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Financial summary

A surplus result was achieved for 2007–08 due largely to lower than expected depreciation expenditure, caused by delays in some major capital works.

Overall, income for 2007–08 was up by seven per cent against budget and expenditure was up by six per cent against budget. An analysis of the variances is in Table 1.

Table 2 and Figure 3 summarise income and expenses information for the Director of National Parks. Audited financial statements are in Chapter 8 of this report.

Management of marine protected areas is undertaken by the Marine Division and the Australian Antarctic Division under delegation from the Director, is funded separately, and is excluded from this financial summary.

Table 1: Analysis of variance against budget

Business area	Income	Expenses
Jointly managed parks	Up \$1.1 million due to insurance recoveries relating to damage caused by Cyclone Monica and flooding in Kakadu; and a revised estimate of resources received free of charge from the Department	Up \$2.1 million due to additional expenditure on Kakadu mine site rehabilitation delayed from 2006–07 as a result of flooding in Kakadu; additional expenditure relating to damage caused by Cyclone Monica and flooding in Kakadu; increased operational costs particularly repairs and maintenance of assets; and an increased estimate of resources received free of charge from the Department offset by depreciation expenditure being less than expected due to delay in some major capital works
Other parks and reserves	Up \$1.8 million primarily due to additional project-related funding; insurance recoveries for property damage; some additional revenue from fees and charges; and a revised estimate of resources received free of charge from the Department	Up \$0.6 million due to expenditure related to extra project-related funding; increased water and electricity costs at the Australian National Botanical Gardens; and an increased estimate of resources received free of charge from the Department
Governance, corporate services and executive	Up \$1.4 million due to greater than expected interest revenue as a result of delayed operating expenditure and capital works; additional project-related funding; and a revised estimate of resources received free of charge from the Department	Up \$0.6 million due to expenditure related to extra project-related funding; and an increased estimate of resources received free of charge from the Department

Table 2: Overview of financial results

		2007 Actuals \$000s	2008 Actuals \$000s	2008 Budget \$000s	2008 Variance \$000s
Jointly managed parks ^(a)	Income	39,768	38,550	37,426	1,124
	Expenses	(37,647)	(39,497)	(37,426)	(2,071)
	Surplus/(Deficit)	2,121	(947)	0	(947)
Other terrestrial parks and reserves ^(b)	Income	15,092	16,381	14,596	1,785
	Expenses	(14,642)	(15,220)	(14,596)	(624)
	Surplus/(Deficit)	450	1,161	0	1,161
Total for terrestrial parks and reserves	Income	54,860	54,931	52,022	2,909
	Expenses	(52,289)	(54,717)	(52,022)	(2,695)
	Surplus/(Deficit)	2,571	214	0	214
Governance, corporate services and executive ^(c)	Income	8,133	8,097	6,726	1,371
	Expenses	(7,003)	(7,329)	(6,726)	(603)
	Surplus/(Deficit)	1,130	768	0	768
Total for Director of National Parks	Income	62,993	63,028	58,748	4,280
	Expenses	(59,292)	(62,046)	(58,748)	(3,298)
	Surplus/(Deficit)	3,701	982	0	982

(a) Kakadu, Uluru-Kata Tjuta and Booderee National Parks

(b) Includes Calperum and Taylorville Stations which are not formal reserves

(c) Governance, corporate services and executive includes administration for Parks Australia North and Parks Australia South, finance, legal, insurance, planning, interest income and bank charges



Figure 3: Income and expenditure 2007–08



Commonwealth reserves system summary

The Commonwealth protected area estate as declared under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* comprised, at 30 June 2008, seven Commonwealth terrestrial reserves (national parks, botanic gardens) and 26 Commonwealth marine reserves (marine parks, marine reserves, nature reserves).

The terrestrial reserves are managed by Parks Australia which assists the Director in carrying out the Director’s responsibilities. Of the 26 marine reserves, 25 are managed by the Marine Division of the Department under delegation from the Director while management of the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve is delegated to the Australian Antarctic Division.

Table 3 provides an overview of individual reserves for 2007–08 and Table 4 shows a five-year overview of financial, staffing and area information for Commonwealth terrestrial and marine reserves

Table 3: Overview of individual reserves in 2007–08

Reserve name	Area (hectares)	Year declared	IUCN Category (a)	Operating cost (\$000s)	Capital expenditure (\$000s)	External revenue (\$000s)	Payment to traditional owners (\$000s)
Jointly managed national parks							
Booderee National Park (p 62)	6,379	1992	II	6,909	814	1,231	493
Kakadu National Park (p 101)	1,979,767	1979	II	20,554	2,141	1,217	1,627
Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park (p 139)	132,566	1977	II	12,034	11,207	7,414	1,951
Other Commonwealth terrestrial reserves							
Australian National Botanic Gardens (p 62)	85	1991	IV	9,422	473	670	
Christmas Island National Park (p 90)	8,719	1980	II	3,468	96	1,809	
Norfolk Island National Park and Botanic Garden (p 119)	656	1986	II	971	607	7	
Pulu Keeling National Park (p 129)	2,602	1995	II	673	46	17	
Commonwealth marine reserves (b)							
Ashmore Reef National Nature Reserve (p 164)	58,337	1983	Ia	50			
Cartier Island Marine Reserve (p 171)	17,238	2000	Ia	0			
Cod Grounds Commonwealth Marine Reserve (p 175)	314	2007	Ia	103			
Coringa–Herald National Nature Reserve (p 180)	885,249	1982	Ia	203			
Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs Marine National Nature Reserve (p 188)	187,726	1987	Ia	10			
Great Australian Bight Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters) (p 192)	1,937,162	1998	VI	173			
Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve (p 197)	6,465,845	2002	Ia	63			
Lihou Reef National Nature Reserve (p 204)	843,670	1982	Ia	0			
Lord Howe Island Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters) (p 208)	300,287	2000	IV	52			
Macquarie Island Marine Park (p 239)	16,189,466	1999	IV	3			
Mermaid Reef Marine National Nature Reserve (p 212)	53,987	1991	Ia	132			
Ningaloo Marine Park (Commonwealth Waters) (p 216)	243,513	1987	II	170			
Solitary Islands Marine Reserve (Commonwealth Waters) (p 221)	15,233	1993	VI	93			
South-east Commonwealth Marine Reserve Network (p 225)	22,646,048	2007	VI	449			

(a) The IUCN Protected Area classification system comprises seven management categories, not all of which have been applied to reserves declared under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Sections of some reserves are zoned a different IUCN category from the reserve as a whole, to reflect the management strategy for those sections

(b) In addition to the operating costs for each reserve, \$729,524 was spent across the 25 marine reserves managed by the Marine Division on professional services, permits and performance assessment systems, training, communications, workshops and conference attendance, surveillance and enforcement activities.



Table 4: Five-year overview of terrestrial and marine Commonwealth reserves

	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08
Staffing resources (Full-time equivalents)					
Management of terrestrial reserves	288.0	263.8	274.5	270.6	274.0
Management of marine reserves ^(a)	12.0	12.6	15.3	17.5	16.3
Area of Commonwealth reserves (hectares)					
Terrestrial reserves area (number of reserves)	2,131,407 (7)	2,131,407 (7)	2,131,407 (7)	2,130,774 ^(b) (7)	2,130,774 (7)
Marine reserves area (number of reserves)	24,245,378 (13)	24,245,378 (13)	27,245,378 (13)	27,245,678 (14)	49,844,075 (26)
Visitors to Commonwealth terrestrial reserves					
Number of visitors	1,357,005	1,394,087	1,430,515	1,485,727	1,466,560
Safety incidents recorded (including staff and visitors etc. see page 253)					
Minor injury or near miss	139	163	156	157	141
Moderate injury	47	58	68	47	63
Major injury	23	16	12	3	6
Death	1	1	1	0	1
EPBC Act compliance and enforcement (see page 254)					
Incidents detected	155	371	243	372	197
Warnings and cautions issued	107	252	195	287	131
Infringement notices issued		4	9	38	59
Cases taken to court	3	13	7	17	3
Court convictions	3	3	5	13	3
Court cases pending at year end	4	10	2	4	2
Financial Summary – terrestrial reserves (\$ millions)					
Operations					
Total operating expenditure ^(c)	57.56	58.69	56.85	59.29	62.05
Total operating revenue ^(d)	53.02	58.53	59.02	62.99	63.03
Financial Position					
Current assets ^(e)	4.06	10.84	21.80	19.51	28.50
Non-current assets	106.31	137.20	138.90	139.11	149.33
Current liabilities	8.44	10.21	15.38	9.47	9.77
Non-current liabilities	3.03	1.19	0.45	0.58	0.64
Total Equity	98.91	136.63	144.87	148.57	167.42
Financial Summary – marine reserves (\$ millions)^(a)					
Operations					
Total operating expenditure	1.98	2.53	3.58	5.53	4.51
Total operating revenue ^(d)	1.98	2.53	3.58	5.53	4.51

- (a) Funding for management of Commonwealth marine reserves and associated staffing is provided by DEWHA and is not reflected in the financial statements for the Director of National Parks. Increases are associated with the establishment of 13 new reserves in the South-east Commonwealth Marine Reserve Network. See page 225
- (b) The area of Kakadu was adjusted in 2007, taking into account more accurate survey data provided by the Northern Territory Government. This figure includes a number of old mining leases in the south of Kakadu, incorporated into the park in May 2007
- (c) Also includes governance, corporate services, executive and the management contract for Calperum and Taylorville Stations which are not Commonwealth reserves
- (d) Includes revenue from all sources including appropriations and externally raised revenue
- (e) Current assets at the end of 2007-08 includes \$16 million committed to projects to be completed in 2008-09 and \$8 million for supplier and employee related liabilities





The crystal clear waters of Booderee National Park attract thousands of visitors each year