
OUTCOME 1

Environment

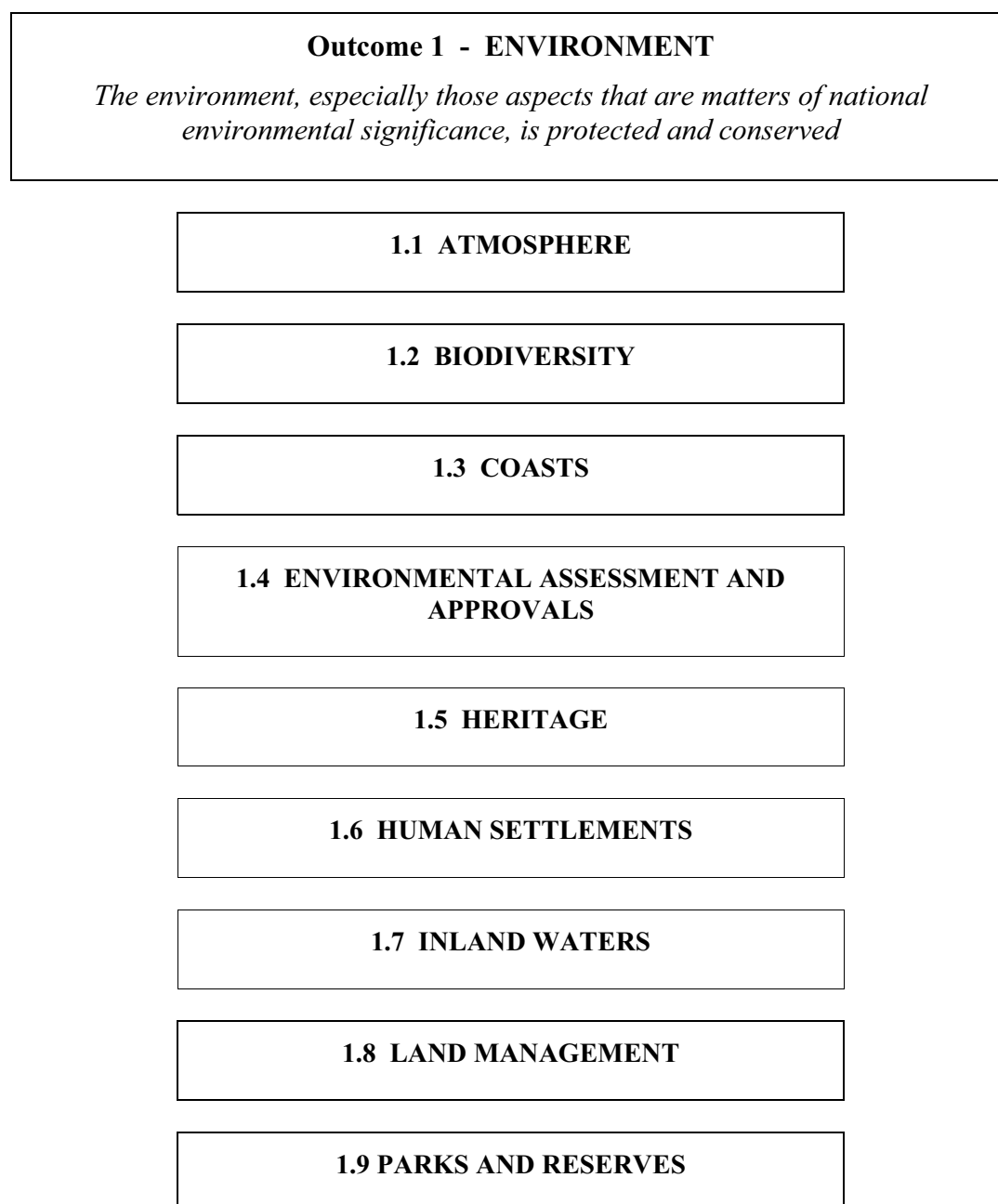
OVERVIEW

The following section provides details of the budget implications for Outcome 1 (Environment). Specifically it provides:

- a diagrammatic representation of the individual outputs for Outcome 1;
- changes to outcomes and outputs;
- a description of Outcome 1;
- details of the Budget Measures that affect Outcome 1;
- a table (Table 2.1.1) providing details of the financial resources for Outcome 1;
- a description of how the departmental outputs comprising Outcome 1 contribute to that outcome;
- a table (Table 2.2.1) which provides performance information for each administered item and departmental output; and
- general information on performance and evaluations.

Relationship Between Outcome 1 and Contributing Outputs

The following provides a diagrammatic representation of the individual outputs under Outcome 1 (Environment).



Note: Revenue from Government through appropriations contributes 85.3% to the total output price for this outcome for 2004-05

CHANGES TO OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS

There has been no change to the overall outcome or its descriptor.

There have been revisions to a number of its outputs (and sub-outputs) to better reflect the Department's core business and services.

These changes include:

- to more accurately represent the breadth of activities contributing to output 1.6 Industry, it has been renamed "Human Settlements", with two sub-outputs "Human Settlements" and "Environmental Protection at uranium mines in the Alligator Rivers Region (ARR)". This output includes all activities previously grouped under the industry output heading;
- the output "Coasts and Oceans" is simply "Coasts"; and
- a number of sub-outputs have been added to better reflect the nature of activities performed under each output. These sub-outputs are identified in the table in the section *Contribution of outputs (page 51)*.

OUTCOME 1: *The environment, especially those aspects that are matters of national environmental significance, is protected and conserved*

The Department of the Environment and Heritage (the Department) advises on and implements policies and programmes for the protection and conservation of the environment, including both natural and cultural heritage places, on behalf of the Australian Government.

The Department is responsible for administering a number of major environment programmes. The most significant of those dealing with natural resource management come under the umbrella of the Trust and the NAP. Both the Trust and the NAP are administered jointly with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The Department encourages, through leadership and cooperation, conservation and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage, and ecologically sustainable management of Australia's coastal and marine resources. This includes assistance to the Australian community to appreciate and conserve Australia's natural and cultural (indigenous and historic) heritage places for current and future generations.

The Australian Government's flagship environment protection legislation, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*, is administered by the Department. The Act provides a national framework for environment and heritage protection through a focus on protecting matters of national environmental and heritage significance and on the conservation of Australia's biodiversity. Recent heritage amendments to the Act extend protection to places that Australians regard as part of their national identity. The Department also administers a range of other Acts to protect and conserve the environment.

Under recent heritage amendments to the EPBC Act, places that Australians regard as part of their national identity, will now be protected and conserved to the full extent provided for under the Australian Constitution.

The Department also works with Australian business organisations and industrial sectors, the community and other levels of government to protect Australia's atmosphere and to improve the environmental performance of Australian industry. This extends to providing independent advice through research, assessment and supervision on the protection and management of the Alligator Rivers Region.

Participation in the international community brings both benefits and obligations in dealing with environmental issues. The Department's international efforts are guided by Australia's national interests, our internationally shared natural resources, species and ecosystems, and an understanding that countries and peoples face a diversity of needs and challenges.

MEASURES AFFECTING OUTCOME 1

Great Barrier Reef – Representative Areas Programme

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Department of the Environment and Heritage	8,600	1,565	-	-
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide total funding of \$23.4 million over three years for activities arising from the implementation of the Representative Areas Programme from 1 July 2004. The Representative Areas Programme will increase the size of 'no take' fishing areas from less than 5 percent to 33 percent of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to better protect the Reef and its biodiversity. More than half the cost of this measure (\$13.2 million over three years) is being fully absorbed from within the existing resources of the Natural Heritage Trust.

A structural adjustment package will be provided to assist eligible commercial fishers and others adversely affected by the implementation of the Representative Areas Programme. This will involve funding of \$8.6 million in 2004-05 and \$1.6 million in 2005-06. Eligibility criteria are being developed in consultation with the fishing industry and communities.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority will undertake additional enforcement and compliance activities to implement the Representative Areas Programme at a cost of \$2.9 million in 2004-05, \$2.9 million in 2005-06 and \$3.0 million in 2006-07. The cost of this element is being fully absorbed within the existing resources of the Natural Heritage Trust.

The Government will also provide funding of \$2.2 million in 2004-05, \$1.9 million in 2005-06 and \$0.3 million in 2006-07 to educate and inform the public, tourists and industry about the new Representatives Area Programme. The cost of this element is being fully absorbed within the existing resources of the Natural Heritage Trust.

Natural Heritage Trust Extension

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Department of the Environment and Heritage	-	-	-	300,000

The Government will provide \$300 million to extend the Natural Heritage Trust for a further year to 2007-08. The Natural Heritage Trust was established by the Australian Government in 1997 to invest in the restoration and conservation of Australia's environment and natural resources. This funding will increase the Government's total investment in the environment through the Natural Heritage Trust to \$3 billion.

Protecting biodiversity

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Department of the Environment and Heritage	-	-	-	-

The Government has made provision in the contingency reserve for funding in 2003-04 for biodiversity initiatives in Queensland and South Australia. This funding builds on the Government's existing commitments to protect biodiversity in Australia under the Natural Heritage Trust, and biodiversity in South-East Asia and the Pacific through the Regional Natural Heritage Programme.

St George's and St Paul's Cathedrals — restoration

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Department of the Environment and Heritage	-	-	-	-

The Government will provide \$5.5 million in 2003-04 for the restoration of St George's Cathedral in Perth (\$3 million) and St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne (\$2.5 million). This funding will support efforts to repair and preserve these heritage buildings. Funding for St Paul's Cathedral is in addition to funding of \$2.5 million provided in 2001-02.

WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT MEASURE

Budget estimates — enhanced quality and timeliness

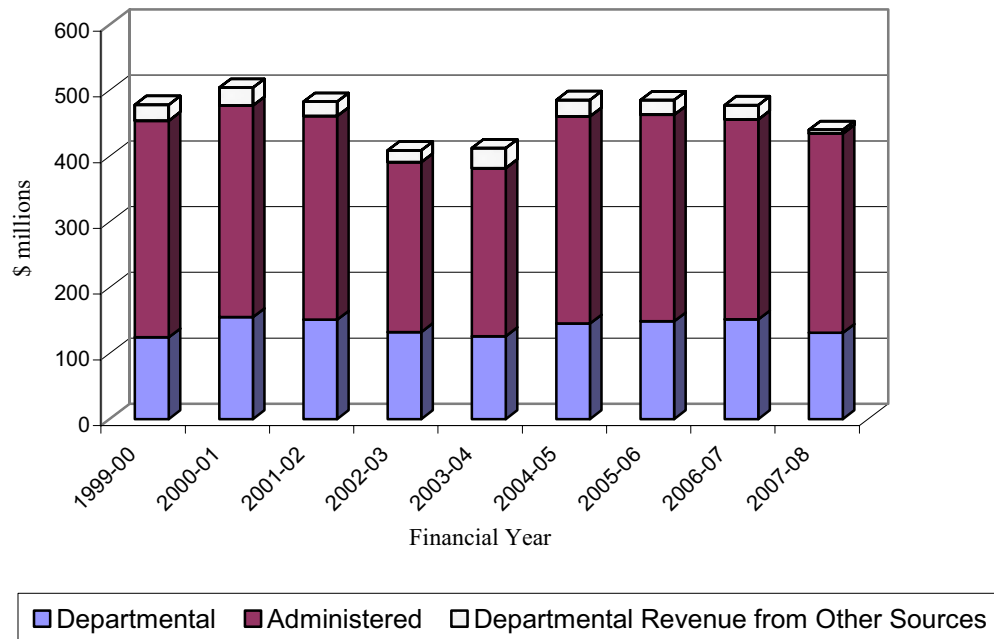
The Government will provide \$88.5 million over four years (including \$24.8 million in 2003-04) to implement the Budget Estimates and Framework Review recommendations that were endorsed by the Government in 2002. This amount includes \$1.4 million in capital funding.

Provision for this purpose was made in the Contingency Reserve in the 2003-04 Budget pending consideration of funding for individual agencies.

(Refer 2004-05 Budget Paper No. 2 for further details. The 2003-04 Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements also provided details in relation to the funding for this initiative.)

TRENDS IN RESOURCING ACROSS OUTCOMES

CHART 8: TRENDS IN RESOURCES FOR OUTCOME 1 – Administered, Departmental Outputs and Departmental Revenue from Other Sources (\$m)



This graph shows the trends in resources allocated to Outcome 1 Environment from the period 1999-2000 to 2004-05, and the forward estimates through to 2007-08.

OUTCOME 1 – RESOURCING

Table 2.1.1 shows how the 2004-05 Budget appropriations translate to total resourcing for Outcome 1, including administered expenses, revenue from Government (appropriation), revenue from other sources, and the total price of outputs.

TABLE 2.1.1 – TOTAL RESOURCES FOR OUTCOME 1

	Estimated Actuals 2003-04 \$'000	Budget Estimate 2004-05 \$'000
ADMINISTERED APPROPRIATIONS		
Special Appropriation		
Natural Heritage Trust Interest (1)	22,513	18,836
Sub-total Special Appropriation	22,513	18,836
Annual appropriations		
Bill 1 Grants and other payments		
Grants-in-Aid – National Trust	821	822
NEPC Service Corporation	429	429
Australian Biological Resources Study Participatory Grants	1,839	1,827
Natural Heritage Trust Appropriation Revenue (1)	134,777	302,607
Conservation of Rural and Regional Historic Hotels	1,138	0
St George’s Cathedral, Perth	3,000	0
St Paul’s Cathedral, Melbourne	2,550	0
Payment to National Cultural Heritage Account (1)	175	185
Regional Natural Heritage Program	772	4,228
Great Barrier Reef – Representative Areas Programme	0	8,005
Sub-total Appropriation Bill 1	145,501	318,103
Bill 2 Specific Payments to the states and territories		
Goondiwindi Serpentine Water Park	530	0
Boat Harbour and Sisters Beach Sewerage Scheme	1,000	1,000
Sub-total Appropriation Bill 2	1,530	1,000
TOTAL ADMINISTERED APPROPRIATIONS	169,544	337,939
Estimated payments from Special Account balances (2)		
Natural Heritage Trust of Australia	250,000	310,000
Ozone Protection and Synthetic Greenhouse Gas Account	840	2,870
National Cultural Heritage Account	185	185
Total estimated payments from Special Accounts	251,025	313,055

(1) Administered Special Appropriation expenses are also shown in *Table 1.5 Estimates of Expenses from Special Appropriations page 29*. Administered expenses from Special Accounts also appear in *Table 1.6 Estimates of Special Account Flows and Balances pages 30-31*.

TABLE 2.1.1 – TOTAL RESOURCES FOR OUTCOME 1 – *continued*

	Estimated Actuals 2003-04 \$'000	Budget Estimate 2004-05 \$'000
DEPARTMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS		
Output 1.1 - Atmosphere	13,874	14,723
Output 1.2 - Biodiversity	19,683	19,050
Output 1.3 - Coasts	3,098	6,425
Output 1.4 - Environmental Assessment and Approvals	12,206	12,230
Output 1.5 - Heritage	15,008	22,385
Output 1.6 - Human Settlements	23,581	22,498
Output 1.7 - Inland Waters	6,614	6,531
Output 1.8 - Land Management	3,046	2,850
Output 1.9 - Parks and Reserves	38,433	38,863
Non Attributable to Outputs ⁽¹⁾	1,116	0
TOTAL REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT (Appropriations)	136,659	145,555
<i>Contributing to Price of Departmental Outputs</i>	<i>81.8%</i>	<i>85.3%</i>
REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES ⁽²⁾		
Output 1.1 - Atmosphere	3,170	0
Output 1.2 - Biodiversity	7,118	5,438
Output 1.3 - Coasts	1,792	2,567
Output 1.4 - Environmental Assessment and Approvals	1,268	175
Output 1.5 - Heritage	1,675	870
Output 1.6 - Human Settlements	5,029	4,471
Output 1.7 - Inland Waters	5,818	6,662
Output 1.8 - Land Management	3,388	3,904
Output 1.9 - Parks and Reserves	565	262
Non attributable to outputs ⁽¹⁾	654	673
TOTAL REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES	30,477	25,022
TOTAL PRICE OF DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUTS	167,136	170,577
DEPARTMENTAL SPECIAL ACCOUNTS	0	0
TOTAL ESTIMATED RESOURCING FOR OUTCOME 1 <i>(Total price of outputs and administered appropriations)</i>	336,680	508,516

(1) Corporate services provided by the Department of the Environment and Heritage to the Australian Greenhouse Office and the National Oceans Office for the full year and the Australian Heritage Commission for the period 1 July 2003 to 31 December 2003. Corporate services component for the Director of National Parks is reflected under Output 1.9.

(2) Includes revenue from other sources (sales of goods and services)

AVERAGE STAFFING LEVEL (NUMBER)	2003-2004	2004-2005
Outcome 1 – Environment	834.0	884.0
* <i>Staff supporting the Director of National Parks not included in departmental staff numbers</i>	<i>287.0*</i>	<i>275.0*</i>