

Peter Spencer

From: MALLOUHI Jodie <Jodie.MALLOUHI@ehp.qld.gov.au> on behalf of DLO EHP <DLO.EHP@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 15 July 2015 2:23 PM
To: Peter Spencer
Subject: FW: Prospectus table / for confirmation [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]



Hi Peter,

Geoff Clare has asked me to pass on to you.

Thanks
Jodie

Jodie Mallouhi

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 6250

Level 13, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane, QLD 4001

From: CLARE Geoff
Sent: Wednesday, 15 July 2015 2:13 PM
To: 'Andrews, Gregory'
Subject: RE: Prospectus table / for confirmation [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Gregory,

Thanks.

I am sure you are busy with MEM and final Summit preparations. Very briefly, Frank remains concerned regarding the Astrebla project and has hinted at criticising it publicly. He is also attending the Summit and may be critical of it there. We are making every effort to avoid this including meeting with him yesterday and emphasising that the details of the project still need to be negotiated.

One of his key concerns is that the project will enclose some or all of the bilby population on Astrebla which he is adamant should remain unfenced and be protected through intermittent but proactive control of cat populations. Our park folk are now of the view that the enclosure should probably be on Diamantina NP (for quite separate reasons). AWC are not uncomfortable with entertaining this.

So, in short, if Frank were to raise concerns with Minister Hunt I suggest he could indicate that the location of the enclosure and all the other details of the project are still to be negotiated between Qld Govt and AWC and he is aware of the Qld Govts intent for the project to be consistent with the overall recovery strategies for bilbys and other species.

Also FYI, I expect we will be holding off on our bilateral release on this project until Friday.



See you tomorrow

Geoff Clare

Executive Director

Nature Conservation Services | Conservation & Sustainability Services

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5390 M [REDACTED]

Level 5, 400 George Street, Brisbane 4000

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

From: Andrews, Gregory [<mailto:Gregory.Andrews@environment.gov.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 15 July 2015 1:17 PM

To: 'Annie Lane'; 'Linda Bell'; CLARE Geoff; 'Alistair Scott'; 'Alaric Fisher'; 'Margaret Byrne'; 'John Schutz'

Cc: Angove, Bridget; Lang, Sebastian; Barker, James

Subject: Prospectus table / for confirmation [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear state and territory colleagues

Please find attached the final version of the table that we plan to publish and use on a big screen tomorrow. If you have your own bilateral announcements, we'd like to include them or write them up tomorrow. Please confirm if you do.

Minister Hunt wants to show the Australian community what we've achieved from the summit in terms of and commitments and this will be an effective way to manage it. I am in the field, pls email or contact Rob Quinn or Seb Lang with any queries.

Best Gregory

Gregory Andrews

Threatened Species Commissioner

Mobile + [REDACTED]

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Peter Spencer

From: DLO.NP <DLO.NP@npsr.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 December 2015 12:22 PM
To: Peter Spencer
Subject: CTS20930/15 - Min signed letter to Senator Larissa Waters re: Astrebla Downs NP and Bilbies
Attachments: DMView_1450059668265_20930-15_1025163
_MIN_SIGNED_Letter_to_Senator_Larissa_Waters_(14_December_2015).pdf



Hi Peter

Please note Minister's comment on this letter: "I am aware Min Hunt's decision to fund AWC has caused consternation. However, given they have funds we are obliged to work with them. Note that Tim Flannery raised his support for AWCs project with me. Happy to discuss".

Thanks

Dana Chauvel

Senior Department Liaison Officer

Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3330 6271 (Ext 26271) M [REDACTED]
Level 13, 400 George St, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15187, City East QLD 4002

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Hon Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

Our Ref: CTS 20930/15

Level 13
400 George Street Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 2454 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7330
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

14 DEC 2015

Senator Larissa Waters
Senator for Queensland
Locked Bag 3004
PADDINGTON QLD 4064

Larissa
Dear Senator

Thank you for your letter of 1 September 2015 concerning a new predator proof enclosure fence proposed to be constructed by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) at Astrebla Downs National Park, [REDACTED]. I apologise for the delay in responding.

With regard to the proposed enclosure by AWC, I can confirm that I am working with both the Commonwealth Government and AWC to progress a new partnership designed to enhance conservation on Astrebla Downs and Diamantina National Parks. Commonwealth funding has been provided by the Honourable Greg Hunt MP, Minister for the Environment, and any questions or concerns that you have about this should be directed to his office. While Commonwealth funding is principally for bilby conservation, I am advised that ongoing discussions between Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) of the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing and AWC are now looking to extend the partnership more broadly across both Astrebla and Diamantina National Parks to deliver a landscape level conservation initiative over an area of greater than 700 000 hectares.

Commonwealth funding is dependent on AWC undertaking a risk assessment that is acceptable to the Queensland and the Commonwealth Governments. The terms of reference for the risk assessment are being prepared, and will include assessment of possible impacts and threats to bilby populations and other species like the endangered night parrot.

s.73

I hope this information has been of assistance to you. Should your advisors have any further enquiries, please have them contact Mr Philip Halton, Chief of Staff in my office on telephone (07) 3719 7330.

Yours sincerely

DR STEVEN MILES MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection and
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

I am aware Mr Hunt's decision to fund AWC has caused consternation. However given they have funds we are obliged to work with them. Note that Tom Flannery raised his support for AWC's project with me. Happy to discuss.

Peter Spencer

From: Peter Spencer
Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2015 5:52 PM
To: Philip Halton
Subject: Fwd: AWC/Tim Flannery: request for meeting
Attachments: AWC logo_landscape_black text.png

This sounds like a good meeting for the minister to attend but the phrase "heads up on the latest proposal from Atticus" intrigues me so I might call Ben and ask if there are any issues we should know about before organising.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: KLAASSEN Ben <Ben.Klaassen@npsr.qld.gov.au>
Date: 30 March 2015 6:46:17 am AEST
To: "philip.halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <philip.halton@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: "peter.spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <peter.spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FW: AWC/Tim Flannery: request for meeting

Fyi –he spelt your name wrong.

Atticus focuses on threatened species and has a plan for bilbies at Astrebla Downs.

If the Minister is happy to meet we can give detailed briefing.

Regards
Ben Klaassen

From: JACOBI Jason
Sent: Sunday, 29 March 2015 9:20 PM
To: KLAASSEN Ben
Subject: Fwd: AWC/Tim Flannery: request for meeting

Hi Ben.
We will need to give John a heads up on the latest proposal from Atticus. Apparently the email bounced back from Philip Holton.
Would you like me to forward on or will you?
J

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Atticus Fleming <Atticus.Fleming@australianwildlife.org>
Date: 29 March 2015 6:11:28 pm AEST
To: "environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Cc: JACOBI Jason <Jason.Jacobi@npsr.qld.gov.au>, "phillip.holton@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <phillip.holton@ministerial.qld.gov.au>, "peter.spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au" <peter.spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au>
Subject: AWC/Tim Flannery: request for meeting

The Hon Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment, National Parks

By email: environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister

Congratulations on your appointment as Queensland Minister for the Environment.

I am writing to request a meeting for Tim Flannery (AWC Director) and myself to discuss a major philanthropic initiative which we propose be delivered in partnership with the Queensland Government and, in particular, the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.

We believe it to be a ground-breaking initiative which will deliver exciting, measurable conservation outcomes and provide an important template for philanthropic-government partnerships. It involves leveraging significant philanthropic investment in national park management.

Initial discussions have occurred with your senior staff (including Ben Klaasen and Jason Jacobi).

We would value the opportunity to meet in Brisbane on any of the following dates:

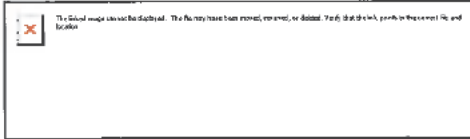
- 14 April
- 16 April
- 22, 23 or 24 April.

Yours sincerely

Atticus Fleming
Chief Executive

Atticus Fleming
Chief Executive
Australian Wildlife Conservancy

PO Box 8070 SUBIACO EAST WA 6008
P: +61 8 9380 9633 | M: [REDACTED] | F: +61 8 9380 9631
E: atticus.fleming@australianwildlife.org | www.australianwildlife.org



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<image003.png>

Minister for NPSR
DL Release

Peter Spencer

From: Philip Halton
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 4:30 PM
To: Steve Kyte; Peter Spencer
Cc: Maria Spackman
Subject: RE: Steve DRAFT only.. FW: Jason/Geoff - Astrebla/Bilby media release

Yes!

From: Steve Kyte
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 2:53 PM
To: Philip Halton; Peter Spencer
Cc: Maria Spackman
Subject: FW: Steve DRAFT only.. FW: Jason/Geoff - Astrebla/Bilby media release

Hunt is announcing this in a package of national funding measures next Thursday at the endangered species summit. I'm thinking we give to some local journos Wed night for Thursday.....

From: HANSON Anna [<mailto:Anna.Hanson@ehp.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 2:29 PM
To: Steve Kyte
Subject: Steve DRAFT only.. FW: Jason/Geoff - Astrebla/Bilby media release

Draft only, but you'll get the picture

From: HANSON Anna
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 1:15 PM
To: JACOBI Jason; CLARE Geoff
Subject: Jason/Geoff - Astrebla/Bilby media release

Hi, attached is a first draft – an attempt to get the balance right.

Jason, do you want to have a first look at the release, and send the updated version to Geoff for review with a CC to me?

Thanks.



Anna Hanson
Media Director
Corporate Communications
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3339 5859
Level 6, 400 George St, Brisbane Qld 4000
PO Box 2454, Brisbane Qld 4001

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Minister for NPSR
DL Release

Peter Spencer

From: JACOBI Jason <Jason.Jacobi@npsr.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 7 December 2015 8:12 AM
To: KLAASSEN Ben; Peter Spencer
Cc: DLO.NP; WILLIAMS Rebecca; LOSADA Vanessa; HARRIS Leigh
Subject: FW: AWC Diamantina

Hi Ben and Peter,
FYI – correspondence between STBF and AWC.

Regards,

Jason



Jason Jacobi
Executive Director Regional Operations West
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3199 7517

M [REDACTED]

Level 21, 111 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

From: stbf.ceo@gmail.com [mailto:stbf.ceo@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Save the Bilby Fund CEO
Sent: Sunday, 6 December 2015 9:41 PM
To: Atticus Fleming
Cc: JACOBI Jason; John Kanowski; Tim Allard; Al Mucci
Subject: Re: AWC Diamantina

Dear Atticus

cc Jason Jacobi (QPWS), Al Mucci (STBF)

Thank you for your email of the 22/11/2015 and for welcoming the input of the Save the Bilby Fund (STBF).

The STBF acknowledges the receipt of the basic information you have provided relating to your proposal to establish an 8,000 ha feral-free area within Diamantina Lakes National Park, near its southern boundary and to the east of the Diamantina River.

The STBF supports all initiatives that seek to reduce further population declines or to increase the number of Greater Bilbies in the wild. This was demonstrated most recently this year, when the Fund brought together representatives and experts from 29 agencies (including AWC and QPWS) to develop and endorse a long-term strategy for the recovery and conservation of bilbies across Australia. **Agreed priorities from the Greater Bilby Recovery Summit for Queensland were:**

- 1) To support the persistence and expansion of remaining wild bilbies in Queensland through effective predator control and habitat management at key sites, keeping bilbies in contact with wild selection pressures and fit for purpose.
- 2) To re-connect bilbies at remaining wild sites to improve gene flow and demographic resilience.
- 3) To provide ongoing insurance and if necessary supplementation for the wild population in Queensland and to amplify the Queensland component of range-wide species gene diversity, through the strategic use of fenced, predator-proof areas and of the cooperatively managed zoo program coordinated through ZAA.
- 4) To resurrect and stabilize management of the enclosure at Currawinya as an immediate area for implementation of 3).

In light of the nationally agreed position developed through this forum, and considering the basic information on the proposal that has been provided, the STBF is pleased to provide the following response on behalf of its Board and members:

- AWC is a recognized expert in the area of fenced-enclosure management and was a valued contributor to the Bilby Summit and its outputs. STBF sees AWC's involvement in Queensland as a great opportunity to progress the agreed priorities.
- The STBF recognizes and values the contribution that AWC claims with regards to feral animal management, and for its partnership with other experts and organisations that have proven track records in ensuring iconic Australian species do not become extinct.
- The STBF understands that the proposal is being developed in close consultation with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and that the precise size and location of the area – and the fence alignment – will be finalised only after an environmental assessment. STBF looks forward to an opportunity to consider and respond to the environmental assessment that is proposed to occur, and to contribute the collective knowledge and experience of our Board of

Directors and partners who have a long history and commitment to the recovery effort for bilbies in Queensland.

- STBF is pleased to hear that Astrebla Downs, one of the last strongholds for wild bilby populations will be unaffected by this proposal.
- STBF is concerned by any proposal to enclose or pose any risk to the existing wild population of bilbies on Diamantina Lakes NP. This concern extends to excluding access to habitat used by the wild population at any time by construction of a fenced area.
- STBF appreciates AWC's commitment that the minimum prescriptive requirements outlined in State legislation, as well as those within Commonwealth law, will be met, and supports the pursuit and application of the precautionary principle and best practice, even where these extend beyond minimum prescriptive requirements.
- STBF supports AWC's acknowledgement of knowledge sharing, best practice, and collaboration to maximize conservation outcomes, and support all objectives agreed in the Greater Bilby Recovery Summit Report and Interim Conservation Plan 2015.
- Finally, we acknowledge the significant investment that AWC is making into the conservation of threatened mammal populations, and reiterate our commitment to offering our services and significant scientific expertise to support success in this endeavor.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with you, and to contributing as outlined above when the details of this proposal are developed.

Yours sincerely,

Kev

Kevin Bradley

CEO | Save the Bilby Fund

m: [REDACTED] | e: ceo@savethebilbyfund.org | www.savethebilbyfund.org.

On Sun, Nov 22, 2015 at 10:35 AM, Atticus Fleming <Atticus.Fleming@australianwildlife.org> wrote:

Dear Kevin

cc Jason Jacobi (QPWS)

As a follow up to our discussions late last week, I am pleased to set out below some basic information on our proposal for a feral predator-free area at Diamantina.

It is important to note the proposal is being developed in close consultation with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. The precise size and location of the area – and the fence alignment – will be finalised only after an environmental assessment.

- The proposal involves establishing a feral-free area within Diamantina National Park, near its southern boundary and to the east of the Diamantina River.
- The precise area/alignment within this location will be subject to a fine scale assessment of habitat, logistical factors etc and an environmental assessment. It will be approximately 8,000 ha.
- The proposed location does not currently support a permanent Bilby population. Advice from QPWS is that Bilbies enter the designated area from time to time, but have been unable to establish a secure, viable population because of the impact of feral cats.
- **The feral-free area will therefore establish a secure population of the Bilby, and other threatened mammal species, in a location where existing management approaches are unable to deliver effective protection from feral cats.** (Unlike Astrebla, it is not possible to deliver effective cat control at the proposed location because of its geography, especially the proximity to the Diamantina channels (used by cats).)
- The populations established in the proposed feral-free area will potentially act as a source for reintroductions to other parts of the Bilby's former range on Diamantina and on adjoining properties.

The size of the area – 8,000 hectares – is significant. AWC is the only organisation to have established multiple, large (1,000 ha +) feral-free areas on mainland Australia.

As you know, implementation of a proposal such as this requires extensive planning across a range of issues involving input from a number of sources. *As the project unfolds, we will particularly welcome input from the Save the Bilby Fund.* As with all translocations, input will also be sought from the Recovery Team and other experts.

As you will also know, there are rigorous regulatory requirements in relation to any translocation. These requirements will address issues such as genetics, post release monitoring etc. We expect the requirements, which will be set out in relevant Qld Govt permits, to reflect best practice. Similar standards will no doubt be applied to all other Bilby translocations in Australia.

Our Diamantina proposal is one of a number of Bilby projects – existing and proposed – around Australia. It is important that we share knowledge; ensure best practice standards (including post release monitoring and management) are applied consistently across all projects; and collaborate with a view to maximising conservation outcomes for the Bilby. AWC is committed to this objective.

Finally, I note the overall AWC investment in this project (including conservation management outside the fence) will be at least^s [REDACTED]. The Federal Government has announced it will provide \$1.2 million (22%) provided AWC underwrites the remaining^s [REDACTED]. In other words, the Federal Government funding is generating significant leverage^s [REDACTED].

Please contact me at any time if there are issues you wish to discuss further. We look forward to ongoing engagement with Save the Bilby Fund.

Yours sincerely

Atticus Fleming

Atticus Fleming

Chief Executive

Australian Wildlife Conservancy

PO Box 8070 SUBIACO EAST WA 6008

P: [+61 8 9380 9633](tel:+61893809633) | M: [REDACTED] | F: [+61 8 9380 9631](tel:+61893809631)

E: atticus.fleming@australianwildlife.org | www.australianwildlife.org



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Peter Spencer

From: JACOBI Jason <Jason.Jacobi@npsr.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 22 November 2015 10:43 AM
To: Peter Spencer; DLO.NP
Cc: KLAASSEN Ben; HARRIS Leigh; DEVERY Michael; MOHR Maria; LOSADA Vanessa
Subject: FW: AWC Diamantina

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Peter,

Further to our discussion on Friday, please find attached email from Atticus Fleming (AWC) to Kev Bradley (STBF).

Regards,

Jason



Jason Jacobi
Executive Director Regional Operations West
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3199 7517

M [REDACTED]

Level 21, 111 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

From: Atticus Fleming [mailto:Atticus.Fleming@australianwildlife.org]
Sent: Sunday, 22 November 2015 10:36 AM
To: stbf.ceo@gmail.com
Cc: Save the Bilby Fund CEO; JACOBI Jason; John Kanowski; Tim Allard
Subject: AWC Diamantina

Dear Kevin
cc Jason Jacobi (QPWS)

As a follow up to our discussions late last week, I am pleased to set out below some basic information on our proposal for a feral predator-free area at Diamantina.

It is important to note the proposal is being developed in close consultation with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. The precise size and location of the area – and the fence alignment – will be finalised only after an environmental assessment.

- The proposal involves establishing a feral-free area within Diamantina National Park, near its southern boundary and to the east of the Diamantina River.

- The precise area/alignment within this location will be subject to a fine scale assessment of habitat, logistical factors etc and an environmental assessment. It will be approximately 8,000 ha.
- The proposed location does not currently support a permanent Bilby population. Advice from QPWS is that Bilbies enter the designated area from time to time, but have been unable to establish a secure, viable population because of the impact of feral cats.
- **The feral-free area will therefore establish a secure population of the Bilby, and other threatened mammal species, in a location where existing management approaches are unable to deliver effective protection from feral cats.** (Unlike Astrebla, it is not possible to deliver effective cat control at the proposed location because of its geography, especially the proximity to the Diamantina channels (used by cats).)
- The populations established in the proposed feral-free area will potentially act as a source for reintroductions to other parts of the Bilby's former range on Diamantina and on adjoining properties.

The size of the area – 8,000 hectares – is significant. AWC is the only organisation to have established multiple, large (1,000 ha +) feral-free areas on mainland Australia.

As you know, implementation of a proposal such as this requires extensive planning across a range of issues involving input from a number of sources. *As the project unfolds, we will particularly welcome input from the Save the Bilby Fund.* As with all translocations, input will also be sought from the Recovery Team and other experts.

As you will also know, there are rigorous regulatory requirements in relation to any translocation. These requirements will address issues such as genetics, post release monitoring etc. We expect the requirements, which will be set out in relevant Qld Govt permits, to reflect best practice. Similar standards will no doubt be applied to all other Bilby translocations in Australia.

Our Diamantina proposal is one of a number of Bilby projects – existing and proposed – around Australia. It is important that we share knowledge; ensure best practice standards (including post release monitoring and management) are applied consistently across all projects; and collaborate with a view to maximising conservation outcomes for the Bilby. AWC is committed to this objective.

Finally, I note the overall AWC investment in this project (including conservation management outside the fence) will be at least^s [REDACTED]. The Federal Government has announced it will provide \$1.2 million (22%) provided AWC underwrites the remaining^s [REDACTED].

^s [REDACTED] In other words, the Federal Government funding is generating significant leverage^s [REDACTED].

Please contact me at any time if there are issues you wish to discuss further. We look forward to ongoing engagement with Save the Bilby Fund.

Yours sincerely

Atticus Fleming

Atticus Fleming
Chief Executive
Australian Wildlife Conservancy

PO Box 8070 SUBIACO EAST WA 6008

P: +61 8 9380 9633 | M: +[REDACTED] | F: +61 8 9380 9631

E: atticus.fleming@australianwildlife.org | www.australianwildlife.org



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Peter Spencer

From: KLAASSEN Ben <Ben.Klaassen@npsr.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2015 8:29 AM
To: Peter Spencer
Cc: JACOBI Jason
Subject: FW: STB Fund

Hi Peter

FYI – we'll discuss in detail the AWC/STBF issues at tomorrow's meeting.

Regards

Ben



Ben Klaassen

Deputy Director-General, QPWS
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3199 7538
Level 21, 111 George Street BRISBANE Q 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, QLD 4002

From: JACOBI Jason
Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2015 3:53 PM
To: KLAASSEN Ben
Subject: FW: STB Fund

Hi Ben,
You may wish to forward to Peter Spencer in advance of our catch up on Friday?
Thanks,

Jason



Jason Jacobi

Executive Director Regional Operations West
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3199 7517

M [REDACTED]

Level 21, 111 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, Qld 4002
www.npsr.qld.gov.au

From: Atticus Fleming [<mailto:Atticus.Fleming@australianwildlife.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2015 2:59 PM
To: JACOBI Jason
Subject: STB Fund

Hi Jason

I spoke to Kevin Bradley briefly today.

He was in the car, so we arranged to speak in more detail tomorrow at 5pm your time.

In our brief discussion today:

- I indicated the last time we met (at the Melbourne TS Summit), I had encouraged Kevin and Frank to engage with AWC and said we welcome their ongoing input.
- While I had not heard from Kevin or Frank, I understand they have expressed some concerns about our project. I indicated that I was not aware of any basis for concern and was always happy to discuss with them any element of our project. I reiterated:
 - o Our focus was a site that QPWS and AWC agreed was appropriate, which happened to be in Diamantina outside the core habitat of the existing *Astrebla* bilby population (and which, because of various factors, was not capable of being protected in the same way as *Astrebla*). Naturally, there would be an assessment to identify the preferred site.
 - o It was proposed to be a large feral free area, with AWC providing the vast majority of the funding.
- Kevin indicated he would give me a call tomorrow. He did indicate that Frank may have raised issues separate to any issues that STB Fund itself may wish to discuss.
- Kevin said his primary concern was consistency with the outcomes of the Summit and everyone pulling in the same direction. I indicated that the Summit provided some useful broad principles and a good exchange of info, to which AWC had actively contributed (we had two participants at the Summit), but I did not see any of the Summit outcomes as inconsistent with the Diamantina proposal. Kevin agreed that the Diamantina proposal is not inconsistent with the Summit outcomes.
- We will talk again tomorrow.

Atticus

Atticus Fleming
Chief Executive
Australian Wildlife Conservancy

PO Box 8070 SUBIACO EAST WA 6008

P: +61 8 9380 9633 | M: [REDACTED] | F: +61 8 9380 9631

E: atticus.fleming@australianwildlife.org | www.australianwildlife.org



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Minister for NPSR
DL Release

Peter Spencer

From: Meredith, Sarah <Sarah.Meredith@environment.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 6:30 PM
To: Pears, Erin; Peter Spencer
Subject: RE: Threatened Species Summit and Strategy (under embargo)
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Peter

My apologies for not replying sooner. Will give you a call first thing Monday morning to step you through it. The review will be pretty straightforward as it is a requirement of the current strategy that it be reviewed in 2015 (see more here: <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/conservation/strategy>). As you may be aware, the BCS was approved for release by all State and Territory Governments through the previous 'Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council' in 2010.

I understand a submission is included in the MEM folders outlining the background and information around the review.

Looking forward to chatting further about this.

Sarah

Sarah Meredith
Parliamentary Adviser

Office of the Hon Greg Hunt MP | Minister for the Environment

Ph: 02 6277 7244 | Mob: [REDACTED]

sarah.meredith@environment.gov.au | M140, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600

From: Pears, Erin
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 4:13 PM
To: 'Peter Spencer'
Cc: Meredith, Sarah
Subject: RE: Threatened Species Summit and Strategy (under embargo) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Peter,

You can contact Sarah on our office number 02 6277 7920 or sarah.meredith@environment.gov.au.

Cheers,
Erin

From: Peter Spencer [<mailto:Peter.Spencer@ministerial.qld.gov.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 3:38 PM
To: Pears, Erin
Subject: RE: Threatened Species Summit and Strategy (under embargo) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks Erin,

Will be in touch.

Can you give me the number of your colleague?

Regards

Peter Spencer

Senior Policy Advisor

Office of the Honourable Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7334 | F 07 3220 6231
Level 13, 400 George Street | Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 2454 | Brisbane Qld 4001

From: Pears, Erin [<mailto:Erin.Pears@environment.gov.au>]
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 2:26 PM
To: Peter Spencer
Subject: Threatened Species Summit and Strategy (under embargo) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Peter,

As we discussed a few weeks ago, attached is a copy of the Australian Government Threatened Species Strategy, to be launched at the summit next week. *Please note the strategy is being provided to you in confidence and is under embargo until midday on 16 July.* A copy has also been provided to your Department.

The purpose of the strategy is to highlight the need for all of us to work together to recover threatened species. It sets out specific targets and actions to meet the broader goal of the Australian Government – to halt the decline of Australia's threatened plants and animals and support their recovery.

We have been working with each State and Territory on actions that can be announced at the summit. For Queensland, the proposal is to announce:

- AWC Feral Free area at Astrebla Downs National Park - \$1,200,000
- s.73

Can you please confirm whether you are happy to move forward with a joint media release and the best contact in your office to coordinate this through?

Other actions in the strategy relevant to Queensland are:

- Creation of a feral cat taskforce
- Development of best practice guidance for Recovery Team governance – which we hope to prepare cooperatively with States and Territories.

We will also release a table of investment opportunities (attached, also under embargo) which will include the funding to be announced with each State and Territory, as well as additional actions for which funding is yet to be secured. The purpose of this is to encourage all stakeholders (private companies, NGOs, NRMs, State and Territory Governments) to contribute to actions to recover threatened species. We hope that this table will evolve over time. This version captures actions we are aware of through our consultation with key stakeholders, including State and Territory governments.

Please give me a call if you would like to discuss any of the above.

Kind regards,

Erin Pears
Assistant Adviser

Office of the Hon Greg Hunt MP | Minister for the Environment
Ph: 02 6277 7920 | Mob: [REDACTED]
erin.pears@environment.gov.au | M140, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600

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Minister for NPSR
DL Release

Peter Spencer

From: OESTREICH Wade <Wade.Oestreich@ehp.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 31 July 2015 10:00 AM
To: Peter Spencer
Cc: DLO EHP; DEVERY Michael; CLARE Geoff
Subject: Meeting with Save the Bilby Fund next week

Peter

We are preparing a brief for a Ministerial meeting next week with Save the Bilby fund. We are recommending that Departmental officers (i.e. Mike Devery and myself) attend that meeting along with yourselves. There is some concern in STBF around the initiatives announced by the TS commissioner around fencing projects at either Astrebla Downs NP (or possibly Diamantina NP), in conjunction with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, principally aimed at managing feral cats.

Frank Manthey from STBF in particular has recently advocated to us that fencing another national park is not the best approach and that resources should be directed to other conservation strategies.

It could be argued that STBF's may be underpinned by a perception that AWC are playing in their space. This isn't the case of course, Bilbies are no specific group's space.

We are quite keen to separate the AWC's and STBF's work by focusing STBF's work on Currawinya NP where there is still significant work to do, and AWC on Astrebla/Diamantina. We had hoped to pre-meet with STBF before the Ministerial meeting but that hasn't been possible, hence our request to have departmental officers present to assist.

Please let me know whether your office is ok with that approach.

Cheers
Wade



Wade Oestreich
Acting Executive Director | Nature Conservation Services
Conservation and Sustainability Services
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
P 07 3330 5393
Level 5, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane, QLD 4001

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Peter Spencer

From: Peter Spencer
Sent: Wednesday, 15 July 2015 2:27 PM
To: Philip Halton
Subject: FW: Prospectus table / for confirmation [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI – email below from Geoff Clare to Gregory Andrews

Regards

Peter Spencer
Senior Policy Advisor

Office of the Honourable Dr Steven Miles MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
Minister for National Parks and the Great Barrier Reef

P 07 3719 7334 | F 07 3220 6231
Level 13, 400 George Street | Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 2454 | Brisbane Qld 4001

From: CLARE Geoff
Sent: Wednesday, 15 July 2015 2:13 PM
To: 'Andrews, Gregory'
Subject: RE: Prospectus table / for confirmation [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Gregory,

Thanks.

I am sure you are busy with MEM and final Summit preparations. Very briefly, Frank remains concerned regarding the Astrebla project and has hinted at criticising it publicly. He is also attending the Summit and may be critical of it there. We are making every effort to avoid this including meeting with him yesterday and emphasising that the details of the project still need to be negotiated.

One of his key concerns is that the project will enclose some or all of the bilby population on Astrebla which he is adamant should remain unfenced and be protected through intermittent but proactive control of cat populations. Our park folk are now of the view that the enclosure should probably be on Diamantina NP (for quite separate reasons). AWC are not uncomfortable with entertaining this.

So, in short, if Frank were to raise concerns with Minister Hunt I suggest he could indicate that the location of the enclosure and all the other details of the project are still to be negotiated between Qld Govt and AWC and he is aware of the Qld Govts intent for the project to be consistent with the overall recovery strategies for bilbys and other species.

Also FYI, I expect we will be holding off on our bilateral release on this project until Friday.

See you tomorrow



Geoff Clare

Executive Director

Nature Conservation Services | Conservation & Sustainability Services

Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

P 07 3330 5390 M [REDACTED]

Level 5, 400 George Street, Brisbane 4000

GPO Box 2454, Brisbane QLD 4001

s.73

Minister for NPSR
DL Release

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DL Release

Yours sincerely

Gerard O'Neill
Chief Executive
Bush Heritage Australia

On 26 Feb 2016, at 11:41 AM, KLAASSEN Ben <Ben.Klaassen@npsr.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Hi Gerard

When you have time I would appreciate a call to touch base following our December discussion regarding Diamantina and the opportunities in Queensland.

If you let me know when you have 15 minutes I am happy to call.

Regards
Ben

<image002.png><image003.png>

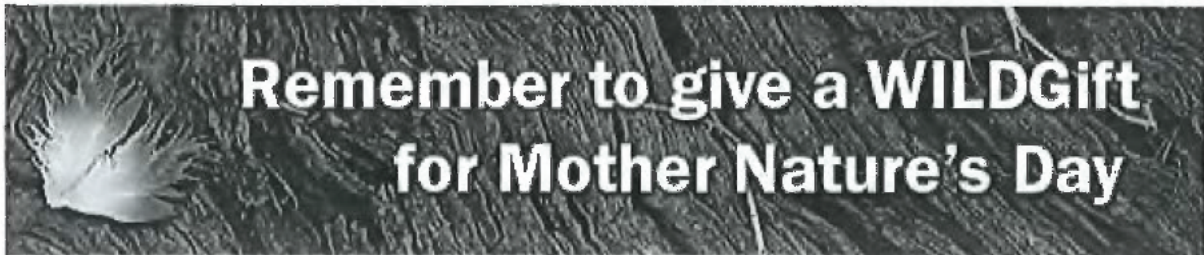
Ben Klaassen
A/Director-General
Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

P 07 3338 9307
Level 7, 111 George Street BRISBANE Q 4000
PO Box 15187, City East, QLD 4002

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