

## Additional information available on request

In compliance with the requirements of the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance, details of the items listed below have been retained and are available to the relevant Ministers, Members of Parliament and the public on request (subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*).

To ensure the department is meeting its accountability and compliance requirements, some of this additional information has been included in the Annual Report where relevant.

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The information is available on request from the DELWP Customer Contact Centre on 136186, via email [customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au) or on the internet at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).

**a) A statement that declarations of pecuniary interests have been duly completed by all relevant officers of the department**

Declarations of pecuniary interests have been duly completed by all relevant officers.

**b) Details of shares held by senior officers as nominee or held beneficially in a statutory authority or subsidiary**

No shares are held by a senior officer as nominee or held beneficially in a statutory authority or subsidiary.

**c) Details of publications produced by the department about the activities of the department and where they can be obtained**

Publication	Date produced	Availability
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning annual report 2019-20	October 2020	Available online ( <a href="http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au">www.delwp.vic.gov.au</a> and <a href="http://www.data.vic.gov.au">www.data.vic.gov.au</a> ) or from our Customer Contact Centre on 136 186

**d) Details of changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies charged by the department for its services, including services that are administered**

Details of fees and charges are available on the department's website at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).

### e) Details of any major external reviews carried out in respect of the operation of the department

Major external reviews	Conducted by	Purpose	Released
Summary of Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) bushfire fuel management 2017-18	Inspector-General for Emergency Management (IGEM)	IGEM's observations and progress updates relating to DELWP's planned burns that breach control lines and implementation monitoring of bushfire fuel management recommendations for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.	3 September 2019
Revisiting councils and complaints	Victorian Ombudsman	Represents the Ombudsman's 'own motion' enquiry (second) into how local councils deal with complaints from the public and whether councils have changed their practices.	7 October 2019
Council Libraries	Auditor-General	The audit assessed whether councils achieve value for money from their library services.	13 November 2019
Results of 2018-19 Audits: Local Government	Auditor-General	Report on the results of financial audits of the entities within the local government sector, and observations, for the year ended 30 June 2019.	27 November 2019
Sexual Harassment in the Victorian Public Service	Auditor-General	The audit examined whether the Victorian public service provides workplaces that are free from sexual harassment.	28 November 2019
Managing Development Contributions	Auditor-General	The audit examined whether development contributions provide required infrastructure to new and growing communities as intended.	18 March 2020
Personnel Security: Due Diligence over Public Service Employees	Auditor-General	The audit examined personnel security measures at all eight government departments, and the Victorian Public Service Commission.	21 May 2020
Protecting Critically Endangered Grasslands	Auditor-General	The audit looked at whether the management of native vegetation clearing is protecting state and nationally significant native vegetation in the extended urban growth boundary areas and focused on the Melbourne Strategic Assessment.	17 June 2020
Response to Performance Audit Recommendations 2015-16 to 2017-18	Auditor-General	The assurance review looked at how public entities monitored and responded to performance audit recommendations made by VAGO between 2015-16 to 2017-18.	17 June 2020

**f) Details of any major research and development activities undertaken by the department that are not otherwise covered either in the report of operations or in a document which contains the financial statement and report of operations**

Major research and development	Conducted by	Purpose
Victorian Climate Projections 2019	CSIRO	The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation's (CSIRO) Climate Science Centre developed local-scale climate projections data for Victoria at a 5 km by 5 km scale to help Victorian communities prepare for climate change. The projections cover average and extreme temperature and rainfall, relative humidity and evaporation out to the 2090s for moderate and high greenhouse gas emissions scenarios.
Offshore Wind development in the global context and commercial viability of offshore wind in the Victorian context	Advisian	A study to scope out global developments in the offshore wind sector and evaluate the commercial and technical viability of developing the offshore wind energy sector in Victoria.
Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy Modelling	The Centre for International Economics	To build a model to test the effect of different landfill levy rates on resource recovery and illegal dumping in Victoria.
Cost-benefit analysis of options for improving kerbside recycling	The Centre for International Economics	To assess the costs and benefits of different kerbside intervention options to inform the kerbside reform as part of Recycling Victoria.
Background research and analysis project for building review	Nous Group	Background research and analysis to inform a comprehensive review of the regulatory framework for Victoria's building, plumbing and architecture industries. The research approach included an extensive desktop review and consultation (including several workshops) with government and industry. The background research and analysis is intended to provide an accurate, comprehensive understanding of the current state, including: how legislative intent differs from what happens in practice; how the Victorian system compares to other jurisdictions, as well as key gaps and issues to consider as part of the Review.
Market research project on universal design	KPMG	Market research project to better understand current perspectives of universal design features across consumers, building industry and the real estate sector. This research will also be useful in demonstrating understanding of and support for universal design elements to support further policy decisions in this area, considering commitments made under the State Disability Plan 2017-20 and work underway through the Australian Building Codes Board.
Landscape Scale Surveys	Arthur Rylah Institute	Flora and fauna surveys to improve species distribution modelling for the Regional Forest Agreement process.
Forest Protection Surveys 2019-20	Arthur Rylah Institute	Contribute to the ongoing implementation and continuous improvement of the Forest Protection Survey program by providing surveys, advice, data and prioritisation tool development.

Major research and development	Conducted by	Purpose
GEE Fire severity mapping tool improvements	Arthur Rylah Institute	Testing and improving mapping produced by the Google Earth Engine (GEE) Fire Severity Maps tool
Victorian Water and Climate Initiative	The University of Melbourne, Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO	The Victorian Water and Climate Initiative is a collaborative multi-year research program that is developing targeted climate and hydrology information to address the needs for the Victorian water sector. This includes improving understanding how Victoria's rainfall is changing, how rainfall-runoff relationships have been changing, and how much impact climate change is having on our water resources now and into the future. Publications in 2019-20 include a number of journal papers on topics including thunderstorm climatology and downscaling of global climate model rainfall for application in projecting future water resource availability. The research feeds into many projects and policy areas across the water sector, including development of updated guidance for water availability planning.
Automated feature extraction of vegetation proof-of-concept	FrontierSI	This project delivered datasets using automated feature extraction (machine learning) technology; statewide tree presence/absence, statewide tree density and urban environment tree points.
Digital twin of Fishermans Bend	Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration (University of Melbourne)	This project investigated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the value of Digital Twin technology in a real-world context that is of interest to DELWP, particularly in planning workflows</li> <li>• Data requirements, in particular in light of the Digital Cadastre Modernisation project and 3D Cadastre</li> <li>• Digital Twin technology across levels of government.</li> </ul>
Vicmap Transport Data Model Review	Jacobs Australia Pty Ltd	This project reviewed the suitability of Vicmap™ Transport dataset, for standardising, automating and enhancing available spatial data, for local roads managed by councils in Victoria and enable spatial visualisation of roads data (VGC3) collected by the Victoria Grants Commission.
Machine learning swimming pool dataset	Victorian Centre for Data Insights	Establish the feasibility of using machine learning feature extraction techniques to identify properties with swimming pools from DELWP's aerial imagery datasets.
Economic value of investing in geospatial imagery and data	Arcadis	To present analysis undertaken to estimate the potential return on investing in high quality, up to date spatial imagery data that is readily accessible to the whole of Victorian government and local government.
Digital cadastre modernisation stakeholder insights	Think Place	To understand the impact and benefit of a transition to a modernised digital cadastre, and subsequent changes to Vicmap™ datasets, for stakeholders across multiple sectors, to inform a roadmap for stakeholder input to implementation.

Major research and development	Conducted by	Purpose
Local Government Rating Review	Local Government Rating Review Panel - internal body	The Minister for Local Government appointed a Ministerial Panel to provide advice to the Minister on an optimal rating system for Victorian local government. The Panel consulted widely with the community and stakeholders and provided its report to the Minister on 31 March 2020. The recommendations of the Ministerial Panel will be considered and responded to by the Victorian Government towards the end of 2020.
Update to the 2008 Wood and Water Study	Harc	The project will review the findings of the 2008 Wood and Water study to confirm if the results remain current in light of any advances in scientific understanding. Specifically, the project will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. review and update the findings of the Wood and Water project completed in 2008 by Russell Mein, incorporating new scientific findings and/or data available since this project was completed</li> <li>b. consider whether previous modelling of the water yield impacts in Melbourne's catchments remains current in light of:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) fire, logging and other disturbance events since 2008</li> <li>ii) rainfall conditions, including the potential climate change impacts on future rainfall</li> <li>iii) expected changes to fire behaviour under climate change, taking into consideration the likelihood of more frequent and severe days of extreme fire weather</li> <li>iv) any other factors considered likely to have a material impact on water yield and quality outcomes.</li> <li>v) use actual data and appropriate climate change scenarios as a reference point for evaluating the currency of the work. To inform consideration of increased impacts of bushfires, the study will draw on existing published bushfire research.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
RFA: Updated habitat distribution models for key forest species	Arthur Rylah Institute	Habitat distribution models (HDMs) are spatially explicit models of a habitat suitability index that can be expressed individually for each species. HDMs interpolate (i.e. model the gaps) between known observations of species. The purpose of HDMs is to provide a higher level of information content to inform management than from individual observations. The development of revised HDMs for forest-dependent taxa can provide the basis for development of integrated data tools and frame works that consider species' distribution, forest resources, access, etc. This project will develop a series of HDMs that better reflect the current distribution of the selected forest dependent taxa, particularly with respect to an increasing interest in 'landscape scale' threatened species management.
RFA: Landscape Scale Surveys	Arthur Rylah Institute	This project will conduct landscape scale surveys to collect new field data to improve understanding of the distribution of high priority, forest-dependent threatened species by updating their HDMs. The project will select sites based on sampling areas that will provide the greatest information gain to the models, within eastern Victoria, and be tenure blind- they may include areas outside the current known distribution of the species or in marginal habitats.

Major research and development	Conducted by	Purpose
SMP (Strategic Management Prospects) 2019-2020	Arthur Rylah Institute	The production of spatial models that are informative for policy development and management purposes within DELWP. These products are sought by a range of DELWP stakeholders and will be used as key components for Native Vegetation reform, Ecological Vegetation Class review and other projects.
Bushfire Biodiversity Relief and Early Recovery (BBRER) Theme 1 Immediate Reconnaissance	Arthur Rylah Institute	Deliver immediate actions required for wildlife and biodiversity impacted by the 2019-20 Victorian Bushfires.
High value wetlands framework	Arthur Rylah Institute	Development of a framework, mapping, analysis, decision support, application of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List and evaluation of the Index of Wetland Condition (IWC)
VEPP 5 year Monitoring 2019	Arthur Rylah Institute	Year 5 of 5 year vegetation monitoring of the 60 VEPP (Victorian Environment Partnership Program) sites in with a subsequent analysis and reporting in 2020.
Riparian Intervention Monitoring Program	Arthur Rylah Institute	Implementation of the monitoring program to demonstrate the outcomes of management intervention in riparian areas.
Native Fish Report Card Program Implementation 2020	Arthur Rylah Institute	Assess priority rivers across the state to inform anglers on health of native and threatened species.
Wetland Intervention Monitoring Program (WIMP): Implementation	Arthur Rylah Institute	To demonstrate the responses of wetland ecosystems to management activities.
Emergency fire recovery surveys - NE and Gippsland regions	Arthur Rylah Institute	Conduct emergency fire recovery surveys – North-East (NE) and Gippsland regions following the 2019-20 fires.
Sub-alpine climate change risk assessments (ARC Linkage Project LP170101143)	Arthur Rylah Institute	Develop an approach to risk assessment for sensitive endemic flora and fauna of Victoria's sub-alpine ecosystems resulting from climate change impacts.
Marine Knowledge Infill Study - Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan 2017-2027 (Priority Area 6: (habitat and marine life)	Fathom Pacific Pty Ltd	Undertake field surveys using scientific divers and remote sensing instrumentation to address knowledge gaps in the spatial location of the Bay's marine habitats and associated marine life. Develop ecosystem models of the marine biotopes, the ecosystem services and benefits they provide, and their relative sensitivity of marine biotopes to threatening processes.

### g) Details of overseas visits undertaken including a summary of the objectives and outcomes of each visit

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Manager, Spatial Services	United States of America	The purpose of this trip was to attend the Esri User Conference, held annually in San Diego. This intensive training and conference opportunity will provide access to greater insights to the Esri stack of technologies and how to fully take advantage of the new technologies and capabilities. The conference will provide opportunities to assist with upcoming spatial projects such as the visualisation of Planning Scheme Histories and the 3D enablement of the GIS platform.	The conference provided great insights into upcoming developments within the Spatial arena and developed relationships with key industry figures. These have since assisted with the in-house development of the 3D web mapping platform, along with the broader 3D enablement of the Planning groups GIS platform.
Research Scientist	Malaysia	Attend and present a scientific paper titled "Solving the Conservation Puzzle for the Eastern Spider Orchid" at the 13th Asia Pacific Orchid Conference in Malaysia.	The presentation showcased Victorian research successes on an international stage. The increased knowledge and linkages in the field of threatened Orchid research and conservation methods will be immediately utilised and incorporated into the Arthur Rylah Institute research program. This knowledge will input directly to the state's policy on threatened species conservation. The knowledge gained will also be communicated to DELWP staff with a role in the threatened Orchid recovery, for their adoption, adaptation and implementation as necessary.
Minister for Planning	United Kingdom	To meet with experts on building safety and regulation to discuss cladding rectification and reform. Further to meet with Government representatives and academics to share information and learnings about programs and policies addressing homelessness and humanitarian migrant resettlement.	Meetings and visits provided insights into the UK Government response to the issue of combustible cladding; an understanding of different stakeholders' views on the issues confronting the UK building system; and positioned Victoria to engage productively with local and international insurance markets to ensure the ongoing availability of indemnity insurance for building surveyors.

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Senior Advisor, Planning	United Kingdom	Same as above.	Same as above.
Executive Director, Building	United Kingdom	Same as above.	Same as above.
Parliamentary Secretary, Multicultural Affairs	Timor-Leste	Represent the Minister Responsible for the Relationship with Timor-Leste (The Hon Richard Wynne MP) at official events commemorating the 20th anniversary of Timor-Leste's Popular Consultation on Independence and continue to progress partnership activities under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Victoria and Timor-Leste.	Beyond Victorian representation at official events, the visit enabled ongoing discourse with senior Timorese government representatives, consolidation and expansion of relationships with relevant non-government organisations, and discussions on partnership opportunities to continue knowledge exchange and public sector strengthening activities.
Deputy Secretary, Local Infrastructure	Timor-Leste	Accompany the Parliamentary Secretary Multicultural Affairs (representing the Minister Responsible for the Relationship with Timor-Leste) to represent Victoria at official events commemorating the 20th anniversary of Timor-Leste's Popular Consultation on Independence and continue to progress partnership activities under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Victoria and Timor-Leste.	Same as above.
Program Director International, Local Infrastructure	Timor-Leste	Same as above.	Same as above.

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
<p>Head of Geodesy and Boundary Delimitation Department, Timor-Leste Government</p>	<p>Darwin, Australia (arriving from Timor-Leste)</p>	<p>Sponsor a Timorese official to the "South East Asia Survey Congress" in Darwin. This specific activity supported capacity development of Timor-Leste's public service, as specified under the 2017 MoU between Victorian and Timor-Leste's Governments.</p>	<p>This trip contributed towards the common understanding of different geodesy practices and policies across South East Asia, specifically of what is being done in Timor-Leste. This visit has strengthened the relationship between Victoria and Timor-Leste, by delivering on Victorian Government's commitment to support capacity development in Timor-Leste's public service. This commitment is specified in the 2017 Victorian Government – Timor-Leste Government MoU.</p>
<p>Executive Director, Strategic Land Assessment and Information</p>	<p>Germany</p>	<p>Accompany Victoria's Lead Scientist and represent DELWP on a high-level delegation to the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) in Germany. Earth observation data is fundamental to the work of the Victorian Government (DELWP particularly) to manage a sustainable environment across many different areas, including forest management, biodiversity, emergency management, agriculture, earth resources, coastal environments, urban planning etc. The intention of the trip was to position Victoria as a global partner in space industries, with a key focus of the mission being to understand DLR's commitment to earth observations for the benefit of global society.</p>	<p>A standout observation from the visit was the extent to which earth observation data from DLR (and its partners) could enhance government service delivery across portfolios (population growth, precinct planning, environmental sustainability, smart infrastructure, automated and connected vehicles, emergency management).</p>

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Senior Project Officer, Liveability Victoria International	Jakarta, Indonesia	Accompany a trade delegation of water related businesses and Victorian water utilities organised by the Australian Water Association to the Indonesia Water and Wastewater Expo. The trip was designed to provide the opportunity for Victorian companies with products and services in water, to meet government and business contacts in Indonesia and the broader region and promote their goods and services. The trip also supported the participation of Yarra Valley Water and South Gippsland Water who are currently participating in an AWA facilitated capacity building twinning program with Indonesian Water Utilities through DFAT's Australian Water Partnership was also a key objective.	This trip to Indonesia supporting the trade delegation and water capacity building program helped enable Victorian Water businesses to provide professional development opportunities to their staff, expose them to new ideas and operating parameters and contributed to meeting Sustainable Development Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation through improved global stewardship as identified in Water for Victoria. This visit has provided benefits to DELWP included improving alignment with the DFAT's Australian Water Partnership program, presenting and showcasing the Victorian water sectors work in gender equity at a number of workshops and learning from the Indonesian experience as well as strengthening ties with government and industry officials in areas of mutual interest such as industrial pollution control and river revitalisation through presentations and knowledge sharing.
Policy Officer, Timber Harvesting Regulation	France and Belgium	In 1988, the Forest Commission (a predecessor to DELWP) Retired Personnel Association (Victoria) Inc. established an Award Trust Fund, with the purpose of advancing our understanding of forests and forest practices. Continuing this tradition, an award of up to \$6,000 was available to DELWP and VicForests staff who would like to extend their knowledge of forestry and to improve Victoria's forest management. The objective of this travel was to visit leading institutions and universities located in Australia and in Europe and capture and present findings to improve forest policy and management in Victoria.	Meetings were held with officials from a range of institutions, including the French Office National des Forest, the European Commission Department of Environment, the European Forest Institute (EFI), European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR), the Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF) (September 2019). Findings were captured and presented to the Forest Commission Retired Personnel Association (Victoria) Inc. on completion of the study (December 2019). This work resulted in improved relationships with the leading forest management and policy institutions listed above.

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Minister for Water/ Minister for Police Emergency Services	United States of America	Advance the issues of water security, liveable cities, emergency management, community policing, countering terrorism, police technology, crime prevention and road safety. The policy focus included security, countering violent extremism, police technology, liveable cities and towns - integrated water management and Water for Victoria commitment to innovation and showcasing our world leading water expertise.	Meetings and site visits with law enforcement and emergency management agencies, policy think tanks, public policy officials, and technology companies, provided the opportunity for learning and sharing of good practice – particularly in areas of disaster response, police technology, countering serious crime and terrorism, combatting gang and gun crime, community policing, crowd control and other crimes. This included discussions with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), New York Police Department (NYPD), Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Federal Bureau of investigation (FBI), Washington PD, Brookings Institute and Apple.
Chief of Staff	United States of America	Same as Above	Same as Above
Principal Advisor – Major Transport Projects	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	To Chair the Technical Committee on Environmental Considerations in Road Projects and Operations, which is part of the World Road Association (PIARC) and to be a keynote speaker at the subsequent international conference. As Chair of the Technical Committee, the traveller is required to attend PIARC meetings on the day prior to the Congress as part of the appointment of new committees and reporting back to the Secretariat. She is also expected to Chair the technical session corresponding to the committee theme and present on the deliverables of the Technical Committee on air quality and traffic noise.	The PIARC Technical Committee work is focused on air quality and traffic noise. These issues are increasingly becoming problematic in urban areas. The development of networks with international organisations, together with a review of international initiatives plus any new research undertaken to support the committee work, will contribute to the department's understanding of world's best practice that can be applied to environmental assessments of major transport projects. This also provided an increased understanding of leading-edge mitigation measures being utilised to address transport related air quality and noise.

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Two Senior Scientists at Arthur Rylah Institute	United States of America	<p>One of three finalists nominated for a prestigious international award for decision science in practice at INFORMS Annual Conference 2019. Invited to present their work where a panel of judges will select the winner.</p> <p>Visit research group at the University of Washington to build and foster research collaborations.</p>	<p>The Team won the Award for DELWP project titled: Decision tools for biodiversity: Using decision analysis to facilitate a breakthrough for biodiversity outcomes in fire management. The Award placed international recognition for the Team and the project. The opportunity of visiting researchers at the University of Washington gave the Team an opportunity for more in-depth discussion on Arthur Rylah Institute's work, better understand the new approaches researchers are developing to address complex decisions and to build stronger collaborations with international leaders in decision science.</p>
Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability	Thailand	<p>The Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability was invited to speak at the 2019 Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific Conference held in Bangkok, Thailand. The trip provided opportunities for the Commissioner to present the work of her office, particularly the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals into environmental reporting in Victoria, and leading reforms in environmental monitoring, evaluation, assessment and reporting.</p>	<p>The presentation was extremely well received. Following the conference there has been new relationships between the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, The Laurence Berkeley Institute and the Independent Evaluation Office at Global Environment Facility. These relationships have been extremely valuable as the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability develops the method for utilising the UN Sustainable Development Goals as part of the new framework for the State of the Environment 2023 Report. In addition, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation has subsequently invited the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability to address its members to share insights from the work that has been undertaken in Victoria, amplifying the position of Victoria as a leader in this work.</p>

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Program Director, Liveability Victoria International	Vietnam	Represent Victorian Government at the Vietwater Conference and exhibition in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.	<p>Participation in the Vietwater Conference and Exhibition resulted in recognition of Victoria's water expertise in the region. Knowledge exchange between water utilities in south east Asia and Australia contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>Eight Victorian companies were part of the Australian Water Delegation and had the opportunity to share their expertise with partners in Vietnam.</p>
Manager, Aboriginal Water Unit	Vietnam	To represent Victoria as one of the Australian Water Association Young Water Professional Scholarship recipients as part of the Australian delegation at the 2019 VietWater Conference in Ho Chi Min City, Vietnam. This includes assisting with the Australian pavilion booth and hosting a Young Water Professionals Workshop; business introductions to both the Australian delegates and international sector; and being a part of networking events with the NSW Deputy Premier, Consul-General, and the Australian Ambassador to Vietnam.	The conference has provided an opportunity for the sharing of international knowledge and lessons learnt within the water sector thus helping further the One-DELWP goal of ensuring safe, sustainable and productive water resources. Additionally, it has provided for the promotion of Victoria's best practice achievements in the water resource management sector consistent with the work of Liveability Victoria International and allowed for networking opportunities between young professionals within the water sector.
Senior Policy Advisor, Economic Management	Vietnam	Same as above	Same as above

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Database Scientist	Spain	Attend the World Marine Mammal Conference 2019 (including two full day Workshops in Barcelona, Spain) with key southern right whale researches and managers to develop an action plan to achieve the International Whaling Commission’s Southern Ocean Research Programme (IWC-SORP) southern right whale theme objectives.	DELWP has the responsibility to manage the only known nursery ground for the south-eastern population. Attendance at workshops ensured input from a representative from DELWP where the action plan for IWC-SORP southern right whale theme was developed. The workshop on VHR satellite imagery provided insight into whether a large-scale citizen science project could be developed by DELWP to help identify biologically important areas for the south-eastern Australian population (e.g. presently unidentified foraging and breeding grounds).
Natural Environment Programs Officer	Spain	The Natural Environment Programs Officer had been invited as the South-East Australian Representative to attend a Southern Right Whale Workshop at the 2019 World Marine Mammal Conference in Barcelona. At this workshop, key Southern Right Whale researchers and managers from around the world developed an action plan to achieve the objectives of the International Whaling Commission’s Southern Ocean Research Programme Southern Right Whale theme; to investigate the impact of past and future climate variation on right whale recovery. The traveller’s attendance at the workshop was to ensure that the most complete and up to date knowledge on the South-East Australian population is considered in the workshop and that DELWP’s Management Program for this species aligns with international priorities.	<p>Attended numerous conference presentations on marine mammals covering themes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• climate change</li> <li>• by-catch</li> <li>• noise</li> <li>• communication</li> <li>• population biology</li> <li>• new technology,</li> <li>• habitat and distribution</li> <li>• conservation</li> </ul> <p>Attended the full day southern right whale workshop and contributed to development of ‘Roadmap to success’. Workshop for the International Whaling Commission - Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP) Theme 6 - the Right Sentinel for Climate Change: linking southern right whale (SRW) foraging ecology to demographics, health and climate.</p>

Title of officer	Countries visited	Objectives	Outcomes
Executive Director, Climate Change	Spain	The Executive Director of the Climate Change Division within the Environment and Climate Change Group, travelled to Madrid, Spain for the Under2 Coalition General Assembly on 7 December 2019. The trip provided opportunities to attend side events of the 25th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework on Climate Change between 8 to 12 December 2019 and provided opportunities for bilateral meetings with selected participating states.	The Executive Director’s attendance promoted and showcased Victorian leadership in taking climate change action through targeted bilateral meetings in a global forum, which enabled knowledge sharing. Additional knowledge sharing opportunities existed with a series of bilateral meetings proposed with counterparts from other state and regional governments. Leveraging opportunities to participate on the COP25 side events and capacity-building workshops clearly align with work underway in Victoria driving action on climate change, in particular climate finance, the circular economy, energy transition and natural capital. The Executive Director was also approved access to the COP25 blue zone (generally reserved for conferences and negotiations by official delegates to the COP25).

## h) Details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken by the department to develop community awareness of the services provided by the department

Activity	Description	2019-20
	The Victorian Landcare Program is the Victorian Government's program of support for Landcare across the state. The funding provided through the program is delivered by DELWP, Victoria's 10 catchment management authorities and Landcare and environmental groups and networks across Victoria.	\$122,213 (budget break-down below)
Landcare awareness and promotion	The Victorian Landcare and Catchment Management magazine (published three times a year, which in 2019-20 was issues 76, 77 and 78), is an important statewide communication vehicle for Landcare and environmental volunteer groups/networks, where they share stories that illustrate best practice, learning and innovation, as well as raising awareness about Landcare and natural resource management issues. Content is contributed primarily by Landcare and environmental volunteer group / network members. However, contributed stories are also received from researchers, government and agency staff. Each issue of the magazine has a theme. For example, issue 78 (Winter 2020) was a feature on Landcare and emergency recovery, and it was a bumper issue of 28 pages (instead of 24 pages).	\$100,154
	The Victorian Landcare Gateway website provides an accessible central point of Landcare-related information for Landcare and environmental volunteer groups/networks and staff, stakeholders and the wider community in Victoria. It hosts the online version of the Victorian Landcare and Catchment Management magazine.	\$22,059

**i) Details of assessment and measures undertaken to improve the occupational health and safety of employees, not otherwise detailed in the report of operations**

Details of initiatives undertaken to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of employees are included in the DELWP 2019-20 Annual Report – Report of Operations, under the **Our People** section, which is available at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).

**j) General statement on industrial relations within the department and details of time lost through industrial accidents and disputes, which are not otherwise detailed in the report of operations**

Information about industrial relations and time lost through industrial accidents and disputes are included in the DELWP 2019-20 Annual Report – Report of Operations, under the **Our People** section, which is available at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).

**k) List of major committees sponsored by the department, the purpose of each committee and the extent to which the purposes have been achieved**

Details of major committees sponsored by the department are included in the DELWP 2019-20 Annual Report, under the **About DELWP - Governance** section, which is available at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).

**l) Details of all consultancies and contractors including:**

- i) consultants/contractors engaged**
- ii) services provided**
- iii) expenditure committed to for each engagement.**

This information is available on request from the DELWP Customer Contact Centre on 136186, via email [customerservice@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:customerservice@delwp.vic.gov.au) or on the internet at [www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au).