

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

See table

Question on notice

Tuesday, 10 March 2015

2845. Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment.

- (1) How many sick, diseased, injured or abandoned fauna were removed from Barrow Island for treatment and rehabilitation on the mainland (please identify species) in:
- (a) 2014;
 - (b) 2013;
 - (c) 2012; and
 - (d) 2011?
- (2) For each of the years in (1), how much funding was provided for treatment and rehabilitation of Barrow Island fauna on the mainland (please specify each funding source, the organisation and the organisation/person to which funding was provided)?
- (3) For each of the years in (1), how many of these fauna (please identify species):
- (a) died or were euthanised while in care;
 - (b) were subsequently released on the mainland; and
 - (c) were subsequently kept pursuant to a licence (please specify licence type, for example; educational purposes, scientific purposes, other approved public purposes)?
- (4) Has there been an evaluation of the level of success regarding the release of Barrow Island fauna on the mainland after treatment and rehabilitation?
- (5) If no to (4), why not?
- (6) If yes to (4):
- (a) when was the evaluation done;
 - (b) who did the evaluation;
 - (c) what were the conclusions of the evaluation;
 - (d) where can a copy of the evaluation be publicly accessed; and
 - (e) if the evaluation cannot be publicly accessed, why not?
- (7) How many sick, diseased, injured or abandoned fauna were cared for on Barrow Island (please identify species) in:
- (a) 2014;
 - (b) 2013;
 - (c) 2012; and
 - (d) 2011?
- (8) For each of the years in (7), how much funding was provided for treatment and rehabilitation of these fauna on Barrow Island (please specify each funding source, the organisation/person to which funding was provided)?
- (9) For each of the years in (7), how many of these fauna (please identify species):
- (a) died or were euthanised while in care;
 - (b) were subsequently released on Barrow Island; and
 - (c) were subsequently kept (whether on Barrow Island or elsewhere) pursuant to a licence (please specify licence type, for example; educational purposes, scientific purposes, other approved public purposes)?
- (10) Do the annual environmental performance reports for the Gorgon project

specify cause of death of vertebrate fauna casualties?

(11) If no to (10), why not?

(12) On what basis does Chevron Australia make the decision as to whether an animal is cared for or euthanised?

(13) Did the Department of Environment provide advice to Chevron regarding the procedures and documents to guide the decisions on whether to care for or euthanise animals?

(14) If no to (13), why not?

Answer

The Minister for Environment has provided the following response.

- (1) [See Tabled Paper No. #].
- (2) Parks and Wildlife have not provided any funding for treatment and rehabilitation of Barrow Island fauna on the mainland. Chevron Australia has paid for any minor invoiced bills (i.e. veterinary bills).
- (3) [See Tabled Paper No. #].
- (4) No
- (5) Two birds have been removed from Barrow Island for treatment on the mainland (see Table 1) and have subsequently been released. Because of the very low number, there has not been a need to evaluate the success of releases, and it is difficult to track birds upon release. A Spectacled Hare Wallaby has also been removed from barrow and is being housed at Kanyana Wildlife Centre and will not be released.
- (6) Not applicable
- (7) [See Tabled Paper No. #].
- (8) Parks and Wildlife have not provided any funding for treatment and rehabilitation of Barrow Island fauna on Barrow Island. Parks and Wildlife have, however, provided operational support on Barrow Island when dealing with sick, injured, diseased and abandoned fauna. Chevron staff and contractors have maintained all operational responsibility for treatment and rehabilitation of fauna on Barrow Island.
- (9) [See Tabled Paper No. #].
- (10) No
- (11) The Gorgon project is required to comply with its Ministerial Conditions. The conditions require the Gorgon project to implement procedures in relation to and protocols for capturing, relocating, handling, housing, caring for and reporting to Parks and Wildlife threatened or listed fauna found within the

Terrestrial Disturbance Footprint. Table 7-1 in the Gorgon Gas Development and Jansz Feed Gas Pipeline Terrestrial and Subterranean Environment Protection Plan outlines the reporting commitments with respect to fauna incidents. Threatened or listed fauna cared for, injured, or killed within the Terrestrial Disturbance Footprint are to be reported to Parks and Wildlife in the Annual Performance Report. This plan is publicly available on Chevron Australia's website.

- (12) The Gorgon project is required to comply with its Ministerial Conditions. Section 3.3 of the Fauna Handling Common User Procedure outlines Chevron's assessment process with respect to discovery of sick, injured, orphaned, entangled, stranded or dead fauna. This procedure is available on Chevron Australia's website.
- (13) Yes. Chevron Australia was required to consult with Parks and Wildlife during the development of the Fauna Handling Common User Procedure. Parks and Wildlife approved the procedure prior to the procedure being implemented by Chevron Australia, details of this consultation is contained within the Procedure. Parks and Wildlife reserves officers on Barrow Island are regularly consulted by Chevron Australia in relation to fauna management issues, including assessments of fauna that are sick, injured, diseased or abandoned and the decision to care for or euthanase fauna. This consultation occurs via fortnightly meetings as well as notification to Parks and Wildlife in each instance of fauna held in care.
- (14) Not applicable

A handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'A' and 'J' in a cursive, stylized font.

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Species	2011						2012					
	Cared for on BWI			Cared for off BWI			Cared for on BWI			Cared for off BWI		
	Released	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	Removed off Island	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	Released	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	Removed off Island	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence
Boodie												
Bridled tern												
Brown Falcon												
Burrowing Bettong												
BWI Boodie							2					
BWI Euro								1				
BWI Golden Bandicoot		1					2	1				
BWI Spectacled Hare-wallaby				1				1				
Common Rock-rat							1					
Lesser Crested Tern								1				
Little Tern												
Nankeen Kestrel								1				
Nankeen night heron		1										
Northern Brush-tailed Possum		1										
Sharp-snouted Delma												
Silver Gull		1										
Singing Honeyeater												
Spinifexbird							1					
Stimson's Python		1										
Water Rat												
Wedge-Tailed Shearwater										1		
Welcome Swallow	1											
White-Breasted Wood Swallow												
TOTAL	1	5	0	1	0	0	6	5	0	0	1	0

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Species	2013						2014						Total
	Cared for on BWI			Cared for off BWI			Cared for on BWI			Cared for off BWI			
	Released	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	Removed off Island	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	Released	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	Removed off Island	Died/ Euthanased	Kept under licence	
Boodie							1						1
Bridled tern													0
Brown Falcon					1								1
Burrowing Bettong							1						1
BWI Boodie	1												3
BWI Euro													1
BWI Golden Bandicoot	1						1	1					7
BWI Spectacled Hare-wallaby								1					3
Common Rock-rat													1
Lesser Crested Tern													1
Little Tern	1												1
Nankeen Kestrel							1						2
Nankeen night heron													1
Northern Brush-tailed Possum	4	3					3	1					12
Sharp-snouted Delma	1												1
Silver Gull		1					2						4
Singing Honeyeater	1												1
Spinifexbird								1					2
Stimson's Python													1
Water Rat		1											1
Wedge-Tailed Shearwater				1						1			3

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Welcome Swallow													1
White-Breasted Wood Swallow	1							2					3
TOTAL	10	5	0	1	1	0	9	6	0	1	0	0	52

Data for events not included in Table 1 include:

- fauna held temporarily, but not believed to be sick, diseased, injured or abandoned. For example:
 - fatigued fauna (e.g. storm blown seabirds)
 - fauna captured for relocation and held temporarily until dusk or dawn for release
 - fauna injured and immediately euthanased (not cared for for any period of time)
 - fledging birds (not sick, injured, diseased or abandoned) brought in for care and subsequent release.