

Estimates Committee 2011

Questions Taken On Notice

(14/06/2011 to 23/06/2011)

Date: 21/06/2011 Output:
Sub Output:
Subject: Channel Point Reserve-Upgrade of Toilets

From: Ms Alison Anderson to Mr Karl Hampton
Department of Natural Resources Environment the Arts and Sport

Question: 7-4
Re Channel Point Reserve. Minister, are you going to upgrade the toilets at this reserve? There are two toilets for at least 50 people. Recently, the septics could not handle the load. Why were not compost toilets built there?

Answer:
Answered On: 08/08/2011

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Date: 21 June 2011
Conservation

Output: Protected Areas &

Sub Output: Parks Joint Management Programs

Subject: Channel Point Reserve toilets

From: Minister Hampton

To: Alison Anderson

Department: Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts and Sport

Number: 7.04

Question: Are you going to upgrade the toilets at the Channel Point Reserve? There are only 2 toilets for at least 50 people. Recently the septics could not handle the load. Why weren't compost toilets built there?

Answer:

Current campground access is issued by permit and is limited to a maximum of 50 people at any one time. However, this reserve is only used during the dry season, once the road is open to the public. At peak times, it averages between 23 to 27 people per night. It is unusual for the park to get more than 30 visitors at any one time.

The septic toilet system is designed to cater for 50 people per night (being the maximum number of people allowed in the park at any one time) throughout the visitor season plus a small margin.

In 2011, there was a situation where the system became blocked, possibly due to the big wet which caused the water table to rise and run off to backfill into the tank. A plumber attended within 4 days of the problem being reported to the Department. The system was pumped out and is now operating properly.

Composting toilets were considered at the time of design but composting toilets are no longer certified without water for hand washing. If water must be supplied, septic systems have proven more reliable than composting toilets in remote parks.