



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Protect
Grow
Innovate

Annual Report 2025-26



Acknowledgment of Country

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country and recognises their enduring connection to land and waters. DPIRD acknowledges their continuing cultures and values the contribution they make to the life of our regions. We pay our respects to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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: Members of DPIRD's Corporate Executive (CorpEx) and Aboriginal Alliance wearing the department's new corporate polo shirt designed by Noongar Elder Dr Richard Walley to represent DPIRD statewide operations across WA's vast lands and waters. The shirt is a celebration of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Western Australia, building respect among staff and the broader community and demonstrating our commitment to reconciliation.

Cover photo: DPIRD's activation at the 2025 Perth Royal Show highlighted the department's research, development and contribution to WA's primary industries and supported children to step into the role of a DPIRD scientist as part of an educational experience.

Statement of compliance

For year ended 30 June 2026

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 2026.

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 2026

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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.

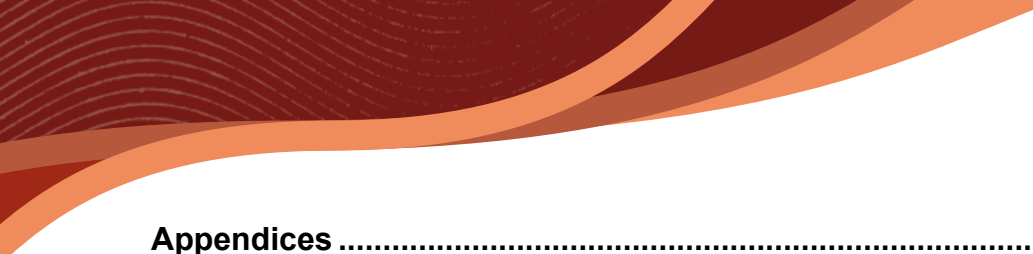
If you have a hearing or speech impairment, you can contact us through the National Relay Service:

- 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.

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Overview

Year at a glance



The **Primary Industries Research Centre (PIRC)** opened in Jandakot in 2025 and will host DPIRD's metropolitan research and development activities. (p.45)



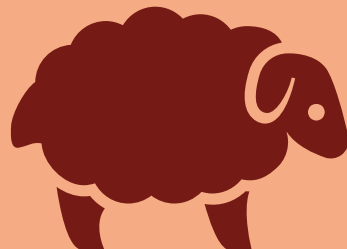
DPIRD's science and innovation in grains research contributed to a **record grains harvest of 27 million tonnes** in 2025 (p.4)



The department delivered an **artificial reef in the waters off Carnarvon** to support recreational fishers (p.35)



WA was officially **declared free of Queensland fruit fly (Qfly) in August 2025** following the successful eradication of an outbreak detected in the Willagee and Palmyra areas (p.41)



DPIRD supported the WA Government's Tag Incentive Program for the national electronic identification (eID) Sheep and Goat traceability system by **distributing the 15 millionth discounted tag** in 2025-26 (p.32)



DPIRD's aquaculture team produced and released **60,000 pink snapper** and **62,000 rainbow and brown trout** in 2025-26. (p.35)



In early 2026 a preferred site for DPIRD's **New Metropolitan Facility** on Marshall road in Malaga was identified. (p.45)



Statewide fishing reforms to protect and support the **recovery of demersal fish stocks** saw DPIRD lead the WA Government's \$29.2 million investment in recovery efforts (p.36)



2026 marks **10 years since the launch of Biosecurity Blitz** and the release of the MyPestGuide Reporter app (p.42)



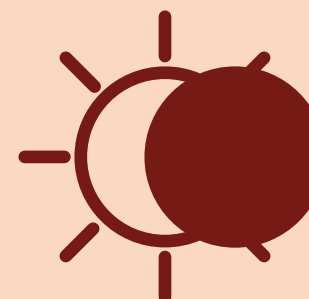
DPIRD and the Regional Development Commissions delivered Round 8 of the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program providing a **total of \$7,046,620 to 63 projects across WA** (p.37)



DPIRD commenced a **response to the country's first detection of H5 bird flu** and continues to support a national effort (p.4)



Eighty WA agrifood and beverage businesses received vouchers through the 2025-26 round of DPIRD's Agrifood and Beverage Voucher Program (p.48)



DPIRD and the Kimberley Development Commission are leading preparations for the **Kimberley Total Solar Eclipse** taking place on 22 July 2028 (p.38)

Director General's report



As I reflect on the past year, I feel immense pride at the high quality of work that our department has achieved in support of our primary industries throughout Western Australia and our regions.

Our efforts have influenced community wellbeing, supported business growth, protected our state's world-class food supply industries, and nurtured the beautiful land and aquatic resources that makes WA unique.

DPIRD's role in ensuring WA's biosecurity preparedness against plant and animal pests and diseases has been more important than ever this year. Only recently DPIRD commenced a response to the country's first detection of H5 bird flu and continues to support a national effort in coordination with federal and state partner agencies. Over the course of the year our team has been working hard to limit the spread of the polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) following a national decision to transition the biosecurity response to a management phase. Meanwhile, DPIRD is also leading a biosecurity response to eradicate Queensland fruit fly (Qfly) from the South Perth Como area. This latest response effort follows on from 10 biosecurity responses run by the department since 1989 that have successfully

eradicated the pest. Our biosecurity work is only possible with the support of the WA community through valued citizen science initiatives such as Biosecurity Blitz, which is celebrating its 10th birthday in 2026 and which encourages the community to spot and report exotic pests and diseases.

Our work to rollout the electronic identification (eID) program for sheep and goats in WA has been a major win for livestock traceability in WA. Our staff have now distributed more than 15 million eID tags for sheep and goats under the Tag Incentive Payment (TIP) scheme and we have also supported the rollout of the eID Infrastructure Grants Program during this period.

Over 2025-26 important statewide fisheries reforms were introduced to protect and support the recovery of demersal fish stocks with \$29.2 million invested in recovery efforts. DPIRD is delivering this package of work including the buyback of commercial fishing licences, Tackle Shop Rebate Program and introducing new statewide bag and size limits for recreational demersal fishing.

DPIRD's science and innovation in grains research, from soil improvement and crop rotations to early warning systems and seasonal reporting, shone through when WA enjoyed a record grains harvest of 27 million tonnes in 2025. Results like this are a testament to our collaborative partnerships such as the Western Crop Genetics Alliance – which is celebrating a decade of success in grains genetics research this year.

Over the course of 2025-26 the department also supported the Rural Business Development Corporation to administer the Australian Government's \$40 million Supply Chain Capacity Program to assist WA sheep producers and supply chain businesses to adjust to the removal of live sheep exports by sea and moderate the impact of the change.

DPIRD's hazard management capabilities were called into action alongside partner agencies in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Narelle with the department continuing to provide support to north-west communities, primary industries stakeholders and regional supply chains.

Meanwhile, our work helping regional communities to flourish and supporting thriving WA businesses continues with the launch of a refreshed WA Regional Development Framework which was published in collaboration with the 9 Regional Development Commissions (RDC). This framework will underpin our work going forward to ensure vibrant regional communities that are great places to live, offer quality jobs and have access to essential services. In line with this vision, the department has continued to support regional projects including the Kimberley Cotton Gin in Kununurra which officially opened in August 2025 and marks a significant step in establishing a sustainable and profitable cotton industry in WA's north.

The department released the WA Distilling Industry Strategy 2025-2030, which was developed in partnership with the distilling

industry and will act as a roadmap to guide development of the state's craft spirit's sector.

The department has made great strides to securing modern, fit-for-purpose facilities to support its long term goals. In early 2026 DPIRD confirmed a preferred site for its New Metropolitan Facility on Marshall Road in Malaga. The department also opened the Primary Industries Research Centre on a 2.75-hectare site in Jandakot which will support plant pathology, virology, and agronomy research.

Our Corporate Services team has championed many initiatives that have enhanced how the department operates and delivers services to the WA community. They completed the DPIRD RDC review which confirmed a strong working relationship between the department and the RDCs and resulted in several changes that strengthen governance, accountability and service delivery.

We also implemented a new Health and Safety Committee governance model to enhance oversight and accountability as well as updated key policies, procedures and training that will collectively enhance department operations. Our Information Services team commenced a review of DPIRD's applications landscape to assess risks to service delivery and map them to the department's baseline services. While we also launched the audit component of our new Audit and Risk Assurance (AURA) system to support our processes.

Within the department, we have implemented the new Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing (PRIS) legislation, refreshed Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training, and the public sector-wide Skills Academy and Leadership Expectations initiatives which are designed to support staff development.

I would like to thank DPIRD staff for their diligent work over the course of the year which has contributed to our achievements and had a positive impact on WA's primary industries and the regional communities.

Our work is only possible with the support of Regional Development Minister Stephen Dawson and Agriculture and Food and Fisheries Minister Jackie Jarvis and their respective staff. With the continued backing of our Ministers, I am confident that DPIRD will continue to deliver on its key priorities and the WA Government's objectives in support of WA's agriculture, aquaculture, food and fisheries industries and WA's regions.



Heather Brayford PSM
Director General

Who we are

Enabling legislation

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

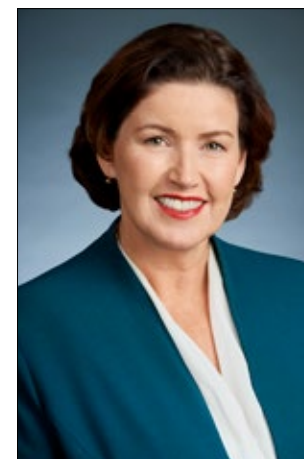
Our purpose

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.

An updated Strategic Intent will be released in the second half of 2026 to guide our work in alignment with Government 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 guides 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.

Our values are:

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

Why we're delivering

DPIRD leads sustainable development of Western Australia's regions and agriculture, aquaculture, food and fisheries sectors and delivers activities in the following five service areas:

Manage biosecurity to safeguard WA from the risk and impact of biosecurity threats

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

Manage land and aquatic resources to enable the sustainable use and protection of WA's natural land and aquatic resources

DPIRD manages WA's land and aquatic resources to enable sustainable use balanced with conservation for future generations.

Develop primary industries to support robust 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.

Develop regions to support 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.

Manage enabling services to enable a high performing agency

We are supported by enabling services that underpin a high performing agency. These services provide the capabilities needed for DPIRD to deliver effective and efficient services that benefit the community, create value, and build trust and confidence in public sector service delivery.

Our strategic alignment

DPIRD services are aligned to the achievement of the WA Government's priorities for 2025–2029, delivering on economic diversification, environmental sustainability, and quality infrastructure and services across our state.

Driving economic diversification and jobs

DPIRD supports increased productivity and facilitates domestic and export growth across WA's agrifood, fibre, forestry, and fisheries sectors. The agriculture and food sector continues to play a vital role in regional and state employment, creating a workforce across production, processing, logistics and service industries. Export activity remains a cornerstone of WA's economic strength, with cereal grains consistently representing the largest share of agrifood exports.

DPIRD's role in industry development and investment attraction across the regions and in the primary industries sector supports government objectives in economic diversification.

The state's biosecurity system plays a significant role in driving economic diversification and jobs by underpinning productivity and enabling market access and trade for our primary industries.

Protecting and restoring our environment

DPIRD's stewardship of WA's natural resources aligns with the government's commitment to protecting and restoring our environment. DPIRD secures the long term health of natural resources relied upon by the fishing, agriculture, aquaculture and pastoral industries: our fisheries, land, water, soils and vegetation. We ensure sustainable production so WA can enjoy its economic, community and regional benefits both now and in future. As the Hazard Management Agency for animal and plant pest and disease emergencies in WA, DPIRD plays a critical role in protecting our industries, environment and people from biosecurity threats.

Quality infrastructure and services in regional and remote communities

Regional WA generates a significant proportion of WA's gross state product, largely driven by resources and primary industries. DPIRD's focus on regional development through investment facilitation, administration of the Royalties for Regions fund, and support for Regional Development Commissions, directly supports the government's priorities for jobs, housing, infrastructure, and inclusive communities. By addressing barriers and creating opportunities, DPIRD helps facilitate critical infrastructure, boost jobs, improve living standards, and ensure regional Western Australians share in the benefits of growth.

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 was \$44.2 billion per annum in 2023-24, creating close to 194,000 jobs along the entire value chain.

Primary producers (farmers/growers of grain, wool, meat, cattle, fruit, vegetables, 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 \$12.53 billion in 2024-25, with cereal grains representing 52% (\$6.5 billion), oilseeds 20% (\$2.5 billion) and meat and live export 13% (\$1.7 billion) of total exports².

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.

Maintaining area freedom from Queensland fruit fly is important to WA's horticultural industries, saving the industry around \$20 million per year³.

1. Industry Economic Analysis, 2025, Employment (ABS)
2. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2026
3. David. C. Cook. Benefit cost analysis. Eradication of Queensland fruit fly, November 2024 incursion

Agriculture and food

Grains is the largest agricultural sector with the 2025 season crop covering an estimated area of 9.0m hectares producing an estimated 27.35 million tonnes, the highest crop on record⁴ with an export value of \$10.6 billion, which includes hay and processed products.

The state's sheep industry (meat and wool) had a local value⁵ of \$1.01 billion in 2024-25⁶.

The state's cattle and dairy industries (cattle disposals and milk) had a local value of \$1.17 billion in 2024-25.⁷

In 2023-24, WA produced approximately \$1.92 billion worth of fresh fruit, nuts, vegetables, and amenity horticulture at the wholesale level (update not available for 2024-25).⁸

WA's food and beverage industry had a total sales and services income \$9.75 billion⁹.

Fisheries

WA has an extensive coastline that extends approximately 12,895 km (~20,788 km including islands). The total economic contribution of WA commercial fisheries and aquaculture is estimated at approximately \$1.39 billion (2023-24)⁹. An estimated 870,000 Western Australians participated in recreational fishing in the past year¹⁰, making a significant contribution to the state's economy and supporting many regional communities.

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

4. GIWA Crop Reports of July 2025 & February 2026

5. Local values represent farm gate values

6. ABS 2024-25. Date released: 28 April 2026

7. ABS 2024-25. Date released: 28 April 2026

8. Radhakrishnan, M & Prince, R, 2025. Value of horticulture in Western Australia 2023-24

9. ABS (2024-25), Australian Industry

10. Annual community survey 2026

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, has a range of plans contributing to the government goals of driving economic diversification and jobs, and protecting and restoring our environment. These include:

- **Primary Industries Plan** – The Primary Industries Plan aims to support the growth and development of WA's primary industries, by setting priorities for investment and strengthening collaboration between government and primary industries. A new plan is under development for release in late 2026.
- **Aquaculture Development Plan** – aims to support the growth of the WA's aquaculture industry by establishing realistic targets and addressing barriers to development.
- **Biosecurity Strategy** – aims to manage biosecurity risks to agriculture, environment, and public health, ensuring the state remains free from major pests and diseases.
- **WA Natural Resource Management Framework** – sets out the WA Government's direction for working together in partnership to manage WA's natural resources and guide the direction of the State NRM Program.

Our regions

Regional Western Australia is central to the economic success of the state.

Their large role in primary industries, the resources sector, and increasingly, infrastructure related to the energy transition, mean that the regions contributed approximately 36%¹² of WA's Gross State Product (approximately \$458.8 billion).

While the population in the Perth Metropolitan Area has grown faster than in the regions, the regional population continues to increase, with approximately 759,676¹³ residents making up 25% of the state's population.

WA's regions support the national economy with high-quality exports such as grain, agrifood, iron ore and alumina, and draw international tourists to their amazing geological and ecological features. As our state economy diversifies, infrastructure needed to support the energy transition and our reliance on digital technologies is being built in our regions.

Gross regional product (GRP)
= \$166.2 billion; 36.2% of GSP

Regional population
= 759,676; 25% of WA population

Gascoyne
GRP: \$1.4b (0.3%)
Pop: 10,725 (0.4%)

Mid West
GRP: \$9.0b (2.0%)
Pop: 58,931 (1.8%)

Perth Metro
GRP: \$290.7b (63.4%)
Pop: 2,284,706 (75.0%)

Peel
GRP: \$10.8b (2.4%)
Pop: 175,310 (5.8%)

South West
GRP: \$19.8b (4.3%)
Pop: 206,297 (6.8%)

Great Southern
GRP: \$5.8b (1.3%)
Pop: 67,150 (2.2%)

Kimberley
GRP: \$4.6b (1.0%)
Pop: 40,562 (1.3%)

Pilbara
GRP: \$90.6b (19.7%)
Pop: 62,170 (2.0%)

Goldfields-Esperance
GRP: \$14.8b (3.2%)
Pop: 58,646 (1.9%)

Wheatbelt
GRP: \$9.2b (2.0%)
Pop: 79,885 (2.6%)

Source: REMPLAN 2025 R1 GSP, GRP Profiles.
REMPLAN, based on ABS September 2025
Estimated Residential Population

12. REMPLAN 2025 R1 GSP, GRP Profiles

13. REMPLAN, based on ABS September 2025 Estimated Residential Population

Working for our regions

DPIRD is the lead agency for whole-of-state regional development priorities, working collaboratively across all levels of government and directly with regional industries and community organisations on specific projects. DPIRD is also responsible for administering the Royalties for Regions Fund.

As part of the Regional Development Portfolio, DPIRD collaborates with the state's 9 Regional Development Commissions, who deliver place-based regional development initiatives, provide local intelligence and advice, and help implement government priorities across regional WA. DPIRD also supports the Regional Development Council, the WA Regional Development Trust and WA Regional Development Alliance to shape, coordinate and strengthen the broader regional development agenda.

Alongside our partners, DPIRD plays a critical role in advocating on matters of regional importance and delivering regional programs and services to enhance economic capability and liveability. Our work contributes to the vision set out in the WA Regional Development Framework (2026) and aligns with the WA government goals of:

- quality infrastructure and services in regional and remote communities
- driving economic diversification and jobs.

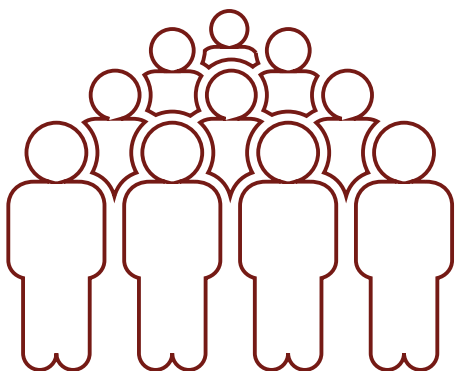


WA Regional Development Framework vision – A strong, inclusive and sustainable WA – where vibrant regional communities provide great places to live, quality jobs and access to essential services for all.

Our organisation

Staff and locations

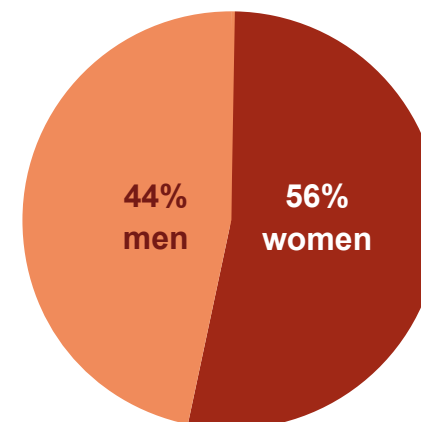
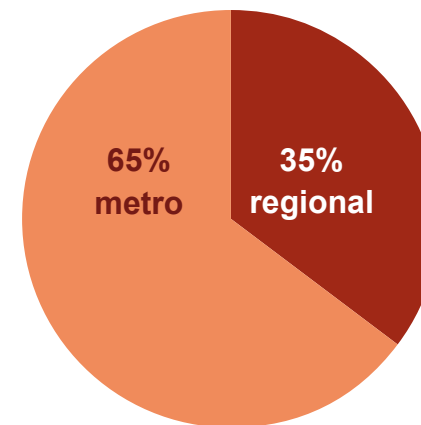
At 30 June 2026, DPIRD had:



1968.1 paid FTE staff

At more than 60 locations including

- 8 metro offices and facilities
- 24 regional offices
- 12 research and aquaculture facilities
- 6 quarantine/checkpoint locations
- 19 RDC offices



Organisational structure

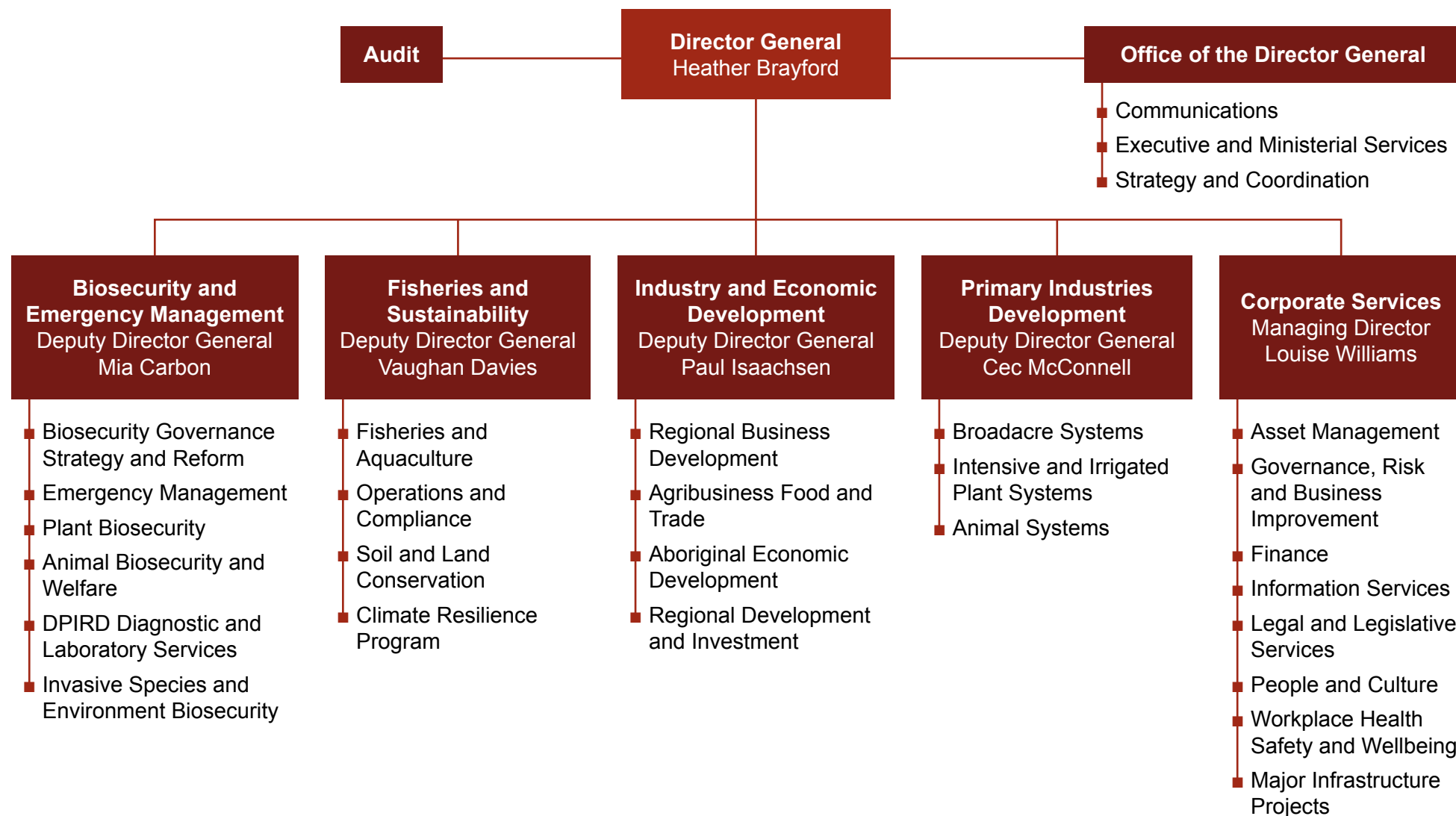


Figure 1: Organisational structure listing senior officers and key functions as at 30 June 2026

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.



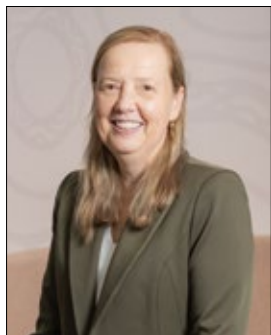
Vaughan Davies
Deputy Director General
Fisheries and Sustainability

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 has headed the Industry and Economic Development pillar since 2022, leading the department's focus on regional development, Aboriginal economic empowerment, and agribusiness, food, and trade. Paul holds degrees in arts, law, and public policy, and has worked in and with the regions for most of his career.



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.

Administered legislation

The department assists the Minister for Agriculture and Food; Fisheries and the Minister for Regional Development 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*

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 2025-26.

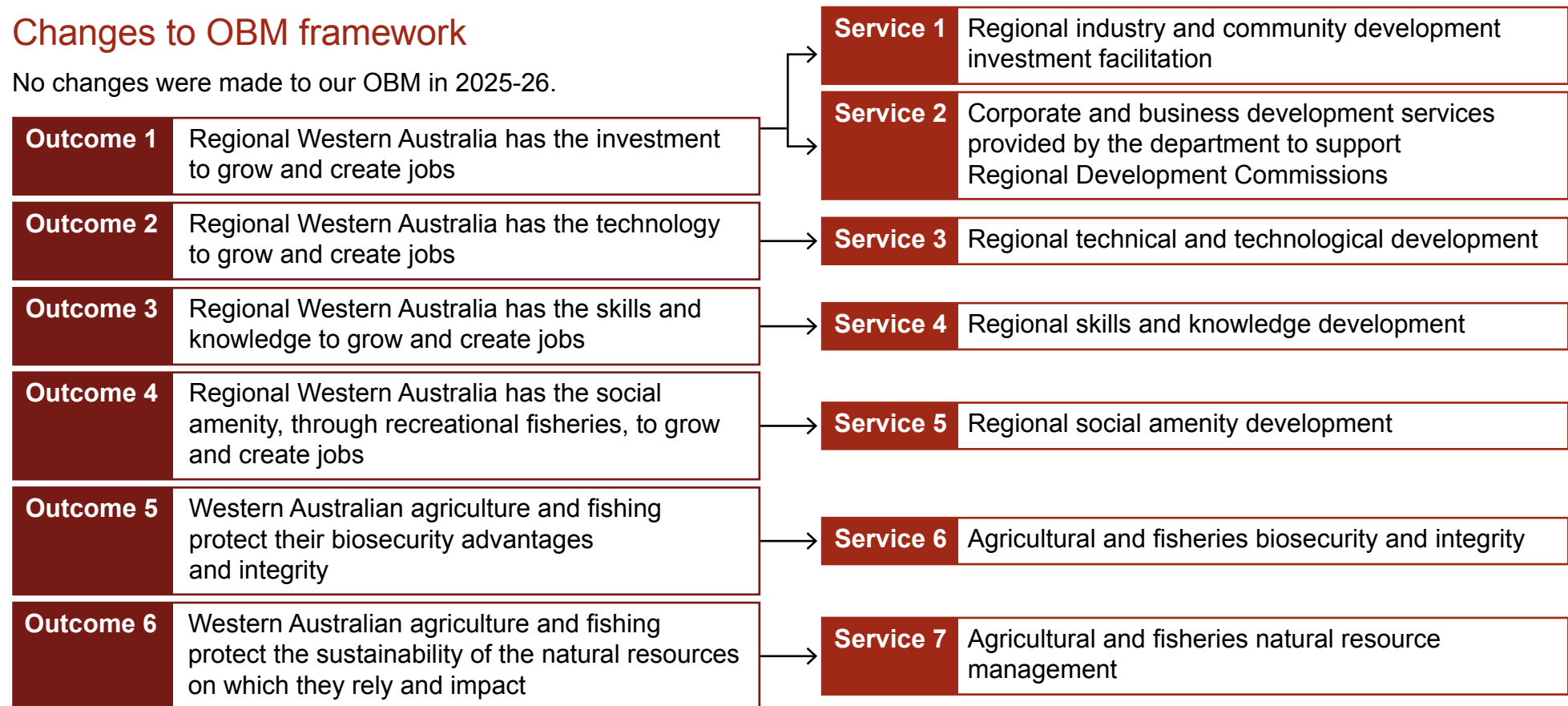


Figure 2: Outcome Based Management Framework – Agency level desired outcomes and services

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) and Regional Development Commissions, to activate economic opportunities arising through Native Title agreements and shape Aboriginal policy matters and initiatives to address Closing the Gap targets. We work with the Department of Treasury and 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 on, 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 and Forest Products Commission). 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 as part of the whole-of-government approach to climate action under the Western Australia Climate Policy. 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 and Economic Diversification (DEED) and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) 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 DEED to deliver the Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund and Collie Futures Small Grants Program to attract new industries to Collie, diversify its economy and support local jobs. In 2025-26 the agencies worked together to review and strengthen both programs, improve governance, streamline processes and ensure alignment with the Collie Just Transition Plan 2026-2030. The programs have supported the advancement of strategic industry projects and investment opportunities helping to create the conditions for long-term economic resilience, investment attraction and sustainable employment outcomes in the region.

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 Framework and deliver our obligations against the State Hazard Plan for Animal and Plant Biosecurity as well as the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies. On behalf of DFES, our department delivers a range of packages as a result of any declared events, to support industry and community recovery and chairs the State Economic Recovery Domain to support economic recovery of regions impacted by disaster events.

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 in and around Kununurra. 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.

Local Content Program

Our Local Content Team and Local Content Advisers in the Regional Development Commissions work in collaboration with DEED 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 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 Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts, the telecommunications industry, and across the WA Government to coordinate and co-fund 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 improvements for farm businesses, campgrounds, and popular tourist sites.

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. We work collaboratively with the Department of Treasury and Finance and across government, providing advice on funds management strategies, budgeting, funds disbursement and reporting to maximise the effectiveness of fund expenditure.

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 delivers the State NRM Program in conjunction 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.

Trade and investment development

DPIRD works closely with DAFF, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Austrade, DEED, Invest and Trade WA's Global Network and Regional Development Commissions to strengthen Western Australia's agrifood export and investment outcomes. DPIRD is the lead WA Government agency for primary industry trade development and agribusiness investment attraction and facilitation. Through these agency partnerships, we help grow the value, competitiveness and diversification of Western Australia's agrifood sector.





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 science driven.

We protect WA every day.

Biosecurity management

DPIRD minimises 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.

Intercepting risks at the border

The Quarantine WA team worked diligently to ensure WA maintained area freedom from many pests and diseases found in other states and territories. In 2025-26 the team conducted 1,976,227 quarantine screenings of trucks, commercial trailers, airline passengers, rail/sea containers and parcels. These screenings led to 405,362 quarantine inspections including 135,214 vehicles, 2,327 airline passengers, 40,468 parcels, 134,001 lines of imported plant material and machinery and 23,304 interstate livestock.



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

The Quarantine WA team conducted screenings of trucks, commercial trailers, airline passengers, rail/sea containers and parcels throughout 2025-26

In addition, 70,048 livestock were inspected for intrastate movement requirements, which represents a 27% increase of intrastate livestock inspections compared to 2024-25.

The team noted 99% compliance with import requirements during inspections and 3,531 instances of non-compliance. They intercepted 54,091 kg of quarantine risk material (including 3,464 kg of honey) from individuals entering via road, air and rail checkpoints. Inspection of imported goods resulted in 4,790 lines being held for further clearance of which 3,208 lines were released, 680 lines treated, 222 lines re-exported and 680 lines requiring destruction. Quarantine WA stopped 120 significant pests, 57 prohibited organisms, 34 unlisted plant/seed/fungi species and 1,577 lines with incorrect/no certification entering WA throughout the year.

Supporting electronic identification for sheep and goats

The department has been working collaboratively with the state's sheep and goat industry to assist them to prepare for full implementation of the national electronic identification (eID) Sheep and Goat traceability system from 1 July 2026. The mandatory system enhances critical animal movement data to support emergency animal disease response or food safety incident – underpinning trade relationships and export markets.

DPIRD administered the Australian and Western Australian Governments' transition funding to assist local producers, saleyards, feedlots, export depots and processors with implementation. This included eID Infrastructure grants to retrofit

scanning equipment, while smaller grants assisted community organisations and grower groups with technology adoption.

The WA Government's Tag Incentive Program was managed by the department, which has seen more than 15 million discounted tags sold since its inception. Department officers were active throughout the supply chain, delivering on-ground training and resources to support the transition. DPIRD's Sheep and Goat eID Hotline continues to provide advice on the new system and the TIP initiative.

Successful surveillance and eradication programs

The invasive weed Star of Bethlehem was eradicated from WA following a several year program. Control of rusa deer from the Harvey area commenced using Thermally Assisted Aerial Culling achieving substantial population reduction. Automated acoustic technology equipment was used to improve the detection of European starlings along the south coast. The surveillance program continued to be successful with only 54 birds detected and subsequently controlled in the 2025-26 season, a substantial decrease from 226 detected in 2024-25.

The European wasp surveillance program resulted in a total of 73 nests being found and destroyed in 25 separate locations. The most nests detected were in the City of Albany with 37. As part of our biosecurity risk prevention program, the department continued to deliver services to Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island to control terrestrial invasives not present on mainland Australia, such as the Macao paper wasp, and to monitor for aquatic pests and diseases.

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.

Unearthing carbon opportunities for WA landholders

The department supported Western Australian landholders over 2025-26 to capture carbon farming and bioenergy opportunities that generate new income streams and increase business resilience.

A third round of the Carbon for Farmers Voucher program assisted 47 farmers from Northampton to Esperance to develop on-farm opportunity reports and carbon farming plans, bringing the total to 130 since the initiative's inception.

These resources are used to assess the options for adopting new strategies that increase carbon sequestration and sustainability, and reduce on-farm emissions.

Soils research digs deep to support landholders

The department's extensive suite of soils research was profiled at the 2025 Global Conference on Sandy Soils in Perth.

Eighteen DPIRD speakers presented an overview of ongoing research to better understand the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of soil to improve agricultural productivity and resource sustainability.

Topics spanned soil fertility, hydrology, soil data, mapping and assessment, as well as drought resilience and soil profile re-engineering.

Over the course of 2025-26 DPIRD also launched a new 5 year 'Sustainable solutions for sandy soils – a collaborative approach to transformational change'. The project will assist landholders achieve year-round groundcover to reduce the risk of wind erosion.

Several demonstration sites and peer learning groups are being established by the project to investigate and share strategies to improve farming systems resilience across cropping, livestock or mixed enterprises.

The department also started to explore satellite imagery analysis for possible integration into on-farm decision making tools to assist farmers to improve soil health and business profitability.

Leading research to unlock cropping gains

DPIRD embarked on a new research project to unlock gains for WA grain growers, targeting 4 key soilborne disease and nematodes threats - rhizoctonia root rot, fusarium crown rot, sclerotinia, and root lesion nematodes. The \$6.7 million investment forms part of a broader, 5-year national project to support Australian grain growers.

The Western Crop Genetics Alliance - between DPIRD and Murdoch University - celebrated its 10th anniversary, with the WA Government committing more than \$3 million for another decade of collaboration. The Alliance has become an international leader in crop pre-breeding research that helps deliver high performance, resilient grain varieties adapted to the environment.

Significant outputs over the past 10 years are being used by plant breeding companies to produce next generation grain varieties. The Alliance played a critical role in an international effort to successfully decode the pangenome of oats, marking a significant breakthrough in understanding one of the world's most genetically complex cereals.

Through DPIRD's \$20 million Farming Systems investment, researchers continued to deliver the latest trial results examining crop rotations to help grain growers increase profit, manage risk and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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.

Investing in aquaculture for the future

DPIRD continued to support the growth of the aquaculture industry in WA throughout 2025-26 through several initiatives. There were upgrades to the Hillarys Shellfish Hatchery, Pemberton Freshwater Research Centre (PFRC) and the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre (Watermans Bay) enabling improved service delivery to the industry. A \$2.5 million upgrade of the Broome Tropical Aquaculture Park (BTAP) commenced to boost aquaculture capacity, supporting existing tenants and providing opportunities to attract new aquaculture operations into the Kimberley. We supported the Tassal Group Limited's investment in a new state-of-the-art barramundi nursery at the BTAP to help drive industry growth and sustainable seafood production.

We entered into a new four-year funding agreement with the Aquaculture Council of WA (ACWA) to support sustainable development of the sector. ACWA also received \$1million to deliver the Aquaculture for the Future program on behalf of our department to build knowledge and skills for businesses to manage climate change into the future. More than 25 businesses have participated in the program.

Protecting WA resources through compliance

Over the course of the year DPIRD's Operations and Compliance teams conducted 4,492 land and sea patrols, which led to 36,396 inspections and 100,976 fisher contacts across the fishing and aquaculture sector. DPIRD officers also conducted 10,666 advice, liaison and education contacts in this period.

During 2025-26 the department also issued 1267 infringements and 1626 warnings relating to fisheries matters. DPIRD pursued 233 offences that resulted in a court conviction during 2025-26 that amounted to \$325,105.55 in fines.

This is compared to 2024-25 when the department conducted 4,282 land and sea patrols, leading to 34,167 inspections and 98,930 fisher contacts across the fishing and aquaculture sectors statewide.

Throughout 2025-26 the department also visited 357 locations and conducted 236 inspections relating to animal welfare matters. During this period the department issued 8 infringements and 24 warnings on animal welfare matters and 8 infringements and 64 warnings relating to biosecurity compliance issues.

Creating more recreational fishing opportunities

We delivered a number of new opportunities for recreational fishers during 2025-26 including a new fishing hotspot in the Gascoyne with an artificial reef going in the water off Carnarvon backed by \$1.4 million investment through the Recreational Fishing Initiatives Fund (RFIF). An artificial reef project for the Albany coast was also announced and is expected to be in place by early 2027. Artificial reefs create unique underwater habitats to attract a diverse range of fish to encourage fishers to switch their fish and target large pelagic species like tuna, wahoo, mahi mahi and marlin.

The Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) program continued with our department launching a new interactive webpage providing information on the FAD locations, the closest boat ramp and the location of artificial reefs to help fishers plan their day out on the water. We deployed 36 southern FADs between Steep Point near Shark Bay and Albany and 14 northern FADs.

Our stocking programs for freshwater anglers also continued with our PFRC team producing 62,000 rainbow and brown trout and subsequently releasing the trout, including 2,400 larger ex-breeder fish, into South West waterways. The Fremantle Marine Fish Hatchery team produced 60,000 juvenile pink snapper which were subsequently released into Cockburn Sound as part of an ongoing stock enhancement research program.

Ensuring a safe and sustainable abalone season

Our department worked closely with Surf Life Saving WA and Recfishwest to deliver another successful abalone season for the more than 15,000 licensed abalone recreational fishers. Three one-hour sessions were held over summer with many fishers collecting full bag limits and some good size abalone at each session. Safety was given a boost with \$417,000 provided to Surf Life Saving WA to deliver beach patrols, including prevention and rescue activities through to 2028. Safety messages were further reinforced by Recfishwest promoting what to wear, the right gear for fishing, and how to manage ocean conditions. Our fisheries officers patrolled the sessions monitoring catches to ensure fishers followed the rules to protect the sustainability of the fishery. Volunteer surf lifesavers completed 103 rescues, 3224 interactions with fishers to improve personal safety and 66 first aids.

Statewide reform to protect demersal stocks for future generations

Important statewide reforms were introduced to protect and support the recovery of demersal fish stocks including pink snapper, red emperor and dhufish for future generations. The WA Government invested \$29.2 million to support recovery efforts. The West Coast bioregion was closed permanently to commercial fishing for demersal fish in January 2026 with a \$20 million buyback of commercial fishing licences underway. The recreational fishing and the tackle industries received a boost with a \$3.3 million Tackle Shop Rebate Program to encourage fishers to diversify their fishing through engaging with their local independent tackle store.

We also introduced new statewide bag and size limits for recreational demersal fishing to support recovery and sustainability. A Ministerial Advisory Committee was also established to provide advice on recreational fishing management arrangements for the reopening of the West Coast bioregion as a recreational only fishery in Spring 2027.

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.

Supporting regional business

In 2025-26, our department supported with the 9 RDCs to deliver Round 8 of the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program, overseeing the allocation of funding to initiatives that support job creation, tourism growth, and industry diversification across WA.

A total of \$7,046,620 was awarded to 63 projects spanning the Gascoyne, Goldfields-Esperance, Great Southern, Kimberley, Mid West, Peel, Pilbara, South West and Wheatbelt, with recipients including Aboriginal-owned businesses, hospitality and tourism operators, a medical centre, and an advanced manufacturing training hub.

The breadth of investment across the regions reflects DPIRD's ongoing commitment to strengthening resilient and diverse regional economies and highlights the department's leadership in coordinating strategic partnerships with the RDCs to deliver lasting benefits for regional WA.

Kimberley Total Solar Eclipse

In collaboration with the Kimberley Development Commission, DPIRD is leading activities that will deliver critical infrastructure for the Kimberley region in preparation for the Kimberley Total Solar Eclipse. Thousands of domestic and international visitors are expected to travel to the East Kimberley to view a total solar eclipse taking place on 22 July 2028. To prepare for this event, the Cook Labor Government announced \$24.6 million from 2026-27 to 2028-29 to ensure critical infrastructure and public safety services are in place. Key works will include upgrades to camping sites, water and wastewater facilities in Kununurra, and regional telecommunications capacity, and a proposed public viewing site along the Great Northern Highway within the line of totality. This investment will provide a legacy that supports ongoing tourism development, large-scale event capacity, and economic development opportunities in the region, including for Aboriginal people and businesses.

Engaging with the WA community

In September 2025 DPIRD once again sponsored the Perth Royal Show and delivered an activation showcasing its research, development, and contribution to WA's primary industries. Throughout the show, staff supported more than 1,000 children to step into the role of a DPIRD scientist and participate in an educational experience centred on the science behind WA-grown food. DPIRD staff helped visitors with hands-on activities such as creating take-home DPIRD-branded science goggles, using microscopes and participating in grain-to-food matching. The team also spoke to many adults about the department's extensive research activities and apple breeding work.

The Fisheries Community Education team kept busy engaging with 11,088 contacts on how the department manages the state's aquatic resources at 36 separate community events right across WA. They also mentored 3621 school students across 201 separate activities and got out and about at boat ramps, estuaries and shorelines and spoke to 3776 recreational fishers. The department also helped elevate regionally-based Western Australian women in its support of the AgriFutures Rural Women's Award.

Kimberley innovator and pastoralist Isabella Thrupp won the WA award, and was also named runner up in the national awards for her business Prinking In Pindan, which creates durable clothing suitable for the demanding lifestyle of rural women.



Capable and empowered communities

Community members participated in an educational experience centred on the science behind WA-grown food at DPIRD's stand at the Perth Royal Show

Supporting regional communities

Over 2025-26, DPIRD funded multiple projects across regional WA including the redevelopment of the Harvey Senior Citizens Centre, known as Harvey Connect. The centre upgrades include accessible toilets, a new clinic room to support visiting health services and an administration office to support better co-ordination of social and wellbeing programs that are activated at the space every week for the 300+ members. The department also supported the construction of the Dawesville Community Centre that is now offering local groups, families and young people connection and wellbeing opportunities. The centre features a communal hall with stage, commercial kitchen and function areas, office space and meeting rooms, sound-insulated activity rooms, and dedicated youth and playgroup spaces.

In Albany, local and visiting surfers are riding waves of excitement at the new artificial Southern Ocean Surf Reef, offshore from Middleton Beach. Specialist marine equipment was used to place local quarried rocks on the seabed floor in a configuration that is designed to provide surfing rides of up to 100 metres. The reef has quickly become popular with a wide range of users, from school groups and beginner surfers to experienced riders enjoying larger swells.

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.

Aboriginal business and skills development

In the state's north, a new cohort of Aboriginal Pastoral Academy participants entered the pastoral workforce, thanks to a successful collaboration between Aboriginal organisations, the northern pastoral sector and DPIRD. Sixteen graduates from the academy's Entry Pre-employment Program were awarded offers of employment with 9 pastoral operations across the Kimberley region. Ten academy participants were accepted into its Grow Program and are receiving ongoing mentoring aligned with individual career progression plans.

A DPIRD-backed initiative to strengthen Aboriginal leadership and support sustainable business growth was successfully delivered in the Ballardong region, which spans about 63,000 square kilometres in the Wheatbelt, and the Goldfields-Esperance region.

The Aboriginal Business Leadership Initiative aims to grow leadership capability and support sustainable Indigenous businesses. The Ballardong program was delivered by Better Heart Aboriginal Corporation, and the Goldfields-Esperance program was delivered by Aboriginal-owned and operated consultancy Kaala Barna. The successful program has been delivered to 91 participants since 2017 across the Gascoyne, Goldfields-Esperance, Great Southern, Mid West, South West and Wheatbelt.

Delivering important fisheries science to support sustainability

DPIRD's fisheries scientists continued to deliver research supporting the sustainable management of WA's fisheries. A new project analysing the mineral signatures in blue swimmer crab shells has the potential to track migration patterns, improving stock monitoring and management. Researchers also explored the potential for new deep-sea crustacean resources along the WA coast through a two-year Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) project. The discovery of the large golden crab (*Chaceon granulatus*) may provide a valuable addition to WA's existing crystal crab fishery. Another FRDC project commenced to support the sustainable development of an Aboriginal mud crab fishery in the Kimberley.

While our X-ray Vision project, supported by commercial fishers, provided data on water temperature, depth and light attenuation to better understand climate-driven changes in lobster movement and stock dynamics. Researchers also surveyed estuaries, including with the Wudjari people in Benwenerup (Stokes Inlet), to better understand changes in the biology of key species such as black bream.

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.

Responding to pest and disease incursions

DPIRD's shot-hole borer program moved to a national transition to management phase to support landholders, industry and local governments manage the borer long-term. This has seen the delivery of an integrated pest management program, along with training, technical workshops and community education. Grants have also been provided to local governments and the community to help restore lost trees and strengthen our urban canopy.

Western Australia was officially declared free of Queensland fruit fly (Qfly) in August 2025 following the successful eradication of an outbreak detected in the Willagee and Palmyra areas. The extensive 8-month response involved surveillance, trapping, property inspections and strong community cooperation. A new response was declared in early 2026 following the detection of Qfly in the South Perth Como area to protect the horticulture industry and backyard gardens. To date field teams have conducted more than 34,000 property visits and placed more than 6000 lures in trees, alongside an extensive baiting and trapping program. Thanks to a significant surveillance and eradication effort, Red Dwarf Honey Bee has been contained to the remote Burrup Peninsula, near Karratha and a 12-month monitoring phase is underway to confirm the pest has been successfully eradicated. Our department is leading the state's response to Australia's first detection of H5 bird flu which was initially detected in a single wild seabird found in the Cape Le Grand area, east of Esperance.

Strong biosecurity prevention and preparedness protecting primary industries

Our department marked 10 years since the launch of Biosecurity Blitz and the release of the MyPestGuide Reporter app, the surveillance tool used for community-based reporting. More than 9500 reports have been made using the app as part of the annual blitz to help protect Western Australia's primary industries and environment. Bee Blitz highlighted the importance the state's more than 4000 registered beekeepers have in supporting early detection and reporting harmful pests and diseases to protect the state's bee industry and crucial pollination services by monitoring their hives and reporting signs of pests and diseases.

National Biosecurity Week highlighted WA's robust surveillance and reporting systems and how community reports help support early detection efforts as well as demonstrating the absence of pest and diseases to protect the state's market access. Exercise Assisi tested WA's State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies to strengthen response capability and preparedness for the state's animal welfare emergency arrangements.

Diverse initiatives supporting animal welfare

Over the course of 2025-26 the department continued to improve the welfare of animals in Western Australia, by helping boost community capacity and developing strong policy frameworks. A fifth round of the Animal Welfare Grant Program was delivered, supporting the work of 33 not-for-profit recipients from across the state. The grants help with fostering and rehoming pets, rehabilitating wildlife and providing low-cost or free animal health and veterinary services. A diverse range of projects were supported, including the purchase of wildlife rescue kits, handling equipment to rescue pigs, an eco-pond for rehabilitated turtles and water birds and the construction of an aviary for threatened birds.

The department and stakeholders also developed new Standards and Guidelines for the Health and Welfare of Horses, detailing standards and practices to optimise the health and welfare of horses, backed by scientific evidence and industry expertise. A new online publication was produced to support the Standards and Guidelines, with advice on care and management responsibilities.

Helping keep Western Australian's safe in the water

DPIRD continues to deliver a range of programs and tools to support shark hazard mitigation so Western Australian's can enjoy ocean and river environments as safely as possible. A new 3 year \$13.2 million agreement with Surf Life Saving WA was signed for continued aerial patrols, beach patrols, coordination of service and emergency responses via SurfCom communications centre and a jetski response team along the metropolitan and popular South West beaches. A beach enclosure went in the water at Bathers Beach in Fremantle to provide another protected swimming area for beachgoers. We also installed a new shark monitoring receiver off Margaret River to expand coverage in the South West and further boost safety for local surfers. Our highly successful shark tagging program to improve public safety by monitoring shark activity continued with 13 white sharks and two bull sharks tagged in 2025-26. Downloads of the SharkSmart WA app reached over 290,000.

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.

Cotton industry development in the Kimberley

The official opening of the Kimberley Cotton Gin in Kununurra in August 2025 precipitated the ginning of approximately 81,000 bales in its inaugural season. The emergence of this processing capacity also underpinned the Wyndham Port achieving First Port of Entry status, which saw the export of Ord cotton on 5 separate vessels during the ginning season. These achievements marked the start of an exciting new industry for the state's north. DPIRD has worked closely with local stakeholders for more than a decade to support the establishment of a sustainable and profitable cotton industry in the East Kimberley. The high-tech processing facility is owned by Kimberley Cotton Company, a consortium of local growers, the Ord River District Co-operative, Traditional Owners Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation, Kimberley Agricultural Investment, Prime Grain Pty Ltd and Namoi Cotton Limited. A range of enabling WA Government investments have underpinned this project, including provision of land, electricity infrastructure upgrades, feasibility funding, and DPIRD technical business support.

Infrastructure investments to boost DPIRD research capacity

Throughout the 2025-26 year significant steps were taken towards realising a commitment to establish a central scientific base for the department, with a site secured for a New Metropolitan Facility. The Malaga site provides for a fit-for-purpose facility that will support the department's biosecurity and research activities. Planning and investigations are currently underway for the Greenfields site.

Meanwhile, the Primary Industries Research Centre (PIRC) has been established at Jandakot with grain processing areas, warehousing, a hardstand and office space for 100 research and scientific staff.

Operations at the PIRC site and the State Biosecurity Response Centre at Canning Vale have been secured with long term leases. These facilities will continue to play an essential role in supporting and protecting WA's primary industries and the regions. The infrastructure investments add to the department's assets across the state, underpinning the valuable work of its dedicated staff to protect, grow and innovate.

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.

Connecting with industry at the WA Horticulture Update

Our department hosted the WA Horticulture Update providing the latest information on market trends, innovations, research, challenges and solutions in Western Australian horticulture production. The update brought together growers, researchers, policy makers and industry leaders under the theme *Growing WA. Fresh food, sustainable futures* which explored how WA could lead the nation in sustainable horticulture practices, resilient food systems and recognising fresh food's contribution to a healthy way of life. We showcased several of our latest research and development projects, including the drainage water recycling field trial, the Narrow Orchard Systems initiative and the PIPS for Profit project to improve orchard profitability and sustainability. Our horticulture scientists also published research examining

consumer preferences for Bravo apples based on the fruit's distinctive skin colour. The study confirmed that retail consumers preferentially selected darker-coloured Bravo apples over lighter-coloured fruit. These findings indicate that growers and packers can achieve stronger market outcomes and greater consumer acceptance by focusing on the production of highly coloured fruit and supplying apples within a consistent colour range.

Supporting capable and empowered communities

DPIRD awarded \$1.75 million in grants to 35 successful applicants through its Regional Traineeship Program to build local jobs and workforce capacity in regional communities across WA. The competitive grants scheme is available to WA Community Resource Centre (CRC) Network members and select regional Local Government Authorities to assist with the cost of employing a trainee. The one-off payment supports vocational training to develop trainee skills and knowledge to help meet the needs of local businesses and industry. The Western Australian Council of Social Service received \$250,000 as part of the WA Digital Inclusion Project, which is helping equip residents in regional WA with digital skills. The funding is supporting targeted inperson training for CRCs in remote and isolated areas, and broader online training resources for staff and volunteers. This initiative expands on a successful 2025 pilot delivered with remote CRCs, which achieved strong improvements in digital literacy knowledge and confidence across 11 communities.

Forging agrifood and beverage supply chain connections

Western Australia's agrifood and beverage industry continues to make global inroads, with the support of the department. The 2025 Taste WA trade mission hosted more than 20 international buyers from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Taiwan. Buyers met with over 90 WA agribusinesses, sampling premium products and gaining insights into provenance and production. The delegation also attended the annual Meet the Buyer™ tradeshow, featuring exhibitors promoting over 570 products to local and international chefs, distributors, wholesalers, national and independent retailers and hospitality businesses. The Taste WA trade mission has delivered early commercial outcomes through trial export orders to emerging Southeast Asian markets in 2025–26 and supported the development of a strategic partnership with a major international airline, enhancing future export pathways for Western Australian food and beverage producers.

WA businesses built their global profile and developed strategic supply chain partnerships through participation in major international trade exhibitions across South East Asia and the Middle East. The department proudly led Buy West Eat Best month in October, celebrating food and beverages grown, farmed, fished, processed, prepared and served in WA to local consumers. Now in its 18th year, Buy West Eat Best is the nation's longest-running State-of-origin food and beverage labelling program.



Dynamic regions and primary industries

The annual Meet the Buyer™ tradeshow saw exhibitors showcase products to wholesalers, national and independent retailers and hospitality businesses.

Photo: Buy West Eat Best

Backing WA's wine and distilling industries

A new partnership was activated between DPIRD and Wine Australia to grow the state's wine industry, and expand local, national, and export market opportunities, while building long term industry sustainability for wine producers. The partnership involves a \$6 million investment over 4 years by the state government, combined with \$3 million from the WA wine industry, and builds on a long-standing collaboration to assist local vineyards and wineries to diversify and reach more markets.

The WA Distilling Industry Strategy was developed as a new strategic roadmap to elevate the state's unique premium spirits on the Australian and global stage. The strategy is the first of its kind for WA and involved extensive industry consultation, led by the WA Distillers Guild and Australian Distillers Association, with support from DPIRD. Craft spirits production contributes to WA's hospitality and tourism industries, with 92% of distillers using local ingredients providing income and employment across Perth and the regions.

Boosting agrifood businesses & farmers markets

Eighty WA agrifood and beverage businesses received vouchers through the 2025-26 round of DPIRD's Agrifood and Beverage Voucher Program. This initiative provides small-to-medium food and beverage operators across regional and metropolitan WA with access to expert advice, helping them build capability and drive growth. The round allocated more than \$680,000 shared among diverse businesses, including meat processing, bakery, wine, spirits, honey, pasta, pre-packed meals, probiotics, juice, ice cream and food supplements.

DPIRD announced 11 successful applicants would share in \$469,000 from the Farmers' Market Grant Scheme, an Australian-first initiative to support farmers' markets business sustainability, operational performance and growth. Grant recipients include 8 existing farmers' markets and 3 prospective operations from across the Perth, Mid West, Peel, South West and Wheatbelt regions.

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.

Boosting connectivity across WA

During the 2025-26 year high-speed, enterprise grade broadband services became available in the Shire of Dandaragan, through DPIRD's Digital Farm Grants Program. The Dandaragan Fixed Wireless Network project has provided connectivity to rural businesses and communities across approximately 6,500 square kilometres. The project, which included 4 new fixed wireless towers, is benefiting farm businesses and residents in and around Badgingarra, Dandaragan, Jurien Bay and Nambung. The program is helping connect businesses and communities in regional WA by delivering fast, reliable, affordable and scalable broadband where fixed line and fixed wireless NBN services are not available. Free community Wi-Fi services will also be provided to the Dandaragan Community Resource Centre and Recreation Centre.

Technology to improve productivity and support community resilience

In 2025-26 the department continued to use technology to support business productivity and community resilience across the state. The Weather Stations app has been upgraded to provide real-time weather data including temperature, humidity, rainfall, wind speed and direction, soil temperature and dew point to assist growers with making seasonal decisions and to support emergency services in the event of a fire, storm, or cyclone. Content from DPIRD's popular Weather Stations webpage is captured on the app, plus a host of additional features. The refresh includes a map of 191 weather stations across Western Australia. As of June 2026, the app had more than 2300 users.

DPIRD has also developed a new online EasyDiesel Calculator to help growers understand the likely return from deep ripping a paddock to boost nitrogen efficiency. A trial is also underway using smart technologies to improve narrow orchard efficiencies, safety, sustainability and productivity. Tracking of whale movements to help reduce whale entanglements has also been enhanced with upgrades to the Marine Fauna Sightings app and use of thermal imaging cameras to gather more information on whale migration patterns.

Enhancing livestock business resilience and profitability

DPIRD's work on the 5-year FEED365 research project, in partnership with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), has revealed the optimal combination of forage species to establish a year-round feed supply for sheep and cattle. The work at the department's Katanning Research Station (KRS) found strategically grazing crops and perennial and annual pastures provided sufficient feed for 12 months, eliminating the need for supplementary feeding. This approach will reduce seasonal feed gaps, support consistent animal performance across key production phases and lower reliance on grain and conserved fodder during high cost feeding periods.

DPIRD's Sheep Genetics researchers have completed the intake and methane measurements of the 2025 cohort of the MLA Resource Flock, located at the KRS. The project will deliver critical data on a reference population of sheep that underpins both genetic selection and genomic selection which will lead to more sustainable and efficient sheep production systems.

Statement from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation



During 2025-26 WA landholders have demonstrated that they continue to recognise the importance of protecting land systems by placing voluntary Conservation Covenants on 4772 ha of vegetation. Over the same period I received 6 applications for ground water drainage for salinity management.

Ten complaints were registered during the 2025-2026 financial year and 3

Soil Conservation Notices were issued and one discharged. Multiple landholders continued to be engaged through a voluntary compliance approach, including by DPIRD's Soil and Land Conservation Directorate staff who provided advice. Voluntary compliance provides an opportunity for land managers to undertake required actions to address land degradation issues in the first instance, without regulation.

The Soil and Land Conservation Council continues to oversee the implementation of the WA Soil Health Strategy through annual reporting, monitoring of key deliverables, and evaluation of potential delivery partnerships. A mid-term review of the strategy was undertaken during 2025-26, which was informed by an industry survey, and found there is continued support for the

strategy as a framework for promoting healthy, productive and resilient soils across Western Australia.

Over the last year my office has drafted a policy framework to support the administration of the *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* (the Act) which outlines the approach to preventing and managing land degradation and provides clarity of decision making. The framework also supports early identification and proactive management of land degradation risks.

The framework will be publicly available on the DPIRD website towards the end of 2026, with links to supporting information updated as they are finalised.

My office's current focus is on finalising standards for assessing, monitoring and responding to wind erosion risk in the agricultural regions. A 5-year project commenced 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.

In collaboration with the Pastoral Lands Board and the Valuer General's office, Rangelands Science staff will be continuing with a review that commenced in 2025-26 of the Potential Carrying Capacity for the entire pastoral estate. This work saw

the team commence station visits seeking lessee feedback on the first version of modelled Rangeland Vegetation Group (RVG) mapping. Going forward, Rangelands Science staff will be collecting additional on-ground data to refine a second version of RVG mapping. Estimates of the pastoral potential of each RVG are also being sought from pastoralists and industry.

Varying rainfall across the rangelands impacts the levels of soil water and the ability of vegetation to recover from sustained livestock grazing. I note that stocking rates, particularly in the Pilbara and Southern Rangelands, will need to be managed in line with fodder availability to minimise land degradation and animal welfare risks.

I would like to thank Soil and Land Conservation Directorate staff who remain focussed on the sustainable management of WA's soil and land resources and support the Commissioner's office in the implementation of the full spectrum of the Act, including research, technical and policy advice, extension materials and on-ground compliance monitoring.

My full report for 2025-26 can be found in Appendix 2 and on the DPIRD website.

Melanie Strawbridge

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation

Financial targets and results

Table 1: Financial targets 2025-26

	2026 Target ¹ (\$'000)	2026 Actual ² (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Explanation of variation ³
Total cost of services (expense limit) (details from Statement of comprehensive income)	750,614	689,275	61,339	Total cost of services Actual is \$61.339 million lower than target primarily driven by lower payments across the Department's program of grants and subsidies, services and contracts expenses, offset by costs under the Fisheries Adjustment scheme. Carryovers to 2026-27 and out years have been approved in the 2026-27 WA State Government budget process, with further carryovers being requested through the 2026-27 WA State Government Mid-year Review.

1 As specified in the 2025-26 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2025-26 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 2025-26 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 2025-26 (continued)

	2026 Target ¹ (\$'000)	2026 Actual ² (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Explanation of variation ³
Net cost of services (details from Statement of comprehensive income)	607,480	560,027	47,453	Net cost of services Actual is \$47.453 million lower than target, partially driven by the reduction of \$61.339 million in Total cost of services as per above and a reduction in revenue, mainly as a result of the delay in receipt of Commonwealth funding for the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer program.
Total equity (details from Statement of financial position)	943,727	1,001,092	(57,365)	Actual equity is higher than target due to increase in the revaluation of land and buildings of \$138.5 million, an improvement in the accumulated deficit to target of \$73.6 million offset by a reduction of contributed equity of \$157.1 million, which includes a reallocation of capital works funding to Administered, due to the discontinuation of the planned investment in diagnostic laboratories at the Department's new State Biosecurity Response Centre (\$83.1 million) and the Primary Industries Research Centre (\$55 million) in the Perth metropolitan area, pending a decision on metropolitan accommodation for the Department.

1 As specified in the 2025-26 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2025-26 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 2025-26 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 2025-26 (continued)

	2026 Target ¹ (\$'000)	2026 Actual ² (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Explanation of variation ³
Approved salary expense level	234,054	249,428	(15,374)	The Salary expense level is \$15.374 million higher than target, largely due to supplementary funding received for salaries to deliver core services.
Agreed Borrowing Limit	2,958	20,960	(18,002)	Borrowings are \$18.002 million higher than target due to a Treasury advance received in 2023-24 relating to expenditure on WA Incident and Emergency response activities incurred in 2024-25 and 2025-26 which is expected to be recovered in 2026-27. The recovery of costs is in accordance with National Cost Sharing agreements in place.

1 As specified in the 2025-26 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2025-26 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 2025-26 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

	2026 Agreed Limit ¹ \$'000	2026 Target / Actual ² \$'000	Variation \$'000	Explanation of variation ³
Agreed working cash limit	36,739	95,395	58,656	The Actual working cash is higher than target as a result of lower CA funded payments across the Department's restricted program of grants and subsidies, services and contracts expenses and includes costs provisioned for the Fisheries Adjustment scheme, but not yet paid.

1 As specified in the 2025-26 DPIRD Budget Statements and resource agreement, which includes the department and the 9 RDCs.

2 To enable comparison against the 2025-26 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 2025-26 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.

Key performance indicator targets and results

This section summarises our results against our key performance indicator (KPI) targets in 2025-26. 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

		2024-25	2025-26		
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	1:2.16	1:1	1:1.02	+2%
2 Regional WA has the technology to grow and create jobs	2 Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's technology initiatives	98%	80%	97%	+17%
3 Regional WA has the skills and knowledge to grow and create jobs	3 Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's capability initiatives	82%	70%	84.7%	+14.7%
4 Regional WA has the social amenity, through recreational fisheries, to grow and create jobs	4 Percentage of clients satisfied with the department's management of recreational fishing	88%	85%	74%	-11%

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

		2024-25		2025-26	
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	28.6%	60%	44.4%	-15.6%
	5.2 Percentage of invasive aquatic pests and exotic diseases resolved appropriately	100%	60%	0%	-60%
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	-2.8%	0%	+2.9%	+2.9%
	6.2 Number of soil health extension workshops held	61	60	34	-43%
	6.3 Proportion of fish stocks identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation	89%	95%	87%	-8%
	6.4 Percentage of commercial and recreational fisheries where acceptable catches (or effort levels) are achieved	89%	90%	89%	-1%

Table 4: Key efficiency indicator targets, results and variations

				2024-25	2025-26		
Service		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	\$265.97	\$441.81	\$ 279.76	-37%
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	\$173.22	\$177.30	\$178.54	+1%
3	Regional technical and technological development	3	Average cost per hour to deliver regional technical and technological development	\$170.21	\$143.54	\$170.42	+19%
4	Regional skills and knowledge development	4	Average cost per hour to deliver regional skills and knowledge development	\$214.63	\$261.89	\$217.97	-17%
5	Regional social amenity development	5	Average cost per hour to deliver regional social amenity development	\$209.28	\$343.53	\$297.00	-14%
6	Agricultural and aquatic biosecurity and integrity	6	Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries biosecurity and integrity	\$180.32	\$170.94	\$187.94	+10%
7	Agricultural and fisheries natural resource management	7	Average cost per hour to deliver agricultural and fisheries natural resource management	\$150.70	\$165.30	\$206.52	+25%





Significant issues impacting the agency



Biosecurity threats

Biosecurity threats to WA's economy, industries, environment and communities continue to increase. The department plays a key role across prevention, preparedness, response and recovery from these threats, and is required to respond to multiple incursions of significant animal and plant pests. This includes polyphagous shot-hole borer and, most recently, H5 high pathogenicity avian influenza in migratory seabirds. 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.



Regional growth

Regional WA is a key driver of the state's economy offering opportunities for diversification and economic growth. The department will support the WA Government's Seven Cities vision for regional WA – a long-term plan to promote regional economic development and to deliver quality infrastructure and services throughout the state. The department will continue to invest in building regional capacity through enhancing digital connectivity, supporting new food and beverage enterprises, promoting value-adding opportunities, and facilitating tourism infrastructure. It is also focused on supporting Community Resource Centres, regional local content outcomes, access to affordable regional travel options, and 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. Research and development activities must also respond to an increasingly complex and changing operating environment including geopolitical shifts and climate impacts. The department is collaborating with industry stakeholders, government and research organisations to target our 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

2026

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 2026, 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 2026 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 2026 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.

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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 it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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.

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Report on the audit of controls

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, 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 2026, and the controls were implemented as designed as at 30 June 2026.

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.

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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 2026 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 2026 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 2026.

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.

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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 Department'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 2026, 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.

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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 for the year ended 30 June 2026 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 Department to confirm the information contained in the website version.



Grant Robinson
Assistant Auditor General Financial Audit
Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
11 September 2026

Financial statements

Certification of financial statements

For the reporting period ended 30 June 2026

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 2026 and the financial position as at 30 June 2026.

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 2026



Heather Brayford PSM
Accountable Authority
11 September 2026

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expenses	3.1.1	281,259	275,243
Supplies and services	3.3	129,131	143,559
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.1	28,158	24,764
Finance costs	7.3	2,628	1,263
Accommodation expenses	3.3	20,214	20,358
Other expenses	3.3	43,187	15,016
Grants and subsidies	3.2	181,103	156,164
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	4.5	811	765
Total cost of services		686,491	637,132
Income			
User charges and fees	4.2	51,862	53,776
Sale of goods	4.6	2,411	1,391
Services rendered		3,372	3,284
Grants and contributions	4.3	42,098	59,664
Other revenue	4.4	20,845	24,624
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method	6.6.1	7,287	6,438
Total income		127,875	149,177
NET COST OF SERVICES		558,616	487,955
Income from State Government			
Service appropriations	4.1	349,214	326,221
Other appropriations	4.1	5,045	3,894
Services received free of charge	4.1	1,496	2,951
Royalties for Regions Fund	4.1	186,276	172,450
Income from other public sector entities	4.1	9,568	12,004
Total income from State Government		551,599	517,520
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		(7,017)	29,565
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation reserve	9.11	70,156	60,673
Total other comprehensive income		70,156	60,673
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		63,139	90,238

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

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4.1	94,770	62,880
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4.2	148,733	157,793
Biological assets	6.5	4,187	4,761
Inventories	6.4	3,295	5,130
Receivables	6.1	24,964	20,178
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	6,078	6,026
Other current assets	6.3	11,752	10,114
Total Current Assets		293,779	266,882
Non-Current Assets			
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	264,699	249,786
Receivables	6.1	9,584	9,283
Other non-current assets	6.3	2,539	3,068
Investments accounted for using the equity method	6.6	62,711	53,753
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	5.1	521,430	447,875
Intangible assets	5.2	2,699	2,103
Right-of-use assets	5.3	46,276	37,468
Total non-current assets		909,938	803,336
TOTAL ASSETS		1,203,717	1,070,218
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	6.7	41,905	40,088
Contract liabilities	6.8	46,437	39,633
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	60,151	63,482
Borrowings	7.1	1,000	1,000
Amounts due to the Treasurer	6.9	19,000	19,360
Lease liabilities	7.2	7,357	5,404
Other current liabilities	6.10	18,694	1,690
Total current liabilities		194,544	170,657
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	11,734	6,215
Borrowings	7.1	-	1,000
Lease liabilities	7.2	39,236	30,768
Other non-current liabilities	6.10	1,781	2,412
Total Non-Current Liabilities		52,751	40,395
TOTAL LIABILITIES		247,295	211,052

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026 (continued)

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
NET ASSETS		956,422	859,166
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	9.11	763,610	729,493
Reserves	9.11	224,097	153,941
Accumulated deficit	9.11	(31,285)	(24,268)
TOTAL EQUITY		956,422	859,166

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 2026

	Notes	Contributed equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Accumulated deficit \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2024		670,401	93,268	(53,833)	709,836
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	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
Balance at 1 July 2025		729,493	153,941	(24,268)	859,166
Surplus/(deficit)		-	-	(7,017)	(7,017)
Other comprehensive income		-	70,156	-	70,156
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	70,156	(7,017)	63,139
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:	9.11				
Capital appropriations		23,350	-	-	23,350
Other contributions from owners					
- Drawdowns from Treasury Special Purpose Accounts		7,797	-	-	7,797
- Royalties for Region funding		2,970	-	-	2,970
Total		34,117	-	-	34,117
Balance at 30 June 2026		763,610	224,097	(31,285)	956,422

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 2026

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriations		324,272	301,384
Other appropriations		5,045	3,894
Capital contributions		23,350	54,605
Drawdowns from special purpose accounts		7,797	4,840
Holding account drawdown		9,977	5,930
Royalties for Regions Fund		189,246	175,297
Funds from other public sector entities		9,568	12,004
Net cash provided by State Government		569,255	557,954
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(278,966)	(272,386)
Supplies and services		(118,476)	(153,195)
Accommodation		(20,957)	(21,077)
Finance costs		(2,628)	(1,263)
GST payments on purchases		(34,223)	(34,656)
Other payments		(25,254)	(17,913)
Grants and subsidies		(185,519)	(166,898)
Receipts			
Sales of goods		2,411	1,391
Services rendered		4,576	3,284
Regulatory fees and fines		51,473	56,052
Grants and subsidies		45,536	67,062
Interest received		1,641	1,568
GST receipts on sales		5,534	4,428
GST receipts from taxation authority		29,277	31,065
Other receipts		19,174	22,063
Net cash used in operating activities	7.4.3	(506,401)	(480,475)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Investment in joint ventures		(1,672)	(3,750)
Purchase of non-current assets		(30,542)	(27,804)
Receipts			
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		44	131
Net cash used in investing activities		(32,170)	(31,423)

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2026 (continued)

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Principal elements of lease payments		(7,994)	(6,395)
Distribution of monies to the Rural Business Development Corporation		-	(3,200)
Repayment of borrowings		(9,860)	-
Receipts			
Proceeds from borrowings		10,000	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(7,854)	(9,595)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		22,830	36,461
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		220,673	184,212
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	7.4.3	243,503	220,673

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

Administered schedules for the year ended 30 June 2026

Administered income and expenses by service

	Regional industry and community development investment facilitation		Agricultural and fisheries natural resource management		Other		Total	
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS								
Income								
Interest revenue	4	3	-	-	1,166	1,323	1,170	1,326
Other revenue	-	2,172	41	556	-	5	41	2,733
Royalties for Regions	-	-	4,770	6,362	-	-	4,770	6,362
Regional Reform Fund	3,818	12,009	-	-	-	-	3,818	12,009
Service appropriations	-	-	1,550	1,550	-	-	1,550	1,550
Regulatory fees and charges	-	-	272	317	-	-	272	317
Total administered income	3,822	14,184	6,633	8,785	1,166	1,328	11,621	24,297
Expenses								
Grants & subsidies	2,837	17,492	9,630	6,904	-	-	12,467	24,396
Interest payments	-	-	-	-	902	1,034	902	1,034
Supplies and services	-	101	1,592	1,031	263	292	1,855	1,424
Total administered expenses	2,837	17,593	11,222	7,935	1,165	1,326	15,224	26,854

Administered schedules for the year ended 30 June 2026 (continued)

Administered assets and liabilities

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	-	5,259
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7,327	6,112
Receivables	8,571	11,488
Total administered current assets	15,898	22,859
Non-current assets		
Loan	7,823	14,996
Total administered non-current assets	7,823	14,996
TOTAL ADMINISTERED ASSETS	23,721	37,855
Current liabilities		
Payables	1,338	380
Borrowings	7,173	11,347
Total administered current liabilities	8,511	11,727
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	7,823	14,996
Total administered non-current liabilities	7,823	14,996
TOTAL ADMINISTERED NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	16,334	26,723

Index of notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

Subject	Note	Note title
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Department outputs	2.2	Schedule of income and expenses by service
Department outputs	2.3	Schedule of assets and liabilities by service
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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
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Our funding sources	4.2	User charges and fees
Our funding sources	4.3	Grants and contributions
Our funding sources	4.4	Other revenue
Our funding sources	4.5	Gains on disposal of non-current assets
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Key assets	5.1.1	Depreciation and impairment
Key assets	5.2	Intangible assets
Key assets	5.2.1	Amortisation and impairment
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Other assets and liabilities	6.1	Receivables
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Subject	Note	Note title
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Explanatory statements	10.1	Explanatory statement for controlled operations
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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 2026

1. Basis of preparation

The Department is a Western Australian (WA) Government entity and is controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The entity is not-for-profit. 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 2026.

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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

1. Basis of preparation (continued)

e) Joint research activities

The Department participates in 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 2026

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

The Department ensures enduring prosperity for all Western Australians through work with regions and primary industries. Department services contribute to the achievement of the **WA Government priorities for 2025-2029**, delivering on **economic diversification, environmental sustainability, and quality infrastructure and services** across our state.

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 Fisheries 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 2026

2.2. Schedule of income and expenses by service for the year ended 30 June 2026

	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	
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES								
Expenses								
Employee benefits expenses	42,761	40,891	17,198	17,517	47,709	49,091	21,940	19,772
Supplies and services	22,501	22,277	2,462	5,900	22,493	23,289	14,498	13,108
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	4,773	4,682	1,573	1,558	3,674	4,177	2,002	1,940
Finance costs	224	220	105	100	183	223	94	91
Accommodation expenses	3,061	3,332	889	2,545	2,651	3,172	1,337	1,420
Other expenses	3,830	1,952	459	297	5,200	6,529	2,102	948
Grants and subsidies	49,055	47,976	13,039	6,986	15,239	21,773	10,950	12,985
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	149	158	42	45	113	141	62	65
Total cost of services	126,354	121,488	35,767	34,948	97,262	108,395	52,985	50,329
Income								
User charges and fees	4	18	-	-	6	36	1,538	1,438
Sale of goods	20	5	-	-	2,267	1,320	43	17
Services rendered	60	85	-	-	483	682	151	74
Grants and contributions	1,848	3,133	-	-	19,094	22,504	6,010	5,649
Other revenue	3,760	4,585	38	246	3,115	5,660	814	1,809
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method	7,287	6,438	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	12,979	14,264	38	246	24,965	30,202	8,556	8,987
NET COST OF SERVICES	113,375	107,224	35,729	34,702	72,297	78,193	44,429	41,342
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT								
Service appropriations	65,181	63,109	9,960	9,884	50,174	56,318	28,048	26,844
Other appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services received free of charge	275	564	78	161	212	502	115	233
Royalties for Regions Fund	44,952	38,797	25,583	27,683	38,086	47,215	13,012	12,163
Income from other public sector entities	4,692	10,913	69	-	576	227	654	458
Total income from State Government	115,100	113,383	35,690	37,728	89,048	104,262	41,829	39,698
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	1,725	6,159	(39)	3,026	16,751	26,069	(2,600)	(1,644)

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 2026

2.2. Schedule of income and expenses by service for the year ended 30 June 2026 (continued)

	Regional Social Amenity Development		Agricultural and Fisheries Biosecurity and Integrity		Agricultural and Fisheries Natural Resource Management		Total	
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES								
Expenses								
Employee benefits expenses	26,007	23,728	76,703	77,580	48,941	46,664	281,259	275,243
Supplies and services	10,306	6,778	34,417	53,306	22,454	18,901	129,131	143,559
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	3,181	2,274	8,490	6,796	4,465	3,337	28,158	24,764
Finance costs	149	107	1,640	319	233	203	2,628	1,263
Accommodation expenses	2,148	1,816	5,455	5,237	4,673	2,836	20,214	20,358
Other expenses	2,675	1,476	4,628	2,104	24,293	1,710	43,187	15,016
Grants and subsidies	39,759	22,780	39,851	30,813	13,210	12,851	181,103	156,164
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	100	57	202	203	143	96	811	765
Total cost of services	84,325	59,016	171,386	176,358	118,412	86,598	686,491	637,132
Income								
User charges and fees	36,304	180	12,986	12,339	1,024	39,765	51,862	53,776
Sale of goods	19	7	34	38	28	4	2,411	1,391
Services rendered	6	-	2,515	2,346	157	97	3,372	3,284
Grants and contributions	4,773	2,476	5,419	24,446	4,954	1,456	42,098	59,664
Other revenue	1,510	1,356	9,090	6,183	2,518	4,785	20,845	24,624
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,287	6,438
Total income	42,612	4,019	30,044	45,352	8,681	46,107	127,875	149,177
NET COST OF SERVICES	41,713	54,997	141,342	131,006	109,731	40,491	558,616	487,955
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT								
Service appropriations	43,500	30,663	91,269	94,410	61,082	44,993	349,214	326,221
Other appropriations	-	-	2,523	1,947	2,522	1,947	5,045	3,894
Services received free of charge	184	272	373	818	259	401	1,496	2,951
Royalties for Regions Fund	41,019	19,082	16,090	17,640	7,534	9,870	186,276	172,450
Income from other public sector entities	524	-	780	129	2,273	277	9,568	12,004
Total income from State Government	85,227	50,017	111,035	114,944	73,670	57,488	551,599	517,520
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	43,514	(4,980)	(30,307)	(16,062)	(36,061)	16,997	(7,017)	29,565

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 2026

2.3. Schedule of assets and liabilities by service as at 30 June 2026

	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	
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Assets								
Current assets	54,072	50,888	15,307	14,639	41,623	45,405	22,675	21,082
Non-current assets	167,481	153,379	47,410	44,124	128,922	136,851	70,232	63,541
Total assets	221,553	204,267	62,717	58,763	170,545	182,256	92,907	84,623
Liabilities								
Current liabilities	35,807	32,540	10,136	9,361	27,563	29,034	15,016	13,481
Non-current liabilities	9,709	7,702	2,748	2,216	7,474	6,872	4,072	3,191
Total liabilities	45,516	40,242	12,884	11,577	35,037	35,906	19,088	16,672
NETS ASSETS	176,037	164,025	49,833	47,186	135,508	146,350	73,819	67,951

	Regional Social Amenity Development		Agricultural and Fisheries Biosecurity and Integrity		Agricultural and Fisheries Natural Resource Management		Total	
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Assets								
Current assets	36,087	24,720	73,343	73,873	50,672	36,275	293,779	266,882
Non-current assets	111,773	73,455	227,168	222,656	156,952	109,330	909,938	803,336
Total assets	147,860	98,175	300,511	296,529	207,624	145,605	1,203,717	1,070,218
Liabilities								
Current liabilities	23,897	15,807	48,568	47,238	33,557	23,196	194,544	170,657
Non-current liabilities	6,480	3,742	13,169	11,181	9,099	5,491	52,751	40,395
Total liabilities	30,377	19,549	61,737	58,419	42,656	28,687	247,295	211,052
NETS ASSETS	117,483	78,626	238,774	238,110	164,968	116,918	956,422	859,166

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 2026

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	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Employee benefits expenses	3.1.1	281,259	275,243
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	71,885	69,697
Grants and subsidies	3.2	181,103	156,164
Supplies and services	3.3	129,130	143,559
Accommodation expenses	3.3	20,214	20,358
Other expenses	3.3	43,187	15,016

3.1.1 Employee benefits expense

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Employee benefits expenses		
Employee benefits	217,838	210,561
Termination benefits	26	396
Superannuation-defined contribution plans	29,471	27,113
Long service leave	6,588	10,172
Annual leave	23,268	22,111
Other related expenses	4,068	4,890
Total employee benefits expenses	281,259	275,243
Add: AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits	8,842	6,669
Less: Employee Contributions	(1,697)	(1,597)
Net employee benefits	288,404	280,315

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 2026

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 Gold State Super (concurrent contributions), West State Super, the Government Employee Superannuation Board (GESB), 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.

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Employee benefits provisions		
Annual leave ^(a)	30,228	28,245
Deferred and purchased leave ^(b)	212	264
Long service leave ^(c)	29,015	34,249
	59,455	62,758
Other provisions		
Employee on-costs ^(d)	696	724
Total current employee related provisions	60,151	63,482
Non-current		
Employee benefits provisions		
Long service leave ^(c)	11,588	6,138
	11,588	6,138
Other provisions		
Employment on-costs ^(d)	146	77
Total non-current employee benefits provision	11,734	6,215
Total employee related provisions	71,885	69,697

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

3.1.2 Employee related provision (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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	17,959	16,852
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	12,269	11,393
	30,228	28,245

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 and purchase leave:** 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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	212	264
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	-	-
	212	264

- (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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	10,262	10,273
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	30,341	30,114
	40,603	40,387

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

3.1.2 Employee related provision (continued)

(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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Employment on cost provisions		
Carrying amount at start of period	801	742
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised	41	59
Carrying amount at end of period	842	801

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 2026

3.2. Grants and subsidies

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Recurrent		
Regional Community Services Fund	75,372	57,822
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	3,225	3,760
Small Grants Program	9,613	999
Other grant payments	92,893	93,583
Total grants and subsidies	181,103	156,164

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 2026

3.3. Other expenditure

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Professional services	48,467	68,559
Travel	6,410	6,917
Communications	5,070	5,026
Consumables	14,546	17,222
Change in biological assets and inventories	2,409	(7,087)
Lease, rent and hire costs	4,167	5,451
Consultancies expense	3,191	2,848
Utilities, rates and charges	4,043	4,589
Insurance	3,445	3,214
Licences, fees and registration	16,984	15,160
Advertising	1,601	1,365
	-	-
Minor equipment	4,369	6,136
Services purchased from non-government agencies	14,250	13,867
General administration costs	179	292
Total supplies and services expenses	129,131	143,559
Rental	15,409	13,850
Repairs and maintenance	4,805	6,508
Total accommodation expenses	20,214	20,358
Expected credit losses expense	106	(349)
Donations and sponsorships and miscellaneous	280	1,195
Employment on-costs	1,531	928
Return of unused grants	11,092	2,860
Act of Grace payments	1,815	-
Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme	18,186	-
Fisheries adjustment scheme buybacks	136	20
Audit Fees	922	1,233
Repairs and services for assets	8,218	9,129
Impairment losses	901	-
Total other expenses	43,187	15,016
Total other expenditure	192,532	178,933

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: Minor equipment 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 Housing and Works for the leasing of office accommodation contain significant substitution rights.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

3.3. Other expenditure (continued)

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

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

Expected credit loss: Expected credit losses is 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.

Employment 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.

Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme: The estimated compensation liability for the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme established under the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987 is \$20.0 million, based on the compensation developed for budget funding purposes. As at 30 June 2026, \$1.815 million has been paid through Act of Grace arrangements. A further \$0.18 million is payable under the scheme. A provision of \$18.0 million has therefore been recognised for the remaining estimated compensation payable to eligible fishers. Final payments may differ from the provision and are subject to negotiation and, where necessary, determination by the State Administrative Tribunal.

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	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Income from State Government	4.1	551,599	517,520
User charges and fees	4.2	51,862	53,776
Sale of goods	4.6	2,411	1,391
Services rendered		3,372	3,284
Grants and contributions	4.3	42,098	59,664
Other revenue	4.4	20,845	24,624
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	4.5	(811)	(765)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

4.1. Income from State Government

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Appropriations received during the period:		
Service appropriations	349,214	326,221
Other appropriations	5,045	3,894
	354,259	330,115
Resources received free of charge from other State government agencies during the period:		
Landgate	31	1,441
State Solicitor's Office	1,002	630
Department of Housing and Works	417	692
Department of Transport	34	33
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	-	108
Western Australia Treasury Corporation	-	30
Western Australian Meat Industry Authority	10	12
Main Roads	-	5
Department of Fire & Emergency Services	2	-
Total resources received	1,496	2,951
Income received from other public sector entities during the period:		
Department of Energy and Economic Diversification	200	-
Landgate	113	
Fremantle Ports Authority	22	22
Kimberley Ports Authority	24	19
Pilbara Ports Authority	68	68
Southern Ports Authority	37	37
Mid West Ports Authority	22	22
Department of Transport	4	-
Department of Biodiversity, Conversation and Attractions	577	573
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	1,424	3,168
Department of Energy and Economic Diversification	-	150
Department of Planning Lands and Heritage	113	-
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	560	460
Rural Business Development Corporation	540	260
Administered - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	5,514	6,475
Public Transport Authority of Western Australia	350	750
Total other income from State Government	9,568	12,004
Royalties for Regions Fund		
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account	3,941	2,452
Regional Community Services Account	121,131	107,056

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

4.1. Income from State Government (continued)

Regional and Statewide Initiatives	61,204	62,942
Total Royalties for Regions Fund	186,276	172,450
Total income from State Government	551,599	517,520

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

Income from other public sector entities are 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.

Summary of consolidated account appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026 Budget estimate \$'000	2026 Supplementary funding \$'000	2026 Section 25 Transfers \$'000	2026 Revised budget \$'000	2026 Actual \$'000	2026 Variance \$'000
Delivery of Services						
Item 43 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	290,631	59,572	-	350,203	341,933	8,270
Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007	3,574	-	-	3,574	3,574	-
Salaries & Allowances Act 1975	3,707	-	-	3,707	3,707	-
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	297,912	59,572	-	357,484	349,214	8,270
Capital						
Item 120 Capital appropriations ^(a)	163,200	-	-	163,200	23,350	139,850
Administered Transactions						
Item 44 Administered grants, subsidies and other transfer payments	1,550	-	-	1,550	1,550	-
GRAND TOTAL	462,662	59,572	-	522,234	374,114	148,120

- a) The \$139.8 million decrease from 2025–26 Budget to 2025–26 Estimated Actual primarily relates to the planned investment in modular laboratories at the Department's State Biosecurity Response Centre (\$83.1 million) and the Primary Industries Research Centre (\$55 million) in the Perth metropolitan area which have been transferred to Administered for the department's New Metropolitan Facility.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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 2025/26 Budget Statements of \$122.27 million, the Department retained \$114.8 million in 2025/26 from the following:

- proceeds from fees, fines and charges
- 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.

4.2. User charges and fees

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Access fees	28,499	30,435
Regulatory fees and services	15,007	14,354
Recreational licence fees	8,356	8,987
Total user charges and fees	51,862	53,776

Revenue is recognised when the Department becomes entitled to consideration in accordance with the relevant legislative, contractual or regulatory arrangements.

Revenue is recognised for the Department's major revenue streams as follows:

Access fees and recreational licence fees

Revenue from recreational licence fees, commercial fishing licence fees, commercial application fees and access fees, other than West Coast Rock Lobster access fees, is recognised at the time of receipt. For licences subject to approved instalment payment arrangements, revenue is recognised in the financial year to which the licence entitlement relates.

West Coast Rock Lobster access fees are recognised by reference to the actual catch to date as a proportion of the total quota for the access period, with revenue recognised in the financial year to which the underlying fishing entitlement relates.

Amounts received in advance of the relevant entitlement or access period are recognised as deferred revenue until the associated rights are provided.

Regulatory fees and services

Regulatory fees and services include fees and charges received under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* Industry Funding Schemes, together with revenue from regulatory activities, inspections, permits, registrations, fines and penalties.

Revenue is recognised when the Department becomes entitled to the fee or when the related service has been provided. This generally occurs at the time cash is received.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

4.3. Grants and contributions

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Commonwealth grants		
Commonwealth National Partnership Agreements	9,467	29,107
Federation Funding Agreement	-	590
Director of National Parks	425	429
Fisheries Research and Development Corporation	776	1,060
Other grants from the Commonwealth	698	398
Indian Ocean Territories	783	571
Other grants		
Grains Research & Development Corporation	17,485	11,651
Developing Northern Australia Limited (CRCNA)	1,380	526
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	1,163	1,275
Murdoch University	1,070	1,221
ZNE-Ag CRC Limited	916	53
The University of Queensland	838	948
Meat & Livestock Australia Limited	573	328
Pilbara Iron Company (Services) Pty Ltd	560	559
Queensland University of Technology	487	948
University of Melbourne	457	178
Northern Biosecurity Group	374	144
Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited	352	444
The University of Adelaide	1,056	3,066
Other grants and subsidies	3,238	6,168
Total grants and contributions	42,098	59,664

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 satisfy 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, income is recognised when the Department obtains control of the funds.
- 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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

4.3. Grants and contributions (continued)

Grants can be general purpose or specific purpose. 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.

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:

- 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.

4.4. Other revenue

	\$'000	\$'000
Return of grant allocations	1,998	2,346
Royalties	1,051	2,113
Rents and leases	3,020	2,680
Interest revenue	1,693	1,594
Recoups and recoveries	7,341	8,132
Cost share recovery	5,742	7,759
Total other revenue	20,845	24,624

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 relate 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 primarily relate to the recovery of costs and recoupment of expenditure from other entities for services provided by the Department, including amounts that are not part of formal cost share recovery arrangements. Revenue is recognised when the Department becomes entitled to consideration, generally on the issuance of an invoice 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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

4.5. Loss on disposal of non-current assets

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Net Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets		
Infrastructure	-	6
Vehicles and buses	7	60
Equipment	14	-
Plant and machinery	6	-
Marine vessels	135	70
	162	136
Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed		
Buildings	(601)	(786)
Computer and communications equipment	(11)	-
Office equipment	(34)	-
Vehicles and buses	-	(21)
Infrastructure	(64)	(17)
Plant and machinery	(115)	(30)
Marine vessels	(102)	(47)
Intangibles	(46)	-
	(973)	(901)
Net loss on disposal	(811)	(765)

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.

4.6. Sales of goods

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Sales of goods	2,411	1,391

Revenue from the sale of goods relates to proceeds from the sale of surplus goods and incidental produce generated through the Department's operations. Revenue is recognised in accordance with AASB 15 when control of the goods passes to the customer.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	5.1	521,430	447,875
Intangible assets	5.2	2,699	2,103
Right-of-use assets	5.3	46,276	37,468

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 2026											
1 July 2025											
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)
Carrying amount at start of period	208,409	138,363	387	862	3,913	16,388	9,744	1,744	42,526	25,539	447,875
Additions	-	2,730	2,347	-	2,230	4,298	5,193	517	3,676	2,021	23,012
Transfers	-	441	3,460	(130)	38	210	(1,262)	4	(355)	(1,938)	468
Disposals	-	(600)	-	(10)	(15)	(84)	(102)	-	-	-	(811)
Revaluations increments/(decrements)	56,923	13,233	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,156
Write-down of assets ^(b)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(901)	(901)
Write-off of assets	-	-	-	(1)	(19)	(31)	-	-	(32)	-	(83)
Depreciation	-	(9,457)	(67)	(166)	(679)	(3,727)	(1,750)	(593)	(1,847)	-	(18,286)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2026	265,332	144,710	6,127	555	5,468	17,054	11,823	1,672	43,968	24,721	521,430
Gross carrying amount ^(a)	265,332	152,477	6,340	2,751	12,426	69,960	28,559	14,034	63,469	24,721	640,069
Accumulated depreciation	-	56	(213)	(2,162)	(6,896)	(50,128)	(16,736)	(12,339)	(19,415)	-	(107,833)
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) Following the decision to relocate the Metropolitan Facility Project from Murdoch to Malaga, a review of associated capital expenditure was performed. This review resulted in the recognition of an expense of \$901,429 for costs that no longer met the criteria for capitalisation.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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

	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)	28,824	23,165	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51,989
(Impairment losses) / Reversal of impairment ^(d)	-	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 ^(c)	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)

- c) 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.
- d) 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 laboratory until replacement facilities are commissioned at the New Metropolitan Facility. Accordingly, the impairment loss recognised in 2023-24 for the laboratory and the assets held within has been reversed in 2024-25.

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 2026

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 2025, with valuations performed during the year ended 30 June 2026 and recognised at 30 June 2026.

In undertaking the valuation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land \$2.5 million (\$2.1 million in 2024/25) and buildings \$1.0 million (\$0.8 million in 2024/25). 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 2026

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

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment

Charge for the period	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Buildings	5.1	9,457	7,596
Computer and communications equipment	5.1	166	259
Office and other equipment	5.1	679	571
Plant and machinery	5.1	3,727	3,165
Lease improvements	5.1	67	46
Marine vessels	5.1	1,750	1,530
Infrastructure	5.1	1,847	1,742
Vehicles and buses	5.1	593	618
Total depreciation for the period		18,286	15,527

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 2026

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

5.2. Intangible assets

	Computer software \$'000	Capital works in progress \$'000	Total \$'000
Year ended 30 June 2026			
1 July 2025			
Gross carrying amount	37,490	1,566	39,056
Accumulated amortisation	(36,953)	-	(36,953)
Carrying amount at start of period	537	1,566	2,103
Additions	-	1,264	1,264
Transfer from capital works in progress	-	(358)	(358)
Disposals	(47)	-	(47)
Amortisation expense	(263)	-	(263)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2026	227	2,472	2,699
Gross carrying amount	20,461	2,472	22,933
Accumulated amortisation	(20,234)	-	(20,234)
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)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Intangible assets	263	2,122
Total amortisation for the period	263	2,122

As at 30 June 2026 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 2026

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 2026

5.3. Right-of-use assets

	Employee housing \$'000	Vehicles \$'000	Commercial premises ^(a) \$'000	Total \$'000
Year ended 30 June 2026				
1 July 2025				
Gross carrying amount	9,033	14,082	43,353	66,468
Accumulated amortisation	(3,630)	(7,746)	(17,624)	(29,000)
Carrying amount at start of period	5,403	6,336	25,729	37,468
Additions	7,458	5,408	8,241	21,107
Disposals	(2,635)	(55)	-	(2,690)
Depreciation	(3,533)	(3,060)	(3,016)	(9,609)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2026	6,693	8,629	30,954	46,276
Gross carrying amount	10,731	16,601	51,594	78,926
Accumulated amortisation	(4,038)	(7,972)	(20,640)	(32,650)
Year ended 30 June 2025				
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)

a) Commercial premises relate primarily to right of use assets for the Department's State Biosecurity Response Centre and the Primary Industries Research Centre.

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 2026

5.3. Right-of-use assets (continued)

The Department has leases for vehicles, commercial premises and employee housing.

The Department has also entered into Memorandum of Understanding Agreements with the Department of Housing and Works for the leasing of office accommodation. These are not recognised under AASB16 *Leases* because of substitution rights held by the Department of Housing and Works and are accounted for as an expense as incurred.

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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Employee housing	3,533	3,351
Vehicles	3,060	2,606
Office accommodation	3,016	1,158
Total right-of-use depreciation	9,609	7,115
Lease interest expense (included in Finance Cost)	2,578	1,184

The total cash outflow for leases in 2025/26 was \$7.62 million (2024/25 was \$7.56 million). At 30 June 2026 there was no indication of impairment to right-of-use assets.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Receivables	6.1	34,548	29,461
Amounts receivable for services (holding account)	6.2	270,777	255,812
Other assets	6.3	14,291	13,182
Inventories	6.4	3,295	5,130
Biological assets	6.5	4,187	4,761
Joint arrangements	6.6	62,711	53,753
Payables	6.7	41,905	40,088
Contract liabilities	6.8	46,437	39,633
Amounts due to the Treasurer	6.9	19,000	19,360
Other liabilities	6.10	20,475	4,102

6.1. Receivables

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Trade receivables	22,052	15,872
Allowance for impairment of trade receivables	(403)	(441)
GST receivable	2,895	3,664
Interest receivable	43	5
Other debtors	377	1,078
Total current	24,964	20,178
Non-current		
Accrued salaries account ^(a)	9,584	8,055
Other debtors	-	1,228
Total non-current	9,584	9,283
Total receivables	34,548	29,461

- a) Funds transferred to the Department of Treasury and Finance for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a reporting period that generally occurs every 11 years. This account is classified as noncurrent except for the year before the 27th pay year.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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 Department 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.

6.1.1 Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Reconciliation of changes in the allowances for impairment of trade receivables:		
Opening balance	441	836
Expected credit losses expense	(38)	(395)
Balance at end of period	403	441

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)

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current	6,078	6,026
Non-current	264,699	249,786
Balance at end of period	270,777	255,812

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 2026

6.3. Other assets

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Prepaid goods and services	2,070	4,622
Doppler radar maintenance ^(a)	530	530
Contract asset	9,152	4,962
Total current assets	11,752	10,114
Non-current		
Doppler radar maintenance ^(a)	2,487	3,017
Unlisted shares	52	51
Total non-current assets	2,539	3,068
Balance at the end of period	14,291	13,182

- 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.

Contract assets relate primarily to the Department's right for consideration for research activities completed but not billed at reporting date. Contract assets are transferred to receivables when the rights become unconditional which usually occurs when the Department issues and invoice to the funding body. No information is provided about remaining performance obligations at 30 June 2026 and 30 June 2025 that are part of contracts that have an original expected duration of one year or less, as allowed by AASB 15: *Revenue from contracts with customers*.

6.4. Inventories

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Inventories held for resale		
Agricultural produce	47	43
Raw materials and stores	3,248	5,087
Balance at end of period	3,295	5,130

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 2026

6.5. Biological assets

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.

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Livestock	882	677
Field crops	1,198	720
Aquaculture items	2,107	3,364
Balance at end of period	4,187	4,761
Balance at 1 July 2025	4,761	743
Purchases	747	4,018
Sales of livestock	(1,321)	-
Balance at 30 June 2026	4,187	4,761

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

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Share of gain/(loss) in joint venture/s using the equity method	7,287	6,438
	7,287	6,438
Investments in joint venture/s at initial cost of investment	62,940	60,689
Share of profit/(loss) using the equity method	(229)	(6,936)
Investment in joint venture/s	62,711	53,753

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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 party in:

- **InterGrain Pty Ltd** which 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 2026, 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)** which was incorporated on 24 October 2012. The primary aim of the joint venture, was 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. WAAA previously held a 50% stake in AEGIC. On 31 December 2025, WAAA resigned as a member of AEGIC and remaining assets were transferred to AEGIC upon resignation.

The equity method was used to account for the Department's investment in AEGIC until 31 December 2025. On resignation, the Department recognised a loss on disposal of its remaining stake in AEGIC. As at 30 June 2026, AEGIC has integrated into Grains Australia.

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:

	2026 \$'000 InterGrain	2025 \$'000 InterGrain	2026 \$'000 AEGIC	2025 \$'000 AEGIC
Current assets	98,353	83,853	-	3,709
Non-current assets	43,165	23,579	-	3,322
Total assets	141,518	107,432	-	7,031
Current liabilities	21,198	15,165	-	4,426
Non-current liabilities	12,093	2,821	-	313
Total liabilities	33,291	17,986	-	4,739
Net assets	108,227	89,446	-	2,292
Revenue	69,984	59,625	-	11,291
Expenses	(50,203)	(43,547)	-	(11,056)
Net gain/(loss)	19,781	16,078	-	235

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Non-current assets		
Land	2,900	2,405
Building	2,281	2,199
Balance at end of period	5,181	4,604

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 reserve in Forrestfield was established in 1993, and the Department has been vested with control of the land for the protection of fauna and flora located on the site. The Department has been responsible for all costs in regard to maintaining the site and any proposed future developments. It was valued by Landgate at \$670,000 in 2025/26 (\$550,000 in 2024/25).
- (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 2025/26 at \$4.51 million (land \$2.23 million and buildings \$2.28 million), (\$4.05 million in 2024/25; land \$1.85 million and buildings \$2.20 million).

6.7. Payables

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Trade payables	15,497	11,207
Accrued expenses	15,805	20,628
Accrued salaries	8,268	6,628
Other payables	2,335	1,625
Balance at end of period	41,905	40,088

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 2026

6.8. Contract liabilities

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Contract liabilities	29,429	23,530
Deferred revenue	17,008	16,103
Total contract liabilities	46,437	39,633

The Department's contract liabilities mainly relate to revenue received in advance of satisfying performance obligations. Deferred revenue primarily comprises fisheries licence access fees received in advance and recognised over the period to which the licences relate.

Movement in contract liabilities

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Reconciliation of changes in contract liabilities		
Opening balance	39,633	35,511
Additions	31,198	27,905
Revenue recognised in the reporting period	(24,394)	(23,783)
Balance at end of period	46,437	39,633

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

6.9. Amounts due to the Treasurer

Current

2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
19,000	19,360

The amount due to the Treasurer is in respect of a Treasurer's Advance. This amount is payable within 12 months after the reporting period. No interest is charged on the outstanding amount. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value.

6.10. Other liabilities

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Native Title Settlements payable	694	1,690
Provision for Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme	18,000	-
Total current liabilities	18,694	1,690
Non-Current		
Native Title Settlements payable	1,781	2,412
Total non-current liabilities	1,781	2,412
Balance at end of period	20,475	4,102

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

7. Financing

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

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Borrowings	7.1	1,000	2,000
Lease liabilities	7.2	46,593	36,172
Finance costs	7.3	2,628	1,263
Reconciliation of cash	7.4.1	94,770	62,880
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4.2	148,733	157,793
Capital commitments	7.5	15,814	450,677

7.1 Borrowings

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation	1,000	1,000
Non-current		
Borrowings from Western Australian Treasury Corporation	-	1,000
Balance at end of period	1,000	2,000

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. Subsequent to initial recognition the interest bearing borrowings are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised or through the amortisation process.

The Department has not designated any financial liabilities as at fair value through profit or loss

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

7.2. Lease liabilities

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current	7,357	5,404
Non-current	39,236	30,768
Total lease liabilities	46,593	36,172

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 2026

7.3. Finance costs

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Finance costs		
WATC borrowing charges	23	47
Foreign exchange differences	27	32
Lease interest expense	2,578	1,184
Finance costs expensed	2,628	1,263

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

7.4. Cash and cash equivalents

7.4.1 Reconciliation of cash

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents		
Reconciliation of cash		
Cash advances	8	9
Cash at bank ^(a)	94,762	62,871
Total cash and cash equivalents	94,770	62,880

For the purpose of the Statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents (and restricted cash and cash equivalents) 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 are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

- a) Includes cash received as capital contributions remaining unspent at year-end of \$34.3 million (2025: \$22.4 million).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

7.4.2 Restricted cash and cash equivalents

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Current		
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		
Royalties for Regions fund ^(a)	30,854	44,422
Commonwealth fund and other restricted	32,066	32,400
Trust Account	919	120
Special purpose accounts ^(b)		
Agriculture Research Grants Account No. 1 (non-interest bearing)	28,185	23,042
Agriculture Research Grants Account No. 2	7,662	8,683
Commonwealth Agriculture Activity Grants (non-interest bearing)	3,302	6,368
Plant Research and Development	8,067	5,834
Cattle Industry Funding Scheme	5,723	5,632
Declared Pest Account	4,698	3,825
Land Conservation Districts Fund	306	237
Grain, Seeds and Hay Industry Funded Scheme	6,111	4,610
Sheep and Goats Industry Funding Scheme	3,404	3,373
Fisheries Research and Development Account	6,471	6,744
Recreational Fishing Account	9,788	10,486
Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account	1,177	2,017
Co-operative Companies Loans Account	-	-
Exotic Diseases of Animals (Compensation and Eradication) Account	-	-
Fishing Industry Promotion Training and Management Levy Account	-	-
Total current	148,733	157,793
Total restricted cash and cash equivalents	148,733	157,793

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 2026

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

	Notes	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'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	94,770	62,880
Restricted cash and cash equivalents: current	7.4.2	148,733	157,793
		243,503	220,673
Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities			
Net cost of services		(558,616)	(487,955)
Non-cash items			
Net (gain)/loss on sale of assets	4.5	811	765
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.1	28,158	24,764
Expected credit loss expense		106	(349)
Write-down / Write-off of assets		984	-
Resources received free of charge	4.1	1,496	2,951
Other non-cash items:			
Share of net (profit)/loss in joint ventures using equity method	6.6.1	(7,287)	(6,438)
(Increase)/decrease in assets			
Biological assets		574	(4,018)
Inventories		1,835	(3,069)
Receivables ^(a)		(806)	7,365
Other assets		(1,109)	(5,876)
Increase/(decrease) in liabilities			
Payables		1,500	(15,846)
Contract liabilities		6,804	4,122
Provisions		2,188	5,199
Native Title Settlement payable		(1,627)	(2,927)
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(b)		588	837
Other liabilities		18,000	-
Net cash used in operating activities		(506,401)	(480,475)

- 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 2026

7.5. Capital commitments

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
The commitments below are inclusive of GST where relevant.		
Within 1 year	11,243	107,448
Later than 1 year	4,571	343,229
Total capital commitments	15,814	450,677

The decrease in total capital commitments is primarily attributable to the cancellation of purchase orders relating to the New Metropolitan Facility (\$298.6 million) and State Biosecurity Response Centre (\$80.9 million) projects. Replacement purchase orders are expected to be established as procurement activities progress, and therefore the reduction in commitments does not reflect a reduction in the planned capital expenditure for these projects.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

8. Risks and contingencies

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

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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

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

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 0(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:

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	243,503	220,673
Financial assets at amortised cost(a)	292,646	271,554
Available for sale financial assets	52	51
Loans and advances	200	2,000
Total financial assets	536,401	494,278
Financial liabilities		
Other financial liabilities	128,973	101,722
Total financial liabilities	128,973	101,722

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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 2026						
Expected credit loss rate		0.09%	1.54%	4.81%	2.85%	4.41%
Estimated total gross carrying amount at default	22,052	12,651	518	208	597	8,078
Expected credit losses	(403)	(12)	(8)	(10)	(17)	(356)
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)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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										
	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Carrying amount \$'000	Fixed interest rate \$'000	Variable interest rate \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	Nominal amount \$'000	Maturity Dates				
							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
2026											
Financial assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	-	94,770	-	-	94,770	94,770	94,770	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	4.38	148,733	-	35,971	112,762	148,733	148,733	-	-	-	-
Receivables (a)	-	21,692	-	-	21,692	21,692	12,809	208	597	8,078	-
Available for sale financial assets	-	52	-	-	52	52	-	-	-	52	-
Loans and advances	0.76	377	200	-	177	377	177	-	200	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	270,777	-	-	270,777	270,777	-	-	6,078	23,712	240,987
		536,401	200	35,971	500,230	536,401	256,489	208	6,875	31,842	240,987
Financial Liabilities											
Payables	-	41,905	-	-	41,905	41,905	41,905	-	-	-	-
Lease liabilities (b)	5.09	46,593	-	46,593	-	48,437	773	1,501	6,316	21,253	18,594
WATC borrowings	0.76	1,000	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	-
Treasurer's advance	-	19,000	-	-	19,000	19,000	-	-	19,000	-	-
Other liabilities	-	20,475	-	-	20,475	20,475	-	-	20,475	-	-
		128,973	1,000	46,593	81,380	130,817	42,678	1,501	46,791	21,253	18,594

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 \$6.62 million from leased vehicles, \$5.51 million from residential accommodation leases, and \$25.73 million from other commercial leases.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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										
	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Carrying amount \$'000	Interest Rate Exposure			Nominal amount \$'000	Maturity Dates				
			Fixed interest rate \$'000	Variable interest rate \$'000	Non- interest bearing \$'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	225,074
		494,278	2,306	32,077	459,895	494,278	236,109	-	8,332	24,763	225,074
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	21,227
WATC borrowings	0.84	2,000	2,000	-	-	2,000	-	-	1,000	1,000	-
Treasurer's advance	-	19,360	-	-	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	21,227

(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 \$6.62 million from leased vehicles, \$5.52 million from residential accommodation leases, and \$24.05 million from other commercial leases.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

8.1. Financial risk management (continued)

(e) Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The Department is exposed to interest rate risk on its restricted cash \$36.6 million in 2025/26 (\$32.1 million in 2024/25) 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 \$0.37 million depending upon whether interest rates increased/decreased. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Carrying amount \$'000	Interest rate sensitivity analysis			
		-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000	Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000
2026					
Financial Assets					
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	35,971	(360)	(360)	360	360
Loans and advances	200	(2)	(2)	2	2
Financial Liabilities					
WATC borrowings	(1,000)	8	8	(8)	(8)
Lease liabilities	(46,593)	466	466	(466)	(466)
Total increase/(decrease)	(11,422)	112	112	(112)	(112)
	Carrying amount \$'000	Interest rate sensitivity analysis			
		-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000	Surplus \$'000	Equity \$'000
2025					
Financial Assets					
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	32,077	(321)	(321)	321	321
Loans and advances	2,306	(23)	(23)	23	23
Financial Liabilities					
WATC borrowings	(2,000)	20	20	(20)	(20)
Lease liabilities	(36,172)	362	362	(362)	(362)
Total increase/(decrease)	(3,789)	38	38	(38)	(38)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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

As at 30 June 2026, the Department has no contingent assets.

8.2.2 Contingent liabilities

Litigation in progress

There is one personal injuries litigation claim against the Department and the State in the District Court of WA. This matter has been referred to the Department's insurer, the Insurance Commission of WA. The potential financial effect is estimated to be \$200,000.

Contaminated sites

Under the *Contaminated Sites Act 2003*, 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 35 sites registered with DWER as possibly contaminated and three sites registered as contaminated. The Department is unable to assess the likely outcome of the classification process, and accordingly, it is not practicable to estimate the potential financial effect or to identify the uncertainties relating to the amount or timing of any outflows. 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 costs that may be required.

Other matters:

Under the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987, a Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme (VFAS) was established for eligible commercial fishers operating in fisheries that may be affected by the implementation of marine parks in the Kimberley and South Coast regions. Eligible fishers may receive compensation for the voluntary surrender of fishing authorisations or entitlements.

Applications received under the VFAS have been assessed by the VFAS Committee of Management. The amount of any future compensation payable is dependent on the outcome of the offer and acceptance process relating to the voluntary surrender of fishing authorisations and entitlements. As this process remains ongoing, compensation amounts have not yet been finalised, and no binding compensation arrangements have been entered into at reporting date. Accordingly, no present obligation existed at reporting date, and no liability has been recognised in the financial statements. The amount of any future compensation payments cannot yet be reliably estimated by the Department.

In addition, the final compensation payable under the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme may differ from the amount recognised as a provision. Compensation amounts remain subject to negotiation and, where agreement cannot be reached, may be determined through review by the State Administrative Tribunal. As a result, the final settlement amount may differ from the provision recognised at 30 June 2026. Any additional obligation arising from the final determination of compensation cannot be reliably estimated at the reporting date.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

8.3 Fair value measurements

	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
2026			
Land (note 5.1)	2,480	262,852	265,332
Buildings (note 5.1)	996	143,714	144,710
	3,476	406,566	410,042
	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

There were no 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
2026		
Fair value at start of period	206,276	137,613
Additions	-	2,730
Revaluation increments recognised in other comprehensive income	56,576	12,870
Other transfers	-	427
Disposals	-	(600)
Depreciation expense	-	(9,326)
Fair value at end of period	262,852	143,714

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

8.3 Fair value measurements (continued)

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

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

8.3 Fair value measurements (continued)

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.

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
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Services provided free of charge	9.10
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.1. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

Subsequent to 30 June 2026, the Management Order that DPIRD held over the Kensington site was revoked and ownership of the Kensington site land, valued at approximately \$111 million based on a recent Landgate valuation, was transferred from DPIRD to the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage on 15 July 2026.

From 30 July 2026, management of the site is vested with DevelopmentWA. The Department remains an occupant of part of the site under a five-year peppercorn lease with DevelopmentWA, with land to be surrendered progressively in accordance with the lease arrangements.

9.2. Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards

The following standards are first applied for the reporting period ended on 30 June 2026:

- AASB 2023-5 – Amendments to Australia Accounting Standards – Lack of Exchangeability
- AASB 2024-4a – Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128
- AASB 2026-1 – Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosures about Uncertainties in the Financial Statements

There were no material impacts to the Department as a result of the implementation of new accounting standards for the year ended 30 June 2026.

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 on/after 1 Jan 2026

AASB 2024-2	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments</i> 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	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements Volume 11</i> 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
AASB 2025-1	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Contracts Referencing Nature-dependent Electricity</i> This Standard amends AASB 7 and AASB 9 as a consequence of the issuance of IFRS Contracts Referencing Nature-dependent Electricity (Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7) by the International Accounting Standards Board in December 2024. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2026

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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 2028

AASB 18 (NFP/Super)	<i>Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements (Appendix D) [not-for-profit and superannuation entities]</i> 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 International Financial Reporting Standard 18 Presentation and Disclosure in financial Statements by the International Accounting Standards Board in April 2024. 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.	1 Jan 2028
AASB 2014-10	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture</i> 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. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2028
AASB 2024-4b	<i>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]</i> 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. There is no financial impact.	1 Jan 2028

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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:

	2026	2025
Compensation band (\$)		
100,001 - 150,000	-	1
200,001 - 250,000	-	1
250,001 - 300,000	1	-
300,001 - 350,000	3	3
350,001 - 400,000	1	-
400,001 - 450,000	1	1
	6	6

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Short-term employee benefits	1,833	1,603
Post-employment benefits	166	128
Other long-term benefits	62	39
Total compensation of senior officers	2,061	1,770

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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	\$239,751
Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions	\$139,000
Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure	\$159,458
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	\$1,000,000
Western Australian Meat Industry Authority	\$124,509
Gascoyne Development Commission	\$1,283,000
Goldfields Esperance Development Commission	\$1,731,000
Great Southern Development Commission	\$828,500
Kimberley Development Commission	\$958,000
Mid West Development Commission	\$1,329,500
Peel Development Commission	\$1,105,750
Pilbara Development Commission	\$2,267,898
South West Development Commission	\$2,671,000
Western Australian Land Authority	\$5,680,000
Western Australian Museum	\$1,167,000
Wheatbelt Development Commission	\$804,250

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.5 Related party transactions (continued)

Significant transactions with government-related entities (continued)

- Supplies and services (note 3.3) includes:

Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions	\$59,618
Department of Energy and Economic Diversification	\$249,747
Department of Housing and Works	\$5,247,424
Department of Transport	\$400,848
Department of Treasury and Finance	\$790,359
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	\$78,000
Kimberley Port Authority	\$92,788
RiskCover	\$3,393,498
Synergy	\$157,436
Water Corporation	\$254,783
South West Development Commission	\$116,842
- Accommodation lease payments (note 3.3) includes:

- Department of Housing and Works	\$13,758,753
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	\$84,168
- Fremantle Port Authority	\$186,418
- Mid West Ports Authority	\$54,874
- 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 2026

9.5. Related party transactions (continued)

- Other revenue (note 4.4) includes:

Agricultural Produce Commission	\$90,316
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	\$557,757
Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions	\$329,911
Rural Business Development Corporation	\$174,222

- 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 Funding Scheme
- The Grains, Seeds and Hay Industry Funding Scheme
- The Sheep and Goat Industry Funding 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 2026

9.8. Special purpose accounts

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'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	23,042	21,020
Receipts	33,326	28,866
Payments	(28,183)	(26,844)
Balance at end of period	28,185	23,042
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	8,683	8,774
Receipts	2,461	3,118
Payments	(3,482)	(3,209)
Balance at end of period	7,662	8,683
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	6,368	7,935
Receipts	580	2,151
Payments	(3,646)	(3,718)
Balance at end of period	3,302	6,368
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	5,834	4,934
Receipts	2,236	1,235
Payments	(3)	(335)
Balance at end of period	8,067	5,834

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Cattle Industry Funding 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	5,632	5,652
Receipts	456	417
Payments	(365)	(437)
Balance at end of period	5,723	5,632
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	3,825	4,006
Receipts	7,381	7,470
Payments	(6,508)	(7,651)
Balance at end of period	4,698	3,825
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	237	146
Receipts	69	91
Payments	-	-
Balance at end of period	306	237
Grain, Seeds and Hay Industry Funding 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	4,610	4,470
Receipts	6,641	5,366
Payments	(5,140)	(5,226)
Balance at end of period	6,111	4,610

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Sheep and Goats Industry Funding 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.		
Balance at start of period	3,373	3,162
Receipts	1,221	1,266
Payments	(1,190)	(1,055)
Balance at end of period	3,404	3,373
Fisheries Research and Development Account		
The Fisheries Research and Development Account established by the Fish Resources Management Act 1994 is utilised to fund the management of commercial, fish and fish habitat protection and pearling and aquaculture activities.		
Balance at start of period	6,744	11,908
Receipts		
Contribution from Consolidated Account	49,761	23,374
Royalties for Regions	1,372	1,144
Fisheries Access Fees	29,966	30,228
Grants and Contributions	2,049	2,855
Other Receipts	3,026	2,236
Payments		
Contributions to Fisheries WA operations	(86,447)	(65,001)
Balance at end of period	6,471	6,744

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Recreational Fishing Account		
The Recreational Fishing Account established by the Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (the Act) holds funds which may be applied by the Minister to any of the purposes prescribed by section 239 of the Act. The funds support activity relating to recreational fishing.		
Balance at start of period	10,486	10,628
Receipts		
Contribution from Consolidated Account	31,955	25,017
Recreational Fishing Licences	8,343	9,037
Royalties for Regions – recurrent	100	-
Other Receipts	623	473
Payments		
Expenditure on recreational fishing related activities	(41,719)	(34,669)
Balance at end of period	9,788	10,486
Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account		
The Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Trust Account established by the Fisheries Adjustment Schemes Act 1987 enables the establishment, financing and administration of fisheries adjustment schemes. It provides an optional process through which commercial fishers offer to surrender authorisations (licences) and/or entitlement and in turn receive a payment from government.		
Balance at start of period	2,017	1,238
Receipts		
Contribution from Consolidated Account	500	500
Repayments from Industry for Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Schemes	1,501	1,308
Payments		
Loan repayment, Interests and guarantee fees to WATC for Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Schemes	(1,014)	(1,005)
Other payments	(1,623)	(4)
Unit buy back State Scheme	(204)	(20)
Balance at end of period	1,177	2,017

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.8. Special purpose accounts (continued)

Regional Reform Fund Special Purpose Account (Administered)

The account funds strategic reform initiatives in regional Western Australia designed to support Government priorities.

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Balance at start of period	487	5,970
Receipts	3,817	12,009
Payments	(2,837)	(17,492)
Balance at end of period	1,467	487

9.9. Remuneration of auditor

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'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	875	984
	875	984

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.10. Services provided free of charge

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'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	1,880	2,282
Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission	2,014	3,372
Great Southern Development Commission	2,014	2,054
Kimberley Development Commission	1,838	2,539
Mid West Development Commission	1,639	2,026
Peel Development Commission	1,489	2,020
Pilbara Development Commission	2,433	4,288
South West Development Commission	3,228	5,120
Wheatbelt Development Commission	1,650	1,696
Agricultural Produce Commission (APC)	134	84
Rural Business Development Corporation (RBDC)	52	55
Department of Communities	23	-
Department of Treasury and Finance	18	1
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	12	13
Department of Health	50	18
Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety	-	14
Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage	32	17
Department of Premier and Cabinet	164	112
Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries	19	11
Department of Transport	23	15
Department of Water	15	10
Landgate WA	2	2
Main Roads of Western Australia	15	16
Public Transport Authority of Western Australia	5	4
Legal Aid WA	8	1
Lottery Commission WA	5	2
	18,763	25,772

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.11. Equity

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Contributed equity		
Balance at start of period	729,493	670,401
Contributions by owners		
Capital appropriations	23,350	54,605
Other contributions by owners		
Drawdowns from Treasury Special Purpose Account	7,797	4,840
Transfer of net assets from other departments:		
Royalties for Regions Fund - Regional Community Services Account	1,671	2,816
Royalties for Regions Fund - Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account	1,299	31
Distributions to owners		
Transfer of assets to other agencies:		
Rural Business Development Corporation	-	(3,200)
Balance at end of period	763,610	729,493
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Asset revaluation surplus		
<i>Net revaluation increments/(decrements)</i>		
Balance at the start of period	153,941	93,268
Land	56,923	28,825
Buildings	13,233	31,848
Balance at end of period	224,097	153,941
	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at start of period	(24,268)	(53,833)
Result for the period	(7,017)	29,565
Balance at end of period	(31,285)	(24,268)
Total equity at end of period	956,422	859,166

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

9.12. Supplementary financial information

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
(a) Write-offs		
Non-current assets		
During the financial year \$229,000 was written off the Department's asset register under the authority of: The accountable authority	229	38
	229	38
(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes		
Losses of public moneys and public and other property through theft or default	7	7
Amounts recovered - insurance	(1,709)	(224)
	(1,702)	(217)

9.13. Indian Ocean Territories Service Level Agreement

	2026 \$'000	2025 \$'000
The provision of services to the Indian Ocean Territories are recouped from the Commonwealth Government		
Opening balance	361	559
Receipts	783	571
Payments	(831)	(769)
Closing balance	313	361

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

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 2026, and between the actual results for 2026 and 2025 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 \$745.911 million being \$7.46 million), and
- Total Assets of the annual estimate for the Statement of financial position (1% of \$1,129.847 million being \$11.30 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 \$637.13 million being \$6.37 million), and
- Total Assets for the Statement of financial position (1% of \$1,070.22 million being \$10.70 million).

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2026 \$'000	Actual 2026 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2026 and 2025 \$'000
COST OF SERVICES						
Expenses						
Employee benefits expenses		263,063	281,259	275,243	18,196	6,016
Supplies and services	1, A	162,312	129,131	143,559	(33,181)	(14,428)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		28,549	28,158	24,764	(391)	3,394
Finance costs		3,491	2,628	1,263	(863)	1,365
Accommodation expenses		13,460	20,214	20,358	6,754	(144)
Other expenses	2, B	19,887	43,187	15,016	23,300	28,171
Grants and subsidies	3, C	255,149	181,103	156,164	(74,046)	24,939
Loss on disposal of non-current assets		-	811	765	811	46
Total cost of services		745,911	686,491	637,132	(59,420)	49,359
Income						
User charges and fees		56,316	51,862	53,776	(4,454)	(1,914)
Sale of goods		1,538	2,411	1,391	873	1,020
Services rendered		1,371	3,372	3,284	2,001	88
Grants and subsidies	4, D	57,124	42,098	59,664	(15,026)	(17,566)
Other revenue		23,824	20,845	24,624	(2,979)	(3,779)
Gain on disposal of non-current assets		255	-	-	(255)	-
Share of gain in joint venture entities using the equity method		-	7,287	6,438	7,287	849
Total income		140,428	127,875	149,177	(12,553)	(21,302)
NET COST OF SERVICES		605,483	558,616	487,955	(46,867)	70,661
Income from State Government						
Service appropriations	5	297,912	349,214	326,221	51,302	22,993
Appropriations special purpose account		5,556	5,045	3,894	(511)	1,151
Services received free of charge		1,849	1,496	2,951	(353)	(1,455)
Royalties for Regions Fund	6	272,173	186,276	172,450	(85,897)	13,826
Other revenue		1,422	-	-	(1,422)	-
Income from other public sector entities		8,707	9,568	12,004	861	(2,436)
Total income from State Government		587,619	551,599	517,520	(36,020)	34,079
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		(17,864)	(7,017)	29,565	10,847	(36,582)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME						
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Changes in asset revaluation reserve		-	70,156	60,673	70,156	9,483
Total other comprehensive income		-	70,156	60,673	70,156	9,483
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		(17,864)	63,139	90,238	81,003	(27,099)

The estimates are as published in accordance with T1 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 2026

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances (continued)

Major Estimate and Actual (2026) Variance Narratives

- 1) Supplies and services expense was \$33.2 million (20%) lower than estimate, primarily due to the deferral of expenditure on a number of projects to 2026-27 and future years through approved re-cashflow adjustments in the 2025-26 Mid-year Review and 2026-27 Budget processes. In addition, expenditure for the Shark Aerial Surveillance program and payments to Recognised Biosecurity Groups was originally budgeted as supplies and services but was subsequently recognised as grants and subsidies, reducing expenditure reported under this category.
- 2) Other expenses was \$23.3 million higher than estimate, mainly reflecting the recognition of a \$18.0 million provision for the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme and an Act of Grace payment of \$1.8 million.
- 3) Grants and subsidies expense was \$74.1 million lower than estimate, mainly due to changes in the delivery and payment timing of several projects and election commitments, including the Pilbara Aboriginal Town-based Reserves Stage 2 project, Busselton Jetty Marine Discovery Centre, Implementation of the Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Program, the Small Grants Program and Pringle Village. Funding associated with these projects has been approved to be carried forward to 2026-27 and future years through the 2025-26 Mid-year Review and 2026-27 Budget processes.
- 4) Grants and subsidies income was \$15.0 million lower than estimate, primarily due to lower-than-expected revenue recognised from Commonwealth National Partnership Agreements. Reimbursement claims relating to expenditure incurred for the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer and Red Dwarf Honey Bee responses remained subject to Commonwealth approval at the reporting date and therefore could not be recognised as income.
- 5) Service appropriation revenue was \$51.3 million higher than estimate, mainly reflecting additional funding received from Government for unavoidable operational cost pressures of \$41.8 million and funding of \$11.0 million for the Fisheries Support Package - Demersal Scalefish Resource Recovery initiative.
- 6) Royalties for Regions funding was \$85.9 million lower than estimate due to changes in timing in the implementation of several Royalties for Regions-funded programs, including the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Telecommunications Infrastructure Program, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification, Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves (Unallocated), and the Collie Industry Attraction Fund. As expenditure was deferred, the associated funding requirements were also deferred.

Major Actual (2026) and Comparatives (2025) Variance Narratives

- A) Supplies and services expense decreased by \$14.4 million (10%) lower than the prior year, reflecting lower expenditure on the Labour Hire - Temporary Personnel for Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer response.
- B) Other expenses increased by \$28.2 million, largely reflecting the recognition of a \$18.0 million provision for the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme, the return of \$8.3 million of unspent Royalties for Regions funding to the Department of Treasury and Finance upon completion and closure of related projects, and an Act of Grace payment of \$1.8 million.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.1 Statement of comprehensive income variances (continued)

- C) Grants and subsidies expense increased by \$24.9 million, primarily reflecting funding provided for the Walmanyjun Cable Beach Foreshore Redevelopment, Water Lily Place Affordable Accommodation project, RSPCA Grant Funding Program and Small Grants Election Commitments.

- D) Grants and subsidies income decreased by \$17.6 million, mainly due to lower Commonwealth funding recognised under National Partnership Agreements relating to the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer and Red Dwarf Honey Bee responses.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.2 Statement of financial position variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2026 \$'000	Actual 2026 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2026 and 2025 \$'000
ASSETS						
Current Assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		35,328	94,770	62,880	59,442	31,890
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		77,282	148,733	157,793	71,451	(9,060)
Biological assets		743	4,187	4,761	3,444	(574)
Inventories		2,126	3,295	5,130	1,169	(1,835)
Receivables		27,553	24,964	20,178	(2,589)	4,786
Amounts receivable for services		6,178	6,078	6,026	(100)	52
Other current assets		4,809	11,752	10,114	6,943	1,638
Total Current Assets		154,019	293,779	266,882	139,760	26,897
Non-Current Assets						
Amounts receivable for services		277,443	264,699	249,786	(12,744)	14,913
Receivables		6,206	9,584	9,283	3,378	301
Other non-current assets		4,274	2,539	3,068	(1,735)	(529)
Investments accounted for using the equity method	7	46,564	62,711	53,753	16,147	8,958
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	8, E	586,167	521,430	447,875	(64,737)	73,555
Intangible assets		5,343	2,699	2,103	(2,644)	596
Right-of-use assets		49,831	46,276	37,468	(3,555)	8,808
Total Non-Current Assets		975,828	909,938	803,336	(65,890)	106,602
TOTAL ASSETS		1,129,847	1,203,717	1,070,218	73,870	133,499
LIABILITIES						
Current Liabilities						
Payables		49,745	41,905	40,088	(7,840)	1,817
Contract liabilities		35,511	46,437	39,633	10,926	6,804
Employee related provisions		64,841	60,151	63,482	(4,690)	(3,331)
Borrowings		1,871	1,000	1,000	(871)	-
Amounts due to the Treasurer		-	19,000	19,360	19,000	(360)
Lease liabilities		9,719	7,357	5,404	(2,362)	1,953
Other current liabilities	9, F	12	18,694	1,690	18,682	17,004
Total Current Liabilities		161,699	194,544	170,657	32,845	23,887
Non-Current Liabilities						
Employee related provisions		4,787	11,734	6,215	6,947	5,519
Borrowings		918	-	1,000	(918)	(1,000)
Lease liabilities		44,394	39,236	30,768	(5,158)	8,468
Other non-current liabilities		1,609	1,781	2,412	172	(631)
Total Non-Current Liabilities		51,708	52,751	40,395	1,043	12,356
TOTAL LIABILITIES		213,407	247,295	211,052	2,086	24,712

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.2 Statement of financial position variances (continued)

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2026 \$'000	Actual 2026 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2026 and 2025 \$'000
NET ASSETS		916,440	956,422	859,166	71,784	108,787
EQUITY						
Contributed equity		902,983	763,610	729,493	(139,373)	34,117
Reserves		104,308	224,097	153,941	119,789	70,156
Accumulated deficit		(90,851)	(31,285)	(24,268)	59,566	(7,017)
TOTAL EQUITY		916,440	956,422	859,166	39,982	97,256

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 (2026) Variance Narratives

- 7) Investments accounted for using the equity method were \$16.2 million higher than estimate, largely due to the increase in DPIRD's share of the net asset value of InterGrain, reflecting improved underlying business performance and valuation outcomes.
- 8) Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment was \$64.7 million lower than estimate. This was primarily due to the reallocation of \$145.9 million in capital works funding from planned works at the Primary Industries Research Facility and State Biosecurity Response Centre to the New Metropolitan Facility in future years, together with the deferral of expenditure on the Collie Industry Attraction and Development Fund and a number of regional projects because of timing changes. These reductions were partially offset by upward land and building revaluations of \$122.1 million recognised in 2024-25 and 2025-26.
- 9) Other current liabilities were \$18.7 million higher than estimate due to the recognition of the provision for the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme.

Major Actual (2026) and Comparatives (2025) Variance Narratives

- E) Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment increased by \$73.6 million compared with the prior year. The increase was mainly driven by the revaluation of land and buildings in 2025-26 of \$70.2 million plus additions of \$23.0 million, partially offset by depreciation and asset disposals of \$19.1 million.
- F) Other current liabilities were increased by \$17.0 million compared with the prior year. The increase was mainly due to the recognition of the provision for the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2026 \$'000	Actual 2026 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2026 and 2025 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT						
Service appropriations	10	264,834	324,272	301,384	59,438	22,888
Other appropriations		8,707	5,045	3,894	(3,662)	1,151
Capital contributions	11, G	163,200	23,350	54,605	(139,850)	(31,255)
Drawdowns from special purpose accounts		13,923	7,797	4,840	(6,126)	2,957
Holding account drawdown		6,026	9,977	5,930	3,951	4,047
Royalties for Regions Fund	12	292,471	189,246	175,297	(103,225)	13,949
Funds from other public sector entities		11,794	9,568	12,004	(2,226)	(2,436)
Net cash provided by State Government		760,955	569,255	557,954	(191,700)	11,301
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Employee benefits		(261,041)	(278,966)	(272,386)	(17,925)	(6,580)
Supplies and services	13, H	(153,538)	(118,476)	(153,195)	35,062	34,719
Accommodation	14	(13,459)	(20,957)	(21,077)	(7,498)	120
Finance costs		(3,350)	(2,628)	(1,263)	722	(1,365)
GST payments on purchases	15	(15,356)	(34,223)	(34,656)	(18,867)	433
Other payments	I	(21,709)	(25,254)	(17,913)	(3,545)	(7,341)
Grants and subsidies	16, J	(257,281)	(185,519)	(166,898)	71,762	(18,621)
Receipts						
Sale of goods		2,909	2,411	1,391	(498)	1,020
Services rendered		-	4,576	3,284	4,576	1,292
User charges and fees		56,316	51,473	56,052	(4,843)	(4,579)
Grants and subsidies	17, K	57,206	45,536	67,062	(11,670)	(21,526)
Interest received		-	1,641	1,568	1,641	73
GST receipts on sales		-	5,534	4,428	5,534	1,106
GST receipts from taxation authority	18	15,357	29,277	31,065	13,920	(1,788)
Other receipts	19	10,140	19,174	22,063	9,034	(2,889)
Net cash used in operating activities		(583,806)	(506,401)	(480,475)	77,405	(25,926)

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 2026

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

		Estimate 2026 \$'000	Actual 2026 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Variance between actual and estimate \$'000	Variance between actual results for 2026 and 2025 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Investment in joint ventures		-	(1,672)	(3,750)	(1,672)	2,078
Purchase of non-current assets	20	(199,338)	(30,542)	(27,804)	168,796	(2,738)
Receipts						
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		-	44	131	44	(87)
Net cash used in investing activities		(199,338)	(32,170)	(31,423)	167,168	(747)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Principal elements of lease		(10,717)	(7,994)	(6,395)	2,723	(1,599)
Distribution of monies to the Rural Business Development Corporation		-	-	(3,200)	-	3,200
Repayment of borrowings	L	(10,102)	(9,860)	-	242	(9,860)
Receipts						
Proceeds from borrowings	M	10,000	10,000	-	-	10,000
Proceeds from industry		1,015	-	-	(1,015)	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(9,804)	(7,854)	(9,595)	1,950	1,741
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(31,993)	22,830	36,461	54,823	(13,631)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		144,348	220,673	184,212	76,325	36,461
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD		112,355	243,503	220,673	131,148	22,830

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 (2026) Variance Narratives

- 10) Receipts from service appropriations were \$59.4 million higher than estimate, mainly reflecting additional funding provided for unavoidable operational cost pressures of \$41.8 million and \$11.0 million for the Fisheries Support Package - Demersal Scalefish Resource Recovery initiative.
- 11) Capital appropriations decreased by \$139.9 million mainly due to the return of \$99.0 million in capital funding to Treasury, including \$40.8 million that DPIRD requested Treasury not to draw down as the funding was no longer required in 2025-26 due to revised project delivery schedules. The variance also reflects changes in timing of major capital projects, including the New Metropolitan Facility and Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks project, resulting in capital expenditure being deferred to future years.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

Major Estimate and Actual (2026) Variance Narratives (continued)

- 12) Receipts from Royalties for Regions funding were \$103.2 million lower than estimate as expenditure and associated funding requirements were deferred for several programs, including the Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Telecommunications Infrastructure Program, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Implementation of Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification, Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves (Unallocated), and the Collie Industry Attraction Fund.
- 13) Supplies and services payments were \$35.1 million (23%) lower than estimate, primarily due to approved re-cashflow adjustments that deferred expenditure to 2026-27 and future years. In addition, spending for the Shark Aerial Surveillance program and payments to Recognised Biosecurity Groups was ultimately classified as grants and subsidies rather than supplies and services
- 14) Accommodation payments were \$7.5 million higher than estimate, primarily due to the commencement of new lease arrangements for State Biosecurity Response Centre during the financial year that were not fully reflected in the original budget estimate.
- 15) GST payments on purchases were \$18.9 million higher than estimate because the budget assumptions understated the amount of GST payable on expenditure transactions. This increase is largely offset by the corresponding increase in GST reimbursements received from taxation authorities (refer Note 16).
- 16) Grants and subsidies payments were \$71.8 million lower than estimate, mainly due to timing changes in project delivery and payment schedules for initiatives including Pilbara Aboriginal Town-based Reserves Stage 2, Busselton Jetty Marine Discovery Centre, the Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification Program, and election commitments such as the Small Grants Program and Pringle Village. Funding has been approved to be carried forward into future years.
- 17) Grants and subsidies receipts were \$11.7 million lower than estimate due to delays in receiving Commonwealth funding under National Partnership Agreements. The budget assumed reimbursement of expenditure incurred for the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer and Red Dwarf Honey Bee responses during the reporting period; however, the related claims had not been approved by the Commonwealth at year end, resulting in lower cash receipts.
- 18) GST receipts from taxation authorities were \$13.9 million higher than estimate because the original budget understated GST-related payments and the corresponding GST recoveries receivable from taxation authorities.
- 19) Other receipts were \$9.0 million higher than estimate, mainly due to revenue received under National Cost Sharing Agreements (\$5.6 million), the return of previously distributed grant funding (\$2.0 million), and higher interest receipts (\$1.3 million).
- 20) Purchases of non-current assets were \$168.8 million lower than estimate, primarily due to the deferral of expenditure associated with the New Metropolitan Facility and other major capital projects to future years.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.1.3 Statement of cash flows variances (continued)

Major Actual (2026) and Comparatives (2025) Variance Narratives

- G) Capital appropriations decreased by \$31.3 million, mainly due to the return of surplus capital funding to Treasury.
- H) Supplies and services payments were \$34.7 million lower than the prior year, reflecting lower expenditure on the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer response as activities moved from response to management, together with the reclassification of expenditure to other budget categories.
- I) Other payments increased by \$7.3 million, largely due to the return of unspent Royalties for Regions funding to the Department of Treasury and Finance following the completion and closure of projects
- J) Grants and subsidies payments increased by \$18.6 million, mainly due to funding provided for the Walmanyjun Cable Beach Foreshore Redevelopment, Water Lily Place Affordable Accommodation project, RSPCA Grant Funding Program and Small Grants Election Commitments.
- K) Grants and subsidies received were \$21.5 million lower than the prior year, mainly due to reduced Commonwealth reimbursements under National Partnership Agreements relating to the Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer and Red Dwarf Honey Bee responses
- L) Repayments of borrowings increased by \$9.9 million the prior year, due to agreed repayments relating to Western Australian incident and emergency response activities.
- M) Proceeds from borrowings increased by \$10.0 million compared with the prior year due to the receipt of an additional Treasurer's advance to support Western Australian incident and emergency response activities.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.2. Explanatory statement for administered items

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2026, and between the actual results for 2026 and 2025 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 \$122.66 million being \$1.23 million)
2. Actual results for the current year and prior year actual
 - Total administered income (1% of \$12.29 million being \$0.12 million)

	Variance Notes	Estimate 2026 \$'000	Actual 2026 \$'000	Actual 2025 \$'000	Variance estimate and actual \$'000	Variance actual 2026 and 2025 \$'000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS						
Income						
Interest revenue	A	1,120	1,170	1,326	50	(156)
Other revenue		-	41	2,733	41	(2,692)
Royalties for Regions	1	22,545	4,770	6,362	(17,775)	(1,592)
Revenue from Regional and Statewide Initiatives	2	(147,879)	3,818	12,009	151,697	(8,191)
Service appropriations		1,550	1,550	1,550	-	-
Regulatory fees and charges		-	272	317	272	(45)
Total administered income		(122,664)	11,621	24,297	134,285	(12,676)
Expenses						
Grants & subsidies	3, B	34,531	12,467	24,396	(22,064)	(11,929)
Interest payments	C	892	902	1,034	10	(132)
Supplies and services	4, D	228	1,855	1,424	1,627	431
Royalties for Regions Program Underspend Provision	5	(147,879)	-	-	147,879	-
Total administered expenses		(112,228)	15,224	26,854	127,452	(11,630)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

10.2. Explanatory statement for administered items (continued)

Major Estimate and Actual (2026) Variance Narratives

1. Royalties for Regions funding estimates include an annual \$20 million provision for future programs that have not yet been approved by the Expenditure Review Committee (ERC). Following ERC approval, the provision is reduced and funding is allocated to agencies. As these allocations are not recognised within the Department's administered activities, the estimate is reduced while the corresponding expenditure and revenue are recorded by recipient agencies. Consequently, Royalties for Regions revenue is typically lower than the estimated amount. The 2025-26 variance of \$17.775 million primarily reflects the allocation of this provision to approved programs during the year.
2. The 2025-26 budget estimate includes \$3.8 million for the Regional Reform Fund, consistent with the actual expenditure in the current year. The budget estimate also includes a Treasury adjustment of \$151.8 million for Regional and Statewide Initiatives, reflecting the expected underspend across the Royalties for Regions Fund. This adjustment is budgetary in nature only.
3. Grants and Subsidies paid is the same as the RFR funding in item 1 above. The provision is held in the RFR revenue and grant expense lines.
4. Supplies and services are higher than the estimates mainly due to the administration of the State Natural Resource Management Program, which was budgeted as grants and subsidies expense.
5. Royalties for Regions Program Underspend Provision is a budget adjustment applied by Treasury to take into account the expected underspend in the entire Royalties for Regions Fund. The impact is on the budget only.

Major Actual (2026) and Comparatives (2025) Variance Narratives

- A) Interest received under Administered relates to the WA Co-operative Loan Scheme. The decrease in interest revenue in 2025-26 compared with 2024-25 reflects the profile and contractual arrangements of the underlying loans.
- B) Grant and subsidy expenses decreased by \$11.9 million compared to the prior year, primarily due to lower expenditure across Royalties for Regions programs within the Regional Reform Fund. Key contributors were the On-Country Residential Youth Facilities project at Marlamanu (\$5.2 million) and the Jalbi Jiya (Your Home) Program and East Kimberley Transitional Housing project (\$4.5 million), together with lower expenditure on several other Regional Reform Fund projects.
- C) Interest paid under Administered relates to the WA Co-operative Loan Scheme. The decrease in interest expense in 2025-26 compared with 2024-25 reflects the profile and contractual arrangements of the underlying loans.
- D) Supplies and services expense in 2025-26 is higher than 2024-25 due to the increased cost of labour which is the main component of the State Natural Resource Management administration.

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 2026.



Ms Heather Brayford PSM

Accountable Authority

11 September 2026

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 fisheries, 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	6
		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	7
		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 industry and community development initiatives.

DPIRD utilises public investment to partner with not-for-profit, industry, private sector and government entities to deliver impactful projects to support our strategic goals. Investment supports projects that will positively impact Aboriginal economic empowerment; Western Australian primary industries adaption to climate change; economic growth, diversification and transition; regional communities; and agribusiness adaptation and international competitiveness.

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 sector, Australian Government and local government entities.' The calculation excludes in kind project support. Grants within the department's Industry and Economic Development (IED) pillar are in scope.

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

2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2024-25 (YoY variance in Actuals)	Target (2025-26 variance actual to Target)
1:1.63	1:1.37	1:2.16	1:1	1:1.02	-53%	+2%

Table 6 presents the Key Effectiveness Indicator 1 results for the period 2022-23 to 2025-26. The year on year (YoY) variance is that the 2025-26 ratio of 1:1.02 is 53% lower than last year's ratio of 1:2.16. The variance from the target in 2025-26 is 0.02 which is 2% higher than the 1:1 target.

Analysis

During 2025-26, DPIRD's IED pillar executed 428 grant arrangements valued at \$29,059,366 across 10 grant schemes. The 10 schemes secured \$29,556,827 in cash co-contributions from non-WA Government entities.

This produces a KEI-1 ratio of 1:1.02 for 2025-26, which exceeds the target ratio of 1:1 by 2%. This indicates that for every \$1 the department awarded in grants it facilitated \$1.02 in non-WA Government cash co-contribution commitments. The ratio of grants to cash co-contribution for the 10 schemes is summarised in Table 7.

Table 7: KEI-1 results by IED Pillar grant scheme by grant amounts awarded

	Name of scheme	Total grant amounts awarded in executed agreements (\$)	Total of cash co-contribution commitments in executed agreements (\$)	Ratio
1	Aboriginal Governance and Leadership Development Program	\$120,000	\$77,882	1:0.65
2	Agri-Food and Beverage Voucher Program	\$316,548	\$350,535	1:1.11
3	Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program - Future Carbon and Voucher Program	\$256,245	\$89,623	1:0.35
4	Collie Futures Small Grants Program	\$200,000	\$109,334	1:0.55
5	Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants	\$3,100,143	\$13,839,923	1:4.46
6	Small Grants Program - 2025 Election Commitments	\$14,170,607	\$5,153,640	1:0.36
7	Small Scale Abattoir Feasibility Voucher Program	\$17,500	\$44,500	1:2.54
8	Southern Forests Infrastructure Support Scheme	\$782,452	\$1,240,889	1:1.59
9	Value Add Investment Grants	\$1,405,790	\$1,527,711	1:1.09
10	WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program (WARDCP)	\$8,690,082	\$7,122,791	1:0.82
	TOTAL	\$29,059,366	\$29,556,827	1:1.02

Reasons for the variance with the ratio in 2024-25:

In 2024-25, the ratio was 1:2.16. In 2025-26, the ratio is 1:1.02 which is 53% lower compared to the 2024-25 ratio. The main reasons for this variance are:

- The Regional Telecommunications Project was a significant contributor in 2024-25. It attracted \$8,161,954 in co-contributions, compared to the awarded amount of \$1,880,625, with a ratio of 1:4.34. As no agreements were executed under this project in 2025-26, it is not included in this year's ratio.
- In 2024-25, the WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program (WARDCP) secured \$24,936,272 in co-contributions, significantly surpassing the awarded grant amount of \$5,442,194, achieving a ratio of 1:4.58. This year, WARDCP provided grant funding of \$8,690,082 and secured \$7,122,791 in co-contribution, with the WARDCP ratio dropping for 2025-26 to 1:0.82.
- Similarly, in 2024-25, 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. However, in 2025-26 Value-Add Investment Grants leveraged \$1,527,711 in co-contributions against grants awarded of \$1,405,790, resulting in a lower ratio of 1:1.09.
- 2025-26 included a new scheme, the Small Grants Program - 2025 Election Commitments, which provided \$14,170,607; 49% of all grant funding provided in 2025-26. It leveraged \$5,153,640, resulting in a ratio of 1:0.36 and significantly contributing to the overall ratio variance in 2024-25. Election commitments generally do not require a co-contribution from proponents.

Reasons for exceeding the target ratio in 2025-26:

Five of the 10 schemes in 2025-26 had a ratio above 1:1 which contributed to the overall ratio of 1:1.02 exceeding the target ratio for 2025-26.

- The Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program awarded \$3,100,143 in grant funding that generated \$13,839,923 in committed cash co-contribution, producing a ratio of 1:4.46.
- The Small-Scale Abattoir Feasibility Voucher Program awarded \$17,500 in grant funding and generated \$44,500 in committed cash co-contribution, producing a ratio of 1:2.54.
- The Southern Forests Infrastructure Support Scheme granted \$782,452 and generated \$1,240,889 in committed cash co-contribution, producing a ratio of 1:1.59.
- The Agri-Food and Beverage Voucher Program awarded \$316,548 in total grant funding and attracted \$350,535 in committed cash co-contribution, producing a ratio of 1:1.11.
- As described above, the Value-Add Investment Grants leveraged \$1,527,711 in co-contributions against grants of \$1,405,790, resulting in an above target ratio of 1:1.09.

Conclusion

Despite the year-on-year reduction in the department's overall grant co-contribution ratio, the 2025-26 result exceeded the 1:1 target. This demonstrates that DPIRD's IED grant programs continue to attract significant non-WA Government cash co-contributions to leverage WA Government funding.

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 two applications to talk to each other. For example, a person uses an API each time they use an app like Facebook, send 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

2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
94%	85%	98%	80%	97%	-1%	+17%

Analysis

Overall satisfaction with the API remains very strong, with 97% of clients reporting they are satisfied or very satisfied. Following a statistically significant uplift in 2025, results have held steady at that level. Nonetheless, the 2026 outcome continues an upward trajectory, representing a statistically significant improvement compared with the 2022 result of 85%. Sixty-two per cent (62%) of API clients reported being very satisfied, whilst no clients reported being not at all satisfied.

58 out of 83 active clients responded to the survey (giving a response rate of 70%) – the highest number of responses achieved to date. This provides a maximum forecasting error across the whole survey of +7.2% at the 95% level of confidence. Of the 58 respondents, 28 submitted online survey responses whilst 30 surveys were completed via telephone.

Satisfaction with all aspects of the API was high, with 92% of clients satisfied or very satisfied with accessibility to the API

portal, 98% satisfied or very satisfied with the currency of the information, 96% satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of the information, and 96% satisfied or very satisfied with the accessibility of the information. All three of the largest API users (making over one million requests per annum) reported being very satisfied across all measures.

The API information continues to be considered valuable or very valuable by 86% of users, a result similar to previous years, with 58% rating it as very valuable.

As in previous years, 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. The private sector is the only sector that considers the API as somewhat valuable (22%) or not at all valuable (4%).

Though not a statistically significant improvement in 2026 (due to the small commercial sample size of n=22), seventy-seven per cent (77%) of commercial clients felt that the API improved decision-making, 59% felt that it reduced production risk to themselves or their customers, and 45% reported that it contributed to increasing profitability. This year clients were more definitive in their answers with fewer “don’t know” responses. All three of the largest commercial clients reported that the API contributed to increased profitability, reduced production risk and improved decision-making.

In terms of sample profile, private sector companies represent 40% of respondents, government and semi-government organisations 31%, individuals 16% and educational institutions 14%. Notably, 40% of this year’s sample are new users.

Just over seven in ten (71%) survey participants were based in the Perth metropolitan area and 85% of the sample was based in Western Australia, producing a very similar geographic distribution to 2025.

The private sector represents 38% of users surveyed. In 2026, the main commercial use of the API shifted significantly toward research and computer modelling (64% of commercial users, up from 40% in 2025), with a corresponding statistically significant decrease in online services to clients (27%, down from 48% in 2025) and provision of apps to clients (18%, down from 48% in 2025). This shift is consistent with the higher proportion of new users in this year’s sample. All three of the largest users (making over one million requests per annum) are private sector clients providing commercial services.

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), Fisheries and Sustainability (F&S) 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 882 stakeholders, 281 stakeholders responded resulting in a response rate of 32%. This represents an increase from the previous year's response rate of 22% based on 231 responses out of 1045 viable contacts.

The results from this survey provided a confidence interval of $\pm 4.83\%$ at the 95% confidence level. The department considers the sample to be representative of the stakeholders.

Results

Table 9: Key effectiveness indicator 3 results

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26		Variance	
Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
70%	77%	82%	70%	84.7%	+2.7%	+14.7%

Analysis

Overall, the majority of respondents stated they were very satisfied (23.5%) or satisfied (61.2%). The 2025-26 result exceeds the target outcome by 14.7% and demonstrates an improvement from the 2024-25 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 February and March 2026. Survey respondents were asked about their experiences and views for the 12-month period prior to their interview date. From a total of 3,304 in-scope respondents (Western Australian residents aged 18 years and older), 700 interviews were completed which comprised:

- 559 respondents from major cities
- 59 respondents from inner regional areas
- 82 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 comprised '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 2025-26 satisfaction weighted to reflect the estimated resident population based on January 2026 Labour Force Survey estimates from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, with the survey providing estimates for the 2025-26 financial year.

Results

Table 10: Key effectiveness indicator 4 results

2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
83%	89%	88%	85%	74%	-14%	-11%

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 for improving 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 2025 (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 was rounded to 870,000 (95% confidence interval (CI) [772 000, 968 000]). The participation rate of 30% is higher than the participation rate of last year.

The estimation of satisfaction through the level of community knowledge of resource management issues is based on the community survey data. The department was given a satisfaction rate of 74% (95% CI [69.2%, 78.1%]) by the community on managing recreational fishing activities in 2025-26. The decline in the community satisfaction may, in part, reflect public reaction to the recent statewide management changes for demersal fisheries, including temporal and spatial closures. Notably, this includes the demersal fishing ban for the West Coast Bioregion introduced in December 2025.

DPIRD's 2025-26 target satisfaction rating by the broader community is 85% compared to the actual 74%. To improve community satisfaction and move closer to the target level, ongoing education initiatives aim to improve community awareness and understanding of resource management issues. Additionally, budget initiatives in monitoring and education programs will enhance community knowledge and provide valuable data for future assessments

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 several 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	2025-26		Variance	
Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
37.5%	44.4%	28.6%	60%	44.4%	+15.8%	-15.6%

Analysis

From a total of 9 terrestrial biosecurity incidents in 2025-26, 4 were resolved during the year. The remaining 5 (Lepisiota incisa, polyphagous shot-hole borer, Queensland fruit fly – South Perth, Red Dwarf Honey Bee and H5 High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza) are subject to ongoing response and will carry over into 2026-27. This has resulted in a variance of 15.6% against the target for 2025-26.

The 2025-26 result is consistent with the 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 requiring 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	2025-26		Variance	
Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
0%	0%	100%	60%	0%	100%	-60%

Analysis

There were no declared aquatic biosecurity incidents in 2025-26. Consequently, no aquatic biosecurity responses were resolved or closed during the year, resulting in a KPI outcome of 0%.

The absence of declared aquatic biosecurity incidents during the reporting period reflects the level of aquatic biosecurity activity rather than the department's response capability. The KPI remains dependent on the occurrence of declared aquatic pest or disease incursions, which are inherently unpredictable.

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

This KPI assists stakeholders to understand DPIRD's role and effectiveness in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the soil resources of the southwest cropping region, on which WA agriculture relies.

Adequate ground cover on cropping land prevents erosion and the loss of carbon, nutrients and organic matter. It is a useful indicator of soil health.

DPIRD's monitoring, science, regulation and farmer engagement promotes good ground cover management of farms, and seasonal weather also has a strong influence on this KPI.

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 (four per year) fractional ground cover products for 2025-26 were compared to the median ground cover from the previous 10 years (2025-26).

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 2025-26, minus the median per cent land area with adequate cover from 2015 to 2025 all divided by the median per cent land area with adequate cover from 2015 to 2025. 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 2025 (exceeding the 40% threshold) covered 94.5% of arable land. This area represents more than the 10-year median of 91.9%. The KPI was therefore 2.9%, above the target of 0%. All other seasons in 2025 had more ground cover than the 10-year median.

Table 13: Key effectiveness indicator 6.1 results

2022 (Autumn)	2023 (Autumn)	2024 (Autumn)	2025 (Autumn)	
Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual
+6.1	+6.7%	-2.8%	0%	+2.9%

Table 14: Arable land maintaining sufficient ground cover

Arable land maintaining sufficient ground cover (%)	2015-25 Baseline	2025-26 Actual	Change in area (%)
Autumn 2025	91.9%	94.5%	2.9%
Winter 2025	99.1%	99.4%	0.3%
Spring 2025	98.7%	99.2%	0.5%
Summer 2025/26	95.8%	97.4%	1.7%

Analysis

For much of the agricultural region, 2024 was a low rainfall year. Rainfall at critical growth stages supported good crop and pasture growth, resulting in more of the landscape with sufficient cover at the end of the growing season. DPIRD actively recommends growers protect ground cover over summer and autumn to prevent soil erosion. In 2025, growers maintained sufficient ground cover over a larger proportion of farmland than the 10-year median, which suggests the management of ground cover is improving.

Approximately 75% of the land classified as having inadequate ground cover was situated north of the latitude of Merredin (Figure 3). DPIRD is leading the Sustainable Solutions for Sandy Soils project, which is investigating the drivers of low ground cover in this landscape. In collaboration with local groups, the project is promoting farmer led practices that have been shown to maintain year-round groundcover.



Figure 3. Area of the southwest cropping region with sufficient ground cover in autumn 2025

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

2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
84	90	61	60	34	-44%	-43%

In 2025-26, 34 workshops were completed against a target of 60, reflecting a -43% variance. Target numbers were doubled from 30 to 60 in 2025-26, in response to auditor observations of high workshop numbers in the three preceding years (Table 15).

Analysis

Through 2025-26, DPIRD worked to clarify evidence requirements for workshops and strengthen practices for evidence collection. This is expected to strengthen the result in future years. DPIRD will also further consider the future target given that workshop numbers vary between years, reflecting commitments in funding agreements.

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.

DPIRD 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

2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual (restated*)	2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
96%	93%	89%	95%	87%	-2%	-8%

* 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 information up to and including the most recent fishing season. Because aquatic resources have various levels of available information, resource status is based on available data using a risk-based weight-of-evidence assessment approach.

Status updates were undertaken during March-June, with 46 resource and fishery combinations reviewed for 2025-26. The Northern Shark Fishery was not assessed because it has not operated since 2009.

Of the 45 assessments, 33 were considered to have adequate breeding stock levels, while a further 2 fisheries (Temperate Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Fishery [TDGDLF] and Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery [GDSF]) were assessed as having breeding stocks recovering at acceptable rates. Because the TDGDLF targets relatively long-lived species, recovery is expected to take decades.

Of the 10 remaining fisheries, 4 were identified as having stocks that are environmentally limited: Abrolhos Islands and Mid-West Trawl Managed Fishery, Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery, Cockburn Sound Fish Net Managed Fishery (garfish) and South West Beach Net Fishery (whitebait).

The remaining 6 fisheries (Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery, Abalone Managed Fishery, West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery [WCDSF], South Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery [SCDSF], Pilbara Demersal Scalefish Fishery [PDSF] and Northern Demersal

Scalefish Fishery [NDSF]) have stocks that are considered inadequate as a result of exploitation. Management actions in these fisheries have been implemented to assist stock recovery.

DPIRD's 2025-26 target for the proportion of fish stocks not at risk from fishing is 95%. For the 2025-26 reporting period, the proportion of the assessed groups identified as not being at risk or vulnerable through exploitation is 87%, which, for the reasons explained above, is below the indicator target level.

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 fisheries management plans and programs, 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

2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual (restated*)	2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
			Target	Actual	2024-25	Target
92%	87%	89%	90%	89%	0%	-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 is provided by commercial and charter fishers through mandatory returns and from the recreational sector 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 of actual catches (or effort) against acceptable ranges have been undertaken for 37 commercial fisheries and an additional 20 resource/fishery combinations have been identified as having a 'material' recreational catch share. 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, 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 derived from periodic surveys (including the most recent statewide survey of boat-based recreational fishing conducted in 2023-24 and additional annual surveys) indicated that catches for 18 fisheries were within acceptable catch ranges, while catches for 2 fisheries were outside their acceptable catch ranges. This includes the recreational catch of the demersal suite in the west coast bioregion, where catch exceeded the recovery benchmark, and the recreational catch of three key demersal species (snapper, bight redfish and western blue groper) in the south coast bioregion, where the assessment indicated that total fishing mortality of these species across sectors was unacceptably high.

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, 2 recorded catches within their acceptable catch ranges and 11 recorded catches acceptably below those ranges. In the 24 effort-controlled fisheries, 11 were within and 9 were acceptably below their catch ranges. Catch or effort outside the 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.

DPIRD's 2025-26 target for the proportion of major commercial and recreational fisheries achieving acceptable catch (or effort) levels is 90%. For the 2025-26 reporting period, 89% of assessed fisheries achieved acceptable catch (or effort) levels, which is just below the target.

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

DPIRD has a common calculation method for all efficiency indicators: average cost per hour to deliver each service.

Each employee is allocated to the services they deliver 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

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	%± from target
\$265.97	\$441.81	\$279.76	+5%	-37%

Analysis

The 2025-26 actual average cost per hour is higher than the 2024-25 actual average cost per hour as a result of a higher total cost of providing the services, which is mainly attributable to new government initiatives, including the delivery of 2025 election commitments, allocated to this service.

The 2025-26 actual average cost per hour is below the 2025-26 target average cost per hour mostly due to lower total cost of service.

This lower than expected expenditure is mainly as a result of retiming of expenditure on projects such as Pilbara Aboriginal Town Based Reserves, Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program, Regional Development Leverage Fund, Collie Industry Attraction and Development, Kalbarri Foreshore and Beaches Revitalisation, Myalup-Wellington Project, Yerriminup Agribusiness Precinct Activation, Ord Expansion Project, Regional Recovery Partnerships, small grant election commitments, 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 2026-27 Budget, with the balance to be requested in the 2026-27 Mid-year review process.

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.

Results

Table 19: Key efficiency indicator 2 results

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	%± from target
\$173.22	\$177.30	\$178.54	+3%	+1%

Analysis

The 2025-26 actual average cost per hour was in line with both the 2024-25 actual and the 2025-26 target.

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 those businesses need to increase their contribution to WA's economic diversity and jobs.

Results

Table 20: Key efficiency indicator 3 results

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	Target
\$170.21	\$143.54	\$170.42	+0.1%	+19%

Analysis

The 2025-26 actual average cost per hour exceeded the 2025-26 target, primarily due to a reduction in worked hours allocated to Service 3. The actual cost per hour for 2025-26 remained consistent with the 2024-25 result.

The 2025-26 target hours worked were based on the 2023-24 estimated actual result, which was prepared prior to an Agency restructure and resulting changes to service allocations. While hours were subsequently adjusted across other services, the baseline hours for Service 3 were not revised. This resulted in an overstatement of target hours worked for Service 3 and, consequently, an understatement of the target average cost per hour.

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

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	%± from target
\$214.63	\$261.89	\$217.97	+2%	-17%

Analysis

The 2025-26 actual cost per hour is lower than the 2025-26 target, which is primarily driven by an increase in hours worked allocated to Service 4, partially as a result of a reallocation from professional services expense to salaries for the delivery of programs such as Farm Business Resilience and Polyphagous Shot-hole Borer Transition to Management.

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

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	%± from target
\$209.28	\$343.53	\$297.00	+42%	-14%

Analysis

The average cost per hour is based on the total cost of services and will therefore vary according to the number of initiatives included and the nature of expenditure in those initiatives. A variance in the average hourly cost of service will result if initiatives include expenditure not linked to hours of service delivery including grants to third parties.

The 2025-26 total cost of services is lower than target partially as a result of retiming of expenditure on projects such as the Busselton Jetty Marine Discovery Centre, the Dawesville Community Centre, Pringle Village Stage 2 - Seniors Independent Living Facility and the Dampier Peninsula Activation project. These projects relate to regional infrastructure delivery by third parties and/or significant engagement with stakeholders, delaying delivery beyond the budget year. While some of this expenditure was approved for carryover as part of the 2026-27 Budget, the balance is expected to be requested in the 2026-27 Mid-year review process.

The increase in average cost per hour from 2024-25 partially relates to the significant allocation of new initiatives, including election commitments, to this service, such as Albany trails, Walmanyjun Cable Beach Foreshore Redevelopment, Water Lily Place affordable accommodation, Additional AFL fixtures in WA, and Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Park.

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

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	%± from target
\$180.32	\$170.94	\$187.94	+4%	+10%

Analysis

The 2025-26 actual cost per hour is in line with the 2025-26 Target 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

2024-25 Actual	2025-26		Variance	
	Target	Actual	%± from 24-25	%± from target
\$150.70	\$165.30	\$206.52	+37%	+25%

Analysis

The 2025-26 actual cost per hour is higher than the 2024-25 actual cost per hour, mainly due to new initiatives and the carryover of projects to 2025-26 and the outyears as well as the obligation for the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme (CFAS) relating to West Coast Demersal fisheries which applies to eligible commercial licence holders in the 2025-26 financial year. The major projects contributing to the carryover are Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Park and West Coast Demersal Scalefish Recovery.

End of audited section.

Other financial disclosures

Ministerial Directions

No Ministerial directions were received during the financial year.

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 Finance and statutory requirements.

The 2025-26 list of fees and charges was implemented on 1 July 2025 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.

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 2025-26

Project	Actual Total Cost (\$000)	Estimated Total Cost (\$000)	Variance (\$000)	Explanation
Regional Natural Resource Management Program	13,575	13,787	(212)	
Frank Wise Tropical Research Institute (FWTRI) Refurbishment	1,449	1,449	0	
Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks Field Compliance	255	255	0	
Fisheries Support Package – Digital Reporting	38	38	0	
Boosting Biosecurity Defense	598	631	(33)	
Mobile Signs - Avian influenza (HPAI)	45	45	0	
Incident Control Vehicle – HPAI	534	1,000	(466)	Reclassified to Recurrent
Healthy Estuaries WA 2	35	35	0	
Primary Industries Development Research Centre	718	55,669	(54,951)	Project discontinued, funding reallocated to DPIRD Metropolitan Accommodation Provision at 2026-27 Budget

Table 26: Outstanding capital projects in 2025-26

Project	Expected Completion (Present)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$000)	Current Estimated Total Cost (\$000)	Previous Estimated Total Cost (\$000)	Variance (\$000)	Explanation
Abrolhos Islands General Rolling Program	NA	1,686	4,905	4,387	518	Rolling Program
Computing Hardware and Software Rolling Program	NA	500	3,634	3,884	(250)	Rolling Program; reclassified to Recurrent
Small Boats and Trailers Rolling Program	NA	9,053	28,919	24,787	4,132	Rolling Program
Equipment Replacement Program	NA	21,483	73,221	65,906	7,315	Rolling Program
North West Aboriginal Housing Initiative	2029-30	5,022	5,022	15,718	(10,696)	Part of the work has transferred to Department of Housing and Works
Wild Dog Action Plan	2029-30	2,782	13,824	16,089	(2,265)	Reclassified to Recurrent
Building Grains Research and Development Capacity	2029-30	4,276	11,951	10,951	1,000	Reclassified from Recurrent
New Metropolitan Facility	2030-31	312,570	319,968	319,968	0	
Fisheries Support Package - Camera Network	2028-29	1,486	1,530	-	1,530	New
Building Renewal Projects	2027-28	6,041	6,400	-	6,400	New
Metropolitan Accommodation Provision	2027-28	145,890	145,890	-	145,890	New
Truck Washdown Facilities	2028-29	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	
Shark Notification and Response System Upgrade	2027-28	2,611	4,769	3,930	839	Additional system development cost
Aquaculture Development Maintenance and Refurbishment	2026-27	528	1,246	1,250	(4)	

Table 26: Outstanding capital projects in 2025-26 (continued)

Project	Expected Completion (Present)	Estimated Cost to Complete (\$000)	Current Estimated Total Cost (\$000)	Previous Estimated Total Cost (\$000)	Variance (\$000)	Explanation
Asset Maintenance Fund - including Eucla and Kununurra Checkpoints	2026-27	3,496	8,250	8,250	(0)	
Houtman Abrolhos Islands Sustainable Development Activation Plan	2026-27	6,842	7,418	7,418	0	
Statewide Fish Aggregating Device Program	2026-27	200	200	-	200	New
Firearms Storage	2026-27	253	335	-	335	New
Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks Broome Tropical Aquaculture Park	2026-27	1,403	2,500	-	2,500	New
Buccaneer Archipelago Marine Parks Vessels and Trailers	2026-27	11,250	12,943	9,393	3,550	Additional cost on large vessel compliance
Fisheries Support Package - Variable Message Boards	2026-27	250	250	-	250	New
Shark Monitoring Network	2026-27	107	1,638	1,638	(0)	
Large Vessel Replacement Program	2026-27	868	11,482	11,482	0	
Katanning Research Facility	2026-27	61	572	680	(108)	
State Biosecurity Response Centre	2026-27	3,763	9,361	100,300	(90,939)	Project discontinued; funding reallocated. Some works remain to be finalised.
Diagnostics and Laboratory Equipment – HPAI	2026-27	4,417	4,417	-	4,417	New

Employment and industrial relations

Staff and locations

As at 30 June 2026, DPIRD had:

- **2,088** Headcount
- **1968.1** FTE
- **2.3%** Turnover rate
- **35%** employees regionally based

Over 60 locations including:

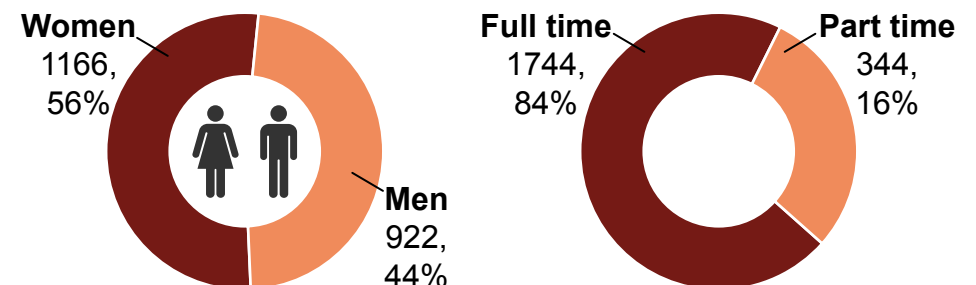
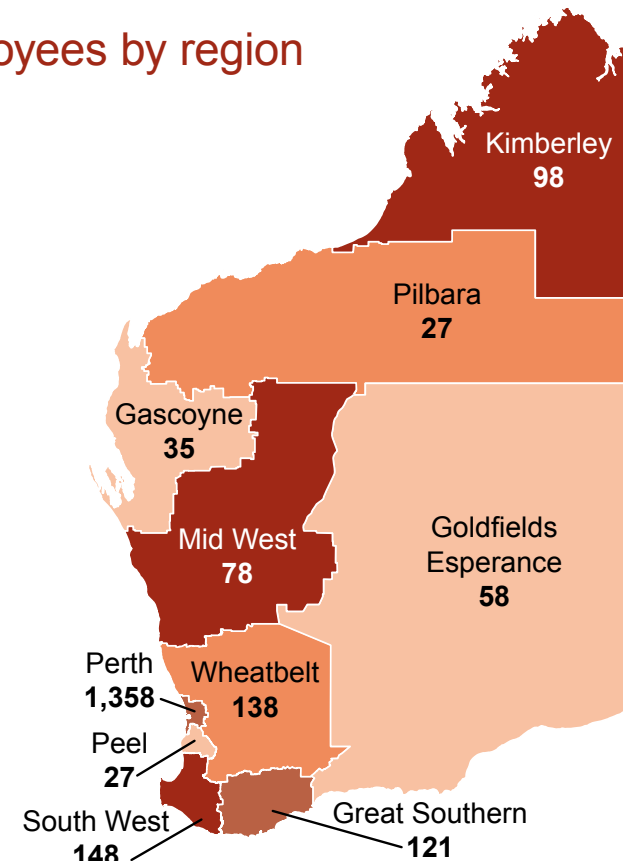
- **8** metro offices
- **24** regional offices
- **12** research and aquaculture facilities
- **6** quarantine/checkpoint locations
- **19** RDC offices

Table 27: Staff profile

Staff profile	2024-25 Average FTE ¹	2025-26 Average FTE ¹
Permanent full time	1,411.7	1417.8
Permanent part time	334.6	172.7
Contract full time	174.1	287.9
Contract part time	49.8	71.6
Total	1,970.2	1949.9

1 Full-time equivalent (FTE)

Employees by region



Employee development

DPIRD is committed to fostering a diverse, skilled and supported workforce. The department recognises that employee development is essential to cultivating a positive organisational culture and enhancing overall performance. DPIRD has continued its focus on building a capable workforce to meet future needs, through a range of programs and initiatives.

In 2025-26, we:

- **Strengthened leadership foundations** by expanding the internal *Manage@DPIRD* foundational manager development program, with additional modules delivered by subject matter experts including Industrial Relations 101 and Injury Management.
- **Building leadership impact** through continued implementation of the Public Sector Commission's Leadership Expectations Framework. This includes online development maps enabling employees to build leadership capability at their own pace, supported by internally delivered leadership workshops.
- **Building inclusive and culturally responsive leadership** by fostering an inclusive workplace where all employees can thrive. This is supported through education and awareness initiatives and training, including unconscious bias, workplace culture, disability awareness and Aboriginal cultural awareness workshops.
- **Developing future leaders** by building a leader-ready talent pipeline, poised to step into leadership opportunities through a range of leadership programs including PSC's Propel, and

participating in the launch of the Skills Academy, providing employees with access to a comprehensive suite of courses tailored specifically for the Western Australian public sector.

- **Launching a new values recognition program** to further embed organisational values and recognise individuals and teams who demonstrate these behaviours and contribute to a positive workplace culture.
- **Introducing 'lunch and learn' sessions** focused on building capability in conducting effective and productive performance management conversations.
- **Revitalising the induction process**, including the introduction of varied delivery methods for mandatory training to better suit different roles and job types.

Work health and safety (WHS) and injury management

DPIRD is committed to creating a workplace that prioritises the health, safety and wellbeing of its employees. This commitment is reflected in our *Corporate Executive Priorities 2025-26* and is supported through a holistic approach to work health and safety. DPIRD invests in the wellbeing of all employees through a range of initiatives, including the Employee Assistance Program (EAP); a Peer Support Program; a comprehensive wellbeing program of events, campaigns and educational initiatives; ergonomic support; and the proactive management of physical and psychological health risks. Through these initiatives, DPIRD fosters a healthy, safe, inclusive and supportive workplace where employees can thrive.

Table 28: Work health and safety and injury management performance against key indicators

Measures	2023-24	2024-25	Current reporting year	Targets	Comments about outcome
Number of fatalities	0	0	0	0	Achieved
Incidence of work-related injury or illness (per 1000 workers)			18.5	Reduce by 2% per year and 15% by 2033 compared with 2023	
Incidence rate of serious claims with one or more weeks' lost time (per 1000 workers)			4.1	Reduce by 2.5% per year and 20% by 2033 compared with 2023	New PSC WHS Reporting for 25-26 financial year – no baseline data to compare.
Incidence rate of claims resulting in permanent impairment (per 1000 workers)			2.56	Reduce by 2% per year and 15% by 2033 compared with 2023	
Incidence rate of work-related respiratory disease (per 1000 workers)			0	Reduce by 2.5% per year and 20% by 2033 compared with 2023	
Managers and supervisors trained in:					
1. Work health and safety as relevant to the PCBU's risk profile; and	49%	73%	83%	Greater than or equal to 80% of cohort trained within last two (2) years	Achieved
2. Injury management	49%	73%	70%	Greater than or equal to 80% of cohort trained within last five (5) years	New training launched in February 2026, on track to meet 80% of managers and supervisors trained within the last five years.

Table 28: Work health and safety and injury management performance against key indicators (continued)

Measures	2023-24	2024-25	Current reporting year	Targets	Comments about outcome
Percentage of workers returned to work on full duties and hours (i) within 13 weeks	60%	55.6%	61%	No target	
Percentage of workers returned to work on full duties and hours (ii) within 26 weeks	60%	77.8%	78%	Greater than or equal to 70% returned to work within 26 weeks	Achieved
Agency has a WHS management system that has been independently assessed in last five years			No	Yes	An independent assessment of the WHS Management System was not undertaken during the reporting period as DPIRD prioritised the review of the WHS framework and policy suite. With these foundational improvements now substantially progressed, an independent assessment will be planned to validate system effectiveness, identify opportunities for improvement, and support continuous enhancement of WHS.

Table 28: Work health and safety and injury management performance against key indicators (continued)

Measures	2023-24	2024-25	Current reporting year	Targets	Comments about outcome
Consultative systems:					
1. Number of health and safety representatives (HSRs)					
1. in total;			72 HSRs		
2. who have attended HSR training;			36 HSRs have been trained		
3. shown as a percentage of workers;			3.66%		
4. shown as a ratio to the number of workplaces occupied by the Agency; and			9:8		
				No target – intended for agency trend information	

Table 28: Work health and safety and injury management performance against key indicators (continued)

Measures	2023-24	2024-25	Current reporting year	Targets	Comments about outcome
2. Name/s of health and safety committees and sub-committees			- DPIRD Health and Safety Committee - Local Health and Safety Sub-Committees: - Albany HSC - Broome/Karratha/Kununurra HSC - Bunbury and surrounds HSC - Carnarvon HSC - Claremont Showgrounds HSC - Esperance HSC - Eucla HSC - Fremantle/Hillarys HSC - Geraldton HSC - Katanning HSC - Manjimup HSC - Merredin HSC - Narrogin HSC - Nash Street HSC - Northam HSC - South Perth HSC - Victoria Park HSC	No target – intended for agency trend information	

Workers compensation and injury management performance summary

The department recorded zero workplace fatalities and no cases of work-related respiratory disease during 2025-26. The incidence rate of work-related injury or illness was 18.5 per 1,000 workers, with serious claims at 4.1 per 1,000 workers and permanent impairment claims at 2.56 per 1,000 workers, reflecting a small number of complex cases. Return-to-work outcomes showed 61% of injured workers returned to full duties within 13 weeks and 78% within 26 weeks, highlighting DPIRD's commitment to early intervention and return to work support.

Enhancing leadership capability remained a focus this financial year with a new Injury Management eLearning module launched. 70% of managers and supervisors completed the training, and this is on track to meet the 80% target over the first months on 2026-27. This training strengthens leaders' understanding of injury management responsibilities across the organisation and provides a strong foundation for continued improvement of injury management and return to work outcomes.

Work health and safety summary

During the 2025-26 reporting period, DPIRD continued to strengthen its WHS framework through improvements to governance, consultation, reporting and policy development. This period 83 hazards were reported, an increase from 56 in 2024-25 (+48.2%), and 186 incidents, a decrease from 397 in 2024-25 (-53.1%). These results indicate increased visibility and reporting of workplace hazards, while incident numbers reduced significantly across the reporting period.

A key achievement during 2025-26 was the establishment of a three-tier WHS governance and escalation structure, providing a clear pathway for the discussion, consultation and escalation of safety matters across the department. The framework has improved oversight of WHS performance and strengthened communication between operational work areas, local committees and executive leadership. This structure supports more effective decision making and promotes greater workforce participation in health and safety matters.

The department also commenced a review of its WHS work group arrangements to ensure representation aligns with the department's diverse risk profiles and complex operational activities. This work aims to establish a more refined and contemporary work group structure that better reflects how work is undertaken across DPIRD and supports meaningful consultation with workers.

Through extensive consultation with workers, Health and Safety Representatives (HSRs), managers and key stakeholders, the

WHS team undertook a comprehensive review of departmental WHS policies and procedures. This work has helped ensure workers have access to clear, practical and current guidance tools and resources to support the safe performance of their work and compliance with legislative requirements.

Further improvements were made to WHS reporting and performance monitoring through the development and implementation of enhanced reporting dashboards. These dashboards provide increased visibility of hazards, incidents and WHS trends, enabling more proactive monitoring and timely intervention across the organisation. Collectively, these initiatives have strengthened DPIRD's WHS management framework and continue to support the department's commitment to maintaining a safe and engaged workforce.

Table 29: Hazards and incidents

	2024-25	2025-26
Total number of hazards reported	56	83
Total number of incidents reported	397	186

Employee Assistance Program

DPIRD facilitates an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through external providers. The EAP is a free, independent and confidential counselling service available to employees, managers and their immediate family members, providing support for personal and work-related issues that may affect health, wellbeing and workplace performance. During the

2025-26 financial year, employees had access to a panel of three providers. Following the closure of Access Wellbeing, the department will continue to offer EAP services through a panel of two providers in 2026-27.

Table 30: EAP service provision

EAP provider	Hours of EAP provision	
	2024-25	2025-26
Converge International	143	178
PeopleSense	534	437
Access Wellbeing Services	136	153
Total	813	768

Asbestos management

DPIRD takes a proactive and compliant approach to managing asbestos across its sites throughout Western Australia. The department is committed to the asbestos management approach outlined in the Asbestos National Strategic Plan 2024-30.

Asbestos registers and management plans are regularly reviewed, with specialist occupational hygiene and environmental health advice sought as required. Asbestos is managed in accordance with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020*, *Work Health and Safety (General) Regulations 2022*, and the Code of Practice: How to Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace.

Governance disclosures

Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes

In 2025-26, a total of 72 suspected breaches of discipline were reported to People and Culture. Of these, the department initiated 25 disciplinary processes under Part 5 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*. A total of 24 disciplinary processes were completed in 2025-26 and actions taken as an outcome of those processes ranged from issuing improvement action in the form of a warning, through to dismissal.

DPIRD's compliance with the Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management and the Public Sector Code of Ethics underpins our policies, procedures and decision-making processes, helping to ensure fairness, accountability, transparency and integrity across the organisation.

Employees are informed of their responsibilities under the standards and ethical requirements through DPIRD's induction program, mandatory training and ongoing communication. Relevant policies, procedures and guidance materials are available to staff through our intranet and other internal communication channels.

The People and Culture team provides advice, support and guidance to managers and employees on the application of the Public Sector Standards, ethical conduct requirements and employment-related processes. Recruitment, selection and appointment processes are monitored to support compliance with the Employment Standard and associated requirements.

DPIRD's Code of Conduct details the personal behaviours and standards expected of our employees. Processes are in place to address alleged breaches of standards or codes of conduct and to ensure employees are informed of their rights to lodge a breach of standard claim in accordance with the Public Sector Management (Breaches of Public Sector Standards) Regulations 2005.

In 2025-26:

- Number of breach of standard claims lodged: **0**
- Number of claims resolved internally: **0**
- Number of claims referred to the Public Sector Commission: **0**
- Number of claims upheld by the Public Sector Commission: **0**
- Number of Code of Conduct/ethical conduct matters managed: **72**

All reported matters were managed in accordance with applicable legislation, Public Sector Commission guidance and agency policies and procedures.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan outcomes

DPIRD continued to strengthen implementation of its Access and Inclusion Plan (AIP) to ensure people with disability can access employment, information, services and facilities on an equitable basis. During 2025-26, activity focused on removing physical, digital and systemic barriers and building organisational capability to deliver inclusive outcomes across metropolitan and regional Western Australia.

Key outcomes during the reporting period included:

- Improved workforce participation for people with disability, contributing to DPIRD exceeding the Public Sector Commission's aspirational target
- Improved accessibility of DPIRD buildings and facilities through targeted upgrades, audits and universal access improvements
- Introduction of preoccupancy building walkthroughs for staff with disability, supporting early familiarisation with new sites, identification of barriers and improved workplace readiness
- Enhanced accessibility of information and services, including continued improvements to digital platforms, publications and customer-facing materials
- Delivery of inclusive access planning initiatives, including support for innovative, evidence-based solutions to improve community access and participation in regional Western Australia

- Strengthened workforce capability and awareness through targeted training, awareness activities and department-wide engagement on disability inclusion
- Improved monitoring and accountability through regular tracking of progress against AIP actions to support continuous improvement.

Recordkeeping Plan

Evaluation of recordkeeping systems

The State Records Commission approved DPIRD's Recordkeeping Plan in August 2024, which remains in operation until 2029.

The department has reviewed existing policies and procedures and developed new documentation and supporting materials to meet the commitments outlined in the plan. These resources further support staff to meet their recordkeeping obligations.

DPIRD's Functional Retention and Disposal Authority is currently under review following feedback from the State Records Office, with a revised submission expected to be made in early 2027.

The department has successfully imported the new General Retention and Disposal Authority (DA 2023-004) within the electronic document and records management system (EDRMS) and is actively using it to sentence records appropriately.

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, is mandatory for all staff and must be completed on commencement.

DPIRD is currently developing an induction course for its EDRMS, which is anticipated to go live in October 2026. In the interim, in-person and online EDRMS training continue to be offered and delivered. Once implemented, the online induction course will replace existing general EDRMS training, with specialised training sessions available for staff who require additional support.

Other online training modules relating to Freedom of Information, Information Classification and Information Management are available on Progi for staff to self-enrol. A new Privacy Awareness course was launched to promote compliance with the *Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024*.

User guides and interactive modules are also available to staff on the department's intranet. Training completion is managed and reported through Progi. The recordkeeping training program is periodically reviewed to ensure the information remains current, relevant and effective.

Record management systems

In May 2025, the department's EDRMS was updated to enhance functionality for staff and provide the department with a contemporary recordkeeping solution.

Other legal requirements

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 31: Unauthorised use of credit cards 2025-26

Description	Quantity/value
Number of instances a DPIRD purchasing card has been used for personal use expenditure ¹	165
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure	\$15,341
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure settled by due date (5 business days)	\$6,497
Aggregate amount of personal use expenditure settled after the period required	\$8,844
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	11

¹ This refers to individual occasions when DPIRD staff inadvertently used a DPIRD purchasing card for a personal purpose during the reporting period.

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 2025-26, 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 the Act.

Act of Grace payments

The department from time to time processes Act of Grace payments on behalf of the Government. In 2025-26, there were \$1,815,400 in payments made relating to the Compulsory Fisheries Adjustment Scheme.

Expenditure on advertising, market research, polling and direct mail

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the department reports expenditure incurred in relation to advertising agencies, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising organisations. Total expenditure for 2025-26 was \$1,532,924.

Table 32: Expenditure on advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising in 2025-26

Advertising	\$	Market research organisations	\$
All Flags and Signs Pty Ltd	5,500	Nil	-
Ausbiz Pty Ltd	3,000	Polling organisations	\$
Business News Pty Ltd	10,000	Nil	-
C Koch & K Koch	3,250	Direct mail organisations	\$
Displays 2 Go	2,761	Acton BV	8,863
Kununurra Visitor Centre	3,930	Total	8,863
Quickpack Holdings Pty Ltd	7,157	Media advertising organisations	\$
RACWA Holdings Pty Ltd	18,000	Carat Australia Media Services Pty Ltd	1,126,955
RTRFM 92.1 Ltd	16,480	Dapth Pty Ltd	40,006
Telstra Limited	6,518	Initiative Media Australia Pty Ltd	137,524
The Trustee for D'acry Family Trust	4,500	Linkedin Singapore Pte Ltd	46,569
Tuna Blue Pty Ltd	2,747	Seek Limited	9,279
Vegie Bandits Pty Ltd	14,500	Facebook Australia Pty Ltd	57,874
WA Hotels & Hospitality Assn Inc Union of Employers	4,145	Total	1,418,207
Wangler Investments Pty Ltd	3,365		
Total	105,854		

Government policy requirements

WA Multicultural Policy Framework

DPIRD supports the objectives of the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework, which promotes inclusion, respect, equal opportunity and participation for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds. The department's approach aligns with the Framework's three priority areas and supports equitable outcomes for employees, stakeholders and communities across Western Australia.

Harmonious and inclusive communities

DPIRD fostered a respectful and inclusive workplace culture by supporting a wide range of multicultural celebrations and engagement activities. These included Lunar New Year, Ramadan, Eid, Harmony Week, Refugee Week, Diwali and Human Rights Day. Together, these activities promoted cultural understanding, strengthened relationships across the workforce and reinforced a shared sense of belonging.

Culturally responsive policies, programs and services

DPIRD continued to strengthen the accessibility and responsiveness of its policies, programs and services for CaLD communities. Initiatives included the development of multilingual publications and signage to improve access to information, alongside ongoing reviews of policies and practices to ensure alignment with the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework and the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984*.

Economic, social, cultural, civic and political participation

DPIRD supported inclusive participation by building cultural capability across the organisation through targeted training and awareness activities. These initiatives strengthened staff confidence and capability to engage effectively with culturally diverse colleagues, stakeholders and communities. During the reporting period, DPIRD also exceeded the Public Sector Commission's workforce representation benchmark for employees from CaLD backgrounds, demonstrating progress in supporting diverse participation and workforce inclusion.

DPIRD recognises the importance of continued effort to ensure multicultural inclusion remains embedded and responsive to evolving workforce and community needs. As the department prepares to launch its Workforce Diversity, Inclusion and Multicultural Plan in the next reporting year, these initiatives provide a strong foundation for ongoing progress and improved organisational capability.

Diversity outcomes

DPIRD is committed to building a capable, diverse and inclusive workforce that reflects the communities we serve and supports strong outcomes for Western Australia. Our approach focuses on attracting, developing and retaining people from a wide range of backgrounds, while fostering a workplace culture where diversity is valued and all employees feel respected, supported and able to contribute at their best.

This commitment is guided by the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework, the Public Sector Commission's Workforce Diversification and Inclusion Strategy, and underpinned by the *Equal Opportunity Act 1984* and *Disability Services Act 1993*. Central to our approach is the principle of substantive equality, recognising that fair and equitable outcomes may require targeted strategies and tailored support to address systemic barriers and differing needs across the workforce.

During the reporting period, DPIRD exceeded Public Sector Commission benchmarks for women in Senior Executive Service roles, people with disability, and employees from CaLD backgrounds, reflecting the sustained application of inclusive and equitable practices.

DPIRD's commitment to gender equity is reflected in achieving a zero gender pay gap as at 31 March 2026. This outcome is supported by targeted investment in learning and development, with 50% of places in leadership development programs allocated to women to strengthen capability and support career progression. Together, these efforts reinforce a more inclusive workforce where women are supported to succeed at all levels and contribute to strong outcomes for Western Australia.

DPIRD's commitment to inclusiveness also extends to improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This was demonstrated through the launch of the department's Aboriginal Workforce Strategy during the reporting period, supported by the implementation of a range of initiatives to strengthen attraction, retention and career development.

Our commitment further extends to improving outcomes for young people, demonstrated through initiatives such as the internship opportunities highlighted in the following case studies.

Case study: Inclusive internship pathways building future capability

DPIRD's internship opportunities support youth participation, workforce capability and inclusive employment outcomes by providing structured, supported pathways for emerging professionals. These opportunities offer practical experience, mentoring and exposure to real-world research, helping build skills, confidence and career readiness across priority disciplines.

Ecosystems Team

Following completion of his undergraduate studies, Casey Lyons joined DPIRD through a marine science internship. During his placement in the Ecosystems team, Casey contributed to applied research activities including literature reviews, otolith extraction and analysis, growth modelling and field sampling of Black Bream. Casey valued the opportunity to work alongside experienced researchers in a supportive team environment, which strengthened his technical skills and professional confidence. The experience reinforced his interest in stock assessment and population modelling and provided insight into marine science careers within government.



Photo: Casey Lyons

Crop Innovation, Data Science and Platforms Team

Betina Schneider undertook her internship to apply her Masters studies in a practical research setting. Working within the Crop Innovation – Data Science and Platforms team, she contributed to a project assessing radar and Automatic Weather Station rainfall records. Her role combined independent analytical work with regular mentoring and collaboration. Betina highlighted the inclusive and supportive team culture as a key factor in her learning and professional development, and the internship strengthened her interest in data analytics and the importance of data-driven decisionmaking in applied research and policy contexts.



Photo: Dr Stephen Bradshaw, Dr Ian Foster, Betina Schneider

These internships demonstrate DPIRD's commitment to supporting youth and early-career pathways, building future capability across science and data disciplines, and strengthening an inclusive workforce pipeline aligned with departmental priorities.

Aboriginal Workforce Strategy (2025-29)

Our Aboriginal Workforce strategy is built on three 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.

Strong progress was made against our strategy, with actions including:

- Providing all managers with in-person Aboriginal and Cultural Awareness Training, delivered by an independent Aboriginal-owned organisation. Over 67% of managers have attended, including our Corporate Executive
- Introducing Managing and Supporting Aboriginal Staff training targeting managers who are, or who may become, supervisors of Aboriginal employees
- Completing a detailed review of workplace policies, procedures and guidelines for cultural safety and inclusivity
- Partnering with an Aboriginal-owned provider to deliver prevention of racism lunch and learns
- Launching the Cultural and Cultural/Ceremonial Leave Guidelines
- Participating in PSC Solid Futures Aboriginal Traineeship Program
- Participating in PSC Aboriginal Internship Program.
- Ongoing support for the department's Aboriginal Alliance which offers Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander staff a culturally safe forum to discuss issues, share feedback, build connections and to help make DPIRD an employer of choice.

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).

Table 33: Animal Ethics Committee

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	K Le May	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$26,143.44
Member	J de Klerk	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,570.00
Member	S Leitch	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$3,758.00
Member	V Mabury	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$3,758.00
Member	M Paton	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$4,401.00
Member	I Robertson	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$4,401.00
Member	A Van Leeuwen	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,973.00
Member	M Zampogna	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$4,401.00
Member	S Zulsdorf	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$3,282.00
Total						\$54,687.44

Table 34: Biosecurity Council of Western Australia

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	J Bellanger	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Dec-25	\$14,972.38
Member	A Dean	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$105.05
Member	W Harding	Per fortnight	Full time	Feb-26	Jun-26	\$12,745.34
Member	O Nevin	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$17,355.94
Member	R Paliskis	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$17,355.94
Member	K Pearce	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Dec-26	\$7,589.47
Member	S Sharma	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$17,355.94
Member	E Smith	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$12,838.88
Member	T Sullivan	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$14,599.38
Member	M Thomas	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$14,599.38
Total						\$129,517.70

Table 35: Soil and Land Conservation Council

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	Dr H Norman	NA	Sessional	Jul-24	Jun-25	NA
Deputy Chair	Dr R George	NA	Sessional	Jul-24	Jun-25	NA
Member	Dr R Young	NA	Sessional	Jul-24	Jun-25	NA
Member	W Bradshaw	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-24	Jun-25	\$13,738.79
Member	E Foulkes-Taylor	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-24	Jun-25	\$13,738.79
Member	D Mallard	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-24	Jun-25	\$13,738.79
Member	R Nixon	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-24	Jun-25	\$13,738.79
Member	N Schoknecht	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-24	Jun-25	\$13,738.79
Member	R Turton	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-24	Jun-25	\$13,738.79
Total						\$82,432.74

Note: Dr H Norman (Chair), Dr R George (Deputy Chair) and Dr R Young (member) are not remunerated for this board as they are government employees.

Table 36: Wildlife Animal Ethics Committee

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	K Morris	Per fortnight	Full time	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$29,027.96
Member	M Desport	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,737.00
Member	S Dundas	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,737.00
Member	J Dunlop	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,904.00
Member	M Griffiths	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,428.00
Member	P Mawson	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,689.00
Member	H Mills	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$476.00
Member	C Monaghan	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,380.00
Member	R O'Brien	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$785.00
Member	M Paton	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$4,593.00
Member	T Thomson	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,213.00
Member	S Webb	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$5,378.00
Member	H Wilmot	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,737.00
Member	M Zampogna	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$6,330.00
Member	S Zulsdorf	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$4,735.00
Total						\$67,149.96

Table 37: Cattle Industry Funding Scheme Management Committee

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	D Jarvie	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$3,142.00
Member	W Brockhurst	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,427.00
Member	P Hall	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,427.00
Member	R McFerran	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,769.00
Member	T Michalek	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,791.00
Member	L Morris	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,155.00
Member	E Woods	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,427.00
Total						\$16,138.00

Table 38: Grains, Seed and Hay Industry Funding Scheme Management Committee

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	P Harkness	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$4,328.00
Member	H McTaggart	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,812.00
Member	J Alvaro	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,812.00
Member	J Foss	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$251.00
Member	M Dagostino	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,406.00
Member	P Kelly	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,812.00
Total						\$14,421.00

Table 39: Sheep and Goat Industry Funding Scheme Management Committee

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	M Griffiths	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$3,424.00
Member	M Campbell	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,791.00
Member	A Day	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,224.00
Member	C Jacobson	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,791.00
Member	J Moyes	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,155.00
Member	M Nield	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$2,176.00
Total						\$12,561.00

Table 40: Kimberley and South Coast Fisheries Voluntary Fisheries Adjustment Scheme Committee

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Chair	1 member	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$1,430.00
Member	1 member	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$930.00
Member	1 member	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-25	Jun-26	\$930.00
Total						\$3,290.00

Table 41: Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act Review Panel

Member title	Member name	Type of remuneration	Appointment type	Period of membership		Gross remuneration
				From	To	
Member	C Winfield *	Per meeting	Sessional	Jul-26	Jun-26	\$587.00
Total						\$587.00

*The Panel did not sit in 2025-26, however member C Winfield paid retrospectively for previous financial year.

Closing the Gap

Aboriginal outcomes

In 2025-26, DPIRD achieved a significant milestone with the development and implementation of its inaugural Aboriginal Outcomes Strategy. Aligned with the Closing the Gap Priority Reform Areas, the strategy provides a whole-of-department framework to guide, embed and measure Aboriginal outcomes across the organisation.

The Strategy focuses on six key priority areas:

- Whole-of-agency accountability
- Culturally capable systems and workforce
- Meaningful relationships and partnerships
- Economic participation and opportunity
- Aboriginal cultural knowledge and heritage
- Improved outcomes through service delivery

The Strategy consolidates and strengthens existing initiatives and activities that contribute to Closing the Gap outcomes. During 2025-26, DPIRD progressed a range of actions across these priority areas.

Strengthening partnerships

DPIRD strengthened relationships with Aboriginal organisations and communities through its support and coordination of the Indigenous Salt Water Advisory Group and the Noongar Economic Participation Steering Group, facilitating collaboration

on matters relating to economic development, natural resource management and community priorities.

Transforming systems, processes and workforce capability

The department continued to strengthen organisational systems and practices to better support Aboriginal outcomes, including:

- Designing and implementing the DPIRD Aboriginal Heritage Management System, supported by training for 447 staff and completion of 259 cultural heritage due diligence assessments
- Designing, delivering and piloting a tiered Cultural Capability Framework, with more than 1,500 employees participating in cultural capability training
- Implementing initiatives under the Aboriginal Workforce Strategy (refer page 208), including the establishment and ongoing support of the department's Aboriginal Alliance
- Exceeded the Aboriginal Procurement Policy (APP) target of 4.5%, achieving 10.24% of total contracts awarded to Aboriginal businesses
- Established an Agency Aboriginal Procurement Plan, providing a framework for the early identification of contract opportunities for Aboriginal businesses and strengthening the agency's ability to sustain and exceed APP targets over the long term
- Completing the DPIRD Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2024-25, achieving 71% of deliverables, with a further 24% partially completed and 4% continuing as ongoing commitments.

Increasing access to information and capability building

DPIRD supported Aboriginal individuals, organisations and communities to build capability and access opportunities through:

- Publication of the Setting Up for Success Land Tenure Guide
- Co-design and delivery of workshops, forums and engagement activities focused on land commercialisation, geographic information systems (GIS), mapping and knowledge sharing.

Contribution to Closing the Gap socio-economic targets

During 2025-26, DPIRD contributed to three Closing the Gap socio-economic targets through strategic partnerships, grant funding, procurement initiatives and service delivery programs.

Target 8 – Employment

The Aboriginal Governance and Leadership Development Program invested \$1.5 million in business development grants, leadership training and procurement reform initiatives.

The program supported 14 Aboriginal businesses across regional Western Australia through targeted grant funding and enabled 27 participants to undertake leadership development training. Through the Aboriginal Procurement Advisory Service, delivered in partnership with Morrgul Pty Ltd, Aboriginal businesses secured approximately \$39 million in government contract awards.

The Aboriginal Pastoral Program, delivered in partnership with Nyamba Buru Yawuru and the Kimberley Pilbara Cattlemen's Association (KPCA), invested \$620,000 to expand operations into the East Kimberley. The program supported 48 Aboriginal young people to access training opportunities and on-country employment pathways on pastoral stations across the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

Target 15b – Legal Rights and Interests in the Sea

DPIRD provided \$700,000 to support the Indigenous Salt Water Advisory Groups in their engagement with 11 Kimberley salt water Prescribed Body Corporates. The funding supported collaboration on marine research, customary fishing and Aboriginal economic development initiatives.

Target 17 – Digital Inclusion

DPIRD continued to support an innovative free Wi-Fi model operating across seven remote First Nations communities, helping to reduce barriers to digital connectivity and affordability.

During 2025-26, a further \$9.1 million was committed to expand the program to an additional nine First Nations communities. Installations were completed in three communities during the reporting period.

Governance and Accountability

DPIRD maintains an established Aboriginal Outcomes Task Team, which provides strategic advice, oversight and leadership to strengthen departmental policy, systems and practices that improve Aboriginal outcomes. The Task Team reports directly to the DPIRD Corporate Executive, supporting accountability for the implementation of Aboriginal outcomes initiatives across the agency.

The Corporate Executive also contributes to whole-of-government efforts to advance Aboriginal outcomes. This includes the Director General's participation in the Aboriginal Affairs Coordinating Committee (AACC) and representation by the Deputy Director General at Native Title and Closing the Gap interagency forums.

The department contributes to key State Government reporting mechanisms on Closing the Gap 2025, coordinated by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the 2025 Aboriginal Expenditure Review, providing transparency and accountability for its investment in and contribution to Aboriginal outcomes.

Consultant expenditure

Table 42. The agency engaged the following consultants in 2025-26:

Consultant	Title of project	Actual cost (Including GST) 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026 Expenditure greater (>) \$50,000	Actual cost (Including GST) 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026 Expenditure less (<) \$50,000
Kimberley Boab Consulting Pty Ltd	Food and Beverage Fund Summative Review		\$14,148.00
Mansfield Property Advisory	Coral Bay – Terminal Schedule of Dilapidations Assessment & Transition Plan Review		\$26,000.00
GHD Pty Ltd	Economic analysis of Western Australia's biomass feedstocks, supply chains and conversion pathways	\$134,272.72	
Sia AU Pty Ltd Australia	Development of Western Australian Advanced Biofuels Strategy	\$86,173.43	
Verbrec Australia Pty Ltd	Western Australia biomethane assessment		\$22,045.50
	Total	\$220,446.15	\$62,193.50

Agency Capability Review

DPIRD participated in the Public Sector Commission (PSC) Agency Capability Review in 2023. The program takes a comprehensive, whole-of-sector approach to improvement and sets standards based on a clear understanding of what constitutes a high-performing public sector agency in Western Australia.

The review identified strengths across DPIRD, including our ecologically sustainable approach to the management of WA fisheries, leadership in research and development, and effective grants management. It also identified opportunities to strengthen our capability by improving financial sustainability, enhancing incident and emergency response preparedness, and providing greater clarity on organisational purpose, remit and priorities.

During 2025-26, DPIRD continued to deliver on the commitments made in response to the review. Key initiatives included:

- Strengthening financial sustainability through work to align funding with service delivery priorities and improve long-term resource planning
- Ensuring the department has the people, tools and infrastructure required to deliver services now and into the future through enhanced workforce, asset and information systems planning
- Strengthening leadership and management capability through implementation of Public Sector Commission leadership expectations, workforce planning initiatives, and a continued focus on integrity, workplace health and safety and employee wellbeing.

- Advancing reconciliation and Aboriginal outcomes through implementation of the Reconciliation Action Plan, cultural capability initiatives, Aboriginal workforce development programs and strengthened engagement with Aboriginal stakeholders
- Improving biosecurity and emergency management preparedness through enhanced training pathways, emergency exercises, planning activities, governance arrangements and supporting technologies
- Strengthening stakeholder relationships and improving understanding of DPIRD's role, priorities and services through targeted engagement programs, stakeholder surveys, customer service initiatives and communications activities.

DPIRD continues to build on its strengths while addressing opportunities to improve.

Fish Resources Management Act 1994

Additional reporting required under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* is contained in Appendices 3 and 4 of this report.

DPIRD only estimates (excluding Regional Development Commissions)

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	\$'000s
Expenses	
Employee benefits	286,525
Grants and subsidies	225,191
Supplies and services	127,349
Accommodation	15,484
Depreciation and amortisation	27,743
Finance and interest cost	4,150
Other Expenses	37,014
TOTAL COST OF SERVICES	723,456
Income	
Sale of goods and services	2,967
Regulatory fees and fines	56,811
Grants and subsidies	44,236
Other revenue	15,150
Total Income	119,164
NET COST OF SERVICES	604,292

	\$'000s
Income from State Government	
Service appropriations	323,875
Resources received free of charge	1,849
Major Treasurer's Special Purpose Account(s):	
Asset Maintenance Fund	511
Royalties for Regions Fund:	
Regional and State-wide Initiatives	167,586
Regional Community Services Fund	8,796
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	61,061
Other appropriations	-
Other revenues	13,873
TOTAL INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT	577,551
SURPLUS/(DEFICIENCY) FOR THE PERIOD	(26,741)

Statement of Financial Position

	\$'000s
Current Assets	
Cash assets	1,608
Restricted cash	79,057
Amounts receivable for services	6,078
Receivables	27,327
Other	20,057
Total Current Assets	134,127
Non-Current Assets	
Amounts receivable for services	291,330
Receivables	(28)
Property, plant and equipment	565,224
Intangibles	6,295
Other	56,955
Total Non-Current Assets	919,776
TOTAL ASSETS	1,053,903

	\$'000s
Current Liabilities	
Employee provisions	70,100
Payables	13,522
Borrowings and leases	16,499
Other	60,492
Total current liabilities	160,613
Non-Current Liabilities	
Employee provisions	6,222
Borrowings and leases	40,016
Other	1,636
Total non-current liabilities	47,874
TOTAL LIABILITIES	208,487
Equity	
Contributed equity	810,971
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	(131,726)
Reserves	166,190
Total Equity	845,435
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	1,053,922

Statement of Cash Flows

	\$'000s
Cashflows from State Government	
Service appropriations	291,176
Capital appropriation	18,361
Holding account drawdowns	6,078
Major Treasurer's Special Purpose Account(s)	
Asset Maintenance Fund	511
Climate Action Fund	4,430
Digital Capability Fund	539
Royalties for Regions Fund:	
Regional and State-wide Initiatives	169,586
Regional Community Services Fund	26,440
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	61,061
Other	12,775
Administered appropriations	
Net cash provided by State Government	590,957
CASHFLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Payments	
Employee benefits	(284,598)
Grants and subsidies	(225,844)
Supplies and services	(115,696)
Accommodation	(15,483)
GST payments	(15,283)
Finance and interest costs	(4,045)
Other payments	(40,984)

	\$'000s
Receipts	
Regulatory fees and fines	56,811
Grants and subsidies	45,068
Sale of goods and services	2,967
GST receipts	15,294
Other receipts	11,340
Net cash from operating activities	(570,453)
CASHFLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Purchase of non-current assets	(40,479)
Proceeds from sale of non-current assets	1,255
Net cash from investing activities	(39,224)
CASHFLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Repayment of borrowings and leases	(17,704)
Proceeds from borrowings	5,000
Other proceeds	1,011
Net cash from financing activities	(11,693)
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	(30,413)
Cash assets at the beginning of the period	118,917
Net cash transferred to/from other agencies	(7,839)
Cash assets at the end of the period	80,665



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)
DEED	Department of Energy and Economic Diversification (WA)
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (WA)
DMPE	Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (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
KPI	Key performance indicator
LCD	Land Conservation District
LTI	Lost time injury

LGIRS	Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (WA)
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: Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation Annual Report 2025-26

Dr Melanie Strawbridge

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation

A report on the Commissioner's operations for 2025-26 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 2025-26.

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.

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (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 2025-26 include:

- Procedures for rangeland condition assessment in the Kimberley the Pilbara and southern rangelands have been published and are available in the DPIRD Digital Library
- Nine pastoral stations were subject to Rangeland Condition Assessment (RCA). This number is down from previous years (26 in 2024), primarily due to staffing constraints
- State and transition models for the mulga woodlands and shrublands have been developed and the final report is available in the DPIRD Digital Library
- The third edition of the book *Arid Shrubland Plants of WA* (Mitchell and Wilcox, 2025) has been published. This edition was produced with financial and expert assistance from DPIRD
- Mapping of rangelands pastures using machine learning has been accelerated to improve sustainable management and assist the Valuer General with the reassessment of pastoral station rentals by 2028-29

- Data collection for the development of quantitative measures of pasture condition for Kimberley pastures is complete, and a paper has been drafted for publication
- Standards and quantitative measures of pasture condition for Nullarbor pastures have been developed, and a draft report is in final edit.

With guidance from the Soil and Land Conservation Council, DPIRD completed development of the Dryland Salinity – Future Directions Government Response (2020). The implementation actions to deliver the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) salinity management recommendations have been met through updated salinity mapping and risk assessment, increased discussion with farmers on management options, partnership with grower and catchment groups, and salinity forums with peak industry bodies.

The Government Response continues through WaterSmart research that covers water related issues for farms, communities and industries. Since 2023-24, DPIRD and research partners at Murdoch University have reviewed over 30 on-farm reverse osmosis (RO) desalination systems and 4 case study systems operated by local government authorities or agricultural schools. In addition to understanding their operation and benefit, 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. The number of RO disposal systems under review has increased during 2025-26 and the outcomes of the review will be available in the second half of 2026.

The WaterSmart Industries project has commenced 6 water security case studies of intensive animal industry business. As with other stakeholder interactions, questions of water quality, salinity and desalination usually arise when discussing water security. Case studies will highlight the need to address these on-farm issues in an integrated fashion and provide the Office of the Commissioner with a guide to the likely future regulatory issues that may arise.

DPIRD has been successful in a new funding application, with Grower Group Alliance and University of Western Australia (UWA), to implement water detection software so farmers, local government and others can track water storage across the south-west's 200,000 farm dams, increase adaption case studies and develop platforms to synthesise DPIRD's water data into accessible formats for users.

Soil and Land Conservation Council (SLCC)

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. 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).

The SLCC met 4 times throughout the year. At the annual regional meeting in Northam in August 2025, members considered the Commissioner's annual report on the condition of

WA's soil and land resources, along with Wheatbelt restoration standards and land restoration investment drivers. They visited 2 farming properties near Tammin and York to examine soil and landscape constraints affecting productivity and discuss the impacts of climate change, evolving farming systems, and market sustainability expectations. SLCC also held a workshop on opportunities to improve soil and landscape health through targeted investment at paddock, property and catchment scales. SLCC identified a need for a WA Government-led, voluntary landscape-scale restoration platform to support revegetation, improve biodiversity and soil health, and enable landholders to access emerging natural capital markets, delivering long-term environmental and economic benefits for WA agriculture.

SLCC is focusing on national and state soil health and monitoring programs that will collect consistent soil data baseline assessment of the current state, trend, and health of Australia's soil assets, the Commissioner's soil and land conservation policy framework, and land use planning advice to ensure that large-scale infrastructure and renewable energy infrastructure is developed in a way to adequately avoid and mitigate land degradation.

Two members of the SLCC attended the 2nd Sandy Soils Conference in Perth in July 2025 (DPIRD funded) and 2 attended the Regenerative Food Systems Conference in September 2025 (Perth NRM funded).

Dr Hayley Norman advised the Minister for Agriculture and Food of her resignation from Council from 16 March 2026.

Dr Norman is acknowledged for her leadership, dedication and contribution to SLCC since 2019, including her tenure as Chair from 2021. Cabinet has endorsed Minister Jackie Jarvis, Minister of Agriculture and Food's designation of Dr Renee Young as Chair of the SLCC for the term of 2 June 2026 to 30 June 2028.



Photo: The Soil and Land Conservation Council members met in York August 2025.

From left to right: Dr Noel Schoknecht, Wendy Bradshaw, Dr Renee Young, Dwayne Mallard, Dr Melanie Strawbridge (Commissioner), Dr Richard George (Deputy Chair), Dr Hayley Norman (Chair), Rhys Turton, Dr Gaus Azam (DPIRD guest), Lisa Chalmers (Executive Officer) and Bob Nixon. Absent: Emma Foulkes-Taylor.

Compliance and regulation

A draft Policy Framework to support the administration of the Act has been developed. The Framework outlines the Commissioner's approach to preventing and managing land degradation in Western Australia and ensures the Act is administered consistently with DPIRD's regulatory compliance principles through:

- documented regulatory standards
- clearly defined roles and responsibilities
- technical guidance and reference materials
- transparent, defensible decisionmaking processes

The Framework provides clarity of decision making and allows for continuous improvement through monitoring and review. It supports early identification and proactive management of land degradation risks. Current focus is on finalising standards for assessing, monitoring and responding to wind erosion risk in the agricultural regions in the first instance.

A 5-year project commenced 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.

The Framework will be publicly available on the DPIRD website towards the end of 2025-26, with links to supporting information updated as they are finalised.

Pastoral stations

The Commissioner visited 9 pastoral stations that were identified by the Rangelands Science Group in previous range condition assessments as requiring attention. Five follow-up compliance visits were undertaken by rangelands officers on behalf of the Commissioner. The Commissioner is actively working with these lease holders to mitigate land degradation and improve land condition.

Land clearing assessments

Thirty-two 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, 12 to the Department of Mines Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) related to mining activities and infrastructure development and 1 to Department of Planning Lands and Heritage for clearing of vegetation on a pastoral lease.

Complaints

Ten complaints were registered during the 2025-26 financial year. Seven related to drainage, 1 to soil erosion, 1 to flooding and 1 to illegal clearing within a covenanted area.

Soil Conservation Notices (SCNs)

Three SCN's were issued during 2025-26 and one discharged. There are now 8 SCN's on leases in the pastoral area and 4 on agricultural properties in the south-west agricultural area dealing with current soil degradation issues.

Additionally, there are a number of historical SCN's on properties in the south-west agricultural area. A project is underway to review compliance with the requirements of these SCN's. Upon completion of the project the online database and GIS portal will be updated to reflect the status of the SCN's and spatial delineation of protected areas.

Drainage and pumping

Between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026, the Office of the Commissioner assessed 6 Notices of Intent to Drain (NOID) for saline groundwater drainage works and 3 Notice of Intent to Pump (desalination) for reverse osmosis plants.

Agreements to reserve and conservation covenants

During the 2025-26 financial year, 16 Conservation Covenants were negotiated and registered on title, protecting 4,772 ha of vegetation. Twelve new applications are currently in negotiation to protect a further 1,520 ha of vegetation.

In this period, 7 Conservation Covenants and 1 Agreement to Reserve reached their 30-year set term end date (some of these were renegotiated and replaced with amended CC's) and were discharged from titles after application from landholders, a total of 472 ha.

Land Conservation District Committees (LCDCs)

LCDCs are statutory committees created under Part III (a) of the SLC 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

Over the course of 2025-26, DPIRD responded to 245 land use planning referrals. The majority of referrals were from local government (151 referrals, 62%). DPLH and the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) comprised 84 referrals (34%). There were 8 referrals (3%) from the DWER, one referral from DBCA and one formal general enquiry.

Most referrals sought advice on proposed development applications. The referrals from local government were the most diverse. Development applications covered subjects such as extractive industries (gravel and sand), intensive agriculture including poultry and piggeries, rural pursuits (mainly horses on small rural holdings), lease amendments, renewable energy facilities (including Battery Energy Storage Systems), wind and solar farms) and assorted other developments.

An assessment of referrals by region of origin demonstrates a statewide spread of developments. Twenty-seven percent of the referrals came from the Southwest planning region, followed by the Perth metropolitan area (20%), the Wheatbelt (13%), and the Great Southern (11%). The Mid-west region was 9%, the Peel was 7%, and the Pilbara was 5%. The remaining regions each had less than 5% of referrals. This was a change from the previous financial year when most referrals came from the Perth metropolitan area.

DPIRD is a department with an interest in diversifying regional economies, building strong communities, improving primary industry productivity and protecting the environment this sector depends upon. These interests enable DPIRD to provide information across a range of subjects. Most referrals are routine and uncontroversial, with DPIRD providing comments and feedback that aims to highlight any risks that could lead to land degradation, and how those risks can be mitigated. DPIRD also liaises with other government agencies as necessary to ensure a consistent government approach.

Renewable energy projects remain a common type of referral, and DPIRD continues to closely examine the associated land degradation risks. While DPIRD supports the development of renewable energy facilities, DPIRD is monitoring these developments to identify and mitigate any possible land degradation risks the facilities pose.

Referrals from DWER were mainly seeking advice regarding prescribed premises, including nutrient management, piggeries and abattoirs.

Other routine referrals were related to proposed regional and local planning schemes and strategies, regional and local planning scheme amendments (which can include rezoning proposals), rural subdivision and developments on agricultural land.

DPIRD Digital Library

As of 30 June 2026, the DPIRD Digital Library (the repository for DPIRD's publications and maps) contained over 11,000 works and there were nearly 600,000 downloads during 2025–26. The collections relating to soil, land and water resource assessment and management contained nearly 1,400 works and there were 111,000 downloads (19% of all downloads). Works from the natural resource's collections were mostly downloaded by commercial, education and government institutions in Australia, United States and China.

The WA Soil Health Strategy

Overseen by the Soil and Land Conservation Council, substantial progress continues to be made towards achieving the objectives of the WA Soil Health Strategy through a coordinated portfolio of research, extension, monitoring and policy activities. The Strategy's objectives that DPIRD are involved in delivering in 2025-26 are listed in Table A1.

Delivery is achieved through multiple projects that collectively support land managers to improve soil health while maintaining productive and resilient farming systems. Across the Strategy, the strongest emphasis remains on helping landholders understand soil health risks, adopt proven management practices and make informed decisions through access to research, practical demonstrations and decision-support tools. This reflects the Strategy's recognition that lasting improvements in soil health depend on knowledge being translated into action on the ground.

Current projects are investigating innovative farming practices, organic carbon soil and sustainable production systems, while long-term monitoring and improved soil information provide a clearer picture of the condition of agricultural and pastoral landscapes across the State. These activities ensure that future management decisions are based on robust science and that changes in land condition can be tracked over time.

Collaboration continues to be a defining feature of implementation. Many projects bring together producers, researchers, industry organisations, regional groups and government agencies to develop, test and share practical

solutions to soil health challenges. This collaborative approach supports innovation while ensuring that new knowledge is relevant, credible and readily adopted by land managers. Several initiatives also contribute to managing broader landscape issues such as nutrient movement and erosion.

Many of the Strategy's objectives are supported by multiple projects, reflecting an integrated approach to delivery and illustrating how investments in soil health generate benefits across the Strategy rather than in isolation. This integrated approach provides a strong foundation for achieving the Strategy's long-term vision of healthy soils that underpin productive agriculture, resilient landscapes and thriving regional communities throughout Western Australia.

A mid-term review of Strategy was undertaken during 2025–26. The review, informed by a survey of industry, found continued support for the Strategy as a framework for promoting healthy, productive and resilient soils across Western Australia.

Stakeholders highlighted the importance of practical, regionally relevant research, demonstration and extension activities that help land managers make informed decisions and manage risk. The findings provide a positive foundation for ongoing collaboration between government, industry, researchers and landholders to support the long-term sustainability and profitability of Western Australian agriculture. A summary of the survey responses is expected to be released later in 2026.

Table A1: The WA Soil Health Strategy's objectives that DPIRD activities are delivering to:

	WASHS objectives	DPIRD activities
Development and education	1.1 Land managers understand the risk to soil ecosystems of current and future practices and are aware of best practices that mitigate risks to improving soil health.	✓
	1.2 In partnership with government and industry, land managers are engaged in collaborative research, development, and participatory action learning of new and reassessed practices to sustain soil health and ameliorate soil constraints.	✓
	1.3 Land managers are supported with strategies that profitably maintain groundcover to prevent wind and water erosion on vulnerable land.	✓
	2.1 Producers, researchers, educators and industry, working together will evaluate and demonstrate innovative practices that increase environmental conditions and sustainable business performance for WA agricultural and pastoral rangeland landscapes.	✓
	2.4 Land managers have access to, and understanding of, a range of decision support tools and peer supported learning , which will enable them to objectively decide on investing in practices to improve soil health.	✓
	3.2 Comprehensive soil information and aggregated data is available and accessible, allowing a wide range of analysis at a scale that equips land managers to make well informed decisions better.	✓
	5.2 Partnerships are established with regional groups, government, industry and community to manage nutrient leaching and sediment run-off .	✓
Research	2.2 Cooperative partnerships between industry, research organizations, and tertiary institutions continue research into building soil organic carbon that will benefit biological soil health.	✓
	2.3 Creditable science-based and economic investigations are established to evaluate new and innovative farming systems land management practices for adoption by land managers.	✓
	3.1 WA soil land and condition tracked and monitored to enable better land condition trends.	✓
	5.3 Additional pressures on agricultural and pastoral landscapes that might compromise the sustainability or security of soil health and landscapes are quantified .	

Table A1: The WA Soil Health Strategy's objectives that DPIRD activities are delivering to (continued):

WASHS objectives		DPIRD activities
Policy, regulation	3.3 An enhanced monitoring system delivers increased knowledge of WA's agricultural lands and the pastoral estate to support improvement of land condition through good land management.	✓
	4.1 Public policies and position statements clearly articulate shared responsibilities for soil and land management, consistent with the SLC Act and other linked legislation.	✓
	4.2 Compliance with state laws and regulations actively contributes to managing and conserving the soil and land resource.	✓
	5.1 Collaborative actions are in place to retain soil ecosystem services under changing land use and new developments.	

Condition of the resource base – agricultural region

Soil acidity

The application of agricultural lime to manage soil acidification is now commonplace for leading growers. Recent years of record annual grain yields in Western Australia indicate that growers are achieving much closer to the water limited potential and this has been shown to be a result of improved soil condition and the management of multiple soil constraints including soil acidity. However, these increased grain yields effectively increase the need for agricultural lime to counter the inevitable increased acidification associated with greater product removal and higher fertiliser inputs.

Lime WA* reports that their 10 members sold a total of 602,000 tonnes in 2025-26. This amount includes lime from 2 new members and sees 2 long-established (> 20 years) members close their operations. Sales of 602,000 tonnes represent an overall decline of 75,000 tonnes compared to 2024-25. The 2 largest suppliers reported significant downturns in sales in March/April 2026 of approximately 50% or a decrease of 117,000 tonnes against last year. This downturn coincided with global conflict in the middle east and concerns regarding the availability and access to fuel and fertiliser.

A long-term state lime supply strategy is required to ensure that lime continues to be available to WA agriculture after more than

2 decades of improved management of soil acidification. The WA state lime supply strategy should be revisited and developed by a consortium of multiple stakeholders including DBCA, DMPE, DPIRD and local government.

Soil salinity

Excess soil salinity affecting crops, pasture, water supplies 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.

DPIRD completed a detailed groundwater trend and salinity risk assessment in 2022-23. It was based on groundwater data to May 2021 and the remotely sensed extent of saline land in 2018. Another such assessment is planned for 2026-27 based on groundwater data to autumn 2026. Therefore, only significant seasonal trends observed during 2025-26 relative to the 2022-23 assessment are reported here.

*Lime WA is a voluntary industry code of practice, the exact proportion of the whole industry represented by this group is not known but is conservatively estimated to be more than 60%.

Year to date rainfall to the end of June 2026 was below long-term mean values over most of the South West agricultural region. However, there were several unseasonally large rainfall events during February and March affecting portions of the region.

- There was no observed response in groundwater levels in the extreme north and north-eastern portion of the region due to high February rainfall originating from the passage of a decaying tropical cyclone.
- High rates of groundwater rise observed in the south-eastern margin of the region continued and it is unclear whether there was any influence of high unseasonal rainfall totals.
- There was no significant groundwater response observed in the lower south-west or south coastal portions of the region resulting from unseasonally high February and March rainfall.

There have been no significant changes to observed groundwater trends elsewhere in the South Western agricultural region.

DPIRD is also assessing the groundwater response to clearing and irrigation in the Myalup and Ord River areas, supporting industry growth and monitoring the transition between industries in the recently developed and established areas.

Salinity responses

- Water Science staff presented at 10 field days and forums attended by over 280 participants. The main topics being drainage and dryland salinity, surface water control and desalination.

- Telephone and email enquiries were dominated by drainage and dryland salinity matters. Water security enquiries often included water quality issues in farm dams relating to low inflows and high watertables.
- The Water Science Team received approximately 100 enquiries over the 2 days of Wagin Woolorama. Minister Jarvis launched the WaterSmart Farms Voucher Program supporting on-farm research into groundwater supply from bedrock aquifers. Most enquiries related to water security and desalination but often included water quality and salinity questions. Over 70 farmers applied to be partners in the project, and these are currently being assessed with support from Curtin University.
- The WaterSmart Industries project undertook 3 community forums on availability of groundwater in the Beaufort River area, including 4 Shires and several large animal processing businesses.

WaterSmart Farms & Water Smart Industries

Since 2023-24, DPIRD and research partners at Murdoch University have reviewed over 30 on-farm reverse osmosis (RO) desalination systems and 4 case study systems operated by local government authorities or agricultural schools. In addition to understanding their operation and benefit, 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. The number of RO disposal systems under review has increased during 2025-26 and the outcomes of the review will be available in the second half of 2026.

The WaterSmart Industries project has commenced 6 water security case studies of intensive animal industry business. As with other stakeholder interactions, questions of water quality, salinity and desalination usually arise when discussing water security. Case studies will highlight the need to address these on-farm issues in an integrated fashion and provide the Office of the Commissioner with a guide to the likely future regulatory issues that may arise.

DPIRD has been successful in a new funding application with Grower Group Alliance and UWA to implement water detection software so farmers, local government and others can track water storage across the south-west's 200,000 farm dams, increase adaption case studies and develop platforms to synthesise DPIRD's water data into accessible formats for users.

Data Modelling and Analysis

The Data Modelling and Analysis Group is actively developing advanced erosion and groundcover modelling platforms for the Office of the Commissioner. The development phase is supported by state-of-the-art computational infrastructure provided by the Pawsey Supercomputing Research Centre and the Australian Research Data Commons. This capability enables the integration of spatial data science, remote sensing, machine learning and artificial intelligence to strengthen evidence-based decision-making.

These systems will support the Commissioner in responding to erosion event reports and in proactively identifying soils at risk of erosion across the south-west of Western Australia, at scales ranging from broad soil landscape zones through to individual

properties and paddocks. By bringing together long-term groundcover information, weather data and spatial risk indicators, the platforms will improve the ability to detect emerging areas of concern, prioritise follow-up and support timely land conservation responses.

This work represents an important step toward more targeted, data-driven soil conservation, helping ensure that regulatory and advisory efforts are informed by consistent, current and spatially detailed evidence.

Soil Erosion

DPIRD utilises a combination of climate information, regional intelligence and satellite imagery analysis to assess and report on soil erosion and soil erosion hazard on arable land in the south-west of WA. Soil erosion hazard levels decreased in 2025-26 relative to prior years, however there remains scope for improvement.

Seventy percent of all arable land with inadequate cover to prevent wind erosion was located north of the Great Eastern highway (Figure A1). Across the south-west, around 30% of arable land currently classified as being at high erosion risk has remained at high risk every summer over the past decade. This persistence indicates that some areas are particularly difficult to remediate and may require targeted management to break the cycle of high risk.

Seasonal conditions

Most of the grainbelt received average or below average rainfall over the 2025 growing season, except in the south coast, which was slightly above average (Bureau of Meteorology 2026). Crop yields and pasture production were better than expected due to well-timed rains throughout the growing season (GIWA 2026). Plant biomass has persisted over summer to prevent erosion on most of the arable land in the south-west of WA.

The Middle East conflict restricted fuel and fertiliser availability. In response, fewer farmers are undertaking soil amelioration practices in 2026 compared to previous years. Full paddock burns and tillage were used to maximise available nitrogen from plant residues instead of inorganic nitrogen fertiliser application.

Reports on erosion and influencing factors

No widespread dust storms were reported to DPIRD. Wind erosion was limited to individual paddocks with inadequate groundcover.

Reports of isolated water erosion were reported to DPIRD. Areas affected by wild bushfires were prone to erosion, causing sediments to flow into waterways. Isolated erosion was observed in the south-eastern Wheatbelt, on sloping land with sandy duplex soil, particularly within cropped paddocks where tracks and headlands concentrated the flow of surface water.

Strategic tillage may result in wind erosion if not done correctly. DPIRD advocates delaying strategic tillage until the soil is moist and therefore stable and less susceptible to erosion, whilst also enabling reliable crop establishment to prevent future erosion. This approach has been widely adopted highlighting a positive shift towards improved land management

Livestock numbers have decreased, resulting in lower grazing pressure. At the same time, the area under cropping has expanded, increasing the proportion of land with greater than 70% stubble cover. Together, these changes have reduced the overall erosion risk.

Erosion hazard

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; high erosion hazard (<30% groundcover), inadequate groundcover to prevent wind erosion (<50% groundcover), and inadequate groundcover to prevent water erosion (<70% groundcover). These classes are reported for summer 2025-26, summarised by proportion of south-west agricultural zone and regional Ag Soil Zones (Figure A1, A2).

High erosion hazard

All zones had less arable land with an extreme hazard than the 10-year median levels. In total 140,000 ha (1.1%) of the arable land in the south-west was classified as being at extreme erosion hazard over summer 2025-26 (Figure A2a). Of land at extreme risk of erosion, half have been at extreme risk over at least 8 of the last 10 years. The West Midlands Zone had the largest proportion of arable land at extreme hazard (4.4%), which is 3 times greater than that of the neighbouring Mid-West Ag Soil Zone.

Inadequate groundcover to prevent wind erosion

Across the south-west, 880,000 ha (5.6%) had insufficient groundcover to prevent wind erosion over summer 2025-26 (Figure A2b). This is an improvement over the previous year, when 1 million ha (6.6%) had insufficient cover.

The northern Ag Soil Zones represent most of the at-risk areas, suggesting that low-rainfall farming systems have lower resilience than the longer growing season areas south of the Great Eastern Highway. All Ag Soil Zones had less land with inadequate cover than has been typical over the past decade (10-year median), as shown by the blue bars on figure (Figure A2b).

Inadequate groundcover to prevent water erosion

Across the south-west, 3.5 million ha (22%) had insufficient groundcover to prevent water erosion (Figure A2c), an improvement over both the 4.5 million ha (29%) at risk in 2024-25 and the median of 35% over the last 10 years.

The Central–Northern Wheatbelt Ag Soil Zone had the greatest proportion at risk of water erosion, with 42% having insufficient groundcover (Figure A2c). Reducing the land 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).

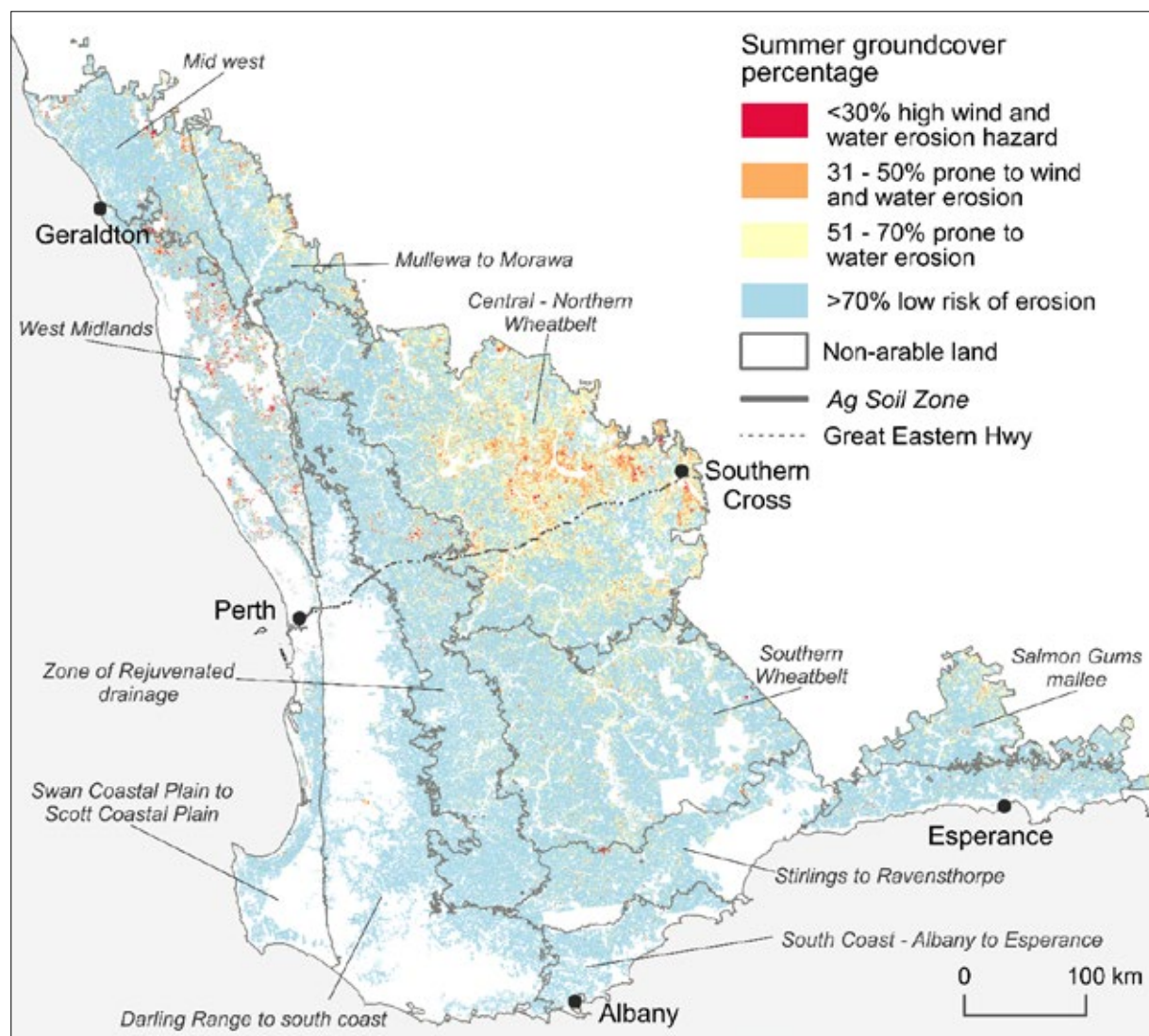
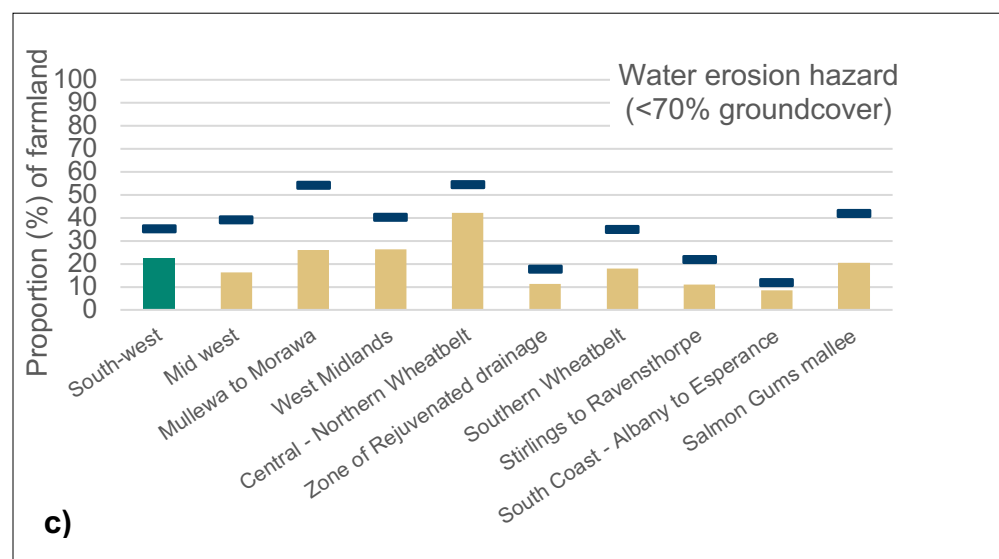
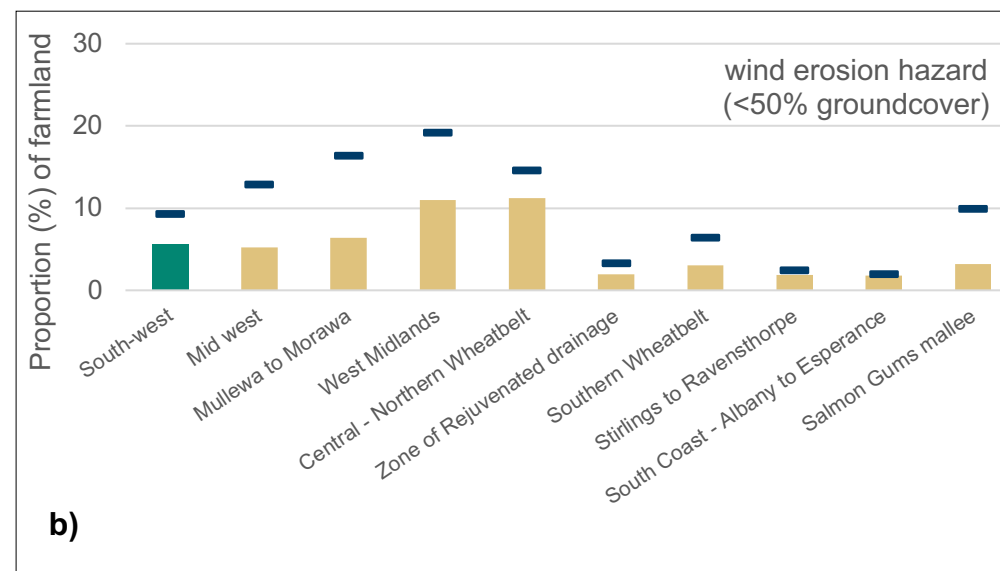
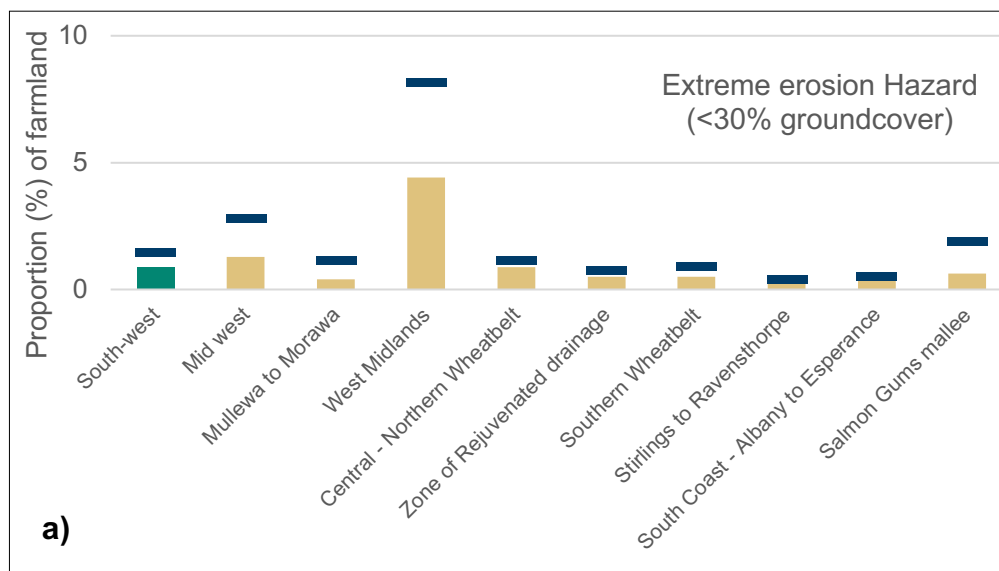


Figure A1: 2025-26 summer groundcover on arable land. Satellite data classified using DES & JRSRP (2022), and groundcover classification according to Laycock et al. (2022).



Columns represent the proportion of farmland over summer in each hazard class. Blue lines represent 2015-2024 median for relevant area and groundcover threshold.

- a) Shows proportion having extreme hazard
- b) Shows proportion having wind and water erosion hazard
- c) Shows proportion having water erosion hazard

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 2025-26, 3,444 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 and from Esperance through to Gingin (>550mm rainfall zone) under the Soils-New Horizon project. Of these, 53% had phosphorus concentrations exceeding pasture growth requirements, while 88% showed signs of soil acidity.

The sampling also revealed that potassium (59%) and sulphur (28%) 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 39,382 samples from 2307 farms, covering a total of 460,065 ha. In addition, the 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 national 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 Southwest agricultural region has been estimated at \$400 million per year (Weaver and Summers, 2013).

Condition of the Resource Base – Pastoral Rangelands

Pastoral Rangelands

Western Australia's rangelands cover 90% of the State, with pastoral leases covering about 34% (857,538km²) 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 located 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 of Soil and Land Conservation 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 affected through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Commissioner, the PLB and the Directors General of DPIRD and the DPLH. The most recent MOU was signed in December 2023.

Under s137(2) of the LAA, the Commissioner must provide annually by December 31, a report to the PLB on the current condition of land under pastoral leases. The report, *Status of the Western Australian pastoral rangelands 2025: Total vegetative cover and cover risk update* was provided to the PLB in December 2025.

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 (RCAs)

The Rangelands Science team conducted RCAs on 9 pastoral stations (26 in 2024-25) and follow-up inspections (FUPs) on 5 pastoral stations on behalf of the Commissioner. Land degradation risk was identified as high on 2 stations and extreme on 3 stations. Of the 5 at-risk leases identified, requests for action will be made to the lessees in line with the DPIRD Regulatory Compliance Approach, seeking voluntary compliance in the first instance.

The 2026 inspection program is planned to expand to 72 RCAs and 33 FUPs (105 stations total), with 53 of those also tied to the review of the Potential Carrying Capacity (PCC) for Western Australian pastoral leases currently underway.

Seasonal conditions

Rainfall in the 12 months to November 2025 was generally median or above median across the pastoral rangelands, except for Land Conservation Districts (LCDs) in the Gascoyne, which were below median.

Despite generally above median rainfall, and 5-year average stocking rates below the potential carrying capacity, the risk of vegetation cover decline has increased over much of the Pilbara and Southern Rangelands. The median or above rainfall experienced in 2025 appears to have been insufficient to offset longer-term rainfall deficits and prevent a decline in total cover; the deep soil water storage (0–6 m) remains below average across the Pilbara and Southern rangelands despite average/above-average rainfall.

Cover risk

Cover risk was calculated using remotely sensed total cover data available to the end of October 2025 and Stock Return data reported in 2024 (the most recent available) to determine cover risk. Cover risk at the 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 PCC are used as an indicator of grazing pressure. This may lead to underestimated cover

risk because the Current Carrying Capacity (CCC) is often significantly lower than PCC (Note that in 2024 the annual stock-number reporting date changed from 30 June to 31 December).

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 15 LCDs (Table A2); this is up from the estimate of 11 LCDs in the 2024 annual report.

Table A2: LCDs and pastures with 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		Nil	Nil
Pilbara	Ashburton	Nil	Alluvial plain shrub Alluvial plain tussock River tussock
	De Grey	Alluvial plain tussock River tussock Soft spinifex	Nil
	Roebourne – Port Hedland	River tussock	Alluvial plain shrub Alluvial plain tussock Soft spinifex

Table A2: LCDs and pastures with a high or very high risk of total cover remaining at, or declining to, below-average or very much below-average levels. (continued)

Region	LCD	Pastures with high cover risk	Pastures with very high cover risk
Upper Southern Rangelands	Gascoyne-Ashburton headwaters	River tussock	Calcrete shrub Mesa shrub Stony plain halophyte
	Gascoyne–Wooramel	Alluvial plain halophyte	Calcrete shrub Soft spinifex Stony plain halophyte
	Lyndon	Nil	Alluvial plain Alluvial plain halophyte Calcrete shrub Soft spinifex Stony plain halophyte
	Meekatharra	Nil	Calcrete-shrub Low hills halophyte Stony plain halophyte
	Upper Gascoyne	Nil	Mesa shrub Stony plain halophyte River tussock
	Wiluna	Low hills halophyte Stony plain halophyte Fringing salt lake	Mesa shrub

Table A2: LCDs and pastures with a high or very high risk of total cover remaining at, or declining to, below-average or very much below-average levels. (continued)

Region	LCD	Pastures with high cover risk	Pastures with very high cover risk
Lower Southern Rangelands	Cue	Nil	Alluvial plain Low hills halophyte Mesa shrub Stony plain halophyte
	Mount Magnet	Nil	Alluvial plain halophyte Calcrete-shrub Stony plain halophyte
	Murchison	Stony plain halophyte	Alluvial plain Alluvial plain halophyte Mesa shrub
	North-eastern Goldfields	Mesa shrub	Nil
	Sandstone	Alluvial plain halophyte Fringing salt lake	Mesa shrub Stony plain halophyte
	Yalgoo	Stony plain halophyte	Alluvial plain Mesa shrub

Following variable rainfall in 2024, with drier conditions in the west and wet conditions in the east, rainfall in the 12 months to November 2025 in the Kimberley was above average. The risk of total vegetation cover declining to low or very low levels is considered low to moderate in the Kimberley, with a significant improvement in cover in the Broome LCD which had seen a significant decrease in cover in response to decile 1 rainfall in 2024. 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 2024. There has been an overall decline in cover risk compared to 2024 risk level.

Rainfall in the Pilbara over the 12 months to November 2025 was near or above average in all LCDs. Over the longer term (3 years), rainfall has been below average over much of the western Pilbara. The risk of cover decrease remained unchanged in the East Pilbara LCD compared to 2024 with all vegetation groups at moderate risk. The risk of total cover declining in the Ashburton, De Grey and Roebourne-Port Hedland LCDs remained high or very high for all vegetation functional groups. Reported stock numbers in the De Grey LCD were reduced in 2024 and are now near the PCC.

Rainfall in the 12 months to November 2025 was above the median in the Gascoyne-Ashburton Headwaters, Meekatharra and Wiluna LCDs and below median in the Gascoyne-Wooramel, Lyndon and Upper Gascoyne LCDs. Over the longer term (3 years) rainfall has been below average over much of the western portion of the Upper Southern Rangelands.

Total cover vegetation functional groups declined in all LCDs and ranged from below average to very much below average. Consequently, cover risk was high or very high in all the Upper Southern Rangelands LCDs. The risk of vegetation cover decreasing has increased in all LCDs compared to 2024. Reported 2024 stock numbers for the Upper Gascoyne LCD were reduced below the PCC in response to declining cover and feed.

Rainfall in the 12 months to November 2025 generally exceeded the long-term median, ranging from 101% of the long-term median in the Murchison LCD to 140% in the Kalgoorlie and Mt Magnet LCDs. The exception was the Shark Bay LCD, which had 65% of its long-term median rainfall.

Over the longer term (3 years) rainfall has been below average over much of the western portion of the Lower Southern Rangelands. Despite generally above median rainfall in the 12 months to November 2025, there was a general decline in the total cover of vegetation functional groups. The Kalgoorlie, Nullarbor and Shark Bay LCDs have maintained vegetation groups with average cover, while cover has decreased to below average or very much below average in the remaining LCDs.

While reported stocking rates were generally below PCC (Kimberley 62-100% of PCC, Pilbara 62-117%, Upper Southern 60-93%, Lower Southern 19-58%), cover risk increased in the Cue, Murchison, North-Eastern Goldfields, Sandstone, Yalgoo and Mount Magnet LCDs compared with 2024.

Potential Carrying Capacity Review Project

Station visits to seek lessee feedback on the first version of modelled Rangeland Vegetation Group (RVG) mapping for the entire pastoral estate commenced in 2025. Development of this mapping is part of a multi-year project to review the PCC of each pastoral station. Staff are seeking feedback on the RVG mapping to target collection of additional on-ground data to refine a second version of RVG mapping. Estimates of the pastoral potential of each RVG are also being sought from pastoralists and industry.

Publications

In 2025, the Rangelands Science Group published the following to the website:

- Sudmeyer R, et al. (2025) 'Pastoral land condition: Kimberley land condition standards', Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian Government.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2025) 'Procedures for rangeland condition assessment in the Kimberley 2025', Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian Government.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2025) 'Procedures for rangeland condition assessment in the Pilbara and southern rangelands 2025', Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian Government.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2025) 'Rangelands glossary', Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian Government.
- Ryan K, et al. (2025), Review of a regional scale grassland condition monitoring method', *XII International Rangeland Congress 2025: Working Together for our Global Rangelands Future*, Adelaide, pp.383-390.
- Luxton S, et al. (2025), State and transition modelling as a contextual framework for indicators of restoration in the Western Australian Mulga rangelands, *XII International Rangeland Congress 2025: Working Together for our Global Rangelands Future*, Adelaide, pp.2003-2007.
- Richards AE, et al. (2023) 'State and transition models for tussock grasslands and woodlands of the Kimberley: final project report', CSIRO and Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian Government, Australia.
- O'Donnell A, et al (2025) 'State and transition models for mulga rangelands of Western Australia', CSIRO, Australia.
- DPIRD (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development) (2025) 'Status of the Western Australian pastoral rangelands 2024: total vegetative cover, cover risk and pasture condition', DPIRD, Western Australian Government.

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Appendix 3: Breeding stock status, catch and effort ranges for Western Australia's major commercial and recreational fisheries

The information underpins the four 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 fisheries
 - 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 A3: 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 (or effort or 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: 7410 t (TACC: 2024-25) Recreational: 496 t (TARC: 2024-25)	Commercial: 7410 t. Recreational -licensed: 407–502 t (95% CI); Charter: 22 t	Acceptable Commercial: Catch close to TACC. Recreational: Catch within acceptable range on a five-year rolling average.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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: 21–25 t Perth Metro area	Commercial: 9.5 t (109 days) Recreational: 18–22 t Perth Metro area; 15.5–19.7 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 overlapped lower bound of TARC range due to weather conditions cancelling a fishing session.
Statewide Cephalopod	Octopus Interim Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 500–1000 t Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 780 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 (or effort or 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	Environmentally Limited	Commercial: 95–1830 t	Commercial: 57 t	Acceptable
	South Coast Trawl Fishery	Annual Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Recreational: NA	Commercial: Not reportable	Catch was limited by conservative management arrangements. Scallop survey index declined markedly to below the limit 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	Commercial: NA
				Recreational: Partially closed (northern extent open)	Recreational: 4.8–8.1 t (95% CI) boat-based (2024–25)	Recreational: Acceptable The majority of CS remained closed since 2014. Due to environmental changes, stock levels have stabilised at a carrying capacity substantially below that recorded in the 2000s.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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: Levels 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: 80 t (Peel Harvey crab) 78.6 t (sea mullet Peel Harvey), 9.3 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: Although crab catch and catch rate exceeded HS ranges, fishing mortality was considered acceptable as the season was subject to highly favourable environmental conditions that elevated crab abundance, size and condition. 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 (or effort or 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 – sandy sprat, southern garfish	Sustainable: Adequate - whiting/ salmon (State)/ tailor/herring (State) Environmentally Limited – sandy sprat/ southern garfish	Commercial: <25 t (informal sandy sprat), <2 t (informal, southern garfish - metro), <300 t herring (state – informal). Recreational: Not developed	Commercial: 22.5 t (sandy sprat), 0.3 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 June 2017 to February 2024. Declines in southern garfish and sandy sprat consistent with an environmentally limited stock. Very low commercial effort for southern garfish.
	West Coast Nearshore Open Access Net Fishery	Periodic: Levels 3 to 5				
	South West Coast Salmon Managed Fishery	Herring – 2024 Salmon – 2023				Recreational: Catch levels are not considered a risk to stocks.
	West Coast Beach Bait Managed Fishery					
Statewide Small Pelagic Scalefish (Purse Seine)	West Coast Purse Seine Managed Fishery and development zones	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 0–5700 t (Q) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 297 t (all species) Recreational: <1 t (boat only in 2023-24)	Acceptable

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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 Scalefish	West Coast Demersal Scalefish Fishery	Annual: Level 1 Periodic: Level 5 Snapper and WA dhufish – 2025 Level 3 Baldchin groper – 2025	Inadequate	Commercial: <220 t* Charter: <30 t Recreational: <125 t* *Total removals, including retained catch + post-release mortality (PRM)	Commercial: 228 t* (222 t catch + 6 t PRM) in 2025 Charter: 23 t* (22 t catch + 1 t PRM) in 2024-25 Recreational : 196 t* (176 t catch + 20 t PRM) in 2023-24	Not Acceptable Total removals of the demersal suite by the commercial sector in 2025, and by private recreational fishers in 2023-24, were above their respective recovery benchmarks. Total removals of demersal species by charter fishers in 2024-25 were below their recovery benchmark and thus acceptable.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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: 1350–2150 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 647 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 50% from 2022 levels.
Northern Invertebrates	Exmouth Gulf Prawn Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 436–1347 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 798.8 t	Acceptable

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or catch rate) for season reported ^{1,2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Shark Bay Invertebrate	Shark Bay Scallop Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Environmentally-Limited (Denham Sound) Inadequate (Northern Shark Bay)	Commercial: Quota 3000 t (Northern Shark Bay only, Denham Sound remained closed) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 208.64 t meat weight (0 t Denham Sound, 208.64 Northern Shark Bay)	Acceptable Commercial: Quota was achieved for the 2024-25 season in Northern Shark Bay whilst Denham Sound remained closed in 2025.
Shark Bay Invertebrate	Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Environmentally Limited	Commercial: 500 t (Q) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 186.0 t Recreational: 0–2 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24)	Acceptable Commercial: Quota not fully attained due to effort restrictions on the trawl fleet. Catch is < MSY and exploitation is in the target region. Recreational: Catch levels remain consistently low.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or catch rate) for season reported ^{1,2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
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: 133 t	Acceptable Commercial: Catch below the acceptable range due to ongoing very low levels of effort.
South Coast and West Coast Crustacean	West Coast Deep Sea Crustacean Managed Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 5 (crystal crab) Level 2 (champagne crab and giant crab)	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Crystal crab 123.2 t (Q); Champagne crab 20 t (Q); Giant crab 1 t (Q); 60,000–105,000 pot lifts Recreational: NA	Commercial: Crystal crab 120.9 t; Champagne crab 0.0027 t; Giant crab 0.127 t (80,090 pot lifts)	Acceptable Commercial: Crystal crab TAC achieved (98%). Relatively low catches of champagne and giant crabs are market driven.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or catch rate) for season reported ^{1,2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
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: 103 t Snapper (Q) 227 t Other demersals (Q) Recreational: 40 t Snapper	Commercial: 67 t Snapper, 111 t Other demersals in 2024-25 Charter: 36 t in 2024-25 (oceanic waters) Recreational: 36–71 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 15 species in oceanic waters)	Acceptable Commercial: Snapper and other demersal catches below quota Recreational: Snapper total removals by recreational and charter fishers below the 40 t recovery benchmark.
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: 2 t in 2025 Charter: 0.3 t EG 0.4 t DS 0.3 t FE in 2024-25 Recreational: 3–18 t (95% CI boat only, snapper) in 2023-24	Acceptable Commercial: Catch remains low due to ongoing low targeted effort. Recreational: Recreational harvest of snapper (boat only, from statewide survey) is a combined estimate across the 3 stocks.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or catch rate) for season reported ^{1,2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
North Coast Bioregion						
Northern Invertebrates	Onslow Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 1	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 60–180 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 0 t	Acceptable Commercial: Below catch range as no fishing occurred in 2025.
Northern Invertebrates	Nickol Bay Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 90–300 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 246 t	Acceptable Commercial: Within catch range.
Northern Invertebrates	Broome Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 55–260 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 0 t	Acceptable Commercial: Below catch range as no fishing occurred in 2025.
Northern Invertebrates	Kimberley Prawn Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 240–500 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: Not reportable	Acceptable Commercial: Below catch range; low levels of effort in 2025.
Northern Estuarine and Nearshore Scalefish and Invertebrates	Kimberley Gillnet and Barramundi Managed Fishery	Annual: Level 2	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: 33–44 t (barramundi) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: Not reportable Recreational: 11–26 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 10 species)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch is below the target level due to low levels of effort. Recreational: Catch levels considered appropriate.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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 & 5	Inadequate: red emperor Sustainable: Adequate—goldband snapper	Commercial: 903–1332 t Catch range review is in progress Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 1385 t (total) 484 t (goldband snapper) 149 t (red emperor) Recreational: 48–82 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 15 species) Charter: 12.1 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: Levels 1 and 2 Periodic: Level 3 & 5	Inadequate: red emperor, goldband snapper Sustainable: Adequate—bluespotted emperor	Commercial: 940–1416 t Recreational and charter: 35.5 t (benchmark species for PDSR)	Commercial: 1833 t (all species) Recreational and Charter (NCB): 24.8 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 was below their recovery benchmark in 2025.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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 & 5	Inadequate: red emperor, goldband snapper Sustainable: Adequate—bluespotted emperor	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): 24.8 t (benchmark species)	Acceptable Commercial: Total catches were within catch ranges. Recovery plan for indicator species was implemented in 2024. Red emperor across PDSR was below their recovery benchmark in 2025.
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: 202 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 (or effort or catch rate) for season reported ^{1,2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
Pearl Oyster (P. maxima)	Pearl Oyster Wildstock Fishery (MSC)	Annual: Level 4	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial 1,185,196 oysters (Q) (14,071–20,551 dive hours) Recreational: NA	Commercial: 1,078,160 oysters (9,886 dive hours)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch and catch rates are either at or near 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): 3.5 t Sandfish (Pilbara): 9.2 t Redfish (Pilbara): 282.5 t Redfish (Gascoyne): 0 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 (or effort or 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 5 (western rock lobster, Zone 1)	Sustainable: Adequate	Commercial: Zone 1 (western rock lobster) – 35 t (Q)	Commercial: Zone 1: 19.7 t (western rock lobster)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch of all species in all zones were within their TACCs.
		Level 4 (crystal crab, Zone 2; southern rock lobster, Zones 3 and 4)		Zone 2 (crystal crab) – 7.5 t (Q)	Zone 2: 6.87 t (crystal crab)	
				Zone 3 (southern rock lobster) – 20 t (Q)	Zone 3: 12.14 t (southern rock lobster)	
				Zone 4 (southern rock lobster) – 18 t (Q)	Zone 4: 3.84 t (southern rock lobster)	

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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: 34.0 t (Q) (3440–5270 hours) Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 30.6 t (904 hours) Recreational: 3.7–10.6 t	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 2026 season. Recreational: A formal catch range needs to be developed.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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: Levels 1 and 2. Periodic: Levels 3 to 5 Herring – 2024; Salmon – 2023; Cobbler – 2018	Sustainable: Adequate Cobbler (Wilson Inlet), Herring (State), Salmon (State) Mulletts/ Bream/Whitings	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: 14.6 t cobbler (Wilson Inlet), 146.9 t herring (state), 42.4 t salmon (state), 21.2 t blue swimmer crab (SCB). Recreational: scalefish 11–25 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 10 species)	Acceptable Commercial: Catch of scalefish 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: 1,073 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: 426 t	Acceptable

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or 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 Scalefish	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, whiskery and sandbar sharks Sustainable: Recovering– Dusky shark	Commercial: shark 725– 1095 t Recreational: NA	Commercial: 750 t (key species only) 901 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 Scalefish	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. Sustainable- Adequate: blue morwong, hapuku	Commercial: Not formal Recreational: Not formal	Commercial: 140 t Recreational: 36–71 t (95% CI, boat only in 2023-24, top 10 species). Charter: 4 t (top 10 species).	Not Acceptable: Fishing mortality has breached threshold (snapper, western blue groper) or limit (bight redfish) reference level.

Resource	Fishery	Assessment level	Breeding stock assessment	Catch (and effort) range	Catch (or effort or catch rate) for season reported ^{1,2}	Catch (or effort or catch rate) level acceptable and explanation if needed
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.
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)	84,322 marron (75,061–93,582 95% CI) (kept only) 49,065 fish (39,697–58,433 95% CI) (kept and released)	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 figures supplied for latest year/ season available.

2. Where there are three or less licences operating in the fishery annual catch levels are not reported due to confidentiality requirements

Appendix 4: 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 2026, the following items were recorded on the State Register:

- 146,276 recreational fishing licences of 214,014 varying fishing activities.
- 27 aquaculture leases
- 382 aquaculture licences
- 5,910 commercial authorisations of varying licence types.

Licensed recreational fishing activities consisted of the activities listed in Table A4.

Table A4: Recreational fishing licence activities

Activity	Number of activities
Recreational fishing from boat	114,938
Rock lobster	48,871
Abalone	16,578
Marron	9,932
Net fishing	13,626
South West freshwater angling	10,069
Total	214,014

Table A5: Commercial authorisations

Authorisations	Number of authorisations
Managed Fishery Licence	1,605
Interim Managed Fishery Permit	123
Other Licences	4,322
Total	5,910

Table A6: State register of exemptions 2025-26

Note: this register refers to additional schedules, tables and figures that are not provided in this document.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251374025	1/8/2026	Central Regional TAFE	Exemption to collect marine invertebrates, fish and macrophytes for teaching
EXEM 251374125	12/7/2027	Surfing WA	To allow jet ski as a powered vessel support for competitor safety within the Cottesloe Fish Habitat Protection Area.
EXEM 251374325	30/11/2025	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	To collect data to assist Chalice Mining Limited with the management and mitigation of impacts to fauna during clearing activities.
EXEM 251374925	1/8/2028	Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and ecosystem health condition assessment of inland waterways of the inland Pilbara region of Western Australia.
EXEM 251375725	30/6/2028	One Sea Pty Ltd (Revoked)	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> .
EXEM 251375825	4/10/2025	Sea Harvest Fishing Company Pty Ltd	To conduct research surveys under the direction of DPIRD in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251375925	31/7/2028	Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling to inform ecosystem assessments within the Fortescue Catchment in the inland east Pilbara region of Western Australia. This assessment is on behalf of Rio Tinto Ltd as part of an ongoing baseline development and monitoring. program associated with mining development in the region
EXEM 251376025	30/6/1930	Patrick Roy Stubberfield	Commercial take of Redfin perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>) from private dams in Western Australia (WA).
EXEM 251376125	1/7/2026	Murdoch University	To collect <i>Amphibolis antarctica</i> seedlings for research

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251379625	31/8/2025	The Master and crew of the licensed fishing boat “Reliance III” (registration LFBA236) fishing under the authority of a Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery Licence.	To fish for a commercial purpose in accordance with Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> to undertake biological data collection to support the recovery of the Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Resource.
EXEM 251380525	31/7/2028	Fremantle Seaweed Pty Ltd	To enable Fremantle Seaweed to collect broodstock.
EXEM 251381825	30/9/2027	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	Targeted aquatic fauna sampling of waterways surrounding the Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) on behalf of Main Roads WA
EXEM 251382225	4/8/2026	University of Western Australia	To collect macrophytes for research.
EXEM 251382325	14/9/2025	Murdoch University	To collect fish and invertebrates specimens for teaching
EXEM 251382425	10/10/2025	Murdoch University	To collect fish and invertebrates specimens for teaching
EXEM 251382625	30/4/2025	Murdoch University	To collect sediments and catch and release freshwater fish and invertebrates for removal of large pest fish species to enable the ecological recovery of urban wetlands
EXEM 251383025	8/8/2028	Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and ecosystem health condition assessment of inland waterways of the inland Pilbara region of Western Australia.
EXEM 251383225	30/11/2027	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	Targeted aquatic fauna sampling and biological assessment of inland waterways of southwest, Western Australia (WA).
EXEM 251383425	31/12/2025	Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation	To collect sediment, green seaweed, seagrass, sponges, feather stars for research

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251383825	30/4/2026	Hydrobiology WA	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling for an ecological survey along the Avon River adjacent to the Northam Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF), Western Australia (WA). The purpose of this sampling is to collect species abundance and diversity data for an impact assessment of municipal wastewater discharge into the Avon River at Northam on behalf of the Water Corporation WA.
EXEM 251384125	29/1/2027	Edith Cowan University	To study Assessing the benefits of seagrass restoration for biodiversity and carbon in south of Denham (Shark Bay) to inform the development of a methodology under the Nature Repair Market
EXEM 251385525	31/12/2025	Central Regional TAFE	Central Regional TAFE Fishing Operations course during the West Coast region demersal scalefish closed seasons.
EXEM 251385725	30/8/2025	Environs Kimberley Inc	Exemption to collect seagrass (<i>Halodule uninervis</i> and <i>Halophila ovalis</i>) for research
EXEM 251385825	30/10/2026	Alan Cottingham of Murdoch University	For the Purpose of research
EXEM 251387925	24/10/2025	Murdoch University	To collect aquatic invertebrates and aquatic vegetation for teaching
EXEM 251388925	1/11/2025	Persons fishing under the authority of Fishing Boat Licences specified in Schedule 1 (Revoked)	To permit trawling for scallops in specified waters for a commercial purpose, in accordance with s.7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251389325	31/3/2026	Correia Fishing Co (WA) 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> .

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251389425	31/3/2026	Seafresh Holdings Pty Ltd & 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 251389525	31/3/2026	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 251389625	31/3/2026	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 251389725	31/3/2026	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 251389825	31/3/2026	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 251389925	31/3/2026	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 251390225	5/9/2025	Curtin University	To study Testing brine shrimp abundance along a salinity gradient in lakes on Rottnest Island

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251390925	1/8/2026	Antoine Minne of UWA	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251391225	30/6/2028	Mervyn Cooper, Glenn Medlend, Shona Macskasy, Anthony Butcher and Benjamin Mitchell	To take land hermit crabs (<i>Coenobita variabilis</i>) for live sale for use as pets or for aquaria only.
EXEM 251392025	31/10/2025	Abrolhos Island Oysters Pty Ltd	To enable Abrolhos Island Oysters Pty Ltd to use other boat pens and areas while dredge works in the Geraldton Fishing Boat Harbor are ongoing.
EXEM 251392925	20/9/2028	Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling and targeted surveys for Carter's freshwater mussel (<i>Westralunio carteri</i>) to inform ecosystem assessments within stream zones of the Willowdale mine and waterways of Alcoa's Larego region, Southwest, Western Australia (WA).
EXEM 251393125	1/9/2026	Nina Ho of UWA	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251393325	30/10/2025	Nominated Operators in the WCLL Managed Fishery	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.
EXEM 251394725	31/3/2026	University of Western Australia	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251394825	25/11/2025	James Dolin of On Country Academy	For the purposes of teaching

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251395225	1/11/2025	Elmwood Holdings Pty Ltd & Far West Scallops Industries Pty Ltd	To permit trawling for scallops in the South Coast Scallop Managed Fishery for a commercial purpose, in accordance with s.7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> , without the authority of a Managed Fishery Licence.
EXEM 251397925	1/9/2026	Murdoch University	To study Assessing the dietary composition and dietary patterns of flatback and green turtles in WA
EXEM 251398525	31/3/2026	Northern Demersal Scalefish licence holders and DPIRD staff	To allow for the collection of fish for research purposes via commercial vessels authorised to fish in the Northern Demersal Scalefish Fishery Managed Fishery (NDSMF), and to exempt the trips from the usual deduction of entitlement from the applicable Managed Fishery Licences, and to allow for the commercial sale of excess fish not required for research purposes by each vessel's operator.
EXEM 251398625	31/12/2026	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	For the purposes of research
EXEM 251398725	10/10/2026	Penelope Taira Dantas Suarez of Murdoch University	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251398825	1/11/2026	Stephen Beatty of Murdoch University	For the purposes of research
EXEM 251399125	1/4/2026	Shinae Montie of University of Western Australia	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251399325	30/11/2027	Mel Tucker SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling for diversity and abundance monitoring surveys within creeks, pools and tributaries of southwest Western Australia (WA). The biological assessment's purpose is to collect regional baseline data and aquatic ecological values, including assemblages of representative finfish, crustacean and mollusc species on behalf of Alcoa Australia Limited (AAL) as part of an ongoing monitoring program associated with AAL mining operations in AAL's Myara North area.
EXEM 251399825	31/12/2027	Sam Billingham of O2 Marine Pty Ltd	To fish for molluscs pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251399925	13/9/2026	Jenna Crowe-Riddell of University of Adelaide	To collect and transport teleost fish from trawl boats operating in Exmouth Gulf to Minderoo Exmouth Research Laboratory.
EXEM 251402025	5/11/2025	Luke Thomas of Australian Institute of Marine Science	To collect scleractinian corals and corallivore snails from those locations in South Scott, North Scott and Seringapatam reefs, as illustrated in Figure 1
EXEM 251402725	31/10/2028	Dr Jason Crisp ECOM Australia Pty Ltd	To undertake marine aquatic fauna sampling and collection of seawater, sediment, seagrass and invertebrate (mussel and razor clam species) samples within Cockburn Sound, Western Australia (WA). Field collection of samples to be undertaken by staff from the Marine and Freshwater Research Laboratory (MAFRL).
EXEM 251402825	30/6/2027	Registered Receivers operating under the authority of a Fish Processor's Licence	Trial a practical and accurate method for determining the net weight of rock lobsters consigned through Registered Receivers.
EXEM 251402925	15/10/2026	Ben Roots of Murdoch University	Collection of Blue Swimmer Crabs (<i>Portunus armatus</i>) and benthic macroinvertebrates from locations in the Peel-Harvey Estuary as shown in Figure 1. for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251403025	31/12/2026	Steve Pursell of OzFish Unlimited	Collection of Posidonia fruits from seagrass meadows from Cockburn Sound, Perth metropolitan area; Oyster Harbour, Princess Royal Harbour, Albany; and Point Moore to Drummond Cove, Geraldton for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251403125	15/10/2026	Ben Roots of Murdoch University	Collection of Blue swimmer crabs (<i>Portunus armatus</i>) from the Peel-Harvey Estuary in areas of hypersalinity (Southern Harvey Estuary), and other areas across the estuary as highlighted in the image 1, for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251403225	30/9/2026	Minh Huong Nguyen of Curtin University	Collection of tetrasporophytic and gametophytic of <i>Asparagopsis taxiformis</i> (Delile) Trevisan from Little Salmon Bay (Rottnest island) and Parker Point (Point Peron) for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251403325	31/10/2028	The master of an authorised boat in the Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery	To provide a standardised and reliable nomination method for the Shark Bay Crab Managed Fishery, for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251403825	14/10/2026	Zoe Richards of Curtin University	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251404025	1/9/2026	Jennifer Chaplin of Murdoch University	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251404825	30/11/2027	Employees of SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling for diversity and abundance monitoring surveys within waterways of southwest Western Australia (WA).
EXEM 251405925	30/11/2026	University of Western Australia	To collect Western Rainbow fish for research

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251406325	1/10/2026	Murdoch University	To collect freshwater invertebrates to study biodiversity change in wetlands exposed to a rapidly drying climate.
EXEM 251406425	3/11/2026	Murdoch University	To study the population status of the oblong turtle throughout the southwest of Western Australia.
EXEM 251406525	29/1/2027	Australian Institute of Marine Science	To collect Sargassum sp. from two sites of the Ningaloo Reef (Tantabiddi and Five Fingers Reef) and transport samples to University of Western Australia laboratories and aquaculture facilities.
EXEM 251406625	6/11/2025	Nominated Operators in the Abalone Managed Fishery (Revoked)	To survey Greenlip abalone populations in Area 3 in accordance with section (7)(2)(A) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> and to allow abalone taken during the surveys to be sold pursuant to Section 7(2)(e).
EXEM 251407525	31/12/2025	Nominated Operators in the Abalone Managed Fishery	To survey Greenlip abalone populations in Area 3 in accordance with section (7)(2)(A) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> and to allow abalone taken during the surveys to be sold pursuant to Section 7(2)(e).
EXEM 251409225	30/11/2028	Pases Aqua Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna surveys for the collection and removal of invasive fish species in 3 lakes within the City of Cambridge.
EXEM 251409325	30/11/2028	Fremantle Ports	Sea wrack removal from Success Channel navigation shipping channel into Cockburn Sound
EXEM 251409425	31/12/2028	Persons fishing under the authority of a Specimen Shell Managed Fishery Licence.	To collect specimen shells in accordance with section (7)(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251409625	31/12/2028	Sea Harvest Marine Pty Ltd	To permit the use of gear to fish for prawns for a commercial purpose in accordance with Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251413325	1/12/2026	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	To study developing seagrass indicators and monitoring changes in seagrass distribution in south-west estuaries

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251414125	3/12/2028	All aquaculture licence holders authorised to culture marron.	To exempt, subject to conditions, all marron aquaculture licence holders from the requirement to prepare consignment notes pursuant to Regulation 69(c) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995</i> .
EXEM 251414225	24/11/2026	Jack Parker of DPIRD, Aquatic Science and Assessment branch	For the purposes of assisting DPIRD Aquatic Science and Assessment in identifying potential new marine crustacean resources located within the waters of the Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251414325	3/3/2026	Nominated Operators of West Coast Estuarine Managed Fishery Licence No's: WCEL2913, WCEL2915, WCEL2916, WCEL2917, WCEL2918, WCEL2919, WCEL2921 & WCEL2923	To allow West Coast Estuarine Managed Fishery licence holders to operate over the weekends before Christmas (19-21 December 2025) and the Mandurah Crab Festival (6-8 March 2026).
EXEM 251418625	30/11/2026	Alex Gibson of Environs Kimberley	For the purposes of research.
EXEM 251421725	30/11/2026	Antonino Paratore using the licensed fishing boat Larissa C, LFB F563	To undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251421825	24/12/2025	Nominated Masters and person(s) operating under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence and Registered Receivers operating under the authority of the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Management Plan 2012.	For a commercial purpose pursuant to Section 7(2)(e) so as to provide for the increased supply of rock lobster to the WA community in the days prior to Christmas.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251421925	31/3/2026	Chris Fulton of Australian Institute of Marine Science	To collect macroalgae Sargassaceae from those locations as outlined in the locations listed in Table 1 and shown on the attached map
EXEM 251422025	31/12/2027	All persons operating under the authority of a current Fishing Tour Operator's Licence and Restricted Fishing Tour Operator's Licence	To allow up to a maximum of six (6) octopus trigger traps to be used for fishing for octopus by all persons operating under the authority of a FTOL or RFTOL as part of a fishing tour operation being undertaken for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251422125	31/12/2028	Simon Brett - Mains Roads WA	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna surveys for Carter's freshwater mussel (<i>Westralunio carteri</i>) and environmental impact assessments on behalf of Main Roads WA, prior to routine bridge maintenance.
EXEM 251423625	1/12/2026	Murdoch University	Exemption to collect <i>Posidonia australis</i> for research
EXEM 251423925	31/12/2030	Shark Bay Vongole Pty Ltd	To fish for bivalves by hand raking in Shark Bay, for a commercial purpose, in accordance with section (7)(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251426226	30/12/2026	BMT Commercial Australia Pty Ltd	To undertake collection of Blue mussel species <i>Mytilus edulis</i> from pylons and navigation markers within Cockburn Sound and move to the Sepia Depression Ocean Outlet Landline (SDOOL) ocean outfall pipe to act as sentinel species for biomonitoring purposes on behalf of the Water Corporation WA. The assessments purpose is to conduct comprehensive analysis for the assimilation of microbial organisms and bioaccumulation of heavy metals and pesticides to assess risks to ecosystem integrity and seafood for human consumption.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251426326	30/12/2027	Ottelia Ecology Pty Ltd	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling for Carter's freshwater mussel species (<i>Westralunio carteri</i>) at Mallokup Bridge, Capel River, WA. The surveys purpose is to collect, identify and relocate W. carteri species to appropriate nearby locations within the Capel River under favourable environmental conditions prior to scheduled bridge works to be completed on behalf of the Shire of Capel.
EXEM 251430726	1/4/2026	Kate Van Brussel of University of Sydney	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251430826	1/1/2027	Kiera Gordon of Murdoch University	To collect 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 St Weir wall, within and around the streams connecting to Roley Pool Reserve and nearby pools, and within Wilson Lake/park/wetland (-32.018466, 115.921451).
EXEM 251430926	1/1/2028	The master of a licensed fishing boat	To permit the retention of up to 3 sharks and rays (bycatch) for a commercial purpose.
EXEM 251431026	30/6/2026	Kahree Garnaut of South Coast NRM	To study Piscifauna seasonal dynamics in Lake Gore and Surrounds
EXEM 251431126	31/12/2026	Nominated Masters of Nominated Licensed Fishing Boats	To assist DPIRD Aquatic Science and Assessment in identifying potential new marine crustacean resources located within the waters of the WCDSCMF
EXEM 251431226	19/12/2026	Charles Sturt University	De-mystifying Indian Ocean Anguillid eel migrations, eel discovery monitoring survey with Minderoo in January 2026.
EXEM 251431326	31/5/2026	Edith Cowan University	To study Coastal seagrass: building knowledge and capacity as foundation for long-term monitoring

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251431426	6/2/2029	Main Roads	Targeted aquatic fauna sampling and ecosystem health condition assessment within City of Swan Western Australia (WA).
EXEM 251431526	13/2/2026	Curtin University	To study Testing brine shrimp abundance along a salinity gradient in lakes on Rottnest Island
EXEM 251431626	30/4/2027	University of Texas	To study understanding the role of cryptobenthic fishes in coral reef ecosystems
EXEM 251431826	26/11/2026	Murdoch University	To study conservation genetics of south-western Australia's inland fishes
EXEM 251435326	31/5/2026	Anna Frouws of Edith Cowan University	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake research sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251435626	20/2/2029	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and ecological assessment of inland waterways of the west Pilbara region, WA
EXEM 251435726	1/4/2027	University of Western Australia	Exemption to collect reef fish (Gobiodon spp.) for research.
EXEM 251436826	30/11/2026	Albany Senior High School	Exemption to collect Posidonia australis, Posidonia sinuosa and Halophila ovalis for research.
EXEM 251436926	31/12/2026	Kate Quigley of Minderoo Foundation	To study Natural and assisted levels of stress tolerance in coral reefs and in sea grass meadows
EXEM 251437026	30/12/2026	Albany Senior High School	Exemption to collect finfish and marine invertebrates for teaching.
EXEM 251437326	26/1/2027	Murdoch University	Collection of benthic macroinvertebrates from those locations within Oyster Harbour, Albany as shown in Figure 1 for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251437226	16/2/2029	Rio Tinto Limited	To undertake aquatic fauna sampling to collect and relocate endemic freshwater fish species from drying ephemeral and semi-permanent pools and artificial mine ponds located on mine sites to permanent waterbodies within the inland Pilbara region of Western Australia (WA). Aquatic fauna collection sampling and fish movements are on behalf of Rio Tinto Ltd to promote survival of endemic fish species prior to scheduled maintenance outages of supplementary irrigation and discharge water reduction trials by RTIO.
EXEM 251437426	1/6/2026	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	To permit the use of a G trap net (G-net) to target Australian herring at select beaches in the South Coast Bioregion for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251437526	8/5/2026	Luke Twomey of Western Australian Marine Science Institution	Exemption to collect Scleractinian coral spawn slick samples, rear larvae in floating reef pools and deploy larvae and settled coral recruits onto degraded reef areas (with low coral cover) for research.
EXEM 251439126	18/2/2029	Ross McDonald	To enable Ross McDonald to undertake an aquaculture research and development trial on tropical rock oysters at a marine site north of Kalumburu.
EXEM 251439626	26/11/2026	Lynette Hillier of Bunbury Senior High School	Exemption to collect blue swimmer crabs, <i>Portunus armatus</i> , and two spot sand crabs, <i>Ovalipes australiensis</i> , for teaching.
EXEM 251439726	10/2/2027	Chris Brouwer of University of Western Australia	Exemption to collect marine invertebrates for teaching.
EXEM 251439826	23/2/2027	Benjamin Camer-Pesci of Murdoch University	Exemption to collect macroalgae for research
EXEM 251439926	28/2/2027	Steve Pursell of OzFish Unlimited	Exemption to collect floating and beachcast seagrass rhizomes, root balls, seagrass fragments, and fruits and seeds, cultivate seagrass in nurseries, and replant into restoration sites for research.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251440026	10/2/2027	Chris Brouwer of University of Western Australia	Collection of finfish from the Swan River from Garvey Park to Claremont Jetty and the Canning River from Riverton Bridge to Claremont Jetty for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251440426	28/2/2027	Fred Wells - Curtin University and others Listed in Schedule 1	Exemption to collect Mytilidae (genus Brachidontes) and Ostreidae (Magallana and Saccostrea). for research
EXEM 251442026	30/4/2026	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	Exemption 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, for assisting the Fisheries Science and Assessment Branch in conducting the shallow water lobster abundance survey to assess the level of juvenile settlement and survival that occurs throughout the fishery.
EXEM 251435726 _Amended	1/4/2027	University of Western Australia	Exemption to collect reef fish (Gobiodon spp.) for research.
EXEM 251443326	18/12/2026	EGPR1103 - Sea Harvest Marine Pty Ltd (Revoked)	This exemption is granted 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 251443426	4/10/2026	SBPR1008 - Sea Harvest Marine Pty Ltd (Revoked)	This exemption is granted 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 251444226	16/1/2029	One Sea Pty Ltd	To allow for the use of a vessel exceeding the prescribed 375 boat units and to operate otter boards with dimensions differing from those specified in the South West Trawl Limited Entry Fishery Notice 1989, within Zones A and B of the South West Trawl Managed Fishery.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251444926	18/12/2026	EGPR1104 - Sea Harvest Marine Pty Ltd	This exemption is granted 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 251445026	4/10/2026	EGPR1104 - Sea Harvest Marine Pty Ltd	This exemption is granted 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 251448326	9/3/2029	O2Marine	To undertake introduced marine pest surveillance at HMAS Stirling Careening Bay, and the Garden Island Causeway in Cockburn Sound and the Exmouth Navy Pier via underwater visual surveys and the collection of pylon or buoy scrapes.
EXEM 251449926	2/4/2026	Anna Lafratta of Edith Cowan University (ECU)	To allow the persons specified in Schedule 1 to undertake teaching sampling in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251450526	2/4/2029	Chevron Australia - Barrow Island	To undertake marine aquatic fauna sampling and collection by employees of Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (Chevron) for routine monitoring for contaminants as a component of the Gorgon Marine Environmental Monitoring Program. Address long term management of stressors to marine turtles and routine and opportunistic monitoring for potential bioaccumulation of residual insecticide from Barrow Island infrastructure.
EXEM 251450626	26/3/2026	O2Marine	To undertake introduced a marine pest surveillance snapshot at the Mardie project site on behalf of BCI Minerals Salt and Potash.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251450726	15/4/2029	Phoenix Environmental Sciences	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna surveys for finfish and sediment core samples to monitor potential exposure pathways of Per and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and metal contamination in sediment, water and bioaccumulation effects within resident finfish species. Sediment, water and finfish samples will be collected from waterways within the inland east Kimberley region of WA on behalf of Rio Tinto Limited.
EXEM 251450826	15/4/2029	Indo-Pacific Environmental Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna surveys for fish and invertebrate species. The surveys purpose is to monitor the biodiversity of aquatic fauna and assess river health in the upper Fortescue River and its tributaries. This ecological data is to be used to determine mining impacts including dewatering and discharge activities on the aquatic environment and species present. The river health component to also include collection and analysis of tissue extracted from fish and crustacean species for bioaccumulation of metals and PFAS and distribution of introduced species on behalf of the BHP Group Limited.
EXEM 251451026	2/4/2029	Stantec Australia Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted macroalgal collection and monitoring surveys to inform impacts and macroalgal recovery rates that may arise from increased turbidity prior to planned dredging works during construction of the proposed Tantabiddi Boating Facility in Exmouth, WA on behalf of the Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure (DTMI).
EXEM 251452126	30/6/2030	Fishability	Exemption to allow participants of Fishability programs to undertake freshwater angling for community education purposes without holding a current South-west freshwater angling licence.
EXEM 251452226	31/3/2026	Specimen Shell Managed Fishery Licence Holders	To permit Specimen Shell Managed Fishery Licence holders to operate with additional divers and collect otherwise prohibited species for a commercial purpose, in accordance with section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251456726	30/6/2026	The Master of an authorised boat operating in WCLL Zone A delivering RL to CBL1013 & CBL1014 B) Registered receivers operating under PROL1013, PROL1015, PROL1080, PROL1086 & PROL1133	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 251456826	1/8/2026	The master of an authorised boat and all persons operating under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	Granted pursuant to S.7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> to allow fishers in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery to keep their pots in the water while their transfers are approved at the start of the season.
EXEM 251456926	31/10/2027	The master of an authorised boat and all persons operating under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence	To assist small entitlement fishers during whale season restrictions by permitting the use of additional rock lobster pots pursuant to section 7(2)(e).
EXEM 251457126	30/4/2029	Drift Consulting Pty Ltd	To enable Drift Consulting Pty Ltd to collect seaweed broodstock.
EXEM 251457626	10/12/2026	South Coast Scallop Managed fisheries licence holders as listed in schedule 1	To collect fish samples during the bycatch survey to assist with understanding stock status and bycatch compositions of the South Coast Scallop Managed Fishery for a research purpose in accordance with section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251458326	30/4/2029	Lateral Environmental Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna sampling and ecological assessment of inland waterways of the west Pilbara region, WA.
EXEM 251460026	30/4/2028	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	Aquatic fauna survey and collection of invasive finfish species from inland waterways of the City of Rockingham

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251461126	30/4/2029	Pases Aqua Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna sampling for control and removal of invasive finfish species within inland waterways of the City of Swan, City of Cambridge and Western Australian Police Academy, Joondalup, Western Australia (WA) on behalf of the City of Swan, City of Cambridge and WA Police.
EXEM 251461526	30/4/2029	Biologic Environmental Survey Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna sampling of finfish species from within various waterways of the inland Pilbara region WA. The surveys purpose is to conduct sampling to collect baseline ecological datasets with seasonal monitoring on behalf of Hancock Ridge Iron Ore Limited prior to development of the proposed Sanjiv Ridge Iron Ore project within the Pilbara region
EXEM 251461826	31/10/2027	Master of an authorised boat operating under the authority of a West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery Licence.	To trial alternative float rig arrangements during the whale migration period in the West Coast Rock Lobster Managed Fishery.
EXEM 251462826	30/6/2031	Coral World Australia Pty Ltd (AQWA) (Revoked 4 June 2026)	To collect fish for aquarium display, in accordance with section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251466226	15/5/2029	Employees of Karlka Nyiyaparli Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (KNAC)	To undertake targeted aquatic fauna sampling of finfish, invertebrate and macroinvertebrate species from various waterways of the Upper Fortescue catchment region including the Fortescue Marsh area of the inland Pilbara, WA
EXEM 251466626	16/5/2027	University of Western Australia	Exemption to collect <i>Halophila ovalis</i> (paddle weed) and <i>Halodule uninervis</i> (narrow-leaf seagrass) for research.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251467226	30/9/2026	The persons operating in the Abalone Limited Entry Fishery under the authority of the following Managed Fishery Licences: AB1901, AB1022, AB1208 and AB1904	To survey Greenlip abalone populations in Area 3 in accordance with section (7)(2)(A) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> and to allow abalone taken during the surveys to be sold pursuant to Section 7(2)(e).
EXEM 251468026	31/5/2027	Peter Gale, Bradley Preece, Jack Parker and Commercial Fishers listed in Table 1 (B)	To assist DPIRD Fisheries Science and Assessment officers in determining the age structure of crabs.
EXEM 251468926	31/5/2030	Persons on board a fishing boat operating under the authority of a Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline Managed Fishery Licence.	To allow persons described in Schedule 1 to undertake activities specified in Schedule 2 for a commercial purpose in accordance with Section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> to preserve product quality, minimise marketable product discard and assist in ensuring occupational health and safety for commercial fishers.
EXEM 251470626	31/5/2029	Fremantle Seaweed Pty Ltd	To enable Fremantle Seaweed Pty Ltd to undertake an aquaculture research and development trial on <i>Asparagopsis</i> species at DPIRD's Fremantle Marine Finfish Hatchery and collect <i>Asparagopsis</i> broodstock.
EXEM 251472826	30/6/2031	Coral World Australia Pty Ltd (AQWA)	To collect fish for aquarium display, in accordance with section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> .
EXEM 251472926	31/12/2028	Persons fishing with the use of an authorised boat under the authority of a Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery Licence.	Exemption to provide for additional hooks on handlines and revised calculation of the extent of trap and line fishing that has occurred in Area 2, Zone C of the Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251473126	31/12/2026	Shannan Sharp, Master of the Karma IV, FT1L239	To allow DBCA to facilitate on-Country trips during the 2026 season for Traditional Owners to continue to enjoy and look after sea Country while the DBCA PV Worndoom vessel is temporarily not operational.
EXEM 251473226	8/6/2027	Edith Cowan University	Exemption to collect Invertebrates, Finfish, Seagrass, Algae, Freshwater invertebrates and Freshwater plant as teaching
EXEM 251473926	31/5/2027	Murdoch University	Exemption to collect tag mollusc, Tridacna squamosa and Tridacna noae for research.
EXEM 251469626	11/5/2029	City of Albany	To undertake the removal of the introduced pest fish, koi, from Cull Park Lake, Albany by scoop netting and rod line fishing.
EXEM 251474226	20/6/2029	Tidal Moon Climate and Nature Pty Ltd	To undertake targeted aquatic seagrass collection of endemic seagrass species including Amphibolis antarctica and Posidonia australis from healthy donor sites and transplanting to nearby environmentally degraded recipient sites for the purpose of seagrass restoration.
EXEM 251475026	1/12/2029	Bunbury Dolphin Centre	Exemption for employees of the Dolphin Discovery Centre, located in Bunbury, WA, to collect fish and substrate by undertake relevant fishing activities for aquarium display.
EXEM 251477126	30/6/2027	Tom Ryan of Murdoch University	Exemption to collect sediments and catch and release freshwater fish and invertebrates for removal of large pest fish species to enable the ecological recovery of urban wetlands.
EXEM 251477226	17/6/2027	Ben Hebiton of DPIRD and commercial skippers (Stanley Allen Macdonald and Benjamin Keith Pethik)	Collection of spanner crab (Ranina ranina) from the waters of the West Coast Region on the landward side of the of the 150 metre isobath for research purposes in accordance with Section 7(2)(a) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i>
EXEM 251478626	15/11/2026	Edith Cowan University	To study Roebuck Bay and Eighty Mile Beach Ramsar wetlands benthic monitoring 2026

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251478926	28/12/2028	Persons fishing under the authority of a Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery Licence, Fishing Boat Licence with Condition 933 in the Pilbara Line Fishery, or a Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery	To allow the commercial take of red emperor of any size in the Pilbara Trap Managed Fishery, Pilbara Line Fishery, and Northern Demersal Scalefish Managed Fishery and the subsequent consignment, sale and possession of those fish.
EXEM 251479026	30/6/2027	A person who holds a Commercial Fishing Licence and a Fishing Boat Licence fishing using a licensed fishing boat. (Revoked due to error on instrument. Re-issued below)	To take demersal scalefish using a net for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> permitting nearshore net fishing in the West Coast and Gascoyne Bioregions.
EXEM 251479126	30/6/2027	A person who holds a Commercial Fishing Licence and a Fishing Boat Licence fishing using a licensed fishing boat. (Revoked due to error on instrument. Re-issued below)	To take demersal scalefish using a net for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> permitting nearshore net fishing in the West Coast and Gascoyne Bioregions.
EXEM 251480326	3/7/2027	James Tweedley of Murdoch University	Exemption to collect Southwest Glass shrimp (<i>Palaemon australis</i> ; formerly <i>Palaemonetes australis</i>) and <i>Palaemon atrinubes</i> for teaching.
EXEM 251480426	3/7/2027	Aidan Bossert of the University of Western Australia	Exemption to collect <i>Posidonia australis</i> , <i>Posidonia sinuosa</i> , <i>Amphibolis antarctica</i> and <i>Amphibolis griffithii</i> for research.

Number	Expiry	Persons – schedule 1	Purpose
EXEM 251480526	31/5/2031	The persons operating in the Abalone Limited Entry Fishery under the authority of the following Managed Fishery Licences: AB1210, AB1876, and AB1878.	Exemption to fish for Roe abalone (<i>Haliotis roei</i>) in Area 7 of the Abalone Fishery as declared under Schedule 1 of the Abalone Management Plan 1992.
EXEM 251480626	30/6/2027	A person who holds a Commercial Fishing Licence and a Fishing Boat Licence fishing using a licensed fishing boat.	To take demersal scalefish using a net for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> permitting nearshore net fishing in the West Coast and Gascoyne Bioregions.
EXEM 251480726	30/6/2027	A person who holds a Commercial Fishing Licence and a Fishing Boat Licence fishing using a licensed fishing boat.	To take demersal scalefish using a net for a commercial purpose pursuant to section 7(2)(e) of the <i>Fish Resources Management Act 1994</i> permitting nearshore net fishing in the West Coast and Gascoyne Bioregions.
EXEM 251480926	30/6/2027	The Applicant Entities listed in schedule 1 of Exemption Application A16837115	To collect from the waters under Western Australia's jurisdiction any species of fish necessary to carry out aquatic pest surveillance approved by the Department and directed by Department Officers listed.
EXEM 251482226	3/6/2027	Jonathan Evans and Cameron Duggin of University of Western Australia	Exemption to collect Molluscs, Echinoderms, Ascidians for research.
EXEM 251482326	30/6/2027	Officers of the Fisheries Science and Assessment Branch of DPIRD, and persons acting under their direct supervision	Collection of fish necessary to carry out research and fisheries management activities approved by the Department for the purposes from the waters under Western Australia's jurisdiction

Important disclaimer

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