



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Protect
Grow
Innovate

Annual Report 2024-25



Acknowledgment of Country

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country, the Aboriginal people of the many lands that we work on and their language groups throughout Western Australia, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waters. DPIRD respects the continuing culture of Aboriginal people and the contribution they make to the life of our regions and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Cultural sensitivity warning

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware this publication may contain images and names of people who are now deceased.

In some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, hearing recordings, seeing images or the names of deceased persons may cause sadness, distress or offend against cultural prohibitions.



Above: Director General Heather Brayford (middle) celebrates NAIDOC Week 2024 at DPIRD's Nash Street office with Brodie Kickett and Mental Health Commissioner Maureen Lewis

Cover photo: Senior Research Scientist Shuangxi Zhou undertaking trials at Northam as part of the Soil Water and Nutrition (SWAN) program testing novel and readily adoptable soil management approaches to increase water use efficiency.

Statement of compliance

For year ended 30 June 2025

The Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

Minister for Regional Development

and

The Hon Jackie Jarvis MLC

Minister for Agriculture and Food; Fisheries

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I hereby submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the annual report of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development for the reporting period ended 30 June 2025.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* and also fulfils reporting obligations under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* and *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945*.



Heather Brayford PSM

Director General

11 September 2025

Contact

Postal: Locked Bag 4, Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983

Street address: 1 Nash Street, Perth 6000

Internet: dpird.wa.gov.au

Email: enquiries@dpird.wa.gov.au

Telephone: +61 1300 374 731

ISSN 2209-3427 (Print)

ISSN 2209-3435 (Online)

Creative Commons Licence

The DPIRD annual report is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial 4.0 International Licence.

You are free to reuse the work under that licence on the condition that you attribute the State of Western Australia ([Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development](#)) as an author; indicate if changes were made; and otherwise comply with these licence conditions.

License URL: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

Attribution: © Copyright State of Western Australia ([Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development](#)) 2025

Notice identifying other material and/or rights in this publication:

The Creative Commons licence does not apply to the DPIRD logo or the State Coat of Arms.

Permission to reuse the logo must be obtained from DPIRD.

Feedback

We would like to receive any feedback you have on this report.

Feedback can be provided by completing the [feedback form](#) on our website or by emailing us at enquiries@dpird.wa.gov.au.

Copies of this document may be available in alternative formats upon request.

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, you can contact us through the National Relay Service:

- TTY or computer with modem users, phone 133 677
- Speak and listen users, phone 1300 555 727
- SMS relay, phone 0423 677 767

If you require the assistance of an interpreter, please contact us through Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) National on 131 450.

Contents

Overview.....	1
Director General's report.....	2
Year at a glance	4
Who we are.....	6
Agency performance.....	19
Report on operations – key achievements.....	20
Shared responsibilities with other agencies.....	39
Statement from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation	44
Financial targets and results	46
Performance management framework.....	50
Key performance indicator targets and results	51
Significant issues impacting the agency	55
Disclosures and legal compliance.....	59
Independent auditor's report.....	60
Financial statements	63
Additional key performance indicator information	154
Other financial disclosures.....	181
Additional disclosures	187
Other reporting requirements	204

Appendices	211
Appendix 1: Acronyms, initialisms and abbreviations	212
Appendix 2: Administered legislation	214
Appendix 3: Report from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation.....	215
Appendix 4: Breeding stock status, catch and effort ranges for Western Australia’s major commercial and recreational fisheries	235
Appendix 5: State register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases.....	255



Overview

Director General's report



It never ceases to amaze me the amount of important work our department and our people do across Western Australia.

Through our efforts protecting and growing our primary industries and regions, we touch all aspects of the community, including by supporting food supply, facilitating business growth, innovation and economic diversification, as well as sustaining the land and aquatic resources we all enjoy.

To ensure we can continue our influence and effectiveness, we must always aim to best position ourselves to meet the ever-evolving opportunities and challenges facing WA's primary industries and regions. To achieve this, we implemented key changes to our executive leadership and pillar structure and recruited for key positions this year.

This included establishing a dedicated Biosecurity and Emergency Management pillar recognising the need for a strong focus on biosecurity in the face of increasing pest and disease threats.

We also created new executive director positions and appointments within our Primary Industries Development (PID) pillar to elevate our important role in research and development (R&D). Our new structure will help ensure we can perform at our best and take the department confidently into the future.

On the incident response front, we continued to undertake the biggest single biosecurity program in our department's history for polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) to protect Perth's tree canopy and horticultural industries.

Despite the best efforts of staff and the community over the past few years, the National Management Group determined in June 2025 that it is no longer technically feasible to eradicate PSHB. DPIRD will now lead a national Transition to Management plan and work with industry, community and local government to limit the spread and impact of PSHB.

In other response efforts, we managed to eradicate the invasive pest browsing ant from WA after a 5-year nationally funded campaign stamped out infestations at 15 freight and transport premises, and we also responded to an outbreak of Queensland fruit fly (Qfly) in Perth's southern suburbs.

To ensure we are best placed to deal with biosecurity threats into the future, we opened the State Biosecurity Response Centre in November to effectively plan and deliver responses.

We also secured funding for a new metropolitan primary industries R&D facility and were close to finalising a suitable site by financial year end. Once in place, the facility will boost our already great work across the agriculture sector.

Key R&D highlights during the year included developing new and improved crop varieties and genomes, completing an upgrade of the Albany Shellfish Hatchery and supporting the development of Soluna juice from Bravo-branded apples.

Our collaboration with the Regional Development Commissions (RDCs) continued to produce excellent outcomes for the regions, including through administering the multi-billion-dollar Royalties for Regions Program.

Other initiatives included launching a 10-year strategy to guide agricultural development and future growth of the Ord River Irrigation Area; supporting new tourism infrastructure at the Abrolhos Islands; and continuing to facilitate regional mobile coverage and connectivity across the regions.

We also continued to demonstrate our credentials as leaders in sustainability. Our fisheries management and compliance efforts saw the reopening of the Cockburn Sound blue swimmer crab fishery, an extension of Roe's abalone fishing zone, and an increase in WA's herring stocks. On land, we remained focused on carbon farming and land restoration, including the regeneration of the Southern Rangelands.

Throughout all the work we do across the state, we look for opportunities to improve Aboriginal outcomes and progress reconciliation. A key achievement this year was the launch of our Aboriginal Heritage Management system to help ensure the work we do on Country considers potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage. We also launched our inaugural Aboriginal Workforce Strategy to increase Aboriginal representation in our workforce and established an Aboriginal Employee Alliance to help develop a culturally safe and inclusive working environment.

Also on the corporate front, we made very strong progress in addressing audit matters including a call-out by the Auditor General in April 2025 of the steps we had taken to address significant issues in a timely manner and return to a largely

compliant controls environment. This is off the back of strong resolve from our Corporate Services team.

To make it easier for people to access our services and information, we launched our new DPIRD website in May 2025. This was the culmination of several years' work consulting the business and external users. We also refreshed our Digital Library, an extensive repository of research undertaken by department staff.

This online presence shows off the breadth of valuable work we do, which is made possible by our passionate and talented group of people across WA. I want to thank our staff for another year of hard work and commitment to supporting our industries and regions. You should all be very proud of what you do.

I would also like to acknowledge the support of our Ministers where, following the 2025 State Election, we welcomed Stephen Dawson as Minister for Regional Development while Jackie Jarvis expanded her ministerial portfolios to Fisheries on top of Agriculture and Food. I would like to sincerely thank Minister Don Punch and his staff for their support and commitment to the Fisheries and Regional Development portfolios since 2021.

With the backing of our Ministers, I believe our department is now well positioned to progress our priorities and continue leading sustainable development of WA's regions and agriculture, aquaculture, food and fisheries sectors.

Regards



Heather Brayford PSM
Director General

Year at a glance



Disbursed **\$1.18 billion** towards **266 projects** through the Royalties for Regions (RfR) program to support economic, business and social development in regional WA, and administering an RfR commitment of \$4 billion over the forward estimates (p.27)



Opened the new **\$100 million State Biosecurity Response Centre** to support Western Australia's biosecurity operations (p.29)



Eradicated the invasive pest browsing ant from WA which could have become a significant horticultural, environmental and community pest (p.30)



Launched a **10-year strategy** to guide agricultural development and future growth of the **Ord River Irrigation Area** (p.28)



Completed a **\$3.1 million** upgrade of **Albany Shellfish Hatchery** to meet growing demand for edible oysters (p.38)



Reopened the Cockburn Sound blue swimmer crab recreational fishery for the **first time in 10 years** following comprehensive monitoring and assessment (p.25)



Launched a new **Bushfoods Business Support Service** to increase Aboriginal ownership in the bushfoods industry (p.28)



Provided over **\$7 million to 8 businesses** to support expansion and new product lines as part of the Value Add Investment Grants program (p.35)



Released a new triticale variety forage crop to help increase the profitability and sustainability of WA's livestock and grains industries (p.37)



Expanded regional mobile coverage by **tens of thousands of kilometres** to connect businesses and communities (p.33)



Welcomed cattle to Kununurra Research Station for the **first time in 25 years** as part of a **\$6 million Cropping Enabled Cattle** research project (p.38)



Celebrated **21 years of the Research Angler Program** that uses citizen science to support fisheries management (p.26)



Launched a **new DPIRD access and inclusion plan** to help make our information, services and facilities accessible to all (p.193)

Who we are

Enabling legislation

DPIRD was established on 1 July 2017 and operates under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

Our purpose

Enable enduring prosperity for all Western Australians through our work with regions and primary industries.

Responsible Ministers



The Hon Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for Regional Development



The Hon Jackie Jarvis MLC
Minister for Agriculture and Food; Fisheries

Our Strategy

Strategic Intent 2022–26

The Strategic Intent 2022–26 guides our work outlining our department's role, purpose, approach and priorities.

Our role

DPIRD leads sustainable development of WA's regions and agriculture, aquaculture, food and fisheries sectors.

We **unlock and guide economic opportunities** for these sectors and regions, balanced with the **stewardship of our land and aquatic resources**.

In everything we do we take the approach of:

- **Protect** through stewardship of our people, land and aquatic resources.
- **Grow** our primary industries and regions through balancing social, economic and environmental drivers.
- **Innovate** through a culture of inquiry and adaptation.

Our strategic outcomes

We draw on our grow, protect, innovate approach to deliver priorities under 3 outcomes areas:

1. Management and stewardship of our land and aquatic resources
2. Capable and empowered communities
3. Dynamic regions and primary industries

The Strategic Intent is guiding staff in their business planning, priority setting and decision making.

The 'Report on operations' section of this annual report is aligned to our strategic outcomes.

Our values

Our values guide our business, interactions with one another and our engagement with our stakeholders and the community. They help fuel DPIRD's purpose and strategic outcomes.

Our values are:

- Responding with purpose
- Acting with integrity
- Aspiring for a better future
- Embracing curiosity and creativity
- Working together

How we're delivering

Safeguarding WA from the risk and impact of biosecurity threats

DPIRD maintains WA's biosecurity system to minimise the risk and impact of pests and diseases on WA and to maintain the state's reputation as a producer of safe agrifood and seafood products.

We work with the Australian, state and local governments, industry bodies, producers and the community to protect our economy, environment and social values.

Supporting prosperous WA regional communities

DPIRD supports the development of WA's regions by contributing to their sustainable growth, diversification, job creation and thriving communities.

We work in partnership and collaboration with the 9 Regional Development Commissions and key government, industry, research and community stakeholders.

Supporting strong WA agriculture, aquaculture and food industries

DPIRD supports WA's agriculture, aquaculture and food industries by contributing to their sustainable economic growth through enhancing productivity, profitability, market access and resilience.

We partner with industry, government and research and development partners to build and integrate knowledge, drive international competitiveness and support industry growth.

Maximising the benefit of WA's natural land and aquatic resources

DPIRD manages WA's land and aquatic resources to conserve our ecosystems.

We work with key government, industry and community stakeholders to support the ecologically sustainable development of WA's land and aquatic resources.

Our primary industries

WA's primary industries, including agriculture, commercial fisheries and aquaculture, are WA's second largest export sector and provide most of the state's fresh food, including horticulture and meat products.

DPIRD estimates that the total economic value generated by WA's agriculture, forestry and fishing value chains is \$44.2 billion per annum (2023-24), creating close to 194,000 jobs along the entire value chain.

Primary producers (farmers/growers of grain, wool, meat, cattle, fruit, veg, dairy etc.) make up 23% of this value at nearly \$10.26 billion per annum (2023-24)¹.

Due to a small domestic market, most primary industries production, typically cereal grains, oilseeds and meat, is exported overseas to realise the economies of scale. The main markets include China and Japan.

Total primary industry exports from WA were around \$13.05 billion in 2023-24, with cereal grains representing 55% (\$7.3 billion), oilseeds 19% (\$2.4 billion) and meat and live export 16% (\$2.1 billion) of total exports².

1 Industry Economic Analysis, 2025, Employment (ABS)

2 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), 2024

3 David. C. Cook. Benefit cost analysis. Eradication of Queensland fruit fly, November 2024 incursion

4 GIWA Crop Report of February 2025

5 Local values local values represent farm gate values

6 ABS 2023-24. Date released: 12 June 2025

7 Radhakrishnan, M & Prince, R 2024. Value of horticulture in Western Australia

8 Food and beverage industry sales: Australian Industry, ABS 2024

WA is free from many pests, diseases and weeds that are present in many other parts of the world. Geographical isolation and a robust biosecurity system help maintain this status. WA's unique status allows for access to profitable international markets and is of particular importance given the export orientation of our state economy.

Our freedom from Queensland fruit fly avoids cost to numerous horticultural industries, with total cost savings of around \$20 million per year³.

Agriculture and food

Grains is the largest agricultural sector with the 2024 season crop covering an area of just over 8.3 million hectares producing an estimated 22.4 million tonnes⁴.

The state's sheep industry (meat and wool) had a local value⁵ of \$921.9 million in 2023-24⁶.

The state's cattle and dairy industries (cattle disposals and milk) had a local value of \$1.05 billion in 2023-24⁶.

The value of horticulture produce at the wholesale level was \$1.75 billion (update not available for 2023-24) in 2022-23⁷.

WA's growing food and beverage industry had a total sales and services value of around \$9.61 billion⁸.

Fisheries

WA has an extensive coastline that extends approximately 12,890 km (~20,780 km including islands). The total economic contribution of WA commercial fisheries and aquaculture is estimated at approximately \$1.39 billion (2023-24)⁹. WA's approximately 698,000 recreational fishers¹⁰ make a significant contribution to the state economy and support the economy in many regional towns.

The fishing industry had an export value of \$405 million in 2023-24¹¹, mainly from rock lobster.

⁹ REMPLAN input-output data with DPIRD modelling and analysis. This includes GVP data for commercial fisheries and aquaculture (including pearling) from DPIRD for 2023-24. The total economic contribution represents the aggregate economic value of seafood products and services generated by the commercial harvesting and production sectors. It reflects the economic impact created across all stages and processes from initial harvest and production through to final consumption by various stakeholders involved.

¹⁰ Annual community survey 2025

¹¹ AFFFI 2023-24

Working for our primary industries

DPIRD delivers knowledge, research, policy, regulation and compliance, and industry development capability to support the state's primary industries to grow and prosper for the benefit of both regional and metropolitan communities. DPIRD, in collaboration with WA's primary industries, and state and federal governments, is implementing a range of plans contributing to the government goal of diversifying the state's economy.

The plans include the:

- **Primary Industries Plan** – sets priorities for investment and establishes a platform for strengthened collaboration between government and primary industries
- **Aquaculture Development Plan** – provides realistic and achievable targets in the short, medium and long terms to build WA's aquaculture industry and assist local operators take advantage of the rising global demand for quality seafood.

Our regions

The regions are the integral starting point and foundation of WA's export-oriented economy.

They continue to play a crucial role in generating economic value, contributing approximately \$165 billion (36%)¹² of WA's Gross State Product (approximately \$455.7 billion), largely driven by the resources and primary industry sectors.

Populations across the regions have grown at a comparable rate with Perth. Approximately 742,110¹³ residents call regional WA their home, making up 25% of the state's population.

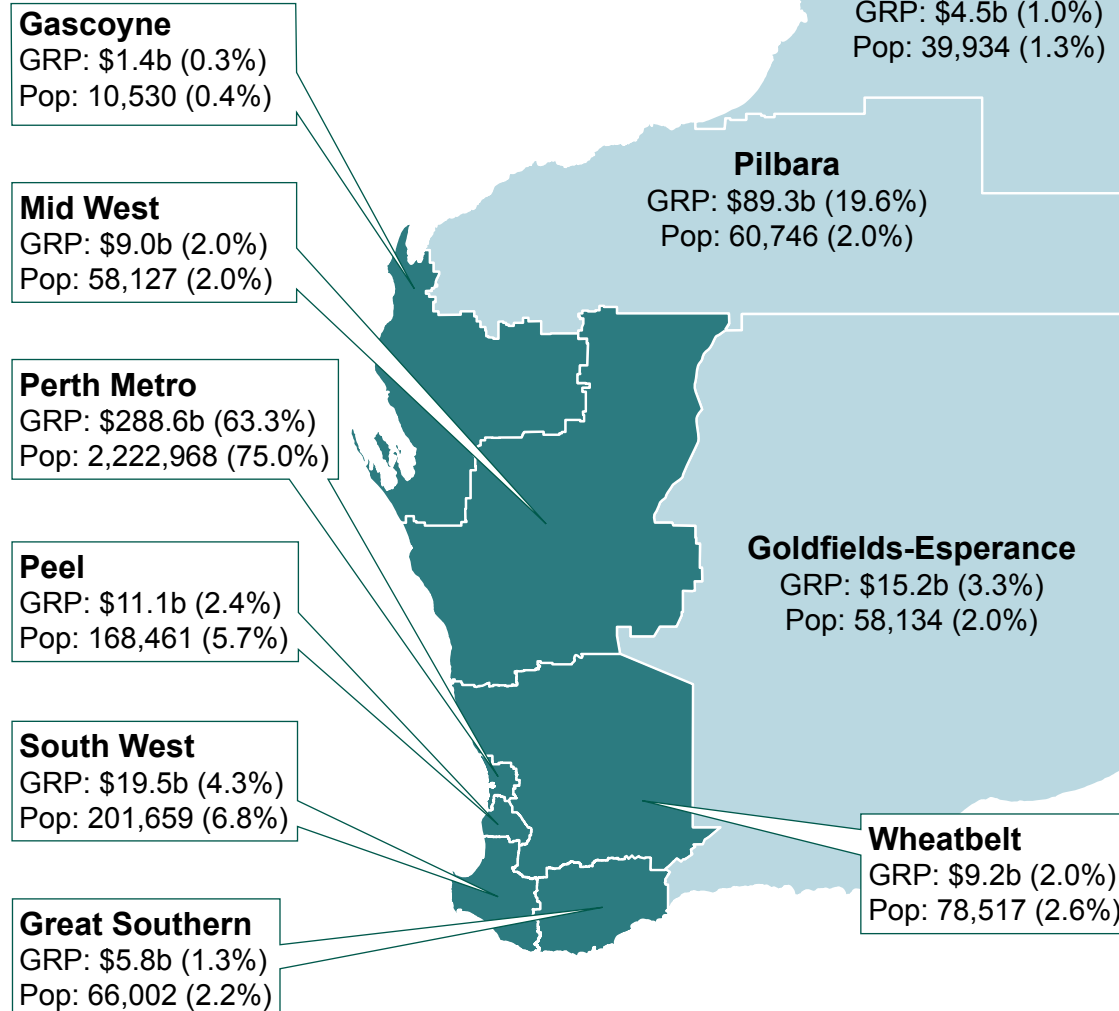
WA's regions are internationally renowned for hosting major industries like iron ore, grains, and livestock, along with significant and natural economic assets. Increasingly, our regions are also hosting renewable energy infrastructure to support the energy transition. Many of the state's merchandise exports and economic activity originate from production in regional areas.

¹² JTSI, WA Economic Profile, June 2025

¹³ REMPLAN, based on ABS Estimated 2024 population data (population)

Gross regional product (GRP)
= \$165 billion; 36% of GSP

Regional population
= 742,000; 25% of WA population



Source: JTSI, WA Economic Profile, June 2025 (GRP and population)

Working for our regions

DPIRD is the lead agency for statewide regional development, working collaboratively across all levels of government, regional industries and community organisations in the development and delivery of regional programs, policy and services. This role includes administering the Royalties for Regions Fund.

As part of the Regional Development Portfolio, DPIRD supports the state's 9 Regional Development Commissions (RDCs), the Regional Development Council, the WA Regional Development Trust, and the WA Regional Development Alliance to shape and advance the broader regional development agenda.

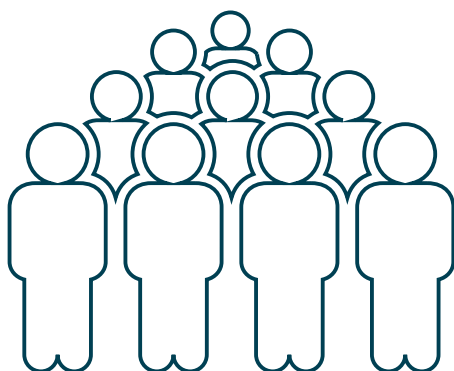
DPIRD plays a crucial role in the delivery of regional programs and services that prioritise livability and the capability and capacity of local businesses and investors in our regions. This focus strengthens local economies and builds a resilient, sustainable future for WA.

WA Regional Development
Framework vision –
That WA has sustainable,
vibrant and liveable regional
communities, supported by strong
and prosperous economies.

Our organisation

Staff and locations

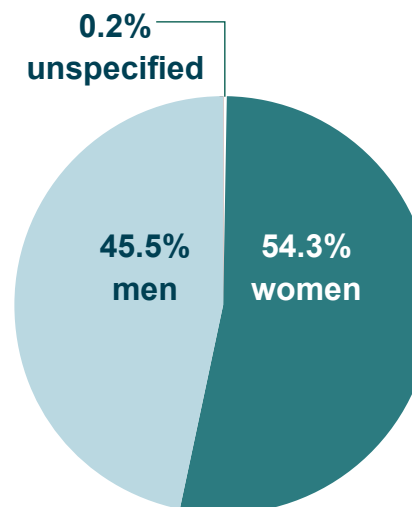
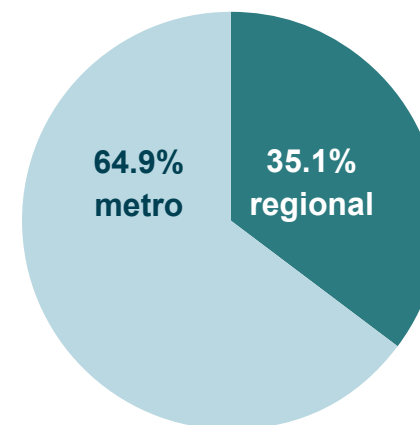
At 30 June 2025, DPIRD had:



1940.4 paid FTE staff
(includes 120.8 at RDCs)

At more than **60** locations

- **9** metropolitan offices and facilities
- **24** regional offices
- **12** research and aquaculture facilities
- **4** quarantine/checkpoint locations
- **19** RDC offices



Organisational structure

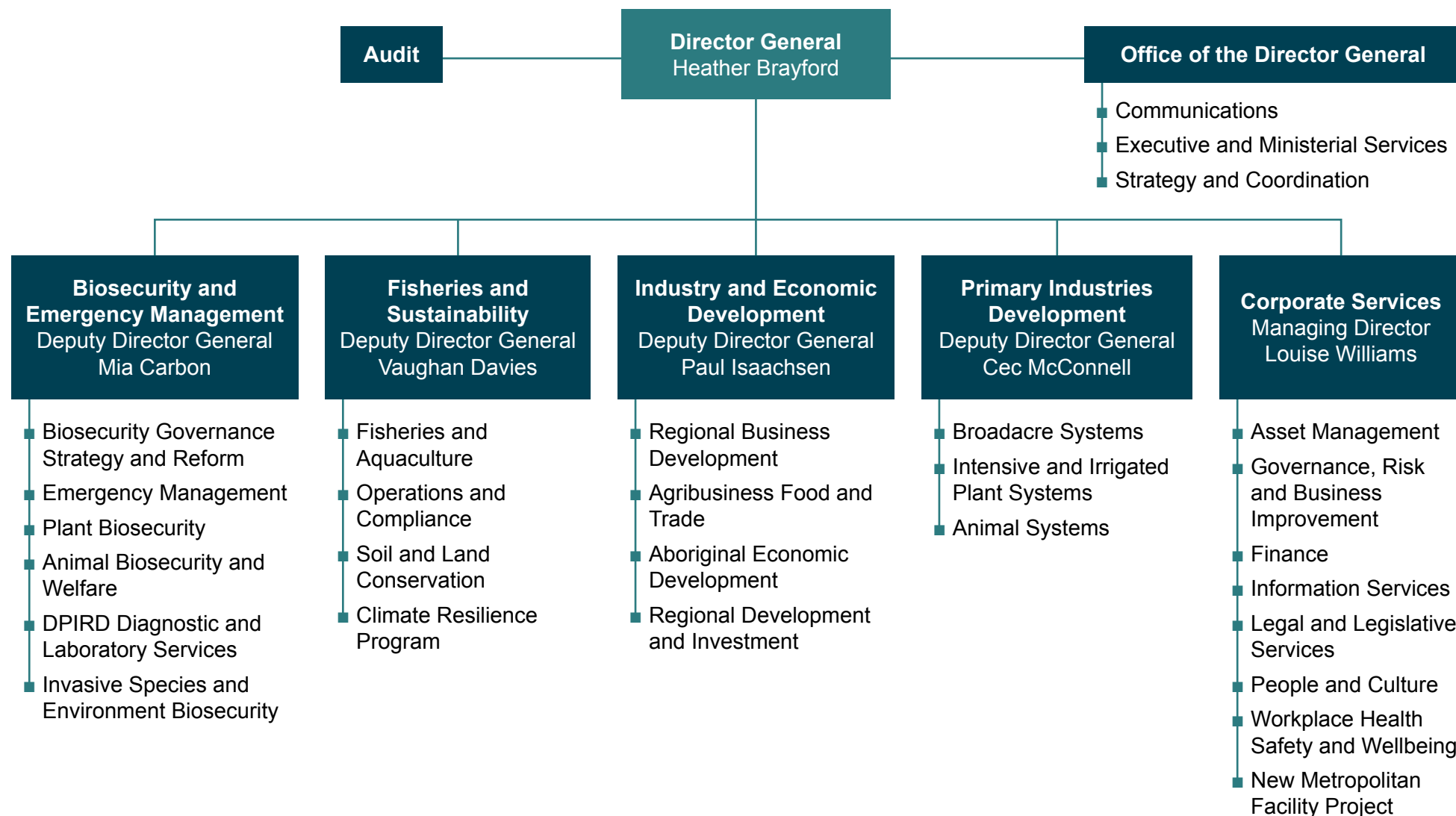


Figure 1: Organisational structure listing senior officers and key functions as at 30 June 2025

Senior officers



Heather Brayford PSM

Director General

BSc, MBA

Heather joined DPIRD in 2017 and was appointed Director General in November 2022. Prior to that Heather was Director General of the Department of Fisheries. Heather has extensive public sector experience in policy, regulation, industry development and natural resource management. Heather was a recipient of the 2020 Queen's Birthday Public Service Medal for outstanding public service to legislative reform and policy development in WA.



Mia Carbon

Deputy Director General

Biosecurity and Emergency Management

BSc (Hons), BSc BVMS (Hons), MBA

Mia has worked at DPIRD and the former Department of Agriculture and Food since 2012 in several senior leadership positions, including Executive Director Biosecurity and Chief Veterinary Officer of Western Australia. Mia was appointed to the new role of Deputy Director General Biosecurity and Emergency Management in January 2025. Mia has also held various roles in the veterinary industry and university sector.



Vaughan Davies
Deputy Director General
Fisheries and Sustainability

Vaughan joined DPIRD in January 2025 in the new position of Deputy Director General, Fisheries and Sustainability. Prior to that Vaughan worked in various leadership positions in local and state governments, including across regional Western Australia and Queensland. Most recently, Vaughan worked as an Assistant Director General at the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.



Paul Isaachsen
Deputy Director General
Industry and Economic Development
BA (Hons), LLB (Hons), MPP

Paul joined DPIRD in 2022 as an experienced public sector executive having previously spent several years in senior roles with the Department of Communities and Department of Regional Development. Paul has also worked for the Wunan Foundation in the East Kimberley, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in Canberra, and a private law firm.



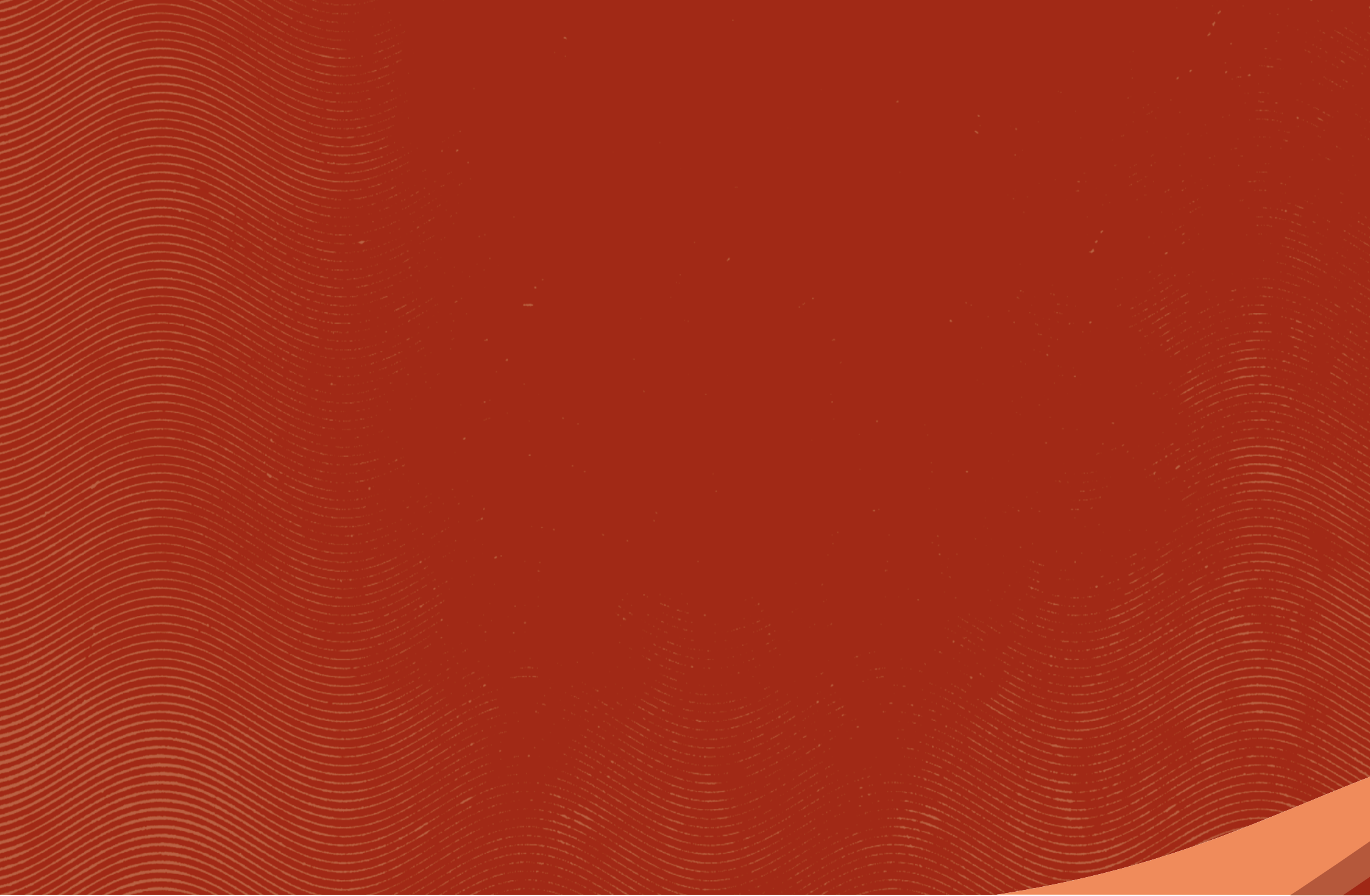
Cec McConnell
Deputy Director General
Primary Industries Development
BSc (Hons), GradDipMgt

Cec joined DPIRD's Executive team in 2020 when she was appointed as the Commissioner for Soil and Land Conservation. In 2022, Cec was appointed as the Deputy Director General, Primary Industries Development focused on driving research and development. Cec has previously held senior leadership roles with the Department of Agriculture and Food, including as a regional director based at Northam.



Louise Williams
Managing Director
Corporate Services
BComm, GAICD, GradCertBus

Louise commenced with DPIRD in 2022 as the Managing Director of Corporate Services with a career of more than 25 years spanning strategy, change management, human resources, organisational development and cultural transformation within the public sector. Before joining DPIRD, Louise held senior leadership and executive roles at Health Support Services and has also held previous senior roles with DPIRD and the Department of Fisheries.





Agency performance

Report on operations – key achievements

Management and stewardship of Western Australia's land and aquatic resources

We are focused on keeping our land and aquatic assets healthy and productive, now and into the future. We help build buoyant primary industries and a community that enjoys WA's natural resources responsibly, understanding that everyone has a role to play.

Management of a robust biosecurity system for the state supports our industries and businesses, our land and aquatic resources, and our enviable environment and lifestyle.

We help position our primary industries and regions to adapt to the challenges of climate change, staying productive and viable amid changing conditions.

Underpinning all that we do is a dedication to the health and longevity of the land and sea through a monitoring, management and compliance program that is risk based and research driven.

We protect WA every day.

Biosecurity management

DPIRD safeguards the state from the risks and impact from biosecurity threats to WA's people, environment, and economy. We are the front-line defence to incursions related to exotic animal and plant pests and diseases.

Our biosecurity prevention, detection, response and recovery services play an important role in maintaining market access for WA's food industry.

Stopping biosecurity risks at the border

Our Quarantine WA service continued its work to ensure WA maintained area freedom from many pests and diseases found in other states and territories.

In 2024-25, the team undertook 3,161,639 quarantine screenings of airline passengers, parcels, trucks, commercial trailers and rail-sea containers.

This work led to 410,721 quarantine inspections, including vehicles (153,455), airline passengers (4,945) and parcels (40,531). The inspections also included 129,648 lines of imported plant material and machinery and 26,999 interstate livestock.

The team's efforts resulted in a total of 58,697 kg of quarantine risk material, including 3,595 kg of honey, being surrendered at road and air checkpoints. This is a 7% increase on 2023-24.

Eighty-two significant pests and 87 prohibited organisms were intercepted during inspection activities.

Identifying ways to protect sheep and goat industry

DPIRD continued to assist the sheep and goat industry transition to the new mandatory national electronic traceability system, which will aid a rapid response to an emergency animal disease or food safety incident and support vital export market access.

More than 7 million discounted electronic identification (eID) tags have been sold – including 3.4 million in 2024-25 – under the WA Government's Tag Incentive Program, administered by DPIRD.

We also oversaw the state's eID Infrastructure Grants Scheme, enabling saleyards, abattoirs, export depots and feedlots to purchase, install and retrofit eID scanning equipment. Smaller grants have been allocated to community and grower groups to purchase scanning equipment for local use.

Additional staff will operate a helpdesk to assist sheep and goat producers to adopt the new system. Our staff will also provide on-the-ground assistance to downstream operators.

The WA eID system for sheep and goats comes into full operation on 1 July 2026.

Targeting pests through annual campaigns

Our department continued annual surveillance and eradication programs in 2024-25 to help the agriculture sector and WA community respond to pest threats.

To prevent the establishment of the European wasp in WA, we deployed more than 3,000 surveillance traps throughout the Perth metropolitan area and targeted regional locations. Officers located and removed 31 nests, most from the Perth metro region as well as 2 near Albany and Geraldton.

Over the 2024-25 summer, we targeted skeleton weed, a declared pest, by searching over 300,000 hectares of new and existing infested paddocks. In addition, we conducted more than 35,000 hectares of ground and aerial surveillance in areas not currently infested but in the spread path.

The skeleton weed program also offered farmers access to a tiny midge that feeds on the pest plant, as an additional control option.

The program's activities are funded by grain growers through the Grains, Seeds and Hay Industry Funding Scheme.

Our targeted surveillance programs for pests and diseases such as exotic fruit flies, arboviruses and screw worm fly provide data to support market access and trade for our livestock, broadacre and horticulture industries. Staff undertake extensive field work to gather surveillance data for these programs, and our diagnostic laboratories undertook 135,000 tests to demonstrate our freedom from these pests in 2024-25. As a result, DPIRD was able to issue 384 export certificates, which enable our primary industries to access valuable export markets.

Being prepared for significant threats

DPIRD also continued to deliver critical prevention and preparedness activities for key biosecurity threats to WA.

Our department worked closely with Australian, state and local governments and industry to prepare for and plan responses to several serious pests and diseases threats that could have a significant impact on WA's economy, communities and even human health.

In September 2024, we welcomed 6 specialist development officers to help prevent the bee pest varroa mite – now being managed in the eastern states – from establishing in WA.

The team, funded through the national Transition to Management Plan for varroa mite, complements DPIRD's statewide surveillance network and strict border control measures, by providing beekeepers with resources and training to detect and manage this pest.

In May 2025, we welcomed 3 additional field veterinarians to bolster efforts to protect WA's valuable livestock industry from serious disease threats, including foot-and-mouth disease and lumpy skin disease, which are present in neighbouring countries such as Indonesia.

As WA's hazard management agency for animal disease emergencies, our department is also playing a key role in national and state preparedness activities for a potential outbreak of H5 avian influenza, which has been spreading globally.

Land resource management

We support WA's diverse agricultural industries by facilitating sustainable management of the unique soil and water resources on which they rely. We work with key government, industry, and community stakeholders and draw on our research outcomes to support ecologically sustainable development and balance competing uses.

Building WA farming climate resilience

DPIRD is assisting Western Australian primary producers, agri-business and regional communities to build climate resilience, profitability and sustainability.

With support from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, the department commenced a program in 2024-25 to upskill primary producers on farm business planning and decision making. DPIRD also provided grants to RDCs to develop and implement Regional Drought Resilience Plans.

Additionally, we continued to lead the Primary Production Sectoral Adaptation Plan as part of the WA Government Climate Adaptation Strategy, holding 6 climate adaptation workshops for broadacre, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture and horticulture stakeholders to identify risks, opportunities and strategies for a changing climate.

In 2024-25, our Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program funded 6 revegetation and soil projects that shared in \$2.2 million, in return for 31,000 carbon credits – leveraging \$2.2 million in cash co-contributions over 10 years.

Through the Carbon for Vouchers Program, 10 applicants received vouchers to investigate carbon sequestration projects, with a further 7 pursuing self-funded projects.

Guiding the preservation of WA's rangelands

In 2024-25, DPIRD published a range of documents to support land managers, government agencies, advisers and administrators in the sustainable management of pastoral lands across WA.

The Southern Goldfields technical bulletin and Southern Rangeland Pasture Condition Guide incorporate years of work by DPIRD officers and provide expert advice in managing Southern Rangelands conditions.

The guides are available online and hard copies have been distributed at rangelands workshops in Kalgoorlie, Gascoyne Junction and Coral Bay.

The State and Transition Models for Mulga Rangelands in Western Australia report is the culmination of work between DPIRD and CSIRO and assists with condition assessment in relevant rangeland habitats. The report was based on a project that improved understanding of the characteristics and dynamics of mulga rangeland ecosystems and the expected impacts of management on these areas.

We also published our Pastoral land condition: Kimberley land condition standards that define acceptable pastoral land condition for the Kimberley region to meet regulatory requirements.

Aquatic resource management

Through our work we conserve, sustainably develop and share the use of WA's aquatic resources for the benefit of current and future generations. We undertake assessment and monitoring of fish stocks, manage fisheries and aquatic ecosystems, licence commercial and recreational fishing activities and provide compliance and education programs.

Our ecologically sustainable approach to the management of WA's fisheries is recognised globally, lifting the reputation of the state.

Recertifying the sustainability of WA fisheries

Two WA fisheries were recertified by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) in 2024-25, continuing the state's reputation as a world leader in fisheries sustainability.

WA's western rock octopus and sea cucumber fisheries retained the globally renowned sustainability credential thanks to the efforts of DPIRD's fisheries scientists in conducting annual surveillance audits and presenting stock assessments to prove the fisheries continued to be managed effectively in line with MSC requirements.

MSC certification, which represents global best practice, provides consumers with confidence about the sustainability of a fishery and allows commercial fishers to use the blue MSC 'eco-tick' label, paving the way for new export markets and job growth.

The 2 fisheries, which were first certified in 2019, have combined gross value of production of more than \$12 million.

More than 90% of WA's fishery value is from MSC-certified fisheries.



Management and stewardship of Western Australia's land and aquatic resources

DPIRD's Mark Pagano and Peter Mitchell show off one of the new fish aggregation devices (FADs)

Raising our stocks through sound research

DPIRD continued to lead the way in sustainable fisheries management underpinned by world-class science to provide more recreational fishing opportunities for Western Australians.

Ten years of DPIRD research into the blue swimmer crab stock in Cockburn Sound led to the reopening of the fishery to recreational fishers for the first time since 2014.

Our management of the West Coast Zone Roe's abalone fishery saw the area north of Moore River to Greenough River mouth reopen after being closed since 2011 due the impacts of marine heatwaves on stocks providing more opportunities to fish for abalone for the 2024-25 season.

Herring stocks continued to remain on track with the latest check-in by fisheries scientists showing stocks were in a healthy sustainable state, demonstrating the current management strategies continued to be effective.

We worked with industry to develop a set of guiding principles to ensure herring stocks remain at healthy levels while balancing recreational fishing opportunities with support for commercial fishing to supply seafood to the WA community.

Floating more options for recreational fishing

Recreational anglers had more opportunities to enjoy sport fishing during the year, with our department deploying dozens of fish aggregation devices (FADs), which are buoys or floats that attract fish.

In spring 2024, we deployed 30 FADs from Steep Point near Shark Bay to Albany and helped Perth Game Fishing Club deploy 6 metropolitan FADs.

Up north, we deployed 8 new-generation FADs off Broome and Dampier, which are robust enough to withstand the peak cyclone season. This allows them to be left in the water year-round to further enhance opportunities for recreational fishers.

These additional FADs are part of a \$1.5 million investment to expand the program to help anglers target large species like tuna, mahi mahi, marlin, sailfish, wahoo and Spanish mackerel.

Recreational fishers also benefited through Round 11 Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund grants, which provided \$1.88 million to 6 innovative projects to enhance WA experiences, including the Recfishwest-guided Statewide Safe Fishing Program.

Calling on citizen science

With WA's vast coastline and inland waterways, DPIRD continues to benefit from citizen science to help ensure fish populations are being well managed.

In 2024-25, our department celebrated 21 years of the Research Angler Program, where recreational fishers have collected and reported valuable fish data along WA's coastline. In this time, 556 fishers have recorded over 20,000 fishing trips and size measurements for more than 150,000 individual fish and invertebrates.

The year also marked 13 years' involvement in the national Redmap project where people are invited to spot marine species outside of their usual range as they move in response to warming oceans. Over 200 sightings have been reported.

Statewide surveys of boat-based recreational fisheries have been conducted since 2010, where more than 50,000 recreational fishers have voluntarily reported over 100,000 fishing trips and size measurements for more than 60,000 individual fish and invertebrates.

The Send Us Your Skeletons program, where fishers are encouraged to donate skeletons of certain species they have caught, has operated since 2010, with 92,000 frames donated by more than 3,000 recreational fishers.

This information improves DPIRD's understanding of how fishing and fish populations change over time, improving the quality of stock assessments.

Protecting resources through compliance

Eleven new fisheries and marine officers joined the DPIRD ranks in 2024-25 to help ensure recreational and commercial fishers continue to follow the rules and help preserve our state's aquatic resources.

During the year, Operations and Compliance teams conducted 4,282 land and sea patrols, leading to 34,167 inspections and 98,930 fisher contacts across the fishing and aquaculture sectors statewide. This is an increase on 2023-24, where 4,031 patrols were conducted resulting in 28,485 inspections and 83,305 fisher contacts. The teams also conducted 9,961 advice, liaison and education contacts in 2024-25.

Additionally, officers attended 324 locations and carried out 1,294 inspections in relation to animal welfare.

A total of 2,007 warnings and 1,443 infringements were issued, and 185 offences resulted in court convictions across animal welfare, fishing, and biosecurity legislation. The court fines and infringement penalties issued amounted to \$866,625.

Capable and empowered communities

We pull the levers that drive bustling, vibrant and sustainable regional communities where families and businesses can prosper. Each region's strength is in their uniqueness, and we help to capitalise on their points of difference. Our vision for Western Australia's future is one where Aboriginal businesses are flourishing, empowered by their place in the economy and the ability to drive their direction.

Our work is undertaken in partnership and collaboration with the 9 Regional Development Commissions and key government, industry and community stakeholders.

We are driven by shared success.

Thriving regional communities

We work across government and with communities to deliver funding, policy and programs that support thriving communities in WA's regions. Our work facilitates opportunities, creates connections and builds capability for local communities to prosper and local people to thrive.

Granting opportunities for regional growth

Our department continued to administer the Royalties for Regions Program, which disbursed \$1.18 billion towards 266 projects in 2024-25 to support economic, business and social development in regional WA.

This included working with the 9 RDCs to deliver Round 7 of the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program, which allocated a record \$10 million towards 78 locally driven projects to stimulate job creation and economic growth in the regions.

Round 7 grants will assist multiple industries and sectors, including manufacturing, agribusiness, tourism, the arts, land restoration, Aboriginal business development, disability services, childcare and telecommunications.

Supporting agricultural growth in the north

During the year, DPIRD released a 10-year strategy to guide agricultural development and future growth of the Ord River Irrigation Area.

The strategy's vision for 2024 to 2034 is to expand the area into a productive and sustainable farming region of up to 50,000 hectares, backed by value-add processing to create jobs and drive economic prosperity for the East Kimberley.

Development of the plan involved extensive consultation with key stakeholders, local industry, Traditional Owners, government agencies and community groups.

Cattle research is also recommencing in the north to develop opportunities for cattle system improvements.

Aboriginal empowerment

We partner with Aboriginal people to deliver economic and social outcomes that result in tangible change. We identify opportunities within our primary industries and regions and provide support to ensure they can be capitalised on.

Feeding Aboriginal business and career growth

DPIRD continued to support Aboriginal businesses and employment opportunities in 2024-25, including by launching the Bushfoods Business Support Service aimed at increasing Aboriginal ownership in the bushfoods industry.

The service was backed by the opening of the first-of-its-kind Aboriginal Bushfoods Business Base at the Peel region's Food Innovation Precinct WA, which includes space for workshops, meetings and events to showcase Aboriginal bushfood businesses to the wider food and beverage industry.

Following devastating floods in the Fitzroy Valley in 2023, we designed and delivered a bespoke recovery program for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), which has supported over 30 small Aboriginal businesses to participate in recovery works and grow their business since August 2024.

Additionally, we expanded the Aboriginal Pastoral Academy during the year to include the East Kimberley, creating livestock industry employment pathways for 20 young Aboriginal people annually across the East and West Kimberley programs.

Reeling in Aboriginal fisheries opportunities

Supporting Aboriginal commercial fishing rights remained a focus for DPIRD, including progressing efforts to establish an Aboriginal mud crab fishery in the Kimberley.

Our fisheries scientists worked with local Traditional Owner groups to undertake mud crab surveys to collate information on biology, species distribution and abundance to help fisheries managers develop appropriate trap allocations and sustainable management arrangements.

Scientists also delivered On Country training to Karajarri Rangers at Bidyadanga, south of Broome to explain sampling methods, scientific data collection for mud crabs and finfish, safety requirements and data recording.

Emergency response

We are the first responder to incursions and emergencies related to exotic animal and plant pests and diseases. We play an important role responding to shark incidents, aiding in economic recovery from natural disasters, and managing animal welfare in emergencies.

Building biosecurity response capability

DPIRD opened its new State Biosecurity Response Centre in November 2024, providing a modern base for WA's crucial biosecurity operations.

The WA Government committed \$100.3 million to the Canning Vale facility to house our incident response teams, diagnostics and laboratory services and other biosecurity staff to manage the increasing number of pest and disease threats and safeguard our state's valuable agricultural export industry.

The PSHB and Qfly response teams were the first to operate from the new centre, using the facility to effectively plan and execute the responses.

Planning is well advanced for the construction of modular buildings, including laboratories, workrooms and glasshouses, for diagnostics laboratory services and biosecurity operations.

Protecting urban tree canopy and horticulture industries

DPIRD continued its national biosecurity response program for polyphagous shot-hole borer to minimise the impact on Perth's tree canopy and help protect the state's horticultural industries.

Since August 2021, response staff have inspected more than 2.9 million trees on more than 125,000 properties, making it the biggest surveillance program in the department's history.

In June 2025, the National Management Group determined shot-hole borer was no longer technically feasible to eradicate from WA, and that the response would move into an 18-month nationally coordinated and funded transition to management phase, to be led by our department.

At 30 June 2025, the Transition to Management Plan was being finalised which will outline how shot-hole borer infestations will be managed to limit the spread and impact on healthy trees.

Research investment was also boosted with \$2.17 million provided through the WA Agricultural Research Collaboration for 3 projects that aim to improve detection, surveillance and control methods for shot-hole borer.

We will also continue to liaise with local governments and other stakeholders about ongoing chemical trials and any potential treatments that show signs of success in managing shot-hole borer.

Responding to pest and disease incursions

As well as dealing with shot-hole borer, our department worked hard to protect WA's primary industries through responses to several other pests and disease incursions.

We successfully eradicated browsing ant following a 5-year program along Perth's major transport corridors, while a campaign to remove African black sugar ant continues at Bibra Lake and surrounding areas.

Our Queensland fruit fly response team, based at the new State Biosecurity Response Centre, worked to eradicate an outbreak of the horticultural and garden pest from Perth's southern suburbs in November 2024. Field teams conducted more than 67,000 property visits and placed more than 10,000 lures in trees, alongside an extensive baiting and trapping program.

The Red Dwarf Honey Bee response team continued to collaborate with the community and stakeholders, including the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation, Woodside and Pilbara Ports, to eradicate the pest bee from the Pilbara.

An initiative to prevent starlings from establishing on the south-east coast has removed more than 215 pest birds.



Capable and empowered communities

DPIRD's Hannah Lintott and community member Lorraine Harrison inspecting and removing fruit from trees as part of the Willagee Qfly response

Mitigating shark hazards

Public safety at beaches and in rivers remained a priority, with DPIRD delivering several initiatives under the state's Shark Hazard Mitigation Strategy.

We rolled out beach emergency numbers (BEN) signs in the shires of Carnarvon, East Pilbara, Exmouth, Karratha and Shark Bay, as well as along the Swan River by Fremantle, Melville and Mosman Park councils. A total of 1,795 signs are now in the ground.

We also worked with the Shire of Esperance to replace the ageing Twilight Beach, West Beach and Kelp Beds automated shark warning towers to continue providing alerts of tagged shark activity in the area.

The wire trace fishing gear ban was extended to include Esperance Jetty and Busselton Jetty and foreshore area to address community concerns over shark fishing activities at the popular jetties.

The WA Government provided \$500,000 to the City of Fremantle for a new beach enclosure for Bathers Beach and \$400,000 to the Town of Cottesloe to replace a beach enclosure at Cottesloe Beach. The new Cottesloe enclosure was installed in November 2024, and the Bathers Beach enclosure is due to go in the water in October 2025.

Our department's white shark and bull sharking tagging programs continued to support public safety through monitoring shark activity. Twenty-three white sharks were tagged in 2024-25 and the first bull shark was tagged in the Swan Canning Estuary in December 2024.

Dynamic regions and primary industries

Through strategic planning and economic initiatives, DPIRD fosters sustainable growth of regional economies and primary industries. This includes supporting small and medium enterprises, creating employment opportunities, and facilitating infrastructure development to support the diversification of regional economies.

Our people are curious and our research is future-focused, helping WA's primary industries to leverage the state's unique export opportunities and move confidently into the future.

Our technological innovations support digital solutions in the regions, helping remove barriers to success.

We connect opportunities to outcomes.

Facilitating infrastructure

We facilitate regional telecommunication and infrastructure initiatives that support the diversification of regional economies and sustainability of primary industries. Our partnerships with Regional Development Commissions and key government, industry, research, local government and community stakeholders drive regional growth.

Connecting the regions with better coverage

During 2024-25, DPIRD continued to co-invest in the Australian Government's Mobile Black Spot and Regional Connectivity programs by overseeing the rollout of 40 mobile base stations that expanded telecommunications coverage by more than 8,200 km² in areas with unreliable service.

The department also deployed 15 fixed wireless towers across the Wheatbelt via the Narrogin-Wagin Connectivity Expansion project and Wheatbelt Network Expansion projects. The towers provide coverage across about 10,500 km² to support educational outcomes, business opportunities and health services.

The Wheatbelt is also benefitting from the Automatic Transfer Unit Pilot Program that has seen 26 sites equipped with backup power infrastructure to help keep mobile services running during emergencies.

The department is delivering the Surf Beaches Mobile Coverage Grants Program with 6 mobile repeater solutions installed at popular beaches in the South West and Great Southern under Round 1, with Round 2 work progressing.

DPIRD also installed free public wi-fi in 2 Aboriginal communities and 6 outstations in the Kimberley to help achieve digital equity for First Nations people under Closing the Gap targets.

Delivering infrastructure to support regional tourism

DPIRD worked with communities across the state in 2024-25 to deliver quality tourism infrastructure to create long-term jobs and economic growth in regional WA.

Our department and Peel Development Commission funded upgrades to community infrastructure at Drakesbrook Weir in Waroona to support local events such as Troutfest.

We provided the Warren Catchment Council Inc with \$500,000 for the Dung Beetle Soil Health Initiative, which is researching how dung beetles can contribute to soil health and reduce native bushflies impacting South West tourist towns and residents.

Construction was completed on the Southern Ocean Surf Reef to provide an accessible surfing site close to the Albany town centre and attract keen surfers and tourists to the Great Southern.

Our department also finalised new lease agreements for the Houtman Abrolhos Islands to support existing fishing and aquaculture businesses to explore ways to diversify and integrate eco-tourism experiences into their operations. Five new public boat moorings were installed at Gun, North, Pelsaert and Middle islands and at White Bank near Rat Island to support tourism growth.

Enabling businesses to thrive

We join the dots across government and industry to open trade and export opportunities for businesses, identify opportunities for growth, build local capability and help unpick sticky issues.

Our programs support the competitiveness of food and agribusiness sector including:

- trade development
- capital investment
- capacity building
- market access.

Increasing overseas trade

DPIRD continued to strengthen WA's international trade presence in 2024-25 by delivering a diverse program of in-market and locally focused engagement activities.

More than 100 agrifood and beverage, and agtech businesses from 7 regions were showcased to international buyers through targeted overseas promotions and WA Government-led inbound trade missions. These activities directly contributed to at least 127 new supply agreements, driven by 9 engagement events, with an estimated commercial return of more than \$7.5 million.

Beyond immediate commercial outcomes, these engagements provide WA businesses with critical opportunities to build export capability, foster strategic connections, and gain first-hand insights into global market dynamics.

Boosting food and beverage manufacturing

WA food and beverage manufacturing businesses continued to benefit from DPIRD's support, including through Round 3 of the Value Add Investment Grants program where 8 businesses shared in \$7.08 million to support expansion, new product lines and job creation.

Our Agrifood and Beverage Voucher Program also assisted business growth, resilience and sustainability, with 64 businesses sharing in more than \$540,000 to access expert advice and support through Round 6 of the program.

The Peel-based Sustainable Innovative Food Technologies (SIFT) Centre, which provides common-use equipment, training and support services, developed 8 new manufacturing processes with businesses since January 2025 and tested 13 new product improvements with 2 clients on track for a \$1 million turnover in 2024-25.

Crafting opportunities for local products

DPIRD remained focused on growing the state's value-added food and beverage sector and driving local, national and export market opportunities for WA's premium products.

In 2024-25, we partnered with industry to launch the inaugural WA Craft Beer Strategy to grow the sector, create jobs and promote the 'paddock to pint' tourism experience.

Our Buy West Eat Best program's annual Plating Up WA campaign was held in June 2025 to champion the state's producers, winter ingredients and local venues.

Domestic Market Pathways is a new program involving 23 WA food businesses being trained in communication and negotiation skills to engage with domestic retail buyers. Participating businesses that previously struggled to gain interest from major retailers are now securing contracts in major retail chains.



Dynamic regions and primary industries

Senior Principal Research Scientist Clinton Revell with the new multipurpose awnless triticale variety, Dyna-Trit 1143

Research and innovation

Our work in research, development and innovation boosts international competitiveness of our aquaculture, horticulture, grains and livestock industries. DPIRD supports the creation and application of new knowledge and technology across primary industry sectors. Our energy comes from seeing our trials turn into practice.

Our programs boost industry capability enabling international competitiveness, profitability and sustainable practices.

Driving advancements in grains

DPIRD research and scientific collaborations continued to deliver advancements in crop genetics and varieties to boost the productivity and sustainability of the WA grains industry.

This season, we released a new multipurpose awnless triticale variety named Dyna-Trit 1143, which provides a versatile cropping or forage option for grain growers and livestock producers.

Through the Western Crop Genetics Alliance, our scientists were key contributors to an International Barley Pan Genome Consortium that developed an updated barley pan genome and pan transcriptome. The research will aid the development of future high-performance, robust barley varieties.

The alliance also led work into the first chromosome-scale genome of a wild barley species, with the findings offering direct implications for more sustainable agriculture and significant yield improvements for Australian grain production.

DPIRD partnered with WA Agricultural Research Collaboration and other collaborators to unveil the world's first cultivar of the legume pasture species, *Trigonella balansae*, offering a header harvestable crop-pasture option for low–medium rainfall Wheatbelt farmers.

Bearing the fruit of horticulture R&D

DPIRD's wide-ranging R&D program is helping WA's horticulture industry to grow and thrive.

We commenced research with Hort Innovation to improve yield, robustness and quality of WA avocados, while a capacity building project is supporting the fledgling industry's development.

A high-tech autonomous spray unit was purchased to verify the benefits to fruit growers of adopting narrow orchard systems, as part of another national project to improve orchard productivity and sustainability.

Our jackfruit trials at Carnarvon and Kununurra examined the potential of this Asian delicacy in WA, while vegetable research has commenced to capture and recycle leached fertiliser nutrients and irrigation water to support businesses on the Swan Coastal Plain.

A collaboration at the Sustainable Innovative Food Technologies Centre produced Soluna™ apple juice crafted from local Bravo™ apples, while trials of long-life apple slices are expected in stores by the end of the year.

Upgrading aquaculture facilities to meet demand

In 2024-25, DPIRD built on its efforts to support the expansion of the aquaculture industry in WA to capitalise on the increasing local and export market demand.

We completed a \$3.6 million upgrade of our Albany Shellfish Hatchery – the leading producer of shellfish spat in WA – to meet growing demand for edible oysters, including rock oysters. The upgrades include new laboratories and spat grading facilities, additional nursery space, a greenhouse, and expansion of indoor algae production.

The hatchery supports the Albany Aquaculture Development Zone which, at full capacity, is expected to produce around 1,500 tonnes of shellfish at an estimated value of \$30 million per year, creating more than 200 direct jobs.

We also completed the first round of upgrades to the Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre, which supports the annual stocking of about 100,000 rainbow and brown trout into selected WA streams, rivers, and dams for recreational fishing and seedstock for the freshwater aquaculture industry.

Its new small-scale recirculating aquaculture system enables water filtration and temperature control to improve survival rates over summer while significantly reducing water consumption.

Future-proofing WA's livestock industry

During the year, DPIRD supported 20 northern beef businesses, covering almost 4 million hectares, to adopt the latest on-station technologies and innovations to boost performance, resilience and sustainability through the \$1 million Producer Innovation Fast Track grant initiative.

This included Anna Plains station implementing an Optiweigh system to aid herd and inform marketing decisions, while Mandora station trialled water point delivery of nutritional supplements, which has improved labour efficiencies and herd performance. Learnings are being shared via the northern pastoral network.

In June 2025, our Frank Wise Institute of Tropical Agriculture in the Kimberley welcomed cattle for the first time in 25 years as part of a \$6 million DPIRD-led Cropping Enabled Cattle project. The project will examine the use of by-products from Ord River Irrigation Area crops as cattle feed, particularly from the region's burgeoning cotton industry.

We also explored alternative livestock feed options in the state's south, with Katanning Research Station trialling new generation Anameka saltbush, which proved to be a viable option to help reduce supplementary feed costs for the station's merino sheep by up to 30%, while revitalising poor land and improving carbon sequestration credentials.

Shared responsibilities with other agencies

DPIRD works closely with a range of national, state and local governments, non-government organisations and industry partners to achieve desired outcomes. Examples of our shared responsibilities are outlined below.

Aboriginal economic development

We are leaders in the WA Government's delivery of regional Aboriginal economic development initiatives. We work closely with a wide range of agencies, including the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC), to activate economic opportunities arising through Native Title agreements and shape Aboriginal policy matters and initiatives to address Closing the Gap targets. We also work as a member and current chair of the North West Aboriginal Housing Fund that aims to create pathways towards social and economic independence and wellbeing for Aboriginal people in the Pilbara and Kimberley.

We work with the Department of Finance in supporting the Aboriginal Procurement Policy through our delivery of the Aboriginal Procurement Advisory Service, and with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) in supporting Aboriginal pastoralists and improving economic opportunities and divestment of the Aboriginal Lands Trust estate.

Our activities are responsive to, informed by, and delivered in partnership with Aboriginal people, businesses and entities.

Animal welfare

Our department works with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Western Australia (RSPCA WA), Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), Animal Health Australia, state and territory agencies and industry to develop and implement national animal welfare policies, standards and guidelines. This work includes the department's lead role in administering the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*, promoting livestock stewardship and ensuring ethical use of animals for scientific research.

We also work with hazard management agencies, local government authorities, RSPCA WA, the Australian Veterinary Association, private veterinary industry and many non-government organisations to deliver the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies.

Biosecurity

We work with Australian, state and territory governments, Animal Health Australia, Plant Health Australia, and industry to ensure Australia and WA have a strong biosecurity system that can deliver on obligations under World Trade Organisation agreements, the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity, and national biosecurity emergency response deeds.

We also work with other WA Government agencies, local government, industry bodies, local communities, Aboriginal rangers, Recognised Biosecurity Groups and others to help maintain the state's biosecurity status and reputation for high quality, safe and reliable products, as well as manage the entry, establishment and control of pests and diseases of significance.

We continue to work with Australian, state, territory and local governments, industry bodies and local communities to ensure nationally consistent response arrangements are in place to promote the effective management of biosecurity incidents and emergencies, including plant, animal, aquatic and environmental pests and diseases.

We chair the state's Biosecurity Senior Officers Group (comprising DPIRD, the Department of Health, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), Western Australian Local Government Association, Forest Products Commission and Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). We also chair the Western Australian Gene Technology Interdepartmental Committee (with membership from the Department of Health and DBCA) and represent the WA Government on the national Gene Technology Standing Committee.

Climate action

We are working with DWER and other WA Government agencies on a range of initiatives as part of the whole-of-government approach to climate action under the Western Australia Climate Policy. These include leading the agricultural and land use component of the Sectoral Emissions Reduction Strategy for Western Australia 2023 and development of a primary production sector adaptation plan.

We participated in the trial phase of the WA Government's Climate Risk Assessment Framework, led by the Department of Treasury and DWER. DPIRD undertook a first-pass assessment to identify potential climate-related risks to its operations, assets, and service delivery, as part of the WA Government's commitment to reducing operational emissions by 80% by 2030 (from a 2020 baseline). We continued our involvement on the national Climate Change Task Group throughout the year, contributing to the implementation of the *National Statement on Climate Change and Agriculture* and supporting coordinated national efforts to enhance sector resilience and reduce emissions.

DPIRD works closely with DWER, DPLH, DBCA, DPC and the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) to progress opportunities in carbon farming and clean energy.

Collie industry development

Our department continues to work with DPC, the South West Development Commission and the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI) to deliver the Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund, Collie Futures Industry Development Fund and the Collie Futures Small Grant Program to attract new industries to Collie to diversify its economy and develop new industries to support local jobs, with a reduced reliance on any one sector.

Emergency management/natural disaster relief

Our department works closely with the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), DFES, other hazard management agencies, local government and relevant stakeholders as part of the state's emergency management arrangements and enhancing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capability and capacity.

We continue to directly support the State Emergency Management Plan and all-hazards emergency management arrangements (Westplans) to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from identified hazards as listed in the *Emergency Management Act 2005*.

On behalf of DFES, our department delivers a range of packages as a result of any declared events, to support industry and community recovery.

We are also part of the WA Regional Telecommunications Resilience Improvement Working Group, along with DFES and power companies, that aims to boost telecommunications reliability and resilience to natural disasters.

Land and water development

We are the lead agency for the Ord expansion, working with DBCA, DWER, DPLH, Water Corporation, Horizon Power, the Kimberley Development Commission and Traditional Owners to support the continued development of new agricultural land and meet obligations under the Ord development agreement with Kimberley Agricultural Investment and under the Ord Final Agreement with MG Corporation.

Our department works closely with DWER on the Southern Forests Infrastructure Support Scheme, which provides funding to horticulture producers in the Warren-Donnelly region of WA to help them improve their water security.

Additionally, we are working with the Australian Government, Treasury, DWER, JTSI, DBCA, Forest Products Commission, DEMIRS and Harvey Water on the Wellington for Agriculture initiative to help achieve a sustainable and long-term outcome to protect the Wellington Dam water resource to support agricultural use and regional development.

Local Content Program

Our Local Content Team works in collaboration with JTSI to maximise procurement and contract opportunities for regional entities by creating awareness and pathways to accessing WA Government-funded tender and contract opportunities.

Marine park management

While DBCA is the lead agency responsible for establishment and management of state marine reserves, we are responsible for managing fishing, pearling and aquaculture in state marine reserves, including compliance, in accordance with the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*. In conducting our work in some of the northern marine parks, DPIRD supports the activity of Commonwealth partner agencies, the Australian Fisheries Management Authority and Maritime Border Command. DPIRD also has collaborative arrangements in place to provide services for Australian Marine Park compliance.

Pastoral lands management

We support DPLH and the Pastoral Lands Board in the management of pastoral leases through the provision of lease-level and regional-level land condition monitoring, assessment and compliance activities. This incorporates working cooperatively on management of the pastoral estate, including enhanced monitoring and assessment.

DPIRD provides support to many Aboriginal-owned and run pastoral leases assisting with governance and training programs, including the East Kimberley Pastoral Academy launched in 2024.

Recreational fishing safety

We work with Recfishwest, DBCA, Surf Life Saving WA, local government, emergency services and WA Police to ensure our fishing safety messages are communicated to recreational fishers through websites, social media, signage and other communication channels.

Regional connectivity

We work with the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication, Sports and the Arts, telecommunication providers and operators, and across the WA Government to coordinate and co-fund the delivery of telecommunications infrastructure to improve digital connectivity across regional WA, including in remote Aboriginal communities where digital exclusion is disproportionately high.

DPIRD has also provided grants to local telecommunication operators to provide connectivity improvement for farm businesses, campgrounds and popular tourist sites. We are also collaborating with the Office of Digital Government to develop a State Digital Connectivity Plan.

We are working with DBCA to provide telecommunications to our popular remote surf beaches in our national parks, the first of which was commissioned in 2024.

Royalties for Regions

We assist the Minister for Regional Development to fulfil obligations under the *Royalties for Regions Act 2009* to administer the Royalties for Regions Fund to promote and facilitate economic, business and social development in regional WA.

In accordance with the Act, the Fund is credited each financial year with an amount up to 25% of the forecast royalty income for the following financial year. From 2008-09 to 2028-29, a total of \$18.7 billion is forecast to be distributed to regional programs, including \$4 billion over the forward estimates.

We work collaboratively with the Department of Treasury and across government, providing advice on funds management strategies, budgeting, funds disbursement and reporting to maximise the effectiveness of the fund. The initiatives delivered through the Royalties for Regions Fund encourage and support people to live and grow within their communities, with a total of 266 projects funded in 2024-25.

Shark hazard mitigation

We are involved in both operational response and research initiatives as part of a suite of shark hazard mitigation strategies. We partner with other stakeholders such as Surf Life Saving WA, WA Police, local government and DBCA to make sure response agencies are aware of reported shark sightings and tagged shark detections. This assists with distributing public and first responder notifications as well as the timely closure of beaches where required.

Sustainability and natural resource management (NRM)

Our department supports the State NRM Office, which delivers the State NRM Program in partnership with DWER and DBCA. We work closely with DBCA with respect to whale entanglement mitigation strategies. We work in partnership with the commercial fishing and aquaculture industries through arrangements with the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC), Western Rock Lobster Council and the Aquaculture Council of Western Australia, as well as with recreational fishers through Recfishwest. Through the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, we work with the Soil and Land Conservation Council on policy, management and conservation of WA's soil and land resources.

Statement from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation



Landholders continued to recognise the importance of protecting land systems in 2024-25. This was demonstrated by the placement of voluntary Conservation Covenants on 272 ha of vegetation, with a further 907 ha under negotiation. At the same time, the Office of the Commissioner received 13 applications for deep drainage for salinity management.

No Soil Conservation Notices were issued, however, we continue to engage multiple landholders through a voluntary compliance approach, with advice provided by staff from our Soil and Land Conservation division. Voluntary compliance provides an opportunity for land managers to undertake required actions to address land degradation issues in the first instance, without regulation.

In September 2024, the Soil and Land Conservation Council advised the Minister regarding key steps to tackle dryland salinity in the southwest agricultural zone, guiding the implementation of the WA Government's Dryland Salinity – Future Directions Government Response (2020). The council also oversees the implementation of the WA Soil Health Strategy through annual reporting, monitoring key deliverables, and evaluating potential delivery partnerships.

The strategy has an important role in identifying priority issues for soil health investment in WA and in supporting soil and land condition policy linked to the *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* (the Act).

Under the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Management, the department developed draft standards for consistent assessment, monitoring and response to wind erosion risk in the agricultural regions. Lack of summer ground cover continues to be unacceptably high across the grainbelt, with the West Midlands Ag Soil zone having the greatest proportion of land at extreme erosion hazard. This has resulted in a WA partnership established with the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, for a 5-year project starting in 2025-26 that will focus on ground cover, wind erosion risk and soil health in the West Midlands area. This project will work with local growers to test the wind erosion standards and best land management practices to mitigate the risk. We are continuing to develop standards for other areas of soil and groundwater management regulated under the Act.

Rangeland Condition Assessments were conducted on 29 pastoral stations, with 2 follow-up inspections focusing on improvements of identified poor condition land. Land degradation risk was identified as high on 7 stations and extreme on 6 stations.

My office, in consultation with the Pastoral Lands Board, has continued to work with lessees to address the identified issues and map a pathway back to productive and stable land systems. Varying rainfall across the rangelands impacts the levels of soil water and the ability of vegetation to recover from sustained livestock grazing. Stocking rates, particularly in the Pilbara and Southern Rangelands, will need to be decreased in line with fodder availability to manage degradation and animal welfare risks.

It continues to be a privilege to work with such a wide range of people in the Soil and Land Conservation Division who are focused on the sustainable management of WA's soil and land resources. The value of the work they do was demonstrated this year with 24% of all downloads from DPIRD's Digital Library being publications and maps relating to soil, land and water resource assessment and management. These were mostly downloaded by commercial, government and education institutions across Australia and from overseas. Additionally, cloud masking and other water applications developed within the team have now been downloaded 160,000 times, including by NASA and similar organisations.

My full report for 2024-25 can be found in Appendix 3.

Dr Melanie Strawbridge

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation

Financial targets and results

Table 1: Financial targets 2024-25

	2025 Target ¹ (\$'000)	2025 Actual ² (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Explanation of variation ³
Total cost of services (expense limit) (details from Statement of comprehensive income)	665,244	640,875	24,369	Total cost of services Actual is \$24.369 million lower than target primarily driven by delays in delivery of projects including the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks, Telecommunications Infrastructure, WA Agricultural Research and Development Collaboration, Future Drought Fund, Collie Industry Attraction Fund, Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification and Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program. Carryovers to 2025-26 and out years have been approved in the 2025-26 WA Government budget process, with further carryovers being requested through the 2025-26 WA Government Mid-year Review.

1 As specified in the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements, the actual figures in this table reflect combined results of the department and the 9 RDCs. The financial information presented in the remainder of this DPIRD annual report 2024-25 does not include the financial information of the RDCs. RDCs each report their financial information in their respective annual reports.

3 Further explanations are contained in note 10 of the financial statements.

Table 1: Financial targets 2024-25 (continued)

	2025 Target ¹ (\$'000)	2025 Actual ² (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Explanation of variation ³
Net cost of services (details from Statement of comprehensive income)	551,619	493,110	58,509	Net cost of services Actual is \$58.509 million lower than target, partially driven by the reduction of \$24.369 million in Total cost of services as per above and an increase in Other Income of \$34.1 million above target relating partially to National Partnership Agreements including those relating to Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer, Busselton Marine Discovery Centre, Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program, Strengthening Australia's Frontline Biosecurity, Western Australian Telecommunications and National Water Grid (\$32.2 million), recognition of share of net gain in InterGrain and AEGIC (\$6.4 million), increases in fisheries licence fees (\$7.8 million) offset by reduction in sale of goods and services (\$4.4 million) and reduction in rent and other revenues (\$7.9 million).
Total equity (details from Statement of financial position)	774,372	901,571	(127,199)	Actual equity is higher than target due to increase in asset revaluation of land and buildings of \$92.6 million, combined with an improvement in the accumulated deficit of \$79.4 million and offset by a reduction of contributed equity of \$44.5 million including the deferral of New Metro Facility project and delays in the State Biosecurity Response Centre.

1 As specified in the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements, the actual figures in this table reflect combined results of the department and the 9 RDCs. The financial information presented in the remainder of this DPIRD annual report 2024-25 does not include the financial information of the RDCs. RDCs each report their financial information in their respective annual reports.

3 Further explanations are contained in note 10 of the financial statements.

Table 1: Financial targets 2024-25 (continued)

	2025 Target ¹ (\$'000)	2025 Actual ² (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Explanation of variation ³
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash held (details from Statement of cash flows)	(22,356)	40,839	(63,195)	Cash held (both restricted and non-restricted) was \$63.195 million higher than target mainly due to increase of the service appropriations including the funding for unavoidable operational expenditure of \$17.2 million, accommodation for South Perth Incident Management Team and Infrastructure of \$9.3 million, Wages Policy Provision of \$6.1 million, 2024 Perth Royal Show \$5.5 million and a reduction in both capital and recurrent expenditure which has been carried over to 2025-26 and the outyears through the 2025-26 WA Government Budget process with further carryovers requested through the 2025-26 WA Government Mid-year review.
Approved salary expense level	221,374	245,070	(23,696)	The Salary expense level is \$23.696 million higher than target, partially due to the increase in salaries arising from the Wages Policy Provision flowing from the new industrial agreement and supplementary funding received to support biosecurity incident management. The Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer (PSHB) reclassification of services and contracts to salaries also contributed to the increase in Salaries expense.
Agreed Borrowing Limit	3,000	22,360	(19,360)	Borrowings are \$19.36 million higher than target due to a Treasurer's advance received in 2023-24 relating to expenditure on WA Incident and Emergency response activities incurred in 2022-23 and 2023-24 which is expected to be recovered in 2025-26. The recovery of costs is in accordance with National Cost Sharing agreements in place.

1 As specified in the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements, the actual figures in this table reflect combined results of the department and the 9 RDCs. The financial information presented in the remainder of this DPIRD annual report 2024-25 does not include the financial information of the RDCs. RDCs each report their financial information in their respective annual reports.

3 Further explanations are contained in note 10 of the financial statements.

Table 2: Working cash targets

	2025 Agreed Limit ¹ \$'000	2025 Target / Actual ² \$'000	Variation \$'000	Explanation of variation ³
Agreed working cash limit (at Budget)	32,822	32,822	-	Not applicable
Agreed working cash limit (at Actuals)	32,822	32,193	629	Not applicable

1 As specified in the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2024-25 DPIRD Budget Statements, the actual figures in this table reflect combined results of the department and the 9 RDCs. The financial information presented in the remainder of this DPIRD annual report 2024-25 does not include the financial information of the RDCs. RDCs each report their financial information in their respective annual reports.

3 Further explanations are contained in note 10 of the financial statements.

Performance management framework

Outcome-based management (OBM) framework

Our outcome-based management framework aligns to the WA Government's goal of 'WA Jobs Plan: Diversifying the WA economy, creating local jobs for the future'. Our performance is measured through the delivery of 6 desired outcomes and 7 services.

Changes to OBM framework

No changes were made to our OBM in 2024-25.

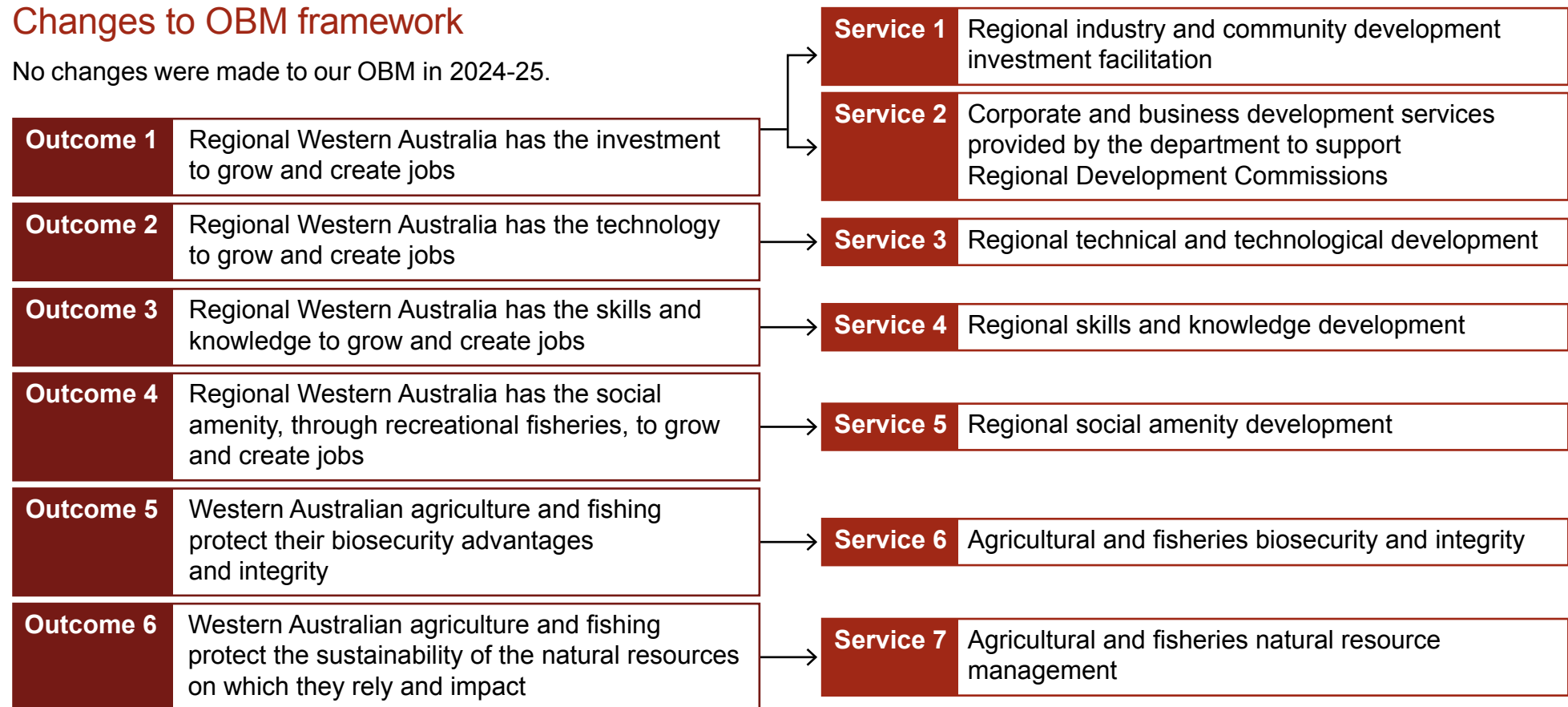


Figure 2: Outcome-based management framework – Agency level desired outcomes and effectiveness indicators

Key performance indicator targets and results

This section summarises our results against our KPI targets in 2024-25. Detailed explanations of the results are provided in the 'Additional key performance indicator information' section that has been audited by the Auditor General.

Table 3: Key effectiveness indicator targets, results and variations

		2023-24	2024-25		
Outcome	Key Effectiveness Indicator	Actual	Target	Actual	%± from target
1 Regional WA has the investment to grow and create jobs	1 Ratio of the value of grants awarded from the department for industry and community development initiatives to the value of co-contributions committed from non-WA Government recipients	1:1.37	1:1	1:2.16	+116%
2 Regional WA has the technology to grow and create jobs	2 Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's technology initiatives	85%	80%	98%	+18%
3 Regional WA has the skills and knowledge to grow and create jobs	3 Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's capability initiatives	77%	70%	82%	+12%
4 Regional WA has the social amenity, through recreational fishing to grow and create jobs	4 Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's management of recreational fishing	89%	85%	88%	+3%

Table 3: Key effectiveness indicator targets, results and variations (continued)

		2023-24		2024-25	
Outcome	Key Effectiveness Indicator	Actual	Target	Actual	%± from target
5 WA agriculture and fishing protect their biosecurity advantages and integrity	5.1 Percentage of exotic terrestrial weed, pest and disease threats resolved appropriately	44.4%	60%	28.6%	-31.4%
	5.2 Percentage of invasive aquatic pests and exotic diseases resolved appropriately	0%	60%	100%	+40%
6 WA agriculture and fishing protect the sustainability of the natural resources on which they rely and impact	6.1 Percentage change in the spatial extent of the south-west cropping region that maintains sufficient year-round ground cover for protecting and improving soil health	6.7%	0%	-2.8%	-2.8%
	6.2 Number of soil health extension workshops held	90	30	61	+103%
	6.3 Proportion of fish stocks identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation	93%	95%	89%	-6%
	6.4 Percentage of commercial and recreational fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved	87%	90%	89%	-1%

Table 4: Key efficiency indicator targets, results and variations

			2023-24	2025-25		
Outcome	Key Efficiency Indicator	Actual	Target	Actual	%± from target	
1 Regional industry and community development investment facilitation	1 Average cost per hour to deliver regional industry and community development investment facilitation	\$263.47	\$330.24	\$ 265.97	-19%	
2 Corporate and business development services provided by the department to support Regional Development Commissions	2 Average cost per hour to deliver corporate and business development services to support Regional Development Commissions	\$167.23	\$233.28	\$ 173.22	-26%	
3 Regional technical and technological development	3 Average cost per hour to deliver regional technical and technological development	\$152.05	\$150.62	\$ 170.21	+13%	
4 Regional skills and knowledge development	4 Average cost per hour to deliver regional skills and knowledge development	\$201.29	\$353.63	\$ 214.63	-39%	
5 Regional social amenity development	5 Average cost per hour to deliver regional social amenity development	\$191.93	\$332.05	\$ 209.28	-37%	
6 Agricultural and aquatic biosecurity and integrity	6 Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries biosecurity and integrity	\$146.22	\$163.26	\$ 180.32	+10%	
7 Agricultural and fisheries natural resource management	7 Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries natural resource management	\$157.28	\$181.03	\$ 150.70	-17%	

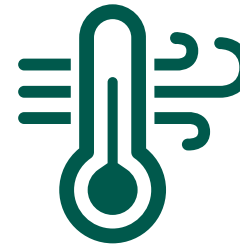


Significant issues impacting the agency



Biosecurity threats

Biosecurity threats to WA's economy, industries, environment and communities continue to increase. The department is responding to multiple incursions of significant pests, including polyphagous shot-hole borer. DPIRD is partnering with industry, the community and local, state and federal agencies to protect our primary industries, environment and lifestyle from biosecurity risks and to maintain market access for our primary producers. Government investment in early detection of emergency pests and diseases, biosecurity response capacity and capability, and modern traceability systems is ongoing.



Climate change

Climate change is impacting the state's regions and primary industries, including through reduced rainfall in many areas, changes in sea temperatures and increased climate-related events. To help address the challenges and create opportunities, the department is leading the development of management practices to support climate resilience and aligning its broader climate change responses to whole-of-government climate change objectives. This includes investment in research and development with a focus on resilience, reducing emissions and sustainable management of land and aquatic natural resources.



Regional growth

Regional WA is a key driver of the state's economy offering opportunities for diversification and economic growth but faces challenges such as the provision of necessary support services and infrastructure, including housing, and attracting and retaining skilled workers. To help build the capacity of the regions and ensure their long-term success, the department continues to invest in enhancing digital connectivity, supporting new food and beverage enterprises, promoting processing and value-adding opportunities, helping to develop new industries, and facilitating tourism infrastructure. It is also focused on local content outcomes and supporting Aboriginal businesses and communities.



Research and development

Investment in research, development and innovation is essential to ensure WA's primary industries are at the forefront of scientific and market advances to remain internationally competitive. The department is collaborating with industry stakeholders, government and research organisations to target this investment so it generates short and long-term gains and returns across WA's diverse agricultural and aquatic industries.





Disclosures and legal compliance

Independent auditor's report



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

2025

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

To the Parliament of Western Australia

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Department) which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- administered schedules comprising the administered assets and liabilities as at 30 June 2025 and administered income and expenses by service for the year then ended
- notes comprising a summary of material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the financial statements are:

- based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2025 and the financial position as at the end of that period
- in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the Director General for the financial statements

The Director General is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounts
- preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Page 1 of 5

7th Floor Albert Facey House 469 Wellington Street Perth MAIL TO: Perth BC PO Box 8489 Perth WA 6849 TEL: 08 6557 7500

In preparing the financial statements, the Director General is responsible for:

- assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Department.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

Report on the audit of controls

Basis for Qualified Opinion

I identified significant weaknesses in the design and implementation of expenditure controls by the Department. The controls were inadequate in ensuring that approvers have appropriate delegation limits or to ensure changes to delegation levels are appropriate and approved within the procurement process. In addition, weaknesses were identified in the procurement contract management relating to contract initiation and variation processes. These weaknesses increase the risk of value for money not being obtained, unauthorised or fraudulent payments and misappropriation of public monies.

Qualified Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the Department. The controls exercised by the Department are those policies and procedures established to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with the State's financial reporting framework (the overall control objectives).

In my opinion, in all material respects, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the controls exercised by the Department are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the controls within the system were suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives identified as at 30 June 2025, and the controls were implemented as designed as at 30 June 2025.

The Director General's responsibilities

The Director General is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the controls design to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including an assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

Report on the audit of the key performance indicators

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2025 reported in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions (legislative requirements). The key performance indicators are the Under Treasurer-approved key effectiveness indicators and key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators report of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2025 is in accordance with the legislative requirements, and the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The Director General's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Director General is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal controls as the Director General determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Director General is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 3 Financial Sustainability – Requirement 5: Key Performance Indicators.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the entity's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 3 - Requirement 5 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments, I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

My independence and quality management relating to the report on financial statements, controls and key performance indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQM 1 *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements*, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality management including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Other information

The Director General is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but not the financial statements, key performance indicators and my auditor's report.

My opinions on the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators do not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and key performance indicators or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development for the year ended 30 June 2025 included in the annual report on the Department's website. The Department's management is responsible for the integrity of the Department's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Department's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the entity to confirm the information contained in the website version.



Caroline Spencer
Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
11 September 2025

Financial statements

Certification of financial statements

For the reporting period ended 30 June 2025

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the reporting period ended 30 June 2025 and the financial position as at 30 June 2025.

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



Carrie Wilson
Chief Financial Officer
11 September 2025



Heather Brayford PSM
Accountable Authority
11 September 2025

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2025

		2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES	Notes		
Expenses			
Employee benefits expenses	3.1.1	275,243	251,298
Supplies and services	3.3	153,921	147,867
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.1	24,764	22,303
Finance costs	7.3	1,263	547
Accommodation expenses	3.3	20,358	18,845
Other expenses	3.3	4,654	7,516
Grants and subsidies	3.2	156,164	138,974
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	4.6	765	-
Total cost of services		637,132	587,350
Income			
User charges and fees	4.2	53,948	52,987
Commonwealth grants and contributions	4.3	32,155	12,306
Other grants and subsidies	4.4	27,509	23,292
Other revenue	4.5	29,127	44,500
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	4.6	-	259
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method	6.6.1	6,438	4,581
Total income		149,177	137,925
NET COST OF SERVICES		487,955	449,425
Income from State Government			
Service appropriations	4.1	326,221	293,420
Other appropriations	4.1	3,894	-
Services received free of charge	4.1	2,951	1,810
Royalties for Regions Fund	4.1	172,450	146,063
Income from other public sector entities	4.1	12,004	6,207
Total income from State Government		517,520	447,500
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		29,565	(1,925)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation reserve		60,673	22,062
Total other comprehensive income		60,673	22,062
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		90,238	20,137

The Statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4.1	62,880	44,977
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4.2	157,793	139,235
Biological assets	6.5	4,761	743
Inventories	6.4	5,130	2,061
Receivables	6.1	20,178	28,351
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	6,026	6,178
Other current assets	6.3	10,114	3,708
Total Current Assets		266,882	225,253
Non-Current Assets			
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	249,786	230,727
Receivables	6.1	9,283	8,433
Other non-current assets	6.3	3,068	3,598
Investments accounted for using the equity method	6.6	53,753	43,564
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	5.1	447,875	377,379
Intangible assets	5.2	2,103	2,495
Right-of-use assets	5.3	37,468	12,878
Total non-current assets		803,336	679,074
TOTAL ASSETS		1,070,218	904,327
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	6.7	40,088	54,231
Contract liabilities	6.8	39,633	35,511
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	63,482	59,774
Borrowings	7.1	20,360	20,360
Lease liabilities	7.2	5,404	4,551
Other current liabilities	6.9	1,690	2,789
Total current liabilities		170,657	177,216
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	6,215	4,724
Borrowings	7.1	1,000	2,000
Lease liabilities	7.2	30,768	6,311
Other non-current liabilities	6.9	2,412	4,240
Total Non-Current Liabilities		40,395	17,275
TOTAL LIABILITIES		211,052	194,491

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025 (continued)

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
NET ASSETS		859,166	709,836
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	9.11	729,493	670,401
Reserves	9.11	153,941	93,268
Accumulated deficit	9.11	(24,268)	(53,833)
TOTAL EQUITY		859,166	709,836

The Statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	Contributed equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Accumulated surplus/(deficit) \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2023		631,353	71,206	(51,908)	650,651
Deficit			-	(1,925)	(1,925)
Other comprehensive income		-	22,062	-	22,062
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	22,062	(1,925)	20,137
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:	9.11				
Capital appropriations		19,841	-	-	19,841
Other contributions from owners:					
- Drawdowns from Treasury Special Purpose Accounts		10,769	-	-	10,769
- Royalties for Region funding		11,737	-	-	11,737
Distributions to owners		(3,299)	-	-	(3,299)
Total		39,048	-	-	39,048
Balance at 30 June 2024		670,401	93,268	(53,833)	709,836
Balance at 1 July 2024		670,401	93,268	(53,833)	709,836
Surplus		-	-	29,565	29,565
Other comprehensive income		-	60,673	-	60,673
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	60,673	29,565	90,238
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:	9.11				
Capital appropriations		54,605	-	-	54,605
Other contributions from owners					
- Drawdowns from Treasury Special Purpose Accounts		4,840	-	-	4,840
- Royalties for Region funding		2,847	-	-	2,847
Distributions to owners		(3,200)	-	-	(3,200)
Total		59,092	-	-	59,092
Balance at 30 June 2025		729,493	153,941	(24,268)	859,166

The Statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriations		301,384	268,005
Other appropriations		3,894	-
Capital appropriations		54,605	19,841
Drawdowns from special purpose accounts		4,840	10,769
Holding account drawdown		5,930	6,974
Royalties for Regions Fund		175,297	157,800
Funds from other public sector entities		12,004	6,207
Net cash provided by State Government		557,954	469,596
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(272,386)	(254,180)
Supplies and services		(163,557)	(140,128)
Accommodation		(21,077)	(17,134)
Finance costs		(1,263)	(547)
GST payments on purchases		(34,656)	(28,014)
Other payments		(7,551)	(7,914)
Grants and subsidies		(166,898)	(115,350)
Receipts			
User charges and fees		56,224	50,270
Commonwealth grants and contributions		39,553	12,306
Interest received		1,568	2,701
GST receipts on sales		4,428	4,281
GST receipts from taxation authority		31,065	24,492
Non-government grants and subsidies		27,509	23,292
Other receipts		26,566	36,966
Net cash used in operating activities	7.4.3	(480,475)	(408,959)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Investment in joint ventures		(3,750)	(2,999)
Purchase of non-current assets		(27,804)	(17,202)
Other Payments for Investing Activities		-	(1,100)
Receipts			
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		131	579
Other Receipts from Investing Activities		-	182
Net cash used in investing activities		(31,423)	(20,540)

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2025 (continued)

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Principal elements of lease payments		(6,395)	(5,442)
Distribution of monies to the Rural Business Development Corporation		(3,200)	(2,200)
Receipts			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	19,360
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(9,595)	11,718
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		36,461	51,815
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		184,212	132,397
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	7.4.3	220,673	184,212

The Statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Administered schedules for the year ended 30 June 2025

Administered income and expenses by service

	Co-operative loans		Commonwealth grants		Natural Resource Management Program		Regional Reform Fund		Infringements		Total	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS												
Income												
Interest revenue	1,323	763	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,326	763
Other revenue	5	-	2,172	75	556	254	-	-	-	-	2,733	329
Royalties for Regions	-	-	-	-	6,362	5,400	-	-	-	-	6,362	5,400
Revenue for Regional Statewide initiatives	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,009	-	-	-	12,009	-
Service appropriations	-	-	-	-	1,550	1,550	-	-	-	-	1,550	1,550
Regulatory fees and charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	317	326	317	326
Total administered income	1,328	763	2,175	75	8,468	7,204	12,009	-	317	326	24,297	8,368
Expenses												
Grants & subsidies	-	-	101	-	6,904	7,241	17,492	12,246	-	-	24,396	19,487
Interest payments	1,034	862	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,034	862
Supplies and services	292	193	-	-	714	366	-	-	317	326	1,424	885
Total administered expenses	1,326	1,055	101	-	7,618	7,607	17,492	12,246	317	326	26,854	21,234

Administered schedules for the year ended 30 June 2025 (continued)

Administered assets and liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,259	3,492
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	6,112	10,792
Receivables	11,488	10,107
Total administered current assets	22,859	24,391
Non-current assets		
Loan	14,996	18,343
Total administered non-current assets	14,996	18,343
TOTAL ADMINISTERED ASSETS	37,855	42,734
Current liabilities		
Payables	380	669
Borrowings	11,347	10,032
Total administered current liabilities	11,727	10,701
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	14,996	18,343
Total administered non-current liabilities	14,996	18,343
TOTAL ADMINISTERED LIABILITIES	26,723	29,044

Index of notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

Subject	Note	Note title
Basis of preparation	1	
Department outputs	2.1	Department objectives
Department outputs	2.2	Schedule of income and expenses by service
Department outputs	2.3	Schedule of assets and liabilities by service
Use of our funding	3.1.1	Employee benefits expense
Use of our funding	3.1.2	Employee related provisions
Use of our funding	3.2	Grants and subsidies
Use of our funding	3.3	Other expenditure
Our funding sources	4.1	Income from State Government
Our funding sources	4.2	User charges and fees
Our funding sources	4.3	Commonwealth grants and contributions
Our funding sources	4.4	Other grants and subsidies
Our funding sources	4.5	Other revenue
Our funding sources	4.6	Gains on disposal of non-current assets
Key assets	5.1	Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment
Key assets	5.1.1	Depreciation and impairment
Key assets	5.2	Intangible assets
Key assets	5.2.1	Amortisation and impairment
Key assets	5.3	Right-of-use assets
Key assets	5.3.1	Depreciation and impairment of right-of-use assets
Other assets and liabilities	6.1	Receivables
Other assets and liabilities	6.1.1	Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables
Other assets and liabilities	6.2	Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)
Other assets and liabilities	6.3	Other assets
Other assets and liabilities	6.4	Inventories
Other assets and liabilities	6.5	Biological assets
Other assets and liabilities	6.6	Joint arrangements
Other assets and liabilities	6.6.1	Investments accounted for using the equity method
Other assets and liabilities	6.6.2	Jointly controlled assets
Other assets and liabilities	6.7	Payables
Other assets and liabilities	6.8	Contract liabilities
Other assets and liabilities	6.9	Other liabilities
Financing	7.1	Borrowings
Financing	7.2	Lease liabilities
Financing	7.3	Finance costs
Financing	7.4	Cash and cash equivalents

Subject	Note	Note title
Financing	7.4.1	Reconciliation of cash
Financing	7.4.2	Restricted cash and cash equivalents
Financing	7.4.3	Reconciliation of net cost of services
Financing	7.5	Capital commitments
Risks and contingencies	8.1	Financial risk management
Risks and contingencies	8.2	Contingent assets and liabilities
Risks and contingencies	8.2.1	Contingent assets
Risks and contingencies	8.2.2	Contingent liabilities
Risks and contingencies	8.3	Fair value measurements
Other disclosures	9.1	Events occurring after the end of the reporting period
Other disclosures	9.2	Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards
Other disclosures	9.3	Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative
Other disclosures	9.4	Key management personnel
Other disclosures	9.5	Related party transactions
Other disclosures	9.6	Related bodies
Other disclosures	9.7	Affiliated bodies
Other disclosures	9.8	Special purpose accounts
Other disclosures	9.9	Remuneration of auditor
Other disclosures	9.10	Services provided free of charge
Other disclosures	9.11	Equity
Other disclosures	9.12	Supplementary financial information
Other disclosures	9.13	Indian Ocean Territories Service Level Agreement
Explanatory statements	10.1	Explanatory statement for controlled operations
Explanatory statements	10.1.1	Statement of comprehensive income variances
Explanatory statements	10.1.2	Statement of financial position variances
Explanatory statements	10.1.3	Statement of cash flow variances
Explanatory statements	10.2	Explanatory statement for administered items

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

1. Basis of preparation

The Department is a Western Australian (WA) Government non for profit entity and is controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The entity is a not-for-profit entity. A description of the nature of its operations and its principal activities has been included in the '**Overview**', which does not form part of these financial statements.

These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Accountable Authority of the Department on 11 September 2025.

a) Statement of compliance

The financial statements constitute general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statement of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board as applied by Treasurer's instructions. Several of these are modified by Treasurer's instructions to vary application, disclosure, format and wording.

The *Financial Management Act 2006* (the Act) and Treasurer's instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statement of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

b) Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case, the different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

c) Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

d) Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except that the:

- (a) amount of GST incurred by the Department as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is recognised as part of an asset's cost of acquisition or as part of an item of expense; and
- (b) receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

1. Basis of preparation (continued)

d) Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST) (continued)

Cash flows are included in the Statement of cash flows on a gross basis. However, 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.

e) Joint research activities

The Department participates in a number of joint research activities, such as Cooperative Research Centres. The Department recognises within its financial statements: the assets that it controls, the liabilities and expenses that it incurs and its share of the income that it earns from the joint research activities.

f) Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior, to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 8 – Requirement 8.1 (i) and will be credited directly to Contributed Equity.

g) Accountability for Western Australian Agriculture Authority (WAAA)

Section 152 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act) creates the WAAA and vests in it powers that are appropriate for a statutory authority. However, by virtue of section 156 of the BAM Act, WAAA's exercise of powers is regarded as 'services' under the control of the Department for the purposes of the *Financial Management Act 2006* (FMA act). Consequently, pursuant to Part 5 of the FMA Act, the Department has included WAAA's income, expenses, assets and liabilities in its financial statements as though they relate to the Department. The Department does not separately disclose WAAA transactions in its financial statements as the BAM Act does not require it to do so.

h) Administered items

The Department administers, but does not control, certain activities and functions for and on behalf of Government that do not contribute to the Department's services or objectives. It does not have discretion over how it utilises the transactions in pursuing its own objectives.

Transactions relating to the administered activities are not recognised as the Department's income, expenses, assets and liabilities, but are disclosed in the accompanying schedules as 'Administered income and expenses', and 'Administered assets and liabilities'.

The accrual basis of accounting and applicable Australian Accounting Standards have been adopted.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

2. Department outputs

How the Department operates

This section includes information regarding the nature of funding the Department receives and how this funding is utilised to achieve the Department's objectives. This note also provides the distinction between controlled funding and administered funding:

Department objectives	2.1
Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service	2.2
Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service	2.3

2.1. Department objectives

Mission

Our Department ensures that primary industries and regions are key contributors to the government's agenda for economic growth and diversification, job creation, strong communities and better places.

Services

The Department provides the following services:

- Service 1: Regional Industry and Community Development Investment Facilitation
- Service 2: Corporate and Business Development Services Provided by the Department to Support Regional Development Commissions
- Service 3: Regional Technical and Technological Development
- Service 4: Regional Skills and Knowledge Development
- Service 5: Regional Social Amenity Development
- Service 6: Agricultural and Aquatic Biosecurity and Integrity
- Service 7: Agricultural and Fisheries Natural Resource Management

The Department administers assets, liabilities, income and expenses on behalf of Government which are not controlled by, nor integral to, the function of the Department. These administered balances and transactions are not recognised in the principal financial statements of the Department but schedules are prepared using the same basis as the financial statements and are presented at Administered financial information and at note 10.2 'Explanatory statement for administered items'.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

2.2. Schedule of income and expenses by service for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Regional Industry and Community Development Investment Facilitation		Corporate and Business Development Services Provided by the Department to Support Regional Development Commissions		Regional Technical and Technological Development		Regional Skills and Knowledge Development	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES								
Expenses								
Employee benefits expenses	40,891	38,258	17,517	17,977	49,091	52,256	19,772	17,705
Supplies and services	23,611	26,576	6,197	9,393	26,578	29,618	13,917	18,360
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	4,682	4,551	1,558	1,636	4,177	4,180	1,940	1,779
Finance costs	220	88	100	57	223	98	91	34
Accommodation expenses	3,332	3,461	2,545	2,793	3,172	3,245	1,420	1,377
Other expenses	618	(330)	-	(608)	3,241	2,431	139	416
Grants and subsidies	47,976	48,472	6,986	7,226	21,773	19,089	12,985	7,452
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	157	-	45	-	140	-	65	-
Total cost of services	121,487	121,076	34,948	38,474	108,395	110,917	50,329	47,123
Income								
User charges and fees	539	539	-	126	2,562	1,268	987	350
Commonwealth grants and contributions	2,476	5,398	-	-	4,825	798	1,563	4,785
Non-government grants and subsidies	600	1,127	-	1	17,693	18,683	4,091	2,051
Other revenue	4,224	4,908	246	194	5,122	4,416	2,345	6,717
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	-	29	-	1	-	50	-	25
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method	7,491	4,581	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	15,330	16,582	246	322	30,202	25,215	8,986	13,928
NET COST OF SERVICES	106,157	104,494	34,702	38,152	78,193	85,702	41,343	33,195
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT								
Service appropriations	63,109	58,861	9,884	18,704	56,319	53,922	26,844	23,584
Other appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services received free of charge	564	373	161	119	502	342	233	145
Royalties for Regions Fund	38,797	39,286	27,683	24,553	47,215	30,458	12,163	15,212
Income from other public sector entities	10,913	4,371	-	17	227	396	458	682
Total income from State Government	113,383	102,891	37,728	43,393	104,263	85,118	39,698	39,623
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	7,226	(1,603)	3,026	5,241	26,070	(584)	(1,645)	6,428

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

2.2. Schedule of income and expenses by service for the year ended 30 June 2025 (continued)

	Regional Social Amenity Development		Agricultural and Aquatic Biosecurity and Integrity		Agricultural and Fisheries Natural Resource Management		Total	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES								
Expenses								
Employee benefits expenses	23,728	21,243	77,580	62,276	46,664	41,583	275,243	251,298
Supplies and services	8,255	9,606	54,754	35,625	20,609	18,689	153,921	147,867
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	2,274	2,005	6,796	4,838	3,337	3,314	24,764	22,303
Finance costs	107	39	319	94	203	137	1,263	547
Accommodation expenses	1,816	1,669	5,237	3,682	2,836	2,618	20,358	18,845
Other expenses	-	(472)	656	(215)	-	6,294	4,654	7,516
Grants and subsidies	22,780	18,898	30,813	22,518	12,851	15,319	156,164	138,974
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	56	-	205	-	97	-	765	-
Total cost of services	59,016	52,988	176,360	128,818	86,597	87,954	637,132	587,350
Income								
User charges and fees	197	2,039	9,033	6,520	40,630	42,145	53,948	52,987
Commonwealth grants and contributions	2,437	382	20,854	(45)	-	988	32,155	12,306
Non-government grants and subsidies	41	(46)	3,409	1,526	1,675	(50)	27,509	23,292
Other revenue	1,344	270	12,051	25,803	3,795	2,192	29,127	44,500
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	-	18	-	58	-	78	-	259
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,491	4,581
Total income	4,019	2,663	45,347	33,862	46,100	45,353	150,230	137,925
NET COST OF SERVICES	54,997	50,325	131,013	94,956	40,497	42,601	486,902	449,425
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT								
Service appropriations	30,662	25,760	94,410	65,328	44,993	47,261	326,221	293,420
Other appropriations	-	-	1,947	-	1,947	-	3,894	-
Services received free of charge	272	163	818	397	401	271	2,951	1,810
Royalties for Regions Fund	19,082	14,766	17,640	9,448	9,870	12,340	172,450	146,063
Income from other public sector entities	-	73	129	211	277	457	12,004	6,207
Total income from State Government	50,016	40,762	114,944	75,384	57,488	60,329	517,520	447,500
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	(4,981)	(9,563)	(16,069)	(19,572)	16,991	17,728	30,618	(1,925)

The Schedule of income and expenses by service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

2.3. Schedule of assets and liabilities by service as at 30 June 2025

	Regional Industry and Community Development Investment Facilitation		Corporate and Business Development Services Provided by the Department to Support Regional Development Commissions		Regional Technical and Technological Development		Regional Skills and Knowledge Development	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Assets								
Current assets	50,888	46,433	14,639	14,755	45,405	42,537	21,082	18,072
Non-current assets	153,379	139,983	44,124	44,481	136,851	128,238	63,541	54,482
Total assets	204,267	186,416	58,763	59,236	182,256	170,775	84,623	72,554
Liabilities								
Current liabilities	32,540	36,531	9,361	11,608	29,034	33,466	13,481	14,218
Non-current liabilities	7,702	3,561	2,216	1,132	6,872	3,262	3,191	1,386
Total liabilities	40,242	40,092	11,577	12,740	35,906	36,728	16,672	15,604
NETS ASSETS	164,025	146,324	47,186	46,496	146,350	134,047	67,951	56,950

	Regional Social Amenity Development		Agricultural and Aquatic Biosecurity and Integrity		Agricultural and Fisheries Natural Resource Management		Total	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Assets								
Current assets	24,720	20,321	73,873	49,403	36,275	33,732	266,882	225,253
Non-current assets	74,508	61,263	222,656	148,935	109,330	101,692	804,389	679,074
Total assets	99,228	81,584	296,529	198,338	145,605	135,424	1,071,271	904,327
Liabilities								
Current liabilities	15,807	15,988	47,238	38,867	23,196	26,538	170,657	177,216
Non-current liabilities	3,742	1,558	11,181	3,789	5,491	2,587	40,395	17,275
Total liabilities	19,549	17,546	58,419	42,656	28,687	29,125	211,052	194,491
NETS ASSETS	79,679	64,038	238,110	155,682	116,918	106,299	860,219	709,836

The Schedule of assets and liabilities by service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3. Use of our funding

Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Department's funding is applied and the accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements. The primary expenses incurred by the Department in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Employee benefits expenses	3.1.1	275,243	251,298
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	69,697	64,498
Grants and subsidies	3.2	156,164	138,974
Supplies and services	3.3	153,921	147,867
Accommodation expenses	3.3	20,358	18,845
Other expenses	3.3	4,654	7,516

3.1.1 Employee benefits expense

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Employee benefits expenses		
Employee benefits	210,561	195,264
Termination benefits	396	480
Superannuation-defined contribution plans	27,113	24,118
Long service leave	10,172	7,883
Annual leave	22,111	19,475
Other related expenses	4,890	4,078
Total employee benefits expenses	275,243	251,298
Add: AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits	6,669	5,542
Less: Employee Contributions	(1,597)	(1,429)
Net employee benefits	280,315	255,411

Employee benefits: Include wages, salaries and social contributions, accrued and paid leave entitlements and paid sick leave, and non-monetary benefits recognised under accounting standards other than AASB 16 (such as medical care, housing, cars and free or subsidised goods or services) for employees.

Termination benefits: Payable when employment is terminated before normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. Termination benefits are recognised when the Department is demonstrably committed to terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3.1.1 Employee benefits expense (continued)

Superannuation: The amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises employer contributions paid to the GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, the GESBs, or other superannuation funds.

Other related expenses: Other related expenses include costs associated with the reimbursement of employee entitlements, government regional housing leases, staff training and development and advertising for the recruitment of employees.

AASB 16 Non-Monetary Benefits: Employee benefits in the form of non-monetary benefits, predominantly relate to the provision of vehicles and housing benefits, that have been provided by the Department.

Employee Contributions: Contributions made to the Department by employees towards employee benefits that have been provided by the Department. This includes both AASB 16 and non-AASB 16 employee contributions.

3.1.2 Employee related provisions

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Employee benefits provisions		
Annual leave ^(a)	28,245	26,718
Deferred and purchased leave ^(b)	264	289
Long service leave ^(c)	34,249	32,084
	62,758	59,091
Other provisions		
Employee on-costs ^(d)	724	683
Total current employee related provisions	63,482	59,774
Non-current		
Employee benefits provisions		
Long service leave ^(c)	6,138	4,665
Total non-current employee benefits provision	6,138	4,665
Other provisions		
Employee on-costs ^(d)	77	59
Total non-current employee benefits provision	6,215	4,724
Total employee related provisions	69,697	64,498

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3.1.2 Employee benefits provisions (continued)

- (a) **Annual leave liabilities:** Classified as current, as there is no right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	16,852	15,852
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	11,393	10,866
	28,245	26,718

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

- (b) **Deferred salary scheme liabilities:** Classified as current where there is no right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. Actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	264	289
	264	289

- (c) **Long service leave liabilities:** Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as **current** liabilities as the Department does not have the right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period.

Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as **non-current** liabilities because the Department has the right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	10,273	10,057
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	30,114	26,692
	40,387	36,749

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3.1.2 Employee benefits provisions (continued)

The provision for long service leave is calculated at present value as the Department does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected present future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

(d) Employment on-costs: The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses, Note 3.3 apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost)' and are not included as part of the Department's 'employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

Movements in on-cost provisions

Movements in on-cost provisions during the financial year, other than employee benefits are set out below:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Employment on cost provisions		
Carrying amount at start of period	742	820
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised	59	(78)
Carrying amount at end of period	801	742

Key sources of estimation uncertainty – long service leave

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

Several estimates and assumptions are used in calculating the Department's long service leave provision. These include:

- expected future salary rates;
- discount rates;
- employee retention rates; and
- expected future payments.

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision.

Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of long service leave liabilities is recognised as employee benefits expense.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3.2. Grants and subsidies

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Recurrent		
Regional Community Services Fund	27,783	20,338
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	27,320	32,494
Small Grants Program	9,336	4,403
Other grant payments	91,725	81,739
Total grants and subsidies	156,164	138,974

Transactions in which the Department provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another party without receiving approximately equal value in return are categorised as 'Grant expenses'. Grants can either be operating or capital in nature.

Grants can be paid as general purpose grants which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose grants which are paid for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.

Grants and other transfers to third parties (other than contribution to owners) are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid or payable. They include transactions such as grants, subsidies, personal benefit payments made in cash to individuals, other transfer payments made to public sector Departments, local government, non-government schools, and community groups.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3.3. Other expenditure

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Professional services	69,792	63,632
Travel	6,917	6,977
Communications	5,026	5,190
Consumables	17,222	16,377
Change in biological assets and inventories	(7,087)	-
Lease, rent and hire costs	5,451	4,275
Consultancies expense	2,848	1,728
Utilities, rates and charges	4,589	4,400
Insurance	3,214	2,752
Licences, fees and registration	15,160	8,435
Advertising	1,365	1,199
Minor equipment and maintenance	15,265	17,227
Services purchased from non-government agencies	13,867	14,951
General administration costs	292	724
Total supplies and services expenses	153,921	147,867
Rental	13,850	13,188
Repairs and maintenance	6,508	5,657
Total accommodation expenses	20,358	18,845
Expected credit losses expense	(349)	(398)
Donations and sponsorships	588	759
Employment on-costs	928	499
Return of unused grants	2,860	-
Miscellaneous other	607	(27)
Fisheries adjustment scheme buybacks	20	6,683
Total other expenses	4,654	7,516
Total other expenditure	178,933	174,228

Supplies and services expenses: Supplies and services are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The carrying amounts of any materials held for distribution are expensed when the materials are distributed.

Minor equipment and maintenance: Minor equipment and maintenance costs are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a significant component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

Rental: Rental is expensed as incurred as Memorandum of Understanding Agreements between the Department and the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation contain significant substitution rights.

Repairs and maintenance: Building and infrastructure repairs and maintenance costs are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a significant component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

3.3. Other expenditure (continued)

Other operating expenses: Other operating expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

Expected credit loss: Expected credit losses are recognised for movement in allowance for impairment of trade receivables. Please refer to note 6.1.1. Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables.

Employee on-costs: Employee on-costs include workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liabilities is included at Note 3.1.2 Employee related provisions. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.

Change in biological assets and inventories: Adjustment to the value of consumables following inventory stocktakes completed by the Department.

4. Our funding sources

How we obtain our funding

This section provides additional information about how the Department obtains its funding and the relevant accounting policy notes that govern the recognition and measurement of this funding. The primary income received by the Department and the relevant notes are:

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Income from State Government	4.1	517,520	447,500
User charges and fees	4.2	53,948	52,987
Commonwealth grants and contributions	4.3	32,155	12,306
Non-Government grants and subsidies	4.4	27,509	23,292
Other revenue	4.5	29,127	44,500
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	4.6	(765)	259

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.1. Income from State Government

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Appropriations received during the period:		
Service appropriations	326,221	293,420
Other appropriations	3,894	-
	330,115	293,420
Resources received free of charge from other State government agencies during the period:		
Landgate	1,441	49
State Solicitor's Office	630	935
Department of Finance	692	722
Department of Transport	33	31
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	108	1
Western Australia Treasury Corporation	30	33
Western Australian Meat Industry	12	27
WA Museum	-	11
Main Roads	5	1
Total resources received	2,951	1,810
Income received from other public sector entities during the period:		
Department of Transport	-	26
Fremantle Ports Authority	22	22
Kimberley Ports Authority	19	19
Pilbara Ports Authority	68	67
Southern Ports Authority	37	37
Mid West Ports Authority	22	22
Agriculture Produce Commission	-	9
Department of Biodiversity, Conversation and Attractions	573	764
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	3,168	-
Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation	150	325
Main Roads	-	161
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	460	955
Department of Treasury	-	3,200
Rural Business Development Corporation	260	-
Administered - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	6,475	-
Public Transport Authority of Western Australia	750	600
Total other income from State Government	12,004	6,207
Royalties for Regions Fund		
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account	2,452	1,374
Regional Community Services Account	107,056	89,845
Regional and Statewide Initiatives	62,942	54,844
Total Royalties for Regions Fund	172,450	146,063
Total income from State Government	517,520	447,500

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.1. Income from State Government (continued)

Service appropriations are recognised as income at fair value of consideration received in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited to the Department's bank account or credited to the holding account at Treasury.

Income from other public sector entities is recognised as income when the Department has satisfied its performance obligations under the funding agreement. If there is no performance obligation, income will be recognised when the Department receives the funds.

Resources received from other public sector entities are recognised as income equivalent to the fair value of the assets received or the fair value of services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

The Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account, Regional Community Services Accounts and Regional Statewide Initiative are sub funds within the overarching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas and are recognised as revenue when the Department gains control on receipt of the funds. The Department has assessed Royalties for Regions agreements and concludes that they are not within the scope of AASB15 as they do not meet the 'sufficiently specific' criterion.

Administered – Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development are funds transferred from DPIRD's administered account to controlled.

Summary of consolidated account appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 Budget estimate \$'000	2025 Supplementary funding \$'000	2025 Section 25 Transfers \$'000	2025 Revised budget \$'000	2025 Actual \$'000	2025 Variance \$'000
Delivery of Services						
Item 43 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	266,306	46,856	6,145	319,307	319,307	-
Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007	3,475	-	-	3,475	3,475	-
Salaries & Allowances Act 1975	3,439	-	-	3,439	3,439	-
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	273,220	46,856	6,145	326,221	326,221	-
Capital						
Item 120 Capital appropriations ^(a)	66,660	29,670	-	96,330	54,605	41,725
Administered Transactions						
Item 44 Administered grants, subsidies and other transfer payments	1,550	-	-	1,550	1,550	-
GRAND TOTAL	341,430	76,526	6,145	424,101	382,376	41,725

(a) Return of capital appropriation as a result of Mid-year review and 2025-26 Bilateral budget processes. The majority of this variance relates to a deferral of \$40.5 million of funding associated with DPIRD's New Metropolitan Facility project. Funding will be redistributed in future periods to more closely align with planned expenditure requirements.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.2. User charges and fees

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Access fees	29,723	32,004
Recreational licence fees	8,987	8,862
Sale of Goods	1,391	1,439
Other user charges and fees	13,847	10,682
Total user charges and fees	53,948	52,987

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the services to customers.

Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

Access fees and recreational license fees

Revenue for recreational licence fees and access fees other than West Coast Rock Lobster is recognised at the time of receipt. West Coast Rock Lobster Access fees are recognised by reference to the actual catch to date as a proportion of total quota for the access period.

Sale of Goods

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the goods to the customer.

Other User charges and fees

Revenue for other user charges and fees relates mainly to the provision of services and regulatory fees. Revenue is recognised at the time of receipt.

Net appropriation determination

The Treasurer may make a determination providing for prescribed receipts to be retained for services under the control of the Department.

In accordance with the determination specified in the 2024/2025 Budget Statements, the Department retained \$132.8 million in 2024/2025 from the following:

- proceeds from fees and charges
- sale of goods
- Commonwealth – specific purpose grants and contributions
- one-off gains with a value of less than \$10,000 derived from the sale of property other than real property
- revenues from services provided through the establishment of memorandum of understandings
- other Departmental revenue.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.3. Commonwealth grants and contributions

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Commonwealth National Partnership Agreements	29,107	8,997
Federation Funding Agreement	590	1,850
Director of National Parks	429	444
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	1,060	638
Other grants from the Commonwealth	398	109
Indian Ocean Territories	571	268
Total Commonwealth grants and contributions	32,155	12,306

Where an enforceable agreement exists between the Department and the Commonwealth Government to transfer sufficiently specific goods or services to a customer, the Department recognises grant revenue as and when goods and services are transferred. Revenue is recognised based on the Department's input (cost) to the satisfaction of a performance obligation over the total expected input.

When the Department has not yet met the performance obligations, amounts received are treated as contract liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

Where there is no identified enforceable agreement or performance obligation is not sufficiently specific, revenue is recognised:

- Where the grant does not relate to capital funding, immediately when the Department has the contractual right to receive the grant.
- Where the grant is to acquire or construct a non-financial asset, over time, as the building or facility is constructed. Income is recognised to the extent of costs incurred to-date because the costs of construction are the best measure of the stage of completion of the building.

Grants can further be split between:

- General purpose grants
- Specific purpose grants.

General purpose grants refer to grants which are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Specific purpose grants are received for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.4. Other grants and subsidies

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Agrifutures Australia	-	335
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	1,275	1,025
CRC For Developing Northern Australia Limited	526	534
Curtin University	175	441
Deakin University	320	-
Department Of Energy, Environment & Climate Action	444	-
Department Of Infrastructure Transport Regional Development Communications and The Arts	285	-
Field Applied Research Australia Ltd	-	177
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	-	48
Grains Research and Development Corporation	11,651	11,664
Grower Group Alliance	129	363
Horticulture industry	-	63
Horticulture Innovation Australia Ltd	444	-
Longreach Plant Breeders	-	242
Meat and Livestock Australia	328	786
Murdoch University	1,221	291
Pilbara Iron Company (Services) Pty Ltd	559	554
Plant Health Australia Ltd	38	130
Primary Industries And Regions South Australia	162	400
Rural Industry Research and Development Corporation	303	260
Saafe Limited	359	-
Seedpurity Pty Ltd	-	212
University of Queensland	948	-
University of Sydney	329	-
University of Adelaide	3,066	-
University Of New England	-	198
WA Marine Science Institution	-	175
Woodside Energy Technologies Pty Ltd	-	119
Other grants and subsidies	4,947	5,275
Total other grants and subsidies	27,509	23,292

Consultancy and contract research

The Department receives revenue from a range of private and government granting for consultancy and contract research. Research grants are considered within the scope of AASB 15 due to the existence of an enforceable agreement and the promise to transfer goods or services to, or on behalf of the customer, and are sufficiently specific as the Department has the obligation to provide:

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.4. Other grants and subsidies (continued)

- A refund if the goods or services are not provided.
- Comprehensive academic paper with the results of the research after completion.
- Intellectual property.
- Perpetual and royalty-free licence to the developed intellectual property.

Depending on the nature of the promise, the Department either recognises revenue over time as the services are performed or at a point in time when the obligation is delivered.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.5. Other revenue

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Levies and rates	6,556	6,038
Return of grant allocations	2,346	266
Royalties	2,113	2,184
Rents and leases	2,680	3,306
Interest revenue	1,594	2,006
Recoups and recoveries	4,060	5,259
Cost share recovery	7,759	16,551
Other	2,019	8,890
Total other revenue	29,127	44,500

Levies and rates are received under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* Industry Funded Scheme. Revenue is recognised upon entitlement usually being when cash is received.

Return of grant allocations relate to return of unspent Royalties for Regions funds provided to grants' recipients in previous years. Revenue is recognised upon entitlement usually being when cash is received.

Royalties relates to royalties collected from third parties who bought the rights to sell and produce products that the Department developed such as apples and other horticultural products. The revenue is recognised at the point in time when a product is sold by the licensee in accordance with AASB 15.

Recoups and recoveries are recognised on the issuance of the bills or when cash is received.

Cost share recovery is accounted for in accordance with AASB 1058 when the Department receives the confirmation to claim the expenditure incurred.

Other relates to miscellaneous recoups and cost recoveries from the Department's operation. The revenue is recognised upon entitlement usually being when cash is received.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

4.6. Gains on disposal of non-current assets

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Net Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets		
Infrastructure	6	-
Vehicles and buses	60	269
Equipment	-	10
Plant and machinery	-	60
Marine vessels	70	179
	136	518
Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed		
Buildings	(786)	(159)
Vehicles and buses	(21)	-
Infrastructure	(17)	-
Plant and machinery	(30)	(100)
Marine vessels	(47)	-
	(901)	(259)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal	(765)	259

Gains and losses on the disposal of non-current assets are presented by deducting from the proceeds on disposal the carrying amount of the asset and related selling expenses. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5. Key assets

Assets the Department utilises for economic benefit or service potential

This section includes information regarding the key assets the Department utilises to gain economic benefits or provide service potential. The section sets out both the key accounting policies and financial information about the performance of these assets:

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	5.1	447,875	377,379
Intangible assets	5.2	2,103	2,495
Right-of-use assets	5.3	37,468	12,878

5.1. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Leasehold improvements \$'000	Computer and communications equipment \$'000	Office and other equipment \$'000	Plant and machinery \$'000	Marine vessels \$'000	Vehicles and buses \$'000	Infrastructure \$'000	Capital works in progress \$'000	Total \$'000
Year ended 30 June 2025											
1 July 2024											
Gross carrying amount	179,585	127,970	490	15,026	8,813	63,359	26,198	13,051	56,088	15,667	506,247
Accumulated depreciation	-	(2,126)	(100)	(14,519)	(6,644)	(43,316)	(15,053)	(11,799)	(15,822)	-	(109,379)
Accumulated impairment loss	-	(16,506)	-	(34)	(62)	(2,778)	-	(23)	(86)	-	(19,489)
Carrying amount at start of period	179,585	109,338	390	473	2,107	17,265	11,145	1,229	40,180	15,667	377,379
Additions		4,456	41	670	2,345	3,274	189	1,151	4,105	10,827	27,058
Transfers	-	1,119	2	(22)	32	(956)	(13)	(18)	-	(955)	(811)
Disposals		(802)	-	-	-	(30)	(47)	-	(17)	-	(896)
Revaluations increments/(decrements) ^(a)	28,824	23,165	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51,989
(Impairment losses) / Reversal of impairment ^(b)	-	8,683	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,683
Depreciation	-	(7,596)	(46)	(259)	(571)	(3,165)	(1,530)	(618)	(1,742)	-	(15,527)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	208,409	138,363	387	862	3,913	16,388	9,744	1,744	42,526	25,539	447,875
Gross carrying amount	208,409	147,092	533	15,640	11,185	67,587	26,022	13,896	60,208	25,539	576,111
Accumulated depreciation	-	(906)	(146)	(14,744)	(7,210)	(48,421)	(16,278)	(12,129)	(17,596)	-	(117,430)
Accumulated impairment loss	-	(7,823)	-	(34)	(62)	(2,778)	-	(23)	(86)	-	(10,806)

(a) Of this amount, \$14.6 million relates to professional and project management fees, which are now included in the value of current use building assets under the current replacement cost basis as required by the prospective application of AASB 2022-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.

(b) A decision was made to continue utilisation of Building 102, the Animal Microbiology laboratory on the South Perth site following a risk assessment from a hazardous materials consultant. With procedures implemented to ensure health and safety risks to staff remain low, the Department intends to continue utilising the specialised research facilities housed within the lab until replacement facilities are commissioned at the State Biosecurity Response Centre. Accordingly, the impairment loss recognised in 2023/24 for the lab and the assets held within has been reversed in 2024/25.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.1. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

	Land	Buildings	Leasehold improvements	Computer and communications equipment	Office and other equipment	Plant and machinery	Marine vessels	Vehicles and buses	Infrastructure	Capital works in progress	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Year ended 30 June 2024											
1 July 2023											
Gross carrying amount	146,979	119,924	410	14,798	8,510	61,571	18,947	12,966	51,021	22,845	457,971
Accumulated depreciation	-	(1,224)	(48)	(14,476)	(6,138)	(42,906)	(13,944)	(11,531)	(14,072)	-	(104,339)
Accumulated impairment loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount at start of period	146,979	118,700	362	322	2,372	18,665	5,003	1,435	36,949	22,845	353,632
Additions	-	3,158	63	361	453	4,083	7,463	252	5,162	(1,774)	19,221
Transfers	496	(2,005)	11	(28)	(68)	1,080	(18)	27	11	(1,949)	(2,443)
Disposals	-	(178)	-	-	-	(122)	-	-	(20)	-	(320)
Revaluations increments/(decrements)	32,110	12,897	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45,007
Impairment losses ^(c)	-	(16,506)	-	(34)	(62)	(2,778)	-	(23)	(86)	(3,455)	(22,944)
Depreciation	-	(6,728)	(46)	(148)	(588)	(3,663)	(1,303)	(462)	(1,836)	-	(14,774)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2024	179,585	109,338	390	473	2,107	17,265	11,145	1,229	40,180	15,667	377,379
Gross carrying amount	179,585	127,970	490	15,026	8,813	63,359	26,198	13,051	56,088	15,667	506,247
Accumulated depreciation	-	(2,126)	(100)	(14,519)	(6,644)	(43,316)	(15,053)	(11,799)	(15,822)	-	(109,379)
Accumulated impairment loss	-	(16,506)	-	(34)	(62)	(2,778)	-	(23)	(86)	-	(19,489)

(c) Due to the increased risk associated with Asbestos Containing Materials, including the psychosocial risks, the Department restricted access to the facilities at South Perth with immediate effect from 14 June 2024. Consequently, an impairment loss has been recognised for the buildings and equipment in accordance with the requirements under the Australian Accounting Standards AASB 136 – *Impairment of Assets*.

Note that a portion of the impairment recognised for the site was reversed in the current financial year. Refer to note (b) in the table for 2024/25 actuals.

Initial recognition

Items of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment costing \$5,000 or more are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no cost or significantly less than fair value, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment costings less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.1. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of land and buildings. Land is carried at fair value and buildings are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Infrastructure, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate). The effective date was at 1 July 2024, with valuations performed during the year ended 30 June 2025 and recognised at 30 June 2025.

In undertaking the valuation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land \$3.3 million (\$3.0 million in 2023/24) and buildings \$4.0 million (\$3.8 million in 2023/24). For the remaining balance fair value of buildings were determined on the basis of current replacement cost and fair value of land was determined on the basis of comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted used land).

In addition, for buildings under the current replacement cost basis, estimated professional and project management fees are included in the valuation of current use assets as required by *AASB 2022-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities*.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.1. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment

Charge for the period	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Buildings	5.1	7,596	6,728
Computer and communications equipment	5.1	259	148
Office and other equipment	5.1	571	588
Plant and machinery	5.1	3,165	3,663
Lease improvements	5.1	46	46
Marine vessels	5.1	1,530	1,303
Infrastructure	5.1	1,742	1,836
Vehicles and buses	5.1	618	462
Total depreciation for the period		15,527	14,774

Useful lives

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits. The exceptions to this rule include land.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over the estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

Asset	Useful life: years
Buildings	20 to 40 and/or estimated useful life
Computer and communications equipment	3 to 5
Office and other equipment	5 to 10
Plant and machinery	5 to 20
Marine vessels	5 to 6
Infrastructure	10 to 40
Vehicles and buses	5 to 10

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments should be made where appropriate.

Land, which is considered to have an indefinite life, is not depreciated. Depreciation is not recognised in respect of these assets because their service potential is not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment (continued)

Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of infrastructure, plant and equipment, are tested for any indication of impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit and loss.

Where a previously revalued asset is written down to its recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement through the other comprehensive income.

As the Department is a not-for-profit entity, the recoverable amount of regularly revalued specialised assets is anticipated to be materially the same as fair value.

If there is an indication that there has been a reversal in impairment, the carrying amount shall be increased to its recoverable amount. However, this reversal should not increase the asset's carrying amount above what would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss has been recognised in prior years.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from declining replacement costs.

Reversal of Impairment – Laboratory South Perth

Following the decision to restrict access, a South Perth Incident Management Team (IMT) was established and worked with senior leaders and managers to ensure everyone is safe and to re-establish and maintain business continuity as quickly as possible, including through leasing fit-for-purpose external facilities. The team successfully relocated most functions from South Perth, with 13 leases signed at locations across the metropolitan area, including at the Claremont Showgrounds and Edith Cowan University Joondalup.

As of 14 February 2025, the IMT handed over to an Interim Governance Group to manage operations at interim facilities and South Perth until facilities such as the State Biosecurity Response Centre and new primary industries research facility are fully operational. The facility is being managed as part of the Interim Governance Group that will continue until new DPIRD sites become operational and work continues to vacate and decommission the South Perth facility. Access to the South Perth facility currently remains restricted. However following a risk assessment with a hazardous materials consultant, a decision has been made for a small workforce to continue utilising specialised facilities within Building 102, the Animal Microbiology lab (a newer building commissioned in 2022). Accordingly, the Department has reversed the impairment loss recognised in prior-year on Building 102 and the equipment housed within.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.2. Intangible assets

	Computer software \$'000	Capital works in progress \$'000	Total \$'000
Year ended 30 June 2025			
1 July 2024			
Gross carrying amount	36,827	501	37,328
Accumulated amortisation	(34,833)	-	(34,833)
Carrying amount at start of period	1,994	501	2,495
Additions	665	1,086	1,751
Transfer from capital works in progress	-	(21)	(21)
Amortisation expense	(2,122)	-	(2,122)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	537	1,566	2,103
Gross Carrying amount	37,490	1,566	39,056
Accumulated amortisation	(36,953)	-	(36,953)
Year ended 30 June 2024			
1 July 2023			
Gross carrying amount	36,408	52	36,460
Accumulated amortisation	(32,731)	-	(32,731)
Carrying amount at start of period	3,677	52	3,729
Additions	419	491	910
Transfer from capital works in progress	-	(42)	(42)
Amortisation expense	(2,102)	-	(2,102)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2024	1,994	501	2,495
Gross Carrying amount	36,827	501	37,328
Accumulated amortisation	(34,833)	-	(34,833)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.2. Intangible assets (continued)

Initial recognition

Intangible assets are recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at date of acquisition.

An internally generated intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised if, and only if, all of the following are demonstrated:

- The technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale;
- An intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;
- The ability to use or sell the intangible asset;
- The intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefit;
- The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset; and
- The ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more that comply with the recognition criteria as per AASB 138.57 (as noted above) are capitalised.

Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to profit or loss in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Costs incurred in the research phase of a project are immediately expensed.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of intangible assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

5.2.1 Amortisation and impairment

Charge for the period	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Intangible assets	2,122	2,102
Total amortisation for the period	2,122	2,102

As at 30 June 2025 there was no impairment to intangible assets. The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period, there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.2.1 Amortisation and impairment (continued)

Amortisation of finite life intangible assets is calculated on a straight-line basis at rates that allocate the asset's value over its estimated useful life. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. Estimated useful lives are reviewed annually. The estimated useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Asset category	Life (years)
Development costs	3 to 5
Software ^(a)	3 to 10
Website costs	3 to 5

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are tested for impairment annually or when an indication of impairment is identified. The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in note 5.1.1.

Development costs

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Development costs incurred for an individual project are carried forward when the future economic benefits can reasonably be regarded as assured and the total project costs are likely to exceed \$50,000. Other development costs are expensed as incurred.

Computer software

Software that is an integral part of the related hardware is treated as property, plant and equipment. Software that is not an integral part of the related hardware is treated as an intangible asset. Software costing less than \$5,000 is expensed in the year of acquisition.

Website costs

Website costs are charged as expenses when they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition or development of an asset when they may be capitalised and amortised. Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of a website, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase are expensed. Costs incurred in building or enhancing a website, to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits that can be reliably measured, are capitalised.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.3. Right-of-use assets

	Employee housing \$'000	Vehicles \$'000	Other ^(a) \$'000	Total \$'000
Year ended 30 June 2025				
1 July 2024				
Gross carrying amount	7,404	12,373	19,062	38,839
Accumulated amortisation	(2,290)	(7,205)	(16,466)	(25,961)
Carrying amount at start of period	5,114	5,168	2,596	12,878
Additions	6,219	3,828	24,291	34,338
Disposals	(2,579)	(54)	-	(2,633)
Depreciation	(3,351)	(2,606)	(1,158)	(7,115)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	5,403	6,336	25,729	37,468
Gross carrying amount	9,033	14,082	43,353	66,468
Accumulated amortisation	(3,630)	(7,746)	(17,624)	(29,000)
Year ended 30 June 2024				
Gross carrying amount	4,709	10,026	19,006	33,741
Accumulated amortisation	(2,344)	(6,368)	(16,131)	(24,843)
Carrying amount at start of period	2,365	3,658	2,875	8,898
Additions	6,727	3,831	56	10,614
Disposals	(1,175)	(32)	-	(1,207)
Depreciation	(2,803)	(2,289)	(335)	(5,427)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2024	5,114	5,168	2,596	12,878
Gross carrying amount	7,404	12,373	19,062	38,839
Accumulated amortisation	(2,290)	(7,205)	(16,466)	(25,961)

(a) The other right-of-use assets relate to \$23.68 million for the new State Biosecurity Centre (\$0 in 2023/24), \$2.05 million (\$2.25 million in 2023/24) for the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre and \$0 (\$0.35 million in 2023/24) for other commercial leases.

Initial recognition

At the commencement date of the lease, the Department recognises right-of-use assets at cost, comprising:

- The amount of the initial measurement of lease liability;
- Any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received;
- Any initial direct costs; and
- Restoration costs, including dismantling and removing the underlying asset.

The corresponding lease liabilities in relation to these right-of-use assets have been disclosed in note 7.2 Lease liabilities.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

5.3. Right-of-use assets (continued)

The Department has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases (with a lease of 12 months or less) and low value leases (with underlying value of \$5,000 or less). Lease payments associated with these leases are expensed over a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of right-of-use assets, requiring the asset to be carried at the cost less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses and adjusted for any re-measurement of lease liability.

5.3.1 Depreciation and impairment of right-of-use assets

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the underlying assets. If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Department at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

Right-of-use assets are tested for impairment when an indication of impairment is identified. The policy in connection with testing for impairment of outlined in note 5.1.1.

The following amounts relating to leases have been recognised in the statement of comprehensive income:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Employee housing	3,351	2,803
Vehicles	2,606	2,289
Other	1,158	335
Total right-of-use depreciation	7,115	5,427
Lease interest expense (included in Finance Cost)	1,184	454

The total cash outflow for leases in 2024/25 was \$7.56 million (2023/24 was \$5.08 million). At 30 June 2025 there was no indication of impairment to right-of-use assets.

The Department's leasing activities for and how these are accounted for:

The Department has leases for residential accommodation, vehicles and other, comprising offices and infrastructure.

The Department has also entered in a Memorandum of Understanding Agreements (MOU) with the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation. These are not recognised under AASB 16 because of substitution rights held by the Department of Finance and are accounted for as an expense incurred.

The Department recognises leases as right-of-use assets and associated lease liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6. Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Department's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Receivables	6.1	29,461	36,784
Amounts receivable for services (holding account)	6.2	255,812	236,905
Other assets	6.3	13,182	7,306
Inventories	6.4	5,130	2,061
Biological assets	6.5	4,761	743
Joint arrangements	6.6	53,753	43,564
Payables	6.7	40,088	54,231
Contract liabilities	6.8	39,633	35,511
Other current liabilities	6.9	4,102	7,029

6.1. Receivables

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Trade receivables	15,872	24,665
Allowance for impairment of trade receivables	(441)	(836)
GST receivable	3,664	3,450
Interest receivable	5	12
Other debtors	1,078	1,060
Total current	20,178	28,351
Non-current		
Accrued salaries account ^(a)	8,055	6,205
Other debtors	1,228	2,228
Total non-current	9,283	8,433
Total receivables	29,461	36,784

(a) Funds held in the suspense account are to be used only for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a financial year that occurs every 11 years. This account is classified as non-current except for the year before the 27th pay year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6.1 Receivables (continued)

Trade receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less any allowances for uncollectable amounts (i.e. impairment). The carrying amount of net trade receivables is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days.

The Department recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs) on a receivable not held at fair value through profit or loss. The ECLs based on the difference between the contractual cash flows and the cash flows that the entity expects to receive. Individual receivables are written off when the Agency has no reasonable expectations of recovering the contractual cash flows.

Accrued salaries account contains amounts paid annually into the Treasurer's special purpose account. It is restricted for meeting the additional cash outflow for employee salary payments in reporting periods with 27 pay days instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account. The account has been reclassified from 'Cash and cash equivalents' to 'Receivables' as it is considered that funds in the account are not cash but a right to receive the cash in future.

6.1.1 Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Reconciliation of changes in the allowances for impairment of trade receivables:		
Opening balance	836	1,234
Expected credit losses expense	(395)	(398)
Balance at end of period	441	836

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period for trade receivables is the carrying amount of the asset inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at Note 8.1(c) 'Financial instruments disclosures'.

The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements for trade receivables.

6.2. Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current	6,026	6,178
Non-current	249,786	230,727
Balance at end of period	255,812	236,905

Amounts receivable for services represents the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

Amounts receivable for services are financial assets at amortised cost and are not considered impaired (i.e. there is no expected credit loss of the holding accounts).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6.3. Other assets

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Prepaid goods and services	4,622	1,244
Doppler radar maintenance ^(a)	530	530
Contract asset	4,962	1,934
Total current assets	10,114	3,708
Non-current		
Doppler radar maintenance ^(a)	3,017	3,547
Unlisted shares	51	51
Total non-current assets	3,068	3,598
Balance at the end of period	13,182	7,306

(a) Prepaid value of future maintenance associated with Doppler radars. The Department owns Doppler radars, situated in the Wheatbelt, which are designed to provide more precise weather information to help growers in their decision making.

Other non-financial assets include prepaid goods and services which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods and services or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period that covers a term extending beyond that period.

6.4. Inventories

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Inventories held for resale		
Agricultural produce	43	6
Raw materials and stores	5,087	2,055
Balance at end of period	5,130	2,061

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventory is based on the first-in first-out basis.

Inventories not held for resale are measured at cost unless they are no longer required, in which case they are valued at net realisable value.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6.5. Biological assets

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Livestock	677	309
Field crops	720	434
Aquaculture items	3,364	-
Balance at end of period	4,761	743
Balance at 1 July	743	600
Purchases	4,018	167
Sales of livestock	-	(24)
Balance at 30 June	4,761	743

Biological assets are valued at fair value less estimated point of sale costs and costs necessary to get them to market. A gain or loss on valuation is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

6.6. Joint arrangements

The Department has interests in a number of joint arrangements, some of which are classified as joint operations and others as joint ventures.

A joint venture is an arrangement in which the Department has joint control, whereby the Department has rights to the net assets of the arrangement, rather than rights to its assets and obligations for its liabilities. The Department recognises its investment in joint ventures using the equity method of accounting (refer to note 6.6.1).

A joint operation is an arrangement in which the Department has joint control, whereby the Department has direct rights to its assets and obligations for its liabilities. The Department recognises its share of any joint operation assets and liabilities to the extent of its interest (refer to note 6.6.2).

6.6.1 Investments accounted for using the equity method

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Share of gain in joint venture entity using the equity method	6,438	4,581
	6,438	4,581
Investments in joint ventures at initial cost of investment	60,689	56,939
Share of loss using the equity method	(6,936)	(13,375)
Investment in joint ventures	53,753	43,564

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6.6.1 Investments accounted for using the equity method (continued)

The Western Australian Agriculture Authority (WAAA), a body corporate established under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*, is a joint venturer in:

- **InterGrain Pty Ltd** was incorporated on 26 October 2007 and is resident in Australia. The principal activity of the joint venture is to commercialise the research from wheat and barley breeding. At 30 June 2025, WAAA holds a 58% equity interest in InterGrain Pty Ltd. The Department regards the investment in InterGrain Pty Ltd as a joint venture, due to the contractually agreed sharing of control over economic activity and the financial and operating decisions relating to the activity requiring the unanimous consent of the shareholders.
- **Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre Ltd (Limited by Guarantee) (AEGIC)** was incorporated on 24 October 2012. The primary aim of the joint venture is to lead the establishment and operation of a centre of science, technology and innovation to facilitate the competitiveness of the Australian grains industry with a particular focus on export markets. As at 30 June 2025, the Department holds a 50% equity interest in AEGIC.

The Department has no obligations with respect to liabilities incurred by InterGrain Pty Ltd and AEGIC.

Summary financials of equity accounted investees

The following is not adjusted for the percentage ownership by the Department:

	2025 \$'000 InterGrain	2024 \$'000 InterGrain	2025 \$'000 AEGIC	2024 \$'000 AEGIC
Current assets	83,853	71,919	3,709	4,152
Non-current assets	23,579	17,566	3,322	2,065
Total assets	107,432	89,485	7,031	6,217
Current liabilities	15,165	11,953	4,426	2,956
Non-current liabilities	2,821	4,165	313	1,204
Total liabilities	17,986	16,118	4,739	4,160
Net assets	89,446	73,367	2,292	2,057
Revenue	59,625	51,284	11,291	11,519
Expenses	(43,547)	(37,845)	(11,056)	(11,879)
Net gain/(loss)	16,078	13,439	235	(360)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6.6.2 Jointly controlled assets

The Department has shared ownership of Crown land and buildings, with the following amounts representing the fair value thereof:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Non-current assets		
Land	2,405	2,355
Building	2,199	2,152
Balance at end of period	4,604	4,507

The Department's share of these assets has been included in infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

The shared ownership of Crown land and buildings relates to the following sites:

- (a) The Department owns 100% of the land at Forrestfield. Forrestfield was established in 1993 to protect fauna and flora located on the site and the Department has been responsible for all costs in regards to maintaining the site and any proposed future developments. It was valued by Landgate at \$550,000 in 2024/25 (\$405,000 in 2023/24).
- (b) The Department has a 50% share of ownership of Crown land and building with the Department of Transport in the Fremantle Marine Operations Centre. It was valued by Landgate in 2024/25 at \$4.05 million (land \$1.85 million and buildings \$2.20 million), (\$4.1 million in 2023/24; land \$2 million and buildings \$2.1 million).

6.7. Payables

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Trade payables	11,207	34,339
Accrued expenses	20,628	13,918
Accrued salaries	6,628	4,958
Other payables	1,625	1,016
Balance at end of period	40,088	54,231

Payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally within 15-20 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a fortnight of the reporting period end. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

6.8. Contract liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current	39,633	35,511
Total contract liabilities	39,633	35,511

The Department's contract liabilities mainly relate to research contracts yet to be performed and access fees revenue received in advance.

Movement in contract liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Reconciliation of changes in contract liabilities		
Opening balance	35,511	29,164
Additions	27,905	22,026
Revenue recognised in the reporting period	(23,783)	(15,679)
Balance at end of period	39,633	35,511

The Department expects to satisfy the performance obligations unsatisfied at the end of the reporting period within the next 12 months.

6.9. Other liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Native Title Settlements payable	1,690	2,789
Total current liabilities	1,690	2,789
Non-Current		
Native Title Settlements payable	2,412	4,240
Total non-current liabilities	2,412	4,240
Balance at end of period	4,102	7,029

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

7. Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cash flows of the Department.

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Borrowings	7.1	21,360	22,360
Lease liabilities	7.2	36,172	10,862
Finance costs	7.3	1,263	547
Reconciliation of cash	7.4.1	62,880	44,977
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4.2	157,793	139,235
Capital commitments	7.5	450,677	347,948

7.1 Borrowings

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Treasury advance ^(a)	19,360	19,360
Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation ^(b)	1,000	1,000
	20,360	20,360
Non-current		
Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation ^(b)	1,000	2,000
	1,000	2,000
Balance at end of period	21,360	22,360

(a) Treasury advance (non-interest bearing) refers to repayable advance under section 28(1) of the *Financial Management Act 2006* to meet cost already expensed in 2023-24 and prior years for ongoing emergency responses. This advance was renewed in 2024-25 and will subsequently be renewed into 2025-26 to cover the upfront costs temporarily.

(b) 'Borrowings' refer to interest bearing liabilities mainly raised through the Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC).

Treasury advances and Borrowings are classified as financial instruments. All interest-bearing borrowings are initially recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Department has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either 'financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss', or financial liabilities at 'amortised cost'. The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest-bearing liabilities.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

7.2. Lease liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current	5,404	4,551
Non-current	30,768	6,311
Total lease liabilities	36,172	10,862

Initial measurement

The Department measures a lease liability, at the commencement date, at the present value of the lease payments to be made over the lease term. The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Department uses the incremental borrowing rate provided by Western Australia Treasury Corporation.

Lease payments included by the Department as part of the present value calculation of lease liability include:

- Fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- The exercise price of purchase options (where these are reasonably certain to be exercised); and
- Payments for penalties for terminating a lease, where the lease term reflects the Department exercising an option to terminate the lease.

The interest on the lease liability is recognised in profit or loss over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Lease liabilities do not include any future changes in variable lease payments (that depend on an index or rate) until they take effect, in which case the lease liability is reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset.

Periods covered by extension or termination options are only included in the lease term by the Department if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated).

Variable lease payments, not included in the measurement of lease liability, that are dependent on sales are recognised by the Department in profit or loss in the period in which the condition that triggers those payments occurs

This section should be read in conjunction with note 5.3.

Subsequent measurement

Lease liabilities are measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liabilities; reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made; and remeasuring the carrying amount at amortised cost, subject to adjustments to reflect any reassessment or lease modifications.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

7.3. Finance costs

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Finance costs		
WATC borrowing charges	47	74
Foreign exchange differences	32	19
Lease interest expense	1,184	454
Finance costs expensed	1,263	547

'Finance costs' includes the interest component of lease liability payments.

7.4. Cash and cash equivalents

7.4.1 Reconciliation of cash

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents		
Reconciliation of cash		
Cash advances	9	9
Cash at bank ^(a)	62,871	44,968
Total cash and cash equivalents	62,880	44,977

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with only maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

(a) Includes cash received as capital contributions remaining unspent at year-end of \$22.4 million (2024: \$13.8 million).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

7.4.2 Restricted cash and cash equivalents

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current		
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		
Royalties for Regions fund ^(a)	44,422	36,694
Commonwealth fund & other restricted	32,400	18,265
Trust Account	120	403
Special purpose accounts ^(b)		
Agriculture Research Grants Account No. 1 (non-interest bearing)	23,042	21,020
Agriculture Research Grants Account No. 2	8,683	8,774
Commonwealth Agriculture Activity Grants (non-interest bearing)	6,368	7,935
Plant Research and Development	5,834	4,934
Cattle Industry Funded Scheme	5,632	5,652
Declared Pest Account	3,825	4,006
Land Conservation Districts Fund	237	146
Grain, Seeds and Hay Industry Funded Scheme	4,610	4,470
Sheep and Goats Industry Funded Scheme	3,373	3,162
Fisheries Research and Development	6,744	11,908
Recreational Fishing Account	10,486	10,628
Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account	2,017	1,238
Co-operative Companies Loans Account	-	-
Exotic Diseases of Animals (Compensation and Eradication) Account	-	-
Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Account	-	-
Total current	157,793	139,235
Total restricted cash and cash equivalents	157,793	139,235

(a) Unspent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas.

(b) Receipts and disbursements are disclosed in note 9.8 (Special Purpose Accounts) in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 9.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

7.4.3 Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Reconciliation of cash			
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:			
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4.1	62,871	44,977
Restricted cash and cash equivalents: current	7.4.2	157,793	139,235
		220,664	184,212
Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities			
Net cost of services		(487,955)	(449,425)
Non-cash items			
Net gain on sale of assets	4.6	(765)	(259)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.1	24,764	22,303
Expected credit loss expense		(349)	(398)
Resources received free of charge	4.1	2,951	1,810
Other non-cash items:			
Share of net gain in joint ventures using equity method	6.6.1	(6,438)	(4,581)
(Increase)/decrease in assets			
Biological assets		(4,018)	(143)
Inventories		(3,069)	(564)
Receivables ^(a)		7,365	(12,618)
Other assets		(5,876)	1
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities			
Payables		(14,316)	24,747
Contract liabilities		4,122	6,347
Provisions		5,199	2,880
Native Title Settlement payable		(2,927)	182
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(b)		837	759
Net cash used in operating activities		(480,475)	(408,959)

(a) Note that the Australian Tax Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect to the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

7.5. Capital commitments

The commitments below are inclusive of GST where relevant.

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Within 1 year	107,448	8,426
Later than 1 year	343,229	339,522
Total capital commitments	450,677	347,948

At 30 June 2025, the Department had a commitment \$328.5 million with respect to the design and construction of the New Metro Facility (NMF) and \$98.1 million for the State Biosecurity Centre. The commitment for NMF is still expected to occur, but at a time which is yet to be determined.

8. Risks and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Department.

	Notes
Financial risk management	8.1
Contingent assets and liabilities	8.2
Fair value measurements	8.3

8.1 Financial risk management

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, loans and receivables, payables, Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC) borrowings, finance leases, and Treasurer's advances. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

(a) Summary of risk and risk management

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amount receivable for services (holding accounts). For receivables other than government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. Debt will be written-off against the allowance account when it is improbable or uneconomical to recover the debt. At the end of the reporting period there was no significant concentration of credit risk.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

(a) Summary of risk and risk management (continued)

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business. The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows, including drawdown of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does trade in foreign currency but values are not considered material. The Department is not materially exposed to other price risks (for example, equity securities or commodity prices changes). The Department's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to the long-term debt obligations.

All borrowings are due to the WATC and are repayable at fixed rates with varying maturities. Other than as detailed in the interest rate sensitivity analysis table at Note 8(e), the Department is not exposed to interest rate risk because the majority of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and it has no borrowings other than WATC borrowings and finance leases (fixed interest rate).

(b) Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	62,880	44,977
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	157,793	139,235
Receivables ^(a)	15,436	23,841
Available for sale financial assets	51	51
Loans and advances	2,306	3,288
Amounts receivable for services ^(b)	255,812	236,905
Total financial assets	494,278	448,297
Financial liabilities		
Payables	40,088	54,231
Lease liabilities	36,172	10,862
Borrowings	21,360	22,360
Other Liabilities	4,102	7,029
Total financial liabilities	101,722	94,482

(a) The amount of Receivables/Financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(b) Service appropriations fund the net cost of services delivered. Appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (Holding Account) comprises the budgeted depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liabilities during the year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Credit risk exposure

The following table details the credit risk exposure on the Department's trade receivables using a provision matrix.

	Total \$'000	Current \$'000	<30 days \$'000	Days past due 31-60 days \$'000	61-90 days \$'000	>91 days \$'000
30 June 2025						
Expected credit loss rate		0.25%	0.07%	4.49%	1.02%	16.93%
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	17,129	5,581	8,494	156	488	2,410
Expected credit losses	(440)	(14)	(6)	(7)	(5)	(408)
30 June 2024						
Expected credit loss rate		0.34%	0.24%	4.05%	2.70%	7.40%
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	21,972	3,814	4,648	74	3,930	9,506
Expected credit losses	(836)	(13)	(11)	(3)	(106)	(703)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure

The following table details the Department's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities										
Interest Rate Exposure						Maturity Dates				
	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Carrying amount \$'000	Fixed interest rate \$'000	Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Nominal amount \$'000	Up to 1 month \$'000	1 to 3 months \$'000	3 months to 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000
										More than 5 years \$'000
2025										
Financial assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	-	62,880	-	-	62,880	62,880	62,880	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	4.50	157,793	-	32,077	125,716	157,793	157,793	-	-	-
Receivables ^(a)	-	15,436	-	-	15,436	15,436	15,436	-	-	-
Available for sale financial assets	-	51	-	-	51	51	-	-	-	51
Loans and advances	0.84	2,306	2,306	-	-	2,306	-	-	2,306	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	255,812			255,812	255,812			6,026	24,712
		494,278	2,306	32,077	459,895	494,278	236,109	-	8,332	24,763
Financial liabilities										
Payables	-	40,088	-	-	40,088	40,088	40,088	-	-	-
Lease liabilities ^(b)	4.39	36,172	-	36,172	-	46,979	717	1,382	5,496	18,157
WATC borrowings	0.84	2,000	2,000	-	-	2,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
Treasurer's advance	-	36,172	-	-	19,360	19,360	-	-	19,360	-
Other liabilities	-	4,102	-	-	4,102	4,102	-	-	1,690	2,412
		101,722	2,000	36,172	63,550	112,529	40,805	1,382	27,546	21,569

(a) The amount of Receivables/Financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(b) The amount of lease liabilities includes \$6.620 million from leased vehicles, \$5.515 million from residential accommodation leases, and \$24.035 million from other commercial leases.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

(d) Liquidity risk and interest rate exposure (continued)

	Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities										
	Interest Rate Exposure					Maturity Dates					
	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Carrying amount \$'000	Fixed interest rate \$'000	Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Nominal amount \$'000	Up to 1 month \$'000	1 to 3 months \$'000	3 months to 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000
2024											
Financial assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	-	44,977	-	-	44,977	44,977	44,977	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	3.99	139,235	-	30,998	108,237	139,235	139,235	-	-	-	-
Receivables ^(c)	-	23,841	-	-	23,841	23,841	23,841	-	-	-	-
Available for sale financial assets	-	51	-	-	51	51	-	-	-	51	-
Loans and advances	1.31	3,288	3,288	-	-	3,288	-	-	1,000	2,288	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	236,905	-	-	236,905	236,906	515	1,545	4,119	24,712	206,015
		448,297	3,288	30,998	414,011	448,298	208,568	1,545	5,119	27,051	206,015
Financial liabilities											
Payables	-	54,231	-	-	54,231	54,231	54,231	-	-	-	-
Lease liabilities ^(d)	5.79	10,862	-	10,862	-	10,862	379	1,138	3,034	6,265	46
WATC borrowings	1.31	3,000	3,000	-	-	3,000	-	-	1,000	3,000	-
Treasurer's advance	-	19,360	-	-	19,360	19,360	-	-	-	19,360	-
Other liabilities	-	7,029	-	-	7,029	7,029	-	-	662	6,185	-
		94,482	3,000	10,862	80,620	94,482	54,610	1,138	4,696	34,810	46

(c) The amount of Receivables/Financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(d) The amount of lease liabilities includes \$5.356 million from leased vehicles, \$5.184 million from residential accommodation leases, and \$0.322 million from other commercial leases.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

(e) Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The Department is exposed to interest rate risk on its restricted cash \$32.1 million in 2024/25 (\$31.0 million in 2023/24) which earns interest at a variable rate (note 8.1(d)). A 1% change in interest rates at reporting period end would result in an increase/decrease in profit or loss and equity of \$0.32 million depending upon whether interest rates increased/decreased. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Interest rate sensitivity analysis				
	Carrying amount \$'000	-100 basis points Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000	+100 basis points Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000
2025					
Financial assets					
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	32,077	(321)	(321)	321	321
Loans and advances	2,306	(19)	(19)	19	19
Financial liabilities					
WATC borrowings	(2,000)	17	17	(17)	(17)
Lease liabilities	(36,172)	362	362	(362)	(362)
Total increase/(decrease)	(3,789)	38	38	(38)	(38)
	Interest rate sensitivity analysis				
	Carrying amount \$'000	-100 basis points Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000	+100 basis points Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000
2024					
Financial assets					
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	30,998	(310)	(310)	310	310
Loans and advances	3,288	(33)	(33)	33	33
Financial liabilities					
WATC borrowings	(3,000)	30	30	(30)	(30)
Lease liabilities	(10,862)	109	109	(109)	(109)
Total increase/(decrease)	20,424	(204)	(204)	204	204

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.2. Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent asset and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at the best estimate.

Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

8.2.1 Contingent assets

Litigation in progress

As at 30 June 2025, there are two civil proceedings in the Magistrates Court of Western Australia commenced by the Department seeking forfeiture of a number of seized animals under the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*. For one of the proceedings, a contingent asset estimated to the value of \$116,000 exists relating to recovery of costs. For the other, the potential financial impact on the Department cannot be reliably ascertained at this time.

8.2.2 Contingent liabilities

Litigation in progress

As at 30 June 2025, there is one pending litigation claim against the department in progress, which concerns administrative review of the decision of the CEO in the State Administrative Tribunal. The potential financial effect should this claim be successful cannot be reliably measured at this time.

Regarding the two civil proceedings referenced above, if the Department is not successful, a liability with respect to the costs of the proceedings may arise. The potential financial effect should this claim be successful cannot be reliably measured at this time.

Contaminated sites

Under the Contaminated Sites Act 2003 (the Act), the Department is required to report suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). In accordance with the Act, DWER classifies these sites on the basis of the risk to human health, the environment and environment values. Where sites are classified as 'contaminated – remediation required' or 'possibly contaminated – investigation required', the Department may have a liability in respect of investigation or remediation purposes.

The Department currently has 31 sites registered with DWER as possibly contaminated and one site registered as contaminated. Due to uncertainties relating to the amounts or timing of any outflows, the Department is currently unable to estimate the potential financial effect of remediation. While there is no possibility of reimbursement of any future expenses that may be incurred in the remediation of these sites, the Department may apply for funding from the Contaminated Sites Management Account to undertake further investigative work or to meet remediation cost that may be required.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.3. Fair value measurements

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
2025				
Land (note 5.1)	-	2,133	206,276	208,409
Buildings (note 5.1)	-	750	137,613	138,363
	-	2,883	343,889	346,772
	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
2024				
Land (note 5.1)	-	3,032	176,553	179,585
Buildings (note 5.1)	-	3,842	105,496	109,338
	-	6,874	282,049	288,923

There were five transfers from Level 2 to 3 during the current period.

Valuation techniques to derive Level 2 fair values

Level 2 fair values of land and buildings are derived using the market approach. Market evidence of sales prices of comparable land and buildings in close proximity is used to determine price per square metre. Non-current assets held for distribution to owners have been written down to fair value less costs to sell. Fair value has been determined by reference to market evidence of sales prices of comparable assets.

Fair value measurement using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000
2025		
Fair value at start of period	176,553	105,496
Additions	-	4,456
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other comprehensive income	28,603	22,991
Transfers (from/(to) Level 2)	1,120	3,266
Other transfers	-	1,075
(Impairment losses) / Reversal of impairment	-	8,683
Disposals	-	(802)
Depreciation expense	-	(7,552)
Fair value at end of period	206,276	137,613
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit and loss	-	-

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.3. Fair value measurements (continued)

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000
2024		
Fair value at start of period	130,548	113,585
Additions	-	3,158
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other comprehensive income	31,961	12,480
Transfers (from/(to) Level 2)	13,288	1,528
Other transfers	756	(2,008)
Impairment losses	-	(16,506)
Disposals	-	(178)
Depreciation expense	-	(6,563)
Fair value at end of period	176,553	105,496
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit and loss	-	-

Valuation processes

There were no changes in valuation techniques during the period.

Transfers in and out of a fair value level are recognised on the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. Transfers are generally limited to assets newly classified as non-current assets held for distribution as Treasurer's Instructions require valuations of land and buildings to be categorised within Level 3 where the valuations will utilise significant Level 3 inputs on a recurring basis.

Land (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for restricted use land is based on comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land). The relevant comparators of land with low level utility is selected by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics) and represents the application of a significant Level 3 input in this valuation methodology. The fair value measurement is sensitive to values of comparator land, with higher values of comparator land correlating with higher estimated fair values of land.

Buildings (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for existing use specialised buildings is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. current replacement cost. Current replacement cost is generally determined by reference to the market observable replacement cost of a substitute asset of comparable utility and the gross project size specifications, adjusted for obsolescence. Obsolescence encompasses the physical deterioration, functional (technological) obsolescence and economic (external) obsolescence.

Valuation of using current replacement cost utilises the significant Level 3 input, consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset which is estimated by Landgate. The fair value measurement is sensitive to the estimate of consumption/obsolescence, with higher values of the estimate correlating with lower estimated fair values of buildings and infrastructure.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

8.3. Fair value measurements (continued)

In addition, professional and project management fees estimated and added to the current replacement costs provided by Landgate for current use buildings represent significant Level 3 inputs used in the valuation process. The fair value of these assets will increase with a higher level of professional and project management fees.

Basis of valuation

In the absence of market-based evidence, due to the specialised nature of some non-financial assets, these assets are valued at Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy on an existing use basis. The existing use basis recognises that restrictions or limitations have been placed on their use and disposal when they are not determined to be surplus to requirements. These restrictions are imposed by virtue of the assets being held to deliver a specific community service.

9. Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements, for the understanding of this financial report.

	Notes
Events occurring after the end of the reporting period	9.1
Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards	9.2
Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative	9.3
Key management personnel	9.4
Related party transactions	9.5
Related bodies	9.6
Affiliated bodies	9.7
Special purpose accounts	9.8
Remuneration of auditor	9.9
Services provided free of charge	9.10
Equity	9.11
Supplementary financial information	9.12
Indian Ocean Territories Service Level Agreement	9.13

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.1. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

There were no events that occurred after the end of the reporting period that would materially affect the financial statements or disclosures.

9.2. Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards

The following standards are first applied for the reporting period ended on 30 June 2025:

- AASB 2020-1 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current
- AASB 2022-5 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback
- AASB 2022-6 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Non-current Liabilities with Covenants
- AASB 2022-10 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities
- AASB 2023-1 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Supplier Finance Arrangements

There were no new Australian Accounting Standards effective for the year end 30 June 2025 that applied to the Department.

9.3. Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 9 – Requirement 4 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements* or by an exemption from TI 9. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply the following Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

**Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/after**

Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after 1 Jan 2025

AASB 2023-5 *Amendments to Australia Accounting Standards – Lack of Exchangeability*

This Standard amends AASB 121 and AASB 1 to require entities to apply a consistent approach to determining whether a currency is exchangeable into another currency and the spot exchange rate to use when it is not exchangeable. The Standard also amends AASB 121 to extend the exemption from complying with the disclosure requirements for entities that apply AASB 1060 to ensure Tier 2 entities are not required to comply with the new disclosure requirements in AASB 121 when preparing their Tier 2 financial statements.

There is no financial impact.

1 Jan 2025

Operative for reporting periods on/after 1 Jan 2026

AASB 2024-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments*

This Standard amends AASB 7 and AASB 9 as a consequence of the issuance of Amendments to the Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments (Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7) by the International Accounting Standards Board in May 2024.

The Department has not assessed the impact of the Standard.

1 Jan 2026

AASB 2024-3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements Volume 11*

This Standard amends AASB 1, AASB 7, AASB 9, AASB 10 and AASB 107 as a consequence of the issuance of Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards – Volume 11 by the International Accounting Standards Board in July 2024.

The Department has not assessed the impact of the Standard.

1 Jan 2026

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.3. Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative (continued)

**Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/after**

Operative for reporting periods on/after 1 Jan 2027

AASB 18(FP) Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements (Appendix D) [for for-profit entities]

This Standard replaces AASB 101 with respect to the presentation and disclosure requirements in financial statements applicable to for-profit entities. This Standard is a consequence of the issuance of International Financial Reporting Standard 18 Presentation and Disclosure in financial Statements by the International Accounting Standards Board in April 2024.

1 July 2027

This Standard also makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards set out in Appendix D of this Standard.

The Department has not assessed the impact of the Standard.

Operative for reporting periods on/after 1 Jan 2028

AASB 2014-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture

This Standard amends AASB 10 and AASB 128 to address an inconsistency between the requirements in AASB 10 and those in AASB 128 (August 2011), in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture.

1 Jan 2028

There is no financial impact.

AASB 2024-4b Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 [deferred AASB 10 and AASB 128 amendments in AASB 2014-10 apply]

This Standard defers (to 1 January 2028) the amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 relating to the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture. The Standard also includes editorial corrections.

1 Jan 2028

There is no financial impact.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.3 Future impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet operative (continued)

AASB 18(NFP Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements (Appendix D) [for not-for-profit and superannuation entities]

This Standard replaces AASB 101 with respect to the presentation and disclosure requirements in financial statements applicable to not-for-profit and superannuation entities This Standard is a consequence of the issuance of IFRS 18 Presentation and Disclosure in financial Statements by the International Accounting Standards Board in April 2024.

1 Jan 2028

This Standard also makes amendments to other Australian Accounting Standards set out in Appendix D of this Standard.

The Department has not assessed the impact of the Standard.

9.4. Key management personnel

The Department has determined that key management personnel include Cabinet Ministers and senior officers of the Department. The Department does not incur expenditure to compensate Ministers and those disclosures may be found in the *Annual Report on State Finances*.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for seniors of the Department for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

	2025	2024
Compensation band (\$)		
50,001 - 100,000	-	-
100,001 - 150,000	1	-
150,001 - 200,000	-	-
200,001 - 250,000	1	3
250,001 - 300,000	-	2
300,001 – 350,000	3	-
400,001 - 450,000	1	1
	6	6
	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	1,603	1,489
Post-employment benefits	128	117
Other long-term benefits	39	36
Total compensation of senior officers	1,770	1,642

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect to senior officers.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.5. Related party transactions

The Department is a wholly owned and controlled entity of the State of Western Australia.

Related parties of the Department include:

- All cabinet ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities
- All senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities
- Other departments and statutory authorities, including their related bodies, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements
- Associates and joint ventures of an entity that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements, and the
- Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

Significant transactions with government-related entities

In conducting its activities, the Department is required to transact with the State and entities related to the State. These transactions are generally based on the standards terms and conditions that apply to all agencies; such transactions include:

- Superannuation payments to GESB (note 3.1.1)
- Staffing housing costs to the Department of Communities (note 3.1.1)
- Grants and subsidies paid (note 3.2) includes:

- Agricultural Produce Commission	\$480,708
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions	\$150,000
- Department of Communities	\$1,103,166
- Department of Finance	\$1,046,330
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	\$450,000
- Western Australian Meat Industry Authority	\$291,530
- Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	\$713,750
- Great Southern Development Commission	\$1,255,500
- Kimberley Development Commission	\$561,000
- Mid West Development Commission	\$914,000
- Peel Development Commission	\$638,000
- Pilbara Development Commission	\$503,500
- South West Development Commission	\$672,000
- Gascoyne Development Commission	\$1,206,000
- Wheatbelt Development Commission	\$858,000

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.5 Related party transactions (continued)

Significant transactions with government-related entities (continued)

- Supplies and services (note 3.3) includes:

- Department of Finance	\$5,386,626
- Department of Jobs Tourism Science and Innovation	\$197,995
- Department of Transport	\$163,328
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	\$78,000
- Horizon Power	\$373,621
- Landgate	\$1,464,079
- PathWest	\$72,707
- RiskCover	\$3,157,982
- Water Corporation	\$302,076
- Western Australian Treasury Corporation	\$70,675
- Central Regional TAFE	\$67,266
- South Metropolitan TAFE	\$285,411
- Accommodation payments (note 3.3) includes:

- Department of Finance	\$14,813,399
- Department of Water & Environmental Regulation	\$50,511
- Fremantle Port Authority	\$180,584
- Mid West Ports Authority	\$52,424
- Horizon Power	\$324,568
- Central Regional TAFE	\$132,472
- Service appropriation (note 4.1)
- Resources received free of charge (note 4.1)
- Income from other public sector entities (note 4.1)
- Royalties for Regions Fund (note 4.1)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.5. Related party transactions (continued)

- User charges and fees (note 4.2)
- Other revenue (note 4.5) includes:

- Insurance Commission of Western Australia	\$988,180
- Department of Fire & Emergency Services	\$985,278
- Department of Jobs Tourism Science and Innovation	\$200,000
- Department of Biosecurity Conservation and Attractions	\$132,382
- Forest Products Commission	\$63,382
- Remuneration for services provided by the Auditor General (note 9.9)
- Service provided free of charge (note 9.10)
- Capital appropriations (note 9.11)

Material transactions with other related parties

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the Department, there were no other related party transactions that involved key management personnel and/or their close family members and/or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities.

9.6. Related bodies

The following industry funding schemes are deemed to be related bodies by the Treasurer:

- The Cattle Industry Funded Scheme
- The Grains, Seeds and Hay Industry Funded Scheme
- The Sheep and Goat Industry Funded Scheme

The funds of the three schemes are reported as restricted cash and cash equivalents (note 7.4.2) and movements in Special Purpose Accounts (note 9.8).

The transactions and results of these related bodies have been included in the financial statements.

9.7. Affiliated bodies

The Department does not have affiliated bodies.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.8. Special purpose accounts

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Special purpose accounts		
Agriculture Research Grants Account No. 1 (non-interest bearing)		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds from industry and other organisations in support of agricultural research projects.		
Balance at start of period	21,020	19,593
Receipts	28,866	27,628
Payments	(26,844)	(26,201)
Balance at end of period	23,042	21,020
Agriculture Research Grants Account No. 2		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds from industry and other organisations in support of agricultural research projects.		
Balance at start of period	8,774	9,487
Receipts	3,118	3,331
Payments	(3,209)	(4,044)
Balance at end of period	8,683	8,774
Commonwealth Agriculture Activity Grants (non-interest bearing)		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds to conduct Commonwealth-funded activities.		
Balance at start of period	7,935	5,934
Receipts	2,151	7,687
Payments	(3,718)	(5,686)
Balance at end of period	6,368	7,935
Plant Research and Development		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds to conduct plant research and development in Western Australia.		
Balance at start of period	4,934	5,456
Receipts	1,235	1,181
Payments	(335)	(1,703)
Balance at end of period	5,834	4,934

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Cattle Industry Funded Scheme		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds from the cattle industry to enable industry to self-determine and self-fund appropriate responses to serious pest and disease incursions which predominantly impact on the industry sector and which are not otherwise covered under existing arrangements at the national level.		
Balance at start of period	5,652	5,346
Receipts	417	591
Payments	(437)	(285)
Balance at end of period	5,632	5,652
Declared Pest Account		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds collected to carry out measures to control declared pests on and in relation to areas for which the rates were collected.		
Balance at start of period	4,006	4,022
Receipts	7,470	6,959
Payments	(7,651)	(6,975)
Balance at end of period	3,825	4,006
Land Conservation Districts Fund		
The purpose of the fund is to promote soil conservation through research and implementation of soil and conservation measures and practices.		
Balance at start of period	146	75
Receipts	91	71
Payments	-	-
Balance at end of period	237	146
Grain, Seeds and Hay Industry Funded Scheme		
The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds from the grain, seeds and hay industry to enable the industry to self-determine and self-fund appropriate responses to serious pest and disease incursions which predominantly impact on the industry sector and which are not otherwise covered under existing arrangements at the national level.		
Balance at start of period	4,470	6,242
Receipts	5,366	4,714
Payments	(5,226)	(6,486)
Balance at end of period	4,610	4,470

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

Sheep and Goats Industry Funded Scheme

The purpose of the fund is to receive and disperse funds from the sheep and goats industry to enable the industry to self-determine and self-fund appropriate responses to serious pest and disease incursions which predominantly impact on the industry sector and which are not otherwise covered under existing arrangements at the national level.

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Balance at start of period	3,162	2,763
Receipts	1,266	1,386
Payments	(1,055)	(987)
Balance at end of period	3,373	3,162

Fisheries Research and Development Account

The Fisheries Research and Development Account, which was established under the Fisheries Act 1905 (repealed), was continued under the Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (FRMA 1994). The purpose of the Account is to hold funds in accordance with section 238 of the FRMA 1994 which may be used and applied by the Minister in such manner and in such proportion as the Minister thinks fit for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 238(5) of the FRMA 1994 and section 37(3), 41 and 55(4) and (5) of the Pearling Act 1990. All revenue and expenditure relating to commercial fishing, fish and fish habitat protection, pearling and aquaculture services is transacted through this account. AFMA Account and Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Account no longer exist in 2011-12. The balances of the two funds were transferred to Fisheries Research and Development Account in 2011-12.

Balance at start of period	11,908	5,870
Receipts		
Contribution from Consolidated Account	23,374	40,108
Royalties for Regions	1,144	12,162
Fisheries Access Fees	30,228	29,575
Grants and Contributions	2,855	2,253
Other Receipts	2,236	1,681
Interest	-	514
Payments		
Contributions to Fisheries WA operations	(65,001)	(80,255)
Balance at end of period	6,744	11,908

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Recreational Fishing Account		
The Recreational Fishing Account is established under the FRMA 1994. The purpose of the account is to hold funds in accordance with section 239 of the FRMA 1994 which may be applied by the Minister for all or any of the purposes prescribed by section 239(4) of the FRMA 1994. The main revenue sources include contributions from the Consolidated Account and revenue from recreational fishing licences. The funds support activity relating to recreational fishing.		
Balance at start of period	10,628	535
Receipts		
Contribution from Consolidated Account	25,017	14,664
Recreational Fishing Licences	9,037	8,773
Royalties for Regions - recurrent	-	10,912
Other Receipts	473	99
Payments		
Expenditure on recreational fishing related activities	(34,669)	(24,355)
Balance at end of period	10,486	10,628
Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account		
The purpose of this account is to hold funds in accordance with section 5 of the Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Act 1987 which shall be applied by the Minister for the purposes prescribed by section 6 of that Act.		
Balance at start of period	1,238	97
Receipts		
Contribution from Consolidated Account	500	4,500
Repayments from Industry for Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Schemes	1,308	1,000
Other Receipts	-	804
Payments		
Loan repayment, Interests and guarantee fees to WATC for Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Schemes	(1,005)	(1,062)
Other payments	(4)	
Unit buy back State Scheme	(20)	(4,101)
Balance at end of period	2,017	1,238

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

Regional Reform Fund Special Purpose Account (Administered)

The purpose of this account is to hold capital and recurrent funds for expenditure on approved Regional Reform Fund projects as authorised by the Treasurer and the Minister, pursuant to section 9.1(a), (b) and (c) of the *Royalties for Regions Act 2009* to be charged to the Royalties for Regions Act Fund and credited to the account.

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Balance at start of period	5,970	18,216
Receipts	12,009	-
Payments	(17,492)	(12,246)
Balance at end of period	487	5,970

9.9. Remuneration of auditor

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Remuneration paid or payable to the Auditor General in respect of auditing the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators is as follows:		
Auditing the accounts, financial statements, controls and key performance indicators	1,009	961
	1,009	961

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.10. Services provided free of charge

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Services provided free of charge		
During the period the following services were provided to other agencies free of charge for functions outside the normal operations of the department.		
Gascoyne Development Commission	2,282	2,100
Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission	3,372	2,229
Great Southern Development Commission	2,054	2,031
Kimberley Development Commission	2,539	2,529
Mid West Development Commission	2,026	1,881
Peel Development Commission	2,020	1,978
Pilbara Development Commission	4,288	3,802
South West Development Commission	5,120	5,757
Wheatbelt Development Commission	1,696	1,585
Agricultural Produce Commission (APC)	84	72
Rural Business Development Corporation (RBDC)	55	53
Department of Communities	-	10
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	13	6
Department of Health	18	14
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety	14	13
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage	17	9
Department of Premier and Cabinet	112	68
Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries	11	-
Department of Transport	15	16
Department of Water	10	7
Department of Treasury	1	-
Department of Education	-	1
Landgate WA	2	4
Main Roads of Western Australia	16	12
Public Transport Authority of Western Australia	4	1
Legal Aid WA	1	1
Lottery Commission WA	2	2
	25,772	24,181

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.11. Equity

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Contributed equity		
Balance at start of period	670,401	631,353
Contributions by owners		
Capital appropriations	54,605	19,841
Other contributions by owners		
Drawdowns from Treasury Special Purpose Account	4,840	10,769
Transfer of net assets from other departments:		
Royalties for Regions Fund - Regional Community Services Account	2,816	1,000
Royalties for Regions Fund - Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account	31	10,737
Distributions to owners		
Transfer of assets to other agencies:		
Rural Business Development Corporation	(3,200)	(2,200)
Department of Conservation Biodiversity and Attractions	-	(839)
Department of Planning Lands and Heritage	-	(260)
Balance at end of period	729,493	670,401

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Asset revaluation surplus		
<i>Net revaluation increments/(decrements)</i>		
Balance at the start of period	93,268	71,206
Land	28,825	32,110
Buildings	31,848	(7,065)
Plant, Equipment & Vehicles	-	(2,983)
Balance at end of period	153,941	93,268

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at start of period	(53,833)	(51,908)
Result for the period	30,618	(1,925)
Balance at end of period	(23,215)	(53,833)
Total equity at end of period	860,219	709,836

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

9.12. Supplementary financial information

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
(a) Write-offs		
Non-current assets		
During the financial year \$38,000 was written off the Department's asset register under the authority of: The accountable authority	38	-
	38	-
(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes		
Losses of public moneys and public and other property through theft or default	7	3
Amounts recovered - insurance	(224)	(118)
	(217)	(115)

9.13. Indian Ocean Territories Service Level Agreement

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
The provision of services to the Indian Ocean Territories are recouped from the Commonwealth Government		
Opening balance	559	973
Receipts	571	268
Payments	(769)	(682)
Closing balance	361	559

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10. Explanatory statements

This section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department.

10.1. Explanatory statement for controlled operations

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department undertaking transactions under its own control, as represented by the primary financial statements.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2025, and between the actual results for 2025 and 2024 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances which vary more than 10% from their comparative and that the variation is more than 1% of the following variance analyses for the:

1. Estimate and actuals for the current year

- Total Cost of Services of the estimate for the Statement of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (1% of \$660.14 million being \$6.60 million), and
- Total Assets of the annual estimate for the Statement of financial position (1% of \$871.203 million being \$8.71 million).

2. Actual results for the current year and prior year actual

- Total Cost of Services for the Statements of comprehensive income and Statement of cash flows (1% of \$587.35 million being \$5.87 million), and
- Total Assets for the Statement of financial position (1% of \$904.32 million being \$9.04 million).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2025 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2025 and 2024 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES						
Expenses						
Employee benefits expenses	1	248,841	275,243	251,298	26,402	23,945
Supplies and services		162,934	153,921	147,867	(9,013)	6,054
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		23,223	24,764	22,303	1,541	2,461
Finance costs		653	1,263	547	610	716
Accommodation expenses		14,610	20,358	18,845	5,748	1,513
Other expenses	2	15,560	4,654	7,516	(10,906)	(2,862)
Grants and subsidies	3, A	194,316	156,164	138,974	(38,152)	17,190
Loss on disposal of non-current assets		-	765	-	765	765
Total cost of services		660,137	637,132	587,350	(23,005)	49,782
Income						
User charges and fees		50,947	53,948	52,987	3,001	961
Commonwealth grants and contributions	4, B	4,767	32,155	12,306	27,388	19,849
Non-government grants and subsidies		27,828	27,509	23,292	(319)	4,217
Other revenue	C	26,833	29,127	44,500	2,294	(15,373)
Gain on disposal of non-current assets		-	-	259	-	(259)
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method		-	6,438	4,581	6,438	1,857
Total income		110,375	149,177	137,925	38,802	11,252
NET COST OF SERVICES		549,762	487,955	449,425	(61,807)	38,530
Income from State Government						
Service appropriations	5, D	273,831	326,221	293,420	52,390	32,801
Appropriations special purpose account		5,901	3,894	-	(2,007)	3,894
Services received free of charge		1,849	2,951	1,810	1,102	1,141
Royalties for Regions Fund	6, E	246,237	172,450	146,063	(73,787)	26,387
Income from other public sector entities		6,526	12,004	6,207	5,478	5,797
Total income from State Government		534,344	517,520	447,500	(16,824)	70,020
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		(15,418)	29,565	(1,925)	44,983	31,490
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME						
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Changes in asset revaluation reserve		-	60,673	22,062	60,673	38,611
Total other comprehensive income		-	60,673	22,062	60,673	38,611
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		(15,418)	90,238	20,137	105,656	70,101

The estimates are as published in accordance with TI 9 – Requirement 3 Annual Estimates and will not agree to the published budget papers which incorporate the nine Regional Development Commissions with the Department.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances (continued)

Major Estimate and Actual (2025) Variance Narratives

- 1) Employee benefits expense increased by \$26.4 million, partially due to the public sector wage award for 2024-25, which was finalised in December 2024 and the resulting impact on the remeasurement of leave provisions.
- 2) Other expenses decreased by \$10.9 million, partially due to delays in Fisheries adjustment scheme buy-backs of \$3.5 million and partially influenced by budgeted administration costs being allocated against supplies and services in the statement of comprehensive income.
- 3) Grants and subsidies decreased by \$38.2 million primarily because of variations to planned milestone delivery for projects such as the Pilbara Aboriginal town Based Reserves – Stage 2, Busselton Jetty Marine Discovery Centre and Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Program. Carryovers to 2025-26 and the outyears have been approved in the 2025-26 WA State Government Process.
- 4) Commonwealth grants and contributions increased by \$27.4 million because of additional funding sourced from National Partnership agreements, including those relating to Polyphagous Shothole Borer, Busselton Marine Discovery Centre, Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program, Strengthening Australia's Frontline Biosecurity, Western Australian Telecommunications and National Water Grid, among others.
- 5) Service appropriations increased by \$52.4 million to cover necessary additional outflows for the current year such as operational expense increases of \$19.6 million, \$14.6 million for State funded incident responses in WA including Queensland Fruit Fly, Red Dwarf Honey Bee and Starling, \$6 million for WA's contribution to National Biosecurity Responses, \$6.1 million for the public sector wages policy and \$6.1 million to meet site management costs associated with management and remediation at South Perth.
- 6) Royalties for regions funding decreased by \$73.8 million because of delays in RfR funded programs such as the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Telecommunications Infrastructure, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification, Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves – Unallocated and Collie Industry Attraction Fund.

Major Actual (2025) and Comparatives (2024) Variance Narratives

- A) Grants and subsidies increased by \$17.2 million, partially because of new projects such as Yalgorup National Park Ecotourism Development, the Marlamanu On-Country Youth facility, Full Circle Therapy Centre, Southern Ocean Surf Reef (Construction), Warmun Workers' Hostel Renovation and Kununurra Cotton Gin Infrastructure Support Package. There were also increases in Grants for existing programs, such as the Perth Royal Show, Dawesville Community Centre, Pilbara Safe Spaces and others, offset by reduction in grants for completed programs. The nature of programs through which grants and subsidies are provided results in highly variable expenditure year on year.
- B) Commonwealth grants and subsidies increased by \$19.9 million because of several National Partnership agreements, including those relating to Polyphagous Shothole Borer, Busselton Marine Discovery Centre, Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program, Strengthening Australia's Frontline Biosecurity, Western Australian Telecommunications and National Water Grid, among others.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances (continued)

Major Actual (2025) and Comparatives (2024) Variance Narratives (continued)

- C) Other revenue decreased by \$15.4 million mainly because of a portion of the Commonwealth revenue relating to Emergency Incident responses being recognised as other revenue in 2024 but as Commonwealth revenue in 2025. Furthermore, DPIRD received funding for Ex Tropical Cyclone Ellie and African Black Sugar Ant in 2024, with both programs completing in the current year.
- D) Service appropriations increased by \$32.8 million mainly as a result of \$14.6 million for new State funded incident responses in WA including Queensland Fruit Fly, Red Dwarf Honey Bee and Starling, \$6 million for WA's contribution to National Biosecurity Responses, \$6.1 million for the public sector wages policy and \$6.1 million to meet unavoidable site management costs associated with management and remediation at South Perth.
- E) Royalties for regions funding increased by \$26.4 million because of the re-timing of RfR funded programs such as the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Telecommunications Infrastructure, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification, Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves – Unallocated and Collie Industry Attraction Fund.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.2 Statement of financial position variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2025 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2025 and 2024 \$'000
ASSETS						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		11,399	62,880	44,977	51,481	17,903
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		49,158	157,793	139,235	108,635	18,558
Biological assets		600	4,761	743	4,161	4,018
Inventories		1,497	5,130	2,061	3,633	3,069
Receivables		15,712	20,178	28,351	4,466	(8,173)
Amounts receivable for services		7,447	6,026	6,178	(1,421)	(152)
Other current assets		10,033	10,114	3,708	81	6,406
Total Current Assets		95,846	266,882	225,253	171,036	41,629
Non-Current Assets						
Amounts receivable for services		248,127	249,786	230,727	1,659	19,059
Receivables		-	9,283	8,433	9,283	850
Other non-current assets		9,804	3,068	3,598	(6,736)	(530)
Investments accounted for using the equity method	7, F	35,984	53,753	43,564	17,769	10,189
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	G	457,623	447,875	377,379	(9,748)	70,496
Intangible assets		10,180	2,103	2,495	(8,077)	(392)
Right-of-use assets	8, H	13,639	37,468	12,878	23,829	24,590
Total Non-Current Assets		775,357	803,336	679,074	27,979	124,262
TOTAL ASSETS		871,203	1,070,218	904,327	199,015	165,891
LIABILITIES						
Current Liabilities						
Payables		23,559	40,088	54,231	16,529	(14,143)
Contract liabilities	9	22,699	39,633	35,511	16,934	4,122
Employee related provisions		56,526	63,482	59,774	6,956	3,708
Borrowings	10	1,000	20,360	20,360	19,360	-
Lease liabilities		4,411	5,404	4,551	993	853
Other current liabilities		69	1,690	2,789	1,621	(1,099)
Total Current Liabilities		108,264	170,657	177,216	62,393	(6,559)
Non-Current Liabilities						
Employee related provisions		8,450	6,215	4,724	(2,235)	1,491
Borrowings		1,960	1,000	2,000	(960)	(1,000)
Lease liabilities	11, I	5,744	30,768	6,311	25,024	24,457
Other non-current liabilities		1,143	2,412	4,240	1,269	(1,828)
Total Non-Current Liabilities		17,297	40,395	17,275	23,098	23,120
TOTAL LIABILITIES		125,561	211,052	194,491	46,196	46,240

The estimates are as published in accordance with TI 9 – Requirement 3 Annual Estimates and will not agree to the published budget papers which incorporate the nine Regional Development Commissions with the Department.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.2 Statement of financial position variances (continued)

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2025 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2025 and 2024 \$'000
NET ASSETS		745,642	859,166	709,836	152,819	119,651
EQUITY						
Contributed equity		756,251	729,493	670,401	(26,758)	59,092
Reserves		79,830	153,941	93,268	74,111	60,673
Accumulated deficit		(90,439)	(24,268)	(53,833)	66,171	29,565
TOTAL EQUITY		745,642	859,166	709,836	113,524	149,330

Major Estimate and Actual (2025) Variance Narratives

- 7) The investments accounted for using the equity method increased by \$17.8 million primarily due to DPIRD's share appreciation in InterGrain.
- 8) Right-of-use assets increased by \$23.9 million because of the new lease for the State Biosecurity Response Centre.
- 9) Contract liabilities increased by \$16.9 million due to an increase in revenue received relating to customer contracts for which performance obligations are expected to occur in 2025-26 and an increase in fisheries commercial access fees received in advance.
- 10) Borrowings increased by \$19.3 million due to a treasury advance received in 2023-24 which DPIRD is expected to recover in revenue/cash for expenditure on WA Incident and Emergency response activities incurred in 2023-2024 and 2024-25. The recovery of costs is in accordance with National Cost Sharing agreements in place.
- 11) Lease liabilities increased by \$25.0 million because of the new lease for the State Biosecurity Response Centre.

Major Actual (2025) and Comparatives (2024) Variance Narratives

- F) The investments accounted for using the equity method increased by \$10.2 million primarily due to DPIRD's share appreciation in InterGrain.
- G) Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment increased by \$70.5 million mainly because of the revaluation of land and buildings in 2025 of \$60.7 million, including 14.6 million for professional and project management fees; asset additions and transfers of \$26.2 million, offset by depreciation and disposals of \$16.4 million.
- H) Right-of-use assets increased by \$24.6 million because of the new lease for the State Biosecurity Response Centre.
- I) Lease liabilities increased by \$24.5 million because of the new lease for the State Biosecurity Response Centre.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2025 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2025 and 2024 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT						
Service appropriations	12, J	248,383	301,384	268,005	53,001	33,379
Other appropriations		-	3,894	-	3,894	3,894
Capital appropriations	13, K	66,660	54,605	19,841	(12,055)	34,764
Drawdowns from special purpose accounts	14, L	14,584	4,840	10,769	(9,744)	(5,929)
Holding account drawdown		6,178	5,930	6,974	(248)	(1,044)
Royalties for Regions Fund	15, M	277,897	175,297	157,800	(102,600)	17,497
Funds from other public sector entities		6,789	12,004	6,207	5,215	5,797
Net cash provided by State Government		620,491	557,954	469,596	(62,537)	88,358
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Employee benefits		(248,336)	(272,386)	(254,180)	(24,050)	(18,206)
Supplies and services	N	(158,168)	(163,557)	(140,128)	(5,389)	(23,429)
Accommodation		(14,610)	(21,077)	(17,134)	(6,467)	(3,943)
Finance costs		(525)	(1,263)	(547)	(738)	(716)
GST payments on purchases	16, O	(15,254)	(34,656)	(28,014)	(19,402)	(6,642)
Other payments	17	(15,672)	(7,551)	(7,914)	8,121	363
Grants and subsidies	18, P	(197,103)	(166,898)	(115,350)	30,205	(51,548)
Receipts						
User charges and fees	Q	50,947	56,224	50,270	5,277	5,954
Commonwealth grants and contributions	19, R	8,078	39,553	12,306	31,475	27,247
Interest received		-	1,568	2,701	1,568	(1,133)
GST receipts on sales		5,645	4,428	4,281	(1,217)	147
GST receipts from taxation authority	20, S	9,609	31,065	24,492	21,456	6,573
Non-government grants and subsidies		24,543	27,509	23,292	2,966	4,217
Other receipts	T	23,078	26,566	36,966	3,488	(10,400)
Net cash used in operating activities		(527,768)	(480,475)	(408,959)	47,293	(71,516)

The estimates are as published in accordance with TI 9 – Requirement 3 Annual Estimates and will not agree to the published budget papers which incorporate the nine Regional Development Commissions with the Department.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

		Estimate 2025 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2025 and 2024 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Investment in joint ventures		-	(3,750)	(2,999)	(3,750)	(751)
Purchase of non-current assets	21,U	(108,091)	(27,804)	(17,202)	80,287	(10,602)
Other Payments for investing activities		-	-	(1,100)	-	1,100
Receipts						
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		255	131	579	(124)	(448)
Other Receipts from investing activities		-	-	182	-	(182)
Net cash used in investing activities		(107,836)	(31,423)	(20,540)	76,413	(10,883)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Principal elements of lease		-	(6,395)	(5,442)	(6,395)	(953)
Distribution of monies to the Rural Business Development Corporation		-	(3,200)	(2,200)	(3,200)	(1,000)
Repayment of borrowings	22	(17,485)	-	-	17,485	-
Receipts						
Proceeds from borrowings	23, V	10,000	-	19,360	(10,000)	(19,360)
Proceeds from industry		1,516	-	-	(1,516)	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(5,969)	(9,595)	11,718	(3,626)	(21,313)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(21,082)	36,461	51,815	57,543	(15,354)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		-	184,212	132,397	184,212	51,815
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD		(21,082)	220,673	184,212	241,755	36,461

The estimates are as published in accordance with TI 9 – Requirement 3 Annual Estimates and will not agree to the published budget papers which incorporate the nine Regional Development Commissions with the Department.

Major Estimate and Actual (2025) Variance Narratives

- 12) Service appropriations increased by \$53.0 million to cover necessary additional outflows for the current year for operational expenses of \$18.8 million, \$16 million for State funded incident responses in WA including Queensland Fruit Fly, Red Dwarf Honey Bee and Starling, \$6 million for WA's contribution to National Biosecurity Responses, \$6.1 million for the public sector wages policy and \$6.1 million to meet site management costs associated with management and remediation at South Perth.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

Major Estimate and Actual (2025) Variance Narratives (continued)

- 13) Capital appropriations decreased by \$12.1 million mainly due to delays in the progress and completion of capital projects including include the New Metro Facility and the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks.
- 14) Drawdowns from special purpose accounts is lower than estimates by \$9.7 million due to a realignment of drawdowns to match reporting milestones for the Digital Capability Fund and the Climate Action Fund.
- 15) Royalties for regions funding is lower than estimate by \$102.6 million because of delays in RfR funded programs such as the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Telecommunications Infrastructure, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification, Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves – Unallocated and Collie Industry Attraction Fund.
- 16) GST payments on purchases increased by \$19.4 million as the budget calculation understated the value of GST payments. However, this is offset by GST receipts from taxation authority (refer note 20 below).
- 17) Other payments decreased by \$8.1million, partially due to delays in Fisheries adjustment scheme buy-backs of \$3.5m and partially influenced by budgeted administration cost being allocated under supplies and services.
- 18) Grants and subsidies decreased by \$30.2 million primarily because of change in timing of projects such as the Pilbara Aboriginal town Based Reserves – Stage 2, Busselton Jetty Marine Discovery Centre and Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Program. Carryovers to 2025-26 and the outyears have been approved in the 2025-26 WA State Government Process.
- 19) Commonwealth grants and contributions increased by \$31.4 million because of several National Partnership agreements, including those relating to Polyphagous Shothole Borer, Busselton Marine Discovery Centre, Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program, Strengthening Australia's Frontline Biosecurity, Western Australian Telecommunications and National Water Grid, among others.
- 20) GST receipts from taxation authorities are \$21.5 million higher than budget as the budget assumptions understated the value of GST payments which are received back from the tax authorities (refer note 16 above).
- 21) Purchase of non-current assets decreased by \$80.3 million mainly because of the deferral of the New Metro Facility.
- 22) Repayment of borrowings is lower than the estimate of \$17.5 million as actual agreed repayments for WA incident and emergency response activities will only occur in 2025-26 financial year.
- 23) Proceeds from borrowings is lower than estimate as according to actual agreed repayments for WA incident and emergency response activities, no repayments are due this year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

Major Actual (2025) and Comparatives (2024) Variance Narratives

- J) Service appropriations increased by \$33.4 million mainly because of \$15.2 million for State funded incident responses in WA including Queensland Fruit Fly, Red Dwarf Honey Bee and Starling, \$6 million for WA's contribution to National Biosecurity Responses, \$6.1 million for the public sector wages policy and \$6.1 million to meet unavoidable site management costs associated with management and remediation at South Perth
- K) Capital appropriations increased by \$34.8 million mainly for the funding for the State Biosecurity response centre and other capital projects.
- L) Drawdowns from special purpose accounts decreased by \$5.9 million due to a realignment of drawdowns to match reporting milestones for the \$ 4.9 million for the Digital Capability Fund and \$1 million for the Climate Action Fund.
- M) Royalties for Regions Fund increased by \$17.5 million from prior-year, in line proportionally with the overall increase in available Royalties for Regions Funding and catch-up on funding payments for project delays in prior-years.
- N) Supplies and services expense increased by \$23.4 million mainly relating to labour hire for the Emergency Management responses and increase in software licencing costs.
- O) GST payments on purchases increased by \$6.6 million which is reflective of the increase in operating payments for the year. This also results in an increase in GST receipts from taxation authorities (refer note S below).
- P) Grants and subsidies increased by \$51.5 million partially because of new projects such as Yalgorup National Park Ecotourism Development, the Marlamanu On-Country Youth facility, Full Circle Therapy Centre, Southern Ocean Surf Reef (Construction), Warmun Workers' Hostel Renovation and Kununurra Cotton Gin Infrastructure Support Package. There were also increases in Grants for existing programs, such as the Perth Royal Show, Dawesville Community Centre, Pilbara Safe Spaces and others, offset by a reduction in grants for completed programs. The nature of programs through which grants and subsidies are provided results in highly variable expenditure year on year.
- Q) User fees and charges increased by \$6 million because of fees and charges billed in 2024 being received in 2025.
- R) Commonwealth grants and contributions increased by \$27.2 million because of several National Partnership agreements, including those relating to Polyphagous Shothole Borer, Busselton Marine Discovery Centre, Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program, Strengthening Australia's Frontline Biosecurity, Western Australian Telecommunications and National Water Grid, among others.
- S) GST receipts from taxation authorities increased by \$6.6 million reflecting the increase in GST payments for the year (refer note O above).
- T) Other receipts decreased by \$10.4 million mainly because of a portion of the Commonwealth revenue relating to Emergency Incident responses being recognised as other receipts in 2024 but as Commonwealth revenue in 2025. Furthermore, DPIRD received funding for Ex Tropical Cyclone Ellie and African Black Sugar Ant in 2024, with both programs completing in the current year.
- U) Purchase of non-current assets decreased by \$10.6 million because of completion of asset programs in 2024 and delays in delivery of some of the programs in 2025 due to contractor availability.
- V) In the current year there are no new borrowings, prior year it was \$19.3 million.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.2. Explanatory statement for administered items

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2025, and between the actual results for 2025 and 2024 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances which vary more than 10% from their comparative and that the variation is more than 1% of the following variance analyses for the:

1. Estimate and actuals for the current year
 - Total administered income (1% of \$108.26 million being \$1.08 million)
2. Actual results for the current year and prior year actual
 - Total administered income (1% of \$8.37 million being \$0.08 million)

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2025 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Actual 2024 \$'000	Variance estimate and actual \$'000	Variance actual 2025 and 2024 \$'000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS						
Income						
Interest revenue	A	1,220	1,326	763	106	563
Other revenue	1, B	-	2,733	329	2,733	2,404
Royalties for Regions	C	6,750	6,362	5,400	(388)	962
Revenue from Regional and Statewide Initiatives	2, D	(117,783)	12,009	-	129,792	12,009
Service appropriations		1,550	1,550	1,550	-	-
Regulatory fees and charges		-	317	326	317	(9)
Total administered income		(108,263)	24,297	8,368	132,560	15,929
Expenses						
Grants & subsidies	3, E	42,510	24,497	19,487	(18,013)	5,010
Interest payments	F	937	1,034	862	97	172
Supplies and services	G	283	1,323	885	1,040	438
Royalties for Regions Program Underspend Provision	4	(137,724)	-	-	137,724	-
Total administered expenses		(93,994)	26,854	21,234	120,848	5,620

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025

10.2. Explanatory statement for administered items (continued)

Major Estimate and Actual (2025) Variance Narratives

- 1) Other revenues for \$2.73 million are the cost recoups collected from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.
- 2) The budget estimate for 2024-25 includes \$8.7 million of funding for the Regional Reform fund, which is also what the actual activity for the current year relates to. The budget estimate also includes a -\$126.5 million budget adjustment applied by Treasury for Regional and Statewide Initiatives funding. This impact is on the budget only and reflects expected underspend in the entire Royalties for Region fund. Refer to notes 3 and 4 below for related adjustments.
- 3) Grants and subsidies are \$18.1 million lower than the estimate primarily due to a budget-only reallocation from the Government Strategic Priorities line to agency-specific initiatives.
- 4) Royalties for Regions Program Underspend Provision is a budget adjustment applied by Treasury to consider the expected underspend in the entire Royalties for Regions Fund. The impact is on the budget only.

Major Actual (2025) and Comparatives (2024) Variance Narratives

- A) Interest revenue is \$0.6 million higher this year due to a new loan for \$12 million which has a higher interest rate to the historical loans paid during the current year.
- B) Increase is due to cost recoups received from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (see explanation 1 above) and \$0.33 million in once-off National Resource Management grant funding recoups were collected in the prior-year.
- C) An increase of \$0.96 million is due to increased funding for Natural Resource Management Program.
- D) A new funding of \$12.0 million for the Regional Reform SPA.
- E) Grants and subsidies are \$5.0 million higher this year, mainly reflecting increased Regional Reform Fund payments for North-West Aboriginal Housing Fund.
- F) Interest payments are \$0.17 million higher this year due to a new loan, (see explanation A above).
- G) Supplies and services are \$0.4 million higher this year, primarily due to increased delivery and administration costs for the State Natural Resource Management (NRM).

Additional key performance indicator information

Certification of key performance indicators

I hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's performance, and fairly represent the performance of the department for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.



Heather Brayford PSM

Accountable Authority

11 September 2025

Table 5: Outcome-based management framework

Government goal – WA jobs plan: Diversifying the WA economy, creating local jobs for the future.			
Agency outcome	Key effectiveness indicators	Agency services	Key efficiency indicators
1. Regional WA has the investment to grow and create jobs	1. Ratio of the value of grants awarded from the department for industry and community development initiatives to the value of co-contributions committed from non-Western Australian (WA) Government recipients	1. Regional industry and community development investment facilitation	1. Average cost per hour to deliver regional industry and community development investment facilitation
		2. Corporate and business development services provided by the department to support Regional Development Commissions	2. Average cost per hour to deliver corporate and business development services to support Regional Development Commissions
2. Regional WA has the technology to grow and create jobs	2. Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's technology initiatives	3. Regional technical and technological development	3. Average cost per hour to deliver regional technical and technological development
3. Regional WA has the skills and knowledge to grow and create jobs	3. Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's capability initiatives	4. Regional skills and knowledge development	4. Average cost per hour to deliver regional skills and knowledge development
4. Regional WA has the social amenity, through recreational fishing to grow and create jobs	4. Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's management of recreational fishing	5. Regional social amenity development	5. Average cost per hour to deliver regional social amenity development

Table 5: Outcome-based management framework (continued)

Government goal – WA jobs plan: Diversifying the WA economy, creating local jobs for the future.				
Agency outcome		Key effectiveness indicators	Agency services	Key efficiency indicators
5	WA agriculture and fishing protect their biosecurity advantages and integrity	5.1 Percentage of exotic terrestrial weed, pest and disease threats resolved appropriately	6 Agricultural and fisheries biosecurity and integrity	6 Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries biosecurity and integrity
		5.2 Percentage of invasive aquatic pests and exotic diseases resolved appropriately		
6	WA agriculture and fishing protect the sustainability of the natural resources on which they rely and impact	6.1 Percentage change in the spatial extent of the south-west cropping region that maintains sufficient year-round ground cover for protecting and improving soil health	7 Agricultural and fisheries natural resource management	7 Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries natural resource management
		6.2 Number of soil health extension workshops held		
		6.3 Proportion of fish stocks identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation		
		6.4 Percentage of commercial and recreational fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved		

Key effectiveness indicators

1. Ratio of the value of grants awarded from DPIRD for industry and community development initiatives to the value of co-contributions committed by non-Western Australian (WA) Government entities

Description

This key performance indicator (KPI) provides an indicator of DPIRD's effectiveness in leveraging grant schemes to facilitate non-WA Government funding into projects and services that grow, protect and innovate our primary industries and regional communities.

DPIRD utilises public investment to partner with not-for-profit, industry, private and government entities to deliver impactful projects to support our strategic goals. Investment supports projects that will positively impact Western Australian primary industries adaption to climate change, stewardship of our non-renewable assets, agribusiness adaptation and international competitiveness. Investment also supports local community development projects and regional service delivery.

Calculation

Grants are defined as 'the total State Government secured funding amount awarded to the project recipient'. Co-contribution is defined as 'the additional cash funding committed to the project from non-State Government recipients and third parties. This includes funding from not-for profit, industry, private, Australian Government and local government entities.' The calculation excludes in-kind project support.

The result is expressed as a ratio to show the extent to which DPIRD leverages WA Government funding. The result is the ratio of the value awarded to the value of co-contributions committed expressed as \$awarded: \$co-contributed (i.e. every \$x DPIRD grants secures \$x non-WA Government cash co-contribution). Committed funding is based on an executed agreement with the recipient.

Table 6: Key Effectiveness Indicator 1 results

2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2023-24 (YoY variance in Actuals)	Target (2024-25 variance actual to target)
1:0.95	1:1.63	1:1.37	1:1	1:2.16	+58%	+116%

Table 6 shows the variance from 2023-24 actual, and variance from the target. The year on year (YoY) variance from 2023-24 is 0.79 (58% higher). The variance from the target in 2024-25 is 1.16 (116% higher).

Analysis

During 2024-25, DPIRD's Industry and Economic Development (IED) pillar executed 278 grant arrangements for community and industry development initiatives valued at \$34,860,705 across 9 grant schemes. For the 2024-25 KEI 1 IED co-contribution analysis, all 9 IED schemes that executed grant arrangements were assessed. These 9 schemes secured \$75,393,384 in cash co-contributions from non-State Government recipients and third parties.

The target ratio of cash awarded to co-contributed is 1:1. The actual ratio of co-contribution in 2024-25 is 1:2.16. This indicates for every \$1.00 DPIRD awarded in grants facilitated \$2.16 in non-State Government co-contribution. The total ratio was calculated on all 9 IED schemes. The ratio of DPIRD grants to cash co-contribution is summarised by scheme in Table 7.

Table 7: Key Effectiveness Indicator 1 results by IED Pillar Grant Scheme

Name of DPIRD IED Pillar Grant Scheme	Total Awarded DPIRD Grant Amount in Executed Grant Agreement (\$)	Total non-state government cash co-contribution at Executed Grant Agreement (\$)	Ratio
1 Aboriginal Governance and Leadership Development Program	866,001	75,078	0.09
2 Agri-Food and Beverage Voucher Program	502,994	595,269	1.18
3 Small Grants Program - 2021 Election Commitments	890,000	650,478	0.73
4 Natural Resource Management Program - Community Stewardship Grants	7,886,920	682,229	0.09
5 Regional Economic Development Grants	8,661,963	18,950,684	2.19
6 WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program	5,442,194	24,936,272	4.58
7 Regional Telecommunications Project	1,880,625	8,161,954	4.34
8 Value Add Investment Grants	5,361,546	13,758,347	2.57
9 Southern Forests Infrastructure Support Scheme	3,368,462	7,583,072	2.25
TOTAL	34,860,705	75,393,384	2.16

In 2023-24 the actual ratio was 1:1.37. In 2024-25 the actual ratio is 1:2.16.

In 2024-25, the actual ratio (1:2.16) exceeds the target ratio (1:1) by 116% and this ratio is higher at 58% compared to the 2023-24 ratio of 1:1.37 (see Table 6).

Reasons for exceeding the target ratio in 2024-25:

- Notably higher non-State Government cash contributions across several large grant schemes including WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program, Regional Telecommunications Project, Value Add Investment Grants, Regional Economic Development Grants, and Southern Forests Infrastructure Support Scheme.
- The WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program secured \$24,936,272 in co-contributions, significantly surpassing the awarded amount of \$5,442,194, achieving the highest ratio of 1:4.58.
- The Regional Telecommunications Project attracted \$8,161,954 in co-contributions, compared to the awarded amount of \$1,880,625, with a ratio of 1:4.34.
- The Value-Add Investment Grants leveraged \$13,758,347 in co-contributions against an awarded amount of \$5,361,546, resulting in a ratio of 1:2.57.
- The Southern Forest Infrastructure Support Scheme attracted \$7,583,072 in co-contributions, achieving a ratio of 1:2.25.
- Similarly, Regional Economic Development Grants generated \$18,950,684 in co-contributions, more than double the awarded amount of \$8,661,963, with a ratio of 1:2.19.

Conclusion

The year highlighted notable successes in exceeding co-contribution targets by 116% to the ratio of 1:2.16. This is mainly attributed to key schemes such as the WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program, Regional Telecommunications Project, Value-Add Investment Grants, Regional Economic Development Grants, and Southern Forests Infrastructure Support Scheme.

2. Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's technology initiatives

Technological change drives long-term economic growth and improved living standards. Historically, this process has led to net job creation by generating more new job opportunities than the low-skilled jobs it displaces.

Description

This key performance indicator (KPI) demonstrates our effectiveness in providing technology initiatives that support the success of our state's agrifood businesses through services and partnerships that help increase industry profitability and sustainability, while safeguarding our state's precious natural resources.

Through research, development and extension activities with partners around Australia and throughout the world, DPIRD strives to harness the best knowledge and technical excellence available. DPIRD actively shares data collected and maintained during its activities.

Client satisfaction with the department's technology initiatives is measured by undertaking an annual perception survey. The survey is designed to collect client feedback in relation to the use of our APIs. API is the acronym for Application Programming Interface, which is a software intermediary that allows 2 applications to talk to each other. For example, a person uses an API each time they use an app like Facebook, sends an instant message or checks the weather on their phone.

Results

An external market research provider was engaged to conduct the satisfaction survey.

Table 8: Key effectiveness indicator 2 results

2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25		Variance	
				Target	Actual	2023-24	Target
87%	85%	94%	85%	80%	98%	+13%	+18%

Analysis

In the 2024-25 financial year, 98% of clients reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the eConnect API Gateway, a statistically significant increase on last year. We received 52 responses from our 64 active registered API users (an 81.3% response rate). At a 95% confidence level, the survey's maximum margin of error is $\pm 6.1\%$, an improvement on the previous survey. We consider this sample representative of our entire user population.

The eConnect Business Systems team continue to monitor the currency of the contact information of all active users, requiring all new users to provide contact details (including email addresses and contact telephone numbers). Contact details for existing legacy users are updated when the Team becomes aware of any related updates. However, a few legacy users/organisations continue to not advise DPIRD of changes to their primary contact details.

Of the 52 respondents, 18 submitted online survey responses while 34 surveys were completed via telephone.

Analysis of the survey results showed that ease of access via the API portal and the clarity of information provided contributed 90% of the overall 98% satisfaction score.

The survey indicated that 67% of respondents were very satisfied with the system and the information provided, up from 54% in 2024. Respondents who were satisfied with the system remained unchanged at 31% over the previous year.

The API information continues to be considered valuable or very valuable by 88% of users, similar to the results for previous years. Further, 63% of users continue to feel that the API information is very valuable to their organisation. While not statistically significant, only 60% of large users consider the API as a valuable resource to their organisation, and 40% of these consider it very valuable. As in 2024, private sector companies accorded the API a lower level of value compared to other sectors, with 74% of private companies scoring the API as valuable or very valuable. Further, the private sector is the only sector that considers the API as somewhat valuable (26%).

This year, with the increased sample size, there were more private sector companies (44%) in the sample than government or semi-government organisations (33%).

Two-thirds of survey participants were based in the metropolitan area and, like last year, 79% of the sample was based in Western Australia, producing a very similar geographic distribution to 2024.

The private sector usage represents 48% of the users surveyed. These include: 25% who provide a commercial service to clients, 13% who use the information to inform in-house decisions, and 10% for commercial research. Commercial services continue to have a similar portion of users to previous years, and 5 of the 6 users surveyed who make more than a million requests per annum are private sector users.

3. Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's capability initiatives

Developing skills and knowledge across industries, communities and government is critical to the resilience and further development of regional WA.

Description

This KPI focuses on our role and effectiveness in developing and extending the skills, knowledge and qualities that regional industries and communities need to grow and create jobs. This links to our strategic priorities regarding regional opportunities, research and development, and an enabling environment.

The survey sample was drawn from the following stakeholders:

- Aboriginal groups and businesses
- Agribusiness, including agrifood-tech, packing sheds, marketers, exporters and food and beverage producers
- Agricultural Produce Commission committees
- Aquaculture Council of WA
- Grower groups
- Local Government Authorities
- Relevant land and water development stakeholders
- Relevant State Government agencies.

This indicator aligns with the activities of our Industry and Economic Development (IED) and Primary Industries Development (PID) pillars. The indicator does not include events where DPIRD is a financial sponsor but does not have a role in determining content.

Calculation

The KPI is reported as the percentage of surveyed clients satisfied with our efforts in building the capability of regionally significant industries and communities. DPIRD provided a comprehensive stakeholder list to the consultant who conducted a combined online and telephone assisted survey.

All stakeholders were contacted either by email or phone. Out of 1045 stakeholders from 787 organisations and agencies, 231 stakeholders responded resulting in a response rate of 22%. This represents a decrease from the previous year's response rate of 36% based on 235 responses out of 653 viable contacts.

While the response rate amongst stakeholders is low, the results from this survey provided a confidence interval of $\pm 5.7\%$ at the 95% confidence level. The department considers the sample to be representative of the stakeholders.

Results

Table 9: Key effectiveness indicator 3 results

2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2023-24	Target
66%	70%	77%	70%	82%	+5%	+12%

Analysis

Overall, the majority (82%) of respondents were satisfied with the department's efforts, indicating either very satisfied (22%) or satisfied (60%).

The 2024-25 result exceeds the target outcome by 12% and demonstrates an improvement from the 2023-24 result.

4. Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's management of recreational fishing

Description

This KPI helps stakeholders to understand the department's role and effectiveness in facilitating the development of the social amenities that regional communities and industries need to grow and create jobs. Specifically, it focuses on the department's recreational fishing management activities.

Recreational fisheries provide social and economic benefits for the Western Australian community. These may include social benefits such as spending time with family or friends and/or economic benefits such as the sale of tackle, boats and other gear, and economic support for boating and tourism industries based on fishing. The level of participation in recreational fishing is a measure of the use of this community resource and influences the estimation of satisfaction through the level of community knowledge of resource management issues.

The KPI is reported as client satisfaction regarding the department's recreational fishing initiatives and used to monitor, evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the department's programs, activities and functions.

Calculation

The information used to assess our performance against this effectiveness indicator is derived from an annual telephone-based community survey.

This survey is conducted to assess the understanding and satisfaction of the community on our management strategies and examine the key aspects of fishing and appreciation of the aquatic environment by the community.

An external research company contracted by the department conducted the community survey between mid-February and March 2025. Survey respondents were asked about their experiences and views for the 12-month period prior to their interview date. From a total of 3,845 in-scope respondents (Western Australian residents aged 18 years and older), 702 interviews were completed which comprised:

- 561 respondents from major cities
- 61 respondents from inner regional areas
- 80 respondents from outer regional/remote/very remote areas or who were migratory residents.

As part of the community survey, respondents were asked to rate the department in its management of recreational fishing. Rating options were measured on a 5-point Likert scale comprising 'very poor', 'poor', 'fair', 'good' or 'very good' beginning during the period 2023-24. Only respondents who were aware the department (either DPIRD, or DPIRD Fisheries or the Department of Fisheries) was responsible for a management area were asked to rate our performance for that management area.

Satisfaction rates were calculated as the proportion of respondents who ranked management of a particular area as 'fair', 'good' or 'very good'. Responses of 'unsure' were excluded from the calculation.

The KPI calculation is the 2024-25 satisfaction weighted to reflect the estimated resident population based on January 2025 Labour Force Survey estimates from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, with the survey providing estimates for the 2024-25 financial year.

Results

Table 10: Key effectiveness indicator 4 results

2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2023-24	Target
86%	83%	89%	85%	88%	-1%	+3%

Analysis

In 2023-24, the Likert scale was revised from the previous 4-point format (very poor, poor, good, very good) to a 5-point scale to improve respondent comfort. This change included replacing 'neither' (good nor poor) with 'fair' to provide a more effective midpoint in the Likert scale, and replacing 'can't say' with 'unsure' to provide a more contemporary exclusion category. As a result, KPIs from 2023-24 onwards may not be directly comparable to those from prior years.

The level of participation in recreational fishing is a measure of the use of this community resource and is based on the Estimated Resident Population of aged 5 and older at 30 June 2024 (Australian Bureau of Statistics). The number of people in Western Australia who participated in recreational fishing at least once in the previous 12-month period (2024-25) was rounded to 698,000 (95% confidence interval (CI) [609 000, 788 000]). The participation rate of 25% is slightly lower than the participation rate of last year but lies within the 95% confidence limits for recent annual participation rate.

Community satisfaction with DPIRD's management of recreational fishing is measured through a community survey. In 2024-25, DPIRD received a satisfaction rating of 88% (95% CI [84.1%, 92.0%]). This was similar to last year's rating of 89% and fell within the range of 83–90% reported since 2019-20. A tolerable range of $\pm 5\%$ around the target level has been set to reflect natural year to year variation in satisfaction over the past decade. Based on this, DPIRD considers that this indicator has been met.

5.1 Percentage of exotic terrestrial weed, pest and disease threats resolved appropriately

Protecting the economy, environment and community from the negative impacts of pests and diseases, weeds and contaminants is a shared responsibility. DPIRD is required to respond to biosecurity incursions and incidents according to state, national and international biosecurity requirements and agreements.

Not all incidents will be resolved within the space of one year, with many requiring ongoing or seasonal activity before a resolution is reached. In some circumstances, this may take a number of years.

Description

This KPI helps stakeholders understand our role and effectiveness in ensuring the appropriate management of biosecurity incidents that may impact WA agriculture, the environment and/or communities as directed by government.

This KPI provides one indicator of the extent to which DPIRD ensures that WA complies with its most critical local, national and international biosecurity responsibilities, and the extent to which our industries, communities and environment are protected from significant biosecurity threats.

Calculation

The KPI is a measure of the percentage of declared incidents to terrestrial weed, pest and disease incursions that were resolved and closed during 2024-25.

For pests and diseases that are not considered to be present in Australia and that are considered to be an emergency pest under the appropriate national deed, resolved means according to national agreement. This may include pest and disease incidents in other jurisdictions to which WA is required to respond.

For pests and diseases that are not considered to be present in Australia and that are not considered to be an emergency pest at a national level, resolved means according to state policy.

For pests and diseases that are present in Australia but not considered to be established in WA or parts of WA, resolved means according to state policy.

Appropriate resolution of an incursion or incident does not necessarily imply eradication of the pest or disease. It may include pests and diseases that are determined to be not technically or economically feasible to eradicate. Appropriate resolution in these cases may include ongoing controls and/or transition to management if this is in keeping with national or state agreements and policies.

A declared incident is considered to be:

- opened when a declaration form is completed and signed by the appropriate delegated authority
- resolved when a close-out form is completed and signed by the appropriate delegated authority.

All declared incidents are recorded on DPIRD's Incident Management Database. This is interrogated and the percentage determined annually.

Results

Table 11: Key effectiveness indicator 5.1 results

2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		Variance	
Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	2023-24	Target	
37.5%	60%	44.4%	60%	28.6%	-15.8%	-31.4%	

Analysis

From a total of 7 incident responses to terrestrial weed, pest and disease threats in 2024-25, 2 were resolved. The remaining 5 are subject to ongoing response and will carry over into 2025-26.

Five responses were open on 1 July 2024. These are:

- *Lepisiota incisa*, African black sugar ant
- *Euwallacea fornicatus*, Polyphagous shot-hole borer
- *Apis florea*, Red dwarf honey bee
- *Lepisiota frauenfeldi*, Browsing ant
- *Pseudomonas syringae*

Two new responses were declared since 1 July 2024:

- Queensland fruit fly – Willagee (declared November 2024)
- Starlings (declared November 2024)

Two were resolved and closed since 1 July 2024:

- *Lepisiota frauenfeldi*, Browsing ant (closed November 2024)
- *Pseudomonas syringae* (closed August 2024)

The 'actual' figure of 28.6% is from the resolution of 2 out of 7 responses that were open during 2024-25. This has resulted in a variance of -31.4% against the target for 2024-25. There continues to be an increasing biosecurity risk globally due to drivers such as climate change, increased movements of people and cargo and changes in land use. These pressures have resulted in an increasing number of biosecurity incursions into WA which require a response. Additionally, responses are becoming larger and more complex. It is expected that an increasing number of responses will take multiple years to resolve, which will continue to impact this KPI as incursions compound over several years.

5.2 Percentage of invasive aquatic pests and exotic diseases resolved appropriately

Description

This KPI helps stakeholders to understand our role and effectiveness in ensuring the appropriate management of biosecurity threats that may impact commercial or recreational fishing, aquaculture and the aquatic environment in WA.

The intent is that aquatic pests and exotic diseases are resolved appropriately.

For pests and diseases that are not considered to be present in Australia, and that are considered to be nationally significant, resolved means according to national and state policy. This may include pest and disease incidents in other jurisdictions to which WA is required to respond.

For pests and diseases that are not considered to be present in Australia, and that are not considered to be an emergency pest on a national level, resolved means according to state policy.

For pests and diseases that are present in Australia but not considered to be established in WA or parts of WA, resolved means according to state policy.

Appropriate resolution of an incursion or incident does not necessarily imply eradication of the pest or disease. It may include pests and diseases that are determined to be not technically or economically feasible to eradicate. Appropriate resolution may include ongoing controls and/or transition to management if this is in keeping with national or state agreements and policies.

This KPI provides one indication of the extent to which DPIRD ensures that WA complies with its most critical local, national and international biosecurity responsibilities, and the extent to which our industries, communities and environment are protected from significant biosecurity threats.

Calculation

This KPI is a measure of the percentage of declared incidents to aquatic pest and disease incursions that were resolved and closed during the financial year.

A declared incident is considered to be:

- opened when a declaration form is completed and signed by the appropriate delegated authority
- resolved when a close-out form is completed and signed by the appropriate delegated authority.

All declared incidents are recorded on DPIRD's Incident Management Database. This is interrogated and the percentage determined annually.

Results

Table 12: Key effectiveness indicator 5.2 results

2022-23		2023-24		2024-25		Variance	
Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	2023-24	Target	
0%	60%	0%	60%	100%	+100%	+40%	

Analysis

One declared aquatic biosecurity incident carried over into 2024-25. The response was subject to transition to management and has now been resolved.

The biosecurity response to *Didemnum vexillum* (also known as Carpet sea squirt [CSS]) was stood up in January 2023. In early 2024 it was determined nationally that CSS was not technically feasible to eradicate. DPIRD completed a 12-month transition to management and the response was closed in March 2025.

The *Didemnum vexillum* response demonstrates how large, nationally significant biosecurity incursions may increasingly take multiple years to resolve appropriately due to their complexity.

No new aquatic biosecurity responses were opened in 2024-25. The 'actual' figure of 100% is from the resolution of 1 out of 1 response.

6.1 Percentage change in the spatial extent of the southwest cropping region that maintains sufficient year-round ground cover for protecting and improving soil health

Description

Sustainable resource management and use is essential to protect and grow WA's primary industries.

This KPI assists stakeholders to understand our role and effectiveness in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the soil resources on which WA agriculture relies. It links to our strategic priorities regarding sustainability, research and development and an enabling environment.

The intent is for cropping land to maintain adequate ground cover, preventing loss of carbon and other nutrients through soil erosion, and where possible, accumulating organic matter in these agricultural soils.

Ground cover on arable land in WA's southwest cropping region is dependent on seasonal weather and land management activities such as grazing, tillage and burning. Inadequate ground cover increases the likelihood of wind and water erosion which impacts the sustainability of our soils, decreases agricultural productivity and therefore longer-term agricultural industry outcomes.

Calculation

Adequate ground cover is defined as 40% or more of the land surface covered with living or dead vegetation. When ground cover is lower than 40%, erosion hazard is severe.

Autumn is the best time to measure erosion hazard because this is when the ground cover is at an annual minimum, the landscape is dry, and strong pre-frontal winds and storms increase in frequency as winter approaches.

The KPI compares the current year's (autumn through summer) level of adequate ground cover to the seasonal medians for the previous 10 years.

The KPI is measured using satellite imagery obtained from the Joint Remote Sensing Research Program, whereby a time series of representative seasonal (4 per year) fractional ground cover products for 2024-25 were compared to the median ground cover from the previous 10 years (2014-2024).

The KPI (percentage change in area of the cropping region maintaining sufficient ground cover) is calculated using the following formula within each of the four seasons:

The per cent of arable land with adequate cover in 2024-25, minus the median per cent land area with adequate cover from 2014 to 2024 all divided by the median per cent land area with adequate cover from 2014 to 2024. The result is multiplied by 100 to give the percentage difference.

A value of zero or larger (the KPI target) indicates no change or increasing ground cover in this year, compared to the 10-year median.

Because different satellite pixels are excluded from analysis each year due to cloud cover, comparisons use % of cropping land in the southwest agricultural region per year, rather than absolute area (hectares).

Results

The area of the southwest cropping region with adequate ground cover in autumn 2024 (exceeding the 40% threshold) covered 89.3% of arable land. This area represents less than the 10-year median of 91.9%. The KPI was therefore -2.8%, below the target of 0%. All other seasons in 2024 had close to or more ground cover than the 10-year median.

Table 13: Key effectiveness indicator 6.1 results

2021 (Autumn) Actual	2022 (Autumn) Actual	2023 (Autumn) Actual	2024 (Autumn)	
			Target	Actual
-0.5%	+6.1	+6.7%	0%	-2.8%

Table 14: Arable land maintaining sufficient ground cover

Arable land maintaining sufficient ground cover (%)	2014-23 Baseline	2024-25 Actual	Change in area (%)
Autumn 2024	91.9%	89.3%	-2.8%
Winter 2024	99.1%	99.3%	0.1%
Spring 2024	98.7%	98.9%	0.2%
Summer 2024-25	94.6%	96.9%	2.5%

Analysis

For much of the agricultural region 2023 was a low rainfall year, similar to 2019 (reported in the 2020 KPI). Low rainfall means reduced crop and pasture growth, and therefore less ground cover in the growing season and the following summer and autumn (stubble, dry vegetation). DPIRD actively recommends growers protect ground cover over summer and autumn to prevent soil erosion. In 2023, growers maintained adequate ground cover over a larger area than was done in 2019, which suggests the management of ground cover is improving.

Approximately 80% of the land with inadequate ground cover is located north of Merredin (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Area of the southwest cropping region with sufficient ground cover in autumn 2024

6.2 Number of soil health extension workshops held

Description

This KPI promotes the WA Government's role and effectiveness in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the land, soil and water resources upon which WA agriculture relies.

Healthy soil is vital to WA's economic prosperity, boosting regional and local economies across the state. A good understanding of soil health is essential to long-term, sustainable agricultural systems. The intent is that DPIRD supports capability development through soil health workshops, promoting sustainable natural resource use.

Calculation

Soil health extension workshops are supported and/or sponsored by DPIRD to address a range of soil constraints, nutrient management, climate resilience, carbon farming, soil testing and land management practices. Workshops in this KPI include interactive educational and awareness-raising seminars, presentations, events, and formal workshops that are supported and/or sponsored by DPIRD.

In some instances, DPIRD may partner with other organisations to deliver the event but remain a major sponsor or contributor.

Workshop data (date presented, number of attendees and where delivered) is documented and collated across DPIRD from any section of the organisation that has delivered a soil health workshop.

Results

Table 15: Key effectiveness indicator 6.2 results

2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2023-24	Target
63	84	90	30	61	-32%	+103%

Analysis

This target was met, with 61 workshops delivered.

Most of the events were face-to-face events together with several delivered in conference style formats focusing on soil research outcomes. Prominent soil health events that catered to a broader audience included the Grains Research Updates, the Healthy Estuaries and Soil Wise programs, and several Carbon Farming Information sessions.

The maintained interest in soil health related workshops can be attributed to the continued promotion of soil information through initiatives such as the WA Soil Health Strategy, the National Soil Strategy and associated National Soil Action Plan, and DPIRD's Climate Resilience program with an emphasis on supporting land carbon sequestration.

The decline in actual workshops delivered can also be attributed to the 2024-25 year being significant for new project development and formation.

6.3 Proportion of fish stocks identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation

Description

This KPI helps stakeholders to understand our role and effectiveness in ensuring the long-term sustainability of natural resources on which WA fishing relies and impacts.

The department undertakes annual assessments of fisheries that are subject to management. These assessments have been used to determine the sustainability status of the state's most significant commercial and recreational fisheries.

Calculation

Performance is measured as the proportion of all fisheries (that have sufficient data) for which the breeding stocks of each of the major target or indicator species:

- are being maintained at levels that ensure catches could be sustained at desirable levels, given effort levels and normal environmental conditions; or
- are recovering from a depleted state at an appropriate rate following management intervention.

The indicator is derived from annual assessments and trends in catch and fishing activity. The calculation of the proportion of fish stocks identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation is:

- [number of stocks maintained or recovering] divided by [total number of stocks].

Results

Table 16: Key effectiveness indicator 6.3 results

2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual (restated*)	2024-25		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2023-24	Target
96%	96%	93%	95%	89%	-4%	-6%

* Please note that the 2023-24 Actual was incorrectly reported in the 2023-24 Actual Annual Report (91%). The correct value (93%) was published in the 2024 State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources report.

Analysis

Aquatic resource status assessments are based on all information up to and including the most recent fishing season. Because aquatic resources have various levels of available information, resource status is based on all available data using a risk-based weight-of-evidence assessment approach, full details of which are in the companion Status Reports on Western Australia's Fisheries and Aquatic Resources 2024-25.

Status updates were undertaken during March–June with 46 resource and fishery combinations reviewed for 2024-25. The one fishery not examined is northern shark which has not operated since 2009.

Of the 45 assessments, 36 were considered to have adequate breeding stock levels and a further 2 fisheries (the Temperate Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery [TDGDLF] and the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery) had breeding stocks considered to be recovering at acceptable rates. The TDGDLF targets relatively long-lived species so recovery is expected to take decades to complete.

Of the 7 remaining fisheries, 2 were identified as having stocks that are environmentally limited: the Cockburn Sound Fish Net Managed Fishery (garfish) and the South West Beach Net Fishery (whitebait).

Five fisheries (the Abalone Managed Fishery, the West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery [WCDSF], the South Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery [SCDSF], the Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery [PDSF] and the Northern Demersal Scalefish Fishery [NDSF]) have stocks that are considered inadequate as a result of exploitation. Management actions have already been implemented to assist stock recovery in the Abalone Managed Fishery and the WCDSF. Discussions are underway regarding management considerations in the SCDSF, PDSF and NDSF.

The department's 2024-25 target for the proportion of fish stocks not at risk from fishing is 95%. For the 2024-25 reporting period, the proportion of the assessed groups identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation is 89%, which is below the target level. Due to reasons explained above, the department considers it has not met this indicator.

6.4 Percentage of commercial and recreational fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved

Description

This KPI helps stakeholders to understand our role and effectiveness in ensuring the long-term sustainability of natural resources on which WA fishing relies and impacts. It provides an assessment of the success of the department's management plans and regulatory activities in keeping fish catches at appropriate levels (including those in a recovery phase).

Where management is operating effectively, annual catches by each fishery should vary within an acceptable range. The extent of this range reflects the degree to which normal environmental variations affect the recruitment of juveniles to the stock that cannot be 'controlled' by fishery management. Additional factors may result in ongoing changes to the amount of effort expended in a fishery, which will in turn influence the appropriateness of acceptable catch ranges for individual fisheries.

Calculation

For most fisheries in WA, each management plan seeks to directly control the amount of fishing pressure applied to stocks, with the level of catch taken providing an indication of the effectiveness of the plan. Where the plan is operating effectively, the catch by the fishery should fall within an acceptable range.

For quota-managed fisheries, the measure of success of management arrangements is that the majority of the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is achieved and that it has been possible to take this catch using an acceptable amount of fishing effort.

If an unusually large expenditure of effort is needed to take the TAC, or fails to achieve the TAC by a significant margin, this may indicate that the abundance of the stock is significantly lower than anticipated. For these reasons, an appropriate range of fishing effort to take a TAC has also been incorporated for assessing the performance of quota-managed fisheries.

Acceptable levels of catch are also determined for each of the major recreational fisheries.

The KPI shows the percentage of commercial and/or recreational fisheries achieving acceptable catches or effort levels (i.e. the number of days taken to achieve the catch). The calculation of the proportion of fisheries achieving acceptable catches or effort levels is:

- $\frac{\text{[number of fisheries achieving acceptable levels]}}{\text{[total number of fisheries]}}$

Results

Table 17: Key effectiveness indicator 6.4 results

2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual (restated*)	2024-25		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2023-24	Target
90%	92%	87%	90%	89%	+2%	-1%

* Please note that the 2023-24 Actual was incorrectly reported in the 2023-24 Actual Annual Report (83%). The correct value (87%) was published in the 2024 State of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources report.

Analysis

Fisheries catch and effort information are provided by commercial and charter fishers through mandatory returns and recreational fisheries through surveys. Fisheries catch and effort data are dependent on the fishers' accuracy and completeness of data reporting, which is based on the most recent fishing season or most recent survey estimate.

Status updates were undertaken during March–June and for the purpose of this indicator, of the 46 resource and fishery combinations, comparisons between actual catches (or effort) with acceptable ranges have been undertaken for 37 commercial fisheries and an additional 20 have been identified as having a 'material' recreational catch share. A relatively high number of fisheries were not assessed due to a combination of ongoing environmentally induced stock issues or poor economic conditions resulting in minimal or no material levels of catches

during this reporting period. Over time, if the sectoral share of a fishery or stock changes markedly for various reasons (e.g. fishery development and/or expansion, changes to allocation and/or access rights), it may be appropriate to expand the indicator to include reference to fisheries or stocks for which there are other 'material' sectoral shares (e.g. customary fishing).

Of the 20 assessed recreational fisheries, only 6 currently have formal acceptable catch ranges developed and another 14 were assessed based on non-formal ranges related to resource sustainability. Estimates of recreational catch available from data collected in periodic surveys (including the most recent statewide survey of boat-based recreational fishing conducted in 2023-24 and additional annual surveys) had levels for 18 fisheries that were within acceptable catch ranges and 2 that were unacceptably above or below the acceptable catch range. These included demersal scalefish species, which were unacceptably above or below their acceptable catch ranges for the recreational sector within the WCDSF and SCDSF.

Of the 37 commercial fisheries, 13 were primarily catch-quota managed, with 24 subject to effort-control management. Of the 13 individually transferable catch-quota managed fisheries, 3 operated within and 10 were acceptably below. In the 24 effort-controlled fisheries, 13 were within and 7 were acceptably below their catch ranges. Catch/effort above or below their acceptable ranges were determined acceptable due to adequate resource sustainability. Four fisheries (WCDSF, SCDSF, PDSF and NDSF) had stocks that were unacceptable for their formal or informal catch ranges.

In summary, 18 of the 20 recreational fisheries and 33 of the 37 commercial fisheries (51 of the 57 fisheries overall) assessed were considered to have met their performance criteria.

The department's 2024-25 target is 90% for all major recreational and commercial fisheries. For the 2024-25 reporting period, the percentage of fisheries where acceptable catches are achieved is 89%, which is below the target level. Due to reasons mentioned above, the department considers it has not met this performance indicator.

Key efficiency indicators

Description

Our efficiency indicators are a representation of the efficiency with which the department delivers its services. They demonstrate the productivity of our staff in delivering our services.

Calculation

For 2024-25, DPIRD adopted a common calculation method for all efficiency indicators: average cost per hour to deliver each service.

Each employee is allocated to a service and the paid hours of work (including ordinary hours, overtime hours and commuted overtime, as well as contract and casual staff) are used in the calculation of the efficiency indicators. Leave hours are excluded. The hours worked by corporate staff are distributed across services using a weighted average approach.

Total cost of service (TCoS) is determined by attributing all project codes and cost centres to a service. Corporate overheads are attributed across services on a weighted average basis.

The calculation is:

- TCoS/total paid work hours attributed to the service.

1. Average cost per hour to deliver regional industry and community development investment facilitation

This service facilitates high-impact regional development and primary industry initiatives that contribute to economic growth, diversification, job creation and strong communities, with a focus on attracting the investment needed to grow regional WA.

Results

Table 18: Key efficiency indicator 1 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$263.47	\$330.24	\$ 265.97	+1%	-19%

Analysis

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is in line with the 2023-24 actual cost per hour.

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is below the 2024-25 budget cost per hour, mainly due to the actual total cost of service for the year being much lower than budgeted as a result of the retiming of expenditure on projects such as Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves, Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Colle Industry Attraction Development, Kalbarri Foreshore and Beaches Revitalisation, Myalup-Wellington Project, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Ord Expansion Project, Regional Recovery Partnerships and Southern Forests Irrigation Scheme. Many of these projects involve regional infrastructure delivery, delivery by third parties, and/or significant engagement with stakeholders, delaying delivery beyond the budget year. Most of this expenditure was approved for carryover as part of the 2025-26 Budget.

2. Average cost per hour to deliver corporate and business development services to support Regional Development Commissions (RDCs)

This service focuses on the department providing operational resources and services to the 9 RDCs.

This KPI helps stakeholders understand the efficiency of our service to RDCs. The intent is that the net cost of this service as a factor of RDC support trends down.

Results

Table 19: Key efficiency indicator 2 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$167.23	\$233.28	\$173.22	+4%	-26%

Analysis

The average cost per hour for 2024-25 Actual is higher than 2023-24 Actual arising mainly from fewer hours worked, reflecting the vacancies experienced in some of the Regional Development Commissions during the current year with competitive labour markets and regional housing and other challenges.

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is significantly below the 2024-25 budget cost per hour. This is mainly as a result of the budget including the remaining funding in the legacy Regional Grants and Community Chest Grants Schemes to the Regional Development Commissions, the retiming of operational funding from 2022-23 into 2024-25, as well as the delivery of the Regional Drought Resilience Program and other Commonwealth Government funded projects. This has resulted in an increase in the estimated average cost per hour to deliver corporate and business development services to support Regional Development Commissions.

3. Average cost per hour to deliver regional technical and technological development

This service includes agronomic and business development activities, including updating the technologies needed to retain the competitiveness of regionally significant businesses as they exist today; and developing new technologies that they need to increase their contribution to WA's economic diversity and jobs.

Results

Table 20: Key efficiency indicator 3 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$152.05	\$150.62	\$ 170.21	+12%	+13%

Analysis

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is higher than both the 2024-25 Target and the 2023-24 actual cost per hour.

The increase in the average cost per hour worked in 2024–25 is primarily driven by a reduction in the number of hours allocated to Service 3. This reduction stems from a restructure of the Senior Leadership Team, particularly within the Primary Industries Development pillar. The restructure has led to a more targeted allocation of roles to specific projects, resulting in fewer hours worked in Service 3 and a corresponding increase in hours allocated to Services 4 and 6.

4. Average cost per hour to deliver regional skills and knowledge development

This service aims to develop skills and knowledge in primary industries and regions. It includes developing, conducting, contracting and/or encouraging training and education programs and workshops; and making information available in a range of user-friendly and integrated formats, including websites, presentations, publications and decision-support applications.

Results

Table 21: Key efficiency indicator 4 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$201.29	\$353.63	\$ 214.63	+7%	-39%

Analysis

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is slightly higher than the 2023-24 actual cost per hour mainly as a result of the Farm Business Resilience Program.

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is significantly below the 2024-25 budget cost per hour, mainly due to the 2024-25 budgeted hours worked significantly understated. The 2024-25 Budget FTE allocation was based on historical data. The 2023-24 financial year was the first full year on consolidated core business systems which has led to a more accurate allocation of FTEs for the 2023-24 Actual and 2024-25 Actual.

5. Average cost per hour to deliver regional social amenity development

This service focuses on facilitating the development of amenities, in areas such as recreational fishing, education, health and connectivity, to support regional growth and resilience. This involves working collaboratively across governments, industries and communities to identify, define, champion, support and/or fund development initiatives.

Results

Table 22: Key efficiency indicator 5 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$191.93	\$332.05	\$ 209.28	+9%	-37%

Analysis

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is higher than the 2023-24 actual cost per hour, mainly due to an increased cost in service provided comprising an increase in the cost of managing recreational fisheries and new project expenditure including for Southern Ocean Surf Reef, Bunbury Hands Oval Upgrades and Temporary Facilities, Yalgorup National Park Ecotourism Development, Warmun People's Place Renovation Project, and the Full Circle Therapy Centre, offset by projects completing in 2023-24 such as Waroona Town Centre Revitalisation, Newman Water Waste Treatment Plan, and other smaller projects.

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is significantly below the 2024-25 budget cost per hour. The main reason for the below budget cost per hour results is that the 2024-25 Budget allocation was based on historical data. The 2023-24 financial year was the first full year on consolidated core business systems which has led to a more accurate allocation of FTEs for the 2023-24 Actual and 2024-25 Actual.

In addition, the actual total cost of service being lower than budgeted due to retiming of expenditure on projects such as Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund, Busselton Jetty Marine Discovery Centre, Upgrade to Over 55's Estate for Riverview residents, and Albany Trails offset by new projects such as Southern Ocean Surf Reef and Bunbury Hands Oval Upgrades and Temporary Facilities.

6. Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries biosecurity and integrity

This service focuses on maintaining and enhancing WA's biosecurity status and meeting WA's national and international biosecurity commitments.

Activities in this service span a wide range of research, monitoring, analytical, educational and policy activities in both legislated and non-legislated aspects of terrestrial and aquatic biosecurity risk management. It also includes integrity matters such as animal welfare regulatory obligations.

Results

Table 23: Key efficiency indicator 6 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$146.22	\$163.26	\$ 180.32	+23%	+10%

Analysis

The 2024-25 Actual cost per hour is higher than 2023-24 primarily due to higher costs associated with responding to biosecurity incidents—most notably, the significantly increased expenditure on the Polyphagous shot-hole borer response. Additional contributors included increased contributions to other jurisdictions under national cost-sharing arrangements, costs related to the relocation from the Kensington operational site, increased expenditure for the budgeted Sheep and Goat Identification program and the provision of Quarantine and animal and plant pathology services. These increases were partially offset by lower spending in some areas.

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is higher than the 2024-25 budget cost per hour mainly due to FTE allocation based on historical data which did not account for incident response nor the increased number of hours worked in this service relating to projects in the Primary Industries Development space. The 2023-24 financial year was the first full year on consolidated core business systems which has led to a more accurate allocation of FTEs for the 2023-24 Actual and 2024-25 Actual.

7. Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries natural resource management

This service supports the productive capacity of terrestrial and aquatic natural resources that underpin WA's primary industries. It is also strongly linked to WA's national and international natural resource management commitments. Activities related to this service span a wide range of research, monitoring, analytical, educational, assessment and policy activities in both legislated and non-legislated aspects of terrestrial and aquatic natural resource management.

Results

Table 24: Key efficiency indicator 7 results

2023-24	2024-25		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 23-24	%± from target
\$157.28	\$181.03	\$ 150.70	-4%	-17%

Analysis

The 2024-25 actual cost per hour is lower than the 2023-24 actual cost per hour, mainly due to increased hours worked, some of which relates to a restructure of the Senior Leadership Team, particularly within the Primary Industries Development pillar. The restructure has led to a more targeted allocation of roles to specific projects, resulting in more hours worked in Service 4 and 7 and a corresponding decrease in hours allocated to Service 3.

The 2024-25 Actual cost per hour is lower than budget cost per hour due to some new initiatives and RFR projects being deferred to the 2025-26 financial year and out years. The resulting reduction in Actual expense for 2024-25 along with hours delivered remaining on budget produced the lower cost per hour. Contributing projects were Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Park, Southern Rangelands Revitalisation Project, Westport - Cockburn Sound Artificial Reef and Westcoast Demersal Scalefish Recovery.

End of audited section.

Other financial disclosures

Pricing policies of services provided

DPIRD charges on a full or partial cost recovery basis for some goods and services, with fees and charges determined in accordance with the Costing and Pricing Government Services: Guidelines for use by Agencies in the Western Australian Public Sector published by the Department of Treasury and statutory requirements.

The 2024-25 list of fees and charges was implemented on 1 July 2024 following the annual review of tariffs, fees and charges.

DPIRD receives a significant proportion of own source revenue from regulatory fees and charges related to commercial and recreational fishing, aquaculture and biosecurity services.

The level of cost recovery for all fees and charges is based on the nature of the transaction. For example, commercial access to fish resources is determined to reflect an appropriate payment to the community for access to that resource. Similarly, some services may be exempted from charges in certain circumstances. This may include, but not be limited to, where the service relates to an outbreak of a suspected exotic disease or where the service involves approved research or surveillance.

Priority Start policy

The department does not manage any contracts in scope of the WA Government's Priority Start policy, as the Department of Finance is managing all our building construction, civil construction and maintenance contracts valued over \$5 million (including GST) on our behalf.

Capital works

Capital works undertaken during the year focused on a range of building, infrastructure, equipment and information technology projects to enable the department to meet its corporate and operational needs in regional and metropolitan locations.

Table 25: Completed capital projects in 2024-25

Project	Actual Total Cost \$'000	Estimated Total Cost \$'000	Variance \$'000
Abrolhos Island Activation	227	227	0
Albany Shellfish Hatchery	3,733	3,733	0
Asset Maintenance – Katanning Roof	1,200	1,200	0
Climate Adaptation – Southern Rangelands Revitalisation Project Expansion	150	150	0
Digital Foundations Program	2,838	2,838	0
Help Grain Growers to Better Manage Risk (e-Connected Grainbelt)	2,973	2,973	0
Laboratory Upgrades – Kensington Site	14,951	14,951	0
Modern Biosecurity and Product Integrity	101	101	0
Northern Beef Industry Strategy	832	832	0
Pastoral Lands Reform – Vehicle Equipment	26	26	0
Plant and Equipment – Externally Funded Projects	3,527	3,527	0

Table 26: Outstanding capital projects in 2024-25

Project	Expected period of completion	Estimated cost to complete \$'000	Current period estimated total cost \$'000	Previous period estimated total cost \$'000	Variance \$'000	Explanation
Abrolhos Islands General Rolling Program	2028-29	1,200	4,387	4,387	-	
Aquaculture Development Maintenance and Refurbishment	2026-27	444	1,250	1,250	-	
Asset Maintenance Fund – including Eucla and Kununurra Checkpoints	2025-26	5,556	8,250	8,250	-	
Boosting Biosecurity Defences	2025-26	631	631	-	-	
Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks Vessel	2025-26	9,016	9,393	9,393	-	
Building Grains Research and Development Capacity	2027-28	5,088	10,951	10,951	-	
Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund	2025-26	11,000	11,000	11,000	-	
Computing Hardware and Software Rolling Program	2028-29	750	3,884	3,884	-	
Diagnostics and Laboratory Services	2027-28	2,052	2,391	-	2,391	New
Equipment Replacement Program	2028-29	17,701	65,906	65,906	-	
Frank Wise Tropical Research Institute (FWTRI) Refurbishment	2025-26	450	1,449	1,449	-	
Houtman Abrolhos Islands Sustainable Development Activation Plan	2025-26	7,138	7,418	7,418	-	
Incident Control Vehicle	2025-26	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	New
Information System Development Rolling Program	2028-29	2,150	3,420	3,420	-	
Katanning Research Facility	2025-26	30	680	680	-	

Table 26: Outstanding capital projects in 2024-25 (continued)

Project	Expected period of completion	Estimated cost to complete \$'000	Current period estimated total cost \$'000	Previous period estimated total cost \$'000	Variance \$'000	Explanation
Large Vessel Replacement Program	2025-26	2,739	11,482	11,482	-	
Mobile Signs – Avian influenza (HPAI)	2025-26	50	50	-	50	New
New Metropolitan Facility	2030-31	312,561	319,968	319,968	-	
North West Aboriginal Housing Initiative	2027-28	15,718	15,718	-	15,718	New
Ord Expansion – Land Acquisition	2025-26	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	
Pilbara Hydrogen Hub (Administered)	2026-27	60,233	64,233	-	64,233	New
Primary Industries Development Research Facility	2027-28	55,669	55,669	-	55,669	New
Regional Natural Resource Management Program	2025-26	1,500	13,787	13,787	-	
Shark Monitoring Network	2025-26	295	1,638	1,638	-	
Shark Notification and Response System Upgrade	2025-26	2,862	3,930	3,930	-	
Small Boats and Trailers Rolling Program	2028-29	6,492	24,787	24,787	-	
State Biosecurity Response Centre	2025-26	89,100	100,300	-	100,300	New
Truck Washdown Facilities	2025-26	2,050	2,300	2,300	-	
Wild Dog Action Plan	2028-29	4,207	16,089	16,089	-	

Unauthorised use of corporate credit cards

DPIRD is required to report on instances where a DPIRD-issued government purchasing card ('a credit card') was used for personal use.

Table 27: Unauthorised use of credit cards 2024-25

Description	Quantity/value
Number of instances the Western Australian Government purchasing card has been used for personal use expenditure	180
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure	\$9,812.35
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure settled by due date	\$3,023.00
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure settled after the period required	\$6,789.35
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure outstanding at the end of the period	\$0
Number of referrals for disciplinary action instigated by the notifiable authority during the reporting period	0

Shares held by the department

Our department does not hold shares in any subsidiary body as defined by section 60 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

Director indemnity insurance

In 2024-25, DPIRD paid \$51,598 to indemnify any director (as defined in Part 3 of the *Statutory Corporations (Liability of Directors) Act 1996* against a liability incurred under sections 13 or 14 of that Act.

Act of Grace payments

The department from time to time processes Act of Grace payments on behalf of the Government. In 2024-25, there were no Act of Grace payments.

Expenditure on advertising, market research, polling and direct mail

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the department reports incurring expenditure in relation to advertising agencies, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising organisations. Total expenditure for 2024-25 was \$999,500.

Table 28: Expenditure on advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising in 2024-25

Advertising	\$	Media advertising organisations	\$
LinkedIn	18,043	Initiative Media Australia Pty Ltd	112,461
RACWA Holdings Pty Ltd	4,000	Carat Australia Media Services Pty Ltd	773,857
Scott Print	2,829	Facebook	20,687
Tangibility	25,045	SW Precision Print	683
The Judith Treby Family Trust	3,995	WA Newspapers Ltd	535
The Trustee for D'Arcy Family Trust	3,420	JP Promotions Pty Ltd	15,535
The Trustee for the Kirkpatrick Family Trust	600	Farm Weekly	4,210
Kimberley Echo	518	Total	927,968
Total	58,450		
Market research organisations	\$		
Advantage Communications & Marketing Pty Ltd	6,538		
Total	6,538		
Polling organisations	\$		
Nil	-		
Direct mail organisations	\$		
Quickmail	861		
Initiative Media Australia Pty Ltd	4,364		
Bright Promotional Products	512		
Campaign Monitor	807		
Total	6,544		

Additional disclosures

Employee development

DPIRD undertook several development initiatives in 2024-25 to build a skilled, capable and diverse workforce. These included:

- rolling out Aboriginal heritage management training across DPIRD to help staff identify and protect Aboriginal heritage, mitigate risks to project activities that affect Aboriginal heritage, and navigate and comply with relevant laws
- continuing delivery of the in-house manager development program, with additional training around emotional intelligence and subconscious bias to the suite of modules delivered by DPIRD's subject matter experts across a range of corporate service functions
- providing almost 100 e-learning modules on a range of topics through DPIRD's learning management system
- upskilling managers around more inclusive recruitment and selection practices by working with Pride in Diversity to deliver training to those involved with recruitment processes
- participation in Public Sector Commission's (PSC's) Elev8, Propel and Senior Executive Service Development programs, as well as Leadership WA's LeadAbility program to support leadership development across DPIRD, with an emphasis on attendance by managers from diversity groups.

Employment and industrial relations

Table 29: Staff profile

Staff profile	2023-24 Average FTE ¹	2024-25 Average FTE ¹
Permanent full time	1,346.2	1,411.7
Permanent part time	161.6	334.6
Contract full time	338.3	174.1
Contract part time	55.7	49.8
Total	1,901.8	1,970.2

¹ Full-time equivalent (FTE)

Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes

Compliance issues that arose during 2024-25 regarding public sector standards are documented in Table 30.

Table 30: Compliance issues/breach claims

Breach claims lodged	2023-24	2024-25
Claims carried over	0	0
New claims received	3	3
Relevant standard		
Employment	3	3
Performance management	0	0
Redeployment	0	0
Termination	0	0
Grievance resolution	0	0
Handling of claims		
Withdrawn in agency	0	1
Resolved in agency	3	0
Still pending in agency	0	0
Referred to Public Sector Commission	0	2
Total claims completed	3	3

In 2024-25, the department initiated 16 disciplinary processes under Part 5 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

A total of 17 disciplinary processes were completed in 2024-25 and actions taken as an outcome of those processes ranged from issuing a warning as improvement action, through to a reduction in classification level.

Work health and safety (WHS) and injury management

Performance

Our performance against key indicators for Work Health and Safety and Injury Management is outlined in Table 31.

Table 31: Work health and safety and injury management performance against key indicators

Measures	Results 2022-23	Results 2023-24	Results Current 2024-25	Targets	Comments about targets
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	0	Achieved
Lost time injury (LTI) and disease incidence rate	1.60	0.77	0.61	0 or 10% reduction in incidence rate	Achieved
Lost time injury and disease severity rate	13.3	53.3	66.7	0 or 10% reduction in severity rate	Not achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work (i) within 13 weeks	95.8%	60%	55.6%	Actual target to be stated	Not achieved
Percentage of injured workers returned to work (ii) within 26 weeks	95.8%	60%	77.8%	Greater than or equal to 80%	Not achieved
Percentage of managers trained in work health and safety injury management responsibilities, including refresher training within 3 years	47%	49%	73%	Greater than or equal to 80%	Not achieved

Workers compensation and lost time injury summary

In 2024-25, the department recorded 19 approved workers compensation claims, down from 31 the previous year. Of these, 12 resulted in lost time (15 in 2023-24). With an FTE of 1,955, the lost time injury and disease incidence rate fell to 0.61%. The severity rate increased to 66.7%, as the number of severe claims (8) remained steady while total LTIs fell. Return-to-work outcomes within 13 and 26 weeks were slightly below target and were affected by the complexity and duration of several psychological injury claims. Manager capability continues to build, with 73% of managers trained in WHS and injury management responsibilities, and additional sessions are planned to reach the 80% target.

Table 32: Workers compensation and lost time injury

	2023-24	2024-25
Total number of approved claims submitted during reporting period	31	19
Total number of lost time injury claims submitted during reporting period	15	12
Total number of severe claims reported during the reporting period	8	8

Table 33: Hazards and incidents

	2023-24	2024-25
Total number of hazards reported	68	56
Total number of incidents reported	338	397

Hazards and incidents summary

Between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 reporting periods, there was a clear shift in hazard and incident reporting trends. The total number of hazards reported decreased from 68 to 56, representing a 17.6% reduction.

Conversely, the number of incidents reported increased from 338 to 397, a 17.5% rise. This may reflect an actual increase in safety events, broader categories of incidents being captured, or a strengthened reporting culture.

These changes occurred during a period of operational transition and system improvements. The reduction in hazard reports aligns with some emergency response teams entering a maintenance phase, which led to fewer active field deployments and a corresponding shift in daily risk exposure.

At the same time, the increase in reported incidents is likely influenced by enhanced transparency and reporting practices following the implementation of a new hazard and incident register.

Moving towards the latter part of 2025 will enable real-time monitoring through live Power BI dashboards, which will improve organisational visibility and responsiveness.

Employee Assistance Program

DPIRD facilitates an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) with 3 providers. It is an independent, professional and completely confidential counselling service available to staff and managers. Family members are also able to attend.

Table 34: EAP service provision

EAP provider	Hours of EAP provision	
	2023-24	2024-25
Converge International	71	143
PeopleSense	277	534
Access Wellbeing Services	136	136
Total	484	813

Asbestos management

DPIRD maintains a proactive and legislatively compliant approach to asbestos management of department sites across the state. In consultation with the Asbestos National Strategic Plan, DPIRD is aware of and committed to the 3-phase approach to asbestos management, as developed by the Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Council. The department consistently reviews the asbestos registers and asbestos management plans for its respective sites and consults with industry leaders within occupational hygiene and environmental health to assist the appropriate management of asbestos, within the requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020*, Work Health and Safety Regulations (General) 2022 and the Code of Practice – How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace.

Diversity outcomes

DPIRD is committed to building an inclusive and diverse workforce that is reflective of the community we serve through a range of workforce policies, practices and initiatives. To support this commitment in 2024-25, we continued to implement the Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan 2023–25, DPIRD Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework 2021–26 and DPIRD’s Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-25. We also launched our new DPIRD Access and Inclusion Plan 2024–29, which highlights our commitment to creating an inclusive environment for all employees and stakeholders, including people with disability.

Through the implementation of these plans, DPIRD is tracking above the PSC targets in terms of the representation for the following diversity groups (at 30 June 2025):

- Women in senior executive – 61% compared to the target of 50%
- Culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) – 18.5% compared to the target of 15.5%
- People with disability – 5.7% compared to the target of 5%.

While we focused on delivering specific initiatives identified in these plans, we also explored broader activities to build awareness and create a culture of inclusivity in 2024-25.

This included:

- a dedicated page on DPIRD’s new website with information about diversity and inclusion and links to our diversity plans for prospective job candidates
- job advertisement templates were updated with a new diversity and inclusion statement supported by the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*.
- emphasis on diversity and inclusion within the workplace and agreed plans in the onboarding materials for new employees
- celebration, promotion and education regarding days and weeks of significance, including NAIDOC Week, National Reconciliation Week, Wear it Purple Day, the Pride Parade, International Women’s Day and International Day of People with Disability
- leadership development opportunities that encourage participation by employees from diversity groups identified as part of the PSC Workforce Diversification and Inclusion Strategy
- review of our employee exit survey to place a greater emphasis on diversity and inclusion.

Targeted measures identified through our diversity plans were also delivered in 2024-25 to ensure there was specific focus on our diversity groups, with this detail included on the following pages.

DPIRD Access and Inclusion Plan outcomes

DPIRD launched its new Access and Inclusion Plan 2024–29 (AIP) during the year, which builds on the achievements of DPIRD’s Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2018–23. The development of the new plan involved consultation with external stakeholders and the wider community to ensure it considered access and inclusion from a broader perspective.

In 2024-25, the department commenced implementing the plan, including:

- consulting with key stakeholders in the development of DPIRD’s new website to ensure information is accessible for all people, including people with disability. The website was built to meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Level AA compliance and will be tested and evaluated regularly to ensure that we achieve this requirement
- delivering events to increase the awareness around neurodiversity, including a ‘Neuroaccessibility at Work’ webinar for staff as part of International Day of People with Disability, and sharing the ‘How to Support a Neurodivergent Workforce guide’ to help managers improve everyday practices
- commissioning a new amenities block at our Merredin office, featuring universally accessible facilities, including ambulant toilets and accessible pathways, ensuring the space meets the needs of all staff and stakeholders

- installing a wheelchair ramp at our Nash Street, Perth building through collaboration with the Mental Health Commission and the City of Perth to enhance safe and equitable access for people with mobility needs.

WA Multicultural Policy Framework

The DPIRD Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework 2021–26 sets out the tangible ways in which DPIRD will work to achieve the policy priorities, outcomes and strategies of the framework for the CaLD community.

During 2024-25, DPIRD implemented the following initiatives to improve the accessibility of our services within the community and ensure it is an inclusive workplace for CaLD employees under the 3 policy priority areas in the framework:

Harmonious and inclusive communities

During the year, we celebrated Harmony Day at many DPIRD sites and changed the date to accommodate colleagues fasting through Ramadan. We also celebrated other days and weeks of significance, including International Mother Language Day, World Refugee Day, Diwali, NAIDOC Week and National Reconciliation Week. To profile our CaLD employees in the department, we produced an internal Culture World Map, where staff could virtually pinpoint their culture and cultural heritage and share with their colleagues.

Culturally responsive policies, programs and services

To ensure all Western Australians have equitable access to DPIRD's services, we conducted stakeholder surveys to identify translation needs for WA's recreational crab fishers and translated crab and abalone fishing videos into 5 languages.

We also translated other key documents into other languages to increase awareness of DPIRD services, programs and responses among the CaLD community (see Substantive equality section).

Economic, social, cultural, civic and political participation

Our commitment to inclusivity is reflected in the increased representation of CaLD people within our workforce, rising from 17.5% to 18.5% over the past 12 months. This growth underscores our dedication to support diverse participation in the workplace, as well as our commitment to enhancing the delivery of services to the community by integrating diverse perspectives into our workplace practices.

Substantive equality

In 2024-25, the department implemented the following initiatives aligned with substantive equality principles:

- As part of the Qfly incident response in Perth's southern suburbs, we developed signs at the Perth Markets, highlighting the need to keep produce covered. These included simple messaging translated into Chinese, Malay, Thai and Vietnamese.
- We translated a tomato brown rugose fruit virus poster into Vietnamese, as many growers of impacted crops are Vietnamese speaking.
- Our Community Education team engaged with educational institutions offering the Adult English Migrant Program, and held 8 presentations to migrant communities through TAFE and community centres across the state.
- The team also translated and distributed a basic fishing rules poster (in 6 languages) to TAFEs, university guilds and CaLD community groups, and for use in the Office of Multicultural Interests newsletter.

The department also undertook several initiatives to raise awareness and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including:

- continuing to implement the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-25 and supporting the Aboriginal Outcomes Task Team to drive and embed reconciliation and Closing the Gap priorities; to facilitate Aboriginal workforce development and employment; and to promote procurement from Aboriginal businesses

- continuing focus on Aboriginal outcomes as one of Corporate Executive's 6 priority areas in 2024-25
- launching an Aboriginal Workforce Strategy and the appointment of an Aboriginal Workforce Inclusion Specialist
- hosting Aboriginal traineeships through the PSC's Solid Futures Program
- using Section 50D of the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* (WA) to design, recruit and fill several positions
- formalising the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Framework to guide the delivery of targeted cultural capability building training across the organisation
- celebrating key events such as NAIDOC Week and National Reconciliation Action Week across DPIRD's metro and regional offices
- supporting the Aboriginal Employee Alliance to be a forum for Aboriginal employees to safely raise issues and provide feedback to the Aboriginal Outcomes Task Team and Corporate Executive and support the development of a culturally safe working environment.

Aboriginal Workforce Strategy

We launched our inaugural DPIRD Aboriginal Workforce Strategy 2025–29 during National Reconciliation Week 2025. The 5-year strategy will help deliver on existing and national commitments that aim to improve life outcomes for Aboriginal people and communities and attract, retain, support and grow an Aboriginal workforce.

The strategy is one part of the broader suite of DPIRD priorities, which makes up the Aboriginal Cultural Capability Framework.

Combined with the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-25 and Workforce Development Strategy 2024–29, DPIRD strives to improve Aboriginal outcomes through a more culturally capable workforce and inclusive business practices. The strategy is built on 3 strategic objectives:

- Culture – to take a consistent and sustained approach to building cultural safety and cultural competence within our department.
- People – to prepare Aboriginal people for, and support them throughout, their employment and career journey.
- Leadership – to build and strengthen Aboriginal voices and overall leadership across the department.

To support the implementation of the strategy in 2024-25, DPIRD:

- appointed an Aboriginal Workforce and Inclusion Specialist to oversee the delivery of the initiatives
- participated in the inaugural Public Sector Vacation Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, with 2 successful placements in our Lobster and Crabs team and Aboriginal Fishing team
- participated in the Solid Futures Aboriginal traineeship program and built relationships with universities to implement internship programs
- established the Aboriginal Alliance – an Aboriginal staff network to support, connect and identify development opportunities for our Aboriginal employees. This has been highlighted and promoted across DPIRD and within the new staff induction program
- commenced the review of several internal policies, procedures and documents to ensure inclusivity and cultural safety.

Board and committee remuneration

These bodies provide essential services and advice regarding fish resource allocation, the ethical use of animals in science, biosecurity policy and the management of industry funding schemes (IFS).

Total remuneration across all boards for 2024-25 was \$355,211.64.

Table 35: Animal Ethics Committee

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	K Le May	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$23,788.12
Member	Prof I Robertson	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,722.50
Member	S Vanstan	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,948.00
Member	S Leitch	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,722.50
Member	G Mabury	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,140.00
Member	M Paton	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,198.50
Member	M Zampogna	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,198.50
Member	S Zulsdorf	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,198.50
Total					\$ 44,916.62

Note: Remuneration for K Le May includes retrospective payment of \$732 from last financial year and remuneration for S Vanstan includes retrospective payment of \$1,211 from 2022-23.

Table 36: Biosecurity Council of Western Australia

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	J Bellanger	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$27,212.90
Member	A Dean	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Member	O Nevin	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Member	R Paliskis	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Member	K Pearce	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Member	S Sharma	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Member	T Sullivan	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Member	M Thomas	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,656.24
Total					\$122,806.58

Table 37: Soil and Land Conservation Council

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	Dr H Norman	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	NA
Deputy Chair	Dr R George	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	NA
Member	Dr R Young	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	NA
Member	W Bradshaw	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,032.24
Member	E Foulkes-Taylor	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,032.24
Member	D Mallard	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,032.24
Member	R Nixon	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,032.24
Member	N Schoknecht	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,032.24
Member	R Turton	Per fortnight	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$13,032.24
Total					\$78,193.44

Note: Dr H Norman, Dr R George and Dr R Young are not remunerated for this board as they are government employees.

Table 38: Wildlife Animal Ethics Committee

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	K Morris	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$26,042.00
Member	H Mills	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	NA
Member	J Dunlop	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,708.00
Member	Dr M Paton	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$6,397.00
Member	Prof I Robertson	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$732.00
Member	S Webb	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$6,330.00
Member	M Zampogna	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$6,706.00
Member	S Zulsdorf	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$6,230.00
Member	C Monaghan	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,808.00
Member	M Desport	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,589.00
Total					\$62,542.00

Note: H Mills, employee of DBCA, was not remunerated.

Note: IFS committees are industry funded. Member contributions are collected by industry and these funds are managed by our department. The Cross Communications Working (CCW) Group comprises IFS committee members.

Table 39: Cattle Industry Funding Scheme Management Committee

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	D Jarvie	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,657.50
Member	W Brockhurst	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,194.50
Member	P Hall	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,122.50
Member	R McFerran	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,122.50
Member	T Michalek	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,095.00
Member	E Woods	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$577.50
Member	C Wyhoon	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$446.00
Chair 2023-24	D Dowden	Per meeting	Jul-2023	Jun-2024	\$618.00
Total					\$12,833.50

Note: D Dowden received retrospective payment of \$618 as Chair for 2023-24.

Table 40: Grains, Seed and Hay Industry Funding Scheme Management Committee

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	P Harkness	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,159.00
Member	H McTaggart	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,250.00
Member	J Alvaro	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,831.00
Member	J Foss	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,288.00
Member	M Dagostino	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,017.00
Member	P Kelly	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,082.00
Chair 2023-24	A Wilkins	Per meeting	Jul-2023	Jun-2024	\$477.00
Total					\$13,104.00

Note: A Wilkins received retrospective payment of \$477 as Chair for 2023-24.

Table 41: Sheep and Goat Industry Funding Scheme Management Committee

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	M Griffiths	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$3,907.00
Member	J Sullivan	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,402.00
Member	S Pickering	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,216.00
Member	A Day	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,632.00
Member	C Jacobson	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,766.00
Member	M Nield	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,155.00
Member	J Moyes	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,155.00
Member	M Campbell	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$385.00
Member-2023-24	K Pearce	Per meeting	Jul-2023	Jun-2024	\$161.00
Member-2023-24	K Smith	Per meeting	Jul-2023	Jun-2024	\$374.00
Total					\$14,153.00

Note: Gross remuneration of \$161 for K Pearce and \$374 for K Smith are for 2023-24.

Table 42: Kimberley and South Coast Fisheries Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Chair	F Crowe	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$2,160.00
Member	A Ogg	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$1,050.00
Member	K Hodson-Thomas	Per meeting	Jul-2024	Jun-2025	\$700.00
Total					\$3,910.00

Table 43: Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act Review Panel

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
			From	To	
Member	M Sweetingham	Per meeting	Jul-2022	Jun-2023	\$2,443.50
Member	C Winfield	Per meeting	Jul-2023	Jun-2024	\$309.00
Total					\$2,752.50

Note: The panel did not sit in 2024-25, however, M Sweetingham has been paid retrospectively for 2022-23 and C Winfield received remuneration of \$309 for 2023-24.

Other reporting requirements

Ministerial directives

No ministerial directives were received during the financial year.

Recordkeeping Plan

Evaluation of recordkeeping systems

The State Records Commission approved DPIRD's Recordkeeping Plan in August 2024 and it is in operation until 2029. The department has initiated the development of new policies, procedures and supporting tools to meet commitments made in the plan and to further enable staff to meet their recordkeeping obligations. A revised Functional Retention and Disposal Authority was submitted to the State Records Office in 2024. Following feedback, revisions are being made with a further submission to be made in the second half of 2025.

Recordkeeping awareness and training

DPIRD is committed to promoting the importance of good recordkeeping and information management practices.

The Recordkeeping Awareness training module available through the Progi learning management system (LMS) is mandatory for all staff and must be completed on commencement. DPIRD is working towards creating a refresher course for staff to complete every 2 years.

Other online training modules relating to Freedom of Information, Information Classification and Information Management are available on DPIRD's LMS for staff to self-enrol.

In-person Electronic Document and Records Management System (EDRMS) training sessions are available to staff, as well as online sessions for staff at both metropolitan and regional locations. To complement the training offerings, user guides and videos are also available on the intranet.

Training completion is managed and reports generated within the LMS. The recordkeeping training program is periodically reviewed to ensure that information provided is up to date and utilised.

A formal survey is being developed and will be made available to staff during 2025-26 to seek feedback on the recordkeeping training program.

Record management systems

An upgrade of DPIRD's EDRMS was completed in May 2025. The upgrade introduced enhanced functionality for staff and provides the department with a contemporary recordkeeping solution.

Agency Capability Review

DPIRD participated in the PSC Agency Capability Review in 2023. The program takes a comprehensive, whole-of-sector approach to improvement, and sets standards based on clear understanding of what constitutes a high-performing public sector agency in WA.

The Agency Capability Review report outlined observations of good performance across DPIRD, including our ecologically sustainable approach to the management of WA's fisheries, effective approaches to leading research and development, and effective approach to grants management. The review also identified opportunities for strengthening our capability by driving stability, growing our financial health, increasing our capability and capacity in incident and emergency response preparedness, and providing clarity on organisational purpose, remit and priorities.

Over 2024-25, DPIRD continued the improvement journey against the commitments made in response to the review. Some key initiatives included:

- continuing the focus on developing systems and processes that enable strong and accountable leadership practices and financial and asset sustainability
- making significant progress in delegations and governance processes, financial systems, asset planning, and regional leadership support
- ongoing foundational work to build incident and emergency response capacity and capability, including development of

an emergency management toolbox, recruitment into key positions, increasing engagement in staff foundational training, and advancing preparedness through exercises and cross-agency planning

- development of a behaviour charter, establishment of an integrity team and continued maturity of our work health and safety system
- delivery of the new DPIRD website and a formed service profile that articulates DPIRD's services and demonstrates how our desired objectives are achieved through service delivery.

DPIRD continues to build on its strengths while addressing opportunities to improve capability and respond to a complex environment.

Fish Resources Management Act 1994

Additional reporting required under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* is contained in Appendices 4 and 5 of this report.

DPIRD only estimates 2025-26 (excluding Regional Development Commissions)

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	\$'000s		\$'000s
Expenses		Income from State Government	
Employee benefits	266,330	Service appropriations	297,912
Grants and subsidies	255,149	Resources received free of charge	1,849
Supplies and services	146,733	Major Treasurer's Special Purpose Account(s):	
Accommodation	15,823	Asset Maintenance Fund	5,556
Depreciation and amortisation	28,549	Royalties for Regions Fund:	
Finance and interest cost	3,491	Regional and Statewide Initiatives	62,463
Other Expenses	29,836	Regional Community Services Fund	197,171
TOTAL COST OF SERVICES	745,911	Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	12,539
		Other appropriations	-
Income		Other revenues	10,129
Sale of goods and services	2,909	TOTAL INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	587,619
Regulatory fees and fines	56,316		
Grants and subsidies	57,124	SURPLUS/(DEFICIENCY) FOR THE PERIOD	(17,864)
Other revenue	24,079		
TOTAL INCOME	140,428		
NET COST OF SERVICES	605,483		

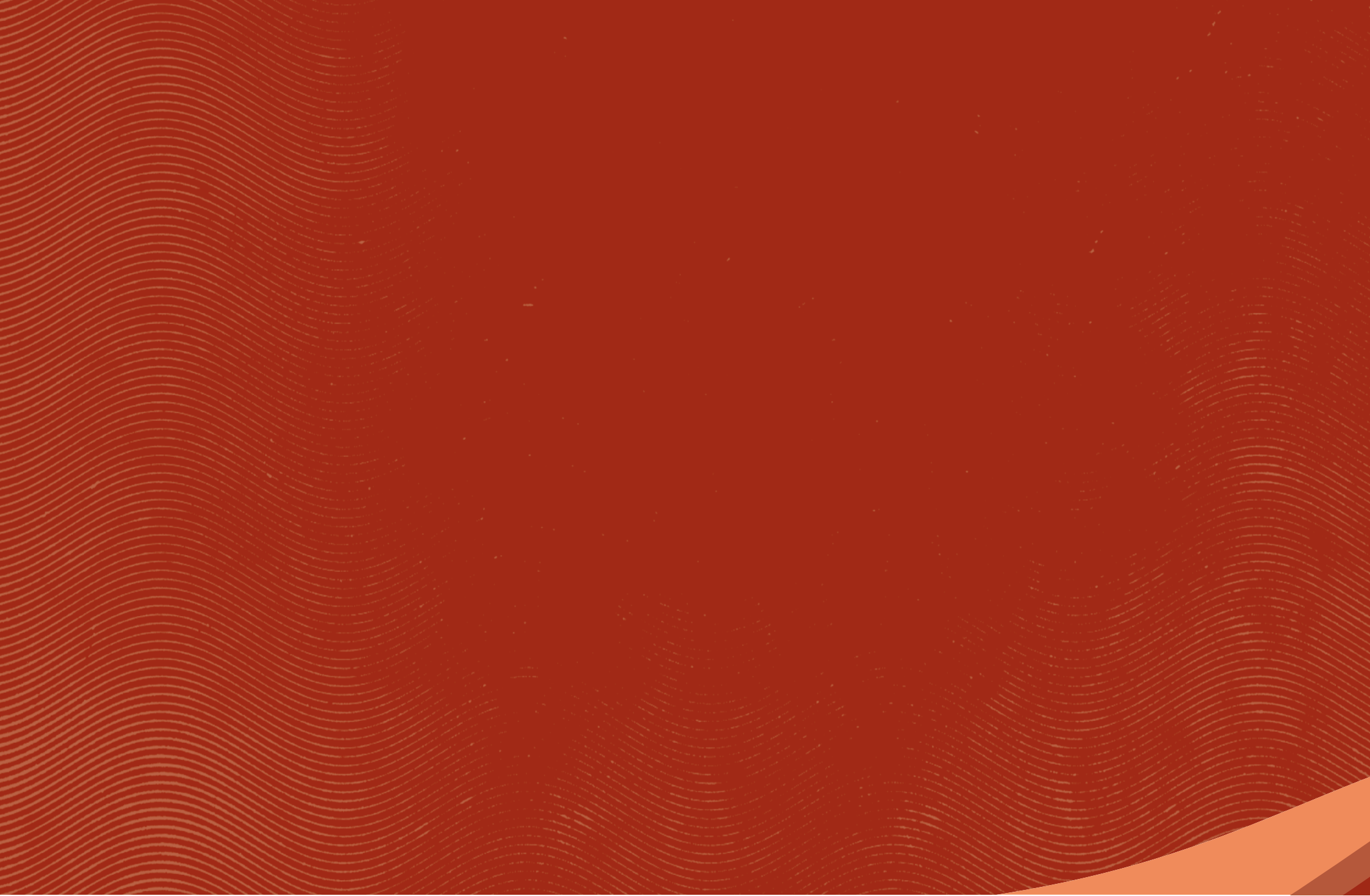
Statement of Financial Position

	\$'000s		\$'000s
Current Assets		Current Liabilities	
Cash assets	35,328	Employee provisions	64,841
Restricted cash	77,282	Payables	35,701
Amounts receivable for services	6,178	Borrowings and leases	11,590
Receivables	27,553	Other	49,567
Other	7,678	Total current liabilities	161,699
Total Current Assets	154,019	Non-Current Liabilities	
Non-Current Assets		Employee provisions	4,787
Amounts receivable for services	277,443	Borrowings and leases	45,312
Receivables	6,206	Other	1,609
Property, plant and equipment	596,452	Total noncurrent liabilities	51,708
Intangibles	5,343	TOTAL LIABILITIES	213,407
Other	90,384	Equity	
Total Non-Current Assets	975,828	Contributed equity	902,983
TOTAL ASSETS	1,129,847	Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	(90,851)
		Reserves	104,308
		Total Equity	916,440
		TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	1,129,847

Statement of Cash Flows

	\$'000s
Cashflows from State Government	
Service appropriations	264,834
Capital appropriation	163,200
Holding account drawdowns	6,026
Major Treasurer's Special Purpose Account(s)	
Asset Maintenance Fund	5,556
Climate Action Fund	5,524
Digital Capability Fund	2,843
Royalties for Regions Fund:	
Regional and Statewide Initiatives	63,094
Regional Community Services Fund	202,016
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	27,361
Other	20,501
Administered appropriations	-
Net cash provided by State Government	760,955
CASHFLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Payments	
Employee benefits	(264,308)
Grants and subsidies	(257,281)
Supplies and services	(137,491)
Accommodation	(15,822)
GST payments	(15,356)
Finance and interest costs	(3,350)
Other payments	(32,126)

	\$'000s
Receipts	
Regulatory fees and fines	56,316
Grants and subsidies	57,206
Sale of goods and services	2,909
GST receipts	15,357
Other receipts	10,140
Net cash from operating activities	(583,806)
CASHFLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Purchase of noncurrent assets	(199,338)
Proceeds from sale of noncurrent assets	255
Net cash from investing activities	(199,083)
CASHFLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Repayment of borrowings and leases	(20,819)
Proceeds from borrowings	10,000
Other proceeds	1,015
Net cash from financing activities	(9,804)
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	(31,738)
Cash assets at the beginning of the period	144,348
Cash assets at the end of the period	112,610





Appendices

Appendix 1: Acronyms, initialisms and abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
API	Application Programming Interface
BA	Bachelor of Arts
BComm	Bachelor of Commerce
BSc	Bachelor of Science
CaLD	Culturally and linguistically diverse
CI	Confidence Interval
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (WA)
DEMIRS	Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (WA)
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (WA)
DPC	Department of the Premier and Cabinet (WA)

DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (WA)
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (WA)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (WA)
FADs	Fish aggregation devices
FTE	Full-time equivalent (staff hours)
GIWA	Grain Industry Association of Western Australia
GRP	Gross regional product
GSP	Gross state product
GVP	Gross value of production
IED	Industry and Economic Development (department pillar)
IFS	Industry funding scheme
JTSI	Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (WA)

KPI	Key performance indicator
LCD	Land Conservation District
LTI	Lost time injury
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
NA	Not applicable
NDSF	Northern Demersal Scalefish Fishery
NRM	Natural resource management
OBM	Outcome Based Management framework
PDSF	Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery
PID	Primary Industries Development (department pillar)
PLB	Pastoral Lands Board
PSC	Public Sector Commission

PSHB	Polyphagous shot-hole borer
Qfly	Queensland fruit fly
R&D	Research and development
RDC	Regional Development Commission
SCDSF	South Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery
SLCC	Soil and Land Conservation Council
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
TACC	Total Allowable Commercial Catch
UWA	The University of Western Australia
WA	Western Australia
WCDSF	West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery
WAFIC	Western Australian Fishing Industry Council

Appendix 2: Administered legislation

The department assists the Minister for Agriculture and Food and the Minister for Regional Development; Fisheries to administer the following Acts:

Minister for Regional Development

- *Regional Development Commissions Act 1993*
- *Royalties for Regions Act 2009* (except Part 2, excluding sections 9 and 10, which is administered by the Treasurer principally assisted by the Department of Treasury)

Minister for Agriculture and Food

- *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*
- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Taxing) Act 1995*
- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Western Australia) Act 1995*
- *Agricultural Produce Commission Act 1988*
- *Animal Welfare Act 2002*
- *Biological Control Act 1986*
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Rates and Charges Act 2007*
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (Repeal and Consequential Provisions) Act 2007*
- *Bulk Handling Act 1967*
- *Exotic Diseases of Animals Act 1993*
- *Gene Technology Act 2006*

- *Industrial Hemp Act 2004*
- *Loans (Co-operative Companies) Act 2004*
- *Ord River Dam Catchment Area (Straying Cattle) Act 1967*
- *Royal Agricultural Society Act 1926*
- *Royal Agricultural Society Act Amendment Act 1929*
- *Rural Business Development Corporation Act 2000*
- *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945*
- *Tree Plantation Agreements Act 2003*
- *Veterinary Chemical Control and Animal Feeding Stuffs Act 1976*
- *Veterinary Practice Act 2021*
- *Western Australian Meat Industry Authority Act 1976*

Minister for Fisheries

- *Aquatic Resources Management Act 2016*
- *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*
- *Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987*
- *Fishing and Related Industries Compensation (Marine Reserves) Act 1997*
- *Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Act 1994*
- *Pearling Act 1990*

Appendix 3: Report from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation

Dr Melanie Strawbridge

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation

A report on the Commissioner's operations for 2024-25 is submitted in accordance with Section 25 F of the *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* (the Act). It contains summaries of the compliance activities carried out by the Commissioner's office and the condition of the resource base across the state. It also provides an update of the activities of the Soil and Land Conservation Council, research projects and policy development undertaken to support the Act.

Delegations

The Commissioner continues to have delegated authority from the Minister for the Environment to issue woodchip permits. No woodchips permits were issued in 2024-25.

Auditor General's Performance Audits

The Auditor General tabled performance audit reports for the sustainable management of the state's rangelands and salinity in Parliament in October 2017 and April 2018 respectively (see references). The Commissioner has continued to assist in implementing the government response to these audits.

DPIRD, in partnership with Department of Planning Lands and Heritage (DPLH), completed development of a contemporary risk-based Framework for Sustainable Pastoral Management in 2019 with a revised edition in 2022.

Implementation actions for the framework in 2024-25 include:

- publishing land condition standards for the Kimberley region, which are available in the DPIRD Digital Library
- subjecting 26 pastoral stations to a Rangeland Condition Assessment (RCA) – the largest number since 2008
- developing state and transition models for the mulga woodlands and shrublands. The final report is available from the Digital Library
- publishing the third edition of the book *Arid Shrubland Plants of WA* (Mitchell and Wilcox, 2025), which will be available in bookshops from September 2025. The book was produced with financial and expert assistance from DPIRD
- publishing pasture condition guides for pastures of the southern rangelands, which were launched by Agriculture and Food Minister Jackie Jarvis
- publishing the Southern Goldfields land resource survey, which was launched by Minister Jarvis on World Soils Day 2024

- accelerating mapping of rangelands pastures using machine learning to improve sustainable management and assist the Valuer General with the reassessment of pastoral station rentals by 2028-29.
- completing data collection for the development of quantitative measures of pasture condition for Kimberley pastures. A report is in preparation
- developing standards and quantitative measures of pasture condition for Nullarbor pastures. A draft report is in preparation.

With guidance from the Soil and Land Conservation Council (SLCC), DPIRD completed development of the Dryland Salinity – Future Directions Government Response (2020). The implementation actions to deliver the Office of the Auditor General salinity management recommendations were met through updated salinity mapping and risk assessment, increased discussion with farmers on management options, partnership with grower and catchment groups, and forums on the salinity with peak industry bodies.

It was also conducted through WaterSmart research that covers water-related issues for farms, communities and industries. A key part of this research is to find ways of extracting and treating groundwater that is the cause of dryland salinity. In doing this, the work also contributes to resolving profound water deficiencies that are common across the region.

The initial WaterSmart Farms and Dams projects were completed in 2024-25, resulting in:

- collaboration with UWA, Murdoch and Curtin universities, the Water Corporation, the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS), Grower Group Alliance and CSIRO in building tools, methodologies and technology to capture, harvest, store, desalinate and map water resources
- development of successful exploration methods to find groundwater, trials of reverse osmosis treatment systems and development of apps for farmers to assess their water options
- development of new OMNI cloud mask processing, delivering high resolution depictions of more than 200,000 dam locations, assessment of their surface area and calculations of storage of surface water. This software has now been downloaded 160,000 times, by NASA and similar organisations.

The WaterSmart Industries project has assessed 2 large brackish groundwater resources and is identifying others. It is also looking to scale up exploration with farmers to find groundwater and demonstrate new water treatment tools. This project will be completed in 2027-28.

Soil and Land Conservation Council

The SLCC provides advice and guidance to the Minister for Agriculture and Food and the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation on soil and land policies and management in Western Australia. The SLCC receives regular updates on soil conservation, land degradation mitigation, and environmental sustainability initiatives. It monitors and provides advice regarding compliance matters and initiatives such as the implementation of the Western Australian Soil Health Strategy 2021–31.

In September 2024, the SLCC advised the Minister regarding key steps to tackle dryland salinity in the southwest agricultural zone, guiding the implementation of the WA Government's Dryland Salinity – Future Directions Government Response.

An informative trip to Yuin Station in the Mid West in early 2024 helped the SLCC better understand sustainable pastoral management and road construction. They provided feedback on assessment methods for the Framework for Sustainable Pastoral Management.

In a context where landscapes and soil heath are attracting new opportunities, the council has been exploring emerging markets for natural capital, carbon and biodiversity as a tool to drive landscape restoration. Other areas such as sandplain, which have low productivity but are contributing to the expansion of salinity, are also being considered for restoration.

Several members attended World Soil Day WA on 5 December 2024 to promote Caring for Soils and where Minister Jarvis launched 2 significant rangelands management publications.

Dr Hayley Norman (Chair), Ms Emma Foulkes-Taylor, Mr Noel Schoknecht and Dr Renee Young's terms are until 30 June 2025. Mr Bob Nixon, Mr Rhys Turton, Mr Dwayne Mallard, Ms Wendy Bradshaw and Dr Richard George (Deputy Chair) are appointed until 30 June 2027. The Commissioner has an ex-officio role on the SLCC.



The SLCC visit to Yuin Station in 2024: (l-r) Dr Renee Young, Noel Schoknecht, Emma Foulkes-Taylor (Member and Yuin Station), Rossco Foulkes-Taylor (Yuin Station), Dr Melanie Strawbridge (Commissioner), Dwayne Mallard, Wendy Bradshaw, Dr Richard George (Deputy Chair), Dr Hayley Norman (Chair). Absent Bob Nixon and Rhys Turton

Compliance and regulation

Work is continuing on developing a Framework for sustainable agricultural management based on the Framework for sustainable pastoral management (2022). Standards have been developed for assessing, monitoring and responding to wind erosion risk in the agricultural regions in the first instance.

A 5-year project starting in 2025-26 will focus on ground cover, wind erosion risk, and soil health in the West Midlands area. This project will work with local growers to test the wind erosion standards and best land management practices to mitigate the risk.

This approach will be extended to other areas of soil and groundwater management regulated under the Act.

Land clearing assessments

Thirty-one land clearing applications were assessed for land degradation with advice on 19 provided to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) for agriculture purpose clearing and 12 to DEMIRS for mining-related activities and infrastructure development.

Complaints

Five complaints were registered during the year with 2 related to drainage, 2 related to soil erosion resulting from overgrazing by livestock, and one to flooding. Eight compliance checks were undertaken for remedial works on un-notified drains identified previously.

Soil Conservation Notices

No Soil Conservation Notices (SCNs) were issued during 2024-25. There are 6 existing SCNs on leases in the pastoral area and 4 on agricultural properties in the south-west agricultural area dealing with current soil degradation issues. Compliance checks were carried out on all 6 leases in the pastoral area under a SCN.

Additionally, there are a further 136 SCNs that were placed on areas of native vegetation during the 1980s and 1990s to maintain water balances of catchments and prevent increasing salinity. An audit of these SCNs is currently underway to determine their condition. This work will include a review of the relevant catchment hydrology and the role of the vegetated areas under notice.

Six pastoral stations were visited that had been identified by the Rangelands Science Group in previous condition assessments as requiring attention. The Commissioner is actively working with these leaseholders to mitigate land degradation and improve land condition.

Drainage and pumping

Between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025, the Office of the Commissioner assessed 13 Notices of Intent to Drain (NOID) for saline groundwater drainage works and one Notice of Intent to Pump – Desalination. Ten received letters of no-objection, one received a letter of objection and 2 are being assessed.

Agreements to Reserve and Conservation Covenants

During the 2024-25, 7 Conservation Covenants were negotiated and registered on title protecting 272 ha of vegetation. Eleven new applications are currently in negotiation to protect 907 ha of vegetation.

In this period, 7 Conservation Covenants and 1 Agreement to Reserve reached their 30-year set term end date and were discharged from titles after application from landholders, covering a total of 420 ha.

Land Conservation District Committees (LCDCs)

LCDCs are statutory committees created under Part III (a) of the Act to manage projects and to promote practices that mitigate or prevent land degradation. At the year's close, there were 143 gazetted members of 12 LCDCs active in the agricultural and rangeland regions of the state.

Land use planning

In 2024-25, the DPIRD responded to 303 land use planning referrals. Most were from local government (193 referrals, 64%) and DPLH and the WA Planning Commission (101 referrals, 34%). There were 8 referrals (3%) from DWER and one referral from DEMIRS.

Most referrals sought advice about proposed developments.

These referrals related to rural pursuits (mainly horses on small rural holdings), extractive industries, accommodation (tourist chalets, workforce accommodation), renewable energy facilities, poultry farms, abattoirs and various other developments. Tree farms were also included in the referrals, although not as frequently as in previous years.

Large renewable energy project proposals remain a common feature, and DPIRD continues to closely examine the associated land degradation risks. While DPIRD supports the development of the renewable energy industry, it also highlights any potential land degradation and environmental risks associated with specific proposals.

Other routine referrals for advice concerned draft local planning schemes and strategies, regional and local planning scheme amendments (rezoning proposals), rural subdivisions, and the development of agricultural land.

Referrals from DWER mainly sought advice regarding prescribed premises, including nutrient management, piggeries, cattle feedlots and abattoirs.

The referral from DEMIRS was for a proposed geothermal energy acreage release.

Thirty percent of the referrals came from the Perth metropolitan area, followed by the South West planning region (28%), the Wheatbelt (15%), the Mid West (7%) and the Great Southern (6%). The remaining regions each accounted for less than 5% of referrals.

The Perth metropolitan area and the South West planning region swapped places compared to the previous financial year.

DPIRD Digital Library

As of 30 June 2025, the DPIRD Digital Library (the repository for DPIRD's publications and maps) contained over 10,600 works and there were nearly 300,000 downloads during 2024-25. The collections relating to soil, land and water resource assessment and management contained nearly 1,200 works and there were nearly 72,000 downloads (24% of all downloads). Works from the natural resources collections were mostly downloaded by commercial, government and education institutions in Australia, the United States and Brazil.

The WA Soil Health Strategy

The WA Soil Health Strategy is a 10-year roadmap for promoting sustainable soil management across Western Australia, with a focus on agricultural and pastoral lands. It outlines key objectives and actions aligned with relevant legislation and policy, including the Act and WA's Climate Change Policy. The strategy prioritises activities that enhance soil health and landscape condition to reduce the risk of land degradation and emphasises a collaborative approach involving a broad cross-section of stakeholders to foster shared responsibility in the stewardship of WA's soils.

The SLCC oversees the implementation of the strategy through annual reporting, monitoring of key deliverables, and evaluation of potential partnerships, as outlined in the strategy's implementation plan. The strategy has played a pivotal role in identifying priority issues for soil health investment in WA and in supporting the development of soil and land condition standards aligned with the Act. A mid-term evaluation of the strategy commenced in early 2025.

Key activities throughout 2024-25 (Table A1) have included on-ground soil health initiatives and RD&E partnerships with groups such as WA's Grower Group Alliance, SoilsWest, SoilCRC, the Regional Soil Coordinator (RSC) network, Regional NRM, and Soil Science Australia. These efforts have been supported by leveraging funding co-investment to advance project activities across several industry programs. A major highlight has been the establishment of 4 large regional soil programs aligned to strategy priorities, which respond to industry and community interests while also addressing critical soil data knowledge gaps. These include 2 projects funded through the National Bilateral Soil Partnership between the Australian and WA governments, successful funding through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund – Resilient Landscapes program, and the continued implementation of the Royalties for Regions–funded, DWER-led Healthy Estuaries WA (better fertiliser/soil management and sustainable agriculture program).

Table A1: WA Soil Health Strategy Actions 2024-25

Activity	Strategy goals
Held more than 60 (WA Government/DPIRD sponsored) prominent and topical soil engagement workshops, across multiple industries and locations throughout WA, including the prominent 2025 'Talkin Soil Health' forum (and WA Regional Soil Health Champions Awards) hosted by Wheatbelt NRM. Guest opening presentations were delivered by the WA Soil and Land Conservation Commissioner, and the DPIRD Primary Industries Development Deputy Director General.	1, 2, 4 and 5
Delivered WA-specific field soil science training (in October 2024), hosted through Soil Science Australia, targeting agricultural advisers, consultant agronomists and Regional NRM staff – linked to the Australian Registered Soil Practitioner (RSP) program.	1 and 2
Held the 21 st Australian Agronomy Association conference in regional WA (October 2024), featuring many presentations linked to WA's soil improvement R&D projects.	1, 2 and 5
Hosted the 2024 World Soil Day (5 December) symposium following the international theme of 'Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, Manage'. It was opened by Agriculture and Food Minister Jackie Jarvis, with guest presentations from a cross section of highly regarded WA soil scientists.	1, 3, 4 and 5
Refined the Soil Quality Knowledge Base (SoilsWest) that was released late June 2024 (an online compendium of soil information with insights and snapshots from the current evidence base of soil knowledge).	1, 2, 4 and 5
Re-appointed WA's Regional Soil Coordinator with extended funding through to 30 June 2028 – a partnership between the Australian Government, the National Soil Action Plan and WA's SW Drought Hub program.	1 and 2
Established partnership with the Australian Government through the National Bilateral Soil Partnership Program – funding 2 prominent regional soil investigation projects in the South West and south coast of WA, assisting with the implementation of the National Soil Action Plan (2023–28) and the WA Soil Health Strategy (2021–31). The projects are: • Know Your Southern Soils (in partnership with South Coast NRM) • Soils-New Horizons, complementing DWER's Healthy Estuaries WA program (approx. \$3.7 million funding).	2, 3 and 5

Table A1: WA Soil Health Strategy Actions 2024-25 (continued)

Activity	Strategy goals
Established a WA partnership with the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund through the Resilient Landscapes program. It is a 5-year project (2025–30) focusing on the ground cover, wind erosion risk, and soil health in the West Midlands area of WA (approx. \$3.4 million funding).	1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Released a prominent selection of soil quality, agronomic and landscape publications through 2024-25 – as edited technical reports, bulletins, e-books, and peer reviewed science journals. They included titles such as Measuring Soil Salinity; Pastoral land condition: Kimberley land condition standards; WA Soil Groups, a Diagnostic Key to identify soils in WA; Effect of Clay Amendment and Strategic Deep Tillage on Soil Water Dynamics. Many are hosted on the DPIRD Digital Library.	1, 2, 4 and 5
Continued to prepare policy addressing soil erosion (wind and water) and nutrient export thresholds, supporting the Office of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation.	3, 4 and 5
Established a prominent Royalties for Regions sustainable agriculture, soil and water quality partnership program between DWER, DPIRD and Regional NRM for the delivery of the Healthy Estuaries WA program, with new funding to extend the program to the end of 2029.	2 and 3
Gained Australian Government and CSIRO commitment to partnering with Regional NRM and WA Government to implement the National Soil Monitoring Program (approx. 500 sites in WA, commencing 2026).	3, 4 and 5

Condition of the resource base – agricultural region

Soil acidity

Soil acidity is one of multiple soil constraints to agricultural production which combine to decrease the capacity of crops to achieve the rain-limited grain yield potential. Overcoming the limitation imposed by low soil pH (acidity) requires the application of agricultural lime. Agricultural lime is commonly sourced from coastal deposits on the west and south coasts of south-west WA. An understanding of the trends in lime use can guide ongoing and future communication and promotion of sustainable soil management messages to growers and industry.

In 2024-25, the amount of lime, from Lime WA suppliers, applied in the south-western agricultural region of WA was 677,000 tonnes (Lime WA pers. Comm. June 2025). This is a small increase on the 632,000 tonnes in the previous year. Overall, the lime-use trend from these same suppliers appears to have stabilised at around 650,000 tonnes per year. These figures do not include lime from suppliers who are not Lime WA members or lime from on-farm sources used by farmers. It is not possible to calculate the actual total amount applied each year.

During 2024-25, there has been an increase in the number of enquires relating to the availability of agricultural lime – particularly along the west and south coasts south of Perth. There are indications that some of the lime suppliers are running low on resources, and this is likely to lead to pressure on existing resources.

There has also been a rise in media reports and activity related to lime sand operations at Lancelin, north of Perth, highlighting potential competing uses of mining (for agriculture), tourism and conservation.

Soil salinity

Excess soil salinity affecting crops, pasture and remnant vegetation occurs either as the result of a fundamental change in land use (e.g. clearing for agriculture that results in a shallow watertable: dryland salinity) or as a subsoil constraint in clay-rich soils (transient salinity). Once developed, dryland salinity is exacerbated by wet seasonal conditions and transient salinity by dry conditions.

Groundwater trends and salinity risk assessment

DPIRD monitors a network of surveillance bores distributed across the south-west agricultural region to determine groundwater trends. Together with remotely sensed data on the current extent of salt-affected land, this data provides an assessment of the risk of salinity expansion.

The last detailed groundwater trends and salinity risk assessment was completed in 2022-23. It was based on groundwater data to May 2021 and the remotely sensed extent of saline land in 2018. The conclusions of that work were that 1.75 million hectares ($\pm$ 345,000 hectares) were salt affected. Groundwater trend analysis then indicated the risk of salinity expanding was higher than suggested by the 2013 assessment in 5 of 26 hydrozones in the south-west agricultural area and lower in only one hydrozone.

In 2023-24, DPIRD monitored ~1,300 bores, which will contribute to the next groundwater trend analysis. In autumn 2025, ~1,400 bores were monitored. The increase in monitoring effort took place in the central Wheatbelt, where monitoring has been below the required frequency and density for several years. The monitoring effort will be reviewed and rationalised following the analysis of the autumn 2025 results.

Potentially significant changes to groundwater trends determined from autumn 2025 monitoring data are detailed below:

- In 2024, in the Perth Basin north of Geraldton, areas received more than twice the June monthly average rainfall and significant groundwater rise was anticipated. However, rises have been less than observed during 2011 in response to high summer rainfall. In the Perth Basin between Geraldton and Perth, groundwater responses have been subdued. Rising groundwater trends tapered towards neutral, and neutral trends turned downward.
- In the northeastern Wheatbelt, despite drier-than-average 2024 seasonal conditions, groundwater levels in the upper landscape have continued to rise.
- In the South-western Zone of Ancient Drainage, some bores in upper landscape positions that were previously dry or had deep watertables, have also increased.
- On the South Coast and south-eastern Wheatbelt, groundwater level trends have generally not changed since the 2012–21 assessment. In low-rainfall mallee areas that continue to experience below average rainfall, groundwater levels stabilised.

- In the Darling Range and western south coast, where strong rise trends have previously been observed in response to the removal of blue gums, some groundwater levels are now approaching the highest levels observed prior to agroforestry.
- Despite some local responses to seasonal conditions, the current monitoring analysis is consistent with the 2023 dryland salinity risk assessment.
- In addition to assessing regional dryland salinity risk, the increased groundwater monitoring effort made during 2023-24 and 2025 provides information to the WaterSmart projects on the water resource potential of groundwater systems in the south-west agricultural region (see the desalination section below).

Salinity responses

- DPIRD water science staff continue to field enquiries from landholders and agribusinesses reporting expansion of dryland salinity in the Wheatbelt and eastern South Coast. An increase in salinity enquiries has occurred in specific areas, including the south-eastern Wheatbelt and Darling Ranges.
- The use of tile drainage to mitigate waterlogging on lower slopes under cropping has continued to increase and farmers are adopting these practices. Industry field days and Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) projects have been conducted supporting the use of cropping-related drainage. While generally targeting non-saline land and perched groundwater, there is a likelihood that drainage may also occur on saline land. Water Science staff have given at least 8 field day talks on behalf of the Commissioner's Office.

- Water Science staff also presented at over 20 field days, forums and agricultural shows across the south-west agricultural region. Field day attendance by landholders was about 400. The extension days focused on salinity management, waterlogging control and drainage.
- Continuing recharge under contemporary farming systems, aided by a substantial increase in the area cropped, appears to be a potential contributor to increased salinisation. This is consistent with measurement and farmers' observations of increases in salinity adjacent to areas of sandplain. Consultation with agribusiness and the SLCC is continuing to help understand the risk and options for salinity management targeting these landscapes.

Desalination – WaterSmart Farms

- As part of the WaterSmart Farms water security project, DPIRD is collecting operational and brine disposal data on existing reverse osmosis (RO) desalination units in the south-west agricultural region.
- As well as providing advice to landholders considering RO as a water supply option, the project provides the Office of the Commissioner with empirical data on potential land degradation issues arising from RO brine disposal and on the likely future regulatory issues that may arise.
- During 2023-24, DPIRD with research partners at Murdoch University commenced a review of over 30 farmer-led desalination systems and 4 case studies: 3 shires and one school based (Wongutha Christian Aboriginal Parent-directed School) of purpose-built desalination systems. These 4 systems received no objections from the Commissioner to allow trials of several reject water disposal options.
- As of June 2025, DPIRD was aware of over 50 landholder-operated RO units in use throughout the south-west agricultural region. As part of the WaterSmart-led assessment of reject waters, 24 landholders have been contacted, with 17 landholder-operated units visited and reviewed to date. Including the shire and Wongutha trials, brine from 12 units is disposed to a surface water body, 5 use evaporation basins and 4 use aquifer reinjection. DPIRD has engaged with RO suppliers and farmers to increase awareness of regulations.
- To supplement the data collected at RO sites at which brine is discharged to a water course, DPIRD will review over 20 sites at which brackish or saline groundwater is discharged via bore siphons. Some of the siphons to be reviewed have been operating since 2001. The information gathered from this exercise will provide a guide to the long-term impacts of disposal of saline water.

Soil erosion

DPIRD uses a combination of climate information, regional intelligence and satellite imagery analysis to assess and report on soil erosion and soil erosion risk on arable land in the south-west of WA. While the soil erosion risk was lower in 2024-25 than in previous years, there are still improvements to be made. Two thirds of all arable farmland with inadequate groundcover to prevent wind erosion was located north of the Great Eastern Highway (Figure A1). Increasing year-round groundcover on arable land, particularly in this northern agricultural region, will reduce the risk of erosion.

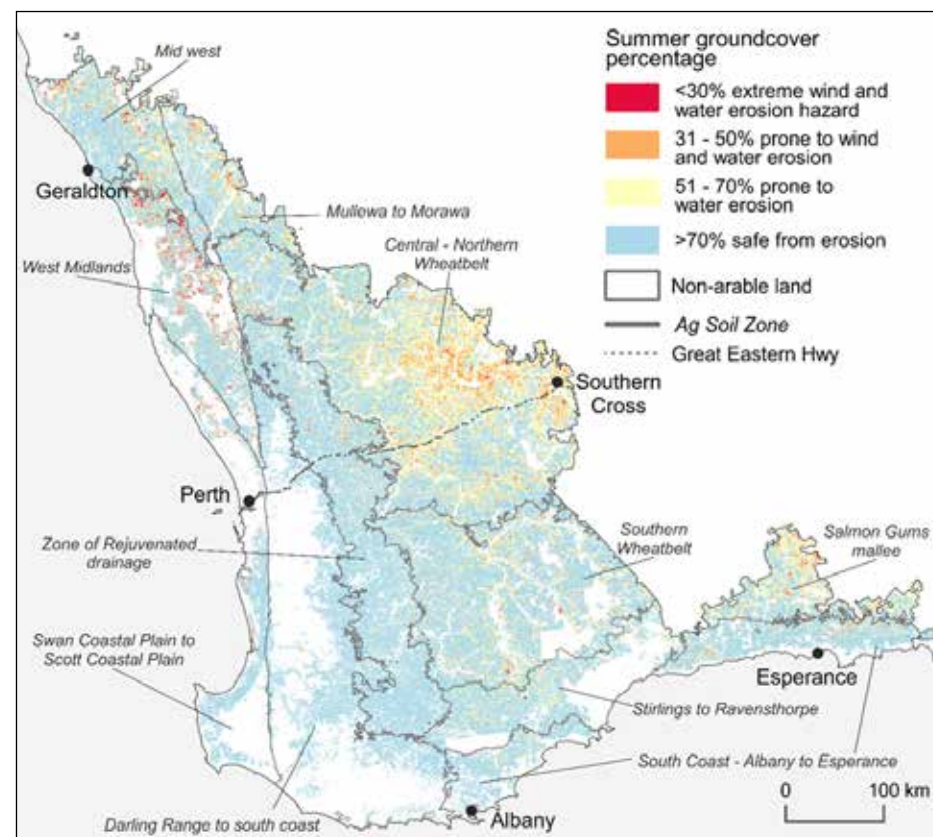


Figure A1: 2024-25 summer groundcover on arable land. Satellite data classified using DES & JRSRP (2022), and groundcover classification according to Laycock et al. (2022)

Seasonal conditions

Most of the grainbelt received average or below-average rainfall over the 2024 growing season (BOM 2025). Crop yields and pasture production was better than expected (GIWA 2025) due to well-timed rains that led to enough biomass at the end of the growing season to protect the soil from erosion, which provided groundcover to protect the soil over summer.

Satellite groundcover information is used to determine how much arable land is susceptible to erosion (Laycock et al. 2022; DES and JRSRP 2022). Risk of erosion is described by 3 hazard classes: extreme erosion hazard (<30% groundcover), inadequate groundcover to prevent wind erosion (<50% groundcover), and inadequate groundcover to prevent water erosion (<70% groundcover). This is reported for summer 2024-25, summarised by proportion of south-west agricultural zone and regional Ag Soil Zones (Figure A1 and Figure A2).

Extreme erosion risk

In total, 172,000 ha (1.6%) of the arable farmland in the southwest was classified as being at extreme erosion risk (<30% groundcover) over summer 2024-25 (Figure A2a). Comparing Ag Soil Zones, the West Midlands Zone had the largest proportion of arable land in extreme risk at 5.6%, more than 2 times the second highest Ag Soil Zone. However, all zones had less farmland with an extreme risk than the 10-year median levels.

Wind erosion

Localised wind erosion occurred in individual paddocks with inadequate groundcover. These areas of inadequate groundcover were driven by various factors such as patches of failed or sparse crops, insufficient vegetative cover after harvest, overgrazing, tillage and stubble burning. The widespread adoption of delayed strategic tillage is reducing the likelihood of erosion despite the high erosion risk posed by this practice, highlighting a positive shift towards improved land management.

Across the grainbelt, 1 million ha (6.6%) had insufficient (<50%) groundcover to prevent wind erosion over summer 2024-25 (Figure A2b), an improvement over the previous year when 1.7 million ha (11%) had insufficient cover. All Ag Soil Zones had less land with inadequate cover than has been typical over the past decade (10-year median). Most of this area at risk was located in the northern Ag Soil Zones and Salmon Gums mallee zone, which suggests lower resilience of low-rainfall farming systems compared to the longer growing season areas.

Water erosion

There were no reports of widespread water erosion in 2024-25. Autumn rain along parts of the south coast and in the southern grainbelt caused isolated water erosion, mostly on sloping land with sandy duplex soils. Erosion scours were most prevalent in cropped paddocks where tracks and headlands concentrated surface water flows. Across the grainbelt, 4.5 million ha (29%) had insufficient (<70%) groundcover to prevent water erosion (Figure A2c) an improvement over the 6.2 million ha (40%) at risk in 2023-24.

Almost 50% of the Central–Northern Wheatbelt and the Salmon Gums mallee zones had insufficient groundcover to prevent water erosion. Reducing the percentage of landscape susceptible to water erosion will be critical to counteract the rise in intensive rainfall predicted in WA’s changing climate (CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology 2024).

Land condition status for wind erosion

DPIRD has applied the recently developed wind erosion standards to monthly satellite groundcover imagery to assess agricultural land wind erosion risk.

In May 2025, 2 of the 11 Ag Soil zones were classified as acceptable (low risk), 9 suboptimal (moderate risk), and none were unacceptable (high risk). The West Midlands recorded 9 consecutive suboptimal (moderate risk) months and the Central–Northern Wheatbelt record 5 consecutive months, while all other zones recorded 3 or less consecutive suboptimal (moderate risk) months. This alternate assessment approach aims to identify landscapes with the greatest erosion risk and target research and extension to those areas to improve groundcover and reduce the risk of erosion.

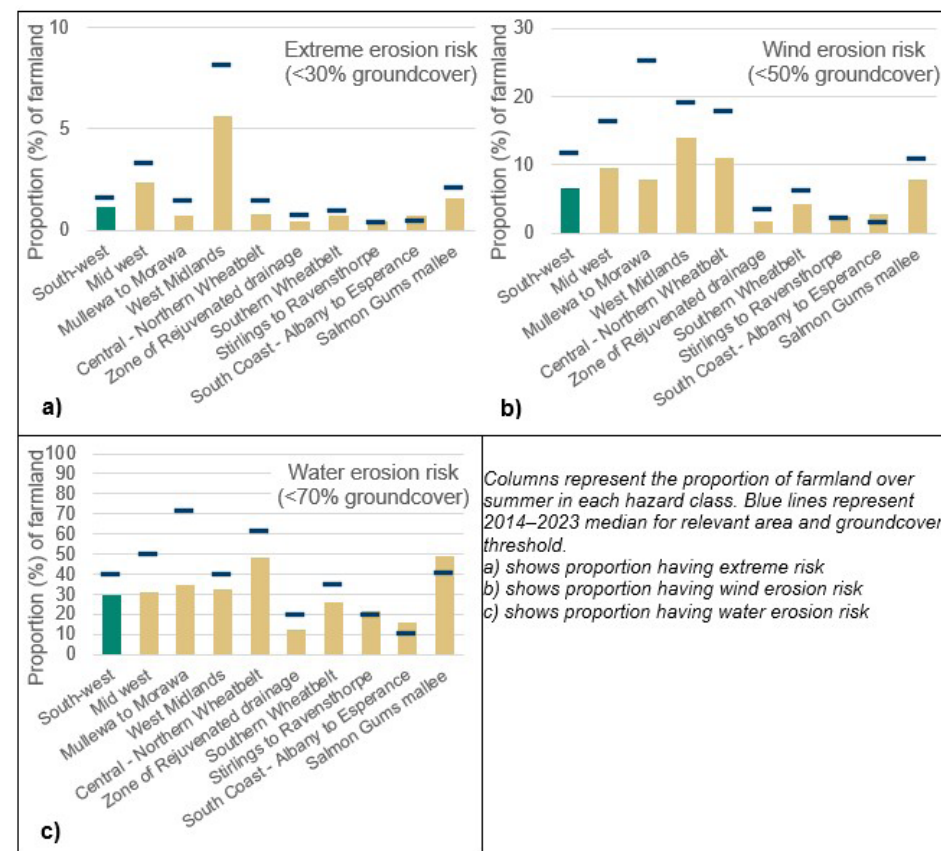


Figure A2: Proportion of arable farmland in each hazard class for the south-west agricultural area and in each Ag Soil Zone

Eutrophication of rivers and wetlands

In 2024-25, 2,468 soil samples were collected from farm paddocks across the Peel-Harvey, Leschenault, Lower Blackwood, Vasse-Geographe, Oyster Harbour, Wilson Inlet and Torbay catchments under the Healthy Estuaries WA program. Of these, 55% had phosphorus concentrations exceeding pasture growth requirements, while 85% showed signs of soil acidity. The sampling also revealed that potassium and sulphur deficiencies were limiting productivity, further exacerbating phosphorus losses by reducing its uptake by pasture plants.

There is a high level of confidence in these findings, supported by analysis of historical soil test data. Since 2009, the Whole Farm Nutrient Mapping program has collected 35,907 samples from 2,074 farms, covering a total of 408,592 hectares. In addition, the recently completed uPtake project conducted 50 phosphorus response trials over 4 years to validate the critical phosphorus values used in this assessment. These trials confirmed that the critical values are robust and applicable to south-west WA soils and current pasture species.

A recent assessment estimated that full compliance with critical soil phosphorus values could reduce phosphorus losses by 24–59% (net). The cost of unnecessary phosphorus application in the south-west agricultural region has been estimated at \$400 million per year (Weaver and Summers 2013).

Condition of the resource base – pastoral rangelands

Pastoral rangelands

WA's rangelands cover 90% of the state, with pastoral leases covering about 34% (857,538 km²) and Unallocated Crown Lands (UCL) plus land vested for conservation and Indigenous purposes making up the balance.

There are 431 registered pastoral stations on 489 pastoral leases. There are 149 stations in the northern rangelands with 92 in the Kimberley and 57 in the Pilbara, while 282 stations are in the southern rangelands (shrublands), with 76 in the Carnarvon-Gascoyne, 123 in the Murchison and 83 in the Goldfields-Nullarbor.

Under s137(1) of the *Land Administration Act 1997* (LAA), the Commissioner and the Pastoral Lands Board (PLB) are to establish an administrative mechanism to ensure that any relevant information in relation to land under pastoral lease is exchanged between them. This is effected through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Commissioner, the PLB and the Directors General of DPIRD and DPLH. The most recent MoU was signed in December 2023.

Under s137(2) of the LAA, the Commissioner must provide by 31 December each year, a report to the PLB on the current condition of land under pastoral leases. The report, Total vegetative cover and cover risk, RCA pasture condition update, was provided to the PLB in December 2024.

Referrals for advice

Advice and information were provided to the Commissioner, DPLH and the PLB regarding pastoral lease management plans, permit applications for diversification activities, carrying capacity estimates and applications for lease renewal as required.

Rangeland resource condition assessments

The Rangelands Science team conducted Rangeland resource condition assessments (RCAs) on 29 pastoral stations (22 in 2023-24) and follow-up inspections on 2 pastoral stations on behalf of the Commissioner. Land degradation risk was identified as high on 7 stations and extreme on 6 stations. Of the 13 at-risk leases identified, requests for action will be made to the lessees in line with the DPIRD Compliance Strategy, seeking voluntary compliance in the first instance.

Seasonal conditions

Rainfall in the 12 months to November 2024 was generally median or above median in the eastern parts of the Kimberley, Pilbara, Upper Southern Rangelands and East Pilbara and across the Lower Southern Rangelands, while rainfall was below median in western areas of the Kimberley, Pilbara and Upper Southern Rangelands.

Improved seasonal conditions generally increased total cover of vegetation functional groups in the Lower Southern Rangelands.

Consequently, the risk of cover decline was significantly reduced compared to 2023. Where rainfall was below median, there has been a decline in vegetation cover and an increased risk of further cover decline.

Cover risk

Cover risk was calculated using remotely sensed total cover data available to the end of October 2024, rainfall data to the end of November 2024 and stock return data reported in 2023 (the most recent available) to determine cover risk. Cover risk at the land conservation district (LCD) level is an indicator of the likelihood of total cover declining to, or remaining at, low or very low levels. Total cover and cover risk may not be indicative of vegetation condition and are best regarded as indicators of relative levels of groundcover and consequent susceptibility to erosion and the relative availability of stock forage.

Reported stock numbers relative to potential carrying capacity (PCC) are used as an indicator of grazing pressure and this may lead to underestimating cover risk because the current carrying capacity (CCC) is often significantly less than PCC.

The risk of the total cover of a key pasture or vegetation functional group falling to or remaining at below-average or very much below-average levels was high or very high in 11 LCDs (Table A2); this is down from the estimate of 17 LCDs in the 2023-24 annual report.

Table A2: LCDs and pastures that have a high or very high risk of total cover remaining at, or declining to, below-average or very much below-average levels

Region	LCD	Pastures with high cover risk	Pastures with very high cover risk
Kimberley	Broome	Plains tussock Plains hummock	Coastal buffel
Pilbara	Ashburton	Alluvial plain tussock	Alluvial plain shrub River tussock
	De Grey	Nil	Alluvial plain tussock River tussock Soft spinifex
	Roebourne–Port Hedland	Alluvial plain shrub Alluvial plain tussock	River tussock Soft spinifex
Upper Southern Rangelands	Gascoyne-Ashburton headwaters	Mesa shrub	Stony plain halophyte
	Gascoyne–Wooramel	Soft spinifex	Nil
	Lyndon	Alluvial plain halophyte Soft spinifex	Alluvial plain Stony plain halophyte
	Meekatharra	Low hills halophyte Mesas shrub Stony plain halophyte	Calcrete-shrub
	Upper Gascoyne	Stony plain halophyte	Nil
Lower Southern Rangelands	Cue	Alluvial plain Low hills halophyte Mesas shrub Stony plain halophyte	Nil
	Sandstone	Fringing salt lake Mesas shrub Stony plain halophyte	Nil

Following very much above median rainfall in 2023, rainfall was more variable in 2024 with drier conditions in the west and wet conditions in the east. Broome LCD saw a significant decrease in cover in response to decile 1 rainfall in 2024, and key pastures there were at high to very high risk of further decrease. Pastures in the other Kimberley LCDs had average to very much above-average total cover; these LCDs were at moderate or low risk of total cover declining to below average or very much below-average levels at reported stocking rates for 2023. This is similar to cover risk reported in 2023.

In the Pilbara, rainfall over the 12 months to November 2024 was again above median in the East Pilbara LCD and below median in western LCDs. The risk of cover decrease was reduced in the East Pilbara LCD compared to 2023 with all vegetation groups at moderate risk. Cover risk increased in the Ashburton, De Grey and Roebourne–Port Hedland LCDs with all LCDs having vegetation functional groups at very high risk of cover decrease, the Ashburton and Roebourne–Port Hedland LCDs also had vegetation functional groups considered to be at high risk of cover decrease. The De Grey LCD again reported stock numbers in excess of PCC; stock numbers in this LCD should be reduced to allow pasture recovery.

Rainfall in the 12 months to November 2024 was generally above the median ranging from 107% of the long-term median in Meekatharra LCD to 161% in Wiluna LCD. The exceptions were Lyndon and Upper Gascoyne LCDs where rainfall was 62% and 78% of the long-term median respectively. In both cases this is an increase on 2023 rainfall.

Total cover of vegetation functional groups ranged from average to very much below average. Except for the Upper Gascoyne LCD, 2023 stocking rates were below PCC. Consequently, cover risk was high or very high in all the Upper Southern Rangelands LCDs except the Wiluna LCD. The risk of vegetation cover declining was reduced in the Gascoyne–Wooramel and Upper Gascoyne LCDs, but it increased in the Gascoyne–Ashburton Headwaters, Lyndon and Meekatharra LCDs. While cover risk decreased in the Upper Gascoyne LCD, it remains high for one vegetation functional group, and 2023 stock numbers remained near PCC. Stock numbers in the Upper Gascoyne LCD will need to continue to require conservative management to allow pasture recovery.

Seasonal conditions were generally improved compared to the dry conditions experienced in 2023, with rainfall in the 12 months to November 2024 ranging from 78% of the long-term median in the Mount Magnet LCD to 165% in the North-East Goldfields LCD. There was a general increase in the total cover of vegetation functional groups with only Cue and Sandstone still having vegetation groups with below average cover. Reported 2023 stocking rates were below PCC. Consequently, the risk of cover decrease was significantly reduced compared to 2022, with only Cue and Sandstone LCDs having vegetation functional groups considered at high risk of vegetation cover remaining below average or declining further. Cover risk of vegetation groups in the remaining 7 LCDs fell from high or very high in 2023 to low or moderate in 2024.

Pasture condition

The RCA data collected since 2016 suggest that pasture condition remains generally worse in the Southern Rangelands compared to the Northern Rangelands. It should be noted that from 2016, stations were selected for an RCA on the basis of desktop degradation risk assessments, so the results reported here are biased towards stations with a higher degradation risk compared to the entire pastoral estate. Based on the Kimberley Standards and the conceptual standards in the Framework for the Pilbara and southern rangelands, the Pilbara had the lowest proportion of leases in unacceptable condition (38%) and most in acceptable condition (39%) and the Upper Southern Rangelands had the highest proportion in unacceptable condition (77%) and least in acceptable condition (7%) (Table A3).

Average changes in the pasture condition were non-significant in the Kimberley, Pilbara and the Lower Southern Rangelands, while pasture condition improved in the Upper Southern Rangelands.

Table A3: Land condition status of leases in each rangeland region

Region	Lease level land condition status		
	Acceptable (%)	Suboptimal (%)	Unacceptable (%)
Kimberley	15	33	52
Pilbara	39	23	38
Upper Southern Rangelands	7	16	77
Lower Southern Rangelands	21	32	47

Publications

In 2025, the Rangelands Science Group published the following to the website:

- Waddell PA and Galloway PD (2023) 'Land systems, soils and vegetation of the southern Goldfields and Great Western Woodlands of Western Australia', Technical bulletin 99, vol 1, DPIRD, Western Australian Government.
- Waddell PA and Galloway PD (2023) 'Land systems, soils and vegetation of the southern Goldfields and Great Western Woodlands of Western Australia', Technical bulletin 99, vol 2, DPIRD, Western Australian Government.
- Waddell PA, et al. (2023) 'Pasture condition guides for the southern rangelands, including the Gascoyne, Murchison and Goldfields-Nullarbor', Bulletin 4913, DPIRD, Western Australian Government.
- Sudmeyer R, et al. (2025) Pastoral land condition: Kimberley land condition standards, DPIRD, Western Australian Government.

References

BOM (2025), [Recent and historical rainfall – 8 months to 31 October 2024](#), Bureau of Meteorology.

CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology (2024). [State of the climate](#). Commonwealth of Australia publishing.

DES and JRSRP (2022), Seasonal Ground Cover – Landsat, JRSRP Algorithm Version 3.0, Australia Coverage, Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (Dataset), Queensland Department of Environment and Science and Joint Remote Sensing Research Program.

GIWA (2025), [GIWA Crop Report February 2025](#), GIWA.

Laycock J, Middleton N and Holmes K (2022) 'Using Landsat satellite imagery to estimate groundcover in the grainbelt of Western Australia', Resource management technical report 428, DPIRD, Western Australian Government.

Weaver D and Summers R (2013), Nutrient status (phosphorus), In: Report card on sustainable natural resource use in agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia, Perth.

Appendix 4: Breeding stock status, catch and effort ranges for Western Australia's major commercial and recreational fisheries

This information underpins the 4 KPIs measuring the effectiveness of the department's management plans and regulatory activities in:

- ensuring the sustainability status of the state's aquatic resources
- the success of keeping fish catches (or effort) at appropriate levels for commercial and recreational fisheries
- ensuring that sustainably managed commercial fisheries provide benefits to the state as a result of significant local sales and export earnings from fish and fish products.

The term 'sustainable' is given where the breeding stocks are considered adequate as well as breeding stocks that are recovering. Terms 'inadequate' or 'environmentally limited' include where additional actions need to be taken or confirmation is required to ensure the breeding stocks are either adequate or are now recovering. The term 'overfished' is only given where breeding stocks are inadequate due to exploitation (i.e. overfishing) that have been identified but for which definitive management actions have yet to be fully implemented.

An acceptable catch or effort range may be determined for each of the major commercial and recreational fisheries.

Commercial ranges 'under revision' or 'under development' are not assessed. Recreational ranges 'not developed' or 'under revision' are not assessed however 'not formal' ranges are assessed.

Acronyms

- NA – Not applicable
- Q – Quota management
- TAC – Total Allowable Catch
- TACC – Total Allowable Commercial Catch
- TARC – Total Allowable Recreational Catch
- MSC – Certified by Marine Stewardship Council
- CI – Confidence Interval
- SE – standard error

Assessment level (and method)

- Level 1 – Catch data and biological/fishing vulnerability
- Level 2 – Level 1 plus fishery-dependent effort
- Level 3 – Levels 1 and/or 2 plus fishery-dependent biological sampling of landed catch (e.g. average size, fishing mortality, etc. estimated from representative samples)
- Level 4 – Levels 1, 2 or 3 plus fishery-independent surveys of relative abundance, exploitation rate, recruitment
- Level 5 – Levels 1 to 3 and/or 4 plus outputs from integrated simulation, assessment model

Table A4: Breeding stock status, catch and effort ranges for Western Australia's major commercial and recreational fisheries

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
West Coast Bioregion						
Western Rock Lobster	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 5	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 7411 t (TACC: 2023-24) Recreational: 527 t (TARC: 2023-24)	Commercial: 7403 t Recreational -licensed: 424–514 t (95% CI); Charter: 20 t	Acceptable Commercial: Catch close to TACC. Recreational: Catch within acceptable range on a 5-year rolling average.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Statewide Abalone	Abalone (Roe's) Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 70.7 t (Q) (530–640 days) Recreational: 22–26 t Perth Metro area	Commercial: 20.4 t (216 days) Recreational: 16–20 t Perth Metro area: 23.3–27.9 t Other	Acceptable Commercial: Catch was below TACC due to commercial economic decisions (low value, overseas market issues and high fishing costs). Recreational: Perth Metro catch range below TARC range due to weather condition effect on fisher effort and catch rate.
Statewide Cephalopod	Octopus Interim Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 500–1,000 t Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 716 t Recreational: 0–1 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch is within catch range and performance indicator is above target level. Recreational: Catch levels are considered a negligible risk to stocks.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
South Coast and West Coast Scallop	Abrolhos Islands and Mid-West Trawl Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 95–1,830 t	Commercial: 1,317 t	Acceptable
	South Coast Trawl Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Recreational: NA	Commercial: 140 t (90 days)	Scallop survey index improved markedly to above the threshold level.
	South West Trawl Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Catch range to be developed	Commercial: Not reportable	Acceptable
				Catch range to be developed		Commercial: Catch within historical range.
West Coast Estuarine and Nearshore Scalefish and Invertebrates	Cockburn Sound Crab Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Closed	Commercial: 0 t	Acceptable
				Recreational: Partially closed (northern extent open)	Recreational: 0.5 t	Commercial: NA Recreational: Acceptable Most of Cockburn Sound has remained closed since 2014, and stock levels have stabilised. This indicates the stock is likely at a carrying capacity which is substantially below that recorded in the 2000s. This change is a result of changes in the environment.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
West Coast Estuarine and Nearshore Scalefish and Invertebrates	West Coast Estuarine Managed Fishery (Area 1 Swan Canning, Area 2 Peel Harvey (MSC), Area 3 Hardy Inlet)	Annual: Level 1 and 2 Periodic: Level 3 to 4 sea mullet, yellowfin whiting	Sustainable: Adequate – crabs/ sea mullet/ yellowfin whiting	Commercial: 36–72 t (Peel Harvey crab) <150 t sea mullet (Peel Harvey), <12 t yellowfin whiting (Peel Harvey) Recreational: Informal (Peel Harvey crab) Not formal (finfish)	Commercial: 48 (Peel Harvey crab) 83.8 t (sea mullet Peel Harvey), 10.4 t (yellowfin whiting Peel Harvey) Other West Coast Estuarine crab fisheries not reported due to confidentiality requirements. Recreational: 13–23 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023–24, crabs in Perth Metro Zone)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch of crabs and finfish within acceptable ranges. Recreational: Catch levels are not considered a risk to stocks.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
West Coast Estuarine and Nearshore Scalefish and Invertebrates	Cockburn Sound Fish Net Managed Fishery	Annual: Levels 1 and 2 Periodic: Level 3 – whitebait, southern garfish	Sustainable: Adequate – whiting/salmon (state)/tailor/herring (state) Environmentally Limited – whitebait/southern garfish	Commercial: <25 t (informal whitebait), <2 t (informal, southern garfish). Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 4 t (whitebait), 0.5 t (southern garfish -WCB) Recreational: 43–70 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 10 species)	Acceptable Metro Zone Garfish fishery closed from 2017 to 2023. Declines in southern garfish and whitebait consistent with an environmentally limited stock. Recreational: Catch levels are not considered a risk to stocks.
	South West Beach Seine	Periodic: Level 3 – whitebait, southern garfish				
	West Coast Nearshore Open Access Net Fishery	Periodic: Levels 3 to 5				
	South West Coast Salmon Managed Fishery	Herring – 2024 Salmon – 2023				
West Coast Beach Bait						
Statewide Small Pelagic Scalefish (Purse Seine)	West Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery and development zones	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 0–5,700 t (Q) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 420 t (all species) Recreational: <1 t (boat only in 2023-24)	Acceptable

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
South Coast and West Coast Demersal Finfish	West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery	Annual: Level 1 Periodic: Level 5 Snapper and WA dhufish – 2024 Level 3 Baldchin groper – 2024	Inadequate	Commercial: <240 t* Recreational (including charter): <135 t* *Total removals, including retained catch + post-release mortality (PRM)	Commercial: 291 t* (282 t catch + 9 t PRM) in 2024 Recreational + charter (144–207 t 95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 15 species): 217 t* (196 t catch + 21 t PRM) in 2023-24	Not Acceptable Total removals of the demersal suite by the commercial sector in 2024, and by the recreational sector in 2023-24, were above their respective sectoral recovery benchmarks in place for those years. Note that further revisions to these recovery benchmarks were made in mid-2024.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Gascoyne Coast Bioregion						
Shark Bay Invertebrate	Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 1,350–2,150 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 866 t	Acceptable Commercial: Western king and brown tiger prawn catches below their acceptable range in part due to additional in-season measures implemented to protect breeding stocks, including reducing the total number of fishing nights, implementing area closures, and reducing the fleet headrope allocation by 33%.
Northern Invertebrates	Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 436–1,347 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 653 t	Acceptable
Shark Bay Invertebrate	Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Quota 861.5 t (362 t Denham Sound and 499.5 t northern Shark Bay) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 861.5 t	Acceptable Commercial: Quota season to 30 April 2024. 100% of quota achieved for Denham Sound and northern Shark Bay.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Shark Bay Invertebrate	Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 600 t (Q) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 368.7 t Recreational: 0–2 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24)	Acceptable Commercial: Quota not attained due to effort restrictions on the trawl fleet, which limited their capacity to obtain their allocation. There has been a marked improvement in relative biomass, with the stock currently above the indicative target level. Recreational: Catch levels are stable.
Gascoyne Nearshore Scalefish	Shark Bay Beach Seine and Mesh Net Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2 Periodic: Level 3 Yellowfin whiting – 2014	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 235–335 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 125 t	Acceptable Commercial: Catch below the acceptable range due to ongoing very low levels of effort.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
South Coast and West Coast Crustacean	West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 5	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Class A: 123.2 t (Q); Class B: 20 t (Q); Class C: 1 t (Q); 60,000–105,000 pot lifts (crystal crab) Recreational: NA	Commercial: Class A: 123.1 t Class B: 0 t Class C: 0.14 t (74,867 pot lifts crystal crab)	Acceptable Commercial: TAC achieved and integrated model indicates that overall biomass is above provisional target levels.
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish	Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1 Periodic: Level 5 Snapper – 2024 Level 3 Goldband snapper 2022	Sustainable: Recovering – Snapper Sustainable: Adequate – Goldband snapper	Commercial: Snapper 59.1 t (Q) Other demersals 227 t (Q) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 44 t Snapper, 113 t Other demersals in 2023-24 Recreational 48–102 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 15 species): 93 t in 2023-24 Charter: 53 t in 2023-24	Acceptable Commercial: Acceptable Recreational: Acceptable Snapper spawning biomass recovering following management action in 2018.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish	Inner Shark Bay Demersal (Snapper)	Annual: Level 1 Periodic: Level 5 – 2015	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 3.8 t Eastern Gulf (EG) 3.8 t Denham Sound (DS) 1.2 t Freycinet Estuary (FE) Recreational: 11.2 t EG 11.2 t DS 3.8 t FE	Commercial: <0.5 t in 2024 Charter: 0.1 t EG 0.6 t DS 0.7 t FE in 2024 Recreational: 3–18 t (95% CI boat only, snapper) in 2023-24	Acceptable Commercial: NA Recreational: Acceptable Recreational harvest of snapper (boat only, from statewide survey) is a combined estimate across the 3 stocks.
North Coast Bioregion						
Northern Invertebrates	Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 60–180 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: Not reportable	Acceptable Commercial: Below catch range; low effort in 2024.
Northern Invertebrates	Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 90–300 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: Not reportable	Acceptable Commercial: Within catch range.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Northern Invertebrates	Broome Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 55–260 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: Not reportable	Acceptable Commercial: Below catch range; very low levels of effort in 2024.
Northern Invertebrates	Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 240–500 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 68 t	Acceptable Commercial: Below catch range; low levels of effort in 2024.
Northern Estuarine and Nearshore Scalefish and Invertebrates	Kimberley Gillnet and Barramundi Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 33–44 t (barramundi) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 68 t (total) 40 t (barramundi) Recreational: 11–26 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023–24, top 10 species)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch is within the acceptable range. Recreational: Catch levels considered appropriate.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Northern Demersal Scalefish	Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2 Periodic: Level 3 and 5	Inadequate: red emperor Sustainable: Adequate – goldband snapper	Commercial: 903–1,332 t Catch range review is in progress Recreational: NA	Commercial: 1,378 t (total) 436 t (goldband snapper) 151 t (red emperor) Recreational: 48–82 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023–24, top 15 species) Charter: 16.6 t	Not acceptable Commercial: Catch above total catch range. Recreational: Acceptable (Catch levels are combined for Kimberley and Pilbara). Red emperor relative biomass breached the Threshold reference levels in 2024.
Northern Demersal Scalefish	Pilbara Fish Trawl (Interim) Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1 and 2 Periodic: Level 3 and 5	Inadequate: red emperor, goldband snapper	Commercial: 940–1,416 t Recreational and charter: 35.5 t (benchmark species for PDSR)	Commercial: 1,876 t (all species) Recreational and Charter (NCB): 28 t (benchmark species)	Not acceptable Commercial: Catch above total catch range. Acceptable, Recreational: Catches below benchmark in NCB. Recovery plan for indicator species was implemented in 2024. Red emperor across PDSR (113 t) was below their recovery benchmark in 2024.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Northern Demersal Scalefish	Pilbara Demersal Trap Managed Fishery and Pilbara Line Fishery	Annual: Levels 1 and 2 Periodic: Level 3 and 5	Inadequate: red emperor, goldband snapper	Commercial: 241–537 t (trap) 36–127 t (line) Recreational and charter: 35.5 t (benchmark species for PDSR)	Commercial: Not reportable Recreational and Charter (NCB): 28 t (benchmark species)	Acceptable Commercial: Total catches were within catch ranges. Recovery plan for indicator species was implemented in 2024. Red emperor across PDSR (113 t) was below their recovery benchmark in 2024.
Statewide Large Pelagic Scalefish	Mackerel Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2 Periodic: Level 3 – 2023	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 246–430 t (Q, spanish mackerel) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 194 t Recreational: 81–121 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023–24, top 15 species)	Acceptable Commercial: Overall catch is below the target range, Area1 is within the range, low effort. Recreational: Catch levels remain appropriate. Charter/FTO: Catch is within historical range.
Northern Shark	Northern Shark Fishery	No assessment	NA	<20 t (sandbar)	0	NA No reported fishing activity since 2008-09.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Pearl Oyster (<i>P. maxima</i>)	Pearl Oyster Wildstock Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial 1,090,895 oysters (Q) (14,071–20,551 dive hours) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 1,052,201 oysters (8,987 dive hours)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch and catch rates at record highs.
Statewide Hand Collection	Western Australian Sea Cucumber Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Sandfish (Kimberley) 0–100 t Sandfish (Pilbara) 0–80 t Redfish 0–150 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: Sandfish (Kimberley): 0 t Sandfish (Pilbara): 0 t Redfish (Pilbara): 410.5 t Redfish (Gascoyne): 1.9 t	Acceptable Overall breeding stocks acceptable for redfish and one sandfish stock. Closures implemented in 2023 for Pilbara sandfish fishery to promote recovery. Pilbara redfish catch above catch range with performance indicator above target level. Catch range under review.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
South Coast Bioregion						
South Coast and West Coast Crustacean	South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2 to 5	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Quota Zone 1 (western rock lobster) – 35 t Zone 2 (crystal crab) – 6.53 t Zone 3 (southern rock lobster) – 16 t Zone 4 (southern rock lobster) – 14 t	Commercial: Zone 1: 5.5 t (western rock lobster) Zone 2: 5.29 t (crystal crab) Zone 3: 13.2 t (southern rock lobster) Zone 4: 0.06 t (southern rock lobster)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch has been constrained through the transition of the fishery to quota management. Recent reduced catches have been market driven.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Statewide Abalone	Abalone (Greenlip/Brownlip) Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Inadequate	Commercial: 32.2 t (Q) (3,440–5,270 hours) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 24.1 t (728 hours) Recreational: 11.6 – 17.2 t	Not Acceptable Commercial: Catch is below TACC due to commercial industry decisions. Area 2 remains closed to Brownlip abalone fishing and Area 3 remains closed to Greenlip abalone fishing for the 2025 season. Recreational: Catch levels require revision.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
South Coast Estuarine and Nearshore Scalefish and Invertebrates	South Coast Estuarine Managed Fishery South Coast Salmon Managed Fishery South Coast Nearshore Net Managed Fishery (including herring g-net exemption)	Annual: Level 1 and 2 Periodic: Level 3 to 5 Herring – 2024; Salmon – 2023; Cobbler – 2018	Sustainable: Adequate Cobbler (Wilson Inlet), herring (state), salmon (state) mullet/bream/whiting	Commercial: <40 t cobbler (Wilson Inlet – informal). <300 t herring (state – informal), <70 t herring (g-net exemption) Salmon under revision Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 13.7 t cobbler (Wilson Inlet), 132 t herring (state), 213.4 t salmon (state), 20.5 t blue swimmer crab (South Coast estuaries). Recreational: finfish 11–25 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 10 species)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch of finfish and crabs within acceptable ranges. Stock abundance of blue swimmer crabs in the south coast bioregion is strongly influenced by the strength of the warm, southward flowing Leeuwin Current and overall water temperatures, resulting in highly variable catch and effort. Recreational: Catch levels are not considered a risk to stocks.
Statewide Small Pelagic Scalefish (Purse Seine)	King George Sound Purse Seine (Zone 1)	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 2,162 t (Q) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 1,020 t	Acceptable
Statewide Small Pelagic Scalefish (Purse Seine)	Wider Albany, Bremer Bay and Esperance Purse Seine (Zones 2, 3 and 4)	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 3,521 t (Q) Combined Recreational: NA	Commercial: 815 t	Acceptable

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
South Coast and West Coast Demersal Finfish	Temperate Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery	Annual: Level 1 Periodic: gummy, whiskery, dusky and sandbar sharks: Level 5 – 2024	Sustainable: Adequate–gummy and whiskery Sustainable: Recovering–dusky and sandbar	Commercial: shark 725–1,095 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 669 t (key species only) 831 t (total sharks and rays)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch of the total shark and ray species is within acceptable catch ranges.
South Coast and West Coast Demersal Finfish	South Coast Line and Trap Managed Fishery, South Coast Estuarine Managed Fishery, TDGDLF	Annual: Level 1 Periodic: Level 3 – 2024	Inadequate: snapper, Bight redfish and western blue groper Adequate: blue morwong, hapuku	Commercial: Not formal Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 184 t Recreational: 36–71 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023–24, top 10 species). Charter: 3 t (indicator species).	Not acceptable: snapper, Bight redfish, hapuku, western blue groper.
Northern Inland Bioregion						
Northern Inland Freshwater Scalefish and Invertebrates	Lake Argyle Silver Cobbler Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 93–180 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: Not reportable	Acceptable Commercial: Catch is below the target level due to low levels of effort.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch, effort and catch rate for season reported ^{1, 2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Southern Inland Bioregion						
South and West Coast Inland Freshwater Resource	South West Recreational Freshwater Angling Fishery Recreational Marron Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: NA Recreational: 50,000–100,000 (marron) 50,000–120,000 (fish)	82,435 marron (74,680 – 90,191 95% CI) 64,616 fish (50,503 – 78,729 95% CI)	Acceptable Catch (marron) has been within the acceptable range since 2003. Review of the inclusion of fish catch estimates is required as this is a stocked (put and take) fishery.

1 Commercial and recreational catch figure is supplied for latest year/season available.

2 Where there are 3 or fewer licences operating in the fishery, annual catch levels are not reported due to confidentiality requirements.

Appendix 5: State register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases

The State Register of authorisations, exemptions and aquaculture leases is available to the public on application to the Registrar and payment of appropriate fees – see section 125 of the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (FRMA).

At 30 June 2025, the following items were recorded on the State Register:

- 156,483 recreational fishing licences of 229,884 varying fishing activities (note: although details of recreational fishing licences are recorded on the State Register, the Registrar is prohibited from making these available for public search – see section 125(6) of the FRMA)
- 22 aquaculture leases
- 381 aquaculture licences
- 6,048 commercial authorisations of varying licence types.

Licensed recreational fishing activities consisted of the activities listed in Table A5.

Table A5: Recreational fishing licensed activities

Activity	Number of activities
Recreational fishing from boat	128,654
Rock lobster	51,405
Abalone	16,296
Marron	9,635
Net fishing	14,121
South West freshwater angling	9,773
Total	229,884

Table A6: Commercial authorisations

Permits	Number of permits
Managed Fishery Licence	1,605
Interim Managed Fishery Permit	121
Other Licences	4,322
Total	6,048

Table A7: State register of exemptions 2024-25

Note: this register refers to additional schedules, tables and figures that are not provided in this document.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251253924	5/07/2027 (Revoked)	Justin Majeks and employees of Surfing Western Australia	To use a jet ski in a fish habitat protection area for a public safety purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(c) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251254024	31/07/2025	Kieryn Kilminster of Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251255924	31/12/2027	Danielle Johnston, Senior Research Scientist, DPIRD	For purpose of enabling the personnel of the department to provide up to 100 dead green mud crabs (<i>Scylla serrata</i>) and/or brown mud crabs (<i>Scylla olivacea</i>) collected as part of the department's research and conservation projects, to Traditional Owner participants and members of their Aboriginal communities.
EXEM 251256124	21/10/2024	Tim Daniel of Murdoch University	For the purpose of teaching.
EXEM 251256224	31/08/2025	Fred Wells of Curtin University and others as listed within exemption	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251256524	31/12/2025	Kimberley Crab Managed Fishery Licence Holders	Using a round trap as defined in 25(2)(c) of the Kimberley Crab Managed Fishery Management Plan with a minimum of 2 circular escape gaps of not less than 80 millimetres in diameter within the Kimberley Crab Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251257424	31/07/2025 (Revoked)	David Morgan of Murdoch University and others as listed in Schedule 1	Collection of, measure, dart or acoustic tag, fin clip, cloacal swab and release freshwater sawfish (<i>Pristis pristis</i>) from Fitzroy River, from Geikie Gorge to Sang Pool, including Barrage, Myroodah Crossing, Uralla Creek and billabongs where sawfish have been reported to become entrapped.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251257524	30/06/2025	Executive Officer of Fishability	To allow angling for freshwater fish without holding a current Freshwater Angling Licence.
EXEM 251257624	30/06/2025	Michael Taylor of Murdoch University and others	For the purpose of teaching.
EXEM 251257724	31/07/2025	David Morgan of Murdoch University and others as listed in Schedule 1	Collection of, measure, dart or acoustic tag, fin clip, cloacal swab and release freshwater sawfish (<i>Pristis pristis</i>) from Fitzroy River, from Geikie Gorge to Sang Pool, including Barrage, Myroodah Crossing, Uralla Creek and billabongs where sawfish have been reported to become entrapped.
EXEM 251257824	31/12/2027	Alastair Harry	Persons named in Schedule 1 (2-3) to retain up to a total of 100 mullet (family Mugilidae), 100 blue threadfin salmon (<i>Eleutheronema tetradactylum</i>) and/or 50 king threadfin salmon (<i>Polydactylus macrochir</i>) and/or 10 barramundi (<i>Lates calcarifer</i>), per day, when taken as part of research and conservation projects approved by the department and provide them to persons named in Schedule 1.
EXEM 251258024	31/12/2025	Katrina Burton for the Water Corporation	To undertake a 2-year survey, to capture and release alive a range of native freshwater fishes at Angove Creek and Lake, east of Albany, as part of the environmental assessment of a DWER water licence, and an updated Water Resource Management Operation Strategy.
EXEM 251258124	31/07/2026	FutureFeed Pty Ltd (FutureFeed)	To enable FutureFeed to collect broodstock.
EXEM 251258224	31/08/2024	Luke Thomas of Australian Institute of Marine Science	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251258324	30/06/2025	One Sea Pty Ltd	To permit One Sea Pty Ltd to operate in Zone A of the South West Trawl Managed Fishery for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> using otter boards of a different dimension to that specified within the <i>South West Trawl Limited Entry Fishery Notice 1989</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251258424	31/08/2025	Steve Pursell, OzFish Unlimited	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251258624	30/04/2025 (Revoked)	Persons fishing with the use of the authorised boats endorsed on the following SB Scallop Licences: SBSC2110, SBSC2111, SBSC2115, SBSC2116, SBSC2117, SBSC2118, SBSC2119, SBSC2121, SBSC2122, SBSC2123, SBSC2097	To permit the take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251258724	30/04/2025 (Revoked)	Persons fishing with the use of the authorised boats endorsed on the following Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licences: SBSC2102, SBSC2104, SBSC2094, SBSC2109	To permit the take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251258824	30/04/2025 (Revoked)	Persons using authorised boats on the following Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licences: SBSC2093, SBSC2126, SBSC2100	To permit the take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251258924	30/04/2025 (Revoked)	Persons fishing using the authorised boats on the following Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licences: SBSC2087, SBSC2088, SBSC2089, SBSC2096, SBSC2099, SBSC2101, SBSC2091, SBSC2107	To permit the take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251259024	30/04/2025 (Revoked)	Persons fishing with the use of the authorised boats endorsed on the following Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licences: SBSC2127, SBSC2128	To permit the take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251259124	30/04/2025 (Revoked)	Persons fishing with the use of the authorised boats endorsed on the following Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licences: SBSC2124	To permit the take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251259224	16/08/2025	Rohan Brooker of Australian Institute of Marine Science as those persons listed in Schedule 1, Table 1 of the exemption document	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251260124	31/12/2026	Andrew Beer, DPIRD	For the purpose of research and endangered species conservation and captive breeding program.
EXEM 251260824	30/06/2029	Fishability	To allow participants of Fishability programs to undertake recreational fishing for community education purposes without holding a current recreational boat fishing licence.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251261024	30/07/2025	The master and crew of the authorised boat fishing under the authority of a West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery Licence	To provide temporary access to fish the area between Pt Maud and Tantabiddi Well.
EXEM 251261224	31/12/2027	Alastair Harry, Research Scientist, DPIRD and persons specified in Schedule 1 of exemption	For the purpose of enabling the personnel of the department to provide 50 blue threadfin salmon (<i>Eleutheronema tetradactylum</i>) and/or 50 king threadfin salmon (<i>Polydactylus macrochir</i>) collected as part of the department's research and conservation projects, to Traditional Owner participants and members of their Aboriginal communities.
EXEM 251262824	31/12/2025	DPIRD - Fisheries (WCDS)	To undertake biological data collection of West Coast Demersal Scalefish Resource species for commercial and research purposes pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) and (f) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251263124	31/10/2024	Adam Harman, Lateral Environmental	To undertake aquatic fauna monitoring, to capture and release alive a range of native freshwater fishes, crustaceans and molluscs of Carawine Gorge (Karuwayinya) and Eel Pool (Running Waters), Pilbara as part of the week-long Pilbara Ranger Network Water Forum in August 2024.
EXEM 251265424	18/08/2025	Ben Roots, Murdoch University	Collection of blue swimmer crabs (<i>Portunus armatus</i>) and mussels (<i>Mytilus spp.</i>) from locations in the Peel-Harvey and Swan Canning estuaries where crabs and mussels occur, as informed by commercial fishers.
EXEM 251265524	31/12/2024	James Tweedley of Murdoch University	For the purpose of teaching – collection of finfish and invertebrates from those locations as listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251266924	30/06/2026	The master of an authorised boat operating in the South Coast Line and Fish Trap Managed Fishery	To provide an approved method to nominate to land catch outside the waters of the South Coast Line and Fish Trap Managed Fishery.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251267024	30/09/2025	Murdoch University	Collection of mussels from Peel Harvey Estuary including its rivers (Serpentine, Murray and Harvey rivers) and dams (Waroona and Harvey), Cockburn Sound, and Swan-Canning Estuary to study/monitor water quality using mussel shell gaping behaviour.
EXEM 251267224	30/09/2024	Jessica Delaney of Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna monitoring, to capture and release alive finfish of the central Wheatbelt.
EXEM 251267624	30/06/2025	Central Regional TAFE	For staff and students of the Central Regional TAFE participating in the Fishing Operations course on board the training vessel 'MASTERCLASS', to conduct demersal line fishing operations, during the closed season for recreational fishing for demersal scalefish in West Coast Region.
EXEM 251267824	8/09/2025	The University of Western Australia (UWA)	To study cultivating local Western Australian seaweed species for testing the co-production of fermentation sugars and vegan protein.
EXEM 251268224	31/12/2025	GHD Pty Ltd	To capture and retain a range of aquatic fauna to assess potential contamination with PFAS on behalf of Airservices Australia.
EXEM 251268724	31/08/2026	Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Licence Holders	To continue the reduced pink snapper minimum debit rule rate of 25 kg pink snapper (whole weight) per fishing day, in the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251270524	15/08/2025	Australian Institute of Marine Science	To study nutrient stoichiometry of Sargassum phenology.
EXEM 251271324	1/04/2029	Town of Cottesloe	Increasing public safety for swimmers in the ocean. Deploy, maintain and tend to the shark eco-barrier at Cottesloe beach.
EXEM 251271624	1/09/2026	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna monitoring, to capture and release alive a range of native finfish and crustaceans in the Augustus and Hamilton rivers.
EXEM 251271724	30/10/2024	Murdoch University	Collection of aquatic invertebrates and aquatic vegetation from urban wetlands in the Perth region, as listed in Attachment 1.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251273524	1/09/2027	Dr Tim Storer, DWER	To capture and move up to 50 sawfish in tributaries and isolated pools in the floodplain of the Fitzroy River where sawfish have been reported to become trapped and are at imminent risk of mortality.
EXEM 251275424	27/09/2024	Dr Sorcha Cronin-O'Reilly, Dr Rachel Standish, Steven Goynich, Stephanie Fourie, Kurt Krispyn, Ben Roots, and students enrolled in ENV241 (Ecology) of Murdoch University	To collect finfish and invertebrates from those locations in the Swan Canning Estuary as marked on the attached map.
EXEM 251275524	31/12/2027	Employees of O2 Marine, Sean Webb Martin	To fish for molluscs pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251276024	6/10/2025	Tom Puddy of SeaStock Pty Ltd	To study SeaStock – Asparagopsis Research Scope ref: ARS-WA24-Dampier: 1. Genetic testing, 2. Chemical composition analysis, and 3. Segmentation analysis for laboratory life testing by collection of <i>Asparagopsis taxiformis</i> from Dampier Archipelago, as shown on the attached map.
EXEM 251276124	30/11/2024	Matthew Fong	To assist the department in conducting the annual rock lobster independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and obtain biological data required to facilitate stock assessment and associated biological studies into demersal scalefish. To operate 130 commercial rock lobster pots with closed escape gaps from adjacent to breeding stock survey grounds in the waters of the Abrolhos and Big Bank, including the area described in Schedule 4 of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Management Plan 2012.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251276224	30/11/2024	Sam Koncurat	To assist the department in conducting the annual rock lobster independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and obtain biological data required to facilitate stock assessment and associated biological studies into demersal scalefish. To operate 130 commercial rock lobster pots with closed escape gaps from adjacent to breeding stock survey grounds in the waters off Jurien.
EXEM 251276324	30/11/2024	Nino Paratore	To assist the department in conducting the annual rock lobster independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and obtain biological data required to facilitate stock assessment and associated biological studies into demersal scalefish. To operate 160 commercial rock lobster pots with closed escape gaps from adjacent to breeding stock survey grounds in the waters off Fremantle.
EXEM 251276424	30/11/2024	Bruce Cockman and Nathan Cockman	To assist the department in conducting the annual rock lobster independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and obtain biological data required to facilitate stock assessment and associated biological studies into demersal scalefish. To operate 160 commercial rock lobster pots with closed escape gaps from adjacent to breeding stock survey grounds in the waters of the Abrolhos Island Group.
EXEM 251276524	30/11/2024	Greg Cole and Ashley Cole	To assist the department in conducting the annual rock lobster independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and obtain biological data required to facilitate stock assessment and associated biological studies into demersal scalefish. To operate 160 commercial rock lobster pots with closed escape gaps from adjacent to breeding stock survey grounds in the waters off Dongara.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251276624	30/11/2024	Bjorn Stokke, Kjell Stokke and Nils Stokke	To assist the department in conducting the annual rock lobster independent breeding stock survey required to monitor the sustainability of the rock lobster fishery, and obtain biological data required to facilitate stock assessment and associated biological studies into demersal scalefish. To operate 160 commercial rock lobster pots with closed escape gaps from adjacent to breeding stock survey grounds in the waters off Lancelin.
EXEM 251276724	2/05/2025	Ryan Crossing of CSIRO	To study WA Integrated Marine Observing Systems; Australian Mooring Network – long-term project monitoring coastal oceanographic and biogeochemical processes utilising moored sensor arrays and water sampling regimes. Collection of invertebrate zooplankton and vertebrate ichthyoplankton from Rottnest Island National Reference Station 32° 00.00S, 115° 25.00E.
EXEM 251276824	30/09/2025	Kiera Gordon of Murdoch University	To study the effects of habitat and environmental change on a freshwater turtle (<i>Chelodina oblonga</i>) within a modified urban river system. Collection of catch and release fish, tadpoles or freshwater crayfish while undertaking a study of the oblong turtle <i>Chelodina oblonga</i> from Canning River, within 1 km upstream and downstream of the Kent Street weir wall, within and around the streams connecting to Roley Pool Reserve and nearby pools, and within Wilson Lake.
EXEM 251277424	25/09/2025	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	To study supply of native fish display for the Harvey Aboriginal Corporation aquarium. Collection of fish and transport to the Harvey Aboriginal Corporation aquarium from Harvey River upstream of Bristol Road bridge Latitude: -32.911590, Longitude: 115.824441.
EXEM 251277524	3/10/2024	JASCO Applied Sciences	To collect krill (<i>Euphausiacea</i>), microzooplankton, and macrozooplankton (including smaller mesozooplankton) using vertical bongo plankton tows. To understand the presence of krill, their prey species, and the correlation between whales and krill, as part of the Browse Blue Whale Ecology Survey Program.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251277824	30/09/2025	Zachary Kayll of Murdoch University	To study biodiversity change in wetlands exposed to a rapidly drying climate. Collection of freshwater invertebrates from those locations as listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251278124	1/11/2024	The persons operating the authorised boat specified on Fishing Boat Licence 1172	To collect fish samples to assist with understanding stock status and bycatch compositions of the South Coast Trawl Fishery to inform the sustainable management of this fishery.
EXEM 251277924	15/12/2024	Gary Kendrick of UWA	To study investigating the sensitivity of biogeochemical cycles in Shark Bay to future climate change and seagrass loss. Collection of fruit and seeds of <i>Posidonia australis</i> and <i>Posidonia sinuosa</i> and plant seeds at experimental sites using a purpose-built seed injection robot from those locations as listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251278624	30/06/2027	SeaStock Pty Ltd	To take wild <i>Asparagopsis taxiformis</i> for commercial purposes, in support of an existing aquaculture venture.
EXEM 251278724	30/09/2025	Jennifer Chaplin of Murdoch University	To study biodiversity of invertebrates in non-marine aquatic environments. Collection of non-marine invertebrates from inland aquatic environments, including lakes and ponds on near-shore islands, in the Esperance, Goldfields, Wheatbelt and Great Southern regions.
EXEM 251280624	30/06/2029	Surf Life Saving Western Australia	Providing and maintaining a rescue capability within state waters defined as a Fish Habitat Protection Area.
EXEM 251280824	7/10/2025	Morgan Ellis of Deakin University	To study population genetics and mating system assessment. Collection of carpet sea squirt (<i>Didemnum vexillum</i>) from Garden Island and the Australian Marine Complex (AMC), Henderson.
EXEM 251281024	5/12/2024 (Revoked)	Senckenberg Research Institute and National History Museum Frankfurt	Review of the Australian acanthochitonidae pilsbry, 1893 using integrative taxonomy.
EXEM 251281124	1/09/2025	Murdoch University	Assessing the dietary composition and dietary patterns of flatback and green turtles in WA.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251281224	1/11/2026	Persons fishing under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence or South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery Licence	To allow commercial fishers to fish for setose western rock lobster.
EXEM 251282324	30/06/2027	Rare Foods Australia operating under IDCA1630	To allow persons employed by Rare Foods Australia operating under aquaculture licence number IDCA1630 to fish for and sell and deal with octopus taken from aquaculture lease waters. To implement predatory octopus management procedures to support abalone aquaculture for a commercial purpose in accordance with section 7(2)(e).
EXEM 251282424	1/07/2025	Clement Mathieu Tremblin of Edith Cowan University (ECU)	To study thermal tolerance in the early life stage of <i>Posidonia australis</i> from regions exposed to different environmental temperatures. Collection of seagrass (<i>Posidonia australis</i>) from Geraldton/Jurien Bay, Perth and Albany as listed in Table 2 and attachment.
EXEM 251282524	1/09/2026	Nominated masters and person(s) operating under Fishing Tour Operator Licence FT1L108 and chefs operating at the Lobster Shack	To increase marine tourism and promote sustainable seafood in Cervantes. For Lobster Shack to provide charter-caught lobster meals for fishing tour clients for a commercial purpose under section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251282824	25/04/2024	Fred Wells of Curtin University	To study potential effects of climate change on intertidal invertebrates on Perth coastal platforms. Collection of abalone from Waterman ROA platform.
EXEM 251283124	25/06/2025	Zoe Richards of Curtin University	Assessing the ecological significance of artificial reefs in the maintenance of benthic biodiversity. Collection of benthic invertebrates from Exmouth Gulf, including South Murion Island and Peak Island; Ningaloo Reef from Point Murat to Winderbandi Point (map attached).

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251283324	31/12/2025	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Ecological and aquatic fauna sampling to support environmental management approvals. Ecological surveys of Wagerup (Alcoa Refinery Study Area) and aquatic fauna assessments of inland waterways of the Harvey River catchment.
EXEM 251283424	31/10/2024	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Aquatic water monitoring within Carawine Gorge (Karuwayina), Eel Pool (Running Waters) and Doolena Gorge (Coongan River) Pilbara, WA. Pilbara Ranger Network Water Forum.
EXEM 251285024	1/07/2025	Clement Mathieu Tremblin of ECU	To study thermal tolerance in the early life stage of <i>Posidonia australis</i> from regions exposed to different environmental temperatures. Collection of seagrass (<i>Posidonia australis</i>) from Geraldton/Jurien Bay, Perth and Albany as listed in Table 2 and attachment.
EXEM 251285224	31/10/2027	Lyn Van Gorp of Western Power Pty Ltd	Targeted fauna sampling to determine range extent of Carter's freshwater mussels in the Collie River and associated tributaries in South West WA.
EXEM 251285624	10/11/2025	Dean Tysdale of UWA	Going with the flow: Population genomics of Australian reef fish. Collection of banded humbug damselfish (<i>Dascyllus aruanus</i>) from Ningaloo Marine Park, Ashmore Reef, Scott Reef and Mermaid Reef.
EXEM 251285724	30/03/2025	Ben Saunders of Curtin University	To study the effect of total suspended sediment (TSS) on key fish taxa. Collection of Western Australia seahorse (<i>Hippocampus subelongatus</i>), southern calamari squid (<i>Sepioteuthis australis</i>), and sandy sprat (<i>Hyperlophus vittatus</i>) from the Swan River (Point Walter and Bicton), and Cockburn Sound and Parmelia Bank, Warnbro Sound and other metropolitan beaches within Grid Block numbers 315154, 320154, 321154, and 322154.
EXEM 251285824	30/03/2027	Rhys Johnson Busselton Surf Life Saving Club	For the purposes of section 7(2)(c) and 7(2)(d) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251286124	16/10/2026	Employees of Seaweed Abrolhos Islands (SAI) Pty Ltd	For the collection the broodstock species pursuant to Schedule 2.1, seaweed hatchery activities pursuant to Schedule 2.2 and grow-out trial activities pursuant to Schedule 2.3.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251287524	30/11/2025	Main Roads	Targeted fauna sampling to determine population densities of Carter's freshwater mussels at road bridges in the City of Swan and City of Gosnells in the Perth metropolitan area.
EXEM 251288624	30/06/2025	Antinto Patatore	To study trial efficiency of various pot designs.
EXEM 251289224	30/03/2025	Kaitlyn Henderson of UWA	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251289324	20/10/2025	Tiffany Sih of Australian Institute of Marine Science	To study bioluminescent fishes and their bacterial symbionts. Collection of Cardinalfish (<i>Siphamia spp.</i>) from South Mole (near the lighthouse), Woodman Point, Point Peron, Watermans Bay and Coral Bay in the vicinity of the AIMS Reef Song patch.
EXEM 251289624	30/11/2027	Abrolhos Island Oysters Pty Ltd	To grow <i>Saccostrea glomerata</i> oyster spat using a Floating Upwelling System (FLUPSY) within the Geraldton's Fishing Boat Harbour in Geraldton for Research and Development Trial.
EXEM 251289924	31/10/2025	Murdoch University	Collection of sawfish, sharks and stingrays as listed in Table 2 from Lagrange Bay (approximately 10 km South of Port Smith) on Karajarri Sea Country.
EXEM 251290624	9/12/2025	Ronen Galaiduk of Australian Institute of Marine Science	To study blue carbon network modelling. Collection of <i>Sargassum sp.</i> from Ningaloo Marine Park (between Jurabi and south of Mangrove Bay, and between Five Fingers Reef and Pelican Point) as indicated on the attached maps.
EXEM 251291024	27/11/2027	Taryn Foster and the employees of Coral Maker Pty Ltd	For the collection of hard coral and live rock species and aquaculture trials as described in Schedule 2.
EXEM 251292824	30/11/2026	David Gull of O2 Marine Pty Ltd	To undertake benthic environmental sampling as a component of the baseline data collection program for Santos Pty Ltd Corvus Development Project, north-west of Barrow Island, offshore Pilbara Coast, Western Australia.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251293724	15/01/2026 (Revoked)	Clelia Mula of UWA	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251293824	31/12/2025	Steve Pursell OzFish Unlimited	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251294624	30/06/2027	Fishing Tour Operators	To allow all FTOLs in Zone 3 - West Coast Region to undertake rock lobster fishing tours and experiences for local, interstate and international visitors for a commercial purpose. There are no sustainability concerns for the take of western rock lobster and the take is within the allocated Total Allowable Recreational Catch.
EXEM 251295224	21/02/2025	Mike Van Keulen of Murdoch University	BIO377 Marine Ecology field camp: third year marine biology field camp. Collection of fish, seagrasses, macroalgae and macroinvertebrates from Shoalwater Islands Marine Park, adjacent to Garden Island Causeway, Mangles Bay.
EXEM 251295624	2/12/2027	Southern Ports Authority	To provide safe passage of ships by removing accumulated sea wrack from the seabed of the Bunbury Shipping Channel, Koombana Bay and Casuarina Harbour, Bunbury WA.
EXEM 251297024	10/03/2025	West Coast Estuarine Managed Fishery Licence Nominated Operators listed in Schedule 1	To allow harvest of crabs to supply Christmas markets and Mandurah Crab Fest.
EXEM 251297324	31/10/2025	Rebecca Mueller of South Metropolitan TAFE	To study collection of macroalgae for training purposes in the aquaculture qualifications offered at South Metropolitan TAFE Fremantle. Collection of macroalgae (<i>Ecklonia radiata</i> and <i>Ulva spp.</i>) from Bathers Beach Fremantle, along South Mole (<4m depth), 32°03'25.1"S, 115°44'25.2"E.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251297824	15/05/2026	Leah Beesley of UWA and others listed in Schedule 1	Fish, crayfish and mussel survey of the Canning River and its major tributary, the Southern-Wungong River. Collection of, record, measure and release finfish, freshwater crayfish and mussels from Canning River main stem and upper portion of the catchment; and Southern-Wungong River main stem.
EXEM 251297924	30/06/2025	South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery	To store crustaceans in sealed, approved containers or holding tanks on board the authorised boat until the crustaceans are consigned.
EXEM 251298124	30/06/2027	South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery	To provide an alternate means of making a post landing nomination where an approved automatic location communicator cannot be used in accordance with the South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery Management Plan 2015. When weighing catch at an approved weighing point that is outside the approved landing area or approved remote landing area when the crustaceans were landed, the master of the authorised boat cannot return to the ALC to make a nomination.
EXEM 251298024	30/06/2025	South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery	To offer increased flexibility by providing the option to keep crustacean in holding tanks onboard the authorised boat or in an ocean croft during a multiday fishing trip, until the point of weighing.
EXEM 251298424	1/09/2025	Carmela de Benito Abello of Murdoch University	Assessing the dietary composition and dietary patterns of flatback and green turtles in WA. Collection of seagrass, macroalgae, mangroves, Cnidaria, Porifera, Echinodermata, Mollusca, Chordata, Arthropoda and Annelida from Yawuru Nagulagun Roebuck Bay Marine Park, Broome.
EXEM 251300824	30/06/2027	Persons fishing under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence or South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery Licence	To diversify bait use in the fishery and reduce operational costs. To allow fishers to use bovine material, skin or hide as bait when fishing for rock lobster in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery and the South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery for a commercial purpose in accordance with section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251300924	24/12/2024	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	To provide an increased supply of rock lobster to the WA community prior to Christmas for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e).
EXEM 251301324	1/02/2025	West Coast Demersal Scalefish Licence Holders	To defer the due date for first payment by instalment plus surcharge for West Coast Demersal Scalefish Interim Managed Fishery Permit holders.
EXEM 251301724	30/06/2025	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) staff	To enable the personnel of the DBCA to undertake research and monitoring projects to support adaptive management of the state's marine parks and reserves and aquatic environment, and to conserve marine fauna across Western Australia. Collection of any species of fish necessary to carry out research and conservation projects approved by the department from the waters under Western Australia's jurisdiction.
EXEM 251302424	28/02/2025	Aaron Thorburn of Water Corporation WA	Aquatic fauna sampling to determine species composition present at Water Corp vacuum pump station replacement footprint adjacent to the Vasse-Wonnerup wetland, Busselton, southwest WA.
EXEM 251302524	15/01/2026	Clelia Mula of UWA	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251302624	31/12/2027	The holder of a Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery Licence	To permit the original (white) copy of the completed CDR form to be mailed to the Department via Australia Post for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251302724	31/12/2026	The master of an authorised boat operating in accordance with a West Coast Demersal Scalefish Interim Managed Fishery Permit	To permit a reduced minimum debit amount of 6 hours in respect of each fishing trip in an Area of the West Coast Demersal Scalefish (Interim) Managed Fishery for a commercial purpose.
EXEM 251302824	31/12/2025	DPIRD	For the purpose of undertaking data collection as part of Parks Australia Research Project titled: Investigating future opportunities for Western Australia's Temperate Shark Fisheries (Chartered Field Study and Electronic Monitoring Trial), A Western Australian Government and WAFIC Project, Grant Activity ID 4-BH9FB58.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251303324	31/12/2025	DPIRD Hillarys Shellfish Hatchery	To enable DPIRD Hillarys Shellfish Hatchery to undertake an aquaculture research and development trial. Given the potential economic and environmental benefits associated with this trial, granting the exemption is considered in the better interests of the state.
EXEM 251303524	13/12/2025	Employees of Pelsaert (WA) Pty Ltd	For the collection of aquaculture broodstock as described in Schedule 2.
EXEM 251303624	31/12/2026	South Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery; and West Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery and Development Zones	To allow licence holders to take, land and sell blue mackerel within state waters. This exemption is being sought to enable licence holder within the South Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery and West Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery (including Development Zones) to take and sell blue mackerel within state waters of the fishery
EXEM 251309425	31/12/2025	James Tweedley of Murdoch University	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251309525	31/12/2025	James Tweedley of Murdoch University	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251309625	6/02/2026	Elisabeth Strain of Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania and others listed in Schedule 1	To study improved management of marine habitats by learning from historical change. Collection of seagrass (<i>Posidonia sp.</i> and <i>Heterozostera sp.</i>), seagrass epifauna, sediments, and benthic macroinvertebrates from those locations as listed Table 2.
EXEM 251309725	30/06/2026	Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery Licence, Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery Permit, Pilbara Line Fishery Fishing Boat Licence, or a Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery Licence	To allow the commercial take of red emperor of any size in the Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery, Pilbara Fish Trawl Interim Managed Fishery, Pilbara Line Fishery, for a commercial purpose as provided for under S.7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251309825	31/12/2026	Brooke Hay of Stantec Australia Pty Ltd	To amend the persons exempted under Schedule 1 to include Employees of Stantec Australia Pty Ltd. Addition of Stantec Australia Pty Ltd staff under Schedule 1 to monitor Carter’s freshwater mussel populations at Freshwater Lake and along the Augustus River, to detect adverse impacts from the South32 Operation, in comparison to nearby reference sites.
EXEM 251309925	31/12/2025	Adam Towers-Hammond, Peter Gale and Brad Preece	To assist DPIRD Aquatic Science and Assessment in identifying potential new marine crustacean resources located within the waters of the WCDSCMF. To be in possession of, set and pull modified Deep Sea Crab Pots in the waters of the West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Fishery, according to instructions from DPIRD Aquatic Science and Assessment staff.
EXEM 251310225	1/02/2026	Brendan Goggins of Albany Senior High School	To investigate the relationships between marine and estuarine organisms in the region around Oyster Harbour, specifically factors affecting seagrass growth and health. Collection of cuttings and seed pods of seagrasses, <i>Posidonia australis</i> and <i>Posidonia sinuosa</i> , and transplant cuttings of <i>P. australis</i> to nearby areas of bare sand from Oyster Harbour, specifically Emu Point.
EXEM 251310625	1/04/2026	Tess Jenkins of UWA	To study the social and reproductive behaviours of habitat specialist coral reef fish. Collection of reef fish (<i>Dascyllus aruanus</i> , <i>Helcogramma striata</i> , and <i>Gobiodon citrinus</i>) from Lighthouse Bay, Ranger’s Bommies, and Five Finger’s Reef within the Ningaloo Marine Park.
EXEM 251311325	31/12/2027	Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery Licence	To provide gear consistency across the Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery. To permit the commercial take of prawns using alternate gear to prescribed in the Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1991 for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251312525	13/02/2025	Amy Carmignani of UWA	To study quantifying the benefits of coral-dwelling fish on Scleratinian coral nutrition, physiology and resilience. Collection of <i>Dascyllus reticulatus</i> , <i>D. trimaculatus</i> , and <i>D. aruanus</i> from Five Fingers Reef, Ningaloo, less than 1 km from shore.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251313225	7/02/2028	Heathcliff Pimento – Harbour Master, Midwest Ports Authority, Geraldton WA	To remove accumulated sea wrack from Geraldton Harbour and Geraldton Fishing Boat Harbour seabed and navigation channel approach to Geraldton Port, Geraldton WA.
EXEM 251313325	31/01/2026	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	For the purposes of research, to collect finfish and invertebrates from 6 sites, including existing dams and an unnamed minor tributary of the Gardner River, located within the boundaries of Lots 9951 and 9952, Boorara Brook in the Shire of Manjimup.
EXEM 251313525	30/06/2025	Nominated masters and person(s) operating under the authority of a Zone B West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	For a commercial purpose under section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251313725	31/08/2025	Aaron Thornburn of the Water Corporation WA	Monitoring of native fish fauna in catchments in and adjacent to Willie Creek (inclusive of the Nimalarragan wetlands and Crescent Lake) in the West Kimberley. Monitoring of native fish fauna in catchments in and adjacent to Willie Creek (inclusive of the Nimalarragan wetlands and Crescent Lake) in the West Kimberley to research the impacts of water drawdown from bore fields on the immediate environment, including on sawfish and river sharks.
EXEM 251316325	28/02/2028	Jessica Delaney – Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna monitoring to capture and release alive finfish and crustacean species and determine population densities and refuge sites for Western Minnow (<i>Galaxia occidentalis</i>) from waterways in the Central Wheatbelt, Calingiri WA, on behalf of Caravel Minerals Ltd, as a component of the Calingiri Copper Project development.
EXEM 251316625	14/02/2026	DBCA Staff	To use, carry and possess one fishing net on or in waters, or the land adjacent to those waters for the purpose of capturing and disentangling dolphins.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251316825	31/12/2027	South Metropolitan TAFE, Western Australia	To permit fishing for educational and training purposes by means of trawling, longlining, droplining, rod, handline, trolling, crab potting and rock lobster potting in Zone A of the South West Trawl Managed Fishery. To undertake educational programs for training South Metropolitan TAFE students in commercial fishing practices, pursuant to Section 7(2)(f) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251317125	31/12/2025	United States Navy	Amend persons exempted from listing individual names to Employees of the US Navy and update Exemption Holder details to account for current and future staff changes over the exemption's duration. Chemical and radionuclide sampling of Cockburn Sound sediment and biota for baseline assessment in Cockburn Sound, Western Australia.
EXEM 251317325	30/06/2027	Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery or Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	To allow for an initial exploration trial for the octopus resource. To take octopus for a commercial purpose as part of an initial exploration trial of the northern octopus resource without utilising entitlement.
EXEM 251318325	14/02/2027	Nathan Boothman and persons representing	Commercial take of sea urchin within Australia. Extension of a previous exemption, allowing expansion of commercial take of sea urchin.
EXEM 251318425	1/02/2026	Persons operating the authorised boat on WCLL1615 and WCLL1607	To study trial the use of rock lobster pots that are higher than 500 mm. Collection of trial the use of rock lobster pots that are higher than 500 mm from the waters of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251318825	18/02/2026	C Melman Neill of University of Texas	To study the role of cryptobenthic fishes in coral reef ecosystems. Collection of reef fishes from Recreational Zones between Bundegi and the Tantabiddi Boat Ramp within the Ningaloo Marine Park.
EXEM 251319525	30/04/2026	Alan Cottingham of Murdoch University	To study aquatic communities in different habitats of the Peel region from catchments to the coast. Collection of finfish and invertebrates from locations in the Peel Region as listed in Table 2.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251319625	31/07/2025	Phillip Barden of New Jersey Institute of Technology	Survey of the sponge-dwelling snapping shrimps (genus <i>Synalpheus</i>) of Ningaloo Reef. Collection of sponges and sponge-dwelling shrimp of the genus <i>Synalpheus</i> , and dead coral debris from Ningaloo Reef (22.55396S and 113.66064 E).
EXEM 251319725	30/06/2025	Ross Camilleri while using vessel with LFB F367	To trial a new concept of octopus trap that increases fishing efficiency. Collection of western rock octopus (<i>Octopus djinda</i>) from coastal waters North of the North Mole, Fremantle.
EXEM 251319825	20/02/2026	Ben Roots of Murdoch University	To study hypersalinity impacts on a culturally important crustacean and the health of an internationally important estuary in a climate change hotspot: diet component. Collection of blue swimmer crabs and benthic macroinvertebrates from Peel-Harvey Estuary.
EXEM 251320225	1/04/2026	Marlene Wesselmann of ECU	To study seagrass resilience to ocean warming; integrating genetics and thermal tolerance. Collection of seagrass (<i>Posidonia australis</i> and <i>Amphibolis antarctica</i>) from those locations as listed in Table 2 and shown on Attachment 1.
EXEM 251320325	31/12/2027	Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery Licence	To permit the take of prawns for commercial purposes using replacement boats pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> . To permit the use of trawl nets with net mesh greater than 50 mm on approved replacement boats in the Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251320925	21/02/2028	South Coast Ocean Sand Crab Exemption	To provide development opportunities to the commercial fishing sector on the South Coast. Permit use of 50 crab traps per operator to take sand crabs on the South Coast of Western Australia from date of signing for a period of 3 years.
EXEM 251321325	31/03/2025	Correia Fishing Co.	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251321425	31/03/2025	KB Food Co.	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251321625	31/03/2025	Puresean Investments Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251321725	31/03/2025	Sea Harvest Fishing Company Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251322125	15/11/2026	A person fishing with the use of Fishing Boat Licence notated with Condition No. 42	To provide development opportunities to the South Coast commercial fishing sector.
EXEM 251323325	6/03/2025	Callum Watson of Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency	West Australian Environmental framework monitoring - pilot study to identify and quantify radioactive material in the environment. Collection of seawater and sediment from public beaches in the Greater Perth area, focussing on Rockingham and Cockburn Sound to Fremantle, and including Safety Bay and some beaches north of the Swan River.
EXEM 251323425	30/06/2025	Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery Licences PTR2261 and 2265 and research staff of the Aquatic Science and Assessment Branch of DPIRD	For the purpose of undertaking biological data collection to support the recovery of the Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Resource. Exemption to allow for biological samples of demersal scalefish to be collected from commercial vessels in an of the Pilbara region (known as Area 4 of the PFTIMF fishery) and sold to market without the use of entitlement.
EXEM 251324625	14/02/2026	Ana Sequeira of Australian National University	Gathaagudu Animal Tracking Project - tiger sharks Shark Bay. Collection of catch, tag, finclip, take blood and muscle samples and release tiger sharks (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>) from Shark Bay World Heritage Area.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251324725	8/02/2026	Liliana Rejon Torres of Curtin University	Undergraduate biology students laboratory practice. Collection of invertebrates and macroalgae from Perth metropolitan locations listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251324825	2/04/2026	Lisa Kirkendale of Western Australian Museum	To collect fauna and flora for the state repository to support taxonomic, systematic, ecological and biogeographic research. Collection of marine fauna and flora from state waters of Western Australia, including estuaries and rivers.
EXEM 251324925	1/04/2026	Nicole Said of ECU	To study pressure-response relationships of seagrass, and building resilience and future-proofing seagrass meadows. Collection of seagrass from Cockburn Sound, Warnbro Sound and Shoalwater Island Marine Park, see attached Figure 1.
EXEM 251325025	1/01/2026	Kirsty Brooks of UWA	To study comparative neurology teaching. Collection of finfish from Swan River from Garvey Park to Claremont Jetty and Canning River from Riverton Bridge to Claremont Jetty.
EXEM 251325125	1/01/2026	Kirsty Brooks of UWA	Undergraduate Zoology classes. Collection of marine invertebrates from those locations within Cockburn Sound as listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251326325	2/03/2026	Taina Goncalves Loureiro of UWA	To study environmental and biological factors affecting marine invertebrate assemblages. Collection of marine invertebrates from those locations specified in Table 2.
EXEM 251327325	31/03/2025	Shark Bay Scallop and Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Licence Holders	To permit the trialling of 2, 7 fathom nets with mesh no less than 100 mm; and/or one try net with mesh no less than 100 mm and/or nets specified in clause 11 of the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1993, which do not exceed the capacity specified in clause 11B of the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Management Plan 1993 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251328225	30/04/2025	The master and crew of the licenced fishing boats listed in Table 1 under the authority of licences issued in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	To be in possession of, and set within the waters of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery, 102 rock lobster batten pots without escape gaps and/or with >18 fms rope which has been dog boned for use in shallow <10 fms depth during whale entanglement mitigation period. To assist Fisheries Research Division in conducting the shallow water lobster abundance survey to assess the level of juvenile settlement and survival that occurs throughout the fishery.
EXEM 251328525	30/06/2026 (Revoked)	Persons fishing in Zone A under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	To provide weighing arrangement that will not disadvantage A Zone fishers who use carrier boats in West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery. To use the authorised master's gross weight to determine entitlement taken under the authority of the licence when the rock lobster is delivered to the premises of the registered receiver by licensed carrier boats CBL1013 or CBL1014 in order to provide a practical means to determine entitlement usage when lobsters are transported from the Abrolhos Islands on large carrier boats for a commercial purpose in accordance with section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251329525	15/03/2026	Graham Short of University of Washington, Burke Museum	To study evolution of male pregnancy: Comparative genomic analysis across Syngnathid fish lineages. Collection of Syngnathid fish from jetties, piers and seagrass beds in Fremantle, Rockingham and Coogee Beach, outside of any marine parks.
EXEM 251330525	28/03/2028	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and ecosystem health condition assessment to investigate water quality and aquatic fauna assemblage condition for the Iron Valley Iron Ore Project in the Pilbara region WA.
EXEM 251330625	17/03/2026	Nicole Said of ECU	To study assessing the impacts of the 2025 heatwave on seagrass using thermal tolerance data and long-term seagrass monitoring data in Exmouth Gulf. Visual surveys and collection of seagrass from Exmouth Gulf to Coral Bay.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251331125	8/08/2026	Robert Hemsworth of Stantec Australia Pty Ltd (revised)	Commercial enterprise collecting and analysing eDNA from settlement arrays and water samples for environmental protection. To undertake aquatic pest biosecurity surveillance to detect the presence of introduced marine pests from Barrow Island, including Marine Offloading Facility (MOF), Shark Point and Bandicoot Bay, WA.
EXEM 251331725	4/10/2025	Persons fishing using the authorised boat endorsed on Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Licence SBPR1008	Permit fishing using the authorised boat endorsed on Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery Licence SBPR1008 to sell, or deal with, or attempt to sell, or deal with, any fish taken from the fishery in the process of collecting fish for research or conservation purposes under the direction of DPIRD in accordance with the Service Level Agreement between DPIRD and Sea Harvest Fishing Company Pty Ltd for Shark Bay Fishery Annual Prawn Surveys 1 March 2025 to 31 December 2025. For the purposes specified in Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> : specifically to allow the persons in Schedule 1 to sell or deal with fish taken during research and conservation surveys carried out under the direction of DPIRD.
EXEM 251331825	18/12/2025	Persons fishing using the authorised boat endorsed on Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery Licence EGPR1103	Permit fishing using the authorised boat endorsed on Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery Licence EGPR1103 to sell, or deal with, or attempt to sell, or deal with, any fish taken from the fishery in the process of collecting fish for research or conservation purposes under the direction of DPIRD in accordance with the Service Level Agreement between DPIRD and Sea Harvest Fishing Company Pty Ltd for Exmouth Gulf Fishery Annual Prawn Surveys 1 March 2025 to 31 December 2025. For the purposes specified in Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> : specifically to allow the persons in Schedule 1 to sell or deal with fish taken during research and conservation surveys carried out under the direction of DPIRD.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251331925	20/03/2027	JASCO Applied Sciences (Australia) Pty Ltd	To conduct marine aquatic fauna sampling to collect and retain krill, micro and microzooplankton using plankton nets, live sand by hand collection and pelagic fish species by line fishing methods for laboratory analysis from waters surrounding Scott Reef, WA. Marine plankton, pelagic fish and live sand infauna sampling collection from waters surrounding Scott Reef, WA.
EXEM 251333025	15/03/2026	Karissa Lear of Murdoch University	To study tracking and monitoring of threatened rays in Exmouth Gulf for marine park planning. Collection of elasmobranchs from those locations as listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251333625	30/06/2026 (Revoked)	Persons fishing in Zone A under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	To use the authorised master's gross weight to determine entitlement taken under the authority of the licence when the rock lobster is delivered to the premises of the registered receiver by licensed carrier boats CBL1013 or CBL1014 in order to provide a practical means to determine entitlement usage when lobsters are transported from the Abrolhos Islands on large carrier boats for a commercial purpose in accordance with section 7(2) (e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> . To provide weighing arrangement that will not disadvantage A Zone fishers who use carrier boats in West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251337225	30/06/2025	West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	To trial alternative whale entanglement mitigation measures and collect data to enhance understanding of whale migrations. To trial alternative float rig arrangements during the whale migration period in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251337325	31/03/2026	Seafresh Holdings Pty Ltd and Fabron Holdings Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251337425	31/03/2026	Correia Fishing Co.	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251337525	31/03/2026	Elmwood Holdings Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251337625	31/03/2026	Far West Scallops Industries Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251337725	31/03/2026	KB Takari Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251337825	31/03/2026	Puresea Investments Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251337925	31/03/2026	Sea Harvest Fishing Company Pty Ltd	To enable the holder of a Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery Licence or persons acting on behalf of a licence holder to take of scallops in the Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery for commercial purposes pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251338225	30/04/2025	Sea Harvest Fishing Company Pty Ltd	To fish for prawns and other permitted byproduct species, including scallop and crab North of Koks Island, outside the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery season, from 1700 hours on 1 April 2025 to 0800 hrs 30 April 2025 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251338325	30/04/2025	Seafresh Holdings Pty Ltd and Fabron Holdings Pty Ltd	To fish for prawns and other permitted byproduct species, including scallop and crab North of Koks Island, outside the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery season, from 1700 hours on 1 April 2025 to 0800 hours 30 April 2025 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251338425	30/04/2025	Puresea Investments Pty Ltd	To fish for prawns and other permitted byproduct species, including scallop and crab North of Koks Island, outside the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery season, from 1700 hours on 1 April 2025 to 0800 hours 30 April 2025 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251338525	30/04/2025	Isle Holdings Pty Ltd	To fish for prawns and other permitted byproduct species, including scallop and crab North of Koks Island, outside the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery season, from 1700 hours on 1 April 2025 to 0800 hours 30 April 2025 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251338625	30/04/2025	Elmwood Holdings Pty Ltd	To fish for prawns and other permitted byproduct species, including scallop and crab North of Koks Island, outside the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery season, from 1700 hours on 1 April 2025 to 0800 hours 30 April 2025 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251338725	30/04/2025	Corresia Fishing Co (WA) Pty Ltd	To fish for prawns and other permitted byproduct species, including scallop and crab North of Koks Island, outside the Shark Bay Prawn Managed Fishery season, from 1700 hours on 1 April 2025 to 0800 hours 30 April 2025 for a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251338925	4/04/2026	Alison Duguid of UWA	Collection of seaweed from Point Peron and Watermans Bay. To study the physical and chemical raw material characteristics of different seaweed species for soil health and soil remediation products.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251339025	30/09/2025 (Revoked)	Joni Pini-Fitzsimmons of Charles Darwin University	Collection of sawfish from Wollangooyoo Pool, Berkeley River, Aunt Island, Uncle Island, Revelly Island and the adjacent estuary. To study assess population abundance and post-release survival of threatened sawfish in northern Australia.
EXEM 251339125	31/12/2025	Lynette Hillier of Manea Senior College	To study monitoring crab populations in the Bunbury region.
EXEM 251339225	15/04/2028	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling to conduct an ecosystem health condition assessment to investigate water quality and aquatic fauna assemblage condition for Northern Minerals Ltd, Browns Range Project (BRP) in the East Kimberley region of WA.
EXEM 251340625	17/03/2026	Gavin Flematti of UWA	To collect marine sponges from the Busselton Jetty for research purposes, pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251340725	30/06/2026	Ian McKernan of Murdoch University	For the purposes of teaching.
EXEM 251340825	31/12/2027	Martin Dziminski, Biodiversity and Conservation Science, DBCA	To collect and culture smooth x hairy marron hybrids (<i>Cherax cainii</i> x <i>tenuimanus</i>) and hairy marron (<i>Cherax tenuimanus</i>) from the wild and undertake appropriate research to support the Hairy Marron Captive Breeding Program.
EXEM 251340925	31/12/2026	Master of an authorised boat operating in the South Coast Line and Fish Trap Managed Fishery under the authority of a licence specifying Class B fishing	To permit Class B fishers in the South Coast Line and Fish Trap Managed Fishery to fish using a drop line that is attached to a minimum of one buoy or float at the surface of the water that is cylindrical in shape and is greater than 300 mm in length in accordance with Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251341025	15/04/2028	Officers of DBCA	To use, carry and possess one custom net on or in waters, or the land adjacent to those waters for the purpose of capturing and disentangling aquatic mammal, bird and reptile species.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251341125	31/03/2026	Claude Spencer of UWA	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251341225	20/04/2028	Jessica Delaney of Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake an aquatic fauna sampling to inform ecosystem assessments on behalf of BHP within the Fortescue catchment in wetlands, watercourses and claypans of the East Pilbara of WA. This assessment forms part of an ongoing BHP monitoring program associated with mining development in the region.
EXEM 251341325	14/03/2026	Fedel Camada	For the purposes of research to assist the Aquatic Science and Assessment branch in conducting trials using small-meshed lobster pots.
EXEM 251343825	17/03/2026	Gavin Flematti of UWA	To collect marine sponges from the Busselton Jetty for research purposes, pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251344225	15/04/2028	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling for fish diversity and abundance monitoring with freshwater fish collection for environmental trace metal composition.
EXEM 251345025	30/04/2026	Main Roads	Targeted fauna sampling to determine population densities of Carter's freshwater mussels at 2 road bridges in the City of Gosnells in the Perth metropolitan area.
EXEM 251345425	28/03/2028	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and ecosystem health condition assessment of inland waterways of the Pilbara region.
EXEM 251345525	20/04/2028	PASES Aqua Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna surveys for the collection and removal of invasive fish species in 16 lakes within the City of Swan.
EXEM 251345625	31/03/2026	UWA	Collection of catch, tag, finclip, take blood sample and release tiger sharks (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>).
EXEM 251345725	18/03/2026	UWA	Exemption to collect seagrass, macroalgae, and benthic invertebrates for teaching.
EXEM 251345825	25/04/2026	Murdoch University	To study fish and Carter's freshwater mussel survey of the Collie River Road Bridge replacement footprint.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251345925	30/04/2026	Murdoch University	Removal of large pest fish species to enable the ecological recovery of urban wetlands.
EXEM 251346325	15/04/2028	Harvest Road Oceans Pty Ltd	The trial will determine if supplementary feeding can increase growth rates at the nursery stage allowing an increased annual production of rock oyster.
EXEM 251347325	1/05/2028	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and freshwater fish collection to investigate water quality and aquatic fauna assemblage condition for Tivan Limited, Speewah Fluorite Project in the inland Kimberley region of WA.
EXEM 251347425	30/04/2026	CSIRO	Collection of <i>Acropora spp.</i> , and teleosts from General Use Zones in northern Ningaloo Marine Park (Osprey to Jurabi and Bundegi).
EXEM 251347525	28/04/2025 (Revoked)	UWA	To study investigating the sensitivity of biogeochemical cycles in Shark Bay to future climate change and seagrass loss
EXEM 251347925	1/12/2025	ECU	To study the benefits of seagrass restoration for biodiversity in Useless Loop (Shark Bay) to inform the development of a methodology under the Nature Repair Market.
EXEM 251348725	30/04/2028	Jessica Delaney of Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake an aquatic fauna sampling to inform ecosystem assessments on behalf of Fortescue Ltd within the Strelley River catchment in waterways of the inland Pilbara region of WA, to support the North Star Magnetite Project (Iron Bridge and North Star Extension).
EXEM 251349025	27/04/2025	Persons operating under the authorisation of the boat specified on the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence WCLL1290	To provide for the supply of rock lobster to the WA community at the Shore Leave Festival in Geraldton. To allow up to 999 back of boat lobsters per trip, to be stored on board of the authorised boat in the Geraldton landing area, to be landed and sold in Geraldton.
EXEM 251349125	27/04/2025	Fish Processors Licences PROL1013 and PROL1015	To store and/or purchase back of boat lobsters during the Shore Leave Festival in Geraldton. To provide for the supply of rock lobster to the WA community at the Shore Leave Festival in Geraldton.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251349325	30/08/2025	Queensland Museum	To study taxonomic diversity of sessile benthic invertebrates in the subtropical Western Australia.
EXEM 251349425	1/07/2026	James Cook University	Karajarri Sea Country Monitoring - A toolkit for ranger-led seagrass monitoring in Northern Australia Sea Country.
EXEM 251350125	30/06/2026	Persons fishing in Zone A under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	To provide weighing arrangement that will not disadvantage A Zone fishers who use carrier boats in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery. To use the authorised master's gross weight to determine entitlement taken under the authority of the licence when the rock lobster is delivered to the premises of the registered receiver by licensed carrier boats CBL1013 or CBL1014 in order to provide a practical means to determine entitlement usage when lobsters are transported from the Abrolhos Islands on large carrier boats for a commercial purpose in accordance with section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251351025	1/11/2025	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	To study quantifying microplastic and nutrient biodeposition in freshwater mussels. Collection of and release Carter's freshwater mussel (<i>Westralunio carteri</i>) from locations in the Harris River, the Serpentine River and the Canning River as listed in Table 2.
EXEM 251351225	18/03/2026	Andrew Baird of James Cook University	To re-assess the biodiversity of the coral fauna in the Houtman-Abrolhos Islands. Collection of scleractinian corals from Houtman-Abrolhos Islands.
EXEM 251351325	27/07/2025	Jason Kennington of UWA	Field-based experience in zoological techniques. Collection of touch and gently handle marine fauna while undertaking marine fauna surveys from intertidal rockpools and subtidal areas from south of Coral Bay township.
EXEM 251351525	7/04/2026	Angus Lawrie of Curtin University	To study Living waters in Western Australia (LiWA); Using eDNA to monitor ecosystem health in Western Australian wetlands. Collection of aquatic invertebrates from inland waterbodies from Shark Bay to Esperance.
EXEM 251351425	1/04/2026	Kate Van Brussel of University of Sydney and others as listed in Schedule 1	To collect marine invertebrates from coastal locations.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251351825	3/05/2027	Adam Harman, Lateral Environmental	To fish for finfish and crustaceans for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251352025	31/07/2026	Rob Czarnik of ECU	Collection of seagrass and macroalgae from those location listed in Table 2. To study macrophyte epifauna assessment - studies in ecology.
EXEM 251352225	1/09/2026	UWA	To study investigating the sensitivity of biogeochemical cycles in Shark Bay to future climate change and seagrass loss
EXEM 251352325	30/09/2025	Charles Darwin University	To study assess population abundance and post-release survival of threatened sawfish in northern Australia
EXEM 251352425	1/08/2025	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	Collection of and release of native fish and macroinvertebrates as part of the River Health Monitoring Program from locations as listed in Table 2. To study identifying the ecological value of between-dam habitats in agricultural landscapes.
EXEM 251353625	21/04/2026	Kahree Garnaut of South Coast NRM	To capture, identify, measure, count and release of Swan River goby (<i>Pseudogobius olorum</i>), common jollytail (<i>Galaxias maculatus</i>), western hardyhead (<i>Leptatherina wallacei</i>), black bream (<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>) from the Dalyup River, West Dalyup River, Coobidge Creek.
EXEM 251354025	31/07/2026	ECU	Collection of seagrasses, macroalgae, mussels and ascidians for teaching.
EXEM 251354125	24/06/2026	Kate Quigley of James Cook University	Collection of coral species as listed in Attachment 1 from Houtman-Abrolhos Islands. To study natural levels of stress tolerance in coral reefs at Houtman Abrolhos.
EXEM 251354925	30/05/2025	Australian Institute of Marine Science	Collection of coral and gastropod species to study Ningaloo bleaching.
EXEM 251357625	31/12/2027	Commercial Fishing Licence Holders	Commercial take of beach wrack for the purpose of creating art for sale or exhibition.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251357725	30/05/2028	Jessica Delaney of Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling to inform ecosystem assessments within the Robe River catchment of the west inland Pilbara region of WA. This assessment is on behalf of Rio Tinto Ltd to form a baseline dataset as part of the development of the Robe Valley Iron Ore Mine.
EXEM 251358025	20/05/2028	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna survey for fish diversity and abundance monitoring by SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd. The assessment's purpose is to investigate impacts of mining operations (bauxite mining) on downstream freshwater environments on behalf of VBX Limited in the Kimberley region of WA.
EXEM 251359925	13/05/2026	David Morgan of Murdoch University	Collection of catch, measure, tissue sample, tag and release sawfish, wedgefish and guitarfish from those locations listed in Table 2. Tracking, monitoring, population genetics, kinship and food web interactions of threatened rays within the Pilbara region.
EXEM 251360025	30/06/2027	Persons operating under an authorised boat in the South Coast Crustacean Managed Fishery with a Managed Fishery Licence	To trial the use of sealed containers, sealed holding tanks, and ocean crofts, and to use approved beach weighing points for landing catch to improve operational flexibility in the fishery.
EXEM 251360925	15/05/2026	Cecilia Pascelli of Australian Institute of Marine Science	For the purpose of research.
EXEM 251361925	31/07/2026	David Morgan of Murdoch University	Collection of, measure, dart or acoustic tag, fin clip, cloacal swab and release freshwater sawfish (<i>Pristis pristis</i>) from Fitzroy River, from Geikie Gorge to Sang Pool, including Barrage, Myroodah Crossing, Uralla Creek and billabongs where sawfish have been reported to become entrapped. Tracking and monitoring of fishes in the Fitzroy River, Western Australia, with a focus on identifying at-risk freshwater sawfish strandings and relocation.
EXEM 251363125	13/06/2026	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	Collection of measure and release specimen found in the Harvey River from locations listed in Table 2 and Attachment 1. Ongoing monitoring of the Harvey River restoration sites.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251363225	1/06/2026	Carmela de Benito Abello of Murdoch University	Collection and release native species caught as bycatch from Yawuru Nagulagun Roebuck Bay Marine Park, Broome, subtidal and intertidal. To study habitat use and foraging ecology of green turtles in Yawuru Nagulagun/Roebuck Bay Marine Park.
EXEM 251363325	2/03/2026	Taina Goncalves Loureiro of UWA	Collection of marine invertebrates from those locations specified in Table 2. To study environmental and biological factors affecting marine invertebrate assemblages.
EXEM 251363925	31/12/2027	Austfish Pty Ltd (Austfish)	To permit Austfish to operate with quad gear and a larger boat in the Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery to provide operational flexibility while commercially fishing for prawns in accordance with Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> . To fish for prawns within the Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery using: 4 otter trawl nets 14.63 metres in size each, up to a maximum total headrope length of 58.52 m; in quad gear configuration (2 trawl nets on each side of the vessel); and the authorised boat endorsed on NBPR1020 which is no greater than 28.30 m in length.
EXEM 251364025	30/05/2028	Reef Craft Pty Ltd	To enable Reef Craft to undertake an aquaculture R&D trial on coral. Given the absence of any significant detriments associated with the proposal and its potential to support the development of coral aquaculture in WA, it is considered in the better interests of the state to grant the R&D exemption.
EXEM 251364525	29/12/2026	Biota Environmental Sciences Pty Ltd	To undertake an aquatic fauna sampling as a component of an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Wuudagu Bauxite Project, 15 km west of Kalumbaru, in the nearshore environment of the coastal Kimberley region of WA.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251365025	15/07/2025	Mike Van Keulen of Murdoch University	Collection of macroalgae and benthic invertebrates from Five Finger Reef (23°10'51"S 113°45'56"E) and Point Maud (23°07'19"S 113°45'35"E), around the Coral Bay townsite. Third year undergraduate marine ecology field camp.
EXEM 251365125	13/06/2026	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	Collection of measure and release specimen found in the Harvey River. from locations listed in Table 2 and Attachment 1. Ongoing monitoring of the Harvey River restoration sites.
EXEM 251365325	1/07/2026	Alethea Madgett of University of Aberdeen	Collection of tissue sample of herbivore, invertivore, generalist carnivore and piscivore species from the location listed in Table 2. Investigating the food web structure of fish assemblages in the vicinity of oil and gas structures compared to nearby natural reef habitat using stable isotope analysis.
EXEM 251366525	2/05/2026	CSIRO	Collection of invertebrate zooplankton and vertebrate ichthyoplankton species from Rottnest Island.
EXEM 251366625	1/06/2026	Harvey River Restoration Taskforce Inc.	To collect identify and release freshwater macroinvertebrates for teaching.
EXEM 251367725	30/06/2026	Lailatul Ferdousi of Murdoch University	Collection of Western minnow (<i>Galaxias occidentalis</i>) and to study their response to wildfire ash compared to an introduced species from those locations specified in Table 2. To study physiological and behavioural responses of native fish to wildfire ash.
EXEM 251368725	15/07/2026	UWA	To study the effects of ocean climate on the sensitivity of reef communities to climate change and climate variability in conjunction with other human pressures.
EXEM 251369225	24/06/2025	The master and crew of the authorised boat fishing under the authority of a West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery Licence	To provide temporary access to fish the area between Pt Maud and Tantabiddi Well. To undertake biological data collection to support the management of the West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251369625	30/06/2026	For DPIRD and various Port Authority personnel	For DPIRD and various Port Authority personnel to undertake surveillance activities for the protection of the state's aquatic resources from introduced species.
EXEM 251370625	31/12/2026	The master and crew of the authorised boat fishing under the authority of a West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery Licence	To provide temporary access to fish the area between Pt Maud and Tantabiddi Well. To undertake biological data collection to support the management of the West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251370825	1/08/2025	Masters of authorised boats operating in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	To provide for business continuity within the rock lobster industry while administrative processes relating to licensing and entitlement transfers are undertaken.
EXEM 251370925	31/10/2025	Masters of authorised boats operating in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery	To trial alternative float rig arrangements during the whale migration period in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251371125	30/06/2026	Any person(s) fishing from or with the use of a licenced fishing boat	To allow continued commercial nearshore net fishing along the coast of the Carnarvon region, which is an area within the waters of the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251371225	30/06/2026	Persons fishing under authority of fishing licences specified in Schedule 1	To facilitate commercial nearshore net fishing and developmental purse seine fishing.
EXEM 251372225	30/06/2026	Fisheries officers at DPIRD	To enable the personnel of DPIRD to undertake research and conservation projects for the sustainable management and development of the state's fish resources and the protection of fish habitats. Collection of any species of fish necessary to carry out research and conservation projects approved by the department for the purposes from the waters under WA's jurisdiction.

No.	Expiry	Persons – Schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251373125	30/06/2026	DBCA Staff	Collection of any species of fish necessary to carry out research and conservation projects approved by the department from the waters under WA's jurisdiction. To enable the personnel of DBCA to undertake research and monitoring projects to support adaptive management of the state's marine parks and reserves and aquatic environment, and to conserve marine fauna across WA.
EXEM 251373225	30/06/2026	Michael Taylor of Murdoch University	Collection of marine and freshwater invertebrates from those locations as listed in Table 2. Collecting specimens for use in university practical laboratories.

Important disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

Copyright © State of Western Australia (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development) 2025

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

+61 1300 374 731 | enquiries@dpird.wa.gov.au | dpird.wa.gov.au

ABN: 18 951 343 745