 2008–09. Early Intervention includes such strategies as ergonomic assessment, counselling, mediation, workplace assessments and coaching.

Type of claim	2008–09 No. of Claims	2007–08 No. of Claims	2006–07 No. of Claims
Lost time injuries	37	20	13
Medical expenses only	0	11	17
Total number	37	31	30
Total Cost	\$428 435.66	\$512 669.75	\$565 149.88

Employee Assistance Program

The Agency has a formal Employee Assistance Program (EAP) with Employee Assistance Service NT Incorporated. This is a confidential counselling service for employees and their family members seeking assistance with personal, family and workplace issues that may be affecting their work performance, productivity and wellbeing.

The Agency also uses the services of Darwin Consulting Psychologists to support managers and employees on specific issues.

In 2008–09, 91 employees and their family members accessed the Agency's EAP program.

Flu Program

The Agency continued its Flu Vaccination Program in Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine and Alice Springs. The number of employees who participated in the vaccination program was 113, which is an increase of 68 from the previous year.

Employee and Agency Achievements

In 2008–09 the Agency and its employees, through their work, have been recognised for Agency and individual awards. Additionally, many employees have performed keynote speaking opportunities, a reflection of their experience and expertise.

Individual Awards

- Ashlee Porter, from the Alice Springs Desert Park, was awarded Indigenous Apprentice of the Year at the 2009 Group Training Northern Territory Regional Awards for her efforts in undertaking Certificate III in Captive Animals.
 - Mr Jochem Van Der Reijden, Specialist Keeper from the Alice Springs Desert Park, was awarded Supervisor of the Year at the 2009 Group Training Northern Territory Regional Awards. This recognition was for his commitment to the apprenticeship program, providing a high quality training to apprentices and for the positive relationship he has with Group Training Northern Territory.
 - Danielle McGinness, from the Parks and Wildlife Division, was awarded Indigenous Apprentice of the Year at the 2009 Group Training Northern Territory Regional Awards for her efforts in undertaking Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management at Elsey National Park.
 - Magnus Fejo, from the Parks and Wildlife Division, was awarded Apprentice of the Year at the 2009 Group Training Northern Territory Regional Awards for his efforts in undertaking Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management at Nitmiluk National Park.
 - Jarrod Benton, from the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, was awarded School Based Apprentice of the Year at the 2009 Group Training Northern Territory Awards for his efforts in completing Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management. Jarrod has since gone onto undertaking Certificate III in Drilling (Water Well).
- Tahlia Peckham, from the Alice Springs Desert Park, was awarded the 2008 Most Outstanding Tourism Apprentice from Charles Darwin University for recognition of her commitment to completing her studies and her place of employment as an apprentice guide.
 - Katie Chatto, from the Parks and Wildlife Division, won the Northern Territory Young Achiever Environment Award in recognition for her work as a Junior Ranger Co-ordinator in Darwin and her work outside the Agency in environmental matters.
 - John Woinarski, from the Biodiversity Conservation Unit, won the overall prize at the Research and Innovation Awards 2008 and won the Tropical Knowledge Research category for his contribution to the knowledge and management of the Territory's natural environment over a 20-year period.
 - Keith Ferdinands, from the Weed Management Unit, was a finalist in the Research and Innovation Awards 2008 for his work with the Weed Ecology and Risk Management Team who examined the environmental and economic impacts of invasive plants and developed a Weed Risk Management system.

Agency Awards

- Nitmiluk National Park was awarded Small Host Employer of the Year at the 2009 Group Training Northern Territory Regional Awards. The recognition was for the Park's commitment to the apprenticeship program, for providing a high quality of training to apprentices and for the positive relationship the Park has with Group Training Northern Territory.
- The Alice Springs Desert Park was awarded the 2008 Northern Territory Brolga Award for Major Tourist Attraction as well as the Award for Ecotourism recognising the Park as an ecologically sustainable tourism business.

- The Alice Springs Desert Park was awarded the 2008 New Tourism Innovation from Tourism Central Australia in recognition of the Park's new Nocturnal Tour and the Park's continued contribution to the tourism industry.
- The Desert Fire Research Team, lead by Dr Glenn Edwards from Collections, Biodiversity and Biological Parks Division was awarded the Desert Knowledge Research Award at the Northern Territory Research and Innovation Awards 2009.
- The Natural Resources Division received the Chief Minister's award for excellence, in the Public Sector Awards (Engagement within the Community category), for work with the local Katherine community to develop the Katherine Water Allocation Plan.
- The Agency was declared the overall winner at the 2009 Northern Territory Public Sector Annual Report Awards. The Agency won five categories for Best Communication of Corporate Governance, Regional Focus Reporting and Environment and Sustainability Reporting, resulting in an Award of Merit and Overall Winner for 2009.

Keynote Speaking Opportunities and Involvements

- Cate Richmond, Northern Territory Library, presented at the Gates Foundation Global Libraries Peer Learning Group in Mexico in March 2009.
- Jo McGill, Jason Gibson and Shirley Shepherd, Northern Territory Library, all presented at the Australian Library and Information Association Conference in Alice Springs in September 2008.
- Jo McGill and Cate Richmond, Northern Territory Library, presented the Libraries and Knowledge Centre Model at the Public Library Conferences in Western Australia in May 2009 and in Queensland in October 2008.

- Dr Michael Braby, Museums and Galleries of the Northern Territory, delivered a seminar at La Trobe discussing theories around why there are so many insects in the world using butterflies as model to address evolutionary science.
- Dr Matt Brearley and Ms Melissa Hall, Northern Territory Institute of Sport attended the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Dr Brearley provided heat acclimatisation support to the Australian Hockey Team during both pre Olympic preparations and during the games. Ms Hall, the Northern Territory Institute of Sport Hockey Coach, was invited to observe the men and women's hockey teams during their Olympic campaign.
- Ian Lancaster, Natural Resources Division, presented a keynote speech at the Charles Darwin University Symposium, titled 'Water in the Top End'.

Scholarships and Fellowships

- Four PhD Scholarships were awarded to Agency employees for Northern Territory Marine Studies in 2008. Each scholarship is to undertake three years of marine research in the Northern Territory at Charles Darwin University. The recipients were
 - Xavier Hoenner - hawksbill turtles;
 - Shane Penny - giant clams;
 - Carol Palmer - inshore dolphins; and
 - Emma Francis - sea snakes.
- Dr Belinda Glasby, Research Associate, was awarded a fellowship to study in the Natural History Museum in Leiden, the Netherlands, for three months.

Performance Reporting



Output Group: Parks and Reserves

A Park or Reserve is an area of land managed by the Parks and Wildlife Commission as a Park or Reserve for the purpose of conservation and public enjoyment. Parks and Reserves are declared under Section 12 of the [Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act](#) or are managed as a Park or Reserve by agreement, lease or other legal instrument.

The objective of this Output Group is to manage the Northern Territory’s system of 87 Parks and Reserves spread across the Territory. This involves protecting its biodiversity and creating commercial, educational and recreational opportunities for visitors and the Territory community. By achieving these functions, it provides a core for regional development and economic growth.

This Output Group is attributed \$31.7 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There are three Outputs within this Output Group:

- Parks Joint Management Programs;
- Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs; and
- Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs.

Output: Parks Joint Management Programs

Parks Joint Management Programs establishes an equitable joint management partnership with local Traditional Owners to manage, maintain and protect the biodiversity of a Park or Reserve while at the same time serving the needs of visitors and the wider community.

Performance Measures: Parks Joint Management Programs

Output: Parks Joint Management Programs	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Operational Joint Management Plans ¹	3	5	8	7 ²	11
Indigenous full-time equivalents in permanent positions, training positions and flexible employment programs ³	12% ⁴	15% ⁴	20%	20%	22%
Quality					
Stakeholder satisfaction with Joint Management Plans ⁵	N/A	N/A	85%	94%	85%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Joint Management Plans are a legal requirement for Parks and Reserves subject to formal joint management arrangements with Traditional Owners. Statutory management plans set the direction for management of Park values generally over a ten year time frame.
2. The Chambers Pillar Conservation Reserve Joint Management Plan has been delayed pending clarification of disputed claims amongst Traditional Owners. The delay has resulted in a variation between the estimated and actual number of operational Joint Management Plans.

3. Derived from total hours for casual part time labour, number of permanent employees and training positions maintained under the joint management program expressed as a percentage of the total employees.
4. These figures were calculated on the basis of full-time permanent staff from 2008–09 and includes, temporary, part-time and casual staff.
5. This measure is derived from a survey of the Agency's Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council members as broadly representing the range of stakeholders. This is a new performance measure which can not be estimated for 2006–07 and 2007–08.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Parks Joint Management Programs

1. Successfully transferred the title and leased back of 11 Parks and Reserves subject to the *Parks and Reserve (Framework for the Future) Act* as listed below

Schedule 1 Parks:

- Arltunga Historical Reserve, east of Alice Springs;
- Chamber's Pillar Historical Reserve, south of Alice Springs;
- Corroboree Rock Conservation Reserve, Alice Springs;
- Davenport Ranges National Park (proposed), south-east of Tennant Creek;
- Devils Marbles Conservation Reserve, south of Tennant Creek;
- Ewaninga Rock Carvings Conservation Reserve, south Alice Springs;
- N'Dhala Gorge Nature Park, east of Alice Springs; and
- Trepkina Gorge Nature Park, east of Alice Springs.

Schedule 2 Parks:

- Kuyunba Conservation Reserve, south of Alice Springs;
- Native Gap Conservation Reserve, north of Alice Springs; and
- Dulcie Range National Park, north-east of Alice Springs.

2. Facilitated the second Joint Management Forum in May 2009, involving Traditional Owners of jointly managed Parks and Reserves from across the Northern Territory to exchange experiences, ideas and issues associated with implementing joint management in Parks and Reserves across the Territory.
3. Increased participation levels in Indigenous employment and training programs by improving partnerships with Aboriginal organisations such as;
 - Ingkerreke Outstations Reserve Centre;
 - Tjuwanpa Ranger Group, Alice Springs region;
 - Julalikari Corporation, Tennant Creek;
 - Yilli Rreung Housing Association Wetlands District; and
 - Ngali-Wurru Association, Timber Creek and Gregory National Park.
4. Completed the following Joint Management Plans;
 - Devils Marbles (Karlukarlu) Conservation Reserve. This plan is now in operation.
 - Chambers Pillar Historical Reserve Joint Management Plan. This plan is to be tabled in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly once disputed claims of Traditional Owners have been clarified.
 - Watarrka and West MacDonnell National Park Draft Joint Management Plan's were drafted and will be released for community consultation in 2009–10.
5. Amended the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act* to simplify the process of declaring joint management parks.
6. Completed trials in joint management monitoring and evaluation at Flora River Nature Park, west of Katherine, as part of a three-year partnership research project with Charles Darwin University.

7. Awarded contracts to Indigenous organisations to
 - Construct walking tracks at Simpsons Gap in the West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Re-roof various shelters in Parks within the Alice Springs region; and
 - Repair and maintain the Larapinta Trail in West MacDonnell National Park, with works going to Tjuwanpa Rangers and Ingerreke Resource Centre employees.
8. Provided planning assistance and guidance, in conjunction with the Central Land Council, for the development of an Indigenous Rainbow Valley Cultural Tour to be conducted at Rainbow Valley Conservation Reserve art sites, south of Alice Springs.
9. Hosted four 'back to country' Joint Management camps in the Katherine region with Traditional Owners and Agency Parks and Wildlife employees, to facilitate discussion on park management issues.

Challenges in 2008–09: Parks Joint Management Programs

1. Experienced slower than expected drafting processes for joint management plans as a result of limited stakeholder knowledge on the complex management issues needed to make informed decisions about park management.
2. Faced unanticipated legislative amendments related to defining boundaries and declaring Parks and Reserves slowing the Agency's ability to grant titles for some Parks.
3. Management of alcohol on Aboriginal land due to the Australian Government's Northern Territory Intervention has added a degree of complexity and additional consultation for Traditional Owners.
4. Changes to the Community Development and Employment Program (CDEP) effected the Indigenous employment and training program.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Parks Joint Management Programs

1. Complete title transfer of the remaining six parks and reserves subject to the *Parks and Reserve (Framework for the Future) Act*. These Parks and Reserves are:
 - West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Finke Gorge National Park, south-west of Alice Springs;
 - Watarrka National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Gregory National Park, west of Katherine;
 - Gregory's Tree Historical Reserve, west of Katherine; and
 - Emily and Jessie Gaps Nature Park, east of Alice Springs.
2. Complete an Indigenous Employment and Training Strategy and implement it to increase Indigenous employment in Parks and Reserves.
3. Complete Joint Management Plans for:
 - West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Watarrka National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Fogg Dam Nature Park, east of Darwin;
 - Black Jungle/Lambells Lagoon Conservation Reserve, east of Darwin;
 - Harrison Dam Conservation Reserve, near Darwin;
 - Melacca Swamp Conservation Area, south of Darwin; and
 - Flora River Nature Park, south-west of Katherine.
4. Continue to enhance capacity and governance arrangements for jointly managed Parks and Reserves through training programs and focussed workshops for ranger staff and Traditional Owners, particularly for Parks and Reserves with Joint Management Plans in operation.
5. Increase the number and frequency of Flexible Employment Program projects in line with the Agency's four year priorities, targeting the Traditional Owners of the 27 jointly managed Parks.

Output: Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs

Visitor management programs create commercial, educational and recreational opportunities based on sustainable use of the natural and cultural assets of the Parks estate.

Performance Measures: Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Program

Output: Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs	06-07 Actual	07-08 Actual	08-09 Estimate	08-09 Actual	09-10 Estimate
Quantity					
Total visits to Territory parks ¹	2 772 633	2 830 888	2 800 000	2 600 000 ²	2 575 000
Park visitors participating in ranger guided interpretation activities ³	12 100	13 640	12 700	13 700 ⁴	13 500
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction ⁵	N/A ⁶	86.8%	80%	87.3%	80%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

- Figures were derived from a combination of calibrated traffic counters, entry permits or estimates for a select range of Parks with reliable visits data.
- Decreases in the number of visits to Northern Territory Parks correlated to the decrease in holiday visitors to the Territory as provided by Tourism Northern Territory data.
- Territory Parks Alive figures for Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs regions.
- New slide shows in Watarrka National Park, west of Alice Springs, created higher than expected participation in interpretation activities.

- Determined by visitor surveys conducted at Watarrka, Litchfield and West MacDonnell National Parks in the off-peak and shoulder season during 2008-09.
- Visitor surveys commenced in 2007 therefore no prior historical data is available.

Key Achievements in 2008-09: Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs

- Completed the \$5.2 million Stage Two upgrade to Darwin's Leanyer Recreation Park in March 2009, including installation of three waterslides, shade structures, BMX moguls, a half-pipe and new barbecue areas; improving the recreational facilities and user experience of the facility.
- Completed the Stage One upgrades to Litchfield National Park, near Darwin, in April 2009 that included upgrades to the day use and camping areas at Wangi Falls, resulting in improved traffic flow and visitor experience.
- Improved visitor safety, access and experience through upgrading facilities at the following Parks and Reserves:
 - Berry Springs Nature Park, near Darwin – Upgraded and improved the stairway access to swimming.
 - Garig Gunak Barlu National Park on the Cobourg Peninsular – Completed installation of a new cyclone shelter.
 - Watarrka National Park, west of Alice Springs – Upgraded walking trails.
 - Elsley National Park, near Katherine – Completed improvements to the Mataranka thermal pool board-walk and pool entry.

4. Awarded two tenders worth a total of \$1.186 million for the design and production of an extensive digital interpretation website for Stage One of the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre, near Alice Springs. This website will enhance visitor experience and appreciation of the Park's world heritage nominated natural and cultural values. Planning for the construction of the Stage Two West MacDonnell Visitor Centre also commenced in 2008–09.
5. Initiated planning for improved management of the Howard Springs Nature Park, near Darwin, which will be implemented in 2009–10 and will include the design of new and upgraded visitor facilities, implementation of a water quality monitoring and maintenance program and revision of the Park's management plan.
6. Revised and improved the visitor survey program by developing new standards to establish a more flexible program and improve the reliability of visitor use data on which to base visitor management decisions.
7. Completed visitor surveys in three high profile Parks, Watarrka, Litchfield and West MacDonnell National Park in the peak and shoulder visitor seasons as part of a \$49 500 partnership project with Charles Darwin University.
8. Conducted the Territory Parks Alive Program on a majority of Parks and Reserves during peak seasons providing free walks and talks by Rangers to enable greater visitor interaction and understanding of reserve values and conservation.

Challenges in 2008–09: Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs

1. Obtaining clearances and approvals through external authorities to finish Park infrastructure and visitor experience upgrades within the reporting period.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Parks and Reserves Visitor Management Programs

1. Design and complete Stage Two of upgrades to Litchfield National Park, south of Darwin, which includes works at the Cascades, Florence Falls and Buley Rockhole, to offer alternative recreation opportunities and improve the visitor experience.
2. Design the Visitor Services Centre at the Wangi Falls site in Litchfield National Park, south of Darwin, to be constructed in 2010–11. This facility will improve visitor experience in the Park and assist in managing increasing visitor numbers.
3. Design and implement a trial water quality monitoring and maintenance program for the waterhole in Howard Springs Nature Park, near Darwin.
4. Establish a local management committee for Howard Springs Nature Park, near Darwin, to improve community input into the Park's management.
5. Expand the lookout on the Ghost Gum walk at Ormiston Gorge in West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs.
6. Upgrade the car park at Berry Springs Nature Park, south of Darwin, to improve traffic flow and visitor access.
7. Complete the West MacDonnell Visitor Centre project near Alice Springs, that includes the production of an extensive digital interpretation website and two visitor centres located at the Alice Springs Desert Park Exhibition Centre and in downtown Alice Springs. These facilities will enhance visitor experience and appreciation of the Park's world heritage natural and cultural values.

Output: Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs

Conservation management programs protect the natural and cultural assets within the Northern Territory's Parks estate.

Performance Measures: Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs

Output: Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Plans of Management and Joint Management Plans ¹	28	29	30	29 ²	37
Statement of Management Intent ³	7	7	11	11	15
Conservation Plans ⁴	261	261	261	261	261
Quality					
Park landholdings covered by authoritative plans	77.5%	77.5%	54%	54% ⁵	59%
Achieved critical actions/outputs from Conservation Plans	N/A ⁶	78%	85%	83%	85%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

- Plans of Management and Joint Management Plans are statutory documents under sections 18 and 25 of the [Territory Parks and Wildlife Act](#).
- Delays in tabling the Chambers Pillar Conservation Reserve Joint Management Plan in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly due to disputed claims amongst Traditional Owners meant a reduction in the actual number of Plans for 2008–09.

- Statements of Management Intent are concise statements, key values and management directions for Parks and Reserves and are the basis of statutory Management Plans.
- All Parks and Reserves have Conservation Plans developed for weed, fire and feral animal management and they are reviewed annually.
- The area of Park landholdings covered by statutory plans and Statements of Management Intent is 2.6 million hectares, out of a total reserved area of 5 million hectares in the Northern Territory.
- This Output's Performance Measures were refined in 2006–07 and therefore no relevant historical data to compare prior to the above.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs

- Completed the [Devils Marbles \(Karlukarlu\) Conservation Reserve, near Tennant Creek, Joint Management Plan](#) which was put into operation in February 2009.
- Completed an assessment of all Parks in the Northern Territory to assess the natural cultural and tourism values; to develop a reporting framework for improved reporting on performance and programs.
- Undertook fire management protection burns on Parks and Reserves across the Northern Territory in accordance with approved Conservation Plans.
- Continued eradication of the Devils Claw weed from Gregory National Park, south-west of Katherine, and control of Belly-ache Bush in Elsey and Flora River Nature Parks, near Katherine, in order to manage the spread of weeds as part of ongoing control programs and surveys.
- Conducted feral animal removal programs to preserve the biodiversity of the various Parks and Reserves including:
 - Pigs and buffalo in Nitmiluk National Park near Katherine;
 - Camels in Watarrka National Park, west of Alice Springs; and
 - Cattle in West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs.

6. Removed ten saltwater crocodiles from the Parks, Reserves and management zones in the Katherine region, in accordance with crocodile management plans. A crocodile management study was also conducted at Flora River Nature Park, near Katherine, to enable the Agency to establish guidelines for risk management of crocodiles.
7. Conducted fauna surveys to monitor the health and dynamics of populations to enable better conservation and management of species and areas including;
 - Pig nose turtles in Flora River Nature Park, west of Katherine;
 - Gouldian finches and Leichhardt grasshoppers in Limmen National Park, east of Katherine;
 - Marine Turtles in Barranyi (North Island) National Park at the mouth of McArthur River, near Borroloola; and
 - General fauna surveys in Finke Gorge National Park and West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs.
8. Completed a survey recording all palm height measurements at Finke Gorge National Park, west of Alice Springs, with results to be analysed against existing data to demonstrate regeneration of species and growth of existing palms over time.
9. Continued a collaborative study to establish the impact buffel grass has on the biodiversity values of the Simpsons Gap in West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs, with Charles Darwin University students and the Agency's Alice Springs Desert Park employees.

Challenges in 2008–09: Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs

1. Taking a more focussed approach to conservation management in order to achieve more successful conservation outcomes.
2. Managing the re-allocation of resources to unplanned natural activities, such as fire and feral animal damage requiring urgent attention in order to maintain Parks infrastructure and conservation values.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Parks and Reserves Conservation Management Programs

1. Finalise a Management Effectiveness Framework using the outcomes from the Parks Assessment process and conservation standards, to provide an effective management program for all Northern Territory Parks and Reserves.
2. Standardise conservation management programs and reporting for all Parks and Reserves by June 2010 to facilitate performance reporting as a component of the Management Effectiveness Framework.
3. Complete management plans for the following Parks and Reserves:
 - West MacDonnell National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Watarrka National Park, west of Alice Springs;
 - Litchfield National Park, south of Darwin;
 - Gregory National Park, west of Katherine;
 - Flora River Nature Park, west of Katherine;
 - Gregory's Tree Historic Reserve, west of Katherine;
 - Chambers Pillar Historical Reserves south of Alice Springs;
 - Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve, east of Darwin; and
 - Harrison Dam Conservation Reserve, near Darwin.
4. Complete community consultation for the development of Joint Management Plans for the following Parks and Reserves:
 - Mary River National Park, east of Darwin;
 - Finke Gorge National Park, south-west Alice Springs;
 - Corroboree Rock Conservation Reserve, east of Alice Springs;
 - Trephina Gorge, east of Alice Springs; and
 - N'Dhala Gorge Nature Park, east of Alice Springs.
5. Complete Statements of Management Intent for all Northern Territory Parks and Reserves as part of the Management Effectiveness Framework.

Output Group: Biological Parks

A Biological Park uses and integrates the public functions of zoos, botanic gardens and museums to allow the public to make connections between animals, habitats, plants, landscapes, different cultures and themselves. Biological Parks build a great range of educational and recreational outcomes through these connections and can become major tourist attractions.

The Northern Territory has four Government owned Biological Parks; the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, the Territory Wildlife Park at Berry Springs, the Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre at Beatrice Hill and the Alice Springs Desert Park. The Territory Wildlife Park and the Alice Springs Desert Park form the Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division, the non commercial aspects of which are facilitated through this Output Group.

This Output Group is attributed with \$10.7 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There is one Output within this Output Group:

- Biological Parks.

Output: Biological Parks

Biological Parks include the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, Window on the Wetlands and incorporates the Community Service Obligations (CSOs) for the Territory Wildlife Parks.

The George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens is a state level facility in the Northern Territory’s capital city to conserve the Territory’s living flora collections and provide education and enjoyment to the community.

Window on the Wetlands is a visitor facility interpreting the nature and cultures of the wetlands around the Adelaide River, south-east of Darwin.

The payment of community service obligation funding to the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Territory Wildlife Park supports biodiversity and educational opportunities.

Performance Measures: Biological Parks

Output: Biological Parks	06-07 Actual	07-08 Actual	08-09 Estimate	08-09 Actual	09-10 Estimate
Quantity					
Visitors to George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens	202 470	221 045	390 000	345 800 ¹	350 000
Special events at George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens ²	3	7	4	4 ²	4
Functions at George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens ³	97	96	80	83	90
New significant visitor experiences created at George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens	2	2	2	3 ⁴	2
Visitors to Window on the Wetlands	79 673	82 736	75 000	74 194	75 000
Community service obligation payments to Territory Wildlife Parks	\$7.814M	\$7.915M	\$7.915M	\$7.915M	\$7.915M
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction with George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens	98%	98%	95%	98%	95%
Visitor satisfaction with Window on the Wetlands ⁵	N/A	N/A	95%	95%	95%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Actual figures are estimates collected by daily traffic counters and therefore inherently contain a margin of error.
2. Special events hosted this year included the:
 - Tropical Gardens Spectacular;
 - Festival of Darwin Star Shell, Replant Art exhibition and outdoor gallery;

- Nightcliff Orchard Show; and
 - George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens Friends plant sales.
3. Functions formally booked through the Gardens' information centre included birthdays, weddings, workshops, art exhibitions, corporate events, book launches, family fun days and memorials.
 4. Three new significant visitor experiences were completed:
 - The Eco-House Garden and establishment of the Fruit Tree Terraces;
 - Planting of a Wildlife Garden that includes seating and rocks to enhance the garden; and
 - Cycad Loop planting of cycads.
 5. Visitor satisfaction at Window on the Wetlands is measured on a scale of one (being not at all satisfied) to seven (being very satisfied) in the centres visitor comments book. Of the 2999 respondents 2844 selected six or seven on the scale of satisfaction. This was the first year formal visitor satisfaction surveys were conducted.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Biological Parks

George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

1. Hosted elements of the Darwin Festival in August 2008 including the Star Shell (the major event hub for the festival), Food Court held on the Flag Pole lawn, and the Replant Art exhibition and outdoor gallery were held in the Wesleyan Church and on the Coconut Lawn.
2. Developed the Eco-House and Wildlife Gardens for use by community members with ten garden plots developed, irrigated and connected with walking paths. Partnerships were established with local businesses to provide tools, including a grey water system and a rainwater tank, with the Eco-House to be developed to demonstrate low energy and green living.
3. Partially completed the Primary Loop to facilitate visitor circulation and enhance presentation of views and collections of the Gardens. The Primary Loop is to be the main visitor passageway that connects the top and bottom sections of the Gardens.
4. Removal of at risk tree species from the rainforest that were damaged by Cyclone Helen in January 2008.
5. Completed the Cycad plantings on the Cycad Loop which was opened to enhance visitor experience.
6. Hosted the Friends of the Darwin Botanic Gardens plant sales to raise revenue for Gardens' projects. Three sales were held in September 2008, February and May 2009 to raise funds for working on the potted Bromeliad Collection in the Plant Display House.
7. Commenced planting of the Gardens' heritage area as a representation of its former historic style.
8. Developed a community sponsorship scheme for trees and seating within the Gardens.

Window on the Wetlands

1. Maintained high levels (80–100 per cent) of Indigenous employment at Window on the Wetlands, which is in keeping with the wishes of the Traditional Owners of the land the Limilngan-Wulna people. Window on the Wetlands continues to provide flexible employment opportunities for Indigenous people.
2. Continued to honour agreements with the Aboriginal Corporation including the Traditional Owners of Window on the Wetlands (Ludawei), by committing employment and training support and opportunities to develop business and sustainable economic and social benefits. This includes facilitating and co-hosting with the corporation 'people to people', student ambassadors from the United States of America to do a weeding and tree planting project.

Challenges in 2008–09: Biological Parks

George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

1. Managing visitor expectations during times when maintenance is occurring around the Gardens or when areas are closed off for events.
2. Managing antisocial activities and vandalism within the Gardens.

Window on the Wetlands

1. Maintaining visitor numbers in a climate of economic instability.
2. Evolving the Visitor Centre in line with changing market trends and customer needs and integrating planning and activities with regional and community aspirations and developments.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Biological Parks

George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

1. Further develop the following facilities to attract visitors and educate them about making environmental changes in their lives:
 - Fruit Tree Terraces;
 - Eco-House;
 - Wildlife Garden;
 - Tropical Woodland;
 - Heritage Area; and
 - Sandstone Escarpment.
2. Complete the planting of the Geranium Street entrance to create a stronger sense of arrival to the Gardens.
3. Renovate the Plant Display House potted collections and upgrade the plant house infrastructure.
4. Develop water efficient irrigation systems and adaptation of new irrigation technology.

5. Continue the upgrade of directional signage to improve visitor orientation and experience.
6. Further develop the Orientation Centre through visitor interaction with Gardens' staff, feedback and the installation of self serve tea, coffee facilities and a cold water bubbler.
7. Develop a methodology to value and stock take the living collection within the Gardens.

Window on the Wetlands

1. Develop a three year plan that will review and upgrade the Visitor Centre's interpretative displays.
2. Continue the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding in line with aspirations of the Limilngan-Wulna people.
3. Expand the range of visitor experiences available at Window on the Wetlands with particular focus on Indigenous cultural activities.

Output Group: Natural Resources

Natural Resources refers to the Territory’s unique natural assets and encompasses land, vegetation, biodiversity and water. It is the Territory’s largely pristine and natural environment that provides a key foundation to the Territory’s unique identity.

The objectives of this Output Group are to:

- a) Protect the community interest in, and help the community to care for and make the best use of, all natural assets of the Northern Territory; and
- b) Predict and mitigate threats from natural processes such as bushfires, weeds, floods, erosion and feral animals.

This Output Group is attributed with \$49.0 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There are three Outputs within this Output Group:

- Natural Resource Management;
- Flood Forecasting; and
- Water Resources.

Output: Natural Resource Management

This output formulates and implements assessment, monitoring and evaluation programs, with respect to land, coastlines, native vegetation and biological diversity.

The output is also responsible for identifying and mitigating risks to, and associated with, natural resources, including those surrounding the management of biodiversity, bushfires, weeds, native vegetation and land capability.

Performance Measures Output: Natural Resource Management – Biodiversity

Output: Natural Resource Management – Biodiversity	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Strategic assessment programs ¹	N/A*	1	3	3 ²	3
Recovery plans for threatened species implemented ³	N/A*	12	11	14 ⁴	11
Wildlife management plans implemented ⁵	N/A*	5	5	5 ⁶	6
Biodiversity monitoring programs active ⁷	N/A*	5	5	13 ⁸	10
Regional biodiversity surveys (and/or conservation plans) undertaken ⁹	N/A*	2	2	2 ¹⁰	2
Quality					
Programs meeting agreed targets ¹¹	N/A*	90%	90%	90%	90%
Managed species reporting beneficial trends ¹²	N/A*	N/A*	20	7 ¹³	20
Timeliness					
Assessment project milestones met ¹⁴	N/A*	90%	90%	90%	90%

* New output for reporting in 2008–09, with no data available for this year.

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Strategic Assessment Programs are conservations plans, strategies or assessments on a broad scale.
2. Three strategic assessment programs were completed:
 1. Sustainable use of wildlife;
 2. Pest control; and
 3. Biodiversity, inventory, policy and planning.
3. Recovery Plans are formally declared under Commonwealth legislation the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*.
4. Recovery plans for the following threatened species were implemented:

<p>Flora:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acacia peuce; 2. Acacia undoolyana; 3. Acacia pickardii; 4. Acacia latzi; 5. Boronia quadrilata; 6. Boronia viridiflora; and 7. Tiwi plants. 	<p>Fauna:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Marsupial mole; 9. Slater's skink; 10. Northern hopping mouse; 11. Butler's dunnart; 12. Golden bandicoot; 13. Northern shrike-tit; and 14. Gove crow butterfly.
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The efficiency of completing several similar plans together resulted in a greater number being completed, than originally estimated.
5. Wildlife Management Plans are implemented under *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*.
6. Wildlife Management Plans for the following species were implemented:
 1. Dingoes;
 2. Saltwater crocodiles;
 3. Freshwater crocodiles;
 4. Magpie geese; and
 5. Cycads.

7. Biodiversity monitoring programs formally measure changes in the status of species in terms of abundance and distribution.
8. Thirteen biodiversity monitoring programs were active:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saltwater crocodile; 2. Freshwater crocodile; 3. Magpie geese; 4. Dingos; 5. Cycads; 6. Northern quoll; 7. Golden bandicoot; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Carpentarian rock-rat; 9. Tiwi plants; 10. Boronias; 11. Desert acacias; 12. Kakadu fauna; and 13. Simpson Desert mammals.
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Due to increasing accountability, more monitoring programs than originally estimated were undertaken to measure management effectiveness.
9. Regional biodiversity programs survey wildlife and identify management issues.
10. Two regional biodiversity surveys were completed:
 1. Surveyed plants, invertebrates and vertebrate fauna in the Daly Region; and
 2. Surveyed plants and animals on Northern Territory Islands including Sir Edward Pellew Islands, Victoria River Island and Groote Island.
11. Programs meeting agreed targets is a measure of the project outcomes and milestones, including acquittals for externally funded projects.
12. Beneficial trends refer to an increase in abundance for threatened species or a decrease in abundance for pest species.

13. Seven species showed improving trends in abundance or conservation status as a consequence of our management including;

1. Acacia peuce;
2. Acacia pickardii;
3. Acacia sp. Graveside Gorge;
4. Livistona mariae subsp. mariae (Palm Valley palm);
5. Gouldian finch;
6. Golden bandicoot; and
7. Desert sand-skipper.

The number of threatened species showing increasing trends was less in 2008–09 than estimated, as turning around population trends for threatened species is very challenging. The initial estimate was overly optimistic.

14. Each assessment activity was run on a project management basis with identified milestones that were tracked and reported on.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Biodiversity

1. Completed a detailed assessment of sites of high biodiversity conservation value across the Northern Territory, in order to direct conservation management actions to the most significant sites. This study will provide information to landholders regarding their property's conservation values and how to best manage these.
2. Detected an infestation of one of the world's most invasive species, the Yellow Crazy ant, at Berrimah in Darwin and initiated the first treatment round of a three round eradication campaign as at 30 June 2009.
3. Reviewed the current saltwater crocodile management program and began developing a new draft strategy, 'Crocwise', to improve the effectiveness of management and enhance community awareness about crocodiles. 'Crocwise' will be implemented in 2009–10.
4. Revised 1080 poison bait management activities for landholders in the Northern Territory to more effectively manage pigs, wild dogs and foxes on their properties. This change in management activity has enabled landholders to undertake training and apply for a permit to use dry manufactured baits to manage pest animals, rather than rely on the Agency to perform this function.
5. Completed a major series of biodiversity monitoring at Kakadu National Park, with analysis of trends indicating an ongoing major decline of native mammals.
6. Commenced a program to undertake biodiversity surveys of main Northern Territory islands not previously sampled for biodiversity, and to comprehensively review the conservation values of, and threats to, all Northern Territory islands.
7. Successfully engaged and trained Traditional Owners in the Victoria River District, west of Katherine, and the Sir Edward Pellew Islands, near Borroloola, to undertake feral animal management activities on their lands. This has skilled the local community in how to trap and humanely euthanize damaging pest animals, such as rats and cats, which prey on native species.
8. Undertook a series of biodiversity sampling and monitoring programs in collaboration with Indigenous ranger groups in newly-established Indigenous Protected Areas (IPA). These included:
 - Biodiversity survey of Isle Woodah with the Yirralka rangers (Laynhapuy IPA);
 - Biodiversity survey of the northern Laynhapuy IPA area, with Yirralka rangers;
 - Monitoring of translocated northern quoll and golden bandicoot populations with the Marthakal rangers (proposed Marthakal IPA);
 - Biodiversity survey and search for endangered golden-backed tree-rat in the pending Wardekken IPA; and
 - Monitoring of the threatened northern Shrike-tit, with Jawoyn rangers.

9. Removed and relocated 197 saltwater crocodiles from Darwin Harbour and 10 saltwater crocodiles from the Katherine River.
10. Conducted 54 inspections for wildlife permits, to ensure the permit holder's compliance with its conditions, under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*.
11. Completed [management programs for saltwater crocodiles](#) and [magpie geese](#), providing five-year plans for conservation of populations and maintaining sustainable use of these animals for industry.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Natural Resource Management – Biodiversity

1. Obtain final approval from the Commonwealth Government on the draft Management program for the saltwater crocodile and implement the plan.
2. Develop and implement a management program for the freshwater crocodile.
3. Complete the Island Ark inventory program.
4. Develop an integrated program for biodiversity monitoring.
5. Develop a biodiversity strategy for the Northern Territory.

Performance Measures Output: Natural Resource Management – Bushfires

Output: Natural Resource Management – Bushfires	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Fire plans ¹⁵	90	110	115	115	150
Active brigade volunteers ¹⁶	400	410	435	433	450
Non-brigade volunteers ¹⁷	504	500	570	722 ¹⁸	570
Quality					
Proportion of training courses accredited to national standards	50%	50%	80%	90% ¹⁹	90%
Timeliness					
Property plans prepared prior to fire season start (properties less than eight hectares) ²⁰	80%	80%	80%	80%	90%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

15. A fire plan documents the history of fire on a property (public land) and sets out future actions to mitigate wildfire. Estimates for the 2009–10 period have significantly increased from previous years due to the increased efforts through planning workshops held for community properties to help to raise awareness of the need for fire plans.
16. Active brigade volunteers are paid-up members of the 22 incorporated Volunteer Bushfire Brigades in the Northern Territory.
17. Most of these volunteers belong to pastoral stations and Indigenous communities. Numbers will rise and fall according to the cycle of the fire seasons and economic strength of the cattle industry.
18. Changes in volunteer numbers were largely caused by updating Brigade volunteer registration lists.

19. The increase in training percentages is due to the implementation of a Strategic Bushfires Risk Mitigation package and roll-out of nationally accredited training.
20. Fire plans are developed in conjunction with the landholder and the Agency's Bushfires NT with most completed before the official start of the fire season.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Bushfires

1. Implemented the Strategic Bushfires Risk Mitigation Program which included \$2 million in upgrades to volunteer support, equipment and training for fire management. Six new trucks, two loaders, a transporter, support for wildfire suppression aircraft and a nationally accredited training program were part of this program.
2. Facilitated and supported the ongoing West Arnhem Land Fire Abatement project which delivered 152,000 tonnes of carbon emissions abatement. This world first project, funded by Conoco Phillips, uses fire management by Traditional Owners to reduce savanna burning greenhouse emissions.
3. Facilitated the signing of two new Memoranda of Understanding with the Northern Land Council to develop new greenhouse abatement savanna burning projects in Central Arnhem Land and the Gulf of Carpentaria. These agreements will deliver \$2 million for project research and capacity building.

Challenges in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Bushfires

1. Ensuring the Northern Territory community has a sophisticated appreciation of fire, its management and their role in it.
2. Responding effectively to recommendations from the Victorian bushfires Royal Commission and applying them to suit the Northern Territory conditions, so as not to inhibit effective fire management and community safety initiatives.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Natural Resource Management – Bushfires

1. Develop a community education and extension program to ensure the community has a sound and responsible understanding of fire management. This will require working with the Northern Territory Education Department, Aboriginal organisations, other government agencies, private beneficial organisations and the community itself.
2. Review and update the *Bushfires Act* to ensure it captures current fire management practice and deals with emerging issues such as greenhouse abatement projects.

Performance Measures Output: Natural Resource Management – Weeds

Output: Natural Resource Management – Weeds	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Declared plans ²¹	0	0	1	0 ²²	4 ²³
New incursions in the Territory	0	0	0	0	0
Quality					
Land actively managing weed species ²⁴	14%	15%	15%	17%	17%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

- 21. Declared plans refers to the number of weed management plans declared in accordance with section 10 of the [Weeds Management Act 2001](#).
- 22. The preliminary consultation Draft of the Management Plan for *Andropogon gayanus* (gamba grass) was released to key stakeholders in 2009, however was not released for public comment by June 30 2009. It is scheduled for release for public comment in August 2009, as required under section 10 of the [Weeds Management Act](#).
- 23. Weed plans for 2009–10 are proposed for gamba grass, cabomba, mimosa pigra, bellyache bush.
- 24. Proportion of the Northern Territory with known weed management activity as identified through the Agency’s involvement in weed management planning with the community.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Weeds

- 1. Contained the spread of Cabomba weed in the Darwin River, with only a limited number of seedlings and juvenile plants found during the year. Since 2006 no new plants have been identified in three of the four infestation sites. The Darwin River Quarantine Zone was extended for a further three years until 2011 to prevent the weed’s spread.
- 2. Completed mapping of gamba grass infestations that provided information on the distribution and density of the grass, which was used to provide recommendations to the Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage to declare the grass as a weed under the [Weeds Management Act](#).
- 3. Declared gamba grass (*Andropogon gayanus*) and Mexican feather grass (*Nassella tenuissa*) as weeds under the [Weeds Management Act](#).
- 4. Developed a draft Weed Management Plan for *Andropogon gayanus* (gamba grass) which was released to key stakeholders, including members of the Regional Weed Reference Groups, Northern Territory Weed Advisory Committee, Northern Territory Government departments for comment prior to undertaking public consultation. This consultation is expected to commence in 2009–10.
- 5. Protected the Top End wetlands from the infestation and establishment of the weed of national significance, mimosa pigra, through facilitating management activities by Aboriginal ranger groups and undertaking surveys to limit the weed’s range.
- 6. Established the Northern Territory Weed Advisory Committee, which is responsible for the development of draft weed management plans and providing advice and information to the Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage on weed management activities in the Northern Territory.
- 7. Established the Darwin and Katherine Regional Weed Reference Groups. Both provide advice and information on regional weed matters to the Northern Territory Weed Advisory Committee and consist of community based stakeholders.

8. Completed six weed risk assessments, using the Weed Risk Management System, which will be used to provide recommendations to the Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage on the declaration of new weed species and classification amendments' of weeds currently declared under the [Weeds Management Act](#).
9. Commenced development of a compliance and inspection policy and procedure to monitor community compliance with the *Northern Territory Weeds Management Act*.

Challenges in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Weeds

1. Identifying management obligations for landholders as part of the weed management planning process, that are acceptable to a range of stakeholders, while still achieving good weed management.
2. Developing innovative resource management practices suitable to Northern Australia, including refinement of best practice management techniques developed for a temperate climate.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Natural Resource Management – Weeds

1. Development and implementation of a strategic program to manage infestations of bellyache bush in the Upper Daly and gamba grass in the Coomalie region, to reduce the environmental, social and economic impacts of these weeds.
2. Conduct a five year evaluation of the effectiveness and efficacy of the Northern Territory Cabomba Eradication Program to identify opportunities for improvement in the program.
3. Commence a review of declaration classes under the [Weeds Management Act](#) for weed species assessed using the weed risk management system. This will ensure appropriate management obligations are placed on landholders in consideration of the risks posed by the weed species.

Performance Measures Output: Natural Resource Management – Native Vegetation

Output: Natural Resource Management – Native Vegetation	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Clearing applications received	40	19	23	25 ²⁵	16
Quality					
Appeals	0	0	1	2 ²⁶	1
Clearing applications received for which supplementary information is required ²⁷	15%	20%	50%	25% ²⁸	30%
Timeliness					
Legislative timeframes met ²⁹	40%	40%	50%	50%	75% ³⁰

Explanatory Notes to the Table

25. Twenty five land clearing applications were received by the Agency (4 on Pastoral Land, 8 on zoned land, 13 on unzoned land) and are listed below:

Unzoned

- Centrefarm Aboriginal Horticulture Ltd
- Anthony Harrower
- Matthew Pheeny
- Ewan Crook
- Coomalie Enterprises
- Ahakeye Horticulture Pty Ltd
- Graham and Anne Beech
- Bonalbo Cattle Company P/L
- Nitmiluk Tours
- Hung and Tuan Dang

- Annette Phil and Chris Howie
- Great Southern Ltd
- Brett Gill

Pastoral

- Bloodwood Downs
- Larrizona Station
- Gorrie Station
- Neutral Junction Station

Zoned

- Acacia Hills Farm Pty Ltd
- Victor Carusi
- Inpex Browse Ltd
- Development 5129
- Power and Water Corporation
- Scott Wollard
- Beansville Enterprises
- Northern Territory Department of Planning and Infrastructure

26. One appeal on Agency approval to clear land was lodged in November 2008 on Section 135, Hundred of Playford (Ewan Crook) and a second applicant appealed in April 2009 on Northern Territory Portion 3634 (Joe Tapp). The outcomes of both appeals were still to be determined at 30 June 2009.
27. Additional information is determined by the sum of applicants for which supplementary information was formally sought by the Agency under s46(4) of the *Planning Act*.
28. Fewer requests for additional information in 2008–09 is a result of an increase in detail now required in land clearing applications. In 2009–10 it is anticipated to be at a level similar to 2008–09.

29. Number of applications that are determined within the statutory 12 week period. Timeframes are not being met due to the insufficient information being provided by the applicant, which requires additional information to be sought by the Agency, resulting in delays to the process.

30. The 2009–10 estimate is based on expectations that a new land clearing application processes will require applicants to provide more sufficient information to the Agency so applications can be determined more efficiently.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Native Vegetation

1. Completed amendments to Development Control Orders in March 2009 to allow for clearing applications to be considered within the gazetted area. This resulted in four approved applications, granting a total of 782 hectares clearing of which approximately 582 hectares was promptly cleared prior to the end of the financial year. This enabled a number of small land holders in the Daly region to advance their businesses.

Challenges 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Native Vegetation

1. Providing readily accessible and relevant environmental information to proponents of vegetation clearing applications to enable them to develop risk reduction and management plans.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Natural Resource Management – Native Vegetation

1. Review the Agency's Rangeland Monitoring Program to ensure it is accurately reporting land condition and trends across the rangelands of the Northern Territory. This will ensure rangelands are being managed sustainably and statutory obligations are being met.

Performance Measures Output: Natural Resource Management – Land Capability

Output: Natural Resource Management – Land Capability	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Soil monitoring sites monitored in the Daly River Catchment	0	12	12	12	12
Land development proposals assessed	236	199	220	224 ³¹	270
Quality					
New land related information captured in corporate database (site data) ³²	3 000	10 000	10 000	10 000	5 000
Timeliness					
Annual pastoral rent notices issued on time	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Monitoring sites assessed within timeframe	93%	82%	75%	65% ³³	90% ³³

Explanatory Notes to the Table

- 31. Land development proposals assessed is dependant on the number of applications received per year.
- 32. Information relates to the capture of individual pieces of soil data from land-related data and information from sites across the Territory. Due to reduced external funding it is anticipated that less sites will be captured in 2009–10.
- 33. The total number of sites to be assessed has been reduced from those in 2008–09, increasing an achievable percentage within the timeframe for 2009–10.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Natural Resource Management – Land Capability

- 1. Completed an acid sulphate soil survey and report for the Darwin Region that provides an inventory on acid sulphate soils and a risk assessment associated with their disturbance for use in development evaluations.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Natural Resource Management – Land Capability

- 1. Generate a soil landscape map of the Coomalie region, which includes Batchelor, Manton Dam and Adelaide River, to support sustainable land use, conservation and economic development of the region.

Output: Water Resources

Measure and assess the surface and groundwater resources of the Northern Territory and undertake drilling and bore testing to enable effective planning for allocation, use, control and protection of water resources.

Performance Measures: Water Resources

Output: Water Resources	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Operational rig days in the field ¹	224	200	212	210	200
New water allocation plans declared	0	1	2	0 ²	2
Licences and permits issued	210	224	250	341 ³	250
Quality					
Time series data collected at agreed standards ⁴	65%	78%	90%	85% ⁵	90%
Proportion of unscheduled maintenance of drilling rigs	2%	5%	5%	4%	5%
Level of compliance to water allocation plans	N/A ⁶	N/A ⁶	95%	95%	66%
Number of non-permitted activities	0	4	5	4 ⁷	5
Timeliness					
Services delivered within agreed timeframes	90%	90%	90%	85% ⁸	90%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Days of on-site drilling on the Agency's two drilling rigs, out of a possible 260 days, based on a five day working week.
2. No water allocation plans were completed. It was expected that the Katherine plan and the Ti Tree review would be completed during the 2008–09 financial year. However these were delayed and are now expected to be declared in 2009–10.
3. More licences and permits were issued than estimated due to an increased compliance effort by the Agency which saw an increase in the number of permits and licences issued under the [Water Act](#).
4. Agreed standards exist for the collection of time series data, measuring river level and flow, as well as groundwater level data.
5. This is measured when data collected by the Agency is compared to these standards and reported as a percentage of data which meets or exceeds them. Unexpected equipment failures reduced the actual percentage, down 5 per cent from the estimate.
6. This is a new output for 2008–09 so no historical data is available.
7. Number of reported breaches of licences and permits.
8. Services delivered within agreed timeframes was less than estimated due to new tighter timeframes being introduced via the new [Water Act 2008](#), gazetted in November 2008.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Water Resources

1. Completed the work required to facilitate the declaration of the [Katherine Water Allocation Plan](#), by the Northern Territory Minister for Natural Resources by June 2009. It is expected the Minister will formally declare the Plan in August 2009.
2. Completed Stage One of the [Water Act](#) review with the gazettal of the new Act in November 2008. This gazettal stated that all applications and consequent decisions regarding water extraction are to be advertised, and facilitate the publication of a register of water extraction licenses as required by the National Water Initiative.
3. Obtained \$300 000 in external funding over two years from the National Water Commission to commence the first Water allocation Plan in collaboration with Traditional Owners on the Tiwi Islands. This is expected to provide a blue print for future planning on Indigenous owned land where water resource based development is desirable.
4. Obtained \$1.5 million in external funding from the National Water Commission for groundwater investigation programs in the Daly region, Darwin and Central Australia.
5. Completed the major operational stages of National Water Initiative funded projects in the Gulf, Daly and Darwin regions, to investigate groundwater resources, that includes investigative drilling programs.
6. Commenced Water Allocation Plans for Mataranka, Daly and the Darwin Rural area which will result in better planning and allocation of available water resources to users in the areas. These plans will be open for community consultation once drafted.
7. Deployed new instrumentation to upgrade aging field based hydrological data collection systems including water level, condition sensing, logging systems and data modems, purchased with \$2 million in funding from the Bureau of Meteorology.

Challenges in 2008–09: Water Resources

1. Ensuring adequate explanation to community of water allocation planning process.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Water Resources

1. Commence new externally funded projects to investigate ground water resources in Darwin, Daly and Central Australia.
2. Progress Water Allocation Plans to determine the amount of water available and equitable distribution of that amount to the users in the following areas:
 - Western Davenport (Ali Curung) south of Tennant Creek;
 - Howard East aquifer (Darwin Rural area);
 - Berry Springs aquifer (Darwin Rural area); and
 - Tiwi Islands.
3. Review of Agency drilling and bore test operations.
4. Installation of three new flood warning sites with approximately eight instrument upgrades.
5. Implement the Northern Territory Government's rainwater tank subsidy scheme, which provides rebates for purchasing materials for installing and utilising rainwater tanks.

Output: Flood Forecasting

The Agency conducts a flood forecasting service to provide up to date advice to the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services, the Northern Territory Department of Planning and Infrastructure and the Australian Government’s Bureau of Meteorology in order to minimise risk to life and property in the event of flooding.

Flood forecasting is done on the basis of using measured rainfall and river heights (including Bureau of Meteorology information) in a catchment. Using real time data, which is relayed electronically to the Agency’s flood forecasters, and knowing river characteristics, the height likely to be reached at certain points (such as towns or bridge crossings) can be estimated.

Performance Measures: Flood Forecasting

Output: Flood Forecasting	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
New gauging station installations (river height and rainfall) ¹	1	2	2	1 ²	2
Number of gauging station upgrades to existing sites.	1	4	2	2 ³	3
Quality					
Proportion of days where data is available	85%	90%	95%	95%	95%
Percentage of new gauging station installations in priority areas (river height and rainfall) ⁴	100%	100%	20%	17% ⁵	20%
Timeliness					
Services delivered within agreed timeframes.	95%	95%	96%	96% ⁶	96%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Installations are based on a five year flood forecasting improvement program, which commenced in 2007–08. Gauging station installations include two types; river height and rainfall recorder; and stand alone rainfall recorders.
2. One gauging station upgrade was completed. The site clearance from Tradition Owners for another of the proposed sites was yet to be obtained as of June 30, 2009. Work on a third site commenced in 2008–09, but was not completed.
3. Two flood monitoring sites were upgraded with telemetry (transmitting data information via satellite phone or the Next G network).
4. The Daly River Basin was deemed a priority area for 2008–09. The percentage of newly constructed flood warning gauging stations in 2008–09 is against the total number of newly constructed gauging stations over the five year program.
5. There are six priority areas identified over the five year program that require gauging station installations. Two gauging station installations were planned to be completed each year at the commencement of the five year program in 2007–08. However, unavoidable delays occurred in 2008–09 (see explanatory Note 2). Due to the extra site constructed (outside original program planning) the total percentage of new gauging installations is slightly reduced.
6. Service delivered within the agreed time frames is being maintained due to reliability of retrieved data and the use of more reliable equipment and telemetry systems.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Flood Forecasting

1. Issued 137 flood forecast advices to Emergency Services with moderate to high reliability in river height prediction. These advices were issued to provide timely flood warning to communities such as Nauiyu, Beswick, Yarralin and Alice Springs. These forecasts are broken down to the following catchments:
 - Daly catchment 49
 - Upper Roper catchment 33
 - Victoria catchment 35
 - Upper Todd River catchment 20
2. Installed a new gauging station on Daly River at Theyona to collect data, increasing the Daly River flood monitoring system's ability to provide information.
3. Minimised the number of flood monitoring station network failures by introducing new and reliable instruments, which included upgrading telemetry for use on the Telstra Next G network.
4. Upgraded the Alice Springs' Todd River Flood Forecast Model to improve the efficiency of the model's usage.
5. Established a secure location in Darwin for central data collection and storage of river heights and rainfalls for data retrieval and provision, ensuring greater reliability and security for the data.
6. Improved public access to information and near real time data with increased information on river heights and rainfall in both tabular and plot form available on the Agency's website.

Challenges in 2008–09: Flood Forecasting

1. Forecasting accurate flood heights in advance for the communities of Borroloola, Kalakrindji, Nauiyu (Daly River), Yarralin (south-west of Katherine), Djilminggan (south-east of Katherine), and Pigeon Hole (south-west of Katherine) remained a challenge due to a lack of representative data and no accurate model to predict peak flood heights.
2. Predicting flood heights for the Nitmiluk Centre (Katherine Gorge) is difficult due to the lack of useful measuring sites and catchment data, especially river heights upstream of Nitmiluk. Despite a flood forecast model existing, its reliability in terms of flood height prediction is low to moderate.
3. Accurate and timely flood predictions in the Daly, Victoria, upper Roper, lower Adelaide and McArthur River catchments were challenging due to the small number of flood monitoring sites. These challenges will be addressed as part of the five year flood forecasting improvement plan.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Flood Forecasting

1. Upgrade existing monitoring sites in the Daly River, McArthur River, and upper and lower Adelaide River catchments to deliver improvements to the Territory's flood monitoring systems.
2. Installation of new monitoring sites for both the Daly River and Upper Roper River catchments to deliver improvements to the Northern Territory's flood monitoring systems.
3. Modify and run Victoria River, Adelaide River and Daly River flood forecast models to ensure the reliability of flood height predictions.
4. Upgrade the Alice Springs' Todd River flood forecast model to improve its operational performance within a secure environment and enhance the output formats.
5. Identify areas for improvement in the Katherine Gorge flood forecast model to better predict flood heights for the Nitmiluk Centre.

Output Group: Environment and Sustainability

Protecting the environment is a key component in conserving the Territory’s natural assets.

The role of this Output Group is to provide advice to Government, industry and the community in relation to environmental protection and sustainability issues and environmental issues arising from proposed land uses. It also advises Government on predicting and mitigating potential threats from both natural processes and human activities in order to protect our natural environment.

This Output Group is attributed with \$7.0 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There is one Output within this Output Group:

- Environment and Sustainability.

Output: Environment and Sustainability

This output assesses and regulates environmental impacts of development and promotes sustainable practices.

Performance Measures: Environment and Sustainability

Output: Environment and Sustainability	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Environmental assessment reports to Minister	7	3	16	0 ¹	11
Licences and approvals administered ²	74	71	68	63 ³	80
Capacity to assist community, industry and local government to promote environmental sustainability ⁴	\$0.61M	\$0.57M	\$0.95M	\$1.47M ⁵	\$1.29M
Quality					
Stakeholder satisfaction with advice ⁶	82.5%	79%	85%	95%	85%
Timeliness					
Meet statutory timeframes established under relevant legislation	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Reports anticipated for 2008–09 were withdrawn by the proponent behind the development.
2. Licences and approvals under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act* and the *Water Act*.
3. Variances between estimated and actual licences and approvals administered was due to businesses not renewing licences. This decline can be attributed to several mines that were out of operational mode and under administration.

4. Includes [EnvironmeNT grants](#), Cool communities and Household [Energy Smart Rebate Scheme](#). Details of funding for organisations is listed in Key Achievements.
5. This figure includes a one off payment to Alice Springs Town Council of \$850 000 for a glass crusher.
6. Feedback is received via a survey.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Environment and Sustainability

1. Encouraged community environmental management in the Northern Territory by implementing the fifth round of the [EnvironmeNT Grants](#) Program. A new category for Wildlife Conservation was established which contributed \$100 000 in funding for schools, community and operational funding.

There are three separate categories of funding: Operational Grants; Individual Projects; and School Projects.

Operational Grants

A total of \$263 086 was offered to nine community environmental organisations:

Recipient	Grant \$
Environment Centre NT	\$65 000
Arid Lands Environment Centre	\$35 000
Keep Australia Beautiful Council NT	\$80 000
Australian Marine Conservation Society	\$10 000
Environmental Defenders Office	\$10 000
Wildlife Rescue	\$20 000
Wildcare Incorporated	\$11 086
Wildcare Alice Springs	\$15 000
Conservation Volunteers Australia	\$17 000

Individual Project Grants

A total of \$268 314 were offered to 28 projects such as:

- Re-thinking Waste in Schools Challenge (\$17 000): Territory wide
- One Step From the River: Native Food and Medicinal Plants’ project (\$12 000): Alice Springs
- Track and campsite upgrades with interpretive signs and fencing (\$16 258): East Arnhem
- Coolmob Community Service Announcements (\$13 800) Territory wide
- Monitoring Biodiversity and Cultural Values of Dhimurru Indigenous Protected Areas (\$25 554) East Arnhem

School Project Grants

15 Schools were funded a total of \$28 600 including projects such as;

- Friends of the Frillies (Alawa Primary School) \$1 600
- Biodiversity Platforms (Mataranka Primary School) \$2 000
- Caring for our Local Environment (Angurugu Community Education Centre) \$1 700
- Native Bush Tucker Garden (Macfarlane Primary School) \$1 800

2. Developed the [Energy Smart Rebate](#) Scheme where Territory households can improve energy efficiency and reduce electricity costs by purchasing and installing selected energy saving devices with rebates of up to \$200 per household. The scheme is due to be launched in July 2009.
3. Assisted Territorian households to reduce energy use by providing operational funding of \$100 000 to the COOLmob project, which works with the community to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through improved home energy efficiency. Funding of \$50 000 was granted to Darwin and Alice Springs programs respectively.

4. Granted \$225 000 to the Power and Water Corporation for the Energy Efficient Hot Water Rebate (Retrofit) Scheme.
5. Pursued the Northern Territory Government's commitment to addressing climate change by:
 - contributing to the development of a new Northern Territory Climate Change Policy;
 - representing the Northern Territory on the Council of Australian Government's Climate Change and Water Working Group and related sub-groups; and
 - contributing to Northern Territory Government submissions on the Australian Government's proposed carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme and Voluntary Carbon Offset Standard.
6. Provided \$30 000 in funding for the report *Risks from Climate Change to Indigenous Communities in the Tropical North of Australia*. The development of the report was led by the University of New South Wales Climate Change Research Centre and was also supported by the Australian and Western Australian Governments. A final report will be released in 2009–10.
7. Worked with Northern Territory Shires to improve waste management in remote communities, providing input in developing *Waste Management Guidelines for Small Communities in the Northern Territory - Working Towards Best Practice 2009*.
8. Provided technical advice and support to the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program for developing waste management initiatives and improved waste water treatment facilities in remote areas.
9. Progressed the establishment of a comprehensive air quality monitoring system for Darwin by tendering for the supply of two self-contained air quality monitoring stations. One will be located at the Bureau of Meteorology site in Winnellie, with a second suitable location still to be determined. The stations are expected to be operational by the end of 2009.
10. Facilitated environmental assessments for new development proposals in the Northern Territory by providing Environmental Impact Statement guidelines for the following developments:
 - BHP Billiton Olympic Dam expansion (Northern Territory transport option);
 - Redbank Mines Ltd expansion of Redbank oxide copper leaching operations;
 - Inpex Browse Ltd Ichthys gas field development project;
 - Arafura Resources Nolan's Bore rare earths phosphate mine;
 - Tenax Energy Clarence Strait tidal energy project;
 - Gorrie Station land clearing proposal; and
 - Larrizona Station land clearing proposal.
11. Provided advice to the Northern Territory Government's Cash for Container's Reference Group on a Northern Territory container deposit scheme to improve litter management and resource recovery.
12. Facilitated and supported the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee in developing the [Darwin Harbour Strategy 2009–15](#) to guide stewardship and development of the Darwin Harbour region as well as facilitating government and public consultations on the new Strategy.

Challenges in 2008–09: Environment and Sustainability

1. Meeting the demands of a developing economy and community and industry expectations by continually reassessing the Agency's core functions of environmental assessment and regulation.
2. Balancing the ability to fulfil the Agency's regulatory function with the need to contribute to broader Agency and Government priorities, and recruiting and retaining staff with the skills and expertise required to achieve this balance.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Environment and Sustainability

1. Assess the environmental impact of major developments proposed for the Northern Territory, including the Inpex Browse Ltd Ichthys gas field development project, BHP Billiton Olympic Dam expansion (Northern Territory transport option), and the Wonarah phosphate mine project.
2. Continue to lead the development of a Northern Territory container deposit scheme.
3. Improve the understanding of air quality in the Darwin region and capacity to manage it by commencing the operation of two new air quality monitoring stations.
4. Effectively regulating industry by finalising a review of the Environment Protection Licence for the ConocoPhillips Darwin Liquefied Natural Gas plant and issuing an Environment Protection Licence for the Eni Blacktip Gas plant.
5. Assisting Territory households to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by continuing to support Darwin and Alice Springs COOLmob and administering the [Energy Smart Rebate](#) Scheme.
6. Continue to review the environmental assessment process, including contribution to the Environment Protection Authority's review of the [Environmental Assessment Act](#).
7. Support the community to achieve positive environmental outcomes by finalising the 2009–10 [EnvironmeNT grants](#) program, including the commitment to increase funding to the Environment Centre of the Northern Territory and the Arid Lands Environment Centre.
8. Finalise and report on the implementation of the Re-thinking Waste Disposal and Resource Efficiency Interim Action Plan.
9. Finalise amendments to the [Environmental Assessment Act](#) Administrative Procedures.
10. Finalise accountable risk assessment requirements and incorporate these into decision making on projects submitted under the [Environmental Assessment Act](#).

Output Group: Heritage Conservation

Heritage Conservation relates to the preservation and conservation of cultural assets including the built environment and sites of historical significance. The Northern Territory’s identity is forged on its complex social history and an improved understanding of how that history and diversity can contribute to our capacity to care for country and seas.

This Output Group is attributed with \$3.0 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There is one Output within this Output Group:

- Heritage Conservation.

Output: Heritage Conservation

Heritage Conservation works to provide advice, assistance and regulatory services to protect and conserve the Northern Territory’s heritage assets. Outcomes are the protection of the community’s interest in cultural and heritage assets and helping the community, business and government to care for and make best use of these assets.

Performance Measures: Heritage Conservation

Output: Heritage Conservation	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Assessment reports to Heritage Advisory Council	20	24	19	15 ¹	16
Capacity to provide assistance to private owners of heritage places	\$0.2M	\$0.2M	\$0.2M	\$0.18M ²	\$0.2M
Quality					
Stakeholder satisfaction with advice	88%	95%	80%	95%	80%
Timeliness					
Statutory time frames met	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Actual is less than estimated as reports due for assessment in the June 2009 Heritage Advisory Council meeting were rescheduled for the September 2009 meeting.
2. Assistance provided to private owners was reduced to \$183 662 for the 2008–09 period due to one applicant who was offered \$20 000 failing to sign a grant agreement. A full list of grants distributed to private owners of heritage places in 2008–09 can be found on [page 114](#).

Recipient	Project	Grant \$
Alice Springs Lutheran Church Incorporated	Old Lutheran Church, Alice Springs - Interpretative Signs and Brochure Publication - Stage 4	\$3 204
Christchurch Anglican Cathedral	Christ Church Anglican Cathedral Conservation Plan Stage 1	\$20 000
Consolidated Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	Ucharonidge Station 1949 No. 1 Comet Windmill	\$8 030
Darwin City Council	Sue Wah Chin Building - Verandah Restoration	\$20 000
Dhimurru Land Management Aboriginal Corporation	Purchase and install a self composting toilet - Reducing visitors' impact at Wurrwurrwuy Stone Pictures heritage site	\$18 945
Mrs Irene Hennessy	Flynn Farm - Rum Jungle Siding and Cemetery	\$4 000
Hermannsburg Historical Society Incorporated	Conservation work on Strehlow's House	\$30 000
Manbulloo Homestead	Restoration of World War II Tank Stand	\$9 000
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Middle Arm Petroglyph Site Cultural Heritage Management Plan and Interpretive Plan	\$15 420
National Trust of Australia(NT)	Stuart Town Gaol Masonry Repairs	\$13 200
National Trust of Australia (NT)	O'Keefe House Security Fencing	\$12 360
National Trust of Australia (NT)	Conservation work to O'Keefe House	\$12 307
National Trust of Australia (NT)	Exterior Painting and associated minor repairs for Magistrates House	\$17 196
TOTAL		\$183 662*

* Nominal budget is \$200 000 but total budget was not expended because one applicant who was offered \$20 000 failed to sign a grant agreement.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Heritage Conservation

- Presented 15 heritage assessment reports to the Heritage Advisory Council over four meetings for consideration of inclusion on the Northern Territory Heritage Register which provides places with statutory protection under the *Heritage Conservation Act*.
- Declared 21 places as heritage places in 2008–09, as follows:
 - Alice Springs General Cemetery;
 - Helen Springs Quarry (Kurutiti), Tennant Creek;
 - Puritjarra Rock Shelter north-west of Alice springs;
 - Tnorala (Gosse Bluff) Conservation Reserve, west of Alice Springs;
 - Butterfly Gorge, Douglas River, near Douglas Hot Springs;
 - Fergusson River Railway Bridge and Boiler, south of Pine Creek;
 - World War II K5 Anti-Aircraft Gun Battery Site, south of Darwin;
 - Warloch Ponds Road Bridge, south of Mataranka;
 - World War II RAAF No.1 Medical Receiving Station, near Batchelor;
 - Ghan's Bore, south of Tennant Creek;
 - Pitchi Richi Sanctuary, Alice Springs;
 - Smith Street Stone Kerb and Milkwood Trees, Darwin;
 - Myrtle Villa Date Palm, Alice Springs;
 - Hope Inlet Archaeological Sites, Shoal Bay;
 - Barrow Creek Hotel, south of Tennant Creek;
 - Climbing Dune, Jessie Gap, Alice Springs;
 - Union Camp, south-west part of Newcastle Waters;
 - Olive Pink Botanic Parks, Alice Springs;
 - Ludmilla Saltpan, Darwin Harbour;
 - Betty Bomber, Cox Peninsula; and
 - Fogg Dam, south-east of Darwin.

3. Implemented the \$1 million annual Northern Territory Government Repairs and Maintenance Program to government-owned heritage places in various regions including:
 - **Darwin:** Vestey's Tank (Darwin High School Gymnasium); Stella Maris Hostel; Sandfly Steam Locomotive; and East Point Military Museum.
 - **Batchelor:** Former Batchelor Primary School.
 - **Katherine Region:** Gregory's Tree, Timber Creek; Emungalan Cemetery.
 - **Tennant Creek Region:** Bonney Well Windmill; and Barrow Creek Telegraph Station.
 - **Alice Springs Region:** Ryan's Well and Glen Maggie Homestead Araluen Homestead; The Residency.
4. Implemented the \$180 000 annual Northern Territory Government Heritage Grants Program, providing 13 grants for conserving privately owned heritage places. Grant recipients are listed in the performance measures on [page 114](#).
5. Finalised work on the new Northern Territory Heritage Register database that will be available on the Agency's Internet in 2009–10 for public access.
6. Commenced as the delegate for the Commonwealth Government's *Historic Shipwrecks Act* which involved an expedition to the *Florence D* shipwreck, near the Tiwi Islands.

Challenges in 2008–09: Heritage Conservation

1. Managing stakeholders' expectations for finalising the new heritage legislation under the *Heritage Act* in a timely manner.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Heritage Conservation

1. Finalise the Northern Territory's new Heritage Act.
2. Enable the newly rebuilt Northern Territory Heritage Register database for public use on the Agency's Internet.
3. Upgrade the Archaeological Site Database to a new version on the Agency's Internet.
4. Provide at least 16 assessment reports about places nominated to the Northern Territory Heritage Register for consideration by the Heritage Advisory Council.
5. Identify and promote opportunities for adaptive re-use of heritage buildings.
6. Work with Tourism NT and the Darwin Military Museum developers/designers to develop a World War II heritage park for Darwin and surrounding region.
7. Work with the Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee and community to interpret and promote maritime heritage of Darwin Harbour.

Output Group: Scientific and Cultural Collections

The Northern Territory holds a number of key cultural and scientific collections for the purposes of collection, conservation, exhibition and research into the Territory’s natural, historical and cultural heritage. It is important to record the environmental and cultural history of the Northern Territory and the surrounding region in order to increase our understanding of critical contemporary issues in science, the environment and society and create new knowledge as a basis for future understanding, enhancing opportunities to make sense of our world. These activities are conducted at the Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, the Herbarium in Palmerston, Araluen Cultural Precinct in Alice Springs, Northern Territory Archives and Library Services.

This Output Group is attributed \$27.4 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There are five Outputs within this Output Group:

- Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory;
- Archives;
- Libraries;
- Herbarium; and
- Araluen Cultural Precinct.

Output: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory

The Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory preserve and provide access to Territory art, cultural and natural history collections in the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, the Museum of Central Australia and historic buildings in the care of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

The Strehlow Research Centre cares for and facilitates appropriate access to the Strehlow collection of ethnographic objects and materials.

Performance Measures: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory

Output: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Visitors	331 137	306 030	300 000	311 027	300 00
Major exhibitions	7	2	4	6 ¹	4
Grants and sponsorships received and managed	\$0.77M	\$0.6M	\$0.5M	\$0.5M ²	\$0.4M
Number of grants and sponsorship received	24	15	10	7	10
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction	97%	95%	95%	95%	95%
Acquisitions fully documented and stored	N/A ³	N/A ³	75%	75%	75%
Collection accessible to the public	10%	25%	26%	26% ⁴	26%
Retrievability, documentation and storage of collection	N/A ³	N/A ³	80%	97%	80%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Five exhibitions opened at Darwin’s Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory and one exhibition was produced at Alice Springs Museum of Central Australia:
 - From the Hands of Our Ancestors, Darwin;
 - Arafura Craft Exchange, Darwin;
 - Exit Art, Darwin;
 - Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award, Darwin;
 - Supercrocodilians: Darwin’s Ultimate Survival Story, Darwin; and
 - Frontier Journey, Photographs of Otto Tschirn: 1915–1918, Alice Springs.

2. Grants received and managed include:

Grant	Funded by	Grant \$
Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award	Telstra	\$194 000
Visual Arts and Craft Strategy	Australian Government	\$30 570
Darwin Festival	Australian Government	\$19 361
Bio Prospecting	Coral Reef Research Foundation(CRRF) USA	\$1100
Professional Development -Timor textile research	Myer Foundation	\$23 480
Polychaete Research	Australian Government	\$31 120
Australian International Cultural Council (AICC) Disaster Preparedness	Australian Government	\$42 775
Return of Indigenous Cultural Property (RICP) Museum and Community Support	Australian Government	\$110 005
Exit Art Exhibition	Northern Territory Government Department of Education	\$24 200
From The Hands Of Our Ancestors publication	ConocoPhillips	\$67 527

3. This is a new measure for reporting in 2008–09 so no data is available for previous years.

4. Cultural sensitivity of some collection material, for example, Strehlow Research Centre, precludes public accessibility.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory

1. Launched the exhibition *Husi Bei Ala Timor Sira Nia Liman: From the Hands of our Ancestors*, with the National Directorate of Culture, Timor-Leste. This exhibition featured significant works from the National Collection of Timor-Leste, the Agency's Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, the Australian Museum and private loans. A full colour catalogue of the exhibition was published including four scholarly essays.
2. Successfully held the 25th *Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award* featuring the works of 117 contemporary Indigenous artists from around Australia. This exhibition also included a virtual online gallery allowing video and audio recordings of the artists and their works to be viewed on the Agency's Internet.
3. Held two forums in Darwin and Alice Springs to increase the profile of the *Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award* within the changing context of Indigenous art practice and industry development. An online survey was conducted to consult with industry stakeholders and consider possible future developments.
4. Launched *Supercrocodilians: Darwin's ultimate survival story*, a scholarly and popular natural science and history exhibition.
5. Showcased the artwork of 45 students for the exhibition *Exit Art: Contemporary Youth Art of Northern Territory Year 12 Students 2008*. The exhibition consisted of 47 artworks and 17 extension projects that showcased the developing visual arts practice of Territory students and facilitated their tertiary pathways into professional practice.

6. Provided support for the establishment of a Steering Committee to oversee the development of the Defence of Darwin World War II Museum. The Steering Committee is comprised of representatives of Darwin City Council, Tourism NT and the Northern Territory Government's Departments of the Chief Minister (DCM), Business and Employment, Planning and Infrastructure and this Agency, to oversee the development of the project. Construction of the facility is due to begin in 2010–11. A broader Advisory Group was subsequently established to provide expert and community input into the project's developmental stages.
7. Incorporated a large number of primary type specimens of newly named species into the Natural Science Collections, including eight holotypes (Crustacea, Polychaetes, Porifera, Arachnids, and Pisces) plus 47 lots of paratypes (Crustacea, Polychaetes, Insecta, Arachnids, and Pisces).
8. Commenced a community engagement program with the Unmatjere community, near Alice Springs, to identify the rights to cultural material held at the Strehlow Research Centre. Consultation with the Western Arrente community was undertaken in regards to the repatriation of secret/sacred objects from the collections.
9. Accessioned 4318 lots of zoological specimens and 65 cultural items into Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's collections, including a significant donation of rare Indian trade cloths and Indonesian textiles. The Trade Cloths were donated by Mary Abbott through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program, 2009.
10. Launched the second in the triennial series of exhibitions *Arafura Craft Exchange: trajectory of memories, tradition and modernity in ceramics* in 2008 which featured contemporary craft of three Indonesian artists and the internationally renowned guest curator Sudjud Dartanto.
11. Delivered Otto Tshirn's exhibition of Historical Photographs of Hermannsburg Mission, Central Australian Cattle Stations and Aboriginal Stockmen in the Museum of Central Australia gallery.
12. Published Volume 24 of *The Beagle*, the journal of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, which contained 13 academic papers on new plants, butterflies, beetles and fishes.
13. Progressed the development of Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's collection management information systems. This involved upgrading the Natural Science collection data sets to a relational database platform with provision for image access and addition of a catalogue for tissue samples.
14. Received over 300 entries from around Australia for the 26th *Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award (NATSIAA)*, of which 93 were pre-selected for the Award exhibition held at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.
15. Developed a disaster management working group for collections-focused organisations in the Alice Springs region including the Northern Territory Archives, Strehlow Research Centre, Charles Darwin University, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Alice Springs Town Council, Central Land Council and St Philips Secondary School.

Challenges in 2008–09: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory

1. Collection storage issues impact on space allocation for exhibitions, staff accommodation, and long-range program planning.
2. Ongoing securing of copyright licences for works acquired over 25 years of the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award* to facilitate continuous representation of works through an online gallery.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory

1. Continue to develop the *Building Our Museums Sector 10 year plan*. A range of issues and proposals will be reviewed including:
 - A Northern Territory repository to solve storage problems;
 - Better displays of the Territory's important Southeast Asian art;
 - Expansion of natural history displays, possibly involving other Agency facilities such as the George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens; and
 - Improved displays of our social histories, for example discussions about the Defence of Darwin World War II Museum.
2. Maintain and strengthen the ability to attract travelling exhibitions and to achieve the Northern Territory's premier cultural institution mission to present excellence in national cultural programs and contribute to the reputation of the Northern Territory.
3. Increase public accessibility to the Museum of Central Australia and Strehlow Research Centre through new displays and exhibitions and digitisation and indexing of collections.

4. Review and secure sponsorship for *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award* in 2010 and onwards to ensure its future profile and viability.
5. Progress the development of the collection information systems upgrade across all collection data sets. This will provide improved mechanism for administration and reporting on the collection in support of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's research, access and exhibition programs.
6. Develop greater collaborations with the Agency's Output Groups increasing the capacity of the Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory to implement volunteer and education programs that will attract and inspire our visitors.
7. Progress the Collection Valuation Project, which sees the Northern Territory's Valuer-General assessing the value of the Museums and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory collection.
8. Continued to foster museum-to-museum relationships within the immediate Southeast Asian region.

Output: Archives

The Northern Territory Archives Service collects, preserves and provides community access to Northern Territory Archives and facilitates historical research, through its offices in Darwin, Alice Springs and via the Internet.

Performance Measures: Archives

Output: Archives	06-07 Actual	07-08 Actual	08-09 Estimate	08-09 Actual	09-10 Estimate
Quantity					
Archives collections managed	2812	2 997	3 050	3 097	3 180
Archives issued to researchers	48 959	25 230	21 360	20 733 ¹	23 000
Quality					
Meet archives transfer requirements	N/A	100%	90%	70% ²	60%
Timeliness					
Research requests satisfied within one month	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Archival items were issued to researchers in public search rooms in Darwin and Alice Springs. This figure represents a continuing decline from previous years. Although visitation has increased, information about archives has improved to the extent that the retrieval process is more efficient and irrelevant archives are not issued to researchers.
2. Many transfers of Northern Territory Government archives were not completed due to space limitations in the Darwin repository. Alternative arrangements were negotiated for the storage of some of the larger archives acquisitions.

Key Achievements in 2008-09: Archives

1. Transferred over 100 collections and series of archives from Northern Territory Government agencies and private sources.
2. Recorded 19 oral history interviews with individuals about their Northern Territory experiences through the Oral History Program, with nine of these interviews transcribed for community reference.
3. Provided 405 researchers with access to archives in the Darwin and Alice Springs search rooms and more than 8 600 archival items were copied for researchers.
4. Provided advice and support in the development of legislative amendments to the *Information Act* that saw the separation of archives and record services. These amendments were passed in the Legislative Assembly in May 2009.
5. Issued \$50 000 to 18 recipients as part of the Northern Territory History Grants Program to assist with research of Territory history. Such projects included:
 - Recording experiences of women in the southwest Gulf Region of the Northern Territory; and
 - Researching the work of architects who contributed to the development of Darwin from 1950.
6. Continued to implement the archives management system with the documentation and entry of 219 archives consignment lists and the documentation of over 27 000 archive items.
7. Facilitated family research and convened the Aboriginal Advisory Group to manage the Protocol for Access to Northern Territory Government Records by Aboriginal People researching their families.
8. Approved and issued 13 records retention and disposal schedules to regulate and standardise records disposal and archiving processes for Northern Territory Government agencies.

Challenges in 2008–09: Archives

1. Planning for the separation of the archives and records service functions, which included legislative and administrative changes, resulted in some core priorities concerning the collection and preservation of archives not being achieved. This will be resolved with the completion of the separation of these functions in 2009–10.
2. Storage space limitations restricted the ability to accept larger government archives transfers. Strategies for the development of future archives repository storage space are being investigated.
3. Comprehensive Internet searches of the archives collections database by the public, has not yet been realised. This will be overcome by implementing the archives management system in the coming year.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Archives

1. Finalise a strategy to achieve long term archive storage and accommodation requirements for the Northern Territory Archives Service in Darwin.
2. Implement procedures and standards to meet the Northern Territory Archive Service's responsibility for the retention and disposal of government records under the *Information Amendment Act*.
3. Progress the archives management system to increase management efficiency and Internet accessibility of the archives collections to the public.
4. Finalise a strategy for the retention of digital archives.

Output: Libraries

Northern Territory Library preserves and provides access to the Northern Territory’s heritage by collecting and preserving documentary heritage of the Northern Territory and providing access to information.

The Output also provides financial, policy and advocacy support for the development and promotion of public library and knowledge centres in the Northern Territory.

Performance Measures: Libraries

Output: Libraries	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Onsite visitors ¹	89 324	122 775	120 000	149 287 ²	130 000
Website visitors ³	54 390	182 020	550 000	564 00 ⁴	600 000
Grants distributed ⁵	\$3.3M	\$3.3M	\$3.5M	\$3.5M	\$3.5M
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction ⁶	N/A ⁷	61% ⁸	90%	92%	90%
Timeliness					
References enquiries satisfied within 48 hours	98.4%	98.69%	98%	98%	98%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Onsite visitors are tracked through the use of an electronic door count.
2. Onsite visitor numbers increased significantly in 2008–09 due to an enhanced marketing and events program and increased provision of electronic resources.
3. Website visitors are measured utilising NetTracker, a website visitation monitoring program.
4. The increase in visitation is a result of increased usability, digital content publicity and public awareness.

5. Grants distribution is governed by the Public Library Agreement and the list of grants distributed in 2008–09 are as follows:

Recipient	Grant \$
Tiwi Islands Council	\$55 595
Coomalie Community Government Council	\$44 512
East Arnhem Shire Council	\$189 320
West Arnhem Shire Council	\$95 324
Victoria River- Daly Shire Council	\$133 536
Roper Gulf Shire	\$144 808
Barkly Shire Council	\$159 308
Central Desert Shire Council	\$77 944
MacDonnell Shire Council	\$33 432
Ayers Rock Resort	\$31 500
Darwin City Council Libraries	\$1.3M
Alice Springs Town Council	\$555 273
Palmerston City Council	\$478 344
Katherine Town Council	\$229 451
Total Grants	\$3.5M

6. Visitor satisfaction is measured through customer surveys conducted annually online and upon exit.
7. Visitor satisfaction measurement only commenced in 2007 hence no prior relevant historical data available.
8. In 2008 Customer Satisfaction methodology was employed and measures the exit surveys. Figures prior including from 2007–08 were sourced using a different methodology that is, ‘customer value rating’, accounting for the large variation between the actual figures.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Libraries

1. Launched the early years literacy strategy *The Walk to School* designed to help Indigenous parents and carers prepare young children for school by developing an understanding of text and a joy of reading and learning.
2. Worked with the Pitjantjatjara Council to design new software for the online *Our Story* database, enabling communities to store local content related to their culture and history.
3. Implemented *Territory Stories*, an online repository containing documents, images that record the history and development of the Northern Territory.
4. Delivered operational grants worth \$3.5 million to libraries across the Territory including;
5. Developed a four year Information Technology Strategic Plan to determine the Libraries' needs, facilitate improved public access and effectiveness of the Library and its administration.
6. Increased community engagement and participation through additional public events such as exhibitions, *displays, talks, lectures, and workshops* to encourage and *support learning by utilisng library collections*.
7. Launched and exhibited the *Goyder Photographic* collection as an innovative Internet exhibition in April 2009, depicting the Goyder survey expedition team which travelled from Adelaide to identify a capital for the Northern Territory from 1869–70.

Challenges in 2008–09: Libraries

1. Designing new software for the *Our Story* database with the Pitjantjatjara Council in Central Australia was difficult due to the technical nature of the topic and the extensive consultation process required.
2. Meeting increased public demand for digital content and access to valuable collections.
3. Restricted public access to the Northern Territory Library at Parliament House due to security measures associated with unrelated functions, visiting dignitaries and Legislative Assembly events reduced visitor access opportunities.
4. Keeping up with global trends and the rapidly-changing technological environment required to deliver library services.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Libraries

1. Deliver the Remembering Territory Families initiative, a 2008 election commitment, which includes a touring exhibition to Katherine, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, and Nhulunbuy.
2. Negotiate a new Public Library Agreement with local governments.
3. Deliver Community Stories software to replace the *Our Story* database.
4. Develop the Northern Territory Library's 30th anniversary plans for 2010 and associated public programs.
5. Implement the Early Years and Adult Literacy strategies.
6. Ensure ongoing support for preservation of cultural initiatives, including digitisation of historical material.

Output: Herbarium

The Herbarium collects, identifies and preserves specimens of Northern Territory plants and gathers relevant information on this flora.

The specimen collection, data bases and other information are conserved in perpetuity and interpreted to provide a range of products, services, advice and assistance to a wide variety of clients.

The collection is available for use by the wider community in Palmerston, Alice Springs and through the Internet.

Performance Measures: Herbarium

Output: Herbarium	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Specimens in the collection ¹	232 304	246 000	242 000	238 795 ²	245 000
Quality					
Retrievability and condition of botanical collection ³	95%	95%	90%	97% ³	90%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. The Herbarium collection increases in the number of specimens daily. There is no set expected number of yearly acquisitions as the Herbarium participates in an exchange program with other herbaria and staff add to the collection through various plant surveys.
2. These activities show some variation from year to year with an estimated 4028 duplicated collections in the Herbarium identified this year. These duplications were excluded from the 2008–09 actual figure accounting for the variance between the estimate.
3. A sample of forty specimens is chosen at random from the Herbarium database using randomly generated numbers and then assessed for their retrievability from the collection, origin, correct labelling and filing, damage, quality of mounting, and whether mounted on archival paper or not.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Herbarium

1. Provided identification and advice on Northern Territory flora and plant species for 562 separate enquiries including 1261 plant identifications. This provision was to the general public, Charles Darwin University, interstate and international agencies, industry and consultants, and Northern Territory Government agencies.
2. Discovered seven species new to science and enhanced knowledge of the Northern Territory and Australian flora by being published in the following:
 - Albrecht, D.E. and Chinnock, R.J. (2008) A new species of *Marsilea* (Marsileaceae) from arid Australia. *J. Adelaide Bot Garden* 22:1-4.
 - Bean, A.R. and Albrecht, D.E. (2008) *Solanum succosum* A.R.Bean and Albr. (Solanaceae), a new species allied to *S. chippendalei* Symon. *Austrobaileya* 7(4):669-675.
 - Albrecht, D.E. and Lally, T.R. (in press) A reappraisal of *Ptilotus aristatus* and *P.blackii* (Amaranthaceae). *J. Adelaide Bot Garden* 23.
 - Short, P.S. (2009). A revision of the *Brachyscome linearifolia* group (Asteraceae: Astereae) from South-eastern Australia. *Muelleria* 27: 3–35.
3. Reorganised the Herbarium collection and Northern Territory plant checklist to the new classification published by David Mabberley (2008) and adopted by the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria.
4. Developed an Internet front end for the Northern Territory Herbarium specimen data base (Holtze) to provide enhanced reporting and query facilities to a wider range of stakeholders.

5. Developed a specification document outlining system requirements for the construction of a Northern Territory Flora Database combining and enhancing the existing separate data sets into one collective database. It will consist of four modules to maintain and store:
 - the Northern Territory Checklist and other taxonomic information;
 - flora attribute information;
 - conservation and weeds status; and
 - ethno-botanical information.
6. Developed a specification document for the construction of an electronic flora website for the Northern Territory (FloraNT) which will provide public access to the Northern Territory Flora Database and Holtze.
7. Completed a report on pre-clearing assessment of species of conservation significance on the Rio Tinto Alcan Gove mine site.
8. Maintained a specimen exchange and loan program with other Australian and International Herbaria.
9. Maintained an active volunteer program including work experience student placements.
10. Provided plant distribution data to the Australian Virtual Herbarium website, a national project overseen by the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria.
11. Provided plant distribution and nomenclatural data to the Australian Plant Census project. This is a national project administered by the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria to align species names across the nation.

Challenges in 2008–09: Herbarium

1. Striking a balance between maintaining the collection, datasets and other core activities, servicing client requests and progressing future priorities.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Herbarium

1. Roll-out the Internet front end for the Herbarium specimen data base to Northern Territory Government users, which will provide enhanced query and reporting functionality. This includes the ability to map plant species distributions against a variety of topographic, cadastral and biogeographic map layers within the database.
2. Develop FloraNT, a publicly available flora website for the Northern Territory that will allow the community to access and search the Herbarium's corporate plant record database. The website will generate fact sheets on plants of the Northern Territory including their conservation status, images and identification tools.
3. Reassess the conservation status of all 4300 Northern Territory plant species, over the 2010 calendar year as part of a five-year review for gazettal under the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*. This will incorporate recent changes in knowledge of the distribution, abundance and threats to the Northern Territory Flora, with the *International Union for Conservation of Nature* status changed accordingly.
4. Progress preparation on MacFlora; interactive flora of the MacDonnell Ranges bioregion. This tool will be published on the FloraNT website and on interactive Compact Disc to assist the community and researchers in identifying flora in this botanically diverse and significant region.

Output: Araluen Cultural Precinct

The Araluen Cultural Precinct delivers, facilitates and promotes arts programs, cultural displays and public programs to engage local residents and visitors to Central Australia.

The attractions which make up the Araluen Cultural Precinct include the Araluen Arts Centre, incorporating the Albert Namatjira Gallery, the Museum of Central Australia, the Strehlow Research Centre, the Central Australian Aviation Museum, the Alice Springs Memorial Cemetery, Central Craft and the Yeperenye Sculpture.

Performance Measures: The Araluen Cultural Precinct

Output: Araluen Cultural Precinct	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Visitors to visual arts exhibitions	28 179	23 949	30 000	32 862 ¹	30 000
• Local visitations	N/A ²	N/A ²	18 000	15 056 ³	18 000
• Tourist visitations	N/A ²	N/A ²	12 000	17 806 ³	12 000
Patrons to cinema and performances	23 870	28 038	30 000	20 424 ⁴	30 000
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction with visual arts exhibitions ⁵	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
Patron satisfaction with cinema and performances ⁵	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Overall annual visitation was slightly above estimate, due to increased interest in visual arts displays and the new permanent exhibition of Aboriginal Art.
2. Breakdown of local and tourist visitation is a new performance measure. This data has never been gathered before, so no historical data is available.
3. This was the first year these figures were required as a performance measure. Lower local visitation than estimated is due to theatre programming being mostly in latter half of 2009.
4. The annual visitation to cinema and theatre performances were less than projected, due to most theatre performances in 2009 being programmed into the second half of the calendar year.
5. Satisfaction was measured through visitor satisfaction surveys, direct feedback and return patronage.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Araluen Cultural Precinct

1. Developed a new permanent exhibition at the Araluen Arts Centre, *Origins to Innovation: Aboriginal Art in Central Australia*, which documents and analyses the history and development of Aboriginal Art in the region. This exhibition opened in March 2009.
2. Developed and operated Cultural Art Tours in consultation with the Arrernte Custodians, which were conducted four times a week at the Araluen Arts Centre by an Arrernte Cultural Education Officer. This was a new flexible position established to provide employment and training opportunities to local Arrernte people.
3. Completed refurbishments of the Witchetty's function space to an exhibition gallery upgrading structural, lighting and sound components that opened in March 2009.

4. Prepared the Draft Araluen Development Plan that will define and guide development of the Araluen Cultural Precinct's facilities and programs from 2009–15. The draft plan is to be released for public comment in August 2009.
5. Continued planning the development of a new solar powered air conditioning system for the Araluen Arts Centre, through a jointly funded Solar Cities program between the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments. Tendering process and headworks are due to commence in 2010 for this initiative that will be the first of its kind in Australia.
6. Presented the annual Desert Mob art exhibition and associated events which increased audiences and achieved higher financial returns to participating art centres within the Araluen Cultural Precinct.
7. Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the organisers of the annual Alice Springs Beanie Festival to continue to develop the festival and associated exhibition and sale of the beanies at the Araluen Arts Centre for the next five years.
8. Increased the number and range of activities in the Araluen Arts Centre Theatre Program through the strategic programming of events that appealed to a wider cross section of community interests.
9. Continued the beautification of the Araluen Arts Centre's grounds in partnership with the Agency's Alice Springs Desert Park, showcasing local species and improving visitor amenities.

Challenges in 2008–09: Araluen Cultural Precinct

1. Continuing to develop a high quality and varied program of meaningful theatre experiences for local and visitor audiences.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Araluen Cultural Precinct

1. Finalise the Araluen Cultural Precinct Development Plan through community consultation, due to commence in August 2009.
2. Complete design and headworks of the solar powered airconditioning system for the Araluen Arts Centre by June 2010.
3. Continue to develop the grounds of the Araluen Cultural Precinct to become a desert landscape feature, in partnership with the Agency's Alice Springs Desert Park.
4. Maintain the Cultural Art Tours and develop further opportunities for Aboriginal employment and training through association with the Araluen Arts Centre Visual Arts Program and Araluen's Arrernte Custodians Reference Group.
5. Continue to present an annual program of cinema, visual arts and performing arts events and activities, and the development, care and research of the Araluen Art Collection.

Output Group: Arts and Screen Industry Support

This Output supports the performing and visual arts, cinema and film industries for the benefit of the Northern Territory community, visitors and the economy.

The outcomes help the community make best use of its natural, cultural and artistic assets to create commercial, educational and recreational opportunities. It also supports the community in creating new understandings and expressions of Territory identity.

This Output Group is attributed \$10.1 million of the Department's \$161.5 million budget.

There is one Output within this Output Group:

- Arts and Screen Sector.

Output: Arts and Screen Sector

The Arts and Screen Sector develops, supports and promotes the arts and creative industries sector in the Northern Territory and supports further development and growth of screen industries in the Territory.

Performance Measures: Arts and Screen Sector

Output: Arts and Screen Sector	06-07 Actual	07-08 Actual	08-09 Estimate	08-09 Actual	09-10 Estimate
Quantity					
Grants distributed ¹	\$6.2M	\$5.52M	\$5.60M	\$5.7M ²	\$6.24M
Number of joint funding and program arrangements	2	3	3	4 ³	3
Quality					
Stakeholder satisfaction	85%	85%	85%	96% ⁴	85%
Timeliness					
Grants paid within agreed timeframes	100%	95%	90%	84% ⁵	90%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Grants funding distributed is derived from total monies committed in 2008–09 and includes paid and accrued funds.
2. Additional grant funding of \$100 651 was allocated to Northern Territory Writers' Centre in 2008–09, of which \$76 000 was offset by additional grants funds received by the following sources:
 - Screen Australia – \$50 000
 - Screen Tasmania – \$10 000
 - South Australian Film Corporation – \$7 000
 - Fist Full of Films returned Industry and Screen Culture Development Grant (2007–08) – \$9 000

Grants Program	Grants \$
Arts Organisations (Annual, triennial, multi year and strategic)	\$2 666 039
Festivals (Regional, Remote and Arts)	\$1 295 405
Public Art	\$261 997
Scholarships	\$21 700
Project Rounds (Includes IAS)	\$259 944
Quick Response Scheme (Includes IAS)	\$42 370
Indigenous Arts Strategy (IAS) (Art form initiatives not reported elsewhere)	\$525 000
Strategic Initiatives - General	\$198 250
Strategic Initiatives - Art at the Heart	\$104 551
Industry and Screen Culture Development	\$310 000
Project Development, Production and Post Production	\$120 000
Professional Development Travel Program	\$11 897
Strategic Initiatives - IGNITE	\$161 884
Bob Plasto Screen Fellowship	\$20 000
Total Grants Distributed	\$5 720 037

3. The four joint funding and program arrangements include:
 - Australian Government Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for Regional Arts funding (\$200 000);
 - Three separate program arrangements with the Australia Council for the Arts: Community and Partnership Support Services, Theatre Review implementation and Artists in Schools; and
 - Artists in Schools was a previously unannounced new Federal Government commitment.
4. A large sample survey on stakeholder satisfaction was undertaken in 2008–09 obtaining feedback from successful applicants resulting in a higher actual than previous years. Previous years have relied on estimates to determine stakeholder satisfaction.
5. A decrease in grants paid within agreed timeframes was due to delays in signing the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund Funding Deed 2008–12, resulting in a carry over of the 2008–09 Community Grants program to 2009–10 financial year.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Arts and Screen Sector

1. Successfully delivered \$6 million in grants funding through the Arts and Screen Grants Programs. \$225 000 was provided through Screen Grants, including \$80 000 for the *Yarning Up* program and \$20 000 to assist with the post production of the feature film *Samson and Delilah*.
2. Staged the sixth biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference *art at the heart* in October 2008 in Alice Springs, hosting 959 delegates, 192 conference presenters and 254 festival artists from diverse cultural backgrounds across Australia. Approximately 45 per cent of presenters were Indigenous and the Artistic Program featured a ratio of 40:60 Indigenous to non-Indigenous artists.
3. Released an independent report *Review of theatre and performance in the Northern Territory*, in conjunction with the Australia Council for the Arts, following a review of theatre across the Territory. Twenty nine recommendations were accepted by the Northern Territory Government and the Australia Council, with the recommendations being implemented in 2009.
4. Implemented a four year \$955 000 funding agreement with the Australian Government's Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, to administer and deliver the Regional Arts Fund grants program in the Northern Territory commencing on 1 July 2008.
5. Hosted the 21st meeting of the Cultural Ministers Council in Alice Springs in October 2008 where 54 Ministers, advisors and other Council attendees were invited to the *art at the heart* conference opening ceremony.
6. Led the development and production of the second series of *Yarning Up* in association with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA), resulting in four documentaries being produced in remote communities.

7. Entered a partnership with the Australia Council for the Arts and the Northern Territory Department of Education and Training to offer new project funding for initiatives that build partnerships between arts organisations and schools. Grants of up to \$20 000 will be allocated in 2009–10.
8. Evaluated and refined the Public Art Grants Program by presenting a series of public art forums and workshops by public art experts in conjunction with Darwin, Alice Springs and Katherine Town Councils.
9. Commenced development of a Territory Screen Industry Framework, including a Northern Territory Film Office Strategy 2010–13, to drive innovation and the development of the screen industry in the Territory with an Indigenous industry focus. The Steering Committee has made recommendations for Northern Territory Government consideration and key priorities and roles have been identified.

Challenges in 2008–09: Arts and Screen Sector

1. In staging the sixth biennial Regional Arts Australia national conference *art at the heart* in October 2008 in Alice Springs, Arts Northern Territory worked within and between government agencies to respond to the changing needs of the event, when it was perceived a risk to staff and systems, and to an independent national peak body as the event organiser.
2. Continuing delivery of arts programs during a review process which included two public forums and direct feedback from the arts industry sector. This resulted in an updated Northern Territory Arts Grants Program, new policy and internal structure of Arts Northern Territory. The aim of the review was to place arts and culture at the heart of Territory lives and to foster a creative, healthy and engaged community.
3. Continuing delivery of programs while undertaking a major Screen Industry Visioning Project to invigorate the partnership between the Industry and the Agency.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Arts and Screen Sector

1. Implement the new *Living Arts* program and policies in 2009–10, focussing on arts as a central part of life long learning for the community and on supporting regional development through regional delivery of arts and cultural programs. *Living Arts* aims to ensure:
 - Arts and culture is acknowledged as being an essential part of life for all Territorians;
 - Arts and culture leads and inspires; and
 - Northern Territory arts and culture sits in the hearts and minds of all Territorians and the wider Australian community.
2. Progress Stage One of the Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct, working with Katherine Town Council, regional stakeholders and other organisations to ensure Stage One design meets their needs and that public art and sustainability are strong features of the design.
3. Implement the Screen Industry Visioning Project to include new programs and policies, while developing a framework for these programmes to be delivered to further develop the Northern Territory Screen Industry 2010–15.
4. Managed the *Building Strong Arts Business* Plan of Action 2006–09 as a whole of government strategy, by supporting positions in the non-government sector such as Indigenous arts practitioners with Music Northern Territory, Artback Northern Territory, Arts Touring and Ausdance.
5. Further the strategic leverage achieved through funding from the private and philanthropic sectors. During 2009 the strategy will integrate within the overall new *Living Arts* program.

Output Group: Sport and Recreation

This Output Group provides sport and recreation activities for the community, optimises performance opportunities for athletes and manages sporting events. The overall outcome is to provide opportunities for Territorians to be involved in sport and recreation at what ever level they choose.

This Output Group is attributed \$21.7 million of the Department’s \$161.5 million budget.

There are three Outputs within this Output Group:

- Sports Development;
- Facilities and Events; and
- Northern Territory Institute of Sport.

Output: Sports Development

Administers the sports and recreation grants program and provides sports development support and assistance for the delivery of quality sport and recreation programs across the community.

Performance Measures: Sports Development

Output: Sports Development	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Value of grants distributed ¹	\$6.05M	\$6.87M	\$8.77M	\$12.06M ²	\$8.83M
Community participation programs delivered ³	250 ³	35	46	46	35
Quality					
Stakeholder satisfaction with community participation programs delivered	90%	95%	95%	95%	95%
Timeliness					
Specified grant time frames met	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Grants are distributed to a variety of organisations, Shires, clubs and individuals that promote sport and active recreation initiatives.

Grants Distributed*	Grant \$
Peak Sport and Recreation	\$3.30M
Active Remote Communities (ARC)	\$1.24M
Facilities Development Grant	\$0.82M
Grounds Maintenance Program	\$0.53M
National League Incentive	\$0.09M
Grass Roots Development	\$0.18M
Special Assistance	\$0.31M
Sports Infrastructure Fund – part of a two year funding initiative to support one off sporting infrastructure upgrades	\$1M
Australian Football League Northern Territory team – to provide funding to support the inaugural NT Thunder team in the Queensland Australian Football League	\$0.20M
Upgrade of Elliot Sport and Recreation Centre	\$0.1M
Closing the Gap – funding provided to support Community Sport and Recreation Officers in remote communities	\$1M
Total Grants Distributed*	\$8.77 M
*This does not include one off payment as outlined in explanatory note two.	
One-off Grant Payments	\$3.29M
Total Grants	\$12.06M

2. Higher than anticipated grants were distributed due to commencement of upgrades to Darwin’s Marrara Cricket Ground and new initiatives (one-off grants) totalling \$3.29 million as outlined below.

One-off Grant Payments	Grant \$
Marrara Cricket Ground, Darwin – Upgrade the facilities to include an administrative building and practice facilities	\$2.02M
Darwin Golf Club – Funding for an irrigation upgrade	\$0.46M
Bagot Oval Upgrade, Darwin – Funding to support junior soccer facility	\$0.19M
Alice Springs Basketball – Funding to repair the viewing platform upgrade	\$0.1M
Nakara Oval Lights, Darwin – Funding for lights to enable junior soccer training at night	\$0.40M
Pre-season A-League Soccer Game – Funding to support the pre-season A-League match between the North Queensland Fury and Adelaide United	\$0.07M
Northern Territory Rugby League – Funding for the Under 16 and Under 18 competition	\$0.05M
Total One-Off Programs	\$3.29M

3. This Output aims to deliver a minimum of 35 programs per annum. This standard will be reviewed should the number of programs again exceed this in 2009–10. Previous figures were based on activities rather than the overarching programs. From 2007–08 reporting reflects the number of programs.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Sports Development

- Established a Shire Softball Competition that involved over 700 female participants in a Northern Territory wide competition through partnerships with Softball Northern Territory, Shires and the Indigenous Sport Unit. The following Shires and communities participated:
 - *Tiwi Island Shire*: Nguiu, Garden Point, Milikapiti;
 - *Victoria-Daily Shire*: Wadeye, Nauiyu, Palumpa, Timber Creek, Yarralin, Daguragu, Lajamanu;
 - *MacDonnell Shire*: Docker River, Mutitjulu, Imanpa, Aputula, Ntaria, Areyonga, Amoonguna, Santa Teresa, Titjikala, Kintore, Ikuntji, Mt Liebig, Papunya;
 - *Roper Gulf Shire*: Barunga, Beswick, Bulman, Kalano, Borroloola, Ngukurr, Numbalwar, Jilkimminggan;
 - *Central Desert Shire*: Nyirrpi, Willowra, Yuelamu, Yuendumu, Harts Range, Engawala, Laramba, Ti Tree, Willora, Mulga Bore; and
 - *East Arnhem Shire*: Milingimbi, Ramingining, Galiwinku, Gapuwiyak, Yirrkala, Nhulunbuy, Ski Beach, Umbakumba, Angurugu, Alyangula, Milyakburra.
- Provided business planning and facility management advice through the SportsBiz Program to Netball Northern Territory to assist with its relocation to the new Marrara Netball Complex.
- Conducted a golf program in collaboration with Active After Schools Communities and Alice Springs Golf Club to help raise the profile of the sport to school aged children in the region involving the following schools:
 - Araluen Christian School;
 - Braitling Primary School; and
 - Alice Springs Steiner School.

4. Provided grants of \$12.06 million to fund a variety of sports development projects and events designed to promote and increase participation at all levels in the community, from grass roots to elite athletes in sport and active recreation including the one-off grants (see explanatory notes to the table 2 for a full list).
5. Provided support to the Football Federation on the feasibility of managing the new Larrakia Park Stadium through the Agency's SportsBiz Program, which provides sporting organisations with the opportunity to access strategic business and management advice.
6. Conducted a successful BMX program in collaboration with Jingili BMX Club and Active After Schools Program to encourage school aged children in Darwin to participate in the sport. More than 55 children participated, resulting in a program expansion from three to six schools across the Darwin region.
7. Reviewed and updated the Peak Sport and Recreation Grants Program to make the application process less complex for organisations to apply for funding.

Challenges in 2008–09: Sports Development

1. Increase Indigenous employment, particularly in the Agency's Indigenous Sports Unit in order to successfully deliver remote Indigenous sports development programs.
2. Continue to improve the delivery of sport and recreation programs in remote areas through the transition to new local government Shires, who are responsible for the management and delivery of sport and recreation programs to these areas.
3. Ability to influence peak sporting organisations with best practice governance and sport development pathways in order to improve sustainability and performance of sports development.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Sports Development

1. Assist in implementing *SAFE Northern Territory* through the establishment of Working with Children Checks across the sporting industry, including shires, required by all persons having contact with children from sporting groups to volunteers as part of the *Care and Protection of Children Act*.
2. Deliver the Sport and Recreation Grants Program, including increases of funding to support grass roots initiatives.
3. Enhance and consolidate the SportsBiz Program to provide governance and management advice to sporting organisations and peak bodies.
4. Secure ongoing funding for the Agency's Indigenous Sport Program to ensure provision for employment of Indigenous Sport Officers and the long term delivery of ongoing sporting activities in remote Indigenous communities.
5. Enhance the Active Remote Communities Program in line with the Northern Territory Government's *Working Future* initiatives to achieve sport and recreation outcomes, and Indigenous training and employment outcomes.
6. Deliver the Australian Sports Commission Programs in accordance with existing annual agreements for programs including club development, ethics, coaching and officiating, disability education program and junior sports.

Output: Northern Territory Institute of Sport

The Northern Territory Institute of Sport provides integrated coaching and sport enhancement support services to talented Territory athletes that assist with achieving success in sport and life. The Northern Territory Institute of Sport also provides advice to sporting organisations that support high performance strategies.

Performance Measures: Northern Territory Institute of Sport

Output: Northern Territory Institute of Sport (NTIS)	06-07 Actual	07-08 Actual	08-09 Estimate	08-09 Actual	09-10 Estimate
Quantity					
NTIS athlete scholarship holders: ¹	176	168	149	149	120
Major athlete coach service programs ²	8	9	9	9	9
Quality					
Athletes achieving national squad and national league club representation ³	23	35	24	24	22
Timeliness					
NTIS sport programs and athletes services reviewed within agreed time frames ⁴	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Scholarship holders refer to the total number of athletes on a Northern Territory Institute of Sport (NTIS) individual or squad scholarship at any time, under the individual athlete and squad scholarships programs. Individual athlete scholarships are awarded to actual or potential Australian representatives who receive direct financial support and individualised servicing. Squad scholarship holders are athletes who do not receive direct financial support but are entitled to access services on a group basis or at an individual level if appropriate.

2. Major athlete and coach service programs provided to NTIS athletes and sports on an annual basis included: coaching, high performance management, sports medicine and physiotherapy, strength and conditioning, biomechanics and skill acquisition, physiology, psychology, career and education guidance, and nutrition.
3. NTIS athletes who are selected for national teams or squads (junior and senior levels) or have been recruited by national league clubs (eg Australian Football League or National Rugby League) during 2008-09.
4. Programs are reviewed both mid-year and end-of-year for all squad programs, while athletes on individual scholarship are reviewed monthly.

Key Achievements in 2008-09: Northern Territory Institute of Sport

1. Implemented an Individual Athlete Case Management Program. This will ensure NTIS individual athlete scholarship holders benefit from an in-house, multi-disciplined, specialist high performance servicing approach.
2. Implemented an Athlete Leadership Program aimed at increasing the participant's self-awareness of leadership concepts, with knowledge and skills to enable them to implement leadership in and outside of their sport. The program involved twelve athletes, from six different sports.
3. Implemented a Coach Mentoring Program for NTIS head coaches and assistant or representative team coaches. This provided a formal assessment and feedback of training and competition performances through techniques such as video analysis, mentoring from peers and the 'buddy system'.

4. Provided high performance advice and use of facilities to the national men's Hockey and U/23 Football (soccer) teams, along with the National Basketball League's Perth Wildcats and the Australian Football League's Port Adelaide Power.
5. Achieved national/international representation standard by 24 NTIS athletes achieved in the following sports:
 - Rugby League
 - Cycling
 - Hockey
 - Judo
 - Yachting
 - Swimming
 - Tennis
 - Tenpin Bowling
 - Touch Football
 - Wheelchair Basketball
 - Pistol Shooting
 - Weightlifting

Challenges in 2008–09: Northern Territory Institute of Sport

1. Developing an integrated, comprehensive athlete database for multi-stakeholder usage.
2. Building stronger working relationships with the Australian Institute of Sport and National Sporting Organisations to increase the use of NTIS facilities and services for training and competition preparation.
3. Balancing broader sporting community expectations with the entertainment and promotional value of the NTIS and Northern Territory Sports Awards.
4. Attracting business interest in the potential exposure value provided by the NTIS.
5. Identifying objective, measurable performance competencies for coaches and service providers.
6. Supporting the identification and development of athlete talent in regional and remote areas of the Northern Territory.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Northern Territory Institute of Sport

1. Tier the NTIS Squad Scholarship Program servicing to ensure resources are used more effectively and efficiently.
2. Progress the proposal for a regional and remote area Talent Identification and Development Program to be supported by the NTIS.
3. Review options for further development and hosting of an online NTIS athlete database.
4. Develop a proposal for new, world class training and recovery facilities at the NTIS to attract Australian Institute of Sport and National Sporting Organisation interest in using the Northern Territory as a training and competition preparation base.
5. Finalise a report on the value of procuring NTIS sponsorship.

Output: Facilities and Events

Develop, manage and maintain key sporting facilities and provide support for national and international sporting events in the Territory.

Performance Measures Output: Facilities and Events

Output: Facilities and Events	06-07 Actual	07-08 Actual	08-09 Estimate	08-09 Actual	09-10 Estimate
Quantity					
Government-owned and managed sporting facilities ¹	2	2	2	2	2
Government-owned sporting facilities leased to sporting bodies ²	5	5	5	5	6
National and international sporting events held in the Northern Territory ³	8	12	11	10 ⁴	9
Quality					
Key stakeholder satisfaction with events ⁵	80%	80%	80%	100% ⁶	80%
Usage of Marrara Indoor Stadium ⁷	47.5%	50%	55%	51% ⁸	60%
Usage of Hidden Valley Motor Sport Complex	N/A*	N/A*	66%	48% ⁹	58%
Timeliness					
Events on time	100%	100%	100%	100% ¹⁰	100%

* New output for reporting in 2008-09, with no data available for this year.

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. The Marrara Indoor Stadium and Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex in Darwin are Northern Territory Government owned and managed sporting facilities.
2. Northern Territory Government owned sporting facilities leased to sporting bodies are:

- Larrakia Park, Darwin Football Stadium: Leased to Football Federation Northern Territory;
 - TIO Stadium: Leased to Australian Football League Northern Territory;
 - Marrara Stadium Multipurpose Hall: Leased to Judo Federation Northern Territory, Gymnastics Northern Territory and Northern Territory Table Tennis;
 - Micket Creek Shooting Complex: Leased to Northern Territory Firearms Council; and
 - Marrara Netball Complex: Leased to Netball Northern Territory.
3. National and international sporting events held in the Territory in 2008-09 were:
 - Indigenous All-Stars match – All-Stars vs Adelaide Crows, Darwin, February 2009;
 - Home and Away match – Western Bulldogs vs Port Adelaide, Darwin, June 2009;
 - Masters Australian Football Carnival – Teams from all states and territories were represented by over 30 teams in multiple divisions, Darwin, September-October 2008;
 - 3 x one day international cricket matches – Australia v Bangladesh, Darwin, August and September 2008;
 - National Basketball League game – Perth Wildcats vs Melbourne Tigers, Darwin, November 2008;
 - Women’s National Basketball League game – Perth Lynx vs Adelaide Link Lightning, Darwin, November 2008;
 - National Rugby League preseason game – Cronulla Sharks vs Gold Coast Titans, Darwin, February 2009;
 - Australian Netball League games – Northern Territory, Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra Darters and Queensland, Darwin, August 2008;

- Power Cruise, Motor Sports: various local drivers competing in driving disciplines, Darwin, May 2009; and
 - National Australia Bank Challenge match – Adelaide Crows v West Coast Eagles (Alice Springs – 27 February 2009).
4. The 11th event, a National Australia Bank Cup Australian Football League match between Adelaide Crows and the West Coast Eagles, was transferred to Melbourne in order to conduct Victorian Bushfires fundraising.
 5. Stakeholder satisfaction is measured by surveying relevant sporting bodies involved in each event.
 6. All sporting bodies reported satisfaction with their event/s in 2008–09.
 7. Usage of Marrara Indoor Stadium is measured as a percentage of hours the Stadium is booked against the total number of available hours during its operating hours of 8:30am–10pm.
 8. A reduction in the percentage of usage has occurred due to booking cancellations, bookings for the full day only using a small number of hours and buffer days being included to allow for the set-up and take-down of major events such as Arafura Games. Percentage of use does not directly translate to income as some usage is supplied free of charge under agreements.
 9. Usage of Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex was down from previous year due to clubs not using the venue for executive and annual general meetings as originally estimated.
 10. All events were delivered on time.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Facilities and Events

1. Completion of the \$6.2 million Netball Complex in the Marrara Sporting Complex, Darwin.
2. Completion of the \$2.38 million Stage One Alice Springs Aquatic Centre upgrades, which included the paddle pool and learn to swim pool. Tendering for Stage Two developments have commenced, and includes heated indoor facilities and a 25 metres long, eight lane lap pool.
3. Completion of \$1.3 million upgrade and repair of the Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex electrical supply.
4. Completion of \$1.6 million VIP Lounge at Speedway, Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex.
5. Delivery of the \$880 000 Minor New Works Program on Northern Territory Government owned facilities including:
 - TIO Stadium – Replace irrigation system and billboard signs;
 - Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex – Upgrade power to drag strip;
 - Arafura Stadium – Engage consultants for analysis of track quality; and
 - Darwin Football Stadium – Construct new shade structure.
6. Delivery of the \$1.26 million Repairs and Maintenance Program on Northern Territory Government owned facilities including:

Marrara Indoor Stadium, Multipurpose Hall

- Replace nine wall mounted fans
- Investigate Bituminous Spills

Micket Creek Shooting Complex

- Protect rifle range mound areas
- Remove Trees
- External painting
- Repair damaged fence
- Repair and install irrigation

TIO Stadium

- Applied non-slip paint to the tunnel areas
- Repainted ticket boxes at Bonson and Ahmat Gates
- Certification of Stadium
- Assess and repair lights for Oval One

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex

- Repaired Tyre Wall and fence line
- Generator works at Speedway
- Electrical repairs due to lightning damage at speedway

Arafura Stadium Marrara

- Remedial work to Athletics track
- Replaced lights in the light tower
- Replaced taps in hand basins
- Repair irrigation on spectator's mound

Sports House, Fannie Bay

- Upgraded Badminton Court lights

Larrakia Park, Darwin

- Repairs to pop up sprinklers

7. Delivery of significant sporting events through contractual arrangements and at managed venues such as the V8 Supercars.
8. Successful delivery of suitable venues for Arafura Games events and V8 Supercars that met users needs.
9. Commenced first stage of Drag Racing upgrade at Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex to ensure the drag strip meets international standards by improving track safety and quality for both drivers and spectators.
10. Finalised lease agreements for sporting organisations to lease the Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex including Go Karts, Mud Racing and Speedway.

Challenges in 2008–09: Facilities and Events

1. Maximising the potential for delivering more income generating events at Northern Territory Government owned and managed facilities while maintaining existing Government sponsorship to user groups on an in-kind basis.
2. Delivering the Capital Works, Minor New Works and Repairs and Maintenance Programs on time and within budget, to maintain quality facilities up to required standards and produce successful events.
3. Delivering a national and international Events Program with relevant National Sporting Organisations, Peak Organisations or promoters to achieve outcomes.
4. Ensuring all Northern Territory Government controlled facilities were up to relevant standards for each of the national or international events they hosted.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Facilities and Events

1. Commence planning and future development of the \$33 million Palmerston International Sports Complex that includes facilities for Australian Football League, Rugby League, Football (Soccer) and Tennis.
2. Commence planning and future development of the \$5 million Palmerston Water Park project.
3. Complete upgrade of the Marrara Indoor Stadium roof project to ensure it meets cyclone standards and can be used as a cyclone shelter.
4. Deliver Year One projects totalling \$2.5 million as part of the three year \$4 million 2008 election commitment for upgrades at Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex.
5. Finalise the outsourcing of the Leanyer Recreation Park to an external vendor to run Park operations.
6. Deliver the 2009–10 Events Program including V8 Supercars, International Cricket matches, Australian Football League, National Rugby League, National Basketball League and Women's National Basketball League games.

GBD: Territory Wildlife Parks

Territory Wildlife Parks is a Government Business Division responsible for managing the Territory Wildlife Park at Berry Springs and the Alice Springs Desert Park. Both Parks showcase the Territory’s unique flora and fauna in a natural environment that is both inviting and interesting for visitors. These two Parks are key tourism attractions in their regions and act as a catalyst for visitors to extend their stay in the regions, with subsequent benefits for the tourism industry as a whole.

This Government Business Division has a budget of \$9.86 million.

There are two Business Lines within this Government Business Division:

- Alice Springs Desert Park; and
- Territory Wildlife Park.

Business Line: Alice Springs Desert Park

The Alice Springs Desert Park showcases to visitors Central Australia’s unique fauna and flora in a series of natural habitats that are inviting and interesting for the visiting public. The Park is a key tourism attraction, providing economic outcomes for the region and the Territory by attracting more visitors and encouraging them to stay longer.

It contributes to conservation outcomes by breeding threatened species, delivers environmental education through interpretation and public and schools education. It also delivers social outcomes through Indigenous employment and improving cross cultural understanding.

Performance Measures: Alice Springs Desert Park

Business Line: Alice Springs Desert Park	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Visitors	91 042	74 615	74 500	74 702	76 000
Key new visitor experiences	4	3	2	2 ¹	4
Threatened species breeding programs ²	4	4	5	5 ³	4
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction ⁴	97%	94%	95%	96%	95%
Success of threatened breeding programs	100%	100%	84%	100% ⁵	100%
Timeliness					
Daily guide presentations commenced on time ⁶	97%	90%	95%	97% ⁷	95%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Key new visitor experiences included:
 - Music in the Park – September 2008 and May 2009.
 - Volunteer program for Alice Springs youth – 28 March–5 April 2009.
2. The breeding program is a success if breeding millstones are met.
3. Five threatened species programs were completed and these were:
 - Bilby – maintained animals according to Recovery Plan specified by the Australasian Species Management Program who are responsible for managing Bilby populations across Australia.
 - Mala – successfully bred four mala.
 - Red-tailed phascogale – successfully bred 130 phascogale.
 - Western quoll – successfully bred two quolls.
 - Central rock rats – program was successful in maintaining animals post breeding.

4. Visitor satisfaction was measured through visitor surveys.
5. All threatened species breeding programs were 100 per cent successful in meeting program milestones.
6. Presentations were deemed on time if they commenced within five minutes of the advertised time.
7. Ninety seven per cent of all presentations were considered to start on time.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Alice Springs Desert Park

1. Received a five year accreditation from the Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria (ARAZPA) certifying the Park appropriately cares for all its animals and supports species conservation through education, research and provides a quality visitor experience.
2. Increased the number of apprentice positions at the Park from four to six to include four zoo-keeping apprentices, one horticulture apprentice and one guide apprentice.
3. Developed volunteer programs aimed at 12 to 20 year olds providing opportunities for participants to experience the diverse fauna of Central Australia, while contributing to scientific research and biodiversity conservation.
4. Hosted two Indigenous Art night markets in partnership with DesArt attracting 1300 visitors, generating \$64 000 in sales to art centres.
5. Awarded with the 2008 Northern Territory Brolga Awards for Major Tourist Attraction and for Ecotourism as well as the 2008 Tourism Central Award for New Tourism Innovation for the Park's Nocturnal Tour.
6. Assisted students of the Yipirinya School with seed collection and cutting material for plant propagation to develop a bush garden.
7. Worked with Alice Springs High School students to propagate Native Pine *Callitris glaucophylla* seedlings which were then grown and sold by students as a Central Australian Christmas Tree.
8. Provided economic and logistical support to the Park's Traditional Owners to provide a Cross Cultural Program including tours on-site and in Alice Springs.
9. Managed a landscaping program in conjunction with the Agency's Araluen Art Precinct and the Northern Territory Department of Justice for Alice Springs Prison inmates, to assist with inmates' rehabilitation through local community contributions.
10. Developed Language Bird Posters in five Aboriginal dialects to increase the awareness of common names of Central Australian bird species in Indigenous communities. This involved the Central Land Council and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Studies.
11. Conducted research into the effect buffel grass has on the wider Alice Springs Desert Park site with the Agency's Parks and Wildlife Service and Charles Darwin University. As a result of the research, the paper *Impacts of controlling buffel grass on native fauna in desert Australia* will be presented at the *Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)* international 2009 conference.

Challenges in 2008–09: Alice Springs Desert Park

1. Conducting business in a volatile business environment and evolving the Alice Springs Desert Park to meet with changing market trends, customer needs and integrating planning and activities in-line with community expectations.
2. Continuing the Alice Springs Desert Park's strong emphasis on integrating its planning and activities with regional and community developments for Alice Springs, the West MacDonnell Ranges and Visitor Centre without compromising visitor experiences, financial capabilities and community expectations.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Alice Springs Desert Park

1. Partner with like-minded organisations to develop future opportunities for new visitor experiences, cultural activities and Indigenous enterprise.
2. Commence the development of a tourism product to encompass the natural and cultural assets of the Alice Springs Desert Park and the Agency’s Araluen Cultural Precinct.
3. Commence development of new interactive and immersive experiences for children, promoting key messages of sustainable conservation and social justice.

Business Line: Territory Wildlife Park

The Territory Wildlife Park showcases the Top End’s unique fauna and flora in a series of natural habitats and ecosystems in a way that is inviting and interesting for the visiting public.

The Park contributes to conservation outcomes by breeding threatened species and delivers environmental education through interpretation and public and schools education.

The Park’s role as a key tourism attraction provides economic outcomes for the region and the Territory by showcasing the biodiversity attracting more visitors and encouraging them to stay longer.

The Park aims to create a visitor experience that highlight the biodiversity of the Top End’s environment as well as promoting conservation initiatives to the public.

Performance Measures: Territory Wildlife Park

Business Line: Territory Wildlife Park	06–07 Actual	07–08 Actual	08–09 Estimate	08–09 Actual	09–10 Estimate
Quantity					
Visitors	70 618	76 078	72 500	69 073 ¹	72 500
Key new visitor experiences	3	3	4	4 ²	4
Threatened species breeding programs	3	3	2	2 ³	2
Quality					
Visitor satisfaction ⁴	97%	98%	95%	95% ⁵	95%
Success of threatened species breeding programs ⁶	100%	100%	100%	100% ⁷	100%
Timeliness					
Daily guide presentations commenced on time ⁸	95%	90%	95%	95% ⁹	95%

Explanatory Notes to the Table

1. Visitor numbers to the Park were down from estimates for the 2008–09 period, due to the downturn in tourism to the Northern Territory as a result of the Global Financial Crisis.
2. Key new visitor experiences for 2008–09 were:
 - Oolloo Sandbar (whip ray pool);
 - Monsoon forest experience;
 - Train turnaround and new access pathways; and
 - Visitor entry at the main station.
3. Two successful breeding programs were conducted:
 - Northern Quoll; and
 - Pipistrelle Bat.
4. Visitor satisfaction levels were measured through visitor surveys.
5. Ninety five per cent of all visitors rated their experience satisfactory or above.
6. A breeding program is successful if project milestones are achieved.
7. All milestones were met for these programs which included:
 - Northern Quoll – successfully bred 150 quolls.
 - Pipistrelle Bat – using a local bat species, a husbandry program and manual were developed along with feeding techniques to successfully capture and maintain a healthy bat in captivity. This process is to translate successful techniques to capture and care for the critically endangered *Pipistrelle* species on Christmas Island.
8. Records were kept of all presentation times.
9. Throughout the year 95 per cent of all presentations commenced on time.

Key Achievements in 2008–09: Territory Wildlife Park

1. Successful completion of the freshwater whip ray feeding pool in May 2009, where educational presentations are now held daily.
2. Successful reduction of the Park's operating costs through the handover of the admissions/entry station and café/gift shop to local a business operator in July 2008.
3. Provided advice and support to Parks Australia, on the captive and husbandry requirements for the critically endangered Christmas Island Pipistrelle Bat, to assist them with a captive breeding program.
4. Consolidated the Twilight Tours at the Park, increasing their frequency to twice a week resulting in regular attendance levels.
5. Developed a mutually beneficial agreement with the Northern Territory Government's Department of Justice for placement of low security prisoners from Darwin Prison to perform manual labour at the Park. The Park also provided advice to prisoners on producing 'live food' (eg. crickets and mice) on a commercial basis and presented lectures on animal care.

Challenges in 2008–09: Territory Wildlife Park

1. Operating as a Government Business Division in a turbulent economic environment with a downturn in tourism.

Future Priorities in 2009–10: Territory Wildlife Park

1. Develop and implement formal education programs with a focus on interactions within ecosystems and Top End flora and fauna.
2. Implement a broader range of guided programs to ensure visitor expectations are being met.
3. Develop a five year vision for the Park to showcase the Top End's unique flora and fauna and ensure visitor experiences remain high for both local residents and visitors to the Northern Territory.

Financial Statements



Financial Statements

The Agency comprises two budget and reporting entities for the purposes of the *Financial Management Act*.

- The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport; and
- Territory Wildlife Parks Government Business Division.

This requires the Agency to prepare separate financial statements for inclusion in the Annual Report.

Accordingly, two separate sets of financial statements are provided:

- The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (the Department); and
- Territory Wildlife Parks.

The Department's Financial Statement Overview

This section of the Annual Report provides an analysis of the financial outcome of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport for the year ended 30 June 2009.

In July 2009 the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts was subject to an administrative restructure which resulted in the Sport and Recreation Output Group and the Libraries Output transferring from the Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport to the Department. The financial information for the new Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport is reported for 2008–09.

The financial statements in this report represent the Department of Natural Resources, Environment The Arts and Sport (the 'Department') as well as consolidated statements (the 'Group') incorporating the Natural Resource Management Board. Financial information is provided for both the Department and Group for 2008–09 and comparatively for 2007–08.

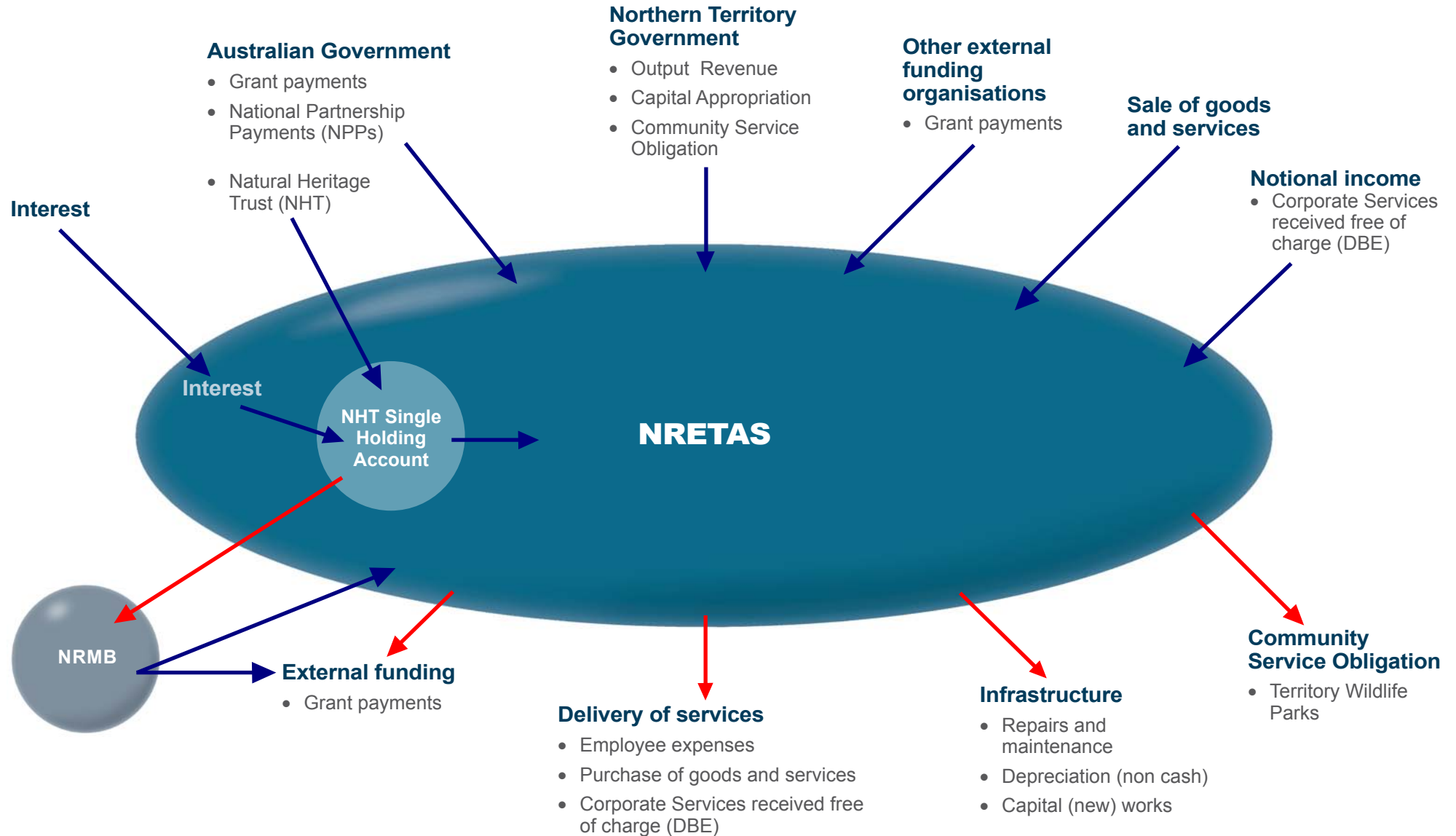
The Natural Resource Management Board (NRMB) was established as an incorporated association in 2005 in order to implement a strategic approach to natural resource management through the Northern Territory Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Regional Investment Strategy, within the framework of the Natural Heritage Trust Bilateral Agreement. The consolidation of the NRMB into the Agency's financial statements recognises the control the Department has over appointing members to the Board.

As the NRMB is an incorporated association it is required to prepare its own statement of accounts for the financial year so the following commentary relates only to the Department.

The financial operating environment for the Department is depicted on the following page.

Money comes in, money goes out

A simplified diagram of the paper trail.



Operating Statement

The Operating Statement provides information on the financial performance of the Department during the year. The profit or loss for the year is calculated by subtracting expense items from the income items.

The transfer of Sport and Recreation and Northern Territory Library functions into the Department in 2008–09 has significantly impacted on the comparative operating loss reported between 2007–08 and 2008–09 by \$6.3 million. To assist in the interpretation of the financial results the final approved budget for 2008–09 has been included in the operating statement overview.

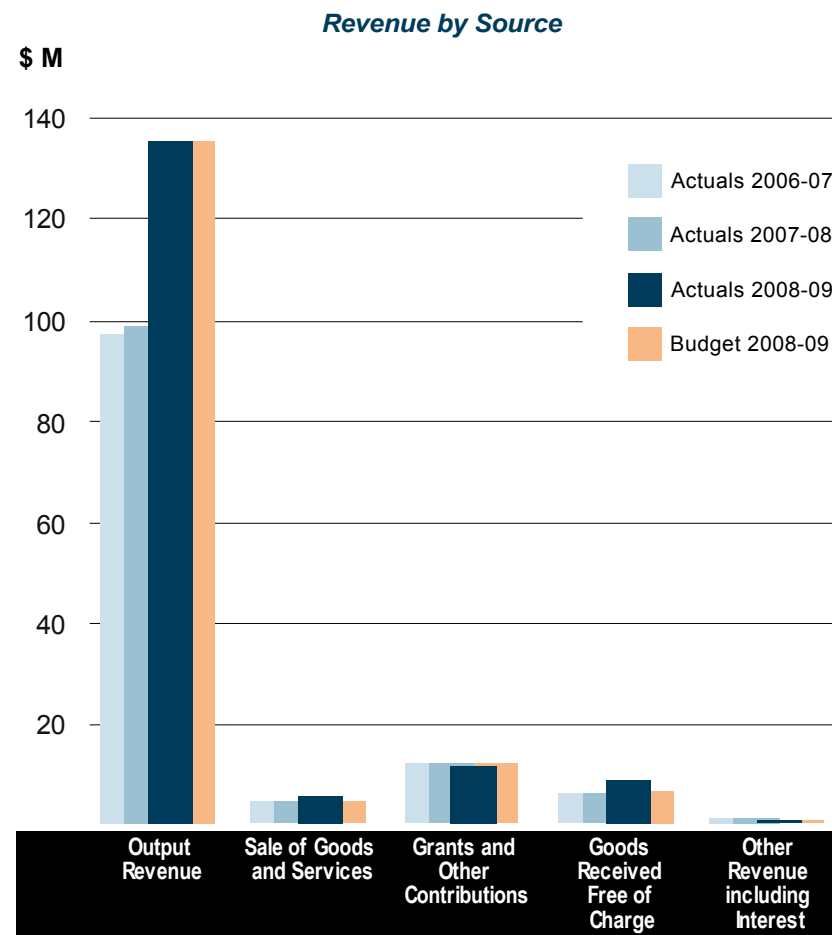
In 2008–09, the Department made a loss of \$11.5 million compared to a budgeted loss of \$15.4 million. The variance was mainly due to the late receipt of external funds which were unable to be expended in 2008–09 period.

Income – Where the Dollars Came From

The Department received operating income of \$161.5 million in 2008–09 compared with \$122.5 million in 2007–08. The graph (at right) compares the Department’s actual income by source for each financial year and the budget for 2008–09.

The Department is funded primarily through Northern Territory Parliamentary appropriation. The next major income source is grants from the Australian Government and other external funding bodies, and to a lesser degree charges for our goods and services. The Department also recognises notional revenue for corporate services it receives from the Northern Territory Government’s Department of Business and Employment (DBE). This income and associated expense item allows the Department to bring to account the full cost of the centralised corporate services provided by DBE.

In 2008–09 output revenue increased by \$36.4 million. The majority of the increase (\$27.7 million) relates to the incorporation into the Department of the Sport and Recreation and Northern Territory Libraries functions. Additional output revenue of \$8.7 million was received to fund new initiatives including strategic risk management for bushfires, support for businesses



and households to respond to climate change, and increased repairs and maintenance capacity.

The Department continues to attract a significant amount of external funding (\$11.9 million 2008–09) of which, the majority is from Australian Government funding (\$11.4 million 2008–09). This represents a 4 per cent decrease or \$500 000 less than 2007–08. The decrease reflects a reduction in funding received through the Natural Heritage Trust.

Expenses – Where the Dollars Were Spent

In the delivery of services, the Department incurred \$173 million in expenses during 2008–09, \$1 million less than budgeted, and an increase of \$45.4 million from the prior year. The majority (80 per cent) of the variance to last year is a result of the transfer in of new functions.

Payments to employees and purchases of goods and services account for 62 per cent of the Department’s outlays. Payments of grants and subsidies, and repairs and maintenance are the other major Department expenses, with depreciation and corporate charges levied by the DBE representing non-cash transactions. The graph (below) compares the Department’s actual expenses by type for the past three financial years, and the 2008–09 budget.

Employee Expenses

Employee expenses were \$64.2 million for 2008–09 against a budget of \$63.6 million. This result reflects a well managed level of staffing against approved funding during the year.

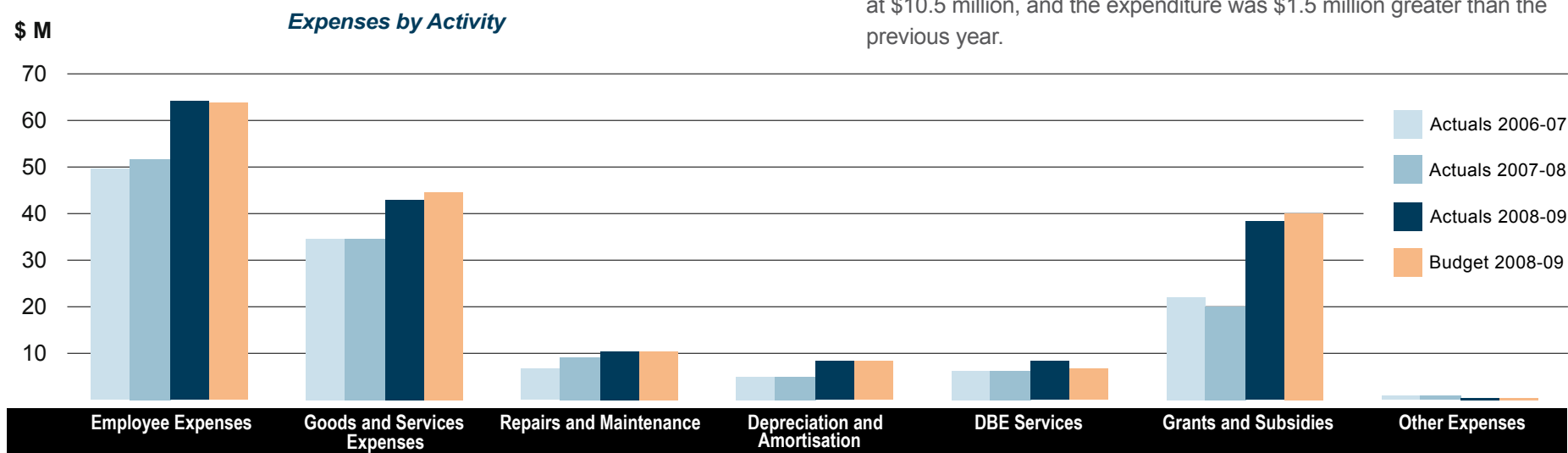
There was a \$12.4 million or 23.9 per cent increase in employee expenditure compared to the prior year which is largely due to the transfer in of new functions, as well as a 3 per cent pay increase for all employees as negotiated under the 2008–10 Northern Territory Public Sector Workplace Agreement. The Department had 996 employees as at 30 June 2009 including 60 externally funded positions. The number of employees under short term contracts funded through external grants remained constant with 2007–08.

Goods and Services Expenses

Actual spend on the purchase of goods and services was \$42.8 million against a budget of \$44.7 million for 2008–09. The under spend was a result of \$1.8 million of externally funded expenses not being utilised. The increase in actual expenditure from 2007–08 to 2008–09 reflects changes to external funding levels and the transfer in of new functions into the Department.

Repairs and Maintenance

Actual repairs and maintenance expenditure matched budget for 2008–09 at \$10.5 million, and the expenditure was \$1.5 million greater than the previous year.



There are three elements to the increase: an increase in the repairs and maintenance budget of \$1.5 million, the transfer in of new functions (\$1.2 million), and a \$1.1 million decrease in non cash repairs and maintenance.

Grants and Subsidies

In 2008–09 the Department distributed \$38.5 million in grants and subsidies against a budget of \$40.1 million and prior year payments of \$20.1 million. The increase in Northern Territory Government funded grant payments over the prior year was \$18 million and reflects the incorporation of Sport and Recreation and Northern Territory Libraries into the Department during the year. The increase in externally funded grant payments over the prior year was \$0.4 million.

All budgeted funds for grant payments received by the Department from the Northern Territory Government were paid out to grant recipients during the year. Grant payments of \$26.5 million were paid to recipients including art organisations, natural resource management and biodiversity conservation community groups and sport and recreation bodies.

A community service obligation payment of \$7.9 million was paid to the Territory Wildlife Parks for the delivery of non-commercial functions.

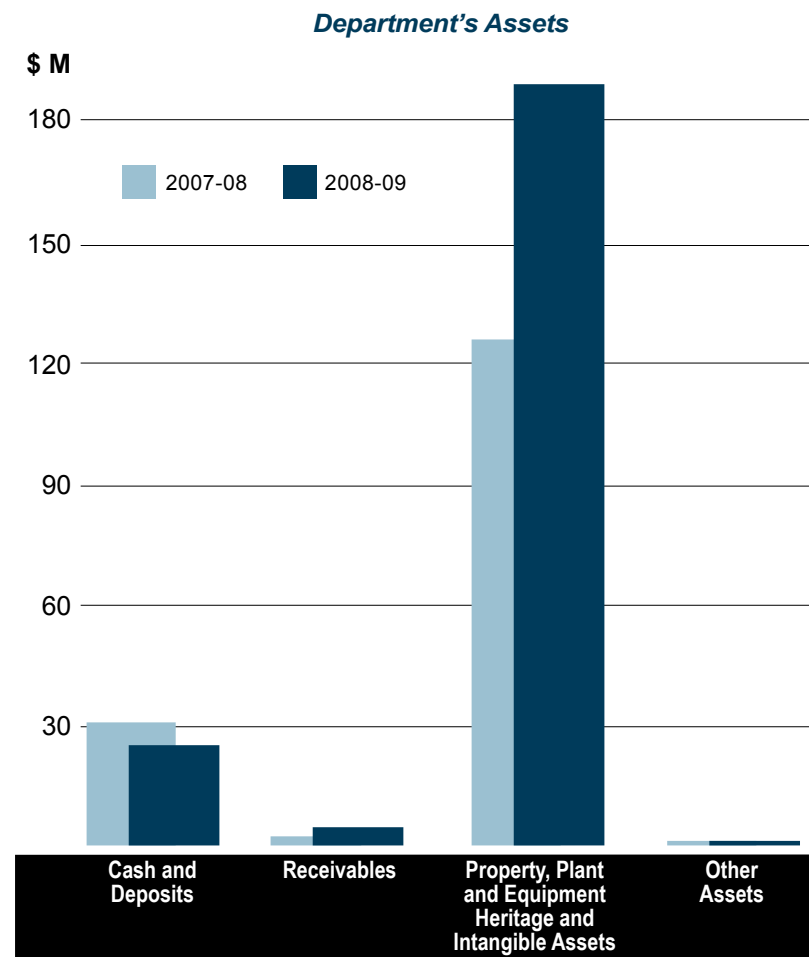
Externally funded grant payments of \$4.1 million (\$3.7 million in 2007–08) were distributed in 2008–09 against a budget of \$5.7 million. The decrease of \$1.6 million against budget is a result of less funds being received through the Natural Heritage Trust than expected. A total of \$1.1 million in Natural Heritage Trust grants was paid into the Department in 2008–09.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet provides a summary of the Department’s balances at the end of the financial year for assets, liabilities and equity.

Assets – What We Control

The Department’s total assets of \$219 million as at 30 June 2009 represent an increase of \$59 million over the previous year. The significant increase is directly attributable to the transfer of assets belonging to Sport and Recreation and the Northern Territory Library. The graph (below) illustrates the major asset components of cash and property, plant and equipment, make up 98 per cent of the Department’s asset base.



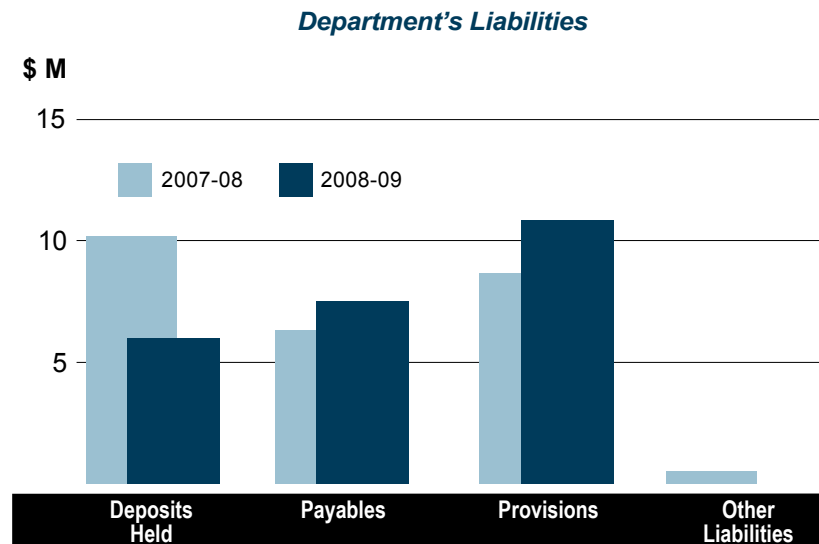
Cash and deposits of \$24.4 million were held as at 30 June 2009 compared to \$30.5 million at the same time last year. The balance of \$9.2 million as at June 30 includes \$5 million of Australian Government funds held in the Natural Heritage Trust single holding account. These funds are released when a decision is made by the Joint Steering Committee to fund approved projects.

The Department’s property, plant and equipment, heritage and intangible assets total \$189.2 million at 30 June 2009. New assets recognised during the year include shade shelters on the Larapinta Trail, facilities at Nitmuluk National Park, a workshed in Tennant Creek and waterslides, carpark, skatepark, shade and seating at Leanyer Recreation Park. Assets valued at \$62.3 million were transferred to the Department as a result of the inclusion of Sport and Recreation and the Northern Territory Library. Assets held by the Department include land, buildings (such as the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Marrara Sports Stadium in Darwin and the Araluen Centre in Alice Springs), infrastructure (such as car parks, walking trails and shelters) and other equipment such as drilling rigs.

The Department also holds a significant amount of works of art, cultural, and natural science collections, that are not recognised in the financial statements at 30 June 2009. A valuation of the primary art collection managed by the Department is currently underway, along with the full collection of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Liabilities – What We Owe

The Department’s total liabilities of \$24.3 million at 30 June 2009 are a decrease of \$1.2 million from the previous year. The graph (at right) shows the components of liabilities as deposits held, payables (mainly trade creditors, accrued salaries and accrued expenses) and provisions for employee entitlements.



Deposits held reflect the money held in the Natural Heritage Trust single holding account on behalf of the Australian Government. These funds are recognised as a liability to the Australian Government until a decision is made by the Natural Heritage Trust Joint Steering Committee to release the funds for approved projects.

Payables represent the amount owing to suppliers at 30 June for goods and services purchased and received.

Provisions for employee entitlements such as recreation leave, leave loading and leave fares were adjusted during the year to reflect the net present value of future entitlements ie the cost in present day dollars of employee entitlements that are to be paid in the future.

Our Equity – What We Are Worth

Equity is the Department's net assets ('what we own or control') less the liabilities that we are accountable for ('what we owe'). Equity as at 30 June 2009 was \$194.6 million, an increase of \$60.2 million over the previous year. The movement is a result of the inclusion of Sport and Recreation and the Northern Territory Library into the Department, directly increasing equity by \$62.9 million. The categories of movement in Equity are explained in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

Statement of Changes in Equity

This statement further expands on the equity movements outlined above, by the categories of capital, reserves and accumulated funds.

Movements in capital of \$71.7 million relate to the transfer into the Department of property, plant and equipment, capital funding from the Northern Territory Government to purchase assets, and the transfer in of all assets and liabilities relating to Sport and Recreation and Northern Territory Library. The transfer in of assets included the Marrara Sporting Complex and Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex.

There was no movement in the asset revaluation reserve between 2007–08 and 2008–09. The valuation of land, building and infrastructure is currently in progress by the Australian Valuation office.

Accumulated funds move each year by the profit or loss of the Department. In 2008–09 accumulated funds reduced by \$11.4 million representing the loss for the year.

Statement of Cash Flow

The statement of cash flows provides information on the nature and amount of cash flowing into and out of the Department during for the year.

The Department's cash flows for the year are summarised as follows:

Cash Flow Statement Summary (Used in)	2008–09 \$'000	2007–08 \$'000
Net Cash from Operating Activities	(2 165)	2 144
Net Cash (Used in) Investing Activities	(1 589)	(677)
Net Cash Used in/From Financing Activities	(2 307)	3 745
Net Increase in Cash Held	(6 061)	5 212
Cash at Beginning of Reporting Period	30 517	25 305
Cash at End of Reporting Period	24 456	30 517

Net cash from operating activities was -\$2.2 million in 2008–09. Despite an increase in output revenue of \$36.4 million, overall cash decreased due to an increased spend of \$22.7 million on employee and goods and services expenses, and grant payments of \$18.4 million.

Net cash from investing activities of -\$1.5 million in 2008–09 reflects cash spent on major asset purchases during the year which included five new gauging stations for flood forecasting.

Net cash from financing activities reflects the difference between cash received into and released from, the Natural Heritage Trust single holding account of -\$4.1 million in 2008–09, parliamentary capital appropriation of \$0.6 million for the purchase of minor assets, and a cash injection from the Department of Local Government and Housing for the transfer of Sport and Recreation and the Northern Territory Library functions of \$1.1 million.

Certification of the Financial Statements

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport 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 Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2009 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.



.....
Jim Grant
Chief Executive Officer
30 September 2009



.....
Susan Kirkman
Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Governance
30 September 2009

Operating Statement as at 30 June 2009

INCOME	Note	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
Grants and Subsidies Revenue					
Current		10 662	11 914	17 957	21 721
Capital		50	-	50	-
Appropriation					
Output		135 432	99 057	135 432	99 057
Commonwealth		673	-	673	-
Sales of Goods and Services		5 456	4 548	4 594	3 954
Interest Revenue		319	832	443	961
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge ⁽¹⁾	4	8 476	6 096	8 476	6 096
Assets acquired at Nil Consideration		76	-	76	-
Other Income		381	40	381	40
TOTAL INCOME	3	161 525	122 487	168 082	131 829
EXPENSES					
Employee Expenses		64 214	51 833	64 299	51 954
Administrative Expenses					
Purchases of Goods and Services	6	42 798	34 559	42 919	34 718
Repairs and Maintenance		10 539	9 060	10 539	9 060
Depreciation and Amortisation	10	8 175	5 151	8 175	5 151
Other Administrative Expenses ⁽¹⁾		8 480	6 111	8 480	6 111
Grants and Subsidies Expenses					
Current		26 443	11 959	31 185	18 359
Capital		4 125	232	4 125	232
Community Service Obligations		7 915	7 915	7 915	7 915
Interest Expenses	17	323	832	323	833
Loss on Disposal of Assets	5	-	6	-	6
TOTAL EXPENSES	3	173 012	127 658	177 960	134 339
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	15	(11 487)	(5 171)	(9 878)	(2 510)

¹ Includes DBE service charges.

The Operating Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2009

	Note	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
ASSETS					
Current Assets					
Cash and Deposits	7	24 456	30 517	29 036	33 779
Receivables	8	4 558	2 803	4 747	2 718
Accrued Revenue		15	87	15	87
Inventories	9	295	304	295	304
Prepayments		459	306	462	306
Total Current Assets		29 783	34 017	34 555	37 194
Non-Current Assets					
Property, Plant and Equipment	10	189 125	125 965	189 141	125 967
Intangible Assets	11a	4	14	4	14
Heritage and Cultural Assets	11b	31	27	31	27
Total Non-Current Assets		189 160	126 006	189 176	126 008
TOTAL ASSETS		218 943	160 023	223 731	163 202
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities					
Deposits Held	14	6 014	10 137	6 014	10 137
Payables	12	7 481	6 345	7 568	6 421
Provisions	13	7 456	5 998	7 458	6 011
Other Liabilities	14	0	460	0	460
Total Current Liabilities		20 951	22 940	21 040	23 029
Non-Current Liabilities					
Provisions	13	3 395	2 659	3 395	2 659
Total Non-Current Liabilities		3 395	2 659	3 395	2 659
TOTAL LIABILITIES		24 346	25 599	24 435	25 688
NET ASSETS		194 597	134 424	199 296	137 514
EQUITY					
Capital	15	222 117	150 457	222 117	150 457
Reserves		535	535	535	535
Accumulated Funds		(28 055)	(16 568)	(23 356)	(13 478)
TOTAL EQUITY		194 597	134 424	199 296	137 514

The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Note	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
BALANCE OF EQUITY AT 1 JULY		134 424	124 161	137 514	123 494
Capital	15				
Balance at 1 July		150 457	135 023	150 457	135 023
Equity Injections		71 660	15 434	71 660	15 434
Balance at 30 June		222 117	150 457	222 117	150 457
Reserves	15				
Balance at 1 July		535	535	535	535
Balance at 30 June		535	535	535	535
Accumulated Funds	15				
Balance at 1 July		(16 568)	(11 397)	(13 478)	(10 968)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Period		(11 487)	(5 171)	(9 878)	(2 510)
Balance at 30 June		(28 055)	(16 568)	(23 356)	(13 478)
BALANCE OF EQUITY AT 30 JUNE		194 597	134 424	199 296	137 514

This Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Note	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
		(Outflows) / Inflows	(Outflows) / Inflows	(Outflows) / Inflows	(Outflows) / Inflows
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Operating Receipts					
Grants and Subsidies Received					
Current		10 662	11 914	17 481	21 721
Capital		50	-	50	-
Appropriation					
Output		135 432	99 057	135 432	99 057
Commonwealth		673	-	673	-
Receipts From Sales of Goods And Services		11 360	10 415	10 498	9 256
Interest Received		361	853	485	982
Total Operating Receipts		158 538	122 239	164 619	131 016
Operating Payments					
Payments to Employees		(61 707)	(51 146)	(61 792)	(51 255)
Payments for Goods and Services		(60 147)	(47 990)	(60 067)	(48 087)
Grants and Subsidies Paid					
Current		(26 443)	(11 959)	(31 185)	(18 359)
Capital		(4 125)	(232)	(4 125)	(232)
Community Service Obligations		(7 915)	(7 915)	(7 915)	(7 915)
Interest Paid		(366)	(853)	(366)	(854)
Total Operating Payments		(160 703)	(120 095)	(165 450)	(126 702)
Net Cash (Used In)/From Operating Activities	16	(2 165)	2 144	(831)	4 314
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Investing Receipts					
Proceeds from Asset Sales	5	2	6	2	6
Total Investing Receipts		2	6	2	6
Investing Payments					
Purchases of Assets	10	(1 591)	(683)	(1 607)	(685)
Total Investing Payments		(1 591)	(683)	(1 607)	(685)
Net Cash (Used In)/From Investing Activities		(1 589)	(677)	(1 605)	(679)

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Note	Department 2 009 \$'000 (Outflows) / Inflows	Department 2008 \$'000 (Outflows) / Inflows	Group 2009 \$'000 (Outflows) / Inflows	Group 2008 \$'000 (Outflows) / Inflows
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Financing Receipts					
Equity Injections					
Capital Appropriations	15	685	640	685	640
Other Equity Injections		1 131	6 887	1 131	6 887
Total Financing Receipts		1 816	7 527	1 816	7 527
Financing Payments					
Deposits Paid					
		(4 123)	(3 782)	(4 123)	(3 782)
Total Financing Payments		(4 123)	(3 782)	(4 123)	(3 782)
Net Cash (Used In)/From Financing Activities					
Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash Held		(6 061)	5 212	(4 743)	7 380
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year	7	30 517	25 305	33 779	26 399
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR		24 456	30 517	29 036	33 779

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Index of Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Objectives and Funding
2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies
3. Operating Statement by Output Group

Income

4. Goods and Services Received Free of Charge
5. Loss on Disposal of Assets

Expenses

6. Purchases of Goods and Services

Assets

7. Cash and Deposits
8. Receivables
9. Inventories
10. Property, Plant and Equipment
- 11a Intangibles
- 11b Heritage and Cultural Assets

Liabilities

12. Payables
13. Provisions
14. Other Liabilities

Equity

15. Equity

Other disclosures

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
17. Financial Instruments
18. Commitments
19. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
20. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
21. Accountable Officer's Trust Account
22. Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers
23. Schedule of Territory Items
24. Variation to the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Objectives and Funding

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport's purpose is to work with Territory communities to:

- Ensure the demands on natural resources are kept within sustainable limits;
- Celebrate their unique histories; and
- Foster life long artist expression and involvement in sport and recreation.

Additional information in relation to the Department and its principal activities may be found in the Performance Reporting section on [pages 86–142](#) of the Annual Report.

The Department is predominantly funded by, and is dependent on the receipt of Parliamentary Appropriations. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the Department controls resources to carry on its functions and deliver outputs. For reporting purposes, outputs delivered by the Department are summarised into nine Output Groups as follows:

- Parks and Reserves;
- Biological Parks;
- Natural Resources;
- Environment and Sustainability;
- Heritage Conservation;
- Scientific and Cultural Collections;
- Arts and Screen Industry Support;
- Sport and Recreation; and
- Environment Protection Authority.

Note 3 provides summary financial information in the form of an Operating Statement by Output Group.

2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and related Treasurer's Directions. The *Financial Management Act* requires the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of Department financial statements is to include;

- (i) a Certification of the Financial Statements;
- (ii) an Operating Statement;
- (iii) a Balance Sheet;
- (iv) a Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) a Cash Flow Statement; and
- (vi) applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, all intra Department transactions and balances have been eliminated.

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

The form of the Department financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current Annual Reporting period have been evaluated. The Standards and Interpretations and their impacts are:

AASB 1050 Administered Items

The main requirements of the Standard are for a government department to disclose administered income, expenses, assets and liabilities (applying the principles of AASB 1052), along with details of certain non-department controlled transfers. The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport is unable to conform to all the requirements of the Standard for 2008–09 as administered items are not disclosed by output group.

AASB 1052 Disaggregated Disclosures

The main requirements of the Standard are for a government department to disclose by each major activity the major classes of incomes and expenses, and assets deployed and liabilities incurred. The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport is unable to conform to all the requirements of the Standard for 2008–09 as assets and liabilities are not disaggregated by output group.

AASB 2007-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Review of AAS 27, AAS 29 and AAS 31

The Standard relocates certain relevant requirements from AASs 27, 29 and 31, substantively unamended, into existing topic-based standards. This standard also makes consequential amendments, arising from the short-term review of AASs 27, 29 and 31, to AASB 5, AASB 8, AASB 101 and AASB 114. The Standard will not have an impact on the Financial Statements.

AASB Interpretation 14 AASB 119 The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction

The interpretation clarifies when refunds or reductions in future contributions in relation to defined benefit assets should be regarded as available and provides guidance on the impact of minimum funding requirements on such assets. It also gives guidance on when a minimum funding requirement might give rise to a liability. The Standard will not have a material financial impact on the Financial Statements.

(b) Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations Issued but not yet Effective

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective.

AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (revised September 2007), AASB 2007-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Arising from AASB 101, AASB 2007-10 Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101

Effective for the Annual Reporting period beginning on or after 1 January 2009.

The main changes from the previous version of AASB 101 require an entity to: (a) present non-owner changes in equity separately from owner changes in equity. The former cannot be presented in the statement of changes in equity; (b) display components of other comprehensive income in the statement of comprehensive income.

AASB 2008-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project

Effective for the Annual Reporting period beginning on or after 1 January 2009.

Amendments to some Standards result in accounting changes for presentation, recognition or measurement purposes.

AASB 2009-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Improving Disclosures about Financial Instruments

Effective for the Annual Reporting period beginning on or after 1 January 2009 that ends on or after 30 April 2009.

The Standard amends AASB 7 to require enhanced disclosures about fair value measurement of financial instruments. The Standard will not have a financial impact on the Financial Statements but will require a number of changes in disclosures – will suffice.

(c) Department and Territory Items

The financial statements of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport include income, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity over which the Department has control (Department items). Certain items, while managed by the Department, are controlled and recorded by the Territory rather than the Department (Territory items). Territory items are recognised and recorded by the Central Holding Authority.

Central Holding Authority

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

The Central Holding Authority also records all Territory items, such as income, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled by the Northern Territory Government and managed by Agencies on behalf of the government. The main Territory item is Territory income, which includes taxation and royalty revenue, Commonwealth general purpose funding (such as GST revenue), fines, and statutory fees and charges.

The Central Holding Authority also holds certain Territory assets not assigned to Agencies as well as certain Territory liabilities that are not practical or effective to assign to individual Agencies such as unfunded superannuation and long service leave.

The Central Holding Authority recognises and records all Territory items, and as such, these items are not included in the Department's financial statements. However, as the Department is accountable for certain Territory items managed on behalf of Government, these items have been separately disclosed in Note 23 – Schedule of Territory Items.

(d) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information for the 2007–08 financial year has been reclassified to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

(e) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero.

(f) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies adopted in 2008–09 as a result of management decisions.

(g) Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgements and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. Notes that include significant judgements and estimates are:

- Employee Benefits – Note 2(t) and Note 13: Non-current liabilities in respect of employee benefits are measured as the present value of estimated future cash outflows based on the appropriate Government bond rate, estimates of future salary and wage levels and employee periods of service.
- Contingent Liabilities – Note 19: The present value of material quantifiable contingent liabilities are calculated using a discount rate based on the published 10 year Government bond rate.
- Doubtful Debts – Note 2(o) and 8: Receivables.
- Depreciation and Amortisation – Note 2(k), Note 10: Property, Plant and Equipment and Note 11(a) and 11(b).

(h) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part 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 Balance Sheet.

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

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

(i) Income Recognition

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of goods and services tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

Grants and Other Contributions

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the Department 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.

Appropriation

Output Appropriation is the operating payment to each Department for the outputs they provide and is calculated as the net cost of Department outputs after taking into account funding from Department income. It does not include any allowance for major non-cash costs such as depreciation.

Commonwealth appropriation is new to 2008–09, and follows from the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations. It has resulted in Special Purpose Payments and National Partnership Payments being made by the Commonwealth Treasury to state treasuries, in a manner similar to arrangements for GST payments. These payments are received by Treasury on behalf of the Central Holding Authority and then on-passed to the relevant agencies as Commonwealth Appropriation.

Revenue in respect of Appropriations is recognised in the period in which the Department gains control of the funds.

Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when:

- The significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer;
- The Department retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- The amount of revenue can be reliably measured;
- It is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Department; and
- The costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Rendering of Services

Revenue from rendering services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The revenue is recognised when:

- the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

Interest Revenue

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

Goods and Services Received Free of Charge

Goods and services received free of charge are recognised as revenue when a fair value can be reliably determined and the resource would have been purchased if it had not been donated. Use of the resource is recognised as an expense.

Disposal of Assets

A gain or loss on disposal of assets is included as a gain or loss on the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain 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. Refer also to Note 5.

Contributions 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 gains when the Department obtains control of the asset or contribution. Contributions are recognised at the fair value received or receivable.

(j) Repairs and Maintenance Expenses

Funding is received for repairs and maintenance works associated with Department assets as part of Output Revenue. Costs associated with repairs and maintenance works on Department assets are expensed as incurred.

(k) 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 are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are determined as follows:

Asset	2009	2008
Buildings	50 Years	50 Years
Infrastructure Assets	8–50 Years	8–50 Years
Plant and Equipment	10 Years	10 Years
Leased Plant and Equipment	3–5 Years	3–5 Years
Transport Equipment	10 Years	10 Years
Computer Hardware	3–6 Years	3–6 Years
Heritage and Cultural Assets	100 Years	100 Years
Intangibles – Computer Software	3–6 Years	3–6 Years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

(l) Interest Expenses

Interest expenses include interest and finance lease charges. Interest expenses are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

(m) Cash and Deposits

For the purposes of the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash. Cash at bank includes monies held in the Accountable Officer's Trust Account (AOTA) that are ultimately payable to the beneficial owner – refer also to Note 21.

(n) Inventories

Inventories include assets held either for sale (general inventories) or for distribution at no or nominal consideration in the ordinary course of business operations.

General inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, while those held for distribution are carried at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

Cost of inventories includes all costs associated with bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. When inventories are acquired at no or nominal consideration, the cost will be the current replacement cost at date of acquisition.

The cost of inventories are assigned using a mixture of first-in, first out or weighted average cost formula or using specific identification of their individual costs.

Inventory held for distribution are regularly assessed for obsolescence and loss.

(o) Receivables

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

The allowance for impairment losses represents the amount of receivables the Department estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Analysis of the age of the receivables that are past due as at the reporting date are disclosed in an ageing schedule under credit risk in Note 17 Financial Instruments. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 30 days.

(p) Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$5000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$5000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

The construction cost of property, plant and equipment 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 Department 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 expected useful lives.

Construction (Work in Progress)

As part of *Financial Management Framework*, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole of government basis. Therefore appropriation for Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport capital works is provided directly to the Northern Territory Department of Planning and Infrastructure and the cost of construction work in progress is recognised as an asset of that Department. Once completed, capital works assets are transferred to the Department.

(q) Revaluations and Impairment

Revaluation of Assets

Subsequent to initial recognition, assets belonging to the following classes of non-current assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of these assets does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date:

- Land;
- Buildings;
- Infrastructure Assets;
- Heritage and Cultural Assets; and
- Intangibles.

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

Plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less depreciation, which is deemed to equate to fair value.

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. The valuation of the primary art collection managed by the Department is currently underway, along with the full collection of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Impairment of Assets

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Non-current physical and intangible Department assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of impairment exists, the Department determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Operating Statement unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount.

Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the Asset Revaluation Reserve for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Operating Statement as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the Asset Revaluation Reserve. Note 15 provides additional information in relation to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(r) Leased Assets

Leases under which the Department assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset 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 recognised 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 leased property. Lease incentives under an operating lease of a building or office space is recognised as an integral part of the consideration for the use of the leased asset. Lease incentives are to be recognised as a deduction of the lease expenses over the term of the lease.

(s) Payables

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

(t) 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 and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within twelve months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid. Non-current employee benefit liabilities that fall due after twelve months of the reporting date are measured at present value, calculated using the Government long term bond rate.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

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.

As part of the *Financial Management Framework*, the Central Holding Authority assumes the long service leave liabilities of Government Agencies, including the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport, and as such no long service leave liability is recognised in Department financial statements.

(u) Superannuation

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the:

- Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS);
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS); or
- Non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The Department makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees to the Central Holding Authority or non-government employee nominated schemes. Superannuation liabilities related to government superannuation schemes are held by the Central Holding Authority and as such are not recognised in Department financial statements.

(v) Contributions by and Distributions to Government

The Department may receive contributions from Government where the Government is acting as owner of the Department. Conversely, the Department may make distributions to Government. In accordance with *the Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions, certain types of contributions and distributions, including those relating to administrative restructures, have been designated as contributions by, and distributions to, Government. These designated contributions and distributions are treated by the Department as adjustments to equity.

The Statement of Changes in Equity and Note 15 provide additional information in relation to contributions by, and distributions to, Government.

(w) Commitments

Disclosures in relation to capital and other commitments, including lease commitments are shown at Note 18 and are consistent with the requirements contained in AASB 101, AASB 116 and AASB 117.

Commitments are those contracted as at 30 June where the amount of the future commitment can be reliably measured.

(x) Group

The 'Group' refers to the consolidation of the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport and the Natural Resource Management Board Incorporated.

The preparation and presentation of consolidated reporting recognises the Department's control over the Natural Resource Management Board consistent with the requirements contained in AASB127.

3. Operating Statement by Output Group – Department Only

	Parks and Reserves		Biological Parks		Natural Resources		Environment and Sustainability		Heritage Conservation	
	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000
INCOME										
Grants and Subsidies Revenue										
Current	170	47		3	8 195	10 040	165	568	20	11
Capital										
Appropriation										
Output	28 354	27 313	10 446	10 244	34 153	30 983	6 370	4 430	2 912	2 475
Commonwealth					673					
Sales of Goods and Services	1 015	807	27	23	2 342	1 894	97	41	5	6
Interest Revenue					319	832				
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge ⁽¹⁾	2 193	1 817	229	199	3 127	2 245	376	319	84	80
Assets Acquired at Nil Consideration					76					
Other Income	9	(1)	2		118	36				
TOTAL INCOME	31 741	29 983	10 704	10 469	49 003	46 030	7 008	5 358	3 021	2 572
EXPENSES										
Employee Expenses	14 907	13 722	1 401	1 349	23 231	22 406	3 053	2 811	877	658
Administrative Expenses										
Purchases of Goods and Services	11 361	10 919	872	867	16 639	14 456	1 136	1 138	504	432
Repairs and Maintenance	4 648	4 662	310	183	916	1 262			1 045	916
Depreciation and Amortisation	3 044	2 875	86	80	669	604	73	49	12	7
Other Administrative Expenses ⁽¹⁾	2 195	1 820	230	200	3 128	2 253	375	320	84	80
Grants and Subsidies Expenses										
Current	157	292	166	95	5 741	4 628	906	807	318	331
Capital							850			
Community Service Obligations			7 915	7 915						
Interest Expenses					323	832				
Loss on Disposal of Assets		6								
TOTAL EXPENSES	36 312	34 296	10 980	10 689	50 647	46 441	6 393	5 125	2 840	2 424
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(4 571)	(4 313)	(276)	(220)	(1 644)	(411)	615	233	181	148

This Operating Statement by Output Group is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

¹ Includes DBE service charges.

	Scientific and Cultural Collections		Arts and Screen Industry Support		Sport and Recreation		Environment Protection Authority		Total	
	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000
INCOME										
Grants and Subsidies Revenue										
Current	906	746	748	499	458				10 662	11 914
Capital					50				50	0
Appropriation										
Output	23 085	12 226	9 112	11 138	20 193		807	248	135 432	99 057
Commonwealth									673	0
Sales of Goods and Services	1 684	955	52	822	213		21		5 456	4 548
Interest Revenue									319	832
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge ⁽¹⁾	1 668	1 017	194	419	574		31		8 476	6 096
Assets Acquired at Nil Consideration									76	0
Other Income	80			5	172				381	40
TOTAL INCOME	27 423	14 944	10 106	12 883	21 660	-	859	248	161 525	122 487
EXPENSES										
Employee Expenses	14 281	7 495	1 533	3 333	4 423		508	59	64 214	51 833
Administrative Expenses										
Purchases of Goods and Services	7 643	4 411	1 168	2 275	3 097		378	61	42 798	34 559
Repairs and Maintenance	1 840	1 132	368	905	1 412				10 539	9 060
Depreciation and Amortisation	1 452	894	145	642	2 692		2		8 175	5 151
Other Administrative Expenses ⁽¹⁾	1 669	1 018	194	420	574		31		8 480	6 111
Grants and Subsidies Expenses										
Current	3 793	274	5 669	5 532	9 693				26 443	11 959
Capital				232	3 275				4 125	232
Community Service Obligations									7 915	7 915
Interest Expenses									323	832
Loss on Disposal of Assets									0	6
TOTAL EXPENSES	30 678	15 224	9 077	13 339	25 166	-	919	120	173 012	127 658
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(3 255)	(280)	1 029	(456)	(3 506)	-	(60)	128	(11 487)	(5 171)

This Operating Statement by Output Group is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

¹ Includes DBE service charges.

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
4. Goods and Services Received Free of Charge				
Corporate and Information Services	8 476	6 096	8 476	6 096
5. Loss on Disposal of Assets				
Net proceeds from the disposal of capitalised assets	2	6	2	6
Less: Carrying value of non-current assets disposed	(2)	(12)	(2)	(12)
(Loss) on the disposal of non-current assets	-	(6)	-	(6)
6. Purchases of Goods and Services				
The net surplus/(deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:				
Goods and Services Expenses:				
Consultants ⁽¹⁾	1 256	1 038	1 257	1 038
Advertising ⁽²⁾	361	158	361	158
Marketing and Promotion ⁽³⁾	605	423	609	423
Document Production	587	352	587	352
Legal Expenses ⁽⁴⁾	64	709	70	709
Recruitment ⁽⁵⁾	433	395	440	395
Training and Study	1 127	1 045	1 128	1 045
Official Duty Fares	1 971	1 579	1 977	1 579
Travelling Allowance	994	924	1 003	924

(1) Includes marketing, promotion and Information Technology 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 legal fees, claim and settlement costs.

(5) Includes recruitment related advertising costs.

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
7. Cash and Deposits				
Cash on Hand	22	17	22	17
Cash at Bank	24 434	30 500	29 014	33 762
	<u>24 456</u>	<u>30 517</u>	<u>29 036</u>	<u>33 779</u>
8. Receivables				
Current				
Accounts Receivable	3 768	2 301	4 024	2 301
Less: Allowance for Impairment Losses	(478)	(55)	(478)	(55)
	<u>3 290</u>	<u>2 246</u>	<u>3 546</u>	<u>2 246</u>
Interest Receivables	11	53	11	53
GST Receivables	1 257	504	1 190	419
Total Receivables	<u>4 558</u>	<u>2 803</u>	<u>4 747</u>	<u>2 718</u>
9. Inventories				
General Inventories				
At cost	295	304	295	304
Total Inventories	<u>295</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>295</u>	<u>304</u>

During the year the Department was required to write-off \$1316 (\$1166 in 2007–08) of inventory due to stock being damaged or stolen.

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
10. Property, Plant and Equipment				
Land				
At Fair Value	19 333	11 136	19 333	11 136
Buildings				
At Fair Value	229 038	146 524	229 038	146 524
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(80 557)	(52 740)	(80 557)	(52 740)
	148 481	93 784	148 481	93 784
Infrastructure				
At Fair Value	29 963	29 621	29 963	29 621
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(13 546)	(12 708)	(13 546)	(12 708)
	16 417	16 913	16 417	16 913
Plant and Equipment				
At Cost	12 584	6 844	12 601	6 846
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(9 158)	(3 979)	(9 159)	(3 979)
	3 426	2 865	3 442	2 867
Leased Plant and Equipment				
At Capitalised Cost	30	30	30	30
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)
	0	-	0	-
Computer Equipment				
At Fair Value	808	596	808	596
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(716)	(575)	(716)	(575)
	92	21	92	21
Transport Equipment				
At Fair Value	3 120	2 839	3 120	2 839
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1 744)	(1 593)	(1 744)	(1 593)
	1 376	1 246	1 376	1 246
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	189 125	125 965	189 141	125 967

Property, Plant and Equipment Valuations

The latest revaluations as at 30 June 2006 were undertaken by the Australian Valuation office. A revaluation review of Land, Building and Infrastructure is currently in progress by the Australian Valuation office.

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment

Department property, plant and equipment assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2009. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

10. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2008–09 and 2007–08 is set out below:

	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Construction (Work in Progress)	Plant and Equipment	Transport Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2008–09								
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2008	11 136	93 784	16 913	-	2 865	1 246	21	125 965
Additions	-	8	-	-	1 220	286	77	1 591
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(2)	(6)	-	(8)
Depreciation and Amortisation	-	(6 214)	(833)	-	(925)	(150)	(38)	(8 160)
Additions from Administrative Restructuring	8 197	54 068	37	3	23	-	32	62 360
Additions/(Disposals) from Asset Transfers	-	6 835	300	(3)	169	-	-	7 301
Additions at nil consideration	-	-	-	-	76	-	-	76
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2009	19 333	148 481	16 417	-	3 426	1 376	92	189 125
2007–08								
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2007	11 396	93 557	14 618	59	2 816	1 295	46	123 787
Additions	-	46	-	39	477	115	6	683
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(2)	(10)	-	(12)
Depreciation and Amortisation	-	(3 432)	(717)	-	(802)	(151)	(31)	(5 133)
Additions/(Disposals) from Asset Transfers	(260)	3 613	3 012	(98)	376	(3)	-	6 640
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2008	11 136	93 784	16 913	-	2 865	1 246	21	125 965

11a Intangibles

Intangibles – Computer Software

At valuation 1 July

Less: Accumulated Amortisation

Written down value 30 June

Impairment of Intangibles

Department intangible assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2009.

No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

Reconciliation of movements

Intangibles with a finite useful life

Other intangibles

Carrying amount at 1 July

Additions from Administrative Restructuring

Depreciation and Amortisation

Carrying Amount as at 30 June

11b Heritage and Cultural Assets

At valuation 1 July

Less: Accumulated Amortisation

Written down value 30 June

Impairment of Intangibles

Department heritage and cultural assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2009. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

Reconciliation of movements

Intangibles with a finite useful life

Other intangibles

Carrying amount at 1 July

Additions from Administrative Restructuring

Depreciation and Amortisation

Carrying Amount as at 30 June

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
11a Intangibles				
Intangibles – Computer Software				
At valuation 1 July	77	62	77	62
Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(73)	(48)	(73)	(48)
Written down value 30 June	4	14	4	14
Impairment of Intangibles				
Department intangible assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2009. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.				
Reconciliation of movements				
Intangibles with a finite useful life				
Other intangibles				
Carrying amount at 1 July	14	31	14	31
Additions from Administrative Restructuring	4	-	4	-
Depreciation and Amortisation	(14)	(17)	(14)	(17)
Carrying Amount as at 30 June	4	14	4	14
11b Heritage and Cultural Assets				
At valuation 1 July	40	35	40	35
Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(9)	(8)	(9)	(8)
Written down value 30 June	31	27	31	27
Impairment of Intangibles				
Department heritage and cultural assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2009. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.				
Reconciliation of movements				
Intangibles with a finite useful life				
Other intangibles				
Carrying amount at 1 July	27	28	27	28
Additions from Administrative Restructuring	5	-	5	-
Depreciation and Amortisation	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Carrying Amount as at 30 June	31	27	31	27

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
12. Payables				
Accounts Payable	2 205	2 430	2 280	2 494
Accrued Expenses	5 276	3 915	5 288	3 927
	<u>7 481</u>	<u>6 345</u>	<u>7 568</u>	<u>6 421</u>
13. Provisions				
Current				
Employee Benefits				
Recreation Leave	5 166	4 204	5 166	4 204
Leave Loading	933	741	933	741
Other Employee Benefits (Recreation Leave Fares)	218	197	218	197
Other Current Provisions				
Other Provisions (Fringe Benefits, Payroll Tax and Superannuation)	1 139	856	1 141	869
	<u>7 456</u>	<u>5 998</u>	<u>7 458</u>	<u>6 011</u>
Non-Current				
Employee Benefits				
Recreation Leave	3 395	2 659	3 395	2 659
Total Provisions	<u>10 851</u>	<u>8 657</u>	<u>10 853</u>	<u>8 670</u>
Reconciliations of Provisions ^(a)				
Balance as at 1 July 2008	8 657	8 126	8 670	8 126
Additional Provisions Recognised	8 145	6 002	8 180	6 015
Reductions Arising from Payments	(5 951)	(5 471)	(5 997)	(5 471)
Balance as at 30 June 2009	<u>10 851</u>	<u>8 657</u>	<u>10 853</u>	<u>8 670</u>
The Department has 996 employees as at 30 June 2009 (891 employees as at 30 June 2008).				
14. Other Liabilities				
Current				
Deposits held for Natural Heritage Trust	5 043	9 236	5 043	9 236
Deposits held for Commonwealth	323	-	323	-
Other Liabilities – Accountable Officer's Trust Account and Clearing Accounts	648	901	648	901
Unearned Revenue	-	460	-	460
	<u>6 014</u>	<u>10 597</u>	<u>6 014</u>	<u>10 597</u>

15. Equity

Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Department. The Government's ownership interest in Department is held in the Central Holding Authority as described in Note 2(c).

Capital

Balance as at 1 July

Equity Injections

Capital Appropriation

Equity Transfers In – Assets

Equity Transfers In for Department Restructure

Other Equity Transfers Injections

Balance as at 30 June

Reserves

Asset Revaluation Reserve – Land

The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets. Impairment adjustments may also be recognised in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

Balance as at 1 July

Increment/(Decrement) – Land

Balance as at 30 June

Accumulated Funds

Balance as at 1 July

Surplus/(Deficit) for the Period

Balance as at 30 June

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
Balance as at 1 July	150 457	135 023	150 457	135 023
Equity Injections				
Capital Appropriation	685	640	685	640
Equity Transfers In – Assets	8 065	8 821	8 065	8 821
Equity Transfers In for Department Restructure	62 910	-	62 910	-
Other Equity Transfers Injections	-	5 973	-	5 973
Balance as at 30 June	222 117	150 457	222 117	150 457
Reserves				
Asset Revaluation Reserve – Land				
Balance as at 1 July	535	535	535	535
Increment/(Decrement) – Land	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June	535	535	535	535
Accumulated Funds				
Balance as at 1 July	(16 568)	(11 397)	(13 478)	(10 968)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Period	(11 487)	(5 171)	(9 878)	(2 510)
Balance as at 30 June	(28 055)	(16 568)	(23 356)	(13 478)

16. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Cash

The total of Department Cash and Deposits of \$24.456 million recorded in the Balance Sheet is consistent with that recorded as 'cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.

Reconciliation of (Deficit) to Net Cash From Operating Activities

Net (Deficit)

Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
(11 487)	(5 171)	(9 878)	(2 510)

Non-Cash Items:

Depreciation and Amortisation	8 175	5 151	8 175	5 151
Asset Write-Offs/Write-Downs	5	4	5	4
Repairs and Maintenance Non Cash	175	1 264	175	1 264
Loss on Disposal of Assets	-	6	-	6
Assets acquired at nil value	(76)	-	(76)	-

Changes in Assets and Liabilities:

(Increase) in Receivables	(1 683)	(502)	(1 957)	(1 082)
Decrease in Inventories	9	42	9	42
(Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(153)	107	(156)	107
Increase in Payables	1 136	254	1 148	330
Increase in Provision for Employee Benefits	2 194	531	2 184	544
(Decrease)/Increase in Other Liabilities	(460)	458	(460)	458

Net Cash (used in)/From Operating Activities

(2 165)	2 144	(831)	4 314
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17. Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments held by the Department include cash and deposits, receivables, and payables. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

The carrying amounts of the Departments financial assets and liabilities by category are disclosed in the table below.

(a) Categorisation of Financial Instruments

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
Financial Assets				
Cash and deposits	24 456	30 517	29 036	33 779
Loans and receivables	4 071	2 747	4 328	2 747
	28 527	33 264	33 364	36 526
Financial Liabilities				
Fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL) Designated	13 342	16 312	13 429	16 388

(b) Credit Risk

The Department has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default). In respect of any dealings with organisations external to government, the Department has adopted a policy of only dealing with creditworthy organisations. Additionally, the nature of the Department's revenue is such that if the debtor was to default on the debt it would cause them to suffer a business impact through the Department's ability to discontinue licences etc until financial obligations are met. Primarily the Department's credit risk comes from the regulatory work performed on behalf of landholders (ie firebreaks). In these instances if a debt is not settled the Department has the ability, and does, take a lien over the property whereby the debt will be settled on sale of the property.

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

Receivables

Receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. A reconciliation and ageing analysis of receivables is presented below.

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
Ageing of Receivables				
Not Overdue	3 377	1 358	3 535	1 273
Overdue for less than 30 Days	1 037	1 134	1 068	1 134
Overdue for 30 to 60 Days	54	44	54	44
Overdue for more than 60 Days (includes S42 Firebreaks)	568	322	568	322
Total Gross Receivables	5 036	2 858	5 225	2 773
Ageing of Impaired Receivables				
Impaired Receivables for more than 60 Days	(478)	(55)	(478)	(55)
Total Impaired Receivables	(478)	(55)	(478)	(55)
Reconciliation of the Allowance for Impairment Losses				
Allowance for Impairment Losses at the Beginning of the Reporting Period	55	46	55	46
Transfer in Provision - Department restructure	436	-	436	-
(Decrease)/increase in allowance recognised in profit or loss	(13)	9	(13)	9
Allowance for Impairment Losses at the End of the Reporting Period	478	55	478	55

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the entity will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Department's liquidity risk includes credit cards with a potential monthly exposure of \$2.8 million representing 24 days of administrative expenditure capacity. This risk is managed by tight control on the issue and maintenance of credit cards and regular review and reporting.

The following tables detail the undiscounted cash flows payable by the Department by remaining contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. It should be noted that as these are undiscounted, totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Balance Sheet.

Maturity Analysis for Financial Liabilities

	1 Year \$'000	2 Year \$'000	Carrying Amount
2009 – Financial Liabilities			
Deposits Held	5 366	-	5 366
Payables	2 205	-	2 205
Provisions	7 456	3 395	10 851
Other Liabilities	-	-	
Total Financial Liabilities:	15 027	3 395	18 422
2008 – Financial Liabilities			
Deposits Held	9 236	-	9 236
Payables	2 430	-	2 430
Provisions	5 998	2 659	8 657
Other Liabilities	460	-	460
Total Financial Liabilities:	18 124	2 659	20 783

(d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market prices. It comprises interest rate risk, price risk and currency risk. The primary market risk that the Department is exposed to is interest rate risk.

(i) Interest Rate Risk

The Department has limited exposure to interest rate risk as all financial assets and financial liabilities, with the exception of the Single Holding Account deposits held, are non-interest bearing. The exposure to interest rate risk on financial assets and financial liabilities is set out in the following tables. Changes to the variable rates of 100 basis points (1 per cent) at reporting date would have had no effect on the Department's profit or loss and equity as Interest received on the Single Holding Account is then payable to account shown as deposits held.

	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000
Variable rate instruments		
Financial Assets	5 043	9 236
Financial Liabilities	(5 043)	(9 236)
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

(ii) Price Risk

The Department is not exposed to price risk as the Department does not hold units in unit trusts.

(iii) Currency Risk

The Department is not exposed to currency risk as the Department does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies or transactional currency exposures arising from purchases in a foreign currency.

(e) Net Fair Value

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements approximates to their respective net fair values. Where differences exist, these are not material.

18. Commitments

(i) Other Expenditure Commitments

Other non-cancellable expenditure commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year

	Department 2009 \$'000	Department 2008 \$'000	Group 2009 \$'000	Group 2008 \$'000
Within one year	3 743	5 117	5 186	7 933
(ii) Operating Lease Commitments				
The Department leases property under non-cancellable operating leases expiring from 1 to 5 years. Leases generally provide the Department with a right of renewal at which time all lease terms are renegotiated. The Department also leases items of plant and equipment under non-cancellable operating leases. Future operating lease commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:				
Within one year	127	96	127	96
Later than one year and not later than five years	95	158	95	158
	<u>222</u>	<u>254</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>254</u>
(iii) Finance Lease Commitments				
The Department leases no plant and equipment under finance leases.				

(ii) Operating Lease Commitments

The Department leases property under non-cancellable operating leases expiring from 1 to 5 years. Leases generally provide the Department with a right of renewal at which time all lease terms are renegotiated. The Department also leases items of plant and equipment under non-cancellable operating leases. Future operating lease commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year

Later than one year and not later than five years

(iii) Finance Lease Commitments

The Department leases no plant and equipment under finance leases.

19. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

(a) Contingent liabilities

The Department is currently involved in two public liability actions and due to the uncertainty of any potential liability no value may be attributed.

(b) Contingent assets

The Department had no contingent assets as at 30 June 2009.

20. Events Subsequent to Balance Sheet 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.

21. 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	Opening Balance 1 July 2008	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance 30 June 2009
Bond money	10	39	32	17
Security deposits	58	3	3	58
Other money	102	862	886	78
	170	904	921	153

22. Write-Offs, Postponements and Waivers

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

Represented by:

Amounts written off, waived and postponed by Delegates

Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or a Department written off

Losses or deficiencies of money written off

Public property written off

Total written off, waived and postponed by Delegates

Department/Group		Department/Group		Territory Items		Territory Items	
2009 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2008 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2009 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2008 \$'000	No. of Trans.
10	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	4	3	1	-	-	-	-
6	392	5	394	-	-	-	-
17	412	8	395	-	-	-	-

23. Schedule of Territory Items

The following Territory items are managed by the Department on behalf of the Government and are recorded in the Central Holding Authority (refer Note 2(c)).

TERRITORY INCOME AND EXPENSES

Income

Fees from Regulatory Services	37	28	37	28
Royalties and Rents	3 471	3 563	3 471	3 563
Fines	4	1	4	1
Total Income	3 512	3 592	3 512	3 592

Expenses

Central Holding Authority Income Transferred	3 512	3 592	3 512	3 592
Total Expenses	3 512	3 592	3 512	3 592

Territory Income less Expenses

	-	-	-	-
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TERRITORY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets

Royalties and Rent Receivables	219	643	219	643
Other Receivables	0	1	0	1
Total Assets	219	644	219	644

Liabilities

Central Holding Authority Income Payable	219	644	219	644
Total Liabilities	219	644	219	644

Net Assets

	-	-	-	-
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24. Variation to the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement

Group financial information incorporated into the Treasurer's Annual Financial Report (TAFR) differs to that provided in these financial statements.

The Group deficit differs by \$0.03 million from the TAFR. The amounts recorded against income and expenses will show a variance of (\$2.5) million. This reflects the elimination of intra Group income and expense transactions associated with the delivery of natural resource management activities.

	Group Financial Statements	Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement	Variance
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating Statement:			
INCOME			
Grants and Subsidies Revenue			
Current	17 957	19 518	1 561
Sales of Goods and Services	4 594	5 512	918
	22 551	25 030	2 479
EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses	64 299	65 059	760
Purchases of Goods and Services	42 919	43 077	158
Grants and Subsidies Expenses			
Current	31 185	32 772	1 587
	138 403	140 908	2 505
NET DEFICIT	(9 879)	(9 905)	(26)
Balance Sheet			
ASSETS			
Receivables	4 747	5 015	268
LIABILITIES			
Payables	7 568	7 836	268

Territory Wildlife Parks Financial Statement Overview

This section of the report provides an overview of the financial activities of Territory Wildlife Parks for the year ended 30 June 2009.

Territory Wildlife Parks is a Government Business Division (GBD) responsible for managing the Territory Wildlife Park at Berry Springs and the Alice Springs Desert Park. As a GBD, Territory Wildlife Parks are required to pay the full cost of resources used (including tax equivalents), set efficient prices based on costs, and operate under appropriate commercial accounting and management structures.

The key responsibility of both parks is to showcase the Northern Territory’s unique fauna and flora in a natural environment that is inviting and interesting for the visiting public. The Parks experience enables people to understand, respect and enjoy the Territory’s natural environment.

Income Statement

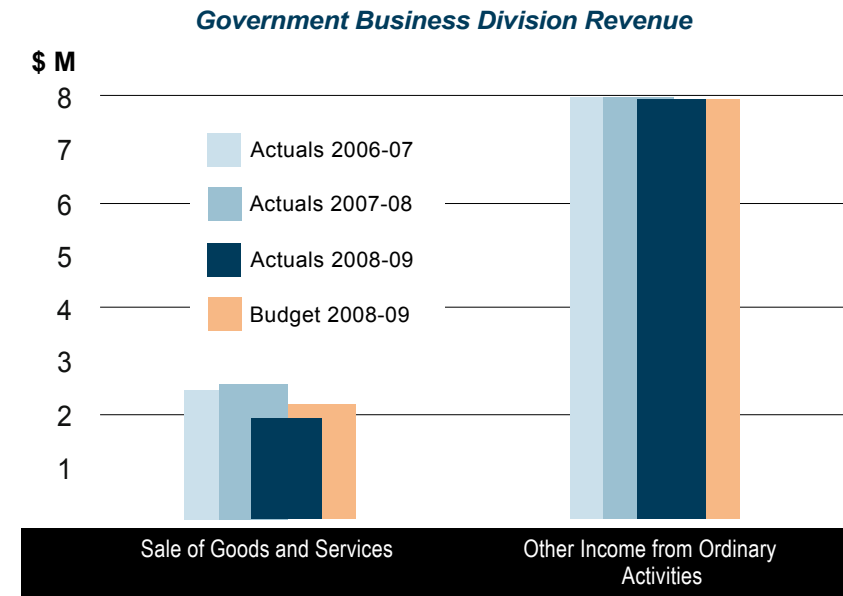
The Income Statement provides information on the financial performance of the GBD during the year.

In 2008–09, the GBD made a loss of \$2.0 million compared to a loss of \$2.1 million for the same period the previous year. This was reflected as a loss at Territory Wildlife Park of \$1.2 million, and a loss at Alice Springs Desert Park of \$0.8 million. The GBD had a forecast loss of \$1.9 million for 2008–09, which is equivalent to the depreciation (non-cash) expense for the year.

Income Statement Summary	TWP 2008–09 \$'000	ASDP 2008–09 \$'000	Total 2008–09 \$'000
Revenue	4 914	4 945	9 859
Expenses	6 081	5 768	11 849
Net Loss	(1 167)	(823)	(1 990)

Revenue – Where the Dollars Came From

The GBD received revenue of \$9.9 million in 2008–09, a decrease of \$0.7 million over the prior year. The graph (below) illustrates the sources of revenue for the Parks.



Sales of goods and services revenue of \$1.9 million consist mainly of admission fees to the Parks and rental income from the business trading within the Alice Springs Desert Park. Decreased sales of goods and services income in 2008–09 over the previous year was due to the café and gift shop at Territory Wildlife Park being outsourced during the year, and a decrease in visitor numbers at both parks as a result of the economic downturn. The visitor numbers for 2008–09 were 143 775 which was a decline of 7 900 visitors in comparison to the previous year (151 675 for 2007–08).

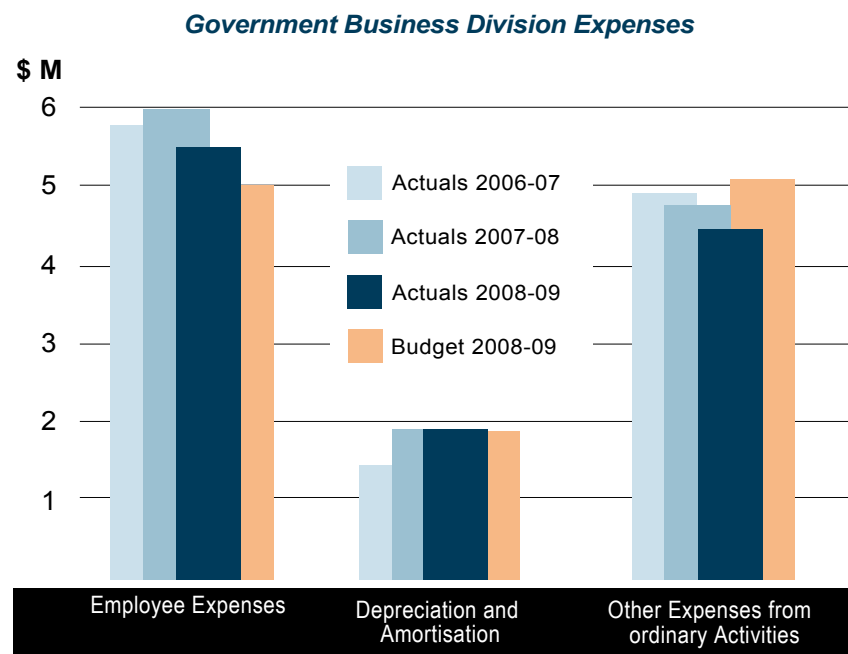
In 2008–09 the GBD received a Community Service Obligation (CSO) payment of \$7.9 million from the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport.

A CSO arises when the Northern Territory Government requires a Government Business Division such as Territory Wildlife Parks, to carry out activities it would not elect to do on a commercial basis or would only do at higher commercial prices. CSO's allow the government to achieve identifiable community or social objectives which would not be achieved if outcomes were purely commercially delivered.

The non-commercial functions carried out by the GBD are tourism industry support, biodiversity conservation, education and botanical gardens management.

Expenses – Where the Dollars Were Spent

Operating the GBD in 2008–09 cost \$11.8 million, a decrease of \$0.8 million over the prior year. This decrease was mainly due to the outsourcing of the café and the gift shop activities at the Territory Wildlife Park.



Employee expenses decreased by \$472 000 or 7.9 per cent compared to the previous year. This result reflects of a reduction in employee numbers from 103 to 98, offset by a 3 per cent pay increase for all employees as negotiated under the 2008–10 Northern Territory Public Sector Workplace Agreement.

Depreciation expenses remained fairly constant with a slight increase of \$16 000 or 0.8 per cent compared to the previous year.

Other expenses from ordinary activities comprise repairs and maintenance, property management and the purchase of goods and services. These costs were \$0.3 million lower than those in the previous year. This is primarily due to the Territory Wildlife Park outsourcing café and gift shop activities during 2008–09 ie. the costs associated in managing these activities, including food and souvenir purchases, were reflected in 2007–08 only.

Balance Sheet

The balance sheet provides a summary of the GBD's balances at the end of the financial year for assets, liabilities and equity.

Assets – What We Own

Territory Wildlife Parks have total assets worth \$35 million as at 30 June 2009, a decrease of \$2.1 million over the previous year. This is primarily due to a decline in cash and deposits, and non-current assets. Cash and deposits decrease of \$0.4 million is due to prompt payment of invoices and payments for superannuation, and is reflected in a decrease for payables (liabilities). Non-current assets comprise of property, plant and equipment and in comparison to the previous have decreased by \$1.5 million. This decline is the result of \$1.9 million of depreciation (allocation of an asset's cost over its useful life), offset by \$0.4 million increase to the asset base which includes completion of the whip ray exhibit, malga walk enclosure, and relocation of the entry station.

Liabilities – What We Owe

The GBD's total liabilities were \$1.1 million as at 30 June 2009 which represents a decrease of \$0.4 million from 2007–08. A reduction in staffing numbers reflects the \$0.2 million decrease in employee provisions for recreation leave and leave fares, fringe benefits, payroll tax and superannuation. A decrease of \$0.2 million in payables was the result of prompt payment of invoices and is also reflected in a decline in cash.

Our Equity – What We are Worth

Equity is the GBD's net worth, that is, 'what we own' (total assets of \$35 million), less 'what we owe' (total liabilities of \$1.1 million). Equity as at 30 June 2009 was \$34 million, a decrease of \$1.6 million over the previous year. This is a combination of the net loss of \$2 million in 2008–09 offset by \$0.3 million transferred into the entity for completed infrastructure works.

Statement of Changes in Equity

This statement further expands on the equity movements outlined above, by the categories of capital, reserves and accumulated funds.

Movements in capital of \$0.3 million relate to the transfer into the GBD of completed infrastructure works for the whip ray exhibit, mulga walk enclosure, and entry station relocation.

There was no movement in the revaluation reserve between 2007–08 and 2008–09 as assets are re-valued every 3 years with the next revaluation scheduled for 2009–10.

Accumulated funds move each year by the profit or loss of Territory Wildlife Parks. In 2008–09, accumulated funds reduced by \$2 million reflecting the 2008–09 net loss shown in the Income Statement.

Statement of Cash Flow

The statement of cash flows extends the information outlined in the Income Statement and the Balance Sheet by summarising the nature and amount of cash flowing into and out of the GBD during the year.

Cash Flow Statement Summary	2008–09 \$'000	2007–08 \$'000
Net Cash (Used In) /From Operating Activities	(437)	119
Net Cash (Used in) Investing Activities	(10)	(139)
Net Cash from Financing Activities	13	5
Net Increase in Cash Held	(434)	(15)
Cash at Beginning of Reporting Period	766	781
Cash at End of Reporting Period	332	766

A decrease in the cash for 2008–09 reflected the prompt settlement of accounts payable invoices. Cash utilised for investing activities included the purchase of new cash registers at the Territory Wildlife Park. Deposits of \$13 000 for tax deductible donations were received and reported as financing activities.

Certification of the Financial Statements

We certify that the attached financial statements for Territory Wildlife Parks 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 Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2009 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.



Jim Grant
Chief Executive
30 September 2009



Susan Kirkman
Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Governance
30 September 2009



Auditor-General
Independent Auditor's Report
the Minister for Parks and Wildlife
Territory Wildlife Parks
Year ended 30 June 2009

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Territory Wildlife Parks, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2009, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

The Responsibility of the Chief Executive for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive of the Agency is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I conducted an independent audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Chief Executive of the Agency, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Territory Wildlife Parks as of 30 June 2009, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations).

F. McGuiness
Auditor-General for the Northern Territory
Darwin, Northern Territory

7 October 2009

Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Note	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
INCOME			
Grants and Subsidies Revenue			
Current		1	19
Sales of Goods and Services-		1 919	2 568
Other Income From Ordinary Activities		7 939	7 973
TOTAL INCOME	3	9 859	10 560
EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses		5 491	5 963
Depreciation and Amortisation	8	1 911	1 895
Other Expenses From Ordinary Activities	4	4 447	4 765
TOTAL EXPENSES		11 849	12 623
NET (DEFICIT)	11	(1 990)	(2 063)

The Income Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2009

	Note	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Deposits	5	332	766
Receivables	6	146	193
Inventories	7	7	26
Prepayments		2	117
Total Current Assets		487	1 102
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	8	34 561	36 011
Total Non-Current Assets		34 561	36 011
TOTAL ASSETS		35 048	37 113
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Deposits Held		42	29
Payables	9	280	547
Provisions	10	610	710
Total Current Liabilities		932	1 286
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	10	128	183
Total Non-Current Liabilities		128	183
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1 060	1 469
NET ASSETS		33 988	35 644
EQUITY			
Capital		15 504	15 170
Reserves		24 365	24 365
Accumulated Funds		(5 881)	(3 891)
TOTAL EQUITY	11	33 988	35 644

The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Note	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
BALANCE OF EQUITY AT 1 JULY		<u>35 644</u>	<u>37 459</u>
Capital	11		
Balance at 1 July		15 170	14 922
Equity Injections		334	248
Balance at 30 June		<u>15 504</u>	<u>15 170</u>
Reserves	11		
Balance at 1 July		24 365	24 365
Balance at 30 June		<u>24 365</u>	<u>24 365</u>
Accumulated Funds	11		
Balance at 1 July		(3 891)	(1 828)
(Deficit) for the Period		(1 990)	(2 063)
Balance at 30 June		<u>(5 881)</u>	<u>(3 891)</u>
BALANCE OF EQUITY AT 30 JUNE		<u>33 988</u>	<u>35 644</u>

This Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Note	2009 \$'000 (Outflows) / Inflows	2008 \$'000 (Outflows) / Inflows
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Operating Receipts			
Grants and Subsidies Received			
Community Service Obligation		7 915	7 915
Current		1	19
Receipts From Sales of Goods And Services		2 376	2 988
Interest Received		27	55
Total Operating Receipts		10 319	10 977
Operating Payments			
Payments to Employees		(5 635)	(5 796)
Payments for Goods and Services		(5 121)	(5 062)
Total Operating Payments		(10 756)	(10 858)
Net Cash (Used In)/From Operating Activities	12	(437)	119
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Investing Payments			
Purchases of Assets	8	(10)	(139)
Total Investing Payments		(10)	(139)
Net Cash (Used In) Investing Activities		(10)	(139)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Financing Receipts			
Deposits Received		13	5
Total Financing Receipts		13	5
Net Cash From Financing Activities		13	5
Net (Decrease) in Cash Held		(434)	(15)
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		766	781
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	5	332	766

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Index of Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Objectives and Funding
2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

Income

3. Income

Expenses

4. Purchases of Goods and Services

Assets

5. Cash and Deposits
6. Receivables
7. Inventories
8. Property, Plant and Equipment

Liabilities

9. Payables
10. Provisions

Equity

11. Equity

Other Disclosures

12. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
13. Financial Instruments
14. Commitments
15. Community Service Obligations
16. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
17. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
18. Segment Information
19. Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers

1. Objectives and Funding

Territory Wildlife Parks is a Government Business Division responsible for managing the Territory Wildlife Park at Berry Springs and the Alice Springs Desert Park also refer to Note 15. A key responsibility of both Parks is to showcase the Northern Territory's unique fauna and flora in a natural environment that is both inviting and interesting for the visiting public.

Territory Wildlife Parks established under 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 Government 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 Income Statement.

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

2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and related Treasurer's Directions. The *Financial Management Act* requires Territory Wildlife Parks to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of the Entity's financial statements is to include:

- (i) a Certification of the Financial Statements;
- (ii) an Income Statement;
- (iii) a Balance Sheet;
- (iv) a Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) a Cash Flow Statement; and
- (vi) applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, all intra Agency transactions and balances have been eliminated.

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

The form of the Territory Wildlife Parks' financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current Annual Reporting period have been evaluated.

(b) Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations Issued but not yet Effective

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the applicable Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective.

AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (revised September 2007), AASB 2007-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards Arising from AASB 101, AASB 2007-10 Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101

Effective for the Annual Reporting period beginning on or after 1 January 2009.

The main changes from the previous version of AASB 101 require an entity to: (a) present non-owner changes in equity separately from owner changes in equity. The former cannot be presented in the statement of changes in equity; (b) display components of other comprehensive income in the statement of comprehensive income.

The Entity anticipates that the standard will not have material impact on the financial statements in future periods.

(c) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information for the 2007–08 financial year, has been reclassified to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

(d) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero.

(e) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies adopted in 2008–09 as a result of management decisions.

(f) Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgements and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

Notes that include significant judgements and estimates are:

- Employee Benefits – Note 2(t) and Note 10: Non-current liabilities in respect of employee benefits are measured as the present value of estimated future cash outflows based on the appropriate Government bond rate, estimates of future salary and wage levels and employee periods of service.
- Contingent Liabilities – Note 16: The present value of material quantifiable contingent liabilities are calculated using a discount rate based on the published 10-year Government bond rate.
- Doubtful Debts – Note 2(o) and 6: Receivables.
- Depreciation and Amortisation – Note 2(k), Note 8: Property, Plant and Equipment .

(g) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part 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 Balance Sheet.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

(h) Taxation

The entity is required to pay income tax on its accounting profit, at the company rate of 30 per cent in accordance with the requirements of the Treasurer's Directions and the Northern Territory Tax Equivalent Regime. The entity does not have a present income tax liability as it has incurred losses for income tax purposes and has not taken to account a deferred tax asset arising from this loss as deferred tax assets are not certain.

The deferred tax asset will only be realised if:

- The entity derives future assessable income of a nature and amount sufficient to enable the deferred tax asset to be realised;
- The entity continues to comply with the conditions for deductibility imposed by the Treasurer's Directions; and
- There are no changes to the Northern Territory Tax Equivalent Regime that adversely affects the entity.

The loss to be carried forward is \$12.187 million (\$10.197 million in 2008).

(i) Income Recognition

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of goods and services tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

Grants and Other Contributions

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as income when the entity 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.

Community Service Obligation Funding

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

Sale of Goods

Income from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when control of the goods passes to the customer and specified conditions associated with the sale have been satisfied.

Rendering of Services

Income from rendering services is recognised on a stage of completion basis.

Interest Income

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

Disposal of Assets

A gain or loss on disposal of assets is included as a gain or loss on the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain 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.

Contributions 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 gains when Territory Wildlife Parks obtains control of the asset or contribution. Contributions are recognised at the fair value received or receivable.

(j) Repairs and Maintenance Expenses

Costs associated with repairs and maintenance works on the entity’s assets are expensed as incurred.

(k) 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.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset are in accordance with the Treasurer’s Directions and are determined as follows:

Asset	2009	2008
Buildings	20-50 Years	20-50 Years
Infrastructure Assets	10 Years	10 Years
Plant and Equipment	5 Years	5 Years
Computer Hardware	3-6 Years	3-6 Years
Transport Equipment	5 Years	5 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, acquired assets may have modifications and accessories installed, and equipment may be calibrated and tested, affecting the date the asset is held ready for use.

(l) Interest Expenses

Interest expenses include interest and finance lease charges. Interest expenses are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

(m) Cash and Deposits

For the purposes of the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash.

(n) Inventories

General inventories are all inventories other than those held for distribution and are carried at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost of inventories includes all costs associated with bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. When inventories are acquired at no or nominal consideration, the cost will be the current replacement cost at date of acquisition.

Inventories held for distribution are those inventories distributed at no or nominal consideration, and are carried at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

(o) Receivables

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

The allowance for impairment losses represents the amount of receivables the GBD estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Analysis of the age of the receivables, that are past due as at the reporting date, are disclosed in an ageing schedule under credit risk in Note 13 Financial Instruments. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 30 days.

(p) 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. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$5 000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

The construction cost of property, plant and equipment 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 Territory Wildlife Parks 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 expected useful lives.

Construction (Work in Progress)

As part of *Financial Management Framework*, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole of Northern Territory Government basis. Therefore appropriation for most of Territory Wildlife Parks' capital works is provided directly to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and the cost of construction work in progress is recognised as an asset of that Department. Once completed, capital works assets are transferred to the entity.

(q) Revaluations and Impairment***Revaluation of Assets***

The entity obtains an independent valuation of its property every three years with the recent revaluation completed by 30 June 2007. The following classes of non-current assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of these assets does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date:

- Buildings; and
- Infrastructure 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 at cost.

Impairment of Assets

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Non current physical and intangible entity assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of impairment exists, the entity determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell. Any amount by which the entity's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Income Statement unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the Asset Revaluation Reserve for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Income Statement as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the Asset Revaluation Reserve. Note 11 provides additional information in relation to Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(r) Leased Assets

Leases under which Territory Wildlife Parks assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset 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

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 leased property.

(s) Payables

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to Territory Wildlife Parks. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

(t) 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, recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within twelve months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid. Non-current employee benefit liabilities that fall due after twelve months of the reporting date are measured at present value, calculated using the government long term bond rate.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

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.

As part of the *Financial Management Framework*, the Central Holding Authority assumes the long service leave liabilities of Government Business Divisions including Territory Wildlife Parks, and as such no long service leave liability is recognised in the entity's financial statements.

(u) Superannuation

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the:

- Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS);
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS); or
- 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 to the Central Holding Authority or non-government employee nominated schemes. Superannuation liabilities related to government superannuation schemes are held by the Central Holding Authority and as such are not recognised in the entity's financial statements.

(v) Dividends

The entity has not provided for a dividend.

(w) Commitments

Disclosures in relation to capital and other commitments, including lease commitments are shown at Note 14 and are consistent with the requirements contained in AASB 101, AASB 116 and AASB 117.

Commitments are those contracted as at 30 June where the amount of the future commitment can be reliably measured.

3. Income

Sale of Goods and Services
From Ordinary Activities
Current Grant Revenue

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
	1 919	2 568
	1	19
	<u>1 920</u>	<u>2 587</u>
Other income:		
Community Service Obligations – Note 15	7 915	7 915
NT Treasury Interest	24	53
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	1
Assets Acquired Below Fair Value	-	4
	<u>7 939</u>	<u>7 973</u>
Total Income	<u>9 859</u>	<u>10 560</u>

4. Purchases of Goods and Services

The net (deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:

Goods and Services Expenses:

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Consultants ⁽¹⁾	14	7
Marketing and Promotion ⁽²⁾	189	203
Document Production	1	10
Legal Expenses ⁽³⁾	-	-
Recruitment ⁽⁴⁾	26	47
Training and Study	35	41
Official Duty Fares	24	40
Travelling Allowance	18	20
Audit and Other Services	18	18
Corporate Support by External Agencies	577	613
Operating Lease Rental Expense	6	4
Repairs and Maintenance	650	631
Property Management	839	819
Motor Vehicles	483	498
Information Technology Expenses	298	285

(1) Includes marketing, promotion and Information Technology consultants.

(2) Includes advertising for marketing and promotion but excludes marketing and promotion consultants' expenses, which are incorporated in the consultants' category.

(3) Includes legal fees, claim and settlement costs.

(4) Includes recruitment related advertising costs.

5. Cash and Deposits

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Cash on Hand	13	22
Cash at Bank	319	744
	<u>332</u>	<u>766</u>

6. Receivables

Current

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Accounts Receivable	88	100
Less: Allowance for Impairment Losses	(21)	(5)
	<u>67</u>	<u>95</u>
Interest Receivables	1	4
GST Receivables	46	62
Other Receivables	32	32
Total Receivables	<u>146</u>	<u>193</u>

7. Inventories

General Inventories

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
At cost	7	26
Total Inventories	<u>7</u>	<u>26</u>

8. Property, Plant and Equipment**Buildings**

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
At Fair Value	40 872	40 609
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(20 114)	(19 173)
	20 758	21 436

Infrastructure

At Fair Value	28 168	27 961
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(14 590)	(13 664)
	13 578	14 297

Construction (Work in Progress)

At Capitalised Cost	-	20
	-	20

Plant and Equipment

At Cost	1 549	1 547
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1 340)	(1 314)
	209	233

Computer Hardware

At Cost	45	45
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(30)	(22)
	15	23

Transport Equipment

At Cost	6	6
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(5)	(4)
	1	2

**Total Property, Plant and Equipment
Property, Plant and Equipment
Valuations**

	34 561	36 011
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An independent valuation of buildings and infrastructure assets was undertaken by the Australian Valuation Office (AVO) as at 30 June 2007. The fair value of these assets was determined based on any existing restrictions on asset use. Where reliable market values were not available, the fair value of entity assets was based on their depreciated replacement cost.

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment

Territory Wildlife Parks property, plant and equipment asset were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2009. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

8. Property, Plant and Equipment cont.**Property, Plant and Equipment
Reconciliations**

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below:

Buildings

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Carry Amount at Beginning of Year	21 436	22 364
Depreciation	(942)	(941)
Additions From Asset Transfers	264	26
Disposal From Asset Transfers	-	(13)
Carry Amount at End of Year	20 758	21 436

Infrastructure

Carry Amount at Beginning of Year	14 297	14 979
Additions	117	-
Depreciation	(926)	(923)
Additions From Asset Transfers	90	241
Carry Amount at End of Year	13 578	14 297

Construction (Work in Progress)

Carrying Amount at Beginning of Year	20	25
Additions From Asset Transfers	-	20
Transfer to building asset	(20)	(25)
Carrying Amount at end of Year	-	20

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Plant and Equipment		
Carry Amount at Beginning of Year	233	113
Additions	10	138
Depreciation	(34)	(22)
Additions From Asset Transfers	-	4
Carry Amount at End of Year	209	233
Computer Hardware		
Carry Amount at Beginning of Year	23	31
Depreciation	(8)	(8)
Carry Amount at End of Year	15	23
Transport Equipment		
Carry Amount at Beginning of Year	2	4
Depreciation	(1)	(1)
Rounding	-	(1)
Carry Amount at End of Year	1	2
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	34 561	36 011

9. Payables

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Accounts Payable	101	355
Accrued Expenses	179	192
	<u>280</u>	<u>547</u>

10. Provisions

Current

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Employee Benefits		
Recreation Leave	407	431
Leave Loading	96	90
Recreation Leave Fares	2	1
Other Current Provisions		
Other Provisions (Fringe Benefits, Payroll Tax and Superannuation)	105	188
	<u>610</u>	<u>710</u>

Non-Current

Employee Benefits		
Recreation Leave	128	183
	<u>128</u>	<u>183</u>
Total Provisions	738	893

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
11. Equity		
Capital		
Balance as at 1 July	15 170	14 922
Equity Injections		
Equity Transfers In	334	248
Balance as at 30 June	<u>15 504</u>	<u>15 170</u>
Reserves		
Asset Revaluation Reserve		
<i>(i) Nature and Purpose of the Asset Revaluation Reserve</i>		
The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets. Impairment adjustments may also be recognised in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.		
<i>(ii) Movements in the Asset Revaluation Reserve</i>		
	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Balance as at 1 July	24 365	24 365
Balance as at 30 June	<u>24 365</u>	<u>24 365</u>
Accumulated Funds		
Balance as at 1 July	(3 891)	(1 828)
(Deficit) for the Period	(1 990)	(2 063)
Balance as at 30 June	<u>(5 881)</u>	<u>(3 891)</u>

12. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

Reconciliation of Cash

The total of Territory Wildlife Parks cash and deposits recorded in the Balance Sheet is consistent with that recorded as 'cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.

Reconciliation of Net (Deficit) to Net Cash From Operating Activities

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Net (Deficit)	(1 990)	(2 063)
Assets acquired at below fair value	-	(4)
Non-Cash Items:		
Depreciation and Amortisation	1911	1 895
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	31	(26)
(Increase) in Prepayments*	(2)	-
Decrease in Inventories	19	17
(Decrease)/Increase in Payables	(267)	148
Increase in Provision for Doubtful Debts	16	-
(Decrease)/Increase in Provision for Employee Benefits	(72)	37
(Decrease)/Increase in Other Provisions	(83)	115
Net Cash (Used In)/From Operating Activities	<u>(437)</u>	<u>119</u>

* Adjusted to reflect a transfer from prepayments to purchase of property, plant and equipment.

13. Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments held by Territory Wildlife Parks include cash and deposits, receivables and payables. Territory Wildlife Parks has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

(a) Categorisation of Financial Instruments

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Financial Assets		
Cash and deposits	332	766
Loans and receivables	102	248
	434	1 014
Financial Liabilities		
Deposits Held	42	29
Payables	280	547
	322	576

(b) Credit Risk

Territory Wildlife Parks has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default). In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the entity has adopted a 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 allowances for losses, represents the entity's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

Receivables

Receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. A reconciliation and ageing analysis of receivables is presented below.

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Ageing of Receivables		
Not Overdue	122	170
Overdue for less than 30 Days	7	6
Overdue for 30 to 60 Days	6	8
Overdue for more than 60 Days	32	14
Total Gross Receivables	167	198
Ageing of Impaired Receivables		
Impaired Receivables for more than 60 Days	(21)	(5)
Total Impaired Receivables	(21)	(5)
Reconciliation of the Allowance for Impairment Losses		
Allowance for Impairment Losses at the Beginning of the Reporting Period	5	5
Increase in allowance recognised in profit or loss	16	-
Allowance for Impairment Losses at the End of the Reporting Period	21	5

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the entity will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. Territory Wildlife Parks experiences seasonal fluctuations of its business and it receives a Community Service Obligation payment (refer to Note 15). Territory Wildlife Parks liquidity risk is comprised by credit cards with a potential monthly exposure of \$0.3 million representing 35 days of expenditure capacity. The Balance Sheet indicates that Territory Wildlife Parks has a liquidity risk and is reliant on government guarantee.

Maturity Analysis for Financial Liabilities

	1 Year \$'000	2 Year \$'000	Carrying Amount
2009 - Financial Liabilities			
Deposits Held	42	-	42
Payables	280	-	280
Provisions	610	128	738
Total Financial Liabilities:	932	128	1 060
2008 - Financial Liabilities			
Deposits Held			
Payables	29	-	29
Provisions	547	-	547
	710	183	893
Total Financial Liabilities:	1 286	183	1 469

(d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. It comprises interest rate risk, price risk and currency risk. The primary market risk that the Territory Wildlife Parks is exposed to is interest rate risk.

(i) Interest Rate Risk

The entity has limited exposure to interest rate risk as all financial assets and financial liabilities, with the exception of the cash at bank, are non-interest bearing. The exposure to interest rate risk on financial assets and financial liabilities is set out in the following tables. Changes to the variable rates of 100 basis points (1 per cent) at reporting date would have had a \$3 000 effect on the entity's profit or loss and equity.

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Variable rate instruments		
Financial assets	320	744
Financial Liabilities	-	-
Total	320	744

(ii) Price Risk

The Territory Wildlife Parks is not exposed to price risk as it does not hold units in unit trusts.

(iii) Currency Risk

The Territory Wildlife Parks is not exposed to currency risk as the entity does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies or transactional currency exposures arising from purchases in a foreign currency.

(e) Net Fair Value

The carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements approximates their respective net fair values. Where differences exist, these are not material.

14. Commitments

Non-cancellable Operating Lease Expense Commitments

Future operating lease commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Within one year	6	9
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	6
	6	15

15. Community Service Obligations

Community Service Obligation received

	GBD 2009 \$'000	GBD 2008 \$'000
Community Service Obligation received	7 915	7 915

There are four non-commercial functions carried out by the entity. These are tourism industry support, biodiversity conservation, education and botanical gardens management.

16. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

a) Contingent liabilities

The entity had no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2009.

b) Contingent assets

The entity had no contingent assets as at 30 June 2009.

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. Segment Information

Business Segments

	Territory Wildlife Park		Alice Springs Desert Park		Entity	
	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2008 \$'000
Revenue	4 914	5 481	4 945	5 079	9 859	10 560
(Loss) from Ordinary Activities	(1 167)	(1 088)	(823)	(975)	(1 990)	(2 063)
Net Non-current Assets	18 473	18 992	16 088	17 019	34 561	36 011
Unallocated Assets	-	-	-	-	487	1 102
Unallocated Liabilities	-	-	-	-	(1 060)	(1 469)

19. Write Offs, Postponements and Waivers

Write offs, postponements and waivers under the *Financial Management Act*

Represented by:

Public property written off

Irrecoverable amounts payable to the entity written off

Total written off, waived and postponed by Delegates

2009 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2008 \$'000	No. of Trans.
-	1	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	1	-	-

Appendixes



Northern Territory Auditor-General Audits

The Northern Territory Auditor-General's Office undertook four external audits this year.

Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board Financial Statements 2007–08

The objective of the audit was to review the financial statements of the Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board for the year ended 30 June 2008.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary and Marine Park Board Financial Statements 2007–08

The objective of the audit was to examine the financial statements of the Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary and Marine Park Board for the year ended 30 June 2008.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Territory Wildlife Parks (Government Business Division) Financial Statements 2007–08

The objective of the audit was to examine the financial statements of Territory Wildlife Parks (Government Business Division) for the year ended 30 June 2008.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Review of Major Capital Works and Other Projects Compliance Audit to 30 June 2009

The objective of the audit was to examine the processes and internal controls in relation to major capital works and other projects and form an opinion as to whether these were adequate and capable of ensuring compliance with the *Procurement Act*, Procurement Regulations, Procurement Directions and the Northern Territory Procurement Code.

The audit found that, subject to a few exceptions, there are generally satisfactory processes and internal controls in relation to major capital works and other projects and they are adequate and capable of ensuring compliance with the legislation listed above.

External Funding Audits

The Agency receives a significant amount of external funding in the form of grants from the Australian Government and other funding providers. Some of this funding requires an audited acquittal. The Agency arranged the following grants to be audited by external auditors in-line with the program's grant agreement.

Natural Heritage Trust – Single Holding Account

The audit was conducted to verify that funds received from the Australian Government, under the Bilateral Agreement, were credited to the Single Holding Account; that the funds had been released from the Single Holding Account in accordance with Joint Steering Committee recommendations; and the Statement of Revenue and Projects Approved and paid fairly represented the financial transactions for the year ended 30 June 2008.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued on all respects and the audit opinion was that the Single Holding Account fairly represented the transactions for the year and funds had been released consistent with the Joint Steering Committee recommendations.

Return of Indigenous Cultural Property Program

The audit was conducted to form an opinion on the Statement of Income and Expenditure of the project pursuant to the project funding agreement.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Gulf Water Study

The audit was conducted to form an opinion on the Statement of Income and Expenditure of the project pursuant to the project funding agreement.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Water Smart Australia

The audit was conducted to form an opinion on the Statement of Income and Expenditure of the project pursuant to the project funding agreement.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Regional Arts Fund Program

The audit was conducted to form an opinion on the Statement of Income and Expenditure of the project pursuant to the project funding agreement.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Bureau of Meteorology – Modernisation and Extension of Hydrologic Systems program Fund

The audit was conducted to form an opinion on the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Schedule of Assets of the project pursuant to the project funding agreement.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Sport and Recreation - Northern Territory Emergency Response Audit

The audit was conducted to form an opinion on the Statement of Income and Expenditure of the program pursuant to the Australian Government funding agreement.

An unqualified audit opinion was issued and no significant matters arising were identified.

Insurable Risk

The Agency does not take out commercial insurance against the risk of damage to its physical assets or against the risk of economic or physical injury to a natural person. The Agency bears its own risks and meets costs as they emerge.

The categories covered by the Agency self insurance arrangements, mitigation strategies and processes employed to reduce the risk for each category, and the total number, value and average cost of self insurance claims are detailed as follows:

Insurable Risk Category	Mitigation Strategies	Number/Total Value of Claims	
		2008-09	2007-08
Public Liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal risk assessments completed Repairs and maintenance program to reduce risks associated with physical assets On-going review of practices and procedures to ensure public safety Appropriate signage Education campaigns for staff and public Independent reviews 	3 claims totalling \$8 848 (average \$2 949)	2 claims totalling \$148 131 (average \$74 066)
Workers' Compensation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal risk assessments completed Occupational Health and Safety framework developed and implemented Workplace safety policies and standard operating procedures Work site assessments Job specific training and support Utilisation of Employee Assistance Program Early Intervention Program Critical incident debriefings Work-life balance strategies 	37 claims totalling \$428 435 (average \$11 444).	31 claims totalling \$512 669 (average \$16 538).
Assets and Inventories – All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal risk assessments completed On-going review of policies and practices to guide standard operating procedures to protect assets and inventories 		
- Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building audits eg security, maintenance, compliance Appropriate security and testing eg fire systems, alarms, patrols, staff Repairs and maintenance and minor new works programs 	6 claims totalling \$562 347 (average \$93 725)	2 claims totalling \$234 194 (average \$117 097)
- Vehicles (eg motor vehicles, quad bikes and boats)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular service and maintenance checks Driver training (4 wheel drives, quad bikes, boat handling) Safety equipment and accessories (particularly for off-road vehicles, crocodile capture boats etc) 	41 claims from employees totalling \$86 607 (average \$2112) 5 claims against the Agency totalling \$29 744 (average \$5 949)	81 claims from employees totalling \$54 285 (average \$670) 2 claims against the Agency totalling \$4 606 (average \$2 303)

Insurable Risk Category	Mitigation Strategies	Number/Total Value of Claims	
		2008–09	2007–08
- Drilling Rigs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent check on rigs to ensure they are set up correctly and conform to Australian standards Employee and operating checklists 	No claims	No claims
- Collections (including libraries, archives and artworks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building audits eg security, maintenance, compliance Appropriate security and testing eg fire systems, alarms, patrols, staff training Specially designed facilities with the ability to maintain appropriate temperature and humidity levels 	No claims	No claims
- Inventories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular stocktaking performed. 	\$1316 written off	\$1166 written off
Indemnities	Formal risk assessments completed each year and with each new agreement executed	No claims	No claims

The Agency's commercial insurance premium arrangements are detailed as follows:

Commercial Insurance Premium	Number/Total value of claims	
	2008–09	2007–08
Agency – various (eg marine insurance to transport drilling rig by barge, transit insurance for artworks, overseas travel insurance)	\$32 187 (No premium over \$10 000) 5 claims totalling \$2 335 (average \$467)	\$6 250 No claims
Territory Wildlife Parks – Public Liability	\$21 298 (No claims)	Previously insured through Northern Territory Treasury

The Agency is currently involved in two public liability actions.

Special Purpose Grant Aquittals

This table lists the special purpose one-off grants administered by the Agency in 2008–09. These grants are received as one-off payments for a specific purpose and the grant funding may come through a Northern Territory Government directive or to meet an election commitment. The grants reported exceeded \$20 000.

Name of Grant	Grant Recipient	Grant Purpose	Value/Timeframe if applicable	Process of confirming grant outcome/objective achieved
Community Cane Toad Control Initiative 2007–10 - Cane Toad Eradication	Frog Watch	Cane toad monitoring and community awareness.	\$200 000 per annum for 3 years	Under the grant agreement Frog Watch must provide quarterly reports which detail specific reporting requirements for each milestone. The agreement provides for 15% of the yearly funding to be withheld until reports are submitted confirming milestones have been addressed.
Acacia Hills Volunteer Bushfire Brigade Headquarters	Acacia Hills Volunteer Bushfire Brigade Inc	Undertake works to construct a secure shed facility with reticulated power as a Brigade headquarters and community facility.	\$80 000	Substantial headworks including power, fencing and foundations complete at 30 June 2009. Shed is still to be erected.
Waterwise rebates	Various	This grant was used to expand the rebate scheme in the 2008–09 financial year, allowing for new water saving devices to be included in the rebate scheme.	\$80 000	Grant fully expended during the year. Funding disbursed on a refund basis to eligible applicants.
Northern Territory Climate Change Initiatives	Power and Water Corporation (PWC)	The grant is for the energy efficient hot water rebate (retrofit) scheme.	\$225 000	PWC will acquit and report on this grant in its Annual Reporting processes to government.
Environment Centre Northern Territory (ECNT)	Environment Centre Northern Territory	This grant is for engaging the community on issues such as climate change.	\$60 000	The grant is formalised through an operational EnvironmeNT Program Grant Agreement, which contains annual performance and financial reporting requirements.
Alice Springs Town Council – Glass Crusher	Alice Springs Town Council	To purchase a glass crusher for the purpose of reducing by 1000 tonnes annually the glass disposed of in Alice Springs landfill. The glass by-product is to be used for concrete in paths, kerbing and guttering.	\$850 000	The grant is formalised through an operational EnvironmeNT Program Grant Agreement, which contains annual performance and financial reporting requirements. The Glass Crusher is expected to be purchased by December 2009.
Barkly Youth Initiative - other commitment	Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation – Youth Development Unit	To enable youth in the Tennant Creek and Barkly region to continue their work with the Australian Theatre for Young People whose aim is to progress a high quality, industry standard performing arts program for regional and remote young people.	\$45 000 (to commence 1 July 2009)	The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Happy Yess	Happy Yess Community Arts Incorporated	This grant is to assist Happy Yess in management of their Live Music Venue including sourcing and relocating to a new venue.	\$20 000 (to commence 1 July 2009 – 31 December 2009)	The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.

Name of Grant	Grant Recipient	Grant Purpose	Value/Timeframe if applicable	Process of confirming grant outcome/objective achieved
Chambers Crescent Theatre Lease 2008–11	Darwin Community Arts Incorporated	This grant is to cover lease expenses at Chambers Crescent Theatre in Malak.	\$200 000	The grant agreement contains the annual performance and financial reporting requirements and the grant was used for lease payments.
Event Grant	Perth Wildcats	Deliver an National Basketball League (NBL) game	\$70 000	An NBL game was played at the Marrara Indoor Stadium in November 2008. No acquittal required from event agreement.
Event Grant	Western Bulldogs and Australian Football League Northern Territory (AFLNT)	Deliver Australian Football League (AFL) games in the Territory	\$420 000	The following AFL games were delivered in the Territory: National Australia Bank (NAB) Challenge Alice Springs February 2009 Indigenous All Stars game Darwin February 2009 Premiership game Darwin June 2009 *NAB Cup game moved to Melbourne as fundraiser No acquittal required from event agreement.
Event Grant	Various	Deliver National Rugby League (NRL) game in Territory	\$180 000	NRL game between Gold Coast Titans and Cronulla Sharks was played at Richardson Park on 21 February 2009.
Event Grant	Perth Lynx	Deliver Womens National Basketball League (WNBL) games in the Territory	\$50 000	A WNBL game was played at the Marrara Indoor Stadium between Perth Lynx and Adelaide Lightning 8 November 2008. Acquittal documentation provided by Lynx detailing the spend.
All Facility Grants are acquitted by the Recipient in their Final Report. The report shows that the Grant's Key Performance Indicators have been achieved. An Acquittal Statement together with Expenditure Statements showing how the Grant was spent as per the Funding Agreement Reporting Requirements is also required. A copy of the audited financial statement is provided to Sport and Recreation when available, usually October.				
Capital Grant	Northern Territory Cricket and Cricket Australia	Upgrade of Murrumbidgee Cricket Ground	\$2 020 000	Released in June 2009. The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Capital Grant	Barkly Shire	Upgrade Elliott Youth Centre	\$100 000	Due for completion in December 2009. The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Capital Grant	East Arnhem Shire	Upgrade Gapuwiyak oval	\$45 000	Grant acquitted in February 2009.
Capital Grant	Alice Springs Golf Club	Water sustainability review and machinery purchase	\$130 000	Grant acquitted in November 2008.

Name of Grant	Grant Recipient	Grant Purpose	Value/Timeframe if applicable	Process of confirming grant outcome/objective achieved
Capital (3 grants)	Central Australian Drag Racing Association	Upgrade of dragstrip	\$1 050 000	Grant acquitted in October 2008.
Capital Grant	Barkly Shire	Alpurrurulam upgrade basketball court	\$200 000	Grant acquitted in May 2009.
Capital Grant	Roper Gulf Shire	Upgrade of basketball courts at Barunga	\$200 000	Grant acquitted in June 2009.
Capital Grant	Football Federation Northern Territory	Installation of lighting at Nakara Oval	\$400 000	The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Facility Development	Northern Territory Cricket	Maintenance of drop in pitches	\$44 000	Grant funding provided under a fee for service agreement to deliver pitches maintenance services.
Facility Development	Darwin City Council	Redevelopment of Bagot Oval	\$190 000	Released in June 2009. The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Facility Development	Darwin Golf Club	Repair and Upgrade of Irrigation system.	\$460 000	Released in June 2009. The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Facility Development	Alice Springs Town Council	Upgrade of viewing area at Alice Springs Basketball courts	\$100 000	Released in June 2009. The outcome of this grant will be reported in the Agency's 2009–10 Annual Report.
Facility Development Grant Program	Humpty Doo and Rural Area Golf Club	Provide and install a new automatic control system for the current irrigation ring main at the 18 hole rural golf course, including excavation, rehabilitation and landscaping or work sites.	\$45 000	This grant was acquitted in February 2009. Financials and acquittal papers were submitted and complied with the acquittal process.
National League Incentive Program	AFL Northern Territory Limited	Cabinet decision to financially support AFLNT in order to enter a national League Team into the Queensland AFL competition.	\$200 000 per annum for five years will be provided	This grant was acquitted in August 2008 after the Territory Thunder AFL team competed in the QAFL competition. All Key Performance Measures are monitored by Sports Development Coordinators.
National League Incentive Program	Northern Territory Hockey Association Incorporated	Enter the men's Northpharm Stingers and women's Northern Territory Pearls teams into the Australian Hockey League Competition for 2009.	\$70 000	This grant was acquitted in March 2009. Both the men's and women's hockey teams competed in the Australian Hockey League. All Key Performance Measures are monitored by Sports Development Coordinators.

Name of Grant	Grant Recipient	Grant Purpose	Value/Timeframe if applicable	Process of confirming grant outcome/objective achieved
Special Assistance Grant Program	Football Federation Northern Territory Incorporated	Stage an A-League Football Pre-Season Match at the Darwin Football Stadium in the Northern Territory	\$70 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.
Facility Development Grant Program	Northern Territory Rugby Football League Incorporated	To repair and upgrade the lighting at Richardson Park to improve the current level of lighting.	\$65 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.
Facility Development Grant Program - sub Program Sports Infrastructure Fund	Northern Territory Rugby Union Incorporated	To achieve the development of towers and lighting to get lights on AUSTAR No. 1 to Television standard. To relocate or provide current lights from AUSTAR No. 1 to adjoining field through the South Darwin Rugby Union Club.	\$465 000	Not acquitted to date. Facility division will follow up on progress of work. The organisation is required to provide audited financial statements after the completion date of the agreement.
Facility Development Grant Program	Darwin Basketball Association Incorporated	Construct a canteen to provide a much needed service for all users of the organisations multi-purpose indoor facility.	\$50 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.
Facility Development Grant Program - sub Program Sports Infrastructure Fund	East Arnhem Shire Council	Construct a new BMX track at Galiwinku	\$50 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.
Facility Development Grant Program - sub Program Sports Infrastructure Fund	Katherine Country Club	Installation of synthetic bowling green surface to replace existing grass surface by June 2009.	\$50 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.
Facility Development Grant Program - sub Program Sports Infrastructure Fund	Barkly Shire Council	Upgrade baseball/softball field at Tennant Creek with emphasis on the main oval for softball to conduct softball competitions.	\$50 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.
Facility Development Grant Program - sub Program Sports Infrastructure Fund	Boxing Northern Territory	Construct a storage/training shed as current facilities are inadequate and old, the current facilities have no storage areas that are secure due to the design.	\$50 000	Acquittal required by 31 August 2009. The organisation will be required to provide audited financial statements and signed acquittal documents.

Arts Grant List 2008–09

This table lists the Arts Grants administered by the Agency in 2008–09. The grants reported totalled \$5.3 million.

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Public Art: Declan Aputatimi/J Bird		
Local Government Public Art Professional Program	Darwin City Council	\$10 000
Local Government Public Art Professional Program	Alice Springs Town Council	\$10 000
Local Government Public Art Professional Program	Katherine Town Council	\$10 000
Local Government Public Art Professional Program	Palmerston City Council	\$10 000
SUBTOTAL		\$40 000
Public Art: Development		
Origins	Corrugated Iron Youths Arts	\$5 737
Development Forums	ArtSource	\$6 000
SUBTOTAL		\$11 737
Public Art: Medium/Major Works		
The Gathering Garden	Alice Springs Town Council	\$150 000
Matt Huttleston Work	Toga Group of Companies	\$34 000
Mosaic Project	Ngkarte Mikwekenhe Community Incorporated	\$2 760
The Megaphone project	Darwin Festival	\$23 500
SUBTOTAL		\$210 260
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$261 997

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Scholarships		
Advanced Diploma of Performing Arts	Imanual Dado	\$700
Bachelor of Multimedia Design	Luke Olofsson	\$3 500
Bachelor of Multimedia	Andrew Reissis	\$3 500
Bachelor of Music Theatre	Lisa-Marie Ryan	\$3 500
Bachelor of Music	Finn Parker	\$3 500
Bachelor of Arts (Music Theatre)	Elle Richards	\$3 500
Bachelor of Arts (Dance)	Cara Thomas	\$3 500
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$21 700
Project Rounds: March		
The Neo Dreaming Tracks Workshops	The Neo	\$9 800
Permanent Collection Development	Gapuwiyak Culture and Arts Aboriginal Corporation	\$14 650
Stage 5 Project	Happy Yess Community Arts	\$15 000
Julalikari Council	Punttu II	\$12 760
Dani Powell	Under Today	\$15 000
Handel's Messiah	Darwin Chorale	\$7 500
Manuk Gapu	Gary Lang	\$15 000
Knock-em-Down Theatre	Half Way There	\$14 940
Single release and national launch tour	Olivia Mei Lai Swan	\$10 000
Human Canvas Project	Tashka Urban	\$10 000
SUBTOTAL		\$124 650

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Project Round: October		
A Love Story Without Judgement	Mary Anne Butler	\$7 970
Stage 6 Project	Happy Yess Community Arts	\$10 000
Make A Scene	NT Writers Centre	\$15 000
Life and Art of Billy Benn Perrurle	Catherine Peattie	\$5 000
Trans Me 2	Min Wong	\$5 032
Wutunurrgurra Community Exhibition	Wutunurrgurra Aboriginal Corporation	\$10 000
Community Beanie Workshops	Alice Springs Beanie Festival	\$10 000
Goose Lagoon	Gary Lang	\$10 000
The Memory of Water	Nicola Fern	\$8 042
Jagit – 2 nd Album	Steve Tranter	\$15 000
Play Time	Corrugated Iron Youth Arts	\$10 000
Requiem for Another	Pamela Lofts	\$4 300
Marranbala Country Exhibition	Ngukurr Arts Aboriginal Corporation	\$7 000
A Second Anthology of Central Australian Writing	Mardijah Simpson	\$8 000
Ronnie Reinhard FUJIMOTO Project	Genevieve O'Loughlin	\$9 950
SUBTOTAL		\$135 294
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$259 944

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Quick Response Scheme: Professional Development		
Drum Circle Facilitation	Sarah Bussell	\$1 500
Meking Performing Arts Laboratory	Fiona Carter	\$1 500
Fuse Festival Trip	Jessica Cooper	\$1 072
JUTE Conference	Karen Beach	\$1 000
Plays for Bite Sized Festivals	Lee Frank	\$550
Stand Up Comedy Adelaide Fringe	Jennifer Graetz	\$1 000
Australian Music Industry Network Meeting	Mark Smith	\$1 045
Zen Zen Zo Stomping Ground Training	Kelly Lee Hickey	\$1 000
Springboard Stage 2	Elliat Rich	\$825
Professional Development at National Institute of Dramatic Arts	Nicky Schonkala	\$1 500
United States Tour	Steven Smith	\$1 500
Music Industry Professional Development	Mei Lai Swan	\$1 500
Australian Indigenous World Music Conference	Alison Copley	\$1 000
Ticketing Professionals Conference	Janice McEwen	\$1 000
JUTE Conference	Ella Watson Russell	\$891
Professional Development	Worldfly	\$1 498
Professional Development	Joshua Bonson	\$1 100
Weaving lives together book launch, exhibition and workshops	Banbapuy Ganambarr	\$1 300
Weaving lives together book launch, exhibition and workshops	Merrkiya Ganambar	\$1 300
Weaving lives together book launch, exhibition and workshops	Ritjilili Ganambar	\$1 300
SUBTOTAL		\$23 381

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Quick Response Scheme: Projects		
Maast Maast Exhibition	24HR Art	\$1 500
Pattern Recognition	Kate Dunn	\$489
Etched in the Sun	Basil Hall	\$1 250
Circus Performance Development	Sarah Mason	\$1 500
2008 Tasmania Poetry	Ella McHenry	\$1 500
The Body as a Voice	Melaleuca Refugee Centre	\$1 500
Long Way to the Top End	Alice Rae	\$1 500
Totally Live Vibe	Totally Recreation NT Incorporated	\$1 500
Ngarukurwala	Teresita Puruntatameri	\$1 500
Binjari Festival	Katherine Regional Arts	\$1 500
Capoeria Angola Workshops	Daniel Keane	\$1 500
The Pandanus Project	Adrienne Kneebone	\$1 500
An Uncontrollable Child	Reggie Sultan	\$750
Marketing and Promotion at Tandanya	Tiwi Arts Network	\$1 500
SUBTOTAL		\$18 989
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$42 370
Strategic Initiatives: Regional Art Conference - Presenters		
Ngapartji Ngapartji – Behind the Show	Big hART Incorporated	\$2 400
Film Documentation	Central Australian Aboriginal Music Association Aboriginal Corporation	\$1 500
The Creative Working Model	Somebody's Daughter Theatre	\$1 200
Derby Marsh Art Project	Disability in the Arts, Disadvantages in the Arts Western Australia	\$3 480
SUBTOTAL		\$8 580

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Strategic Initiatives: Regional Arts Conference - Travel Support		
Travel Support	Valerie Nelson	\$780
Travel Support	Tim Bishop	\$1 000
Travel Support	Jenelle Saunders	\$1 000
Travel Support	Barry Benning	\$785
Travel Support	Georgina Bracken	\$785
Travel Support	Louise Flaherty	\$785
Travel Support	Lex Holt	\$575
Travel Support	Lionel James	\$785
Travel Support	Jeffery McLaughlin	\$575
Travel Support	Alison Nelson	\$785
Travel Support	Penny Campton	\$1 200
Travel Support	Christian Ramilo	\$1 000
Travel Support	Angus Cameron	\$1 000
Travel Support	Kelly Blumberg	\$740
Travel Support	Bilha Smith	\$740
Travel Support	Adrienne Kneebone	\$1 200
Travel Support	Alice Rae	\$932
Travel Support	Joanne Duffy	\$1 000
Travel Support	Anne Dunn	\$1 000
Travel Support	Kate Dunn	\$1 000
Travel Support	Viv Rosman	\$1 000

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Strategic Initiatives: Regional Arts Conference - Travel Support Continued		
Travel Support	Karen Beach	\$1 000
Travel Support	Rhonda Plummer	\$750
Travel Support	Tess Ross	\$750
Travel Support	Lauren Flannery	\$1 200
Travel Support	Jenny Fraser	\$1 200
Travel Support	Wayne Buckley	\$1 200
Travel Support	Toni Tapp Coutts	\$1 040
Travel Support	Teresa Cummings	\$1 200
Travel Support	Cerise King	\$1 040
Travel Support	Jo Nicol	\$1 040
Travel Support	Jan Milner	\$1 200
Travel Support	Barbara Ambjerg Pedersen	\$971
Travel Support	Margaret Duncan	\$971
Travel Support	Marilyn Nakamarra	\$971
Travel Support	Peggy Rockman	\$971
Travel Support	Heath Baxter	\$1 000
Travel Support	Mark Smith	\$1 000
Travel Support	Wendy Daylight	\$1 200
Travel Support	Patricia Forbes	\$1 200
Travel Support	Jayne Nankivell	\$1 050

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Strategic Initiatives: Regional Arts Conference - Travel Support Continued		
Travel Support	Revona Urban	\$1 200
Travel Support	Sandra Thibodeaux	\$1 000
Travel Support	Michael Roseth	\$1 200
Travel Support	Marita Anne Smith	\$950
Travel Support	Alison Copley	\$1 000
Travel Support	Janice McEwen	\$1 000
Travel Support	Kate Riedel	\$1 000
Travel Support	Fiona Carter	\$1 000
Travel Support	David McMicken	\$1 000
Travel Support	Melanie Herdman	\$1 000
Travel Support	Amy Jo Vickery	\$1 000
TOTAL		\$50 971
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$257 801
Indigenous Arts Strategy: Export		
Showcase at Popkomm in Germany	Leah Flanagan	\$4 000
SUBTOTAL		\$4 000
Indigenous Arts Strategy: Literature		
<i>Weaving Lives Together at Bawaka, North East Arnhem Land</i> Publication Reprint	East Arnhem Shire Council	\$6 200
Stage 2 Indigenous Anthology	NT Writers' Centre	\$23 325
Margaret Bowyangii Duncan Book Development Project	Mimi Aboriginal Arts and Crafts	\$4 075
SUBTOTAL		\$33 600

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Indigenous Arts Strategy: Performing Arts		
Dreaming Festival 2009	Artback NT	\$20 000
Desert Mob Dancesite 2009	Artback NT	\$10 000
Australian International Arts Development Site	Darwin Festival	\$9 090
Regional Areas Music Program Central Australia and Barkly Regional Workshops	Music NT	\$7 500
Stage 3 Indigenous Traditional Dance Project	Artback NT	\$30 000
GR Burrarwanga Memorial Award	Music NT	\$10 000
Music NT conference	Music NT	\$10 000
Launch of Indigenous Music Partnership	Music NT	\$5 000
2009 Bush Bands Bash	Scott Large	\$22 000
SUBTOTAL		\$123 590
Indigenous Arts Strategy: Showcasing		
Momentum: 18 th Textile Fibre Biennial, Tamworth	Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	\$3 335
Desart Mob Marketplace 2009	Desart	\$15 000
2009 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Awards Opening Performances hosted by the Museum and Art Gallery of the NT	Darwin Festival	\$25 475
Darwin Arts Fair	Top End Arts Marketing	\$20 000
SUBTOTAL		\$63 810
Indigenous Arts Strategy: Visual Arts		
Desart 2008–09 Strategic Initiative Operational Funding	Desart	\$75 000
Implementation of Business Plan and Review Recommendations\Strategic Initiative Funding	Association of Northern Kimberley and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists	\$225 000
SUBTOTAL		\$300 000
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$525 000

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Festival Development Fund: Remote Festivals		
2007–09 Galiwinku Gumurr Marthakal Health Festival	East Arnhem Shire Council	\$15 000
2007–09 Garma Festival	Yothu Yindi Foundation/East Arnhem Shire	\$51 181
2007–09 Gunbalanya Cultural Open Day	West Arnhem/Injalak Arts and Crafts Association Inc	\$10 000
2007–09 Merrepen Arts Festival	Victoria Daly Shire Council	\$10 000
2007–09 Milingimbi Gatjirrk Cultural Festival	East Arnhem Shire Council	\$10 000
2007–09 Milpirri Festival	Tracks Incorporated/Central Desert Shire	\$15 000
2007–09 Pine Creek Gold Rush	Victoria Daly Shire Council	\$3,000
2008–10 Ramingining Yindi Bungul	East Arnhem Shire Council	\$15 000
2009 Binjari Festival	Katherine Town Council	\$11 250
2009 Linga Longa Festival	Coomalie Community Government Council/Coomalie Shire	\$11 250
2009 Timber Creek Festival	Victoria Daly Shire Council	\$12 500
2009 Walking With Spirits	Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation/Roper Gulf Shire	\$15 000
Warumpi Band Culture Memorial Festival	Lisa Watts/MacDonnell Shire	\$10 000
SUBTOTAL		\$189 181

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Festival Development Fund: Regional Festivals		
Alice Springs Beanie Festival	Alice Springs Beanie Festival	\$20 000
Desert Harmony	Barkly Regional Arts	\$10 000
Jabiru Mahbilil Festival	Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation	\$10 000
Katherine Festival	Katherine Town Council	\$10 000
Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival	Seabreeze Festival Committee	\$10 000
The Gove Peninsula Festival: Sharing Culture in One World	Gove Festival Incorporated	\$10 000
SUBTOTAL		\$70 000
Festival Development Fund: Arts Festivals		
2007–09 Alice Springs Desert Festivals	Alice Springs Festival Incorporated	\$167 056
Darwin Festival	Darwin Festival Association	\$804 168
Word Storm	NT Writers' Centre	\$10 000
8 th Darwin International Guitar Festival	Charles Darwin University	\$25 000
Darwin Fringe Festival	Darwin Community Arts	\$20 000
Fist Full of Films	Darwin Community Arts	\$10 000
SUBTOTAL		\$1 036 224
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$1 295 405

Applicant	Amount
Arts Organisations Annual Grants	
24hr Art	\$48 000
Artback NT	\$130 000
Ausdance	\$67 750
Central Craft	\$40 000
Darwin Community Arts	\$77 5 00
Darwin Theatre Company	\$88 000
Darwin Visual Art Association	\$20 500
Incite Youth Arts	\$47 500
Katherine Regional Arts	\$17 500
NT Writers Centre	\$57 500
Red Dust Theatre	\$65 000
Redhot Arts Central Australia	\$20 000
Territory Craft	\$56 000
Top End Arts Marketing	\$50 000
Watch This Space	\$52 500
SUBTOTAL	\$837 750

Arts Organisations: Triennial/Multi Year	
24hr Art	\$53 100
Artback NT	\$130 000
Barkly Regional Arts	\$100 750
Corrugated Youth Arts	\$111 278
Darwin Symphony Orchestra	\$213 707
Katherine Regional Arts	\$31 059
Music NT	\$267 008
Tracks Incorporated	\$203 457
SUBTOTAL	\$1 110 359
Arts Organisations: Venue/Infrastructure	
Browns Mart Trustees – Brown’s Mart	\$28 000
Darwin Theatre Company – 2009 Browns Mart Venue Management	\$43 000
Darwin Entertainment Centre	\$380 000
Darwin Community Arts – Chambers Crescent (Malak)	\$200 000
Darwin Patchworkers and Quilters96a – Winnellie Road	\$8 250
NT Writers’ Centre – Frog Hollow Centre for the Arts	\$36 180
Redhot Arts Central Australia – Redhot Arts Space	\$22 500
SUBTOTAL	\$717 930
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$2 666 039
TOTAL ARTS GRANTS 2008–09	\$5 330 256

Film Grants 2008–09

Activity	Recipient	Amount
Industry and Screen Culture Development		
Cinema in the River 2008	Alice Springs Festival Incorporated	\$2 000
Sydney Travelling Film Festival 2009	Sydney Film festival	\$6 000
Flickerfest 2009	Flickerfest 2009 Pty Ltd	\$3 000
<i>Samson and Delilah</i> Alice Springs premiere	Footprint Films Pty Ltd	\$10 000
Film Tour of Top End communities	Outbush Pitchas	\$10 000
Project Development, Production and Post Production		
Development and production of <i>Yarning Up 2</i>	Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA)	\$80 000
Assist with the post production of <i>Samson and Delilah</i>	Scarlett Pictures Pty Ltd	\$20 000
Assisted with the post production of <i>Ngpartji Ngpartji: Lost for Words</i>	Big hART Incorporated	\$20 000
Professional Development Travel Program		
Travel to the Australian International Documentary Conference	Greg Stehle	\$1 500
Travel to Crossover and the Australian International Documentary Conference	Alexandra Kelly	\$1 435
Travel to the Australian Writers' Guild National Screenwriters Conference	Merrill Bray	\$1 500
Travel to South Australia to work as an attachment on the short film <i>Jacob</i>	Tim Trindle-Thomas	\$837
Travel to the Arista Business of Development National Conference	Val Clark	\$1 325
Travel to the Australian Writers' Guild National Screenwriters Conference	Eleanor Hogan	\$1 500
Travel to the Australian International Documentary Conference	Vanessa Davis	\$800
Travel to the Australian International Documentary Conference and Australian International Documentary Conference Fringe	Vincent Lamberti	\$1 500
Travel to the Australian International Documentary Conference	Wiriya Sati	\$1 500

Strategic Initiatives		
Co-ordinate IGNITE, an intensive script development program which combines high intensity residential workshops with distance learning and online consultation. Five Territory projects are involved in IGNITE as well as one project from South Australia and two from Tasmania).	Northern Territory Writers' Centre	\$100 651
Write the next draft of their IGNITE screenplay <i>Captive Lives/Unfallen Rain</i>).	Tom E. Lewis and Fleur Parry	\$10 000
Write the next draft of her IGNITE screenplay <i>I am Daisy</i>).	Jane Hampson	\$10 000
Write the next draft of his IGNITE screenplay <i>Reffo Now</i>	Andrzej Zukowski	\$10 000
Write the next draft of his IGNITE screenplay <i>Carnage</i>	Steven McGregor	\$10 000
Write the next draft of his IGNITE screenplay <i>The Sandbar Man</i>	Trevor Shiell	\$10 000
Additional funding to assist with the costs of the Alice Springs premiere of <i>Samson and Delilah</i>	Footprints Films Pty Ltd	\$7 200
Two Territorians to participate in the Arista Residential Workshop	Screen Tasmania	\$1 349
Travel support to attend the Arista Residential Workshop	Trevor Shiell	\$1 651
Travel support to attend the Arista Residential Workshop	Eleanor Hogan	\$1 033
Bob Plasto Screen Fellowship		
Assist with the costs of studying at the Australian Film, Television and Radio School	Merrill Bray	\$10 000
Assist with the costs of a script writing mentorship	Eleanor Hogan	\$10 000
Total Film Grants		\$344 781

Grants Program

The Department distributed more than \$6 million worth of grants in 2008–09. The Department’s grant recipients include art organisations, schools, natural resource management, biodiversity conservation and environment community groups.

The following list contains all grants the Department currently administers. For more information on these programs go to www.nt.gov.au/nretas/grants

Arts Grants Program	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
Arts Development supports projects across all art forms for the research, development or creation of new work or community cultural development projects.	Individuals, Groups, Organisations	Up to \$15,000	16 March 2009
Presentation and Promotion supports projects which present, exhibit, distribute or promote Northern Territory arts practice.	Individuals, Groups, Organisations	Up to \$15,000	16 March 2009
Skills Development supports arts initiatives that aim to foster skills, knowledge and experience of the participants and build community capacity.	Groups, Organisations	Up to \$15,000	16 March 2009
Emerging Artists prioritise support for emerging artists to access funding for arts development, presentation and promotion or skills based projects.	Individuals, Groups	Up to \$10,000	16 March 2009
Artists in Schools Program (AiS) is a partnership between the Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) and the Department of Education and Training (DET).	Schools Group Schools	Up to \$7,000 Up to \$10,000	In late April 2009
Regional Arts Fund (RAF) categories prioritise Australian Government funding towards arts activities in regional, remote and very remote Australia. More details are available online at www.arts.nt.gov.au .	Individuals, Groups, Organisations	Up to \$20,000	30 March 2009
Sport and Recreation Grants	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
Grass Roots Development Grants allow organisations (including clubs, groups, service deliverers, shire and municipal councils) to apply for up to \$3 000 to implement a new sport or recreation program, or increase the capacity of their organisation to deliver sport or recreation services/programs.	Organisations	\$3000, per financial year	July and December 2009
Facility Development Grants allows sporting organisations and peak sporting bodies to apply for funding to help improve their capacity to provide affordable and accessible sport and recreation opportunities through the development of their facilities.	Organisations and peak sporting bodies	\$50 000	February 2009
Peak Sport Organisation Grants provide assistance to peak Territory sporting bodies to assist with increasing their capacity to develop and deliver sport and active recreation.	Peak sporting bodies	\$130 000	Annual
Recreation Grants allow Recreation bodies to apply for funding to assist with increasing their capacity to develop and deliver physically active recreation.	Recreation bodies	\$130 000	Annual
Active Remote Community Grants provides assistance to remote communities to deliver sport and recreation activities to members of remote communities throughout the Territory.	Shire Councils with previous Local Government Community Councils	N/A	Triennial

EnvironmeNT Grants Program	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
School Project Grants			
Re-thinking Energy-in-Schools provides assistance for schools wishing to purchase and install renewable energy equipment and to deliver education programs that demonstrate renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency issues.	All NT Schools	\$2000	1 May 2009
School Environmental Education Projects for other environmental education activities and school based projects.	All NT Schools	\$2000	1 May 2009
Individual Project Grants			
Energy Efficiency supports projects that will reduce and/or promote efficient energy consumption (and greenhouse gas emissions) and can be used as demonstration models able to be implemented in similar organisations across the Territory.	Community groups, industry and local government associations	Usually up to \$10 000	EOI 17 April 2009 Full Applications 22 May 2009
Re-thinking Waste supports projects that will develop the resource recovery (recycling) industry in the Territory and can be used as demonstration models able to be implemented in other communities across the Territory.	Community groups, industry and local government associations	Usually up to \$10 000	EOI 17 April 2009 Full Applications 22 May 2009
Water Conservation supports projects that will improve water management in the Territory and can be used as demonstration models for wider application in the Territory.	Community groups, industry and local government associations	Usually up to \$10 000	EOI 17 April 2009 Full Applications 22 May 2009
Management of Weeds / Feral Animals supports projects that will establish invasive species (weeds/feral animals) management programs.	Community groups, industry and local government associations	Usually up to \$10 000	EOI 17 April 2009 Full Applications 22 May 2009
Wildlife supports projects that manage pest animals, promotes sustainable use of wildlife, rehabilitate habitats, threatened species or prevent spread of invasive species.	Community groups, industry and local government associations	Usually up to \$10 000	EOI 17 April 2009 Full Applications 22 May 2009
Operational Grants			
Operational Grants support key non-profit organisations delivering environmental services to the community.	Non-profit organisations		22 May 2009

NT Film Grants Program	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
Bob Plasto Screen Fellowship aims to support the professional development of screen practitioners with a commitment to achieving excellence and innovation in screen practice.	Individuals	\$20 000	16 January 2009
Travel Funding is available to support Northern Territory screen practitioners with travel costs for professional and business development to attend Australian and international markets, conferences, festivals, screenings, seminars and workshops.	Individuals, companies, incorporated associations	\$1500	2 weeks prior to date of travel
Production/Post Production Funding is available for feature film, drama series, telemovies, documentaries, animation and digital media that have secured the majority of finance and have marketplace commitment.	Individuals, companies	\$20 000	No closing date
Industry/Screen Culture Development funding is available for events and activities that provide a screen experience, and encourage promotion of the screen industry to the Northern Territory public. Funding is available to provide opportunities for skills training, professional development and network building for the local screen industry.	Organisations	\$10 000	13 February 2009
IGNITE is an accelerated feature film development initiative that will take place over six months in 2009. IGNITE mixes high intensity residential workshops with distance learning and online consultation. The result will be well developed stories and energised creative teams ready to push feature projects on with an increased chance of success.	Individuals, companies	Participants will be given full scholarships including \$10 000 for script development.	13 February 2009
NT History Grants	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
NT History Grants encourage and support original research about Northern Territory history.	Individuals, groups	\$7000	May 2009
Regional Museums Grant Support Program	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
Regional Museums Grant Support Program support projects involving: development of exhibits and displays; collection management policies; interpretation plans; strategic plans or disaster preparedness plans; accessioning and cataloguing of museum collections, including employment of contract curatorial staff or specialist services; storage and conservation of collections; training and professional development; and local community outreach work.	Community based and volunteer run regional museums and keeping places in the Northern Territory	N/A	TBA
NT Heritage Grant Program	Who can apply	Funding Limit	Frequency
NT Heritage Grant Program encourages appropriate conservation work to privately-owned heritage places and objects.	Individuals, organisations	\$30 000	24 April 2009

Statutory Authorities and Bodies as at 30 June 2009

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 2009 were:

Chairman: Ms Stephanie Jupiter

Members: Mr Neil Bradley
Ms Adrienne Friday
Ms Kathy Jupiter
Ms Roxanne Jupiter
Mr Norm Hart
Mr Wailo McKinnon
Ms Patrice Owen
Mr Eddie Webber
Mr Lincoln Wilson

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 Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage. 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 17 members. Ten of these members chair the regional bushfires committees. They act as spokespersons for rural landowners and managers of pastoral, horticultural and agricultural enterprises in the Territory. Representatives from the Bureau of Meteorology, Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service, CSIRO and the Northern Territory Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources provide professional input. The *Bushfires Act* does not apply to the 0.5 per cent of Northern Territory land within main urban centres, which come under the control of Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service.

The Council meets biannually to consider policy and debate issues affecting operational efficiency and future strategic direction.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Brian Hill

Members: Mr Bruce Sawyer
Mrs Dianne Tynan
Mr Peter Cooke
Mr Donald Roebuck
Mr Thomas Stockwell
Mr Andrew Tupper
Mr Ian Bradford
Mr Greg Nettleton
Mr Michael Richards
Mr Djawa Yunupingu

Bushfires Committees – Regional

The Northern Territory is divided into six 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 local knowledge, experience or skills in bushfire management. Its main statutory function is the prevention and control of wildfires in its 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 2009 were:

Alice Springs Regional

Chairman: Mr Matthew Braitling

Members: Mr David Bird
Mr Ashley Severin
Mr Benjamin Heaslip
Mr Angus McKay
Mr Andrew Miller

RFCO: Mr Rod Cantlay

Arafura Regional

Chairman: Mr Ian Bradford

Members: Mr Douglas McKean
Mr Brian Muir
Mr Warren Clarris
Dr Brooke Rankmore

A/RFCO: Mr Steele Davies

Arnhem Regional

Chairman: Mr Djawa Yunupingu

Members: Mrs Jessie Alderson
Mr Bobby Nunggumajbar
Ms Sybil Ranch
Mr Otto Champion

RFCO: Mr Michael Carter

Barkly Regional

Chairman: Mr Michael Richards

Members: Mr Ernest Holt
Mr Stephen Peatling
Mr Kenneth Ford
Mr Geoffrey Murrell

RFCO: Mr Keith Bethel

Savanna Regional

Chairman: Mr Thomas Stockwell

Members: Mr Alan Andrews
Mr Garry Riggs
Mr Edward Webber
Mr Robert Wright

RFCO: Mr Adrian Creighton

Vernon Regional

Chairman: Mr Donald Roebuck

Members: Mr David McLachlan
Mr Andrew Firley
Mr Ian Stewart
Mr Eric Shuker

RFCO: Mr John Whatley

Alice Springs Water Advisory Committee

The Alice Springs Water Advisory Committee was established under Section 23 of the [Water Act 2008](#), to provide advice to the Controller of Water Resources on the effectiveness of the Alice Springs Water Resource Strategy in maximising economic and social benefits of water use, within ecological constraints and other matters.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Craig Cross

Members: Mr Cameron Ashe
Mr James Cocking
Mr Allan Cooney
Mr Rodney Cramer
Mr Paul Davis
Mr Richard Hayes
Mr Vivian Clarence Oldfield
Mr Tony Petras
Mr Edward Ross
Mr Steve Shearer
Mr Murray Stewart
Mr Alan Whyte

Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary and Marine Park Board

The Cobourg Peninsula Sanctuary and Marine Park 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 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Kenny Wauchope

Deputy Chair: Mr Stephen Fejo

Members: Mr Glenn Schipp
Mr Ronnie Ngundiwuy
Mr William Flaherty
Dr Barry Russell
Mr David West
Mr Greg Williams
Ms Daisy Yarmirr

Conservation Land Corporation

The Conservation Land Corporation is a statutory body established under part IV section 30 of the [Parks and Wildlife Commission Act](#). Its purpose is to acquire, hold and dispose real and personal property in accordance with the Act.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Willem Goedegebuure

Members: Mr Alastair Shields
Mr Col Fuller
Mr Jim Grant
Dr David Ritchie

Djukbinj National Park Local Management Committee

The Djukbinj National Park Local Management 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 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr David Kenyon

Members: 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 established under the *Water Act*. It is an advisory group with expertise in the waterwell 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 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr David George

Members: Mr Laurence Ah Toy
Mr Craig Oldfield
Mr Chris MacHunter
Mr Kevin Sneyd
Mr Mark Ballard
Ms Mary Walshe

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 2009 were:

Chairman: Dr Brian Reid

Members: Mr Gregory Coleman
Mr Andrew Allan
Ms Elizabeth Close
Mr David Curtis
Mr Allan Garraway
Dr Michelle Dewar
Ms Anna Malgorzewicz
Ms Susan Dugdale

Mataranka Water Advisory Committee

The Mataranka Water Advisory Committee was established under Section 23 of the *Water Act 2008*, to provide advice regarding the development of a Water Allocation Plan for the Tindall Limestone aquifer in the Mataranka area.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Ms Judith McLean

Members: Mr Max Gorringe
Ms Di Jones
Mr Mark Joraslafsky
Mrs Clair O'Brien
Mr Garry Riggs
Mr Eddie Webber
Mr Kane Younghusband

Museums and Art Galleries Board

The Museums and Art Galleries (MAGNT) Board was established under the *Museums and Art Galleries Act*. The role of the MAGNT Board is a trustee role in relation to the maintenance and development of collections, responsible for developing community involvement with MAGNT, and informing and making recommendations to the Minister regarding the capacity of MAGNT to meet its strategic goals. The MAGNT Board is also responsible for management of the *Meteorites Act* in the Northern Territory.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Prof Marcia Langton

Members: Mr Steven Eland
Ms Pip McManus
Mr John Waters QC
Ms Libby Beath
Ms Kathleen Brown
Mr Alastair Shields

Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board

The Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park 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 2009 were:

Chairman: Ms Lisa Mumbin

Deputy Chair: Mr Ryan Baruwei

Members: Mr John de Koning
Ms Noeleen Andrews
Ms Anne Shepherd
Mr Eddie Webber
Mrs Nell Brown
Ms Mildred Brennan
Ms Jane Runyu-Fordimail
Dr Alaric Fisher
Kakadu Representative

Park and Wildlife Commission

The Park and Wildlife Commission function is to provide the Minister with strategic advice on policy development concerning the management and conservation of wildlife and the establishment and management of parks and reserves in the Northern Territory under the *Parks and Wildlife Commission Act* and consist of the Chief Executive Officer.

Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council

The Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council is established under the *Parks and Wildlife Commission Act 1999*. The Council is to comprise “persons who have an interest or expertise and knowledge in matters relating to the environment and the management and conservation of natural resources”. The role of the Council is to “advise the Parks and Wildlife Commission on matters concerning the management of parks and wildlife” (section 41).

The Minister is actively working on creating a broader Land and Sea Advisory Board and for this reason, the Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council was discontinued on 6 March 2009.

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 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Tony Young

Members: Mr Steven Craig
Ms Colleen Costello
Mr Thomas Stockwell
Dr Mick Quirk

Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee

The Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee was established under the *Water Act*. Its purpose is to advise the Minister on the management of Rapid Creek Catchment.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Ms Jane Aagaard

Members: Mr John Bailey
Mr Dal Hartley
Mr Ian Kew
Ms Lesley Alford
Ms Robyn Maurer
Ms Nerida Noble
Ms Sharon Hinton
Ms Jill Holdworth
Ms Donna Jackson
Mr David Jan
Ms Lucy McNicol
Mr Herman Mouthaan
Ms Julia Schult

Strehlow Research Centre Board

The Strehlow Research Centre Board was established under section 9 of the *Strehlow Research Centre Act*. Its purpose is to; care for the collections of Central Australian cultural materials under its custody; assist researchers and the Aboriginal community to have culturally appropriate access to these collections; present displays and other interpretive material to the public; store culturally significant objects on behalf of Central Australian Indigenous people; and implement repatriation decisions. The Strehlow Research Centre Board consists of seven members.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Ross McDougall

Members: Dr Kathleen Strehlow
Mr Garry Stoll
Mr Glen Auricht
Mr Geoff Bagshaw
Dr Adrian Walter
Mr Ken Lechleitner

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 groundwater resources in the Ti Tree Water Control District. Local horticulture, pastoral, Aboriginal and community interests are represented on the committee. The committee reports annually to the Minister.

Members at 30 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Richard Lomman

Members: Mr Peter McKean
Mr Gary Dann
Mr Trevor Sowman
Mr Gavin Kahl
Mr Allan Cooney
Mr Mitchell Jones
Mr Rodney Baird
Mr Henrick Christiansen

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 16 June 2009 were:

Chairman: Mr Herman Malbunka

Members: Mr Andrew Bridges
Mr Chris Day
Mr Bevan Malbunka
Ms Lynette Malbunka
Ms Maxine Malbunka

Legislation Administered

The Agency is responsible for administering 44 pieces of legislation, with 23 Acts and 21 pieces of subordinate legislation, on behalf of the Ministers for Arts and Museums, Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage, Parks and Wildlife, and Sport and Recreation.

Bushfires Act

- Bushfires Regulations
- Bushfires (Volunteer Bushfire Brigades) Regulations

Cobourg Peninsula Aboriginal Land, Sanctuary And Marine Park Act

- Cobourg Peninsula Aboriginal Land and Sanctuary (Entry and Camping) By-Laws
- Cobourg Peninsula Aboriginal Land, Sanctuary and Marine Park (Rehabilitation Areas) By-Laws

Environment Protection Authority Act

Environmental Assessment Act

- Environmental Assessment Administrative Procedures

Environmental Offences And Penalties Act 1996

Heritage Conservation Act

- Heritage Conservation Regulations

Litter Act

Major Cricket Event Act 2003

- Major Cricket Event Regulation

Meteorites Act

Museums And Art Galleries Act 1999

National Environment Protection Council (Northern Territory) Act

National Trust (Northern Territory) Act

- Rules Of The National Trust Of Australia (Northern Territory)

Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Act

Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage And Disposal (Prohibition) Act 2004

Ozone Protection Act

- Ozone Protection Regulations

Parks And Wildlife Commission Act

Pastoral Land Act (except Part 8 administered by Department of Planning and Infrastructure)

Publications (Legal Deposit) Act

Soil Conservation And Land Utilization Act

Strehlow Research Centre Act 2005

Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act

- Barranyi (North Island) Local Management Committee Regulations
- Djukbinj National Park Local Management Committee (Djukbinj Board) Regulations
- Flora River Local Management Committee Regulations
- Keep River National Park Local Management Committee Regulations
- Territory Parks And Wildlife Conservation By-Laws
- Territory Wildlife Park Management Committee Regulations
- Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Regulations
- Tnorala Local Management Committee Regulations

Waste Management and Pollution Control Act

- Waste Management and Pollution Control (Administration) Regulations
- Environment Protection (National Pollutant Inventory) Objective

Water Act

- Water Regulations

Weeds Management Act 2001

- Weeds Management Regulations 2006

Water Efficiency Labelling Standards Act 2006

New or Amended Legislation

In 2008–09 the following were amended and ratified:

Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act

Section 24 – *Territory Parks Conservation Amendment (Redeclaration of Parks) Act 2008*

To amend the Act to enable parks status to be declared seamlessly and expeditiously upon areas of land held by an Aboriginal Land Trust, Park Land Trust or by an Aboriginal Landholding Corporation that are leased back to the Northern Territory for the purposes of a joint management park.

Information Act

Information Amendment Act 2008

To amend arrangements concerning the management of government records and archives following an administrative separation of the records and archives services within the government structure.

Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement Act 2009

Ratify the Northern Territory participation in the Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental agreement, which is a joint undertaking of Australian, Queensland, South Australian and Northern Territory Governments.

Capital Works Program

Capital Works - Department

	Program BP4 2008–09 \$'000	Program June 2009 \$'000	Expended June 2009 \$'000	Revoted into 2009–10 \$'000
REVOTED WORKS				
<i>Parks and Reserves</i>				
Nitmiluk National Park: Upgrade visitor access to Katherine Gorge at the first and second gorge crossovers	0	59	59	0
Leanyer Recreation Park, Stage 2: Construction of additional carpark, skatepark, soft and hard shades, barbeques and tables	0	2 762	2 762	0
West MacDonnell National Park (Larapinta Trail): construct shelters, barbeques and toilet facilities on the Larapinta Trail	0	112	112	0
<i>Sport and Recreation</i>				
Marrara outdoor netball centre	6 200	6 198	6 143	55
Hidden Valley electrical supply upgrade	818	818	818	0
Total Revoted Works	7 018	9 949	9 894	55

Capital Works - Department	Program BP4 2008–09 \$'000	Program June 2009 \$'000	Expended June 2009 \$'000	Revoted into 2009–10 \$'000
NEW WORKS				
<i>Parks and Reserves</i>				
West MacDonnell National Park, Stage 2: Development of the Interpretive Centre	1 500	1 500	0	1 500
Litchfield National Park, Stage 1: Upgrade visitor facilities	4 400	4 400	3 488	912
Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve: Reconstruction boardwalk and wetlands lookout as part of the Monsoon Forest Walk	1 500	1 300	1 160	140
Leanyer Recreation Park, Stage 2: Upgrade and construct additional facilities including waterslides, lifeguard towers, food kiosk, additional shade and seating at pool and skate park and a public address system	5 200	2 700*	2 482	218
Black Point Coburg Peninsula: New fuel storage infrastructure and remediation works	0	400	8	392
<i>Scientific and Cultural Collections</i>				
Museum and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory: Replace airconditioning system	1 300	1 300	389	911
<i>Sport and Recreation</i>				
Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex: Construction of new VIP building and canteen	1 600	1 600	1 174	426
Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex: Drag strip upgrade**	3 000	3 000	17	2 983
Total New Works	<u>18 500</u>	<u>16 200</u>	<u>8 718</u>	<u>7 482</u>
TOTAL	<u>25 518</u>	<u>26 149</u>	<u>18 612</u>	<u>7 537</u>

*Additional funding of 0.5 million was allocated to this project in April 2009. In May 2009 \$3 million was advanced from the 2008–09 program into the 2007–08 program to enable tendering to occur.

**Australian Government funded project.

Minor New Works - Department

	Program BP4 2008–09 \$'000	Program June 2009 \$'000	Expended June 2009 \$'000	Revoted into 2009–10 \$'000
REVOTED MINOR NEW WORKS				
Parks and Reserves	525	120	120	0
Biological Parks	0	0	0	0
Natural Resources	524	215	215	0
Heritage Conservation	0	0	0	0
Arts and Screen Industry Support	0	0	0	0
Scientific and Cultural Collections	66	58	58	0
Sport and Recreation	193	193	139	54
Total Revoted Works	<u>1 308</u>	<u>586</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>54</u>
NEW MINOR NEW WORKS				
Parks and Reserves	824	624	542	82
Biological Parks	200	490	92	398
Natural Resources	0	382	374	8
Heritage Conservation	0	0	0	0
Arts and Screen Industry Support	117	0	0	0
Scientific and Cultural Collections	293	750	708	42
Sport and Recreation	880	630	374	256
Total New Works	<u>2 314</u>	<u>2 876</u>	<u>2 090</u>	<u>786</u>
TOTAL	<u>3 622</u>	<u>3 462</u>	<u>2 622</u>	<u>840</u>

Minor New Works completed in 2008–09 for the Department

Parks and Reserves

Parks and Wildlife (Territory wide) - Installed new and upgraded existing interpretative signage in National Parks

West MacDonnell National Park - Upgrade radio repeater at Mount Zeil into cover the western end of the West MacDonnell National Park

West MacDonnell National Park - Install composting toilet

Ormiston Gorge - Install rain water tanks and guttering at workshop

Ellery Creek Big Hole water treatment plant - Installation of chlorine injection system to the toilet

Park North - Boundary stock fencing

Umbrawarra Gorge Campground - Construct new toilet

Douglas Hot Springs - Construction of 2 new toilets

Palmerston Goyder Centre - 1st floor office re-structure and modifications

Labelle Downs - Conformance testing for Channel Point boat ramp

Fogg Dam Conservation Reserve - Installation of services for Ranger housing

Black Point Coburg Peninsula - Construct cyclone shelter

Berry Springs National Park - Upgrade stairs to lower pool

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Berrimah Complex - New chemical/dangerous goods storage

Ngukurr Red Rock (Roper River) - Replace access stairs

Devils Marbles - Installation of toilet facility

Tennant Creek - Replacement of Natural Resources, Environment The Arts and Sport's Shed

Biological Parks

George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens - Construct new path to join top of Gardens to the Primary Loop pathway

George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens - Water diversion and terracing

Natural Resources

Tannadice Street Water Resources Depot - Upgrade security fencing

Arid Zone Research Institute Depot - Fit roller doors to shed and mesh dividing wall

Arid Zone Research Institute Depot - Construct storage shed

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Berrimah Complex - Office partitioning

Adelaide River - Extend gauging station and replace access stairs

Kalkarindji Wave Hill - Replace access stairs to 6 metre platform

Scientific and Cultural Collections

Herbarium Gaymark Building - Storage upgrade

Araluen Art Centre - Modification to Gallery 3

Araluen Cultural Precinct - Dangerous goods storage

Araluen Cultural Precinct - Stage One security requirements

Northern Territory Archives - Duress system and insulation to windows

Bullocky Point Precinct - Gallery exhibition upgrade Stage One

Bullocky Point Precinct - Visitor seating to heritage properties

Northern Territory Library - Installation of roller door

Parliament House - Libraries modifications

Northern Territory Library Winnellie - Installation of compactus

Sport and Recreation

TIO Stadium - Replace irrigation system oval 1

Arafura Stadium - Consultancy for upgrade

TIO Stadium - Provide replacement billboard signs on TIO oval

Darwin Football Stadium - Install new shade structure at canteen

Minor New Works completed in 2008–09 for the Department	Program BP4 2008–09 \$'000	Program June 2009 \$'000	Expended June 2009 \$'000
Parks and Reserves	5 083	4 630	4 555
Biological Parks	250	357	373
Natural Resources	806	1 036	908
Heritage Conservation	1 000	1 071	1 056
Scientific and Cultural Collections	1 293	2 086	2 119
Arts and Screen Industry Support	748	0	0
Sport and Recreation	1 260	1 260	1 291
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10 440	10 440	10 302

Repairs and Maintenance Projects completed in 2008–09 for the Department

Parks and Reserves

Watarrka National Park - Repairs to water storage tank

Ellery Creek Big Hole - Bollard replacement

Alice Springs Region - Walking track maintenance

Watarrka National Park - Bollard replacement

Simpsons Gap - Bollard replacement and facility maintenance

Various Locations - Solar installation and maintenance

Various Locations - Replace shade structure roofs

West MacDonnell National Park (Ormiston Gorge) - Install water filters

Alice Springs Telegraph Station - Repair and replace park furniture

West MacDonnell National Park (Ormiston Gorge) - Repairs to camp ablution block

West MacDonnell National Park - Replace water storage tank and supply line

Various Locations - Flood damage repairs

Tom Hare Building - Re-seal car park

Watarrka National Park (Kings Canyon) - Cistern replacement

Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Repairs to septic system

Various Locations Parks North - Walk track maintenance

Various Locations Parks North - Sign maintenance

Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Repairs to bollard fence

Berry Springs Nature Park - Repairs and painting to buildings

Berry Springs Nature Park - Water reticulation repairs

Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Water reticulation repairs

Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Park furniture painting and repairs
Charles Darwin Park - Repairs and painting to building assets
Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Repairs and painting to toilet roof
Litchfield National Park - Repairs and painting to buildings
Manton Dam - Repairs and painting to toilet block
Various Locations - Removal of dangerous trees
Leanyer Recreation Park - Repairs and painting
Charles Darwin National Park - Repairs to irrigation
Channel Point - Clearing vegetation works
Casuarina Coastal Reserve - Repair sand dune erosion
Sandy Creek/Tjaynera Falls - Replace solar panels to bore
Cutta Cutta Caves National Park - Repairs to lights in cave
Eley National Park Mataranka - Repairs to office for compliance
Katherine Region - Remote area water supply maintenance
Katherine Region - Switchboard and airconditioner maintenance
Katherine Region - Repairs to park signs
Katherine Region - Repairs to walking tracks
Keep River National Park - Repairs to workshop and septic
Keep River National Park - Replace rubbish dump
Nitmiluk National Park - Raise switchboard pump station No. 3
Nitmiluk National Park - Repairs to swim jetty
Nitmiluk National Park - Repairs to visitor office quarters
Nitmiluk National Park - Replace membranes and maintenance to water treat plant
Gulf Region including Nathan River Ranger Station - Termite control
Flora National Park - Replace corroded water tank work compound

Eley National Park - Repairs to bat sprinklers thermal pool
Eley National Park - Repairs to thermal pool board walk
Nitmiluk National Park Leliyn - Repair water main
Gregory National Park Bullita Ranger Station - Repairs to solar bore
Gregory National Park Bullet Ranger Station - Repaired water main
Gregory National Park Bullet Ranger Station - Replaced old genet
Nitmiluk National Park Leliyn - Replace hot plates and repair gas barbecues
Nitmiluk National Park - Repairs to weir second gorge
Nathan River Ranger Station - Repairs to workshop and machinery shed
Nitmiluk National Park - Flood mitigation helicopter pad - Cutta Cutta
Caves National Park - Repairs to underground power cables
Gregory National Park Bullet - Replace rubbish dump with incinerator
Devils Marbles - Facility maintenance
Connell's Lagoon and Davenport Ranges - Fencing and firebreak maintenance
Devils Marbles and Davenport Ranges - Toilets and furniture maintenance
Tennant Creek Telegraph Station - Replace damaged power line
Various Locations - Furniture and bridge maintenance
Various Locations - Barbecue maintenance
Various Locations - Radio repeater maintenance
Various Locations - Fencing and fire break maintenance
Various Locations - Generator maintenance
Various Locations - Radio repeater maintenance
Various Locations - Furniture maintenance

Biological Parks

- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Pumps and screens in fountain pond
- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Walk track maintenance
- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Interpretation signage
- Window on the Wetlands** - Repairs painting and carpet renewal
- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Building repairs and painting
- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Repairs to boardwalks
- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Replace airconditioning to staff administration building
- George Brown Darwin Botanical Gardens** - Repair irrigation in rainforest

Natural Resources

- Bushfires Council Various Locations** - Repeater maintenance
- Various Locations** - Interpretive signage
- Arid Zone Research Institute Nursery** - Repairs to nursery office
- CSIRO Berrimah Complex** - Repair fire alarm system
- CSIRO Berrimah Complex Building 101** - Repairs and painting
- Tannadice Street Water Resource Depot** - Repairs to concrete
- Acacia Weir at Acacia Creek** - Repair and replace weir
- Crawford Station Depot** - Sliding and roller door, office and bathroom
- Coolibah Station** - Replace and repair floor and stairs to elevated gauging station
- Mary River** - Salt water intrusion mitigation
- Borroloola Weeds Compound** - Repairs to office and structures

Heritage Conservation

- Glen Maggie Homestead** - Ryan's Well - Stonemasonry repairs
- The Residency** - Undertake internal and external paint scrapes
- Araluen Homestead** - Replace galvanised water tank
- Stokes Hill Wharf** - Relocate steam locomotive for repair
- Stella Maris Hostel** - Lot 5260 - Repairs and maintenance
- Old Qantas Hangar** - Refurbishment of Sandfly steam locomotive
- Vesteys Tank** - Repairs and resealing of spalling concrete
- Stokes Hill Wharf** - Relocate steam locomotive for repair
- Bayview Haven** - Repairs to the World War II bunker
- World War II Strauss Airfield** - Repair damaged aircraft display signs
- East Point Military Museum** - Repairs to electrical services
- Gregory's Tree** - Timber Creek - Replace boardwalk deck
- Emungalan Cemetery** - Replace fire damaged signs
- Emungalan Wheel Rim Shrinkage Pit** - Barrier and interpretation sign
- Barrow Creek Telegraph Station and Buggy Shed** - Stonemasonry repairs
- Scientific and Cultural Collections***
- Araluen Cultural Precinct** - Replace roof on territory craft building
- Araluen Cultural Precinct** - Emergency lighting system
- Frogs Hollow** - External paint of building
- Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Bullocky Point** - Continuation of relining the drains
- Cornucopia Museum Cafe** - Paint the internally and externally
- Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Bullocky Point** - Paint foyer
- Browns Mart Frog Hollow** - Airconditioning and painting works

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Bullocky Point -

In-house projects painting and occupation health and safety works

Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Bullocky Point -

Airconditioner replacement for Flinders and Link Gallery

Australian Pearling Exhibition - Steelwork repair columns and painting***Sport and Recreation***

Larrakia Park - Investigate gas leak

Marrara Stadium, Multipurpose Hall - Replace wall mounted fans

Micket Creek Shooting Complex - Protect rifle range mound areas

TIO Stadium - Tunnels required non-slip painting

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex - Repair tyre wall

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex (Speedway) - Generator works

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex (Speedway) - Lightning damage electrical repairs

TIO Stadium - Certification of stadium

Marrara Stadium, Multipurpose Hall - Investigate bituminous spills

Micket Creek Shooting Complex - Tree removal

Micket Creek Shooting Complex - External painting

Arafura Stadium - Irrigation of spectators bound

Larrakia Park - Soccer Stadium - Repairs to pop-up sprinklers

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex - Repairs to fence Line

Arafura Stadium Marrara - Remedial Work to athletics track

Arafura Stadium Marrara - Replace lights in the light tower

Arafura Stadium Marrara - Replace taps in hand basins

Micket Creek Shooting Complex - Repair damaged fence

Micket Creek Shooting Complex - Repair and install irrigation

TIO Stadium - Re-paint ticket boxes at Bonson and Ahmat Gates

Sports House - Upgrade badminton lights

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex - Repair broken pipe and clear clogged drain

TIO Stadium - Assess and repair lights for Oval 1

**Minor New Works - Territory Wildlife Parks
- GBD**

	Program BP4 2008–09 \$'000	Program June 2009 \$'000	Expended June 2009 \$'000	Revoted into 2009–10 \$'000
REVOTED MINOR NEW WORKS				
Alice Springs Desert Park	19	19	18	1
Territory Wildlife Park	181	181	206	-25
Total Revoted Works	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>-24</u>
NEW MINOR NEW WORKS				
Alice Springs Desert Park	34	34	34	0
Territory Wildlife Park	527	237	100	137
Total Minor New Works	<u>561</u>	<u>271</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>137</u>
TOTAL	<u>761</u>	<u>471</u>	<u>358</u>	<u>113</u>

Minor New Works Projects completed in 2008–09 for Territory Wildlife Parks - GBD

Alice Springs Desert Park - Expand and improve exhibits

Alice Springs Desert Park - Fuel storage facility

Territory Wildlife Park - New whip ray exhibit

Territory Wildlife Park - New admissions area

Territory Wildlife Park - Turning circle passing bay and walking track

Territory Wildlife Park - Shade structure at whip ray pool

Territory Wildlife Park - Repairs to bore at aquarium

Territory Wildlife Park - Resurfacing of flight deck pathway

Territory Wildlife Park - Upgrade boat ramp

Territory Wildlife Park - Upgrade power to aviaries

Repairs and Maintenance - Territory Wildlife Parks - GBD

	Program BP4 2008–09 \$'000	Program June 2009 \$'000	Expended June 2009 \$'000
Alice Springs Desert Park	150	150	156
Territory Wildlife Park	495	495	478
	645	645	634

Repairs and Maintenance completed in 2007–08 for Territory Wildlife Parks - GBD

Alice Springs Desert Park - Maintenance to furniture and bridge

Alice Springs Desert Park - Building maintenance

Alice Springs Desert Park - Interpretation maintenance

Alice Springs Desert Park - Replace water reticulation isolation pits

Territory Wildlife Park - Repairs to airconditioners

Territory Wildlife Park - Repairs to walk tracks

Territory Wildlife Park - Mechanical and electrical repairs

Territory Wildlife Park - Replace glass

Territory Wildlife Park - Repair rusty stands

Territory Wildlife Park - Repair leaking roof in workshop

Territory Wildlife Park - New hand rails in aviary

Territory Wildlife Park - Grade service roads

Externally Funded Projects - Department

	External Funding \$'000	NRETAS Funding \$'000	Expended 2008–09	Revoted into 2009–10 \$'000
Sport and Recreation				
Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex: Drag strip upgrade*	3 000	0	17	2 983
	3 000	0	17	2 983

* Australian Government funded

Responses to Whole of Government Frameworks

Working Future

- Interpretation at the Alice Springs Desert Park, including guide presentations and tours, interactive children's activities and rove guiding have been developed and provided by Central Australian Aboriginal people, with 50 per cent of the Guide Unit being from a local Aboriginal background.
- Led the development and production of the second series of *Yarning Up* in association with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA) resulting in four documentaries being produced in remote communities. *Yarning Up* is a three year initiative of the Northern Territory Film Office which aims to develop professional documentary skills and create employment opportunities, as well as broadcast outcomes for Indigenous Territorians from remote communities.
- Aligned the Northern Territory Library *Early Literacy Strategy* with Working Future policy initiative to highlight library-based Indigenous early years literacy programs.
- Growing Indigenous training and employment in remote and regional areas of the Territory, through joint management, by engagement of Indigenous ranger groups in Park Management programs and contracts. Flexible Employment Projects provide work experience and training opportunities for Aboriginal Traditional Owners in many jointly managed Parks and Reserves.
- Worked with Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE) to establish formal training programs that will provide Indigenous Community Sport and Recreation Officers in remote communities with a sound basis for future career development.

- Established the inaugural women's Shire Softball Competition in partnership with the Shires, community members and Softball Northern Territory, targeting Indigenous women in remote areas. This program received \$66 000 funding to support the training, travel and uniform costs of all participants.

Closing the Gap

- Successfully increased the level of Aboriginal employment by working towards *Closing the Gap*. In 2008–09 the Alice Springs Desert Park achieved 20 per cent Indigenous Employment, the Territory Wildlife Park achieved 14 per cent and Window on the Wetlands maintained between 80 per cent and 100 per cent Indigenous Employment.
- Revamped the Local Governing Bodies Grant (LBG) Program to include *Closing the Gap* funding to create the new program, Active Remote Communities (ARC) Grant Program with a total funding pool of \$2.24 million to support 56 remote Community Sport and Recreation Officers.

Moving Alice Ahead

- Developed a new permanent exhibition *Origins to Innovation: Aboriginal Art in Central Australia*, at the Araluen Art Centre in March 2009, documenting and analysing the history and development of Aboriginal art in the region, as part of the Northern Territory Government's Moving Alice Ahead initiative.

Healthy Country Healthy People

- Supported the Healthy Country Healthy People Schedule. The operational group of the schedule continues to meet regularly, which provides a forum for discussion and policy development and feedback between Australian and Northern Territory Government agencies and the Territory's four Aboriginal Land Councils.

Building Safer Communities

Tackling Substance Abuse

- Continued the practice of no alcohol service and a safe and secure presentation ceremony for the 25th *Telstra National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art Award* (NATSIAA) at the Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory (MAGNT).

Suicide Prevention Action Plan

- Utilised regional sport co-ordinators to incorporate mental health promotion and suicide awareness into the agenda for future education programs with peak sports and recreation bodies and newsletters.
- Incorporated mental health promotion and suicide awareness into its current education programmes at the Northern Territory Institute of Sport (NTIS) for elite athletes through the NTIS Psychologist.

Active Ageing Framework

- Supported the Active Aging Framework through the following actions;
 - Supported the 2008 Alice Springs Masters Games and the 2008 Friendly Games.
 - Continued contribution to and participate in the development of the strategy and have committed to continuing this contribution through to 2011.
 - Hosting two forums and encouraged online training for volunteers during the year such as accredited coaching and officiating training and *Play by the Rules* Training.
 - Funded eight recreation organisations that provide programs for seniors throughout the Northern Territory.

Building a Better Future for Young Territorians

To provide opportunities at the local level for people to participate in sport and recreation through funding and supporting a network of Community Sport and Recreation Officers:

- 56 Sport and Recreation officers were funded and supported across eight Local Government Shires
- Funding was made available to Sport and Recreation organisations to support the development of sport and recreation and for the delivery of services and programs within the community.

Providing pathways in sport and celebrating success:

- Promoted the achievements of young athletes through the Northern Territory Institute Sports Awards and the Northern Territory Sports Awards.

Delivering training opportunities:

- Conducted a Sports Development Workshop in Darwin in July 2008 and Good Governance workshops in Darwin and Alice Springs in November 2008.
- Held a disability forum in conjunction with the Active After School Communities held in June 2008 for organisations which provide disability services.
- Delivered two programs in conjunction with the Active After School Communities partnering with the Jingili BMX Club and the Alice Springs Golf Club to encourage more young Territorians to participate in sport.

Creating and promoting opportunities to participate in sport and recreation:

- Provided an interactive website *Sport Linkup* to engage young Territorians in Sport, to share ideas about junior sports, and enable sporting groups to post information on holiday programs and junior sports competitions. The website also promotes healthy lifestyle choices for sporting fans.

GoNT

The Agency contributes to the goNT strategy through its grant funding programs and promotion of active recreation programs by providing funding and support including the following:

- Grant funding to recreation organisations.
- Sponsorship of the Active Northern Territory ten week healthy lifestyle challenge program run by the General Practice Network Northern Territory Ltd.
- Support, participation and promotion of *Life Be In It Corporate Challenges*.
- Indigenous Sport Coordinators, in conjunction with Community Sport and Recreation Officers delivered sport and recreation opportunities in communities.
- Promoted and developed sustainable facilities to support physical activities in Indigenous communities through *Closing the Gap* funding.
- Provided funding to cycling groups (listed below) to increase participation as identified in the National Cycling Strategy:
 - Northern Territory Cycling Association Inc 2006–07, Peak funding \$17 000
 - Northern Territory Cycling Association Inc 2007–08, Peak funding \$18 663
 - Northern Territory Cycling Association Inc 2008–09, Facility funding \$15 000
 - Northern Territory Cycling Association Inc 2008–09, Peak funding \$20 100
 - Northern Territory BMX Association 2008–09, Peak funding \$13 913

Agency Contact Details

For general enquiries and correspondence:

Department of Natural Resources, Environment The Arts and Sport

Goyder Centre

25 Chung Wah Terrace, Palmerston
PO Box 496 Palmerston NT 0831
Telephone: 08 8999 5511
Facsimile: 08 8999 4722

www.nt.gov.au/nretas
webadmin.nretas@nt.gov.au
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Executive and Corporate Services

1st Floor Alice Springs Plaza
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 9262
08 8951 9268

1st Floor Goyder Building
25 Chung Wah Terrace,
Palmerston NT 0830
PO Box 496, Palmerston NT 0831
08 8999 4504
08 8999 4722 (fax)

finance.nretas@nt.gov.au
generalservices.nretas@nt.gov.au
legalservices.nretas@nt.gov.au
library.nretas@nt.gov.au
communications.nretas@nt.gov.au
media.nretas@nt.gov.au
records.nretas@nt.gov.au
secretariat.nretas@nt.gov.au
webadmin.nretas@nt.gov.au

Collections, Biodiversity and Biological Parks

Alice Springs Desert Park

Larapinta Drive
Alice Springs NT 0870
PO Box 1120 Alice Springs NT 0871
08 8951 8788
08 8951 8720 (fax)
asdp@nt.gov.au
www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au

Opening Hours:
Office: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)
Park: 7.30am – 6.00pm (7 days)

Araluen Arts Centre / Araluen Cultural Precinct

Larapinta Drive
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 1120
08 8953 0259 (fax)
araluen@nt.gov.au
www.araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au

Opening Hours:
Office: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)
Centre: 10.00am – 4.00pm (Mon-Fri)
11.00am – 4.00pm (Sat-Sun)

Biodiversity North / Wildlife Use

CSIRO Complex
Vanderlin Drive
Berrimah NT 0820
08 8995 5000
08 8995 5099 (fax)
wildlifeprograms.nretas@nt.gov.au
Opening Hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Biodiversity South / Wildlife Use

Tom Hare Building
Stuart Hwy
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 8226
08 8955 5190 (fax)
wildlifeprograms.nretas@nt.gov.au
Opening Hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Biodiversity Marine

Arafura Timor Research Facility (ATRF)
23 Ellengowan Drive
Brinkin NT 0810
08 8920 9207
088920 9222 (fax)
marine.nreta@nt.gov.au
Opening Hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Strehlow Research Centre

Cnr Larapinta Drive and Memorial Avenue
PO Box 831
Alice Springs NT 0871
08 8951 1111
08 8951 1110 (fax)
strehlow@nt.gov.au
Opening Hours: 10am- 4pm (Mon-Fri)

Territory Wildlife Park

Cox Peninsula Rd
Berry Springs NT 0838
PO Box 771 Palmerston NT 0831
08 8988 7200
08 8988 7201 (fax)
twp@nt.gov.au
www.territorywildlifepark.com.au

Opening Hours:
Office: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)
Park: 8.30am – 6pm (7 days)

Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre

Arnhem Highway via Humpty Doo
PO Box 771 Palmerston NT 0831
08 8988 8188
08 8988 8123 (fax)
wow.pwcnt@nt.gov.au
Opening Hours: 8am – 7pm (7 days)

Northern Territory Archive Services – Darwin

25 Cavenagh Street
 Darwin NT 0800
 GPO Box 874 Darwin NT 0801
 08 8924 7677
 088924 7660 (fax)
nt.archives@nt.gov.au
 Opening Hours:
 Office: 8am – 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)
 Search Room: 9am – 12pm, 1pm – 4pm (Mon-Fri)

Northern Territory Archives Service – Alice Springs

Minerals House
 58 Hartley Street
 Alice Springs NT 0870
 PO Box 8225 Alice Springs NT 0871
 08 8951 5669
 08 8951 5232 (fax)
nt.archives@nt.gov.au
 Opening Hours:
 Office: 8am – 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)
 Search Room: 9am – 12pm, 1pm – 4pm (Mon-Fri)

Northern Territory Library

Parliament House
 PO Box 42
 Darwin NT 0801
 08 89997177
 08 89996927
ntl.info@nt.gov.au
www.ntl.nt.gov.au
 Opening Hours: 10am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)
 1pm – 5pm (Sat-Sun)

Northern Territory Library – Administration

Cnr Albatross and Witte Streets
 Winnellie NT 0821
 08 8922 0785
 08 8922 0760
library.events@nt.gov.au
 Opening Hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Taminmin Community Library

Challoner Cct
 Humpty Doo NT 0830
 08 8988 0040
 08 8988 1273
taminmin.dlghs@nt.gov.au
 Opening Hours:
 School Term: 8.30am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)
 10am – 1pm (Sat)
 School Holidays: 8.30am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)
 10am – 1pm (Sat)

Nhulunbuy Community Library

Matthew Flinders Way
 Nhulunbuy NT 0880
 08 8987 0860
 08 8987 0836
nhulunbuylibrary.ntl@nt.gov.au
 Opening Hours: 10am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)
 10am – 7pm (Thurs)
 10am – 1pm (Sat)

Environment, Heritage and the Arts Environment (Assessment, Operations and Policy)

2nd Floor Darwin Plaza
 41 Smith Street Mall
 Darwin NT 0800
 PO Box 496
 Palmerston NT 0831
 08 8924 4139
 08 8924 4053 (fax)
environment.nretas@nt.gov.au
environmentgrants.nreta@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)

Environment and Sustainability (Operations)

1st Floor Alice Plaza
 Alice Springs NT 0870
 08 8951 9201
 08 8951 9268 (fax)
pollutionhotline@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4pm (Mon-Fri)

Heritage

1st Floor 9-11 Cavenagh Street
 Darwin NT 0800
 08 8999 5039
 08 8999 8949 (fax)
heritage.nretas@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)

Heritage

1st Floor Alice Plaza
 Alice Springs NT 0870
 08 8951 9247
 08 8951 9268 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4pm (Mon-Fri)

Northern Territory Film Office

27 Hartley Street
 Alice Springs NT 0870
 PO Box 995, Alice Springs NT 0871
 08 8952 5222
 08 8952 0446 (fax)
film.office@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8.30am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)

Arts NT – Darwin

1st Floor 9 -11 Cavenagh Street
 Darwin NT 0800
 PO Box 496 Palmerston NT 0831
 08 8999 8981
 1800 678 237 (toll free)
 08 8999 8949 (fax)
arts.office@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)

Arts NT – Alice Springs

Larapinta Drive
 Alice Springs NT 0870
 08 8951 1190
 1800 678 237 (toll free)
 08 8951 1161 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)

Museums and Galleries of the Northern Territory

Northern Territory Herbarium - North

Ground Floor
Herbarium Building
The Boulevard
Palmerston NT 0830
08 8999 4516
08 8999 4527 (fax)
Opening hours: 8.00am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Northern Territory Herbarium - South

Alice Springs Desert Park
Larapinta Drive
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 8791
08 8951 8790 (fax)
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Fannie Bay Gaol

East Point Road
Fannie Bay Darwin NT 0820
08 8999 8290
08 8981 8199 (fax)
museum.magnt@nt.gov.au
Opening hours: 10am – 4.30pm (7 days)

Lyons Cottage

74 The Esplanade
Darwin NT 0800
08 8981 1750
08 8981 8077 (fax)
museum.magnt@nt.gov.au
Opening hours: 10am – 4.30pm (7 days)

Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory

19 Conacher Street
Bullocky Point
Fannie Bay NT 0820
GPO Box 4646 Darwin NT 0801
08 8999 8264
08 8999 8289 (fax)
museum.magnt@nt.gov.au
Opening hours: 9am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)
10am – 5pm (Sat-Sun)

Museum of Central Australia

Larrapinta Drive
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 1121
08 8951 1107 (fax)
museumca.nreta@nt.gov.au
Opening hours: 10am – 4pm (Mon-Fri)
11am – 4pm (Sat-Sun)

The Strehlow Research Centre

Larrapinta Drive
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 11111
08 8951 11110 (fax)
strehlow@nt.gov.au
www.nt.gov.au/nreta/museums/strehlow/
Opening hours: 9am – 4pm (Mon-Fri)

George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens

Geranium Street
Darwin NT 0800
08 8981 1958
08 8981 1647 (fax)
botgardens.darwin@nt.gov.au
www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/botanic/index.html
Opening hours: 7am – 7pm (7 days)

Natural Resources

Bushfires Northern Territory

17/18 Albatross Street
Winnellie NT 0820
08 8922 0832
08 8922 0833 (fax)
Opening hours: 8.00am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Community Programs

3rd Floor Goyder Centre
25 Chung Wah Terrace
Palmerston NT 0830
08 8999 4464
08 8999 4425 (fax)
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Natural Resources - Katherine Region

32 Giles Street
Katherine NT 0850
08 8973 8841
08 8973 8894 (fax)
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Natural Resources - Southern Region

1st floor Alice Springs Plaza
Alice Springs NT 0870
08 8951 9259
08 8951 9222 (fax)
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Land Resources Branch

3rd Floor Goyder Centre
25 Chung Wah Terrace
Palmerston NT 0830
08 8999 4478
08 8999 4403 (fax)
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Policy and Systems

3rd Floor Goyder Centre
25 Chung Wah Terrace
Palmerston NT 0830
08 8999 4523
08 8999 4403 (fax)
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Water Resources

3rd Floor Goyder Centre
 25 Chung Wah Terrace
 Palmerston NT 0830
 08 8999 4892
 08 8999 4403 (fax)
water.nreta@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Weed Management

3rd Floor Goyder Building
 25 Chung Wah Terrace
 Palmerston NT 0830
 08 8999 4567
 08 8999 4445 (fax)
weedsinfo.nreta@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Spatial Data and Mapping Branch

4th Floor Goyder Building
 25 Chung Wah Terrace
 Palmerston NT 0830
 08 8999 4579
 08 8999 3666 (fax)
DataRequests.@nt.gov.au
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Hydrographic and Drilling Unit

4th Floor Goyder Building
 25 Chung Wah Terrace
 Palmerston NT 0830
 08 8999 4670
 08 8999 3666 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Water Assessment Unit

4th Floor Goyder Building
 25 Chung Wah Terrace
 Palmerston NT 0830
 08 8999 3615
 08 8999 3666 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Parks and Wildlife

Alice Springs Regional Office

Tom Hare Building
 Arid Zone Research Institute
 Alice Springs NT 0870
 08 8951 8250
 08 8951 8290 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.15pm (Mon-Fri)

Darwin Region

2nd Floor Goyder Centre
 25 Chung Wah Terrace
 Palmerston NT 0830
 08 8999 4555
 08 8999 4558 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.15pm (Mon-Fri)

Katherine Regional Office

32 Giles Street
 Katherine NT 0850
 08 8973 8888
 08 8973 8899 (fax)
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.15pm (Mon to Fri)

Sport and Recreation

Sports House

Waratah Crescent
 Fannie Bay NT 0820
 GPO Box 1448 Darwin NT 0801
 08 8982 2358
 08 8982 2399 (fax)
sportandrec@nt.gov.au
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au/
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Sports Development Branch

**Sports Development – Darwin Unit
 Indigenous Sport Unit – Darwin Unit**

Sports House, Waratah Crescent
 Fannie Bay NT 0820
 GPO Box 1448 Darwin NT 0801
 08 8982 2358
 08 8982 2399(fax)
participation.dsr@nt.gov.au
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au/sportdevelopment
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

**Sports Development – Katherine Unit
 Indigenous Sport Unit – Katherine Unit**

32 Giles Street
 Katherine NT 0850
 P O Box 344 Katherine NT 0851
 08 8973 8891
 08 8973 8894(fax)
participation.dsr@nt.gov.au
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au/sportdevelopment
 Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Sports Development - Alice Springs Unit

Indigenous Sport Unit - Alice Springs Unit
1st Floor, Alice Plaza
Alice Springs NT 0870
PO Box 1120 Alice Springs NT 0871
08 8951 6432
08 8951 6430(fax)
participation.dsr@nt.gov.au
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au/sportdevelopment
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Facilities and Events Branch

Facilities Development Unit
Sports House, Waratah Crescent
Fannie Bay NT 0820
GPO Box 1448 Darwin NT 0801
08 8982 2346
08 8982 2399(fax)
sports.facilities@nt.gov.au
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au/venues
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Marrara Indoor Stadium

10 Abala Road
Marrara NT 0812
PO Box 42642Casuarina NT 0811
08 8922 6888
08 8922 6855(fax)
mis.nretas@nt.gov.au
www.mis.nt.gov.au/
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)
Open for events

Hidden Valley Motor Sports Complex

Situated at Portion 2788, Hundred of Bagot in the Northern Territory
PO Box 1159 Darwin NT 0801
08 8947 1471
08 89471472(fax)
hvr@nt.gov.au
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au/venues/hidden_valley
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)
Open for events

Northern Territory Institute of Sport - Darwin

Darwin Branch
Abala Road
Marrara NT 0812
PO Box 40844 Casuarina NT 0811
08 8922 6811
08 8922 6800(fax)
ntis.dsr@nt.gov.au
www.ntis.nt.gov.au/
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Northern Territory Institute of Sport - Alice Springs

1st Floor Alice Plaza
Alice Springs NT 0870
PO Box 1120 Alice Springs NT 0871
08 8951 6421
08 8951 6430(fax)
ntis.dsr@nt.gov.au
www.ntis.nt.gov.au/
Opening hours: 8am – 4.21pm (Mon-Fri)

Feedback Form

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport welcomes your feedback on the 2008–09 Annual Report.

CONTACT DETAILS (OPTIONAL)

Name _____

Organisation _____

Postal address _____

Email _____

DOCUMENT CONTENT

The report met your needs

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

The format of the report enabled easy access to areas of interest to you

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

The report addresses issues that are in the public interest

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

The report is easy to understand

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES YOUR PRIMARY ROLE IN READING THIS REPORT?

- Business interests
- Employee
- Contractor/ supplier
- Member of community group
- Member of environmental group
- Student
- Local resident
- Other please specify _____

COMMENTS

Do you have any comments or suggestions on how our future annual reports could be improved?

Once completed please post to:

Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport
 Reply Paid 496
 Palmerston NT 0831

or alternatively

Submit your feedback electronically on the NRETAS website