

Annual Report 2014–2015



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are grateful to the many people who assisted in the production of this report.

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PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report describes the achievements, performance and priorities of the department's staff during 2014–2015. It also corroborates our mission to work with our partners to stimulate and sustain economic development throughout the Territory.

As such, the report provides an account of the department's functions and responsibilities, resource use and outputs, fiscal management and performance against budget, to inform Parliament, industry stakeholders, staff and other Territorians.



DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES

Annual Report

2014–2015

Chief Executive

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The Hon Willem Westra van Holthe MLA
Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries
Parliament House
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Dear Minister

I am pleased to present you with the annual report for the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries for the year ended 30 June 2015. The report describes the operational performance and key achievements of each of the department's output groups, in pursuant to section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

I advise in respect to my duties as Accountable Officer, to the best of my knowledge and belief that:

- a) proper records of all transactions affecting the department are kept and that employees under their control observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act*, the Financial Management Regulations and Treasurer's Directions;
- b) procedures within the department afford proper internal control and a current description of such procedures is recorded in the accounting and property manual which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*;
- c) no indication of fraud, malpractice, major breach of legislation or delegation, major error in or omission from the accounts and records exists;
- d) in accordance with the requirements of section 15 of the *Financial Management Act*, the department had adequate internal audit capacity and the results of all internal audit matters have been reported to me;
- e) the financial statements included in the annual report have been prepared from proper accounts and records and are in accordance with Treasurer's Directions.

Yours sincerely



ALISTER TRIER

Chief Executive

27 August 2015

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Introduction and Overview	7
Chief Executive's Message	8
Departmental Overview	10
Organisational Chart	11
Key Industry Sectors – Trends and Analysis	
Introduction	12
Employment	14
Businesses	15
Primary Industry and Fisheries	16
Offices, Facilities and Regional Locations	
Research Farms and Regional Offices	20
Arid Zone Research Institute	21
Beatrice Hill Farm	22
Berrimah Farm	23
Coastal Plains Research Farm	24
Darwin Aquaculture Centre	25
Douglas Daly Research Farm	26
Katherine Research Station	27
Old Man Plains Research Station	28
Tennant Creek Regional Office	29
Victoria River Research Station	30
Scientific and Diagnostic Laboratories	31
Berrimah Veterinary Laboratory	32
Entomology	33
Plant Pathology	34
Water Microbiology Laboratories	35
Chemistry Laboratory	36
Chapter 2: Corporate Governance	37
Introduction	38
Organisational Governance	39
Policies, Protocols, Guidelines and Procedures	40
Corporate Plan 2013-2017	41
Executive Management Group	42
Alister Trier	43
Ian Curnow	43
Scott Wauchope	43
Bob Williams	44
Neil MacDonald	44
Lorraine Corowa	44
Andrew Tomkins	45

Glenn Schipp	45
Christine Long	45
Karen Simpson	46
Rick Bishop	46
Richard Smith	46
Zoe Malone	46
Executive Services	47
Executive Project Officer	47
Business Manager	47
Ministerial Liaison Unit	47
Committees	48
Risk and Audit Committee	48
Information Management Committee	49
Work Health and Safety Steering Committee	50
Veterinary Board of the Northern Territory	51
Insurance Arrangements	52
Workers Compensation	53
Property and Assets	53
Public Liability	54
Indemnity	54
Infrastructure and Asset Management	55
Statutory Responsibilities and Acts	57
Legislative Reviews and Amendments	59
<i>Information Act</i>	61
Chapter 3: Our People	63
Introduction	64
Staffing profile	64
People Plan	65
Strengthening our leadership to meet future Challenges and Deliver on the Industry Development Plan	66
Leadership Program	66
Executive Leadership Program	66
Future Leaders Network	66
Ensuring a Strong Work Health and Safety Culture	67
Employee Assistance Program	67
Work Health and Safety	67
Cultivating a Passionate, Diverse and Innovative Workforce	68
Equal Employment Opportunity	68

STAR Awards	69
Major Award	70
Secondary Award	70
Chief Executive Commendation Award	71
Service Milestones	71
Develop the Capabilities to deliver on the Industry Development Plan	72
Indigenous Cadetship Support Program	72
Indigenous Apprenticeship Program	72
Graduate Development Program	72
Respect in the Workplace Program	72
Personal Development	72
Training Expenditure	73
Public Sector Governance	74
Chapter 4: Performance Reports	77
Performance Reporting	78
Biosecurity and Animal Welfare	79
Fisheries	81
Indigenous Employment	85
Plant Industries Development	89
Major Economic Projects, Ord Development	91
Market and Enterprise Development	92
Livestock Industries Development	94
Strategic Services and Policy Coordination	96
Corporate and Governance Services	97
Communications and Marketing	97
Financial Services	99
Human Resources	101
Information Management and Information Technology	103
Chapter 5: Finance	105
Chapter 6: Appendix	145
Grants and Sponsorship	146

List of Tables

Table 1: Industry Sector Contribution to NT GSP¹, \$ million, 2013-2014	12
Table 2: Employment by Sector 2013-2014	14
Table 3: Northern Territory Primary Industry and Commercial Fisheries Value of Production (\$million)	19
Table 4: Insurance Costs	52
Table 5: Breakdown of requests for Access to Information	61
Table 6: Classification of Staff	64
Table 7: Equal Employment Opportunity Groups	68
Table 8: Employee Classification by Gender as at 30 June 2015	68
Table 9: Development Programs Offered in 2014–2015	73
Table 10: Training, conferences and study expenditures (HECS) in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015	73

List of Figures

Figure 1: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Sector contribution to the NT Economy	13
Figure 2: Number of NT Businesses by Sector, June 2010-2014	15
Figure 3: Contribution of Industry to Sector Production Value, 2013–2014	16
Figure 4: Northern Territory Rural Industry and Fisheries Production value, 2000-01 to 2018-2019	18
Figure 5: Training, conferences and study expenditure comparison	73

CHAPTER 1

Introduction and Overview



Students learning pasture assessment skills at a Barkly Rangeland Management course

Chief Executive's Message

I am pleased to present the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (DPIF) 2014-2015 Annual Report.

The reporting year commenced with the restructuring of the department and a realignment of its focus to developing our primary industries. This included the creation of the Food Industry Development Group and the Market and Enterprise Development Division. Our vision of a flourishing economy underpinned by profitable and sustainable primary industries will be served well through the three core arms of the agency: growing industry through the Food Industry Development Group; providing quality assurance and sustainability for our industries and stakeholders through the Resource and Product Integrity Group; and providing enabling services to the department and to industry through Corporate Services, and the Strategic Services and Policy Coordination Division.

The potential threat posed by pests and diseases has been highlighted through recent incursions impacting the banana and cucurbit industries. Biosecurity will continue to remain a key focus into the future as the Territory grows. In response to the Banana Freckle outbreak, the department acted quickly and appropriately, marshalling resources across the Top End to mount a full and committed response to the disease incursion to protect the banana industry of the NT and nationally. Over 40,000 properties were inspected for the presence of banana plants. Plants were removed from more than 9,000 properties with 20% of properties conducting their own removal. With the cooperation and support of the community this program now represents the largest plant biosecurity response undertaken in Australia.

The Fisheries Division within the department performed strongly in 2014-2015 and delivered significant achievements. Management changes to address the sustainability risks to reef fish, and particularly golden snapper and jewfish were announced and in May 2015, new fishing controls and reef fish protection areas were legislated to ensure the future sustainability of these important resources. In conjunction with these changes the department was pleased to release the 'NT Fishing Mate' mobile phone application that helps fishers know their catch possession limits, and shows the locations of restricted fishing zones in real-time while out on the water.

The department received additional funding to build upon Indigenous development opportunities for fishing and aquaculture projects. Increased funding was also received to enable permit-free fishing access to inter-tidal waters overlying Indigenous land. A key and ongoing focus of the Fisheries Division is to build Indigenous capacity and a range of programs to support this commitment are now in place. As an example, a Certificate III course in Fisheries Compliance was delivered to Indigenous marine rangers as a key step towards increasing their role in fisheries enforcement along the Territory's vast coastline.

With respect in the horticulture sector, the department continued to work with the Australian Mango Industry Association (AMIA) and mango growers to implement AMIA's mango export plan to increase exports by 100% over the next three years. Supporting the development of the United States of America (USA) as a profitable market for Australian mangoes is one such activity. Two shipments of Australian mangoes (out of Queensland) were sent to the USA in February 2015. This is exciting news for the NT's mango industry with the doors opening to an enormous and exciting new market of 318 million potential mango lovers.

The Ord River development continued as a major project for the department and it is capitalising on a \$500 million investment from the Western Australia (WA) and Commonwealth Governments. Kimberley Agricultural Investments, the developers of Ord Stage 2 in WA, are forecast to inject \$700 million into the project. Such investment brings benefits in the form of jobs and business to the region, agricultural development, industry participation as well as native title benefits. The Major Economic Projects Division hosted a number of international delegations from countries interested in agriculture and aquaculture, including Vietnam, China, Indonesia and Korea.

The last two years have brought a significant recovery of confidence in the NT cattle industry. This is best demonstrated by recent record prices for export steers and an increased interest in NT cattle properties from both Australian and overseas investors. Many properties changed hands over the last 12 months and a number of new players entered the industry. In 2014, the Territory's cattle industry had a bumper year for live cattle sales, with export numbers through the Darwin Port setting a new record surpassing the previous high in 2008.

After many years with few market options, there has been a surge of interest in buffalo, particularly for export to Vietnam. Programs to assist the farmed buffalo sector, and to take a sustainable harvest from the Arnhem Land herds, are being planned. In 2014, a total of 5,055 head of buffalo was exported through Darwin, up from 800 head in 2013.

The department has also been focusing on driving diversification for primary producers to allow additional pathways for increased profitability through non-pastoral use activities. To date a number of small to mid-size projects have commenced including the sowing of 100 hectares of poppies in the Douglas-Daly region and Project Sea Dragon, a \$1.5 billion tiger prawn aquaculture initiative which is to be developed on pastoral land.

With the *Developing the North* agenda increasing momentum, bolstered by the release of Australian Government white papers targeting our continent's north, the future of the Territory is looking strong. Combined with the projects and programs this department and other NT Government agencies deliver to our respective industry sectors, I believe there will be real and positive change over the short to medium term outlook. It is this agency's role to continue to support the development and broadening of the Territory's primary industries and fisheries sectors that we are strongly committed to serving.



ALISTER TRIER

Departmental Overview

BUSINESS UNITS

The department has an organisational structure that reflects government's focus on growing the food industry, as well as maintaining vigilance to ensure resources and product integrity are protected. Two major groups: the Resource and Product Integrity Group, and the Food Industry Development Group, have been established to ensure the focused delivery of services.

The Resource and Product Integrity Group has two divisions:

1. Biosecurity (page 79) and Animal Welfare (page 79)
2. Fisheries (page 81).
3. Strategic Services and Policy Coordination (page 96)

The Food Industry Development Group has four Divisions:

1. Plant Industries Development (page 89)
2. Major Economic Projects (page 91)
3. Market and Enterprise Development (page 92)
4. Livestock Industries Development (page 94).

CORPORATE SERVICES

The department's operations are enabled by five areas of corporate services, which also provide support to the Department of Mines and Energy under a shared services agreement. These are:

1. Communications and Marketing (page 97)
2. Financial Services (page 99)
3. Human Resources (page 101)
4. Information Management and Information Technology (page 103)
5. Infrastructure and Asset Management.

EXECUTIVE SUPPORT

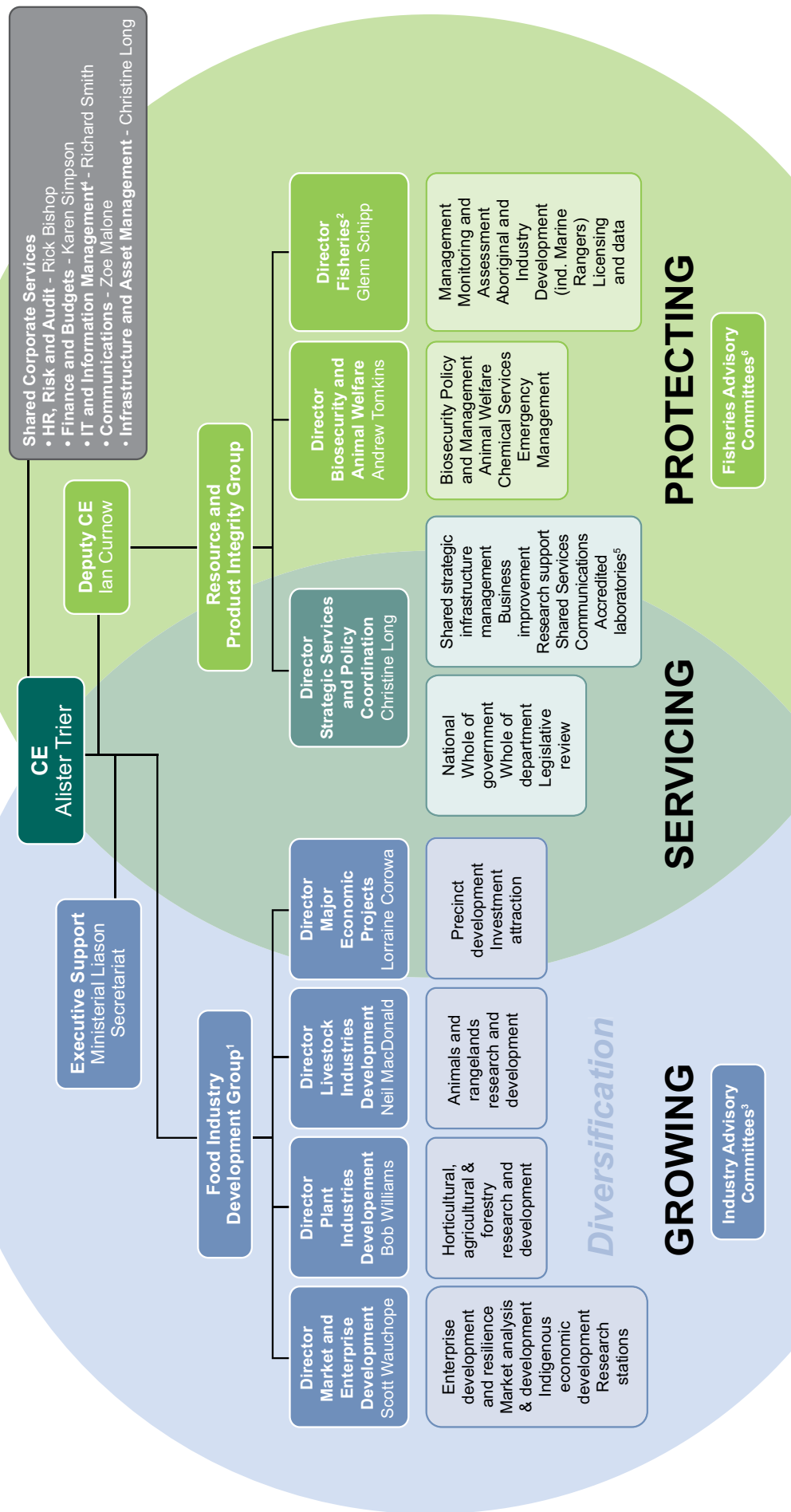
The department has a range of teams that evaluate and monitor business functions, all of which contribute to good governance and assist the department in meeting its government and corporate responsibilities.

The Executive Management Group (page 42) is assisted by two advisory committees comprising:

1. Risk and Audit Committee (page 48)
2. Information Management Committee (page 49)

Executive Services (page 47) provides direct services and advice to the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive, and includes the Executive Project Officer, Business Manager, the Ministerial Liaison Unit and Executive Assistants.

Organisational Chart



Notes:

1. Including forestry
2. Aquaculture and wild catch also link to Food Industry Development/ Market and Enterprise Development.
3. The scope of Pastoral Industry Advisory Committees will be broadened to accommodate diversification.
4. Deputy CE responsible for strategic IT development
5. Accredited Labs have a role in industry development and protection as well as providing a service to clients.
6. Fisheries Advisory Committees, including Aboriginal consultative committees, providing advice to government on fisheries-related issues.

Key Industry Sectors – Trends and Analysis

INTRODUCTION

The Northern Territory (NT) economy is dominated by the construction and mining sectors. The agriculture, forestry and fishing sector accounted for 2.2 per cent (see Table 1) of the Territory economy in 2013-2014. These industries impact on the economic and social well-being of thousands of owners, managers, employees, service people and families in urban and rural communities, across all Territory regions.

Note: 2013-2014 figures are quoted, as 2014-2015 figures are not available until early 2016.

Table 1: Industry Sector Contribution to NT GSP¹, \$ million, 2013-2014

Sector	Value (\$ million)	Percentage Change	Contribution to GSP ¹ (%)
Construction	3,991	43.2%	19.0%
Mining	3,436	-6.6%	16.4%
Public administration and safety	1997	14.7%	9.5%
Health care and social assistance	1298	6.6%	6.2%
Transport, postal and warehousing	1020	24.4%	4.9%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	940	0.3%	4.5%
Manufacturing	848	-18.1%	4.0%
Education and training	696	-3.1%	3.3%
Professional, scientific and technical services	629	2.3%	3.0%
Retail trade	621	-2.1%	3.0%
Financial and insurance services	545	10.5%	2.6%
Administrative and support services	521	21.7%	2.5%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	453	30.5%	2.2%
Accommodation and food services	378	2.4%	1.8%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	358	53.0%	1.7%
Wholesale trade	348	20.4%	1.7%
Other services	315	6.4%	1.5%
Information media and telecommunications	248	14.3%	1.2%
Arts and recreation services	234	9.3%	1.1%

Source: ABS Cat No. 5220.0

¹GSP = Gross State Product

The agriculture, forestry and fishing industries are capital intensive sectors and their growth patterns over the last two decades have seen the sector expand along with the NT economy. Industry trends show that after a period of decreasing in the early 2000s, the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector contributions to the Territory economy expanded, initially in early 2005-2006 (see Figure 1) on the back of the cattle industry, and more recently horticulture.

Figure 1: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Sector contribution to the NT Economy



Year	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
VALUE (\$ million)											
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	346	354	320	353	422	545	533	546	453	430	436

Source: ABS Cat No. 5220.0

EMPLOYMENT

Table 2 (below) shows almost 1.1 per cent of the NT workforce (full-time and part-time) is employed in agriculture, forestry and fishing. The vast majority of jobs are located in the rural and remote areas of the NT contributing to employment opportunities in the Territory's regional economies.

Table 2: Employment by Sector 2013-2014

Sector	Full time	Part time	Total	% of total Employment
Public administration and safety	20,878	2,349	23,227	17.3%
Health care and social assistance	12,115	3,591	15,706	11.7%
Construction	14,428	1,011	15,439	11.5%
Education and training	9,139	2,634	11,773	8.8%
Retail trade	7,012	3,250	10,262	7.7%
Accommodation and food services	4,620	2,797	7,417	5.5%
Other services	5,259	1,559	6,818	5.1%
Professional, scientific and technical services	5,349	1,226	6,575	4.9%
Transport, postal and warehousing	5,259	1,172	6,432	4.8%
Mining	5,677	56	5,732	4.3%
Manufacturing	4,357	340	4,696	3.5%
Administrative and support services	3,307	1,304	4,611	3.4%
Arts and recreation services	2,850	713	3,563	2.7%
Wholesale trade	2,688	203	2,891	2.2%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	1,934	330	2,264	1.7%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1,966	93	2,059	1.5%
Financial and insurance services	1,537	195	1,732	1.3%
Information media and telecommunications	1,173	258	1,431	1.1%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,102	328	1,430	1.1%
Total Average Employment	110,650	23,409	134,060	

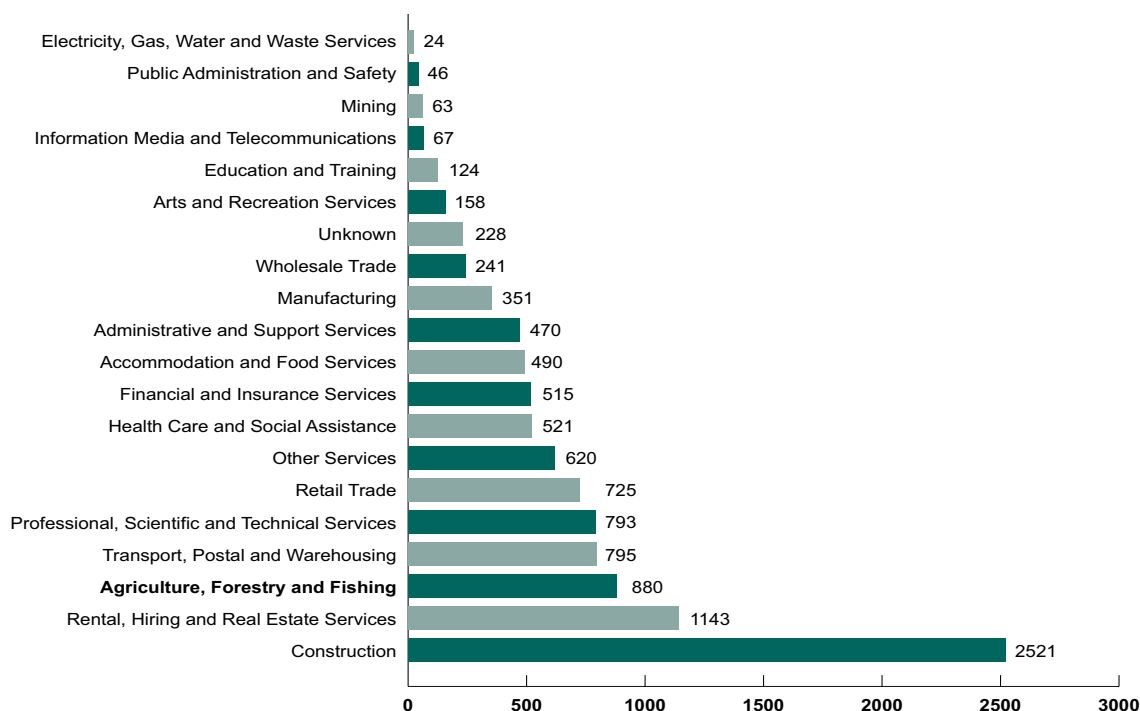
Source: ABS Cat No. 6291.0

BUSINESSES

Figure 2 (below) shows 880 NT businesses engaged in agriculture, forestry and fishing in June 2011, which is the third largest sector (by business count) in the NT economy.

The agriculture, forestry and fishing sector is represented by 284 employing businesses, or 6.5 per cent of total employing Territory businesses as at June 2014. In contrast the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector has 596 non-employing businesses representing 9.3 per cent of the total non-employing business in the NT reflecting a high proportion of independently/family owned and run business ventures.

Figure 2: Number of NT Businesses by Sector, June 2010-2014



Sector	Count of businesses
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	24
Public Administration and Safety	46
Mining	63
Information Media and Telecommunications	67
Education and Training	124
Arts and Recreation Services	158
Unknown	228
Wholesale Trade	241
Manufacturing	351
Administrative and Support Services	470
Accommodation and Food Services	490
Financial and Insurance Services	515
Health Care and Social Assistance	521
Other Services	620
Retail Trade	725
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	793
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	795
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	880
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	1143
Construction	2521

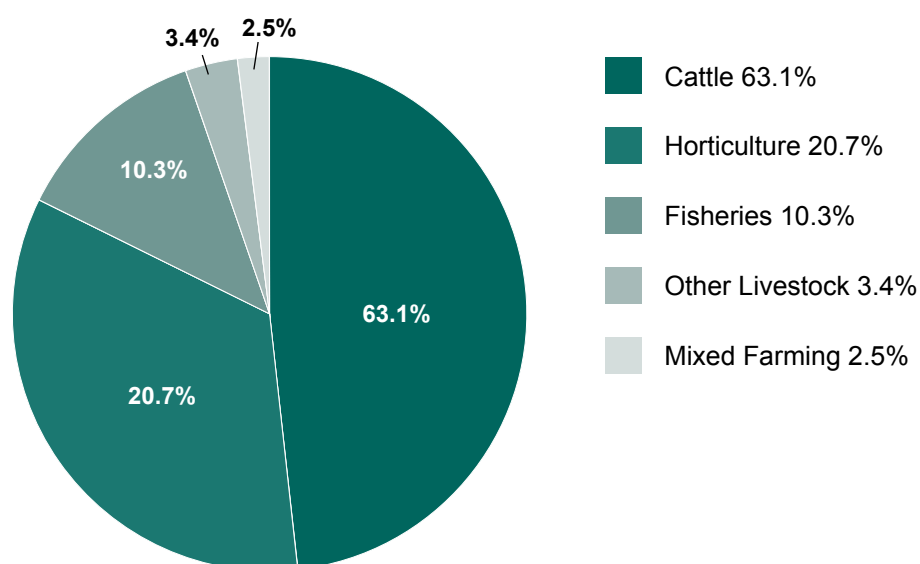
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8161.0 – Counts of Australian Businesses, June 2010-2014

PRIMARY INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES

The rural and fisheries industries in the NT include cattle, other livestock (crocodiles, buffalo, horses, camels, and goats), horticulture (fruit, vegetables, turf, nursery and cut flowers) and mixed farming (field crops, hay and forestry).

The NT fisheries industry includes harvesting of wild catch in NT waters, harvesting prawns in the NT Zone of the Northern Prawn Fishery, and aquaculture. It also includes a substantial recreational fishing sector generating tourism activity and lifestyle amenity, with an estimated expenditure of \$80 million.

Figure 3: Contribution of Industry to Sector Production Value, 2013–2014



Sector	Percentage
Cattle	63.1%
Horticulture	20.7%
Fisheries	10.3%
Other Livestock	3.4%
Mixed farming	2.5%

Source: Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries Economic Data Collections

In 2013-2014 the department estimates the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector is valued at \$521.2 million. Although this is a significant difference from the previous forecast with a decline of 18.8 per cent from 2012–2013, there are reasons to be optimistic about positive trends emerging for total industry growth. The sector is forecast to fall a further 1.4 per cent to \$513.9 million in 2014-2015 due to expected decreases in the cattle sector despite a recovery of the horticulture sector. In the future as NT producers, fishers and growers deliver high quality, in demand products to domestic and export markets, forecast and actual sector turnover should return to a positive trend.

During 2013-2014, the department activity led to the development of new markets for live cattle as well as changed policies on diversification of pastoral businesses to enable other intensive agricultural activities to be developed on suitable soils where there is sufficient water supply for irrigation. In the horticultural sector, there is ongoing interest by overseas investors wanting to utilise the NT's unique tropical climate to develop new intensive horticultural production capacity with the expectation of generating new offseason production into established high value markets in Asian countries.

The beef cattle industry increased in value by 2.0 per cent to \$328.8 million in 2013–2014, with a 58 per cent increase in the value of live cattle exports. The live export trade to Indonesia continues to expand after a challenging period of policy changes in both Indonesia and Australia. The department projects the cattle industry contributing \$318 million to the NT economy in 2014–2015. The \$93 million investment by Australian Agricultural Company (AACo) in an abattoir facility at Livingstone, just south of Darwin, demonstrates the confidence of big business to invest in the NT cattle industry. The facility now produces NT boxed beef supplying new and emerging markets in Asia and beyond. Producers can now sell slaughter grade cattle grazed on intensive production systems, this value-adding to their pastoral activities.

Mixed farming (field crops) increased in value by 2.3 per cent to \$13.3 million in 2013-2014, with increases forecast for 2014–2015 to \$13.7 million due to increased hay/fodder demand as the live cattle export trade expands. As new export markets are opened up for livestock live trade, there will be flow on effects to the hay production and pelleting plants for the victualing of live export ships.

The horticulture industry decreased 50.3 per cent in value to \$107.7 million, in 2013-2014, and this will impact forecasts for the industry. The reasons for this are poor wet and dry seasons producing average output, return to average prices, vegetables returning to average output and prices after excess production and demand in the last reporting period, no table grape production due to rains just before harvest, and no banana production due to the impact of the banana freckle incursion. However, there are some emerging opportunities that could see the value of the horticultural sector regain some of the losses.

Management of biosecurity risks in the NT is critical for future industry development. For example there was a loss in the value of production in the short term due to eradication of infected banana plant material, the establishment of new banana plantations could see an increase in both the volume and value of bananas harvested. An outbreak of Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus occurred in September 2014 affecting some producers of watermelon, bitter melon, and cucurbits varieties, but NT horticultural producers are resilient and committed to rebuilding and expanding their market share.

The fisheries industry fell by 22.4 per cent to \$53.5 million in 2013-2014, with decreases in the value of aquaculture, wild catch fish and NT crustaceans. These were offset by small increases in the value of Northern Prawn Fishery crustaceans, molluscs and echinoderms production.

Other livestock output (predominately crocodile production \$15.3 million) decreased 13.9 per cent to \$17.9 million due to changing consumer demands and a desire to improve skin quality.

The Federal Government's release of the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia provides a basis for ongoing confidence in the strategic development of northern Australia. Investment in infrastructure, roads, ports and community support will create a positive investment environment for domestic and overseas investment in the fishing, horticultural and cattle production sectors. Thus whilst there are short term declines in forecast industry turnover, there are many positive indications that the NT primary industry and fisheries sectors will increase their contribution and value to the NT regional economy. In July 2014 the department restructured itself to be first and foremost an economic development agency in order to support and facilitate the growth of the NT primary industries sector.

Figure 4: Northern Territory Rural Industry and Fisheries Production value, 2000-2001 to 2018-2019^f



Source: Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries, data collection

Table 3: Northern Territory Primary Industry and Commercial Fisheries Value of Production (\$million)

<i>Value of NT Horticulture</i>	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015 ^f	2015-2016 ^f
Mangoes	80.0	69.4	35.0	36.1	37.2
Table grapes	6.5	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bananas	11.4	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Melons	59.7	63.7	34.0	35.1	36.1
Other fruits	3.5	0.6	3.6	0.6	0.6
Vegetables	20.7	59.9	16.1	16.6	17.1
Turf	0.0	0.0	1.5	2.5	3.5
Nursery & cut flowers	16.7	16.2	17.4	17.9	18.5
Total	198.4	216.8	107.7	108.7	112.9

<i>Value of NT Fisheries</i>	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015 ^f	2015-2016 ^f
Fish	25.7	27.7	23.4	24.1	24.8
Crustaceans	8.2	6.4	4.2	4.3	4.5
Aquaculture	17.2	25.3	15.2	15.6	16.1
Molluscs & Echinoderms	0.2	0.01	0.2	0.0	0.0
Total NT Fisheries	51.3	59.4	43.0	44.1	45.4
Crustaceans Northern Fleet	15.2	9.5	10.5	10.9	11.4
Total Fisheries	66.5	68.9	53.5	55.0	56.8

<i>Value of NT cattle, other livestock and mixed farming</i>	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015 ^f	2015-2016 ^f
Cattle	329.8	322.2	328.8	318.0	330.7
Other livestock	22.5	20.8	17.9	18.5	19.1
Field crops	14.6	13.0	13.3	13.7	14.1
Forestry ²	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	366.9	356.0	360.0	350.1	363.8

<i>Total NT Rural Industries and Fisheries</i>	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015 ^f	2015-2016 ^f
Horticulture	198.4	216.8	107.7	108.7	112.9
Fisheries ³	66.5	68.9	53.5	55.0	56.8
Cattle	329.8	322.2	328.8	318.0	330.7
Other livestock	22.5	20.8	17.9	18.5	19.1
Field crops	14.6	13.0	13.3	13.7	14.1
Forestry ²	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grand Total	631.9	641.7	521.2	513.9	533.5

Source: Northern Territory Rural Industries and Fisheries Economic Outlook 2014

Data explanatory notes

^f = Forecast

² = Forestry figures are excluded due to insufficient data to accurately determine a value of production

³ = NPF Northern Prawn Fishery (Commonwealth managed fishery, with zones for WA, NT and QLD)

Notes for 2013-2014

- Poor wet and dry seasons producing average horticultural output and return to average prices,
- Vegetables returning to average output and prices after excess production and demand in the last reporting period,
- No table grape production due to rains just before harvest, and
- No banana production due to the banana freckle eradication program.

Offices, Facilities and Regional Locations



RESEARCH FARMS AND REGIONAL OFFICES

The Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (DPIF) operates ten Research Farm Facilities and Offices located in different climatic zones throughout the Northern Territory. Four of these are in remote locations, three of which also house regional headquarters for the department. The primary purpose of these research facilities is to deliver research and extension programs which aim to improve efficiency and environmentally sound agricultural production systems including the provision of:

- Secure farm land, machinery, livestock, and farm infrastructure required to conduct regional specific research, demonstration, and extension projects
- Laboratories, workshops, and other facilities required for delivery of primary industry and fisheries services
- Operational bases, for the delivery of primary industry and fisheries services to industry, including regulatory and biosecurity management, disease monitoring, industry development programs, research and extension programs.



ARID ZONE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The department's headquarters in Central Australia is the Arid Zone Research Institute (AZRI). AZRI also houses staff of the Department of Mines and Energy, the Department of Land Resource Management, Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT, the Department of Education VET Rural Operations program and the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Services Mounted Police Unit.

Primary Industry staff at AZRI are responsible for advancing regional research and development and promoting primary industry initiatives and programs to encourage economic growth, with a regional focus on research support and extension. Facilities include a library, intensive horticultural research plots, quarantine facilities and paddocks for small cattle herds. A water reuse project is being used to prove the concept that a soil aquifer treatment system can effectively recycle wastewater for horticultural production. Other facilities include laboratories and work areas, glass houses, cool rooms and farming equipment, staff interim housing and vocational education classrooms.



BEATRICE HILL FARM

Beatrice Hill Farm is located at Middle Point near the Adelaide River on the Arnhem Highway.

The primary functions of the farm include developing best management practices for cattle and buffalo production systems, as well as ensuring continued, sustainable utilisation of floodplains.

The only buffalo research program in Australia is based at the farm. The buffalo program has concentrated on developing a Riverine Buffalo breeding herd through a cross breeding program using Riverine animals imported from the United States and an artificial breeding program using imported Italian Riverine dairy buffalo semen. Riverine buffalo can successfully cross breed with the local swamp animals to produce improved growth rates, and are suitable for both meat production and dairying.

Cattle projects include the National Arbovirus Monitoring Project and breeder herd efficiencies of Composite and Brahman breeder cattle.



BERRIMAH FARM

Berrimah Farm is the headquarters for the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries. It is also a working farm covering an area of approximately 175 hectares located at Berrimah between Darwin and Palmerston.

The current farm infrastructure includes grazing paddocks for cattle, paddock areas for horticultural and agricultural field trials, plant growing glass and shade house facilities, vehicle and boat storage, and farm and heavy equipment storage sheds.

The farm also houses veterinary, fisheries, agricultural, chemistry, tissue culture, horticultural post-harvest and water testing laboratories. These laboratories facilitate the provision of specialist research and diagnostic services to industry and the community.

Into the future, Berrimah Farm will continue to be the department's headquarters, and it is proposed the site be developed for multi-purpose usage including a Science Precinct with facilities for various Northern Territory Government agencies and other users.



COASTAL PLAINS RESEARCH FARM

Coastal Plains Research Farm (CPRF) is the Northern Territory's principal horticultural research farm in the Darwin Region. It comprises 140 hectares and is located at Middle Point, near Fogg Dam in the Darwin Rural Area.

Research, development and extension projects conducted at CPRF are relevant to all sectors of the horticultural industry in the Top End.

Current research projects include evaluation of new national mango breeding program varieties, rambutan varieties and production methods, passionfruit varieties, jackfruit varieties and production and testing banana varieties for Tropical Race 4 Panama disease (TR4) resistance.

CPRF also has national significance as a site for tropical horticultural research. It has played a role in the national mango breeding program; evaluation for cocoa; testing potential of new tropical horticultural crops, and is the only secure banana TR4 disease resistance testing facility in Australia.



DARWIN AQUACULTURE CENTRE

The Darwin Aquaculture Centre, located on Channel Island in Darwin Harbour, is a research and development facility dedicated to supporting the Territory's aquaculture industry.

The research program focuses on tropical marine aquaculture and has specific areas dedicated to fish, molluscs, echinoderms, crustaceans, algae, live feeds and environmental control work, in addition to a large dry laboratory, office, workshop and store.

A bank of self-cleaning sand filters maintains a supply of suitable sea water all year, a rare commodity from a tropical estuarine environment.

In 2014 the supply of juvenile barramundi from the centre underpinned the growth of the local barramundi industry. Territory barramundi farms now source their juvenile fish from private hatcheries.

A key focus of the centre's activities over recent years has been the research and development of species appropriate for culture in remote coastal Indigenous communities. Species such as giant clams, tropical rock oysters and sea cucumbers may all be suitable for the establishment of small-scale, community-based businesses.

In recent years the centre has also been shared by industry tenants seeking to undertake their own research and development. It is expected that this aspect of the centre's operation will increase in coming years as more businesses take up space within and adjacent to the facility.



DOUGLAS DALY RESEARCH FARM

The Douglas Daly Research Farm (DDRF) is a mixed farming research and demonstration facility located in the Douglas Daly region. The farm comprises 3100 hectares of land and is located 220 km southwest of Darwin.

Beef cattle production from improved pasture production systems and potential irrigated agricultural production have been the primary focus of the Research Farm over recent years. Facilities include areas for research into pasture, cattle, hay, crop, and centre pivot irrigation.

DDRF is used by the department and collaborators to provide research, development and extension services to pastoral and mixed farming producers in the Katherine Daly and Top End regions. As interest increases in the diversification of pastoral land into intensified agricultural production, DDRF is considered a key research facility to investigate new cropping and farming systems being located in an area with high prospects for primary industry development into the future.

DDRF is the focal point for regional development for the Douglas Daly Region. As well as the farm facility and accommodation for staff, it also has primary school facilities for the local community.



KATHERINE RESEARCH STATION

The Katherine Research Station is the hub for delivery of the department's services in the Katherine Region. The station complex provides the department's regional office accommodation, laboratories, glass houses, cool rooms, animal housing and animal handling facilities and other farm infrastructure required for agricultural projects including:

- Secure paddocks and land for intensive cattle, pasture, horticulture, forestry, crop and weed control research, demonstration and extension projects
- Centre pivot, lateral move and drip tape irrigation facilities
- Cattle feedlot facilities
- Large bird protection cage for small plot cropping trials
- Farm equipment, workshop facilities, and other infrastructure required for the delivery of services.

The Katherine Region is considered to have very good prospects for future primary industry development in the Northern Territory, as soils and rainfall in this area are suitable for more intensive cattle and agricultural production, including irrigated cropping and horticulture. The region is also well placed to supply growing export markets in Asia.



OLD MAN PLAINS RESEARCH STATION

Old Man Plains Research Station provides land, cattle and the facilities required to conduct research, development and extension programs to support the development of the central Australian pastoral industry and contributes to the Indigenous Pastoral Program.

It is located on part of the Owen Springs pastoral lease close to Alice Springs and comprises 522 km² of rangelands.

Current projects include;

- Evaluating stocking rate and pasture spelling systems
- Herd improvement using objective selection, which also assesses the potential for producing Meat Standards Australia (MSA) graded beef
- Implementation and demonstration of new and innovative technologies including telemetry and the remote livestock management system
- Demonstrate research findings via a Producer Steer Challenge, established in conjunction with Alice Springs Pastoral Industry Advisory Committee.

Using this portion of Owen Springs for research provides the pastoral industry in arid areas with sound guidelines to increase production and long term viability while also preserving the health and diversity of rangeland ecosystems.



TENNANT CREEK REGIONAL OFFICE

The department's Tennant Creek office leads the development of primary industry in this region.

Livestock biosecurity officers deliver animal health services to facilitate domestic and international livestock market access. They are involved in a number of national programs to promote and maintain Australia's excellent livestock health status.

Research includes animal production, sustainable rangeland management and diversification options relevant to the pastoral industry. Research trials take place on commercial cattle stations and produce significant industry interest and involvement.

Staff also provide assistance with extension and educational programs, and maintain face to face contact with the livestock industry.



VICTORIA RIVER RESEARCH STATION

The Victoria River Research Station, located on the Wambardi Aboriginal Land Trust at Kidman Springs in the Victoria River District, is the Northern Territory's principal pastoral research station. It is nationally significant as a semi-arid tropical rangeland and cattle production research site.

The station is 314 km² in area, and provides the rangelands, cattle and farm facilities for research, development, and extension programs to underpin developing profitable and sustainable grazing systems for the Territory's pastoral industry.

The Station is managed as a breeding operation with most progeny being transported to Douglas Daly Research Farm following weaning and with approximately 700 breeder cattle run at the site.

The Kidman Springs Best Bet Management System for managing cattle breeder herds in the NT has been instrumental in achieving substantial productivity gains in the northern cattle industry over the past 20 years. Recent research has centred on a genetic improvement program for greater productivity and market suitability without impeding the hardiness required for tropical semi-arid production.

Shruburn, a long term fire project in excess of 20 years, continues to be conducted on the facility and as the only one of its kind on grazed savannahs in the world is internationally significant.

Scientific and Diagnostic Laboratories



Laboratory services in Darwin and Alice Springs are provided to support and implement Government policies relating to biosecurity, product integrity and industry development through programs of diagnostic testing, disease monitoring and surveillance. Laboratory facilities are maintained to support the pastoral, horticultural and aquaculture industries of the Northern Territory and provide essential service delivery for management of water quality. Research and development is focused on improved diagnostic capabilities; defining the extent and significance of diseases and pests in the Northern Territory, the characterisation of pests and diseases limiting production and strategies that may be implemented to manage or control such agents.



BERRIMAH VETERINARY LABORATORY

The Berrimah Veterinary Laboratory in the Strategic Services and Policy Coordination Division is a National Association of Testing Authorities quality accredited laboratory that plays a vital role in biosecurity monitoring.

The laboratory testing and research program:

- Ensures the improved health and welfare status of production animals
- Ensures market access for animals / products through compliance with appropriate Australian animal health and animal welfare standards
- Aids in maintaining freedom from exotic animal diseases
- Enhances local and national biosecurity, with maintenance of sentinel animals for early detection of incursions by exotic viral diseases
- Investigates the adoption and implementation of new diagnostic procedures for enhanced service delivery.

The BVL has expertise in polymerase chain reaction technology as a disease diagnosis tool, as well as the traditional disciplines of a diagnostic veterinary laboratory such as gross pathology, histopathology, clinical pathology, microbiology, parasitology and virology.



ENTOMOLOGY

As part of the plant pests and diseases monitoring program, the Entomology Section of the Plant Industries Development Division provides a range of entomological services to growers, government departments, and the general public. These include:

- Arthropod identification and advice including arthropods of quarantine concern
- Taxonomic studies on economic pests
- Curation and updating of the Economic Insect Reference Collection
- Maintenance of a database of insect records
- Information and advice on insect monitoring and integrated pest management
- Development of integrated pest management of a range of crops
- Biology and control of termite pests of horticultural crops
- Surveys to detect and manage exotic arthropods
- Pest distribution information for market access
- Relevant advice on pesticide registration and development
- Agro-forestry pest research and advice.



PLANT PATHOLOGY

The Plant Pathology Branch of the Plant Industries Development Division provides a diagnostic, monitoring and advisory service for the Northern Territory. It also undertakes the research and development of plant disease management practices.

The Branch identifies plant diseases caused by various pathogens including bacteria, fungi, nematodes, phytoplasmas, viruses and viroids as well as non-living agents.

Plant Pathology is involved in research, to provide advice applicable to the Territory environment. This includes breeding and screening for disease resistance, control/management and epidemiology. Recent programs include research into the following:

- Citrus Huanglongbing
- Banana freckle
- Fusarium wilt of bananas (tropical race 4)
- Grapevine leaf rust
- Mango diseases in Katherine
- Peanut leaf spots.



WATER MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORIES

Operating under the Strategic Services and Policy Coordination Division, the Water Microbiology Laboratories are National Association of Testing Authorities quality accredited and are located in Darwin and Alice Springs. They provide essential microbiological water quality services for the whole of the Northern Territory to the Power and Water Corporation, other government departments, the private sector and general public.

The service provision facilitates the monitoring of the drinking water supply to the main cities and towns of the Northern Territory as well as remote communities. In addition, testing services are provided for the management of recreational water, waste water treatment systems, renal dialysis units and food processing water.



CHEMISTRY LABORATORY

The Chemistry Laboratory is allied to the Water Microbiology Laboratories and provides services to the same major clients. Located in Darwin the laboratory is National Association of Testing Authorities quality accredited and provides testing services in the field of physical and inorganic chemical analysis in water. Service provision facilitates client compliance with waste discharge licensing under the NT Environmental Protection Authority, drinking water quality management, and environmental monitoring and investigation.

The Chemistry Laboratory also provides general testing and chemical services to assist primary industry sectors via the department's development and support programs in other divisions.

CHAPTER 2

Corporate Governance



Lake Argyle - photo courtesy of Lorraine Corowa

Introduction

The department works proactively to achieve good corporate governance to ensure its stakeholders have confidence in the decisions and actions that are taken.

Its risk management strategy ensures the delivery of high performing services and programs, and conformity to the laws, regulations, standards and community expectations of integrity, accountability and openness.

Specifically the department ensures:

- Leaders are provided the necessary training to achieve good governance
- That its employees are accountable, responsible, and transparent in their decisions and actions
- Staff act with integrity, honesty, and are straightforward as well as objective in their dealings and stewardship of public funds and resources
- Decision-making and management of priorities is done in such a way that stakeholders have confidence in the department
- It operates with maximum efficiency, and makes the best use of resources to deliver on its goals
- Management is such that the capacity of the department to serve government and the public interest is maintained and improved over time.

Organisational Governance

The governance structure for the department is explained by the following:

1. The Minister is appointed by the Administrator under the *Self Government Act*.
2. The Chief Executive is appointed by the Minister of the day and is responsible for the department.
3. The department's priority is to serve the government of the day and undertake its statutory functions.
4. The Executive Management Group (EMG) includes the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive and all directors in the department. The EMG provides strategic direction, coordinates the activities of the department and approves policies and procedures. EMG members are listed from page 43.
5. Departmental plans also provide strategic direction: the Industry Development Plan 2013–2017, the Corporate Plan 2013–2017 on page 41, and the People Plan 2014–2017 on page 65.
6. The Administrator has the authority to declare the powers and functions of the department through the Administrative Arrangements Order. The statutory responsibilities as per the Order are described on page 57.
7. Further information on the Divisions and Groups within the department are provided in the performance reports from page 78 onwards.
8. Community, industry and other stakeholders, including other government departments, provide input into a wide variety of decision making at all levels.
9. There are internal committees that report to the EMG and/or the Chief Executive on a regular basis: the Risk and Audit Committee is found on page 48; the Information Management Committee is on page 49.
10. The EMG functions as the Work Health and Safety Steering Committee are on page 50.

Policies, Protocols, Guidelines and Procedures

The department maintains a comprehensive set of policies, protocols, guidelines and procedures as part of its corporate governance framework. They cover a range of business activities including Work Health and Safety, Human Resources, Information Management, Risk Management, Communications, Infrastructure and Asset Management and Budgets and Finance. These help ensure regulatory compliance and staff accountability.

Regular reviews are undertaken to ensure the documents align with the department's governance framework, comply with legislation and other government policies, and to monitor the effectiveness of the controls in place to address the strategic and operational risks.

All policies, protocols, guidelines and procedures are available via the department's intranet and electronic Service Centre, which is the central source of up-to-date corporate information.



Northern
Territory
Government

Corporate Plan 2013–2017

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES

Primary industries and fisheries contribute more than half a billion dollars annually to the Northern Territory economy. Demand for food in Asian markets to our north is forecast to grow strongly, providing increasing opportunities for expansion, development and new investment in our primary industries and fisheries.

With a strong record of serving our industry sectors with effective research, extension and product integrity assurance services, our challenge as a department is to work with our industry partners to convert these opportunities into profitable and sustainable development, thereby growing our industries, regions, the Northern Territory and northern Australia. This will require providing certainty and security to encourage investment, facilitating continuous improvement in production quantity and quality and expanding market options for Northern Territory products.

Our department is focussed on innovation, flexibility, client service and continuous improvement. Our skilled, experienced and professional people strive for the right balance of research, development and regulation to underpin the profitable and sustainable growth of the Northern Territory's primary industries and fisheries.

Our Vision

A flourishing economy underpinned by profitable and sustainable primary industries and fisheries.

Our Mission

To work with our partners to stimulate and sustain the development of primary industries and fisheries throughout the Territory and northern Australia.

Our Values

Commitment to service, ethical practice, respect, accountability, impartiality and diversity.



Photo courtesy of the NT Seafood Council



Our Work

- Supports the economic growth and viability of existing and emerging primary industries.
- Secures community trust and increased awareness of primary production and its benefits for the Northern Territory.
- Protects the reputation of the Northern Territory as a producer of quality primary produce.
- Increases opportunities for Aboriginal Territorians in our primary industries and fisheries.

Our People

- Directly contribute to sustainable industry development.
- Support team excellence and celebrate achievement with strong leadership.
- Maintain the highest standards of public sector governance in accordance with community expectations.
- Meet our future challenges with capability and adaptability.
- Passionate and central to our success, diverse from many backgrounds.
- Culturally sensitive with an Indigenous employment and business development focus.
- Prioritise the safety and wellbeing of everyone in our working environment.
- Maintain relationships through proactively communicating with stakeholders.
- Lead the way in client service and continuous improvement.

Executive Management Group

The Executive Management Group (EMG) is chaired by the Chief Executive (CE) and members include the Deputy Chief Executive, all Divisional Directors, heads of the Shared Corporate Services Groups and the Business Manager. The EMG meets on a quarterly basis to discuss strategic management and provide Work Health and Safety (WHS) oversight. In addition, the weekly scheduled Project Control Group (PCG) meetings, led by the CE, provides a forum for a regular review of business operations and is attended by Divisional and Corporate Services Directors.

The EMG meetings consider a range of strategic issues including Governance and Risk Management, WHS, Business Improvement, Information Management, Human Resources, Finance and Communications.

Divisional and Corporate Services Directors attending these meetings directly communicate the outcomes to their staff and the minutes are available to all staff via the intranet within a fortnight. The CE also produces a newsletter on a quarterly basis which is emailed to all staff and posted on the Intranet. The CE's newsletter keeps staff updated on government strategic direction, departmental issues, regional events, staff movements and significant policy developments.

The purpose of the EMG meetings include:

- Provide WHS oversight as the Steering Committee for the department
- Providing a forum to coordinate activities and strategies across Divisions and locations
- Allowing the CE to provide strategic direction to the divisional heads
- Prioritising activities and focusing attention in order to meet the objectives of the Corporate Plan 2013–2017, the People Plan 2014–2017 and other strategic plans, such as the Industry Development Plan 2013–2017
- Providing an opportunity for each group to formally communicate achievements, critical industry matters, policy developments, and corporate management issues
- Approving key internal policies and procedures.

ALISTER TRIER

Chief Executive

Alister was appointed to the position of Chief Executive of the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries in 2012 and continues to work closely with industry to lead the growth of the agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors and to strongly contribute to North Australian development.

As the Chief Executive, Alister's vision is to see a flourishing Northern Territory economy underpinned by profitable and sustainable primary industries and fisheries.

Alister's career includes operational management, marketing and strategic development, gained primarily in the international trade and pastoral sectors across Northern Australia, the Middle East and South East Asia.

Alister joined the Northern Territory Government in 2002 in the field of Indigenous economic development before being appointed Director of Pastoral Production focusing on the development of the Northern Pastoral Industry. In 2009 Alister was appointed to the position of Executive Director Minerals and Energy with responsibility for mining approvals and performance and investment attraction in the minerals and energy sectors.



IAN CURNOW

Deputy Chief Executive

As Deputy Chief Executive, Ian's responsibilities include the Resource and Product Integrity Group.

He joined the department in 2008 as Director of Fisheries upon moving from Western Australia. He has nearly 30 years experience in federal and state government across a range of policy and program areas, including 18 years' direct experience in the sustainable development of fisheries.

Ian brings a detailed knowledge and understanding of public policy, governance and the contemporary management of natural resources, encompassing strategic planning, management, and research as well as compliance components.



SCOTT WAUCHOPE

Director Market and Enterprise Development

Scott has lived in the Territory for more than 30 years. In 1988, he completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in Agriculture at Roseworthy Agricultural College in South Australia and in 1996 completed the Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Management.

Scott commenced his career with the Northern Territory Government as a Soil Conservation Officer in 1989, working in the Katherine region. Since then Scott has lived and worked in the rangelands in the Northern Territory and Western Australia, working with the pastoral industry in both arid and semi-arid tropical environments.

Scott has held a number of management positions in the Northern Territory and Western Australian Governments and commenced with the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries in 2009 as the Director Pastoral Production.

Since 2009, Scott has worked closely with the live cattle export industry to maintain and develop relationships in importing countries in South East Asia. In his current role as Director Market and Enterprise Development, Scott and his team are working to support industry partners to drive innovation and ensure long term profitable primary industries.





BOB WILLIAMS

Director Plant Industries Development

Bob joined the department in 2010 from north Queensland where he was a Program Manager in Tropical Production Systems of Horticulture and Forestry Science for 19 years. Bob's focus is to work with industry to build and expand the profitability and sustainability of plant industries through research, development and targeted capacity building activities.

He is currently the Australian delegate on Bioversity International – banana program and the Tropical Fruit Network of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (United Nations) sub-committee of Commodities with Common Problems.



NEIL MACDONALD

Director Livestock Industries Development

Neil studied at the University of Queensland, Charles Sturt University and the University of Aberdeen. His working career has varied from commercial agriculture to wildlife management in Nigeria, Scotland and Papua New Guinea. Neil has been with the department since 1990 based in Katherine, spending 15 years extensively researching cattle production and rangeland management.

Neil has been a Director since 2005 and now combines the roles of Director, Livestock Industry Development and Regional Director, Katherine Region.



LORRAINE COROWA

Director Major Economic Projects

Lorraine has worked in development focused positions within the Northern Territory Government for 28 years. Her roles in Power and Water, Business and Industry Development, Land Development and Regional and Indigenous Economic Development provide the foundation for Lorraine's current work facilitating investment in agribusiness.

Lorraine joined the department in 2010 to facilitate investment in AACo's abattoir (opened February 2015) as well as expansion of the Ord Irrigation Scheme into the Territory. Lorraine's work includes agribusiness investment attraction and agricultural precinct development in addition to oversight of economic services to the department. Lorraine has a Master of International Management, a Bachelor of Business and sits on the NT Committee of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

ANDREW TOMKINS

Director Biosecurity and Animal Welfare

Andrew lived in the United Kingdom before beginning his career in New Zealand, first as a research scientist working for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and then as a horticultural entomologist for HortResearch. After moving to Australia, he managed row crop protection research and development in New South Wales, then state wide plant biosecurity operations. Later he was a senior policy plant biosecurity officer in Victoria before joining the Territory Government in 2010.

Andrew holds a BHortSc (Hons) and a PhD (Horticultural Entomology) both from Lincoln College and a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management studies from the Waikato University, New Zealand.



GLENN SCHIPP

Director Fisheries and Aquaculture

Glenn was born and raised in Wagga Wagga, NSW. He moved to the Territory in 1988 to take on the research role for the newly formed barramundi breeding program. Over the past 27 years he has undertaken a number of roles within and outside of the Northern Territory Government, including managing the aquaculture program. Glenn also conducted research and development of a fish aquaculture project in Hawaii.

Glenn has a Masters in Applied Science (Aquaculture) from the University of Tasmania and moved into his current role in 2014.



CHRISTINE LONG

Director Strategic Services and Policy Coordination

Prior to joining the department in 2005, Christine worked in several key development agencies, including in the areas of land administration, land use planning, land development, transport and natural resource management policy. Christine came to Darwin in the late 1980s, to work for the CSIRO Division of Horticulture on cashew and mango research and joined the Northern Territory Public Sector in 1990.

Christine has degrees in Agricultural Science, Economics and a Masters in Public Sector Leadership, and will complete a Masters in Economic and Regional Development in 2015.





KAREN SIMPSON

Chief Financial Officer

Karen studied in New South Wales and Queensland before completing an Associate Diploma in Accounting and Business. In 1990, she began working in the budget and financial management sector and since that time has held financial management positions within the NT public sector. From 2007, Karen has been the Honorary Secretary of the Institute of Public Administration Australia.



RICK BISHOP

Director Human Resources Director Risk And Audit

Rick attended high school in Singapore and Canberra. After moving to the Territory, he worked in construction roles and as a technical officer which included extended periods 'out bush'. After travel and tertiary study he worked in ministerial liaison and public relations, training, and industrial relations roles before moving to a senior HR consultant position.

Rick's qualifications include a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Western Australia and a Graduate Certificate in Management from Curtin University.



RICHARD SMITH

Chief Information Officer

Richard has worked in various information technology related roles in both the private and public sectors focussing on major projects and change management. Richard joined the department in September 2009.



ZOE MALONE

Director Communications and Marketing

Zoe has over 15 years of experience in strategic communications and public relations. She studied a Bachelor of Arts (Public Relations) at RMIT University in Melbourne and has also completed a Masters in Business Administration.

Zoe has been working for the NT Government for 5 years and joined the department in 2014. She has previous experience in a variety of media, communications and marketing roles in the not-for-profit and private sectors.

Executive Services

EXECUTIVE PROJECT OFFICER

Reporting directly to the Chief Executive, the Executive Project Officer provides high level executive advice and support to the Chief Executive to facilitate the achievement of government and Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries strategic objectives. The position works closely with the Chief Executive in driving the delivery of the Minister's priority projects and is responsible for managing Executive Services.

BUSINESS MANAGER

The Business Manager provides the overall coordination of the Executive and Regional Officers in each region, as well as providing support across department activities including strategic planning and business improvement, and a range of group activities from monthly reporting to staff and business planning processes.

The role responds to a wide assortment of ad hoc requests to and for the agency and reports directly to the Deputy Chief Executive.

MINISTERIAL LIAISON UNIT

The Ministerial Liaison Unit (MLU) reports directly to the Chief Executive and is responsible for facilitating effective communication and liaison between the department and the Minister's Office. The unit provides document support for Parliamentary Sitings and Estimates Hearings to the Minister's Office at the highest of standards. MLU provides a coordination service with respect to the preparation and circulation of, Ministerial briefings, Cabinet Submissions, Executive Council Submissions, Legislative Assembly Briefings as well as a range of other requests as required.

Committees

Risk and Audit Committee

The role of the Risk and Audit Committee is to assist the Chief Executive to meet his statutory responsibilities by providing independent assurance and assistance in the areas of financial management, statutory reporting, internal control systems, risk management systems, audit, insurance and legal proceedings.

The committee operates under Terms of Reference approved by the Chief Executive and reviewed annually. Membership is representative by the department's business and corporate areas; subject matter experts may also be invited to attend committee meetings and impart specialist knowledge.

Under the committee a Strategic Risk Register was established to align with the Industry Development Plan. An internal audit schedule was finalised with the focus to address strategic risks evaluated under the Risk Management Plan.

As part of business improvement and to help identify risk, the department engaged an external auditor to review its capabilities to respond to animal, aquatic or plant biosecurity incursions and provide business improvement measures to reduce risk. The review concluded opportunities exist for the department to improve current biosecurity risk mitigation strategies. Actions in response to the audit review will be addressed by a departmental implementation plan.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Finalised and implemented the Strategic Risk Register and Internal Audit Schedule
- Conducted an internal review of the department's capacity to address biosecurity incursions
- Established a Gifts and Benefits Policy and reporting protocol for departmental officers to assist in compliance with Code of Conduct under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Implement internal audit schedule and monitor achievement of audit recommendations
- Review Strategic Risk Register
- Implement operational risk register
- Review Risk and Audit Committee membership.

Information Management Committee

The Information Management Committee (IMC) has a key role in governance of strategic information management, including reviewing and approving all information management (IM) and information technology (IT) project submissions and advising on investment in IT.

As a shared corporate service provider, the composition and charter of IMC was changed this year to oversee related activity in both the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (DPIF) and the Department of Mines and Energy (DME). The committee comprises three representatives of each department who work with the Chief Information Officer to set the strategic direction and review, approve and prioritise individual project submissions.

This year IMC considered 13 individual project proposals using a fully electronic system, and met on five occasions.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Reviewed and considered 13 individual project proposals
- Oversaw the development of new and replaced several end-of-life business systems, with projects running within timeframes and budgets
- Implemented technologies to improve staff mobility through external trusted access to our systems.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Develop IT and IM Strategic Plans
- Complete a comprehensive review of Business Continuity Plans
- Oversee the replacement of key DPIF and DME business systems
- Continue to develop solutions and systems to allow greater web-based and mobile access for external clients.

Work Health and Safety Steering Committee

The Work Health and Safety Steering Committee (WHSSC) develops and ensures the maintenance of Work Health and Safety (WHS) policies and programs within relevant legislation.

The Executive Management Group (EMG) also functions as the WHSSC. Within this new framework EMG members would have the highest level of WHS responsibilities across their work areas.

FUNCTIONS OF WHSSC:

- Developing and implementing a WHS governance framework and facilitating strategic workplace health and safety planning
- Oversighting the development and promotion of standards, procedures and a positive workplace culture including general awareness of workplace health and safety
- Monitoring and reviewing DPIF's performance, risk management and reporting in relation to workplace health and safety and ensure ongoing compliance with the *Work Health and Safety Act* and Regulations
- Reviews and analyses accidents, injuries, hazardous incidents and compensation statistics, and recommends appropriate action to reduce workplace injuries and their costs
- Oversees induction, training and emergency procedures and policies to ensure that staff receive regular, relevant and effective training information.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014–2015

- Restructured the WHSSC to better fulfil the new *Work Health and Safety (NUL) Act 2011* requirements
- Maintained compliance through an improved Quarterly Action Plan process
- Developed and updated whole of department WHS Management System, Strategies and Action Plans
- Improved incident reporting procedures and documentation
- Developed and implemented key performance indicators for WHS
- Implemented enhanced promotion of WHS awareness to all staff
- Ensured risk registers were maintained with improved compliance responses.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Improve awareness and understanding of WHS compliance and procedures amongst all staff
- Engage staff in self-management of WHS systems in order to create a more 'preventative' culture of safety
- Develop improved systems, procedures, documentation and recording and integrate fully with all work unit operations.

Veterinary Board of the Northern Territory

The Veterinary Board (the Board) of the Northern Territory is a statutory body established under the Northern Territory *Veterinarians Act*. The Board's independent operations are supported by the department through the provision of a Board Registrar and secretariat services.

FUNCTIONS OF THE VETERINARY BOARD:

- Promoting high standards of professional conduct in the provision of veterinary services
- Determining application outcomes for registration from veterinarians and veterinary specialists seeking to practice in the Northern Territory
- Exercising the disciplinary powers detailed in the Act
- Investigating complaints relating to professional conduct or the provision of veterinary services
- Ensuring public awareness of the Board's functions
- Giving advice, where requested, on matters relating to the professional conduct of a registered veterinarian or veterinary specialist or the provision of veterinary services
- Investigating suspected offences against the Act and prosecuting such offences.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

The Board continued to meet its statutory functions and fulfilled its overall role of protecting the public and guiding the profession. During the 2014–2015 financial year the Board:

- Called for expressions of interest in the positions of two Board representatives to be elected by the profession.
 - Dr Ian Gurry and Dr Shane Bartie were reappointed for a further term of three years
 - Dr Richard Morton retired in April 2015
 - Dr Elizabeth Stedman was appointed to replace Dr Morton.
- The Registrar and Dr Elizabeth Stedman attended the Australian Veterinary Boards Council in Brisbane in May 2015 to discuss issues relevant to the veterinary profession.

DISCIPLINARY POWERS

The Board was not required to exercise its disciplinary powers under the *Veterinarians Act* during the 2014–2015 financial year on three complaints lodged with the Board.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Membership of the Board includes the Chief Veterinary Officer/Chief Inspector of Stock as President; veterinarians appointed by the Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries, veterinarians elected by their peers by postal ballot and a non-veterinarian appointed by the Minister, to represent the public interest.

VETERINARY BOARD OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP	
Dr Malcolm Anderson	President from 26 November 2012 (ex-officio appointed Chief Inspector of Stock)
Dr Ian Gurry	Member (elected veterinarian) from 2 June 2012 Vice President (appointed by Minister)
Dr Shane Bartie	Member (elected veterinarian) from 1 June 2012
Dr Elizabeth Stedman	Member (veterinarian appointed by the Minister) from 14 April 2015
Marion Davey	Public Interest Member (non-veterinarian appointed by Minister) from 1 August 2013

Insurance Arrangements

The department is covered by the NT Government's policy of self-insurance and has implemented a Risk Management Framework to formalise identifying, evaluating and mitigating specific risks relating to its business. Current strategies include a range of policies and procedures as well as the purchase of commercial insurance for overseas travel. An overview of the department's insurance arrangements, costs, and value of claims are detailed below (Table 4).

Table 4: Insurance Costs

PROPERTY AND ASSETS SUMMARY	2013-2014	2014-2015
Total Costs	\$20 718	\$0
NEW		
Vehicle & Fixed Incidents	16	7
WORKERS COMPENSATION SUMMARY*	2013-2014	2014-2015
Total Costs	\$187 487	\$215 656
NEW		
Incidents	29	41
Claims	7	8
INSURANCE PREMIUM SUMMARY*	2013-2014	2014-2015
Travel Insurance	\$757	\$1 779
Volunteer Insurance	\$2 738	\$0
Personal Insurance	\$5 223	\$780

Source: BOXI-HR WHS002 Report, Department of Corporate and Information Services

Workers Compensation

Workers compensation covers workers medical expenses, lost income, compensation for incapacitation and compensation for dependents (in the case of death) arising from a workplace incident.

The department is bound by the Northern Territory Workers *Rehabilitation and Compensation Act*, the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act* and Regulations and is required to have appropriate Work Health and Safety (WHS) strategies and processes in place to identify and minimise risks to workers, these are:

- A comprehensive WHS system that includes emergency response procedures
- An Employee Assistance Program that provides employees with up to five visits annually to a counselling service or specialist advisory expert to provide services such as workplace conflict or stress management coaching
- A performance management system, known as the Personal Development Review, which provides an opportunity for managers and staff to discuss employee training and development needs
- Training and support for managers that provides them with the ability to effectively deal with employee safety and wellbeing.

Property and Assets

The department's property and assets primarily consist of land, buildings, vehicles, plant and equipment, and include financial assets. These property and assets require ongoing management to prevent damage, loss or theft.

The department has the following mitigation strategies and processes in place:

- Internal audit processes and controls to foster compliance with Treasurer's Directions
- Policies for the use of corporate credit cards, credit control and debt management, and entertainment expenditure
- Secure procedures for the authorisation and oversight of procurement
- Policies and procedures related to major assets and portable and attractive assets to ensure accountability and custodianship
- Systems and procedures to control the allocation and monitoring of secure access to buildings and property
- Systems and procedures at government owned and leased properties for securing and monitoring after hours and the necessary control of access during operating hours
- Comprehensive Vehicle Management Policy and procedures for governing all aspects of the vehicle fleet
- Emergency procedures are updated annually and reviewed after any emergency event to ensure best practice
- Equipment and workplace inspections under the Work Health and Safety system to reduce the incidence of electrical faults and hazards causing damage to properties and personnel.

Public Liability

Public liability relates to the liability owed to a third party who suffers loss or damage by reason of the department's activities and therefore, the following mitigation strategies and processes are in place:

- Scheduled maintenance programs for facilities which include tree and other vegetation management, daily monitoring of properties, clearing of paths and roadways
- A comprehensive building repairs and maintenance program which is provided with adequate resourcing
- Appropriate storage and signage for hazardous materials and the maintenance of the necessary inventories for emergency services personnel
- A Work Health and Safety system which includes the management of visitors, control and monitoring of contractors and risk assessment of plant and equipment items
- Commercial insurance purchased to cover liability risk of volunteers as required by individual work units
- Procurement procedures related to quotes and tenders which are required to address public liability.

Indemnity

An indemnity is an agreement which provides protection from the consequences of a breach of duty of care or negligence, provided acts have been done in good faith. Issuing an indemnity rather than purchasing commercial insurance is in line with government's policy of self-insurance.

The department has the following mitigation strategies and processes in place:

- Internal guidelines and checklists are used to assist staff to determine the suitability of entering into funding agreements and contracts containing indemnity clauses
- Where it is possible to reach an agreement with another party, clauses imposing an indemnity on the department are removed from contracts before entering into them
- The agency legal advisors are engaged to review all contracts containing indemnity clauses and to advise on any other risks associated with their terms and conditions
- Where an indemnity clause is required to be included in a contract an assessment of the risk of an indemnity provision being relied on is conducted
- Application of Work Health and Safety processes as applicable
- Promote compliance with all applicable legislation, such as the *Information Act*
- Formal adoption of the indemnity process at the Treasurer's Direction on externally funded projects.

During the 2014-2015 financial year no party called upon the Territory Government to indemnify against loss or damage arising from a contract under which the department provided an indemnity.

Infrastructure and Asset Management

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Arid Zone Research Institute
 - Refurbished horticulture laboratory preparation room.
- Beatrice Hill Research Farm
 - Constructed a four bed-room demountable dwelling.
- Berrimah Farm
 - Refurbished first floor, John England Building (JEB) – Capital works project, \$1 100 000
 - Removed 'beyond economic repair' Termite Laboratory
 - Shade awnings added to JEB secure parking areas
 - Replaced farm backup generator and main switchboard
 - Replaced air conditioning units in virology laboratory – stage I.
- Coastal Plains Research Farm
 - Refurbished ablution block.
- Katherine Research Centre
 - Constructed cattle handling facility.
- Old Man Plains Research Station
 - Constructed and installed a new bore, water work shed with refurbished ablutions facility.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Berrimah Farm
 - Research Precinct Master Planning and development of new laboratories and research support infrastructure in conjunction with Berrimah Farm Area development
 - Certification for Clem Benson Building and Emergency Response Control Centre with upgrade of amenities
 - John England Building ground floor refurbishment
 - Visitor area car park construction with sealed surface, lighting and shade sales
 - Replacement of air conditioning units in virology laboratory – stage II.
- Darwin Aquaculture Centre
 - Upgrade security system
 - Installation of solar Photo Voltaic system: stages I and II.
- Katherine Research Station
 - Purchase new grader for property maintenance
 - Vehicle wash-down facility.
- Douglas Daly Research Farm
 - Construction of fencing for residential boundaries
 - Construction of loading ramp.

- Victorian River Research Station
 - Refurbishment of residence
 - Upgrading ablutions facility.
- Arid Zone Research Institute
 - Refurbishment of Eastern Annex to accommodate staff of the Department of Land Resource Management
 - Security system upgrade.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Property management has identified high energy usage air-conditioning devices and converted them to chiller-plant systems with associated reduction in energy consumption; alternative energy sources are being implemented at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre with the installation of solar photovoltaic systems.

As part of energy efficiency the department also focuses on fleet management by:

- Selecting vehicles that are the greenest available within the fleet group
- Managing the fleet composition by increasing four-cylinder vehicles where possible and reducing fleet size without adversely impacting on service levels
- Implementation of authorisation, monitoring and management protocols that allow for the efficient and effective operation of the departmental fleet vehicles.

Note: Infrastructure and Asset Management is part of the Strategic Services and Policy Coordination Division.

Statutory Responsibilities and Acts

ACTS AND LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT

The department is responsible for administering 12 Acts and 15 pieces of subordinate legislation:

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Regulations

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Northern Territory) Act

Animal Welfare Act

Animal Welfare Regulations

Barramundi Fishery Management Plan

Biological Control Act

Biological Resources Act

Biological Resources Regulations

Doctors Gully Aquatic Life Reserve Management Plan

East Point Aquatic Life Reserve Management Plan

Fisheries Act

Fisheries Regulations

Gene Technology (Northern Territory) Act

Livestock Act

Livestock Regulations

Meat Industries Act

Meat Industries Regulations

Mud Crab Fishery Management Plan

Pearl Oyster Culture Industry Management Plan

Plant Health Act

Plant Health Regulations

Plant Health (Fees) Regulations

Poppy Regulation Act

Spanish Mackerel Fishery Management Plan

Veterinarians Act

Veterinarians Regulations

DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the Administrative Arrangements Order, the department is responsible for the following principal areas of government:

Animal welfare

Fisheries management

Hygienic production of meat for human consumption

Interstate agricultural quarantine

Primary industry biosecurity

Primary production and industry development (including agricultural, aquaculture, horticultural, fisheries and pastoral industries)

Protection of consumers of veterinary services

Legislative Reviews and Amendments

Legislative reviews and amendments undertaken during the 2014-2015 reporting period include:

Livestock Act

During the reporting period amendments were made to the *Livestock Act*. These amendments were to enable fees to be collected for services by the Animal Biosecurity Division within the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries. This change provides parity with the plant biosecurity sectors and other industries within the Northern Territory, allowing for fees to be set and collected for product inspection by the beneficiaries of those services.

Fisheries Amendment (Amateur Fishing Limits) Regulations 2015

Changes to the Fisheries Amendment (Amateur Fishing Limits) Regulations were implemented. Key changes included:

- A broader suite of personal possession limits for at-risk species
- A small number of additional size limits
- Vessel limits for at-risk and key recreational species
- The creation of temporary reef fish protection areas.

Fisheries Amendment (Coastal Line Fishery and Other Matters) Regulations 2015

Changes to the Fisheries Amendment (Coastal Line Fishery and Other Matters) Regulations 2015 were completed. Key changes included:

- The introduction of individual transferable quota into the Coastal Line Fishery
- Setting of new operational requirements for licence holders operating in the fishery, including lodgement of a pre-departure notice and a catch disposal record
- Removal of a restriction on licence transferability for Fishing Tour Operator Licences
- The strengthening of rules relating to fishing in reef fish protection areas.

Fisheries Amendment Regulations 2015

The Fisheries Regulations (under the *Fisheries Act*) were amended to create a new class of licence for small-scale ornamental aquaculture to support development of this industry.

Fisheries Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2015

The Fisheries Regulations (under the *Fisheries Act*) were amended to improve the operation of the Aboriginal Coastal Licence, and provide remote communities with an increased opportunity for involvement in the seafood industry. Changes made included:

- Increasing the length of the current permitted net size of 16 metres, to a maximum of 100 metres with a maximum mesh size of 65 mm
- Allowing the marketing and sale of catch to be expanded to include sale to community stores and other retail outlets
- Allowing for the use of semi-permanent traditional fish traps
- Retaining the restriction on the sale of managed species (barramundi, mud crab, Spanish mackerel and king threadfin)
- Removing the restriction of only one licence per community.

Three legislative reviews and amendments are currently under review in 2015-2016 including:

Fisheries Act

Changes to the current *Fisheries Act* are being progressed to reduce red-tape for industry, improve fisheries compliance and enhance resource protection.

Animal Welfare Act

A review of the *Animal Welfare Act* is underway. This Act originally came into effect in March 2000. The purpose of the current review is to create a new Act which will provide enhanced animal welfare protection in the Northern Territory.

Plant Health Regulations

Changes to the Plant Health Regulations (under the *Plant Health Act*) are being progressed. Sought changes will:

- Allow for the more effective management and control of Cucumber Green Mosaic Virus (CGMMV) on cucurbit crops and other host plants in the Northern Territory
- Restrict the entry of a number of pests and diseases, and any declared pests which may be introduced in hay or turf imported into the Northern Territory
- Allow residents within Accredited Production Places to purchase fruit and vegetables for personal consumption from supermarkets and commercial outlets.

Information Act

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Under section 11 of the *Information Act* the department is required to prepare a report annually detailing its:

- Structure and functions
- Types of government information it usually holds
- Procedures for providing access under Part 3, Access and Correction Rights
- The procedures for correcting personal information, under Part 3.

This information may be published in a document, a database or any other material form, and must be available in at least one of those forms for inspection and purchase by members of the public.

ACCESSING INFORMATION

The department's guidelines and procedures that enable access to information and to request corrections to personal information is available at: <http://www.nt.gov.au/d/foi>

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION HELD BY THE DEPARTMENT

Statement of Information held by the department can be found at:
<http://www.nt.gov.au/d/foi>

Table 5: Breakdown of requests for Access to Information

TYPE OF REQUEST	NO. OF REQUESTS
Applications Received 2014-2015	4
Carried over from 2013-2014	2
Finalised	4
Withdrawn	1
Transferred or not accepted	1
Carried over into 2015–2016	0
Internal review, finalised	0

CHAPTER 3

Our People



Doris Marcsik from Plant Industries Development Division with ornamental ginger plants

Introduction

In 2014–2015, the department continued to develop sustainable agriculture and fisheries industries in the Northern Territory (NT). An imperative is recruiting and building a passionate and diverse workforce covering a range of professional capabilities, that includes managers, administrators, scientists, technicians and other specialist areas. Remote and field-based employees are crucial to our regional operations.

Staff are located in the major centres of Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs, as well as remote research facilities such as Victoria River Research Station (Kidman Springs), and the Douglas Daly and Coastal Plains Research Farms.

The department's services are delivered to a wide range of stakeholders and industries in a culturally diverse environment. It is central to the department's success that its people effectively engage with all stakeholders and maintain the skills and capabilities to meet government and core business priorities.

STAFFING PROFILE

The following table shows the number of full time equivalent staff as at 30 June 2015.

Table 6: Classification of Staff

STAFFING CLASSIFICATION	2013–2014	2014–2015
Administrative	110	131
Physical	5	4
Professional	68	72
Executive	13	15
Technical	107	106
Early Careers	3	4
Casual Survey Interviewers	1	0
Total	308	332

Figures are based on full time equivalent and include casual and part time employees.

Over the last year the department has continued to implement the Industry Development Plan 2013–2017, with an increased focus on stimulating economic development and developing new markets. The Plan is contributing to staff achieving the skills needed to work with our partners to stimulate and sustain economic and market development throughout the NT.

During 2014–2015 work commenced implementing the strategies of the People Plan:

1. Strengthen our leadership to meet future challenges
2. Ensure we have a strong work health and safety culture
3. Cultivate our passionate, diverse and innovative workforce
4. Develop the capabilities needed to deliver on the Industry Development Plan
5. Drive accountability through effective engagement in the Industry Development Plan.

Within these priorities there has been a focus on building a culture of safety.

People Plan 2014–2017



Objective

We have the people and capabilities to work with our partners to stimulate and sustain development throughout the Northern Territory. To achieve this we need a diverse and professional workforce that is engaged, capable and passionate about the development opportunities in primary industries for the Northern Territory and northern Australia.

Strategies	Key Actions
Strengthen our leadership to meet future challenges	<p>Develop our current and future leaders.</p> <p>Ensure our leaders have the capabilities to develop a culture that will enable us to meet our objectives.</p>
Ensure we have a strong work health and safety culture	<p>Maintain a WH&S framework within the department that creates a strong WH&S culture.</p> <p>Support the wellbeing and health of employees.</p> <p>Increase the knowledge of safe workplace practices and individual responsibility for WH&S.</p> <p>Ensure that workplaces have appropriate policies and procedures in place so workplace practices are safe.</p> <p>Resolve workplace issues with minimal formality and ensure there is a focus on flexible work practices.</p>
Cultivate our passionate, diverse and innovative workforce	<p>Make DPIF a good place to work for diverse groups of people.</p> <p>Reward excellent performance, adherence to values and acknowledge service milestones.</p>
Develop the capabilities needed to deliver on the Industry Development Plan	<p>Develop a Workforce Plan that identifies and develops the capabilities required to meet future challenges.</p> <p>Develop the capabilities in our people to adapt to a changing environment.</p> <p>Maintain an Early Careers Program focused on growing our own.</p> <p>Ensure the critical jobs are identified and plans developed for business continuity.</p>
Drive accountability through effective engagement in the Industry Development Plan	<p>Have a performance management system that links individual's performance to the Industry Development and Corporate Plans.</p> <p>Ensure business plans include implementation of People Plan key actions.</p> <p>Maintain transparent reporting and engagement in alignment with our governance structures.</p> <p>Continue to develop our skills and knowledge in government business.</p> <p>Raise awareness of principles of performance and conduct, appropriate workplace behaviours and NTPS Values.</p> <p>Ensure we are compliant with the <i>Public Sector Employment and Management Act</i>.</p>

Our Values

Commitment to service, ethical practice, respect, accountability, impartiality and diversity.

Outcomes

We directly contribute to sustainable industry development.

We support team excellence, innovation and celebrate achievements with strong leadership.

We maintain the highest standards of public sector governance in accordance with community expectations.

Our people can meet future challenges with capability and adaptability.

Our workforce is passionate and central to our success, diverse from many backgrounds.

Our people are culturally sensitive with an Indigenous employment and business development focus.

Our people prioritise workplace safety and wellbeing for everyone in the work environment.

We maintain relationships through proactively communicating with stakeholders.

We lead the way in client service and continuous improvement.

Strengthening our leadership to meet future challenges and deliver on the Industry Development Plan

The department requires strong leaders to enable team excellence, innovation and celebration of achievements. To achieve this, the following programs were implemented during 2014-2015:

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

A Leadership program was implemented to develop future leaders' self-awareness to improve their people management capability and skills and their ability to create and develop a culture which is more externally focused on economic and market development. There were nineteen managers nominated to undertake this program.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Executive Leadership Program was developed by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment (OCPE). The Program is designed to develop executive levels of leadership by delivering higher economic, social and governance responsibilities. Two employees of this department participated in the program during 2014-2015.

FUTURE LEADERS NETWORK

Four DPIF employees of this department were nominated for the Future Leaders network run by the OCPE. This network is aimed at NTPS employees under 30 years of age, with an exceptional work record and exhibit the potential to be outstanding leaders. These employees will undertake targeted training, networking opportunities, access to senior agency leaders, mentoring, secondments and short term placements and accredited personal development.

Ensuring a Strong Work Health and Safety Culture

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The department maintained its Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which provides employees and their families with free access to confidential counselling and related services on issues such as interpersonal conflicts, relationship or family problems, stress, financial or vocational issues, grief, trauma, alcohol and other substance abuse problems.

The program's main areas of use in 2014-2015 was management coaching and employee counselling services, with both services being well utilised. The department will continue to maintain this program to assist employees in meeting personal and professional challenges.

There were no variations in usage trends 2014-2015, with employees accessing the service consistently and within normal organisational parameters.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Work Health and Safety (WHS) continued to remain a key focus for the department. As part of this commitment, the department introduced the Respect in the Workplace program and undertook a project based on the risk registers of the research farms. There are eight operating departmental research farms in the NT, which are managed and staffed for both pastoral and horticultural research purposes.

The Research Farm Risk Register (RFRR) project took place over a five month period, March-July 2015, which included workplace visits by senior management, and the WHS project officer. Employees reviewed existing hazards, identified any new hazards and ranked the risks in revised categories. The employees were encouraged to apply the concepts of the Safety Culture model and used task based risk tools.

Significant outcomes included:

- An improved safety culture through mutual accountability and safety leadership for workplace health and safety
- The re-categorised list of more than fifty hazards into manageable groupings for risk ranking by each Farm
- The development and implementation of an operational risk register for farms.

NT WorkSafe carried out three workplace visits to the research farms during 2014-2015 for the purpose of monitoring. These were completed at Beatrice Hill, Katherine and AZRI research farms. A number of initiatives to improve safety were implemented as a result, including:

- Installation of additional hand rails on ramps to ensure height safety
- Improvements to chemical management
- Increased quad bike and tractor safety awareness.

Cultivating a Passionate, Diverse and Innovative Workforce

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO)

EEO information is recorded by employees' self-identifying in the following categories:

- Non-English Speaking Background (NESB)
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI)
- Person with a Disability (PWD).

The data in the table below is voluntary and cannot be guaranteed as accurately reflecting the diversity within the department.

Employees are encouraged to enter their EEO details through MyHR (the internal online human resource system that allows employees to access their own salary, leave and other personal information via the intranet). The department regularly reminds employees to update their details, through intranet news items.

Table 8: Equal Employment Opportunity Groups

EEO Breakdown	2013-2014	2014-2015
NESB	2.4%	2.6%
ATSI	4.8%	4.9%
PWD	2.7%	2.9%

Percentage of number of identified employees in each group against headcount as at 30 June 2015.

Table 9: Employee Classification by Gender as at 30 June 2015

	2013-2014			2014-2015		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Administrative	78	43	121	79	52	131
Physical	0	3	3	0	4	4
Professional	24	33	57	30	42	72
Executive	3	10	13	3	12	15
Technical	37	63	100	43	63	106
Early Careers	5	2	7	3	1	4
Casual	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	147	154	301	158	174	332

STAR Awards

Rewarding excellent performance, adherence to values and acknowledge service milestones

An acronym for Service, Teamwork, Achievement and Results, the STAR Awards recognise outstanding work from individuals or teams within the department. The awards annual presentation ceremony was held on 20 July 2014.

Award nomination categories are aligned to government priorities, the department's Industry Development Plan and People Plan.

Categories include;

- Outstanding contribution in supporting the economic growth and viability of existing and emerging primary industries through the department's Industry Development Plan
- Service excellence for the department's clients
- Outstanding contribution to Work Health and Safety
- Outstanding contribution to leadership within the department
- Outstanding professional, scientific, technical or other contribution to the Territory or region.

Major individual winners receive \$4 000 or a team nomination receives \$10 000. Secondary placed individual winners receive \$2 500 or a team nomination receives \$5 000. Monetary rewards are for the specific purpose of funding personal development or to purchase office-based equipment. All nominees receive a certificate of recognition.

All perpetual trophies and certificates are presented by the Chief Executive.

MAJOR AWARD WINNER

The major STAR Award was presented to the Biosecurity and Animal Welfare Chemical Services Team comprised of Stuart Smith, Donna Hutchinson, Leticia Charrington and Vlad Kawaljenko. The team excelled in servicing the department's clients by developing an improved system for regulating use of the '1080' wild dog poison for use on pastoral properties.

The team successfully enhanced ongoing relationships with industry by significantly improving the way clients are able to do business with government in relation to chemical permits. Through the implementation of a 'One Stop Shop' to represent several service departments, and improved regulation, forms and baiting records for future tracking and analysis of data and targeted baiting, the team excelled by going over and above in meeting the needs of pastoralists in what was originally a tiresome and frustrating process.



CE Alister Trier with Major Award winners - Biosecurity and Chemicals Services, Leticia Charrington and Donna Hutchinson.



CE Alister Trier with Secondary Award winner Austin McLennan of Plant Industries.

SECONDARY AWARD WINNER

The Secondary Award was presented to Austin McLennan of Plant Industries for his outstanding contribution for going over and above in developing and procuring funds and implementing projects to support the export of green hardened mangoes and research to prevent the infestation of immature fruit fly to domestic and international markets. This has the potential to develop new market access protocols for the NT's mangoes and thus improve the profitability of the mango industry.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE COMMENDATION AWARD

The Chief Executive Commendation Award was presented to the Banana Freckle Response Team and its volunteers for their efforts during the response.



CE Commendation Award winners - Banana Freckle Response: Back: CE Alister Trier, Haidee Brown, Jose Liberato, Cassie McMaster, Marcos Voutsinos. Front: Stacey Cook, Lucy Tran-Nguyen, Barry Conde and Lois Ulyatt.



CE Alister Trier with Michael Neal - 30 years service.

SERVICE MILESTONES

As part of the STAR Awards presentation, the department also recognised employee 10, 20, 30 and 40 year service milestones.

Presented on behalf of the Minister, the Hon Willem Westra van Holthe MLA, in 2014-2015 the following employees received either a certificate or recognition plaque dependent on their length of service:

10 Years Service

- Desiree Ng

20 Years Service

- Nichola Elliott
- Chris Materne
- David Hamilton
- Robert McBride
- Neil MacDonald

30 Years Service

- Michael Neal
- Chaz Delacoeur
- Tony Moran

Develop the Capabilities to deliver on the Industry Development Plan

To ensure our people can meet future challenges with capability and adaptability the following initiatives were undertaken during 2014–2015.

INDIGENOUS CADETSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Indigenous Cadetship Support Program provides financial support to full-time students through the provision of a living allowance while studying, paid vocational employment for twelve weeks annually and reimbursement for successfully completed units of study.

During the reporting period the department had two cadets completing degrees in Environmental Science and Engineering.

INDIGENOUS APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The Indigenous Apprenticeship Program provides on the job training and assessment in a range of disciplines.

Participants in the program gain practical work experience and a Certificate II or III qualification. The department supported four Indigenous Apprentices in their chosen qualification including Business Administration, Laboratory Operations, Horticulture, Aquaculture and Laboratory Skills. One apprentice later gained employment with the department and another within the private sector.

GRADUATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Graduate Development Program participants are employed in a one or two year program combining on the job training along with professional and personal development opportunities. The department supported one graduate and their chosen qualification was a Bachelor of Veterinary Science/Veterinary Biology.

RESPECT IN THE WORKPLACE PROGRAM

This program was introduced in 2015 to continue the focus on the department's culture of delivering on government's economic development priorities and the Industry Development Plan 2013-2017.

The aim of the program is to equip the department workforce with the knowledge and behaviours to build the appropriate culture we want and need into the future. It also highlights the skills required to bring about change by challenging any inappropriate or unsafe behaviours within the workplace.

Attendance was considered mandatory for all employees and was delivered across the Territory. Twelve sessions were conducted with 214 employees attending from this department.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The department is committed to ensuring staff have the necessary skills and are therefore actively encouraged to attend internal courses and to seek further education via external programs, as well as working collaboratively with peers in other organisations.

Table 9: Development programs offered in 2014–2015

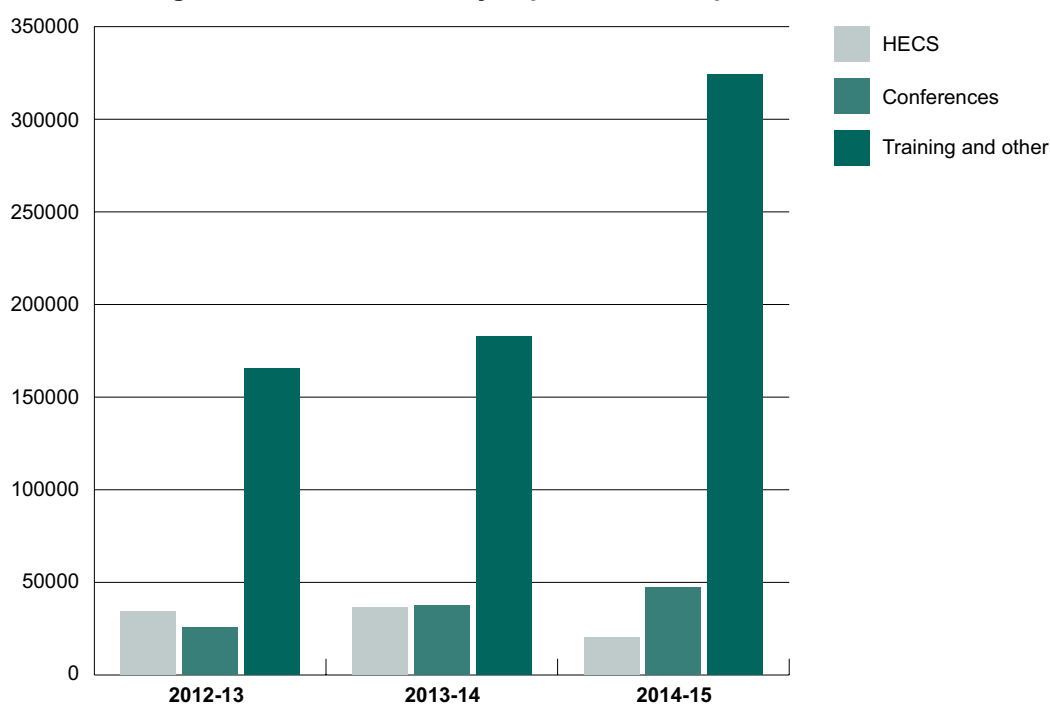
Course	Target Audience	No. Participants
Respect in the Workplace	All	214
Cross Cultural - General	All	51
Cross Cultural - Senior Managers	Senior Managers	26
Dealing with confrontation	Employees in compliance roles	21
Workplace Culture and Change	All	92
JES Writing	Professional/Technical	10

TRAINING EXPENDITURE

The department has also provided development to update and upskill employees' professional and technical capabilities:

Table 10: Training, conferences and study expenditures (HECS) in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015

	2013-2014	2014-2015
Training and Other	\$182 580	\$ 324 071
Conferences	\$ 37 400	\$ 47 302
HECS	\$ 36 350	\$ 20 159
Total Expenditure	\$ 256 330	\$ 391 532

Figure 5: Training, conferences and study expenditure comparison

Note: 2014-2015 Increase in training expenses due to increase in training provided such as Respect in the Workplace, DPIF Leadership Program and Cross Cultural Training.

Public Sector Governance

To ensure we maintain the highest standard of public sector governance in accordance with community expectations the department has complied with the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act (PSEMA)*

In accordance with section 28 of PSEMA there is a requirement for the Chief Executive to report on Public Sector Principles with regard to measures taken to ensure they are upheld and any significant failures to uphold them. The following information is provided:

REQUIREMENTS OF PSEMA	MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE THEY ARE UPHELD:
Administration Management	
Providing effective, efficient and appropriate services to the community and the government.	The department has in place numerous measures to ensure compliance with this principle. These measures are detailed under the Governance section and in other relevant areas of the Annual Report.
Ensuring the effective, efficient and appropriate use of public resources.	
Informing, advising and assisting the government objectively, impartially and with integrity.	
Ensuring that in carrying out their functions agencies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are responsive to the changing needs of the community and the government 2. Work cooperatively with each other. 	
Ensuring the Public Sector is structured and administered so that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Responsibilities are clearly defined 2. Appropriate levels of accountability are in place 3. Excessive formality and delay are minimised 4. Innovation is encouraged. 	
Ensuring proper standards of financial management and accounting are maintained.	

REQUIREMENTS OF PSEMA	MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE THEY ARE UPHELD:
Human Resource Management	
Employment is based on merit.	<p>Previous to the introduction of the NTPS Simplified Recruitment, selection processes required that only the Chairperson was formally approved, which required undertaking training or recognition of prior learning. Also, Recruitment and Selection procedures and information for panels were on the department's intranet site.</p> <p>HR provides advice and support on this subject.</p> <p>NTPS Simplified Recruitment was introduced in the department with an across NTPS Recruitment Policy and promoting OCPE training for panel members. All information held is and managed by OCPE.</p>
Equality of employment opportunity.	Indigenous Employment activities continue.
	Recruitment practices have a strong focus on merit.
	Both Policy and Procedures for Appropriate Workplace Behaviours are available on the department's intranet.
<p>Working environments in which employees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Are treated fairly, reasonably and in a non-discriminatory way 2. Are remunerated at rates appropriate to their responsibilities 3. Have reasonable access to training and development 4. Have reasonable access to redress when adversely affected by improper or unreasonable decisions. 	Appropriate Workplace Behaviours Policy and Procedures promote a workplace that meets the requirements of this principle.
	The department's Performance Management process called Personal Development Review identifies the employee's training needs, aligned to individual work business plans and career aspirations.
	Positions are evaluated through Job Evaluation System or the Work Content process (Physical positions).
	The department has a Grievance Policy and Procedures which provide employees with the opportunity to seek reasonable redress.

REQUIREMENTS OF PSEMA	MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE THEY ARE UPHELD:
Performance and conduct	
<p>Carry out the officer's duties as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Objectively, impartially, professionally and with integrity 2. To the best of the officer's ability 3. In accordance with the Act and any code of conduct applicable to the officer under section 16(2)(c). 	<p>An online induction provides employees with information on the Code of Conduct and these principles. Reminder emails are sent to new starters who have not completed their inductions which are reported every quarter.</p> <p>The Personal Development Review process provides employees the opportunity to understand what is expected of them and develop a learning plan.</p> <p>During 2014-2015 the department introduced and conducted sessions called Respect in the Workplace: 214 employees attended.</p>
<p>Treat other public sector officers, other persons in the workplace and members of the public fairly, equitably and with proper courtesy and consideration.</p>	
<p>Ensure effective, efficient and appropriate use of public resources.</p>	
<p>Avoid actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal or other interests and duties as a public sector officer.</p>	
<p>Ensure the officer's personal conduct does not:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adversely affect the performance of the officer's duties as a public sector officer 2. Bring the Public Sector into disrepute. 	

There was no significant failure to uphold these principles during 2014-2015.

CHAPTER 4

Performance Reports



Performance Reporting

Performance reporting, including achievements and priorities, has been recorded against the key components of the 2013-2017 Industry Development Plan. The plan is a guiding document and assists the department in maintaining a clear focus on addressing industry priorities, removing impediments to industry growth and continuing to play a key role in the development of northern Australia.

The objectives of the Industry Development Plan each Division have reported against are:

Profitable and productive Primary Industries

- Provide certainty and security to encourage investment
- Facilitate continuous improvement in production quantity and quality
- Expand market options for Territory products.

Optimal sustainable use of the Territory's natural resources

- Develop and promote more efficient and environmentally sound production systems
- Manage the Territory's aquatic resources to benefit all Territorians.

Integrated and risk-based biosecurity system that protects the Territory for risks and impacts of pests and diseases

- Develop and implement an NT Biosecurity Strategy
- Increase community involvement in biosecurity
- Protect the reputation of the Territory as a producer of quality primary produce
- Respond to biosecurity incursions.

Increased participation of Indigenous people in primary production

- Support Indigenous employment
- Encourage business development.

Biosecurity and Animal Welfare

Biosecurity and Animal Welfare protect the economy, environment and community from negative impacts of pests, diseases and weeds that could otherwise cause serious damage. Safeguarding our biosecurity is vital for the ongoing health, wellbeing and prosperity of the Northern Territory. In addition, the Animal Welfare Branch supports the department to improve the welfare of animals across the Territory through administration of the *Animal Welfare Act*.

Key Deliverables	2014-2015 Budget ¹	2014-2015 Actual	2015-2016 Budget
Resource and Product Integrity Group / Biosecurity and Animal Welfare			
Biosecurity projects and programs that support preparedness, monitoring and responses to pest and disease incursions	N/A ¹	18	18
Animal welfare projects and programs that support community awareness, engagement and compliance	N/A ¹	8	8
Chemical services projects and programs to monitor the use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals	N/A ¹	8	8

¹ Agency outputs have been restructured and new measures are being reported to align with Government's strategic priorities.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Commenced collaborative review of wild dog management on pastoral land with industry to identify opportunities for enhancing flexibility to reduce impacts of wild dogs on livestock
- Amended the *NT Livestock Act* and Livestock Regulations to enable collection of biosecurity fees
- Initiated a review of biosecurity arrangements and development of a Draft Biosecurity Strategy 2015-2025
- Received public submissions for the review of the *Animal Welfare Act*
- Received and responded to 517 complaints of animal cruelty or neglect; 10 convictions were made
- Supported development of small scale livestock slaughter facilities on the Tiwi Islands.
- Provided continuous emergency response for
 - National Banana Freckle Eradication Program
 - Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus Response
 - Asian Honey Bee.

PRIORITIES for 2015–2016

- Implement outcomes from review of the wild dog management program
- Work with industry and key stakeholders to build emergency response capability through the develop of a response training program
- Implement the 2015-2019 NT Crocodile Management Plan
- Progress drafting of legislation for the proposed Food Safety Primary Production Bill to replace the *Meat Industries Act*
- Implement a Draft Biosecurity Strategy 2015-2025 to protect industries from pests and diseases
- Develop and implement control strategies to protect the community and livestock industries from animal diseases
- Continue to manage wild dog impacts in Indigenous communities
- Develop regulation for primary production industries and enable adoption of the National Primary Processing and Production Standards
- Procure and implement a new biosecurity surveillance, incident response and tracing software system to manage biosecurity events in line with developing technologies
- Initiate a new emergency response to the Browsing Ant detection
- Continue to facilitate the involvement of Indigenous Territorians in biosecurity and animal welfare programs, including the role of Indigenous Ranger Program
- Support the proposal for development of a magpie geese slaughter facility in Darwin region and export of meat products.

Fisheries

The Fisheries Division works in partnership with Indigenous communities, commercial, recreational, fishing tourism, aquaculture and conservation stakeholders and partners to deliver strategic programs and services in order to enhance the sustainable development of the NT's fisheries resources. The Division's management programs are underpinned by quality scientific research and sound public policy.

Key Deliverables	2014-2015 Budget	2014-2015 Actual	2015-2016 Budget
Resource and Product Integrity Group / Fisheries			
Fishing and aquaculture programs to protect aquatic habitats	17	17	17
Projects that facilitate Indigenous economic development opportunities	8	8	8
Proportion of fisheries with contemporary risk assessments in place to guide management	62%	62%	62%
Proportion of fish stocks that are assessed as being sustainably fished	82%	82%	82%

ACHIEVEMENTS for 2014–2015

- Completed a review of the aquaculture program with key recommendations to improve service delivery for industry and to use the Darwin Aquaculture Centre (DAC) as a business incubator
- Commenced roll out of electronic services to fisheries clients
- Signed seven deeds of agreement under the Blue Mud Bay process to guarantee access to the intertidal zone, and deliver economic benefits for remote communities
- Legislated a new class of aquaculture licence for small scale ventures
- Legislated new regulations for the Aboriginal Coastal Licence
- Commenced legislative changes to improve and streamline the *Fisheries Act*
- Legislated new fish possession limits and the creation of reef fish protection areas to address sustainability issues for coastal reef fish
- Employed a business development manager to oversee development of a new business model for the DAC and Indigenous development projects
- Introduced quota management in the coastal line fishery
- Continued research and development into giant clam, tropical rock oyster and sea cucumber production
- Conducted a successful trial shipment of farmed giant clams to the United States of America

- Secured export approval for the trepang fishery from the Commonwealth for five years in recognition of the future sustainability
- Approved a research trial for new trawl areas in the offshore snapper fishery
- Supported exploration of a fishery for small pelagic fish
- Drafted a new framework for the offshore net and line fishery
- Produced the annual report on status of the Territory's fisheries
- Continued to conduct recreational fishing surveys to gauge participation and effort
- Established a Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee (RFAC)
- Removed the seasonal ban on recreational fishing in parts of the Mary River
- Commissioned a new research vessel to improve capacity of marine research
- Commenced a research program to monitor reef fish stocks
- Released the new 'NT Fishing Mate' smart phone application
- Continued implementation of priorities from the Recreational Fishing Development plan, including
 - Upgrading key boat ramps
 - Collecting information on recreational fishing activity
 - Spreading the message on the importance of stewardship of the Territory's aquatic resources
- Increased community awareness of risks associated with aquatic pests
- Developed a sharepoint website to enable government agencies to share information on fish kills reported by the public
- Conducted a scientific measurement and analysis course designed for Indigenous marine rangers
- Facilitated the harvest of fish by remote communities under the East Arnhem Indigenous fisheries project
- Provided mentoring to small-scale fishing businesses in four remote communities
- Commenced the delivery of Certificate III in Fisheries Compliance for Indigenous marine rangers
- Built a trial oyster farm on the Tiwi Islands
- Harvested oysters from the Goulburn Island project.

PRIORITIES for 2015–2016

- Lead development of new strategic plans to support industry investment
- Participate in implementing the recommendations from the Commonwealth's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper and Developing the North initiatives
- Develop a new management framework for the eastern zone of the Coastal Line Fishery
- Introduce electronic reporting for commercial fisheries
- Refine management arrangements for the mud crab fishery
- Legislate changes to the *Fisheries Act* and its Regulations to reduce red tape, improve fisheries compliance and increase protection of the Territory's aquatic resources
- Review and update the aquaculture development strategic plan
- Production of juvenile reef fish and barramundi at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre
- Renew wildlife accreditation for export fisheries to international markets
- Continue to investigate new fishery areas and develop harvest strategies
- Facilitate the upgrades to Dundee Beach and Shady Camp boat ramps
- Continue investigation pathways for the movement of naturally occurring heavy metals in aquatic ecosystems
- Operate fishery dependent and independent monitoring programs to assess the health of fish stocks and ensure appropriate management measures are in place
- Implement innovative solutions to monitor and prevent marine pests
- Develop the emergency response skills of Fisheries staff
- Expand delivery of certificate level training in the seafood industry to remote Indigenous communities
- Establish an Indigenous marine training program in Nhulunbuy
- Continue participation in the Indigenous apprenticeship program
- Continue delivery of training in fisheries compliance to marine rangers

- Provide support and training to assist new Aboriginal Coastal Licence holders
- Assist with the development of business plans for remote, Indigenous-owned seafood businesses
- Continue to research and develop trials of culturally appropriate aquaculture species
- Review and update the Indigenous Development Strategic Plan
- Hold Indigenous community consultative committee meetings to discuss fisheries management in regional areas
- Improve the delivery of community awareness program to the recreational fishing community.

Indigenous Employment

Initiative from the Northern Territory Government (NTG) has driven the growth of Indigenous employment within the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (DPIF) over many years. The department works in collaboration with training organisations by providing structured employment, training and development through different Indigenous programs including government and non-government initiatives. Participants in such programs have thrived with the 'hands-on' approach of the programs and the mentoring provided by the course facilitators and departmental staff. Key groups within the department have participated in supporting and encouraging business development by assisting Indigenous participation.



Pictured above: IPP have provided with assistance in Amanbidji with grazing land.

Pastoral Activities

The department is a founding member of the Indigenous Pastoral Program (IPP), established in 2003. The major objective of the IPP partnership is to support the development of Indigenous pastoral operations, enterprise development and enable economic, training, employment and capacity opportunities on Indigenous held land.

Department officers provide support and advice on property development, cattle and grazing land management over Indigenous lands. These considerations are assessed on a property by property basis, based on financial implications.

Achievements of the program during 2014-2015 included:

- Sixteen properties engaged with total annual turn-over of approximately 25,000 head of cattle generating revenue of about \$13.5 million
- Six Indigenous Cattleman Workshops (ICW) delivered, achieving 355 training outcomes for 90 Indigenous people
- Fourteen properties received business training and mentoring
- Six properties participated in the Business Management Advisory Program aimed at assisting managers to better manage risk, make fully informed decisions and reap the benefits of sustainable and profitable business management
- Fourteen properties implemented property/natural resource management plans supporting long-term sustainability on areas of Indigenous Lands under pastoral production

- Three properties negotiated commercial pastoral agreements

Seven properties commenced additional natural resource management activities including:

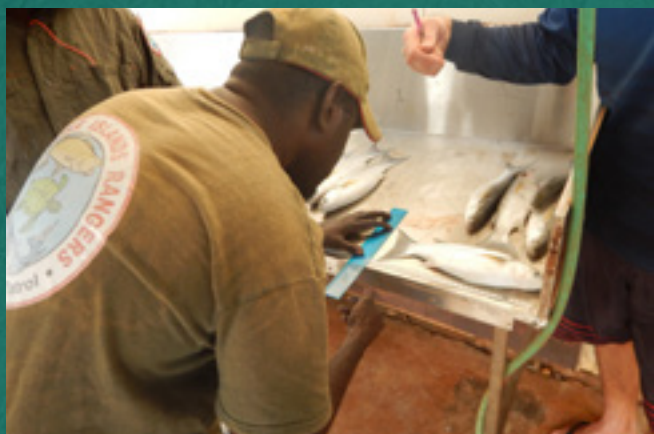
- Feral animal control
- Soil conservation works
- Fire management
- Weed management
- Fencing cultural and biodiversity significant areas
- Infrastructure development to support proficient grazing land management practices.

Fisheries

Since 2009 over 100 Indigenous sea rangers have completed a Certificate II course through the Indigenous Community Marine Ranger Program. Additionally, sea rangers have completed a Certificate II Measuring and Analysis course that provided skills in fisheries research.

Some components of the current training provided to rangers include:

- Fisheries compliance
- Report writing and evidence gathering for court room settings
- Work Health and Safety at sea
- Techniques for the monitoring of marine resources
- Liaison techniques when dealing with fishermen.



Pictured above: Crocodile Island rangers from Milingimbi have been working with DPIF to collect fish samples and data related to size and age of various fish species. This has also provided an opportunity for the rangers to establish interest in a commercial fishing enterprise for the region. Through the support from DPIF Indigenous fishing mentors, fresh fish on ice has been sold in the local community store.



Pictured above: Garngirr Fishing Aboriginal Corporation (GFAC) Chairman Mr Terry Yumbulul with Bo Carne (DPIF). Mr Yumbulul is employed by DPIF as a Community Engagement Officer on a part-time basis to support the establishment of Indigenous owned and operated commercial fishing enterprises in East Arnhem. He worked with other Traditional Owners across the region to formalise the GFAC.

Kurtly Harvey began a two year apprenticeship with the Lianthawirriyarra Sea Rangers in Borroloola through the department in February 2015. Kurtly is the second person from the remote community to undertake the department's Darwin based-training and has been working on a number of barramundi research activities whilst completing his apprenticeship.



Pictured: Kurtly examines an otolith, or fish ear bone—a means of recording growth

'I like the research part of my studies because I'm interested in the management of fish stocks so things can get protected,' said the 21-year-old, whose inspiration is Uncle Graham Friday, a senior sea ranger at Borroloola.

Kurtly previously did well in a department-sponsored Certificate II in Sampling and Measurement and his current work and studies will lead to a Certificate IV in Laboratory Analysis. Kurtly's work experience includes; conducting fish dissections to obtain tissue samples for heavy metal analysis; extracting and preparing otoliths from a number of fish species to determine age; electrofishing surveys to determine barramundi abundance and reef fish abundance surveys. Kurtly conducted independent field sampling, where he was the trip leader. Further work experience will include collecting biological samples, report writing and driving boats. He may also be aboard a commercial fishing vessel for weeks at a time, measuring fish and recording target species, bycatch and protected species interactions.

'Field work is the most interesting aspect of my studies,' said Kurtly who is thinking about continuing his education beyond the apprenticeship. He's already achieved a number of significant things, including the completion of his divisional vessel use training and he's currently finishing his Electrofishing certificate of competency and three units of his Certificate IV in Laboratory Analysis.

Laboratories

Program participants rotated through extensive placements in various technical and laboratory areas while completing Certificate III level studies. The highly disciplined nature of the mentors and the enthusiasm of participants made for a hugely successful outcome, with graduates being rapidly employed in the private sector on completion. The department continues to be involved with both programs and welcomes the opportunity to contribute to Indigenous development in the Territory.

Caitlyn Arnold completed an Indigenous apprenticeship with the DPIF and Department of Mines and Energy in January. Caitlyn began her lab career at the bauxite mine and alumina refinery in Gove and was offered an apprenticeship with the Northern Territory Government.

"I ended up having four placements with DPIF and my supervisors provided very good support," said Caitlyn, 26, who identifies with the Alawa people.

As a trainee laboratory technician with DPIF Caitlyn rotated through water chemistry, histology, haematology, virology, bacteriology, parasitology, animal husbandry and Plant Industries research. Caitlyn achieved a Certificate III in Laboratory Skills and soon after obtained employment in the private sector.



Pictured above: Through the IPP program a new Earth Tank at Twin Hill Estate. The tank holds around 230 million litres of water.

Plant Industries Development

The Plant Industries Development Division works in partnership with industry to secure sustainable and profitable development across the agriculture, horticulture and forestry sectors. The major research, development and extension functions of the Division focus around improving productivity and product quality, improving efficiencies and practices within the value chain to develop and maintain markets, and strengthening business adaptability to fully capture the benefits of new technology.

Key Deliverables	2014-2015 Budget ¹	2014-2015 Actual	2015-2016 Budget
Food Industry Development Group / Plant Industry Development			
Programs and activities that improve productivity, profitability and sustainability and enhance diversification in targeted precincts	N/A ¹	28	31

¹ Agency outputs have been restructured and new measures are being reported to align with Government's strategic priorities.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Assisted industry and other government agencies in the identification of combined land and water resources that could be set aside as future agricultural/horticultural precincts in the Territory
- Informed and added to the public policy debate around potential for new food, fibre and pharmaceutical-based rural industry developments in the NT; supporting the NT Farmers Association by organising a National Forum on Northern Australian rural industry development
- Improved pest management options for Asian vegetable growers in the Darwin rural areas and conducted Integrated Pest Management field days to maximize pesticide efficiency, and minimise potential product residues
- Evaluated a range of watermelon rootstock varieties to minimise the impact of Fusarium wilt in melon production
- Continued mango small group extension programs on grower driven priorities
- Evaluated banana varieties resistant/tolerant to Tropical Race 4 Panama disease
- Provided commercial nursery enterprises new production practices to maximise product quality and diversity of cultivars of Zingiber flowers
- Expanded the mango rootstock/scion trials into central Australia
- Initiated trials to evaluate options to manipulate mango fruit maturity to move the current harvest window forward and/or backwards for the Katherine and Darwin regions
- Demonstrated practices and technologies to reduce agricultural sector greenhouse gas emissions
- Fulfilled relevant staff competency training in plant health diagnostics under the Plant Health Australia guidelines
- Continued commercial evaluation of elite selections of bush tomatoes in collaboration with the CRC for Remote Economic Participation
- Actively engaged livestock industries and provided services for early reporting of pest and diseases.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Develop options for economically sound intensive cropping systems to de-risk for pastoral diversification
- Provide scientific rigor into precinct development
- Contribute to the development of the growNORTH Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) proposal
- Support other business units in the attraction of investment in agricultural development
- Continue to improve pest management options for Asian vegetable growers in the Darwin rural areas
- Continue to evaluate watermelon rootstock varieties to minimise the impact of Fusarium wilt in melon production
- Gain greater understanding of the role of nitrogen in mango productivity and fruit quality across a number of varieties
- Evaluate banana varieties resistant/tolerant to Tropical Race 4 Panama (TR4) disease with commercially acceptable traits
- Evaluate crop rotation options and diagnostic tools for the suppression of TR4 disease load in banana soils
- Provide commercial nursery enterprises new production practices to maximise product quality and diversity of cultivars of Zingiber flowers
- Evaluate alternative management options for termites in agricultural production systems
- Investigate the potential of stingless bees as pollinators of mango flowers
- Continue to establish close relationships with the hay and fodder industry
- Commercially release a number of improved Zingiber flowers suitable for the southern domestic markets
- Evaluate the commercial potential of new passionfruit varieties for northern Australia
- Demonstrating practices and technologies to reduce agricultural sector greenhouse gas emissions in mango and banana production systems
- Provide scientific support the CGMMV management program through targeted research programs
- Through the Central Australian Horticultural Development program foster the engagement of willing Indigenous groups
- Amend Plant Health Regulations and progress drafting instruction.

Major Economic Projects

Ord Development

The Ord Development focuses on extending the Ord Irrigation Scheme from Western Australia into 14,500 hectares of new agricultural land in the NT. The focus of Ord development work this year has been on progressing native title negotiations for Ord Stage 3A, which is 1800 hectares of agricultural land and 4200 farming buffer in the Knox Plain. The Northern Territory Government (NTG) made an offer to extinguish native title in November 2014 and attended a consultation meeting in Kununurra on 17 February 2015. The Northern Land Council (NLC) has convened a number of consultation meetings with native title holders and discussions are ongoing.

Key Deliverables	2014-2015 Budget ¹	2014-2015 Actual	2015-2016 Budget
Food Industry Development Group / Major Economic Projects			
Ord Stage 3 project	N/A ¹	1	1

¹ Agency outputs have been restructured and new measures are being reported to align with Government's strategic priorities.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Continued discussions with the Traditional Owners and the Northern Land Council regarding native title negotiations for Ord Stage 3A
- Continued engagement with Ord Stage 3A stakeholders
- Supported whole of Government investment attraction by hosting delegations from Korea, China and Vietnam interested in agribusiness
- Reviewed camel harvesting and processing opportunities in Central Australia
- Conducted economic review of biosecurity activities in the banana and melon industries
- Provided economic modelling for a review of development in Hemp production
- Reviewed the economy, household and consumer market in Cambodia
- Facilitated agribusiness investment interest
- Assisted in the NTG release of two “greenfield” horticulture blocks in Pine Hill which were then purchased by a foreign investor
- Supported the official opening of the Australian Agricultural Company (AACo) abattoir by the Prime Minister, The Hon Tony Abbott MP.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Finalise Ord Stage 3A native title negotiations and release the agricultural land to the market
- Develop new agricultural precincts in the NT and investment collateral
- Facilitate services for agribusiness investors, turning interest into investment
- Provide economic services to support the work of the department and stakeholders
- Continue to review the economy, household and consumer market in Cambodia as an emerging potential market.

Market and Enterprise Development

The Market and Enterprise Development Division supports industry partners to build capacity driven innovation and develop a long term profitable primary industry sector.

Key Deliverables	2014-2015 Budget ¹	2014-2015 Actual	2015-2016 Budget
Food Industry Development Group / Market and Enterprise Development			
Enterprise and market development projects for the Territory agriculture sectors ²	N/A ¹	14	11
Indigenous economic development and producer support programs ³	N/A ¹	4	2

¹ Agency outputs have been restructured and new measures are being reported to align with Government's strategic priorities.

² Project reduced in 2015-2016 due to a number of similar projects being combined.

³ Reduction in 2015-2016 due to program completion.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Implemented and promoted the Australian Government Drought and Farm Finance Concessional Loans Schemes
- Supported operations of Rural Business Support Services in the NT
- Established and delivered a subsidised interest rate scheme for commercial growers impacted by the Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus
- Investigated options to improve the pre-trucking management of steers from central Australia to improve Meat Standards Australia (MSA) grading
- Continued to strengthen relationships with East and Southeast Asian live export countries to ensure opportunity for increased trade
- Continued collaboration with Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and Western Australia Department of Agriculture and Food on the Committee of Northern Agriculture Ministers work plan including actioning outcomes from the Northern Australia Beef Industry Roundtables
- Successfully supported the mango industry in completing the first two shipments of Australian mangoes to the United States of America
- Supported employment opportunities for 90 indigenous people through the delivery of 6 Indigenous Cattleman Workshops (ICW) achieving 355 training outcomes. Training was facilitated in Grazing Land Management and Grazing for Profit for the 16 Indigenous properties within, as well as properties not directly involved in the Indigenous Pastoral Program (IPP)
- Delivered business training and mentoring to fourteen properties
- Six properties participated in the Business Management Advisory Program (BMAP) improving on property decision making outcomes
- Provided assistance to the sixteen properties in IPP with total annual turn-off of approximately 25,000 head of cattle
- Completed a study into the assessment of the feasibility of an industrial hemp sector has been completed with a draft report provided to Government for consideration

- Commenced a study into the feasibility of a commercial harvest of Agile wallabies in the Top End with funding from the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC)
- Provided input into the national whitepapers on the Development of Northern Australia and Australia's Agricultural Competitiveness
- Provided assistance to Northern Territory Farmers Association with the planning of the successful Northern Australia Food Futures Conference, which attracted 300 delegates from across the country and internationally
- Completed a draft Forestry Code of Practice with input from other NTG agencies for comment by industry prior to being finalised.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Provide fit-for-purpose research and demonstration facilities for pastoral, agricultural and horticultural research projects
- Continue investigating options to improve the pre-trucking management of steers to improve meat quality
- Support and promote the Australian Government Drought Concessional Loans Scheme
- Provide ongoing support for Rural Financial Counselling Services
- Continue delivering the subsidised interest rate scheme for commercial growers impacted by the Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus
- Continue to strengthen relationships with government, customers and industry in existing markets in East and South East Asia and develop emerging markets
- Continue to collaborate with Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Western Australian Department of Agriculture and Food under the auspices of the Committee of Northern Australian Agriculture Ministers
- Provide ongoing support to the mango industries overseas export development
- Present preliminary results from Old Man Plains Quality Graze to demonstrate how recommended grazing practices can assist to improve land condition and productivity in the arid zone
- Support employment opportunities will be supported through training in rangelands, cattle, and business management
- Provide specialised support to six properties through Business Management Advisory Program (BMAP)
- Assist with the planning of the 2nd Northern Australia Food Futures Conference
- Continue with the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) study into the feasibility of a commercial harvest of Agile wallabies in the top end of the territory
- Investigate prospects for developing a soybean industry in the Territory
- Complete the Forestry Code of Practice for best practice in the NT forestry industry.

Livestock Industries Development

The Livestock Industries Development Division assists the Northern Territory cattle and buffalo industries to maintain and increase their vital role in the Territory's rural economy and in the management of a large proportion of the Territory landscape. The division achieves this mainly through research, development and extension programs.

Key Deliverables	2014-2015 Budget ¹	2014-2015 Actual	2015-2016 Budget
Food Industry Development Group / Livestock Industry Development			
Research, development and extension projects to increase the productivity, profitability and sustainability of the Territory cattle herd and export status	N/A ¹	17	17
Research programs to improve domestic buffalo production	N/A ¹	3	3

¹ Agency outputs have been restructured and new measures are being reported to align with Government's strategic priorities.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Conducted research on cattle productivity, grazing management, and the use of innovative pasture resources
- Undertook five on-property demonstrations of steer management, bull breeding, poll genetics, 5-in-1 vaccine and growth promotants
- Delivered workshops for the staff of major pastoral companies
- Completed the 'Cashcow' project, a major study of the reasons why some North Australian cattle herds are more productive than others
- Continued genetic improvement within the Brahman breed to improve fertility
- Demonstrated the domestic and overseas market preference for crossbreeding cattle and the increased profit available
- Conducted a steer competition to demonstrate the performance possible from Central Australian cattle under management
- Carried out a detailed trial on the effects of age at weaning and weaner diets on the future growth and performance of female cattle heifers
- Commenced a demonstration of Precision Management Tools on a pastoral station
- Provided services to clients of the cattle industry in Vietnam and Indonesia to assist with their productivity and ensure animal welfare standards are upheld
- Conducted scoping study of potential cattle and buffalo projects in Timor Leste
- Commenced program of closer communication with the Buffalo Industry
- Assisted with training the Indonesian Student program which provides strong links between the Indonesian and NT cattle industries

- Published
 - Industry Survey with comprehensive data
 - Quarterly Pastoral Feed Outlook bulletins to assist industry
 - A series of scientific papers to enable the results of departmental research to become available to the wider community
- Conducted rangeland services to provide improved grazing management
- Trialled fire and grazing to maintain productive and sustainable pastures
- Assisted the project on intensified grazing at Beetaloo Station
- Provided support for the Indigenous Pastoral Program and for indigenous enterprises outside the program.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Assist stations with advice on ways of increasing their carrying capacity by developing more water points, smaller and more efficient paddocks, and improved pasture and fodder crops
- Run field days in at least four locations across the Territory
- Run Barkly Herd Management Forum to assist Barkly stations
- Complete current buffalo genetic research program and publish buffalo management manual
- Start a process of upgrading all department herds to the standard of the selected Brahman and document the process as a demonstration for industry
- Continue an intensive study of the effects of long haul transport from Central Australia to southern abattoirs on premium meat quality
- Carry out a detailed study of the production effects of Phosphorus deficiency and the cost-effectiveness of providing it as a supplement
- Provide training and oversight to assist the Provincial Government of East Kalimantan, Indonesia, with a program of importing 11,000 Australian breeding cattle for up to 5,500 local farmers to graze under their palm plantations
- Continue strategic assistance to new enterprises in Vietnam importing NT cattle
- Conduct trials of pre-slaughter stunning on buffalo to enable them to be processed under Halal conditions
- Continue rangeland trials at Kidman Springs, Delamere, Alexandria, Beetaloo and Old Man Plains with an emphasis on completing long-term trials and presenting results
- Provide ongoing support, advice and information to Indigenous pastoral operations and assist prospective new enterprises with their planning.

Strategic Services and Policy Coordination

Strategic Services and Policy Coordination provides specialist professional services to department and external clients in the areas of library and information services, experimental design and biometric analysis, scientific and technical publications, delivery of Territory and Australian Government programs to industry and business clients and policy analysis and development. The Division also manages the Communications and Marketing and Infrastructure and Assets Management Groups which deliver shared corporate services arrangements, as well as the departments accredited veterinary and water laboratories.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Continued to support processes to identify land for future agricultural development for food production
- Coordinated departmental technical advice in relation to environment assessment, land use, subdivision and land development applications for the northern and southern regions
- Maintained technical publications and information packages for Primary Industry and Fisheries clients
- Represented the Territory in national gene technology policy forums and coordinated technical advice to the national Gene Technology Regulator
- Represented the Territory at national Primary Industry Policy Forums and provided support to the national Ministers meeting
- Transferred arrangements for delivery of Drought and Farm Finance Concessional Loans and Rural Business Support Services to Market and Enterprise Development Division.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Review, update and move to electronic format release for technical publications, reports and information packages to ensure timely and accurate information is readily available
- Continuing contributions to the development and implementation of national gene technology and primary industry policy reform processes
- Continue to provide training to volunteer staff for the skills needed to support the NT biosecurity system
- Provide services for policy analysis, review and development including legislation, draft Cabinet Submissions and draft Territory and federal policies
- Provide services for development of procedures and overview of processes relating to regulation of new industries under restrictive controls
- Configure and implement an upgraded Laboratory Information Management Software for accredited laboratories
- Continue delivery of infrastructure and assets management with major upgrade of buildings and plan for the Berrimah Farm Development.

Corporate and Governance Services

The department's corporate and governance services are shared with the Department of Mines and Energy (DME) under an agreement which commenced in 2013–2014. These services include:

- Communications and Marketing
- Financial Services, Travel and Budgets
- Human Resources, Risk and Audit
- Information and Communications Technology and Information Management
- Infrastructure and Assets Management.

A survey of client satisfaction for the Corporate and Governance Output Division resulted in an actual satisfaction rating of 97% against an estimate of 95% for 2014–2015 year.

Communications and Marketing

The Communications and Marketing Group is responsible for providing advice, services and project support across a range of media, for strategic communications, events, marketing and crisis management

The Group also provides advice on complying with whole of Government policies in close liaison with the Communications and Marketing Bureau in the Department of the Chief Minister.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Developed strategic communications including media, marketing and web materials to support major initiatives and responses to emergency events.
- Provided advice and support with materials at a range of conferences, including Food Futures, Territory Natural Resource Management, NT Cattlemen's Association Annual General Meeting and the Fairfax Field Day in Katherine
- Supported communications, marketing, web and community engagement arrangements for biosecurity incidents
- Provided high quality media advice and services, including over 110 media releases and events – of which 50 were adopted by the Minister's office
- Provided regular contributions to regional NTG newsletters to help promote the work of the department and its staff and moved to electronic mail format to improve distribution
- Managed department displays at the Darwin, Freds Pass and Adelaide River regional shows and provided advice and support for other regional show displays
- Implemented comprehensive and streamlined daily media monitoring using the whole of government contract
- Supported the production and launch of the Field Guide to Pests, Beneficials, Diseases and Disorders in Vegetables in Northern Australia
- Produced many publications, documents and supporting materials for business areas, including newsletters, booklets, brochures and posters.
- Provided media training to finalists in the Rural Women's Award.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Continue to provide a high level of media support to both departments and the Minister's Office
- Support internal and external stakeholder communications
- Migrate the department image library into a new whole of government system
- Update the department's emergency communications plans including cyclone preparedness
- Support the whole of government project to redevelop online web content in line with NTG Digital Strategy for public facing websites
- Facilitate the provision of training to agency staff in the fundamentals of developing communications strategies and media training.

Financial Services

Financial Services provides a range of corporate support and related services, including strategic advice and training on its core business of budget management, financial reporting, accounting, travel and maintains close liaison with the Procurement Network in the Department of Business.

FINANCIAL SERVICES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Leading and coordinating the department's financial management
- Ensuring statutory obligations, financial principles and accounting standards are maintained for all transactions and financial statements
- Providing strong budget management support to internal operational business divisions so the department achieves budget through timely and accurate financial reporting.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING SHARED CORPORATE SERVICES FUNCTIONS:

- Coordination of the budget
- Travel system
- Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable functions
- Corporate credit cards.

PROVIDING SUPERIOR COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION AND REPORTING:

- Maintain close liaison and direct communication with officers of other stakeholder agencies to report on budgetary, financial, procurement and reporting matters. These agencies include;
 - Department of Treasury and Finance
 - Department of the Chief Minister
 - Department of Corporate and Information Services
 - Department of Business.
- Report to Department of Treasury and Finance, the Minister's Office and Parliament as required.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Facilitated and managed the restructure of the department from a financial management and reporting perspective to ensure the new structure was in place by 31 October 2014
- Provided an efficient and successful service to staff, including additional assistance relating to finance and travel services required for the management of the NT response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program
- Updated all financial and travel policies and procedures, including financial delegations
- Provided and facilitated training for official travel processes under the new whole of Government Policy
- Facilitated training to ensure the correct procurement processes were being followed
- Facilitated and managed end-of-year monitoring processes, which ensured the department achieved budget
- Reviewed all externally-funded projects from a financial management perspective to ensure all acquittals were processed and projects finalised.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Continue to review finance and travel procedures and processes to improve efficiency
- Ensure all buildings are revalued under the five year rolling program as per the Treasurers Directions
- Continue to provide a high standard of advice, support and professional services to the departments under the Shared Services Agreement, from a financial management perspective, with a focus on client service
- Continue to liaise with Department of Treasury and Finance to ensure accurate and appropriate budget cover and revenue estimates are incorporated into the budget.

Human Resources

Human Resources deliver strategic, client focused support services for the effective management of employees in the following areas: recruitment; training and development; compliance and organisational support services.

HUMAN RESOURCES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Organisational change initiatives to support the department's repositioning
- STAR Awards and service milestones ceremony
- Organising development activities of leaders and future leaders providing them with the ability to adapt to future challenges
- Strategic HR and workforce plans
- Specialist human resources advisory services to management and staff
- Recruitment advice to help ensure the department recruits the right people.
- Project and case management of human resources, industrial relations, grievance, performance and discipline matters
- Early careers coordination relating to Apprenticeships, the Graduate program, Indigenous Cadetship Support program and the Indigenous Employment program
- Management of NTG service agreements and stakeholder relationships
- Facilitation of early intervention of workforce and industrial relations issues
- Maintaining an effective Employee Assistance Program.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Increased the provision of key development and training initiatives with such programs as Respect in the Workplace
- Implemented changes to recruitment and selection in line with the development of a new whole of government recruitment policy
- Provided HR support for staffing and operations for the response to Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus (CGMMV) and Banana Freckle
- Coordinated the annual STAR Awards and service milestones presentations that acknowledge individual and team excellence in the pursuit of the department's objectives and longevity in the service
- Conducted a leadership program for 19 nominated participants with the aim to develop the necessary skills to become effective leaders in the service
- Provided strong leadership to the department's Indigenous employment initiatives and priorities which has included the delivery of cultural awareness programs.
- Maintained the Indigenous Apprentice and Cadet programs
- Conducted an audit of biosecurity emergency response preparedness
- Developed and maintained Strategic Risk Management frameworks and Committee.

EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

- Provided advice regarding employment conditions and entitlements
- Actively contributed to and supported the sector wide Enterprise Agreement
- Continued to work cooperatively with Unions

HR SUPPORT AND ADVICE

- Provided advice and influenced managers in best practice human resource management within the Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) governance frameworks
- Supported flexible working arrangements including transitions to retirement, part-time work, home based working arrangements and flexible working hours.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Provided new employees with online induction to Work Health and Safety (WHS)
- Actively supported workers compensation matters
- Maintained reporting on WHS incidents
- Provided reporting processes for DPIF WHS committee
- Arranged Dealing with Confrontation training for regulators which 21 employees attended
- Managed and conducted the Farms Risk Register Project.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Implementing key actions of the People Plan 2014-2017 including:
 - Developing strategies that align with the NTG's aim of increasing the number of Indigenous employees in the public sector
 - Develop current and future leaders to meet future challenges
 - Maintain a positive, safe and diverse workplace
 - Provide advice on recruitment selection policy, procedures and options.
- Maintain education programs for employees, which include cultural awareness and understanding Indigenous employment and business development
- Monitor and increase the number of people having performance discussions using the Personal Development Review process. These discussions focus on having a culture of shared commitment, performance and development and provide employees a better awareness of the overall needs and direction of the department
- Maintain the Executive Management Group's Strategic Business Risk Assessment process
- Maintain and implementing the department's Internal Audit Schedule.

Information Management and Information Technology

Information Technology (IT) and Information Management (IM) implements and manages appropriate systems and technologies to capture, track and analyse the information generated and gathered by the department and manage matters relating to freedom of information and information privacy.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Capture and store departmental records and information in electronic systems and hard copy files
- Provide advice and training on best practice record keeping and assist individual areas to incorporate this into business processes
- Manage the information disposal process in accordance with relevant legislation and standards
- Manage the development and maintenance of departmental disposal schedules and the administration of the records management system (TRIM)
- Manage external contracts for postage and courier services.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- Provide advice and training on the *Information Act* and Freedom of Information (FOI) processes
- Accept FOI requests and coordinating the receipt, review, redacting* and release of information within legislated timeframes
- Report FOI requests and outcomes to the Information Commissioner.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Manage and maintain the department's IT infrastructure either directly or through outsourced service providers
- Develop and maintain specialist business systems on behalf of individual business areas
- Implement solutions to improve collaboration, automation, workflow tracking, business analysis and reporting
- Overseeing ongoing program of system and software upgrades and improvements
- Continue the rollout of online forms and electronic submissions and approvals for internal and external clients
- Review and management of IT project requests.

*Redacting is the process of obscuring or 'blacking out' information where there are exemptions that prohibit release. Examples of this are people's names to protect individual privacy, details of commercial-in-confidence transactions or specific Cabinet-related material.

ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2014–2015

- Reviewed IM practices and services which resulted in some outsourcing of additional courier services for business efficiency
- Transferred 1,085 files to NT Archive Services and disposed of 700 in accordance with approved disposal schedules
- Provided significant ongoing IT and IM support to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program
- Received and considered 13 individual IT project proposals
- Managed upgrades and enhancements to a number of specialist business systems
- Upgraded SharePoint environment to 2013.

PRIORITIES FOR 2015–2016

- Continue to implement new systems and technologies to provide web and mobile access to systems and information
- Assist with the review and development of IT and IM Strategic Plans and departmental Business Continuity Plans
- Continue to consolidate departmental databases and data sources to improve access and efficiency
- Assist with the replacement and upgrade of key business systems in the Water Analytical Laboratories, Berrimah Veterinary Laboratory and Biosecurity
- Provide ongoing support to the National Banana Freckle eradication program and other emergency responses
- Introduce Enterprise Search capability.

CHAPTER 5

Finance



Financial Statement Overview

For the Year Ended 30 June 2015

The 2014-2015 financial statements and notes for the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries (the department) have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards. The department's financial performance in 2014-2015 and comparative financial information for 2013-2014 are reported in four financial statements: the Comprehensive Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement.

COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT - SUMMARY

	2014-2015	2013-2014	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Operating Income	66 927	53 413	13 514
Operating Expenses	67 039	59 307	7 732
Net operating surplus/ (deficit)	(112)	(5 894)	5 782
Other Comprehensive Income			
Asset Revaluation Reserve	0	904	(904)
Transfers from Reserves	2	2 383	(2 381)
Total Other Comprehensive Income	2	3 287	(3 285)
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT	(110)	(2 607)	2 497

The Comprehensive Operating Statement details the department's financial performance on income and expenditure for the year by detailing the sources and nature of same. The net deficit for the year is calculated by subtracting the expenses from income.

The operating net deficit of \$0.112 million in 2014-2015, compared with a \$5.894 million deficit in 2013-2014 is largely due to the timing of reimbursements from the Commonwealth and other cost sharing jurisdictions relating to expenditure incurred by the department since 2013-2014 responding to the national response for the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.

The minimal movement in the department's comprehensive result to the net operating deficit in 2014-2015 in comparison to the 2013-2014 comprehensive result was due to no revaluations of land and buildings being carried out in 2014-2015. Further details are set out in Note 10 of the Financial Statements.

OPERATING INCOME

	2014-2015	2013-2014	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Current Grants and Subsidies	2 293	742	1 551
Output Appropriation	41 609	41 674	(65)
Commonwealth Appropriation	10 455	10	10 445
Sale of Goods and Services	7 101	7 171	(70)
Goods and Services received free of charge	2 112	1 765	347
Gain on Disposal of Assets	43	0	43
Other Income	3 314	2 051	1 263
TOTAL INCOME	66 927	53 413	13 514

The department's principal source of revenue is sourced through Northern Territory Parliamentary appropriation, classified as Output Appropriation which was 62 per cent of total income in 2014-2015. A further \$10.455 million was received in 2014-2015 through Commonwealth Appropriation for the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program with the balance of \$10.699 million generated through the Sales of Goods and Services, Fees and funding from Commonwealth, State Agencies and private research and development corporations/organisations. In addition to this \$2.052 million was received from the Department of Mines and Energy (DME) for the provision of corporate services.

Included in the department's total income was \$2.112 million of notional income for services received free of charge from the Department of Corporate and Information Services (DCIS) which is fully negated by an offsetting expense classified under Administrative Expenses. This relates to centralised corporate services for the processing of accounts payable, payroll and property management services so as to project the true cost of the department delivering its programs and services.

The increase in income in 2014-2015 of \$13.514 million, is largely due to funding received from the Commonwealth and other cost sharing jurisdictions (\$12.356 million) to reimburse the department for expenditure incurred for the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program. In addition to this, other funding for projects from the Commonwealth, State Agencies and private research and development corporations/organisations also increased in 2014-2015.

Details of department income from Sales of Goods and Services and Other Income can be found in Note 6 of the Financial Statements.

OPERATING EXPENSES

	2014-2015	2013-2014	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Employee Expenses	37 396	31 357	6 039
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>			
Purchase of Goods and Services	19 403	16 711	2 692
Repairs and Maintenance	3 441	4 312	(871)
Depreciation	3 133	2 978	155
Goods and Services free of charge	2 112	1 765	347
Other Administrative Expenses	(11)	34	(45)
<i>Grants and Subsidies</i>			
Current Grants	1 565	2 150	(585)
TOTAL EXPENSES	67 039	59 307	7 732

In 2014-2015 employee expenses accounted for 56 per cent of the department's total expenditure and purchases of goods and services accounted for 29 per cent. Payments of grants and repairs and maintenance (R&M) are the other major expenses incurred by the department, with non cash transactions relating to depreciation and notional DCIS charges, making up the balance.

The increase in expenses in 2014-2015 compared to 2013-2014, is 13 per cent and largely due to expenditure incurred by the department responding to the national response for the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program and higher expenditure relating to funding received from the Commonwealth, State Agencies and private research and development corporations/organisations. Other significant increased expenditure includes pay rises relating to the Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) Enterprise Agreement and notional charges relating to services provided by DCIS.

The increase in expenditure detailed above is offset by a decrease in R&M expenses predominantly due to the removal of program management fees previously charged by the Department of Infrastructure. The payment of grants also decreased significantly due to a higher uptake at the commencement of the Live Export Subsidised Interest Rate Scheme in 2013-2014 and payments relating to the Blue Mud Bay Decision being reclassified to operational in 2014-2015.

Details of expenditure relating to Purchases of Goods and Services can be found in Note 7 while Grant Payments are set out in Appendix 1.

BALANCE SHEET - SUMMARY

	2014-2015	2013-2014	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Assets	81 753	78 684	3 069
Liabilities	10 957	9 376	1 581
Equity	70 796	69 308	1 488

The Balance Sheet details the department's financial position on assets, liabilities and equity at balance date.

ASSETS

Of the department's total assets in 2014-2015, \$73.676 million, or 90 per cent, relates to its holding on property plant and equipment. The remaining assets comprise of cash deposits, receivables and prepayments.

The increase in total assets in 2014-2015 compared to 2013-2014 is largely due to cash and deposits held, which increased by \$2.57 million and is predominantly made up of pre-committed ongoing externally funded projects required to be carried forward into 2015-16. Accounts receivable have also increased largely due to Goods and Services Tax (GST) receivable associated with higher expenditure on the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.

The increases detailed above were partially offset by a decrease in property, plant and equipment relating to depreciation.

Further details on assets can be found at Notes 8, 9, and 10 with details on the Accountable Officer's Trust Account (AOTA) at Note 22.

LIABILITIES

Of the department's total liabilities in 2014-2015, \$5.491 million, or 50 per cent, relates to provisions for employee leave entitlements. The remaining liabilities comprise of unearned revenue, accounts payable and deposits held. Further details on liabilities can be found in Notes 12, 13, 14 and 15.

The increase in total liabilities in 2014-2015 compared to 2013-2014 is mainly a result of an increase in unearned revenue relating to externally funded projects.

A positive equity position indicates that the agency has sufficient assets to cover liabilities.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY - SUMMARY

	2014-2015	2013-2014	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Balance of Equity at 1 July	69 308	72 121	
Net Equity Injections/(Withdrawals)	1 598	(206)	
Asset Revaluation Reserve	0	904	
Accumulated Funds	(110)	(3 511)	
Balance of Equity at 30 June	70 796	69 308	1 488

The Statement of Changes in Equity reflects movements in equity balances during the year.

The increase in equity from 2013-2014 to 2014-2015 of \$1.488 million was a result of the following movements:

- Transfer in of capital appropriation for the purchase of plant and equipment of \$0.274 million
- Transfer in relating to the capitalisation of minor new works of \$1.324 million
- Minor adjustments relating to prior year corrections of \$2 000
- A net operating deficit of \$0.112 million.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - SUMMARY

	2014-2015	2013-2014	Variation
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Cash at 1 July	2 585	4 202	(1 617)
Receipts	66 917	54 719	12 198
Payments	(64 260)	(55 977)	(8 283)
Proceeds from the Sale of Assets	51	0	51
Purchase of Assets	(472)	(997)	525
Net Deposits Received	60	(153)	213
Advances and Investing Payments	(1 220)	0	(1 220)
Proceeds of Borrowings	1 220	0	1 220
Net Equity Injections/(Withdrawals)	274	791	(517)
Cash at 30 June	5 155	2 585	2 570

The Cash Flow Statement provides information on the movement of cash in and out of the department during the year. The cash balance of \$5.155 million at year end predominantly relates to the quarantining of cash for externally funded projects committed in 2015-2016.

Figures in the Cash Flow Statement vary from those in the Comprehensive Operating Statement as the Cash Flow Statement includes only cash transactions, whereas the Operating Statement includes non-cash items such as depreciation, annual non-cash adjustments to employee entitlements and services received free of charge from DCIS.

The variation in the cash held at the end of the financial year between 2014-2015 and 2013-2014 is due to an increase in cash balances committed to externally funded projects.

Further details on the Cash Flow Statement can be found at Note 17.

CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries have been prepared from proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the Financial Management Act and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the Comprehensive Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2015 and the financial position on that date.

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



ALISTER TRIER
Chief Executive
27 August 2015



KAREN SIMPSON
Chief Financial Officer
27 August 2015

COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$000	2014 \$000
INCOME			
Grants and subsidies revenue			
Current		2 293	742
Appropriation			
Output		41 609	41 674
Commonwealth		10 455	10
Sales of goods and services	6	7 101	7 171
Goods and Services received free of charge ⁽¹⁾	4	2 112	1 765
Gain on disposal of assets	5	43	0
Other income	6	3 314	2 051
TOTAL INCOME	3	66 927	53 413
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses		37 396	31 357
Administrative expenses			
Purchases of goods and services	7	19 403	16 711
Repairs and maintenance		3 441	4 312
Depreciation and amortisation	10	3 133	2 978
Goods and Services free of charge ⁽¹⁾		2 112	1 765
Other administrative expenses		(11)	34
Grants and subsidies expenses			
Current		1 565	2 150
TOTAL EXPENSES	3	67 039	59 307
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(112)	(5 894)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items that will not be reclassified to net surplus/(deficit)			
Asset Revaluation Reserve		0	904
Transfers from Reserves		2	2 383
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		2	3 287
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		(110)	(2 607)

⁽¹⁾ DCIS service charges

The Comprehensive Operating Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$000	2014 \$000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and deposits	8	5 155	2 585
Receivables	9	1 648	1 028
Advances paid	13	1 220	0
Prepayments		54	43
Total Current Assets		8 077	3 656
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	73 676	75 028
Total Non-Current Assets		73 676	75 028
TOTAL ASSETS		81 753	78 684
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Deposits held	22	246	186
Payables	12	1 888	1 928
Advances received	13	1 220	0
Provisions	14	3 724	3 654
Other liabilities	15	2 112	1 786
Total Current Liabilities		9 190	7 554
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	14	1 767	1 822
Total Non-Current Liabilities		1 767	1 822
TOTAL LIABILITIES		10 957	9 376
NET ASSETS		70 796	69 308
EQUITY			
Capital		65 549	63 951
Reserves	16	33 284	33 284
Accumulated funds		(28 037)	(27 927)
TOTAL EQUITY		70 796	69 308

The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	Equity at 1 Jul	Comprehensive result	Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	Equity at 30 Jun
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2014-2015					
Accumulated Funds					
Accumulated Funds		(30 310)	(112)		(30 422)
Transfers from reserves		2 383	2		2 385
		(27 927)	(110)		(28 037)
Reserves					
Asset Revaluation Reserve	16	33 284			33 284
		33 284			33 284
Capital – Transactions with Owners					
Equity injections					
Capital appropriation		14 178		274	14 452
Equity transfers in		82 049		1 324	83 373
Other equity injections		7 165		0	7 165
Total Equity Injections		103 392		1 598	104 990
Equity withdrawals					
Capital withdrawal		(22 928)			(22 928)
Equity transfers out		(16 513)			(16 513)
Total Equity Withdrawals		(39 441)			(39 441)
		63 951		1 598	65 549
Total Equity at End of Financial Year		69 308	(110)	1 598	70 796

	Note	Equity at 1 Jul	Comprehensive result	Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners	Equity at 30 Jun
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2013-2014					
Accumulated Funds					
Accumulated Funds		(24 416)	(5 894)		(30 310)
Transfers from reserves		0	2 383		2 383
		(24 416)	(3 511)		(27 927)
Reserves					
Asset Revaluation Reserve	16	32 380	904		33 284
		32 380	904		33 284
Capital – Transactions with Owners					
Equity injections					
Capital appropriation		13 297		881	14 178
Equity transfers in		80 440		1 609	82 049
Other equity injections		7 165		0	7 165
Total Equity Injections		100 902		2 490	103 392
Equity withdrawals					
Capital withdrawal		(22 838)		(90)	(22 928)
Equity transfers out		(13 907)		(2 606)	(16 513)
Total Equity Withdrawals		(36 745)		(2 696)	(39 441)
		64 157		(206)	63 951
Total Equity at End of Financial Year		72 121	(2 607)	(206)	69 308

The Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 June 2015

	Note	2015 \$000	2014 \$000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Operating Receipts			
Grants and subsidies received			
Current		2 293	742
Appropriation			
Output		41 609	41 674
Commonwealth		10 455	10
Receipts from sales of goods and services		12 560	12 293
Total Operating Receipts		66 917	54 719
Operating Payments			
Payments to employees		(37 203)	(31 151)
Payments for goods and services		(25 492)	(22 676)
Grants and subsidies paid			
Current		(1 565)	(2 150)
Total Operating Payments		(64 260)	(55 977)
Net Cash From/(Used in) Operating Activities	17	2 657	(1 258)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Investing Receipts			
Proceeds from asset sales	5	51	0
Total Investing Receipts		51	0
Investing Payments			
Purchases of assets		(472)	(997)
Advances and investing payments	13	(1 220)	0
Total Investing Payments		(1 692)	(997)
Net Cash From/(Used in) Investing Activities		(1 641)	(997)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Financing Receipts			
Proceeds of borrowings	13	1 220	0
Deposits received		60	(153)
Equity injections			
Capital appropriation		274	881
Total Financing Receipts		1 554	728
Financing Payments			
Equity withdrawals		0	(90)
Total Financing Payments		0	(90)
Net Cash From/(Used in) Financing Activities		1 554	638
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		2 570	(1 617)
Cash at beginning of financial year		2 585	4 202
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	8	5 155	2 585

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Index of Notes to the Financial Statements

Note

1. Objectives and Funding
2. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies
3. Comprehensive Operating Statement by Output Group

INCOME

4. Goods and Services Received Free of Charge
5. Gain on Disposal of Assets
6. Sale of Goods and Services and Other Income

EXPENSES

7. Purchases of Goods and Services

ASSETS

8. Cash and Deposits
9. Receivables
10. Property, Plant and Equipment
11. Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets

LIABILITIES

12. Payables
13. Borrowings and Advances
14. Provisions
15. Other Liabilities

EQUITY

16. Reserves

OTHER DISCLOSURES

17. Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
18. Financial Instruments
19. Commitments
20. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
21. Events Subsequent to Balance Date
22. Accountable Officer's Trust Account
23. Write-offs, Postponements, Waivers, Gifts and Ex Gratia Payments
24. Schedule of Administered Territory Items
25. Budgetary Information

1. OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING

The Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries is responsible for the development and management of primary industry and fisheries, in line with government priorities, and works closely with resource-based industry partners to deliver programs focused on sustainable and productive farming and fishing. The department supports government priorities around regional and Indigenous economic development and developing food-based market opportunities for industry.

Additional information in relation to the department and its principal activities may be found in Chapter 4 Performance Reporting of the Annual Report.

The department is predominantly funded by, and is dependent on, the receipt of Parliamentary appropriations. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the department controls resources to carry on its functions and deliver outputs. For reporting purposes, outputs delivered by the agency are summarised into several output groups. Note 3, provides summary financial information in the form of a Comprehensive Operating Statement by output group.

AGENCY OUTPUT GROUP/OUTPUTS:

Food Industry Development

- Market and Enterprise Development
- Plant Industries Development
- Livestock Industries Development
- Major Economic Projects

Resource and Product Integrity

- Biosecurity and Animal Welfare
- Fisheries

Water Testing Services

- Water Testing Services

Corporate and Governance

- Corporate and Governance
- Shared Services Provided

2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and related Treasurer's Directions. The *Financial Management Act* requires the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of department financial statements is to include:

- (i) A Certification of the Financial Statements
- (ii) A Comprehensive Operating Statement
- (iii) A Balance Sheet
- (iv) A Statement of Changes in Equity
- (v) A Cash Flow Statement
- (vi) Applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, all intra agency transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Except where stated, the financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

The form of the department financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current annual reporting period have been evaluated. The Standards and Interpretations and their impacts are:

AASB 1031 Materiality (2013), AASB 2013-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Conceptual Framework, Materiality and Financial Instruments, AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part C – Materiality)

Revised AASB 1031 is an interim standard that cross-references to other standards and the *Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements* that contain guidance on materiality. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

AASB 1055 Budgetary Reporting

AASB 1055 sets out budgetary reporting requirements for not-for-profit entities within the General Government Sector. The required disclosures comprise a separate note accompanying the financial statements.

AASB 2013-3 Amendments to AASB 136 – Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets

The amendments to AASB 136 *Impairment of Assets* address the disclosure of information about the recoverable amount of impaired assets if that amount is based on fair value less costs of disposal. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

AASB 2014-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part A – Annual Improvements 2010-2012 and 2011-2013 Cycles)

Part A of the standard makes amendments to various Australian Accounting Standards (AASB 2, 3, 8, 9, 13, 116, 119, 124, 137, 138, 139, 140 & 1052 and Interpretation 129) arising from the issuance by IASB of *IFRSs Annual Improvements to IFRS 2010-2012 Cycle and Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2011-2013 Cycle*. The standard does not impact the financial statements.

b) Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations Issued but not yet Effective

At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations listed below were in issue but not yet effective.

Standard/ Interpretation	Summary	Effective For Annual Reporting Periods Beginning On Or After	Impact On Financial Statements
AASB 9 <i>Financial Instruments (Dec 2014)</i> , AASB 2014-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Part E – Financial Instruments)</i> , AASB 2014-7 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (Dec 2014)</i>	The final version of AASB 9 brings together the classification and measurement, impairment and hedge accounting phases of the IASB's project to replace AASB 139 <i>Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement</i> . This version adds a new expected loss impairment model and limited amendments to classification and measurement for financial assets.	1 Jan 2018	
AASB 15 <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers</i> , AASB 2014-5 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15</i>	AASB 15 outlines a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue arising from contracts with customers. It replaces several Standards and Interpretations, including AASB 111 <i>Construction Contracts</i> , AASB 118 <i>Revenue</i> , Interpretation 15 <i>Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate</i> , and Interpretation 18 <i>Transfers of Assets from Customers</i> .	1 Jan 2017	
AASB 2014-4 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation [AASB 116 & 138]</i>	Amends AASB 116 <i>Property, Plant and Equipment</i> and AASB 138 <i>Intangible Assets</i> to provide additional guidance on how the depreciation or amortisation of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets should be calculated.	1 Jan 2016	

Standard/ Interpretation	Summary	Effective For Annual Reporting Periods Beginning On Or After	Impact On Financial Statements
AASB 2015-1 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements to Australian Accounting Standards 2012-2014 Cycle</i> [AASB 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 110, 119, 121, 133, 134, 137 & 140]	Amends a number of pronouncements as a result of the IASB's 2012-2014 annual improvements cycle.	1 Jan 2016	
AASB 2015-2 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101</i> [AASB 7, 101, 134 & 1049]	Includes narrow-focus amendments to address concerns about existing presentation and disclosure requirements, and to ensure entities are able to use judgement when applying a standard in determining what information to disclose.	1 Jan 2016	
AASB 2015-6 <i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities</i> [AASB 10, 124 & 1049]	Extends the scope of AASB 124 <i>Related Party Disclosures</i> to not-for-profit public sector entities.	1 July 2016	

c) Agency and Territory Items

The financial statements of the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries include income, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity over which the department has control (Agency items). Certain items, while managed by the department, are controlled and recorded by the Territory rather than the department (Territory items). Territory items are recognised and recorded in the Central Holding Authority as discussed below.

Central Holding Authority

The Central Holding Authority is the 'parent body' that represents the Government's ownership interest in Government-controlled entities.

The Central Holding Authority also records all Territory items, such as income, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled by the Government and managed by agencies on behalf of the Government. The main Territory item is Territory income, which includes taxation and royalty revenue, Commonwealth general purpose funding (such as GST revenue), fines, and statutory fees and charges.

The Central Holding Authority also holds certain Territory assets not assigned to agencies as well as certain Territory liabilities that are not practical or effective to assign to individual agencies such as unfunded superannuation and long service leave.

The Central Holding Authority recognises and records all Territory items, and as such, these items are not included in the department's financial statements. However, as the department is accountable for certain Territory items managed on behalf of Government, these items have been separately disclosed in Note 24 – Schedule of Administered Territory Items.

d) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information for the 2013-2014 financial year has been reclassified to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

e) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero.

f) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies adopted in 2014-2015 as a result of management decisions.

g) Accounting Judgments and Estimates

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgments and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgments and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. Notes that include significant judgments and estimates are:

- Employee Benefits – Note 2(r) and Note 14: Non-current liabilities in respect of employee benefits are measured as the present value of estimated future cash outflows based on the appropriate Government bond rate, estimates of future salary and wage levels and employee periods of service.
- Contingent Liabilities – Note 20: The present value of material quantifiable contingent liabilities are calculated using a discount rate based on the published 10-year Government bond rate.
- Allowance for Impairment Losses – Note 2(m), Note 9: Receivables and Note 18: Financial Instruments. The allowance represents debts that are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Debtors are grouped according to their aging profile and history of previous financial difficulties.
- Depreciation and Amortisation – Note 2(k), Note 10: Property, Plant and Equipment and Note 11: Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets.

h) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Balance Sheet.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. 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. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

i) Income Recognition

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of GST. Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

Grants and Other Contributions

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the department obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Appropriation

Output appropriation is the operating payment to each department for the outputs they provide and is calculated as the net cost of department outputs after taking into account funding from department income. It does not include any allowance for major non-cash costs such as depreciation.

Commonwealth appropriation follows from the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations, resulting in Specific Purpose Payments (SPPs) and National Partnership (NP) payments being made by the Commonwealth Treasury to state treasuries, in a manner similar to arrangements for GST payments. These payments are received by the Department of Treasury and Finance on behalf of the Central Holding Authority and then on passed to the relevant agencies as Commonwealth appropriation.

Revenue in respect of appropriations is recognised in the period in which the department gains control of the funds.

Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when:

- The significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer;
- The department retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- The amount of revenue can be reliably measured;
- It is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the department; and
- The costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Rendering of Services

Revenue from rendering services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The revenue is recognised when:

- The amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- These changes are required to ensure compliance with the Accounting Standard;
- It is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

Goods and Services Received Free of Charge

Goods and services received free of charge are recognised as revenue when a fair value can be reliably determined and the resource would have been purchased if it had not been donated. Use of the resource is recognised as an expense.

Disposal of Assets

A gain or loss on disposal of assets is included as a gain or loss on the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal. Refer also to Note 5.

Contributions of Assets

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non reciprocal transfers, are recognised, unless otherwise determined by Government, as gains when the department obtains control of the asset or contribution. Contributions are recognised at the fair value received or receivable.

j) Repairs and Maintenance Expense

Funding is received for repairs and maintenance works associated with department assets as part of output revenue. Costs associated with repairs and maintenance works on department assets are expensed as incurred.

k) Depreciation and Amortisation Expense

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated or amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

Amortisation applies in relation to intangible non-current assets with limited useful lives and is calculated and accounted for in a similar manner to depreciation.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are determined as follows:

	2015	2014
Buildings	50 years	50 years
Infrastructure Assets	16-25 years	16-25 years
Plant and Equipment	10 years	10 years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

l) Cash and Deposits

For the purposes of the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash. Cash at bank includes monies held in the Accountable Officer's Trust Account (AOTA) that are ultimately payable to the beneficial owner – refer also to Note 22.

m) Receivables

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

The allowance for impairment losses represents the amount of receivables the department estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Analysis of the age of the receivables that are past due as at the reporting date are disclosed in an aging schedule under credit risk in Note 18 Financial Instruments. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 90 days.

n) Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$10 000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$10 000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

The construction cost of property, plant and equipment includes the cost of materials and direct labour, and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Complex Assets

Major items of plant and equipment comprising a number of components that have different useful lives, are accounted for as separate assets. The components may be replaced during the useful life of the complex asset.

Subsequent Additional Costs

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the department in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their expected useful lives.

Construction (Work in Progress)

As part of the financial management framework, the Department of Infrastructure (DoI) is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole of Government basis. Therefore appropriation for all capital works is provided directly to DoI and the cost of construction work in progress is recognised as an asset of that department. Once completed, capital works assets are transferred to the department.

o) Revaluations and Impairment

Revaluation of Assets

Subsequent to initial recognition, assets belonging to the following classes of non-current assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of these assets does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date:

- Land
- Buildings
- Infrastructure assets.

Plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less depreciation, which is deemed to equate to fair value.

Impairment of Assets

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Non-current physical and intangible department assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of impairment exists, the department determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement. They are disclosed as an expense unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the asset revaluation surplus for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the asset revaluation surplus.

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the asset revaluation surplus. Note 16 provides additional information in relation to the asset revaluation surplus.

p) Leased Assets

Leases under which the department assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases.

Operating Leases

Operating lease payments made at regular intervals throughout the term are expensed when the payments are due, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property. Lease incentives under an operating lease of a building or office space is recognised as an integral part of the consideration for the use of the leased asset. Lease incentives are to be recognised as a deduction of the lease expenses over the term of the lease.

q) Payables

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost, which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the department. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

r) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within twelve months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid. Non-current employee benefit liabilities that fall due after twelve months of the reporting date are measured at present value, calculated using the Government long-term bond rate.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

Employee benefit expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- Wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements
- Other types of employee benefits.

As part of the financial management framework, the Central Holding Authority assumes the long service leave liabilities of Government agencies, including the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries and as such no long service leave liability is recognised in department financial statements.

s) Superannuation

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the:

- Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS);
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS); or
- Non-government employee-nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The department makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees to the Central Holding Authority or non-government employee-nominated schemes. Superannuation liabilities related to government superannuation schemes are held by the Central Holding Authority and as such are not recognised in department financial statements.

t) Contributions by and Distributions to Government

The department may receive contributions from Government where the Government is acting as owner of the department. Conversely, the department may make distributions to Government. In accordance with the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions, certain types of contributions and distributions, including those relating to administrative restructures, have been designated as contributions by, and distributions to, Government. These designated contributions and distributions are treated by the department as adjustments to equity.

The Statement of Changes in Equity provides additional information in relation to contributions by, and distributions to, Government.

u) Commitments

Disclosures in relation to capital and other commitments, including lease commitments are shown at Note 19.

Commitments are those contracted as at 30 June where the amount of the future commitment can be reliably measured.

v) Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial assets and liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the department becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. The department's financial instruments include cash and deposits; receivables; advances; investments loan and placements; payables; advances received; borrowings and derivatives.

Note 18 provides additional information on financial instruments.

w) Fair Value Measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use. The highest and best use takes into account the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible and financially feasible.

When measuring fair value, the valuation techniques used maximise the use of relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs.

Unobservable inputs are used to the extent that sufficient relevant and reliable observable inputs are not available for similar assets/liabilities.

Observable inputs are publicly available data that are relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Observable inputs used by the department include, but are not limited to, published sales data for land and general office buildings.

Unobservable inputs are data, assumptions and judgments that are not available publicly, but are relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Such inputs include internal department adjustments to observable data to take account of particular and potentially unique characteristics/functionality of assets/liabilities and assessments of physical condition and remaining useful life.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the following fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used:

Level 1 – inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 – inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3 – inputs are unobservable.

Note 11 provides additional information on fair value measurement.

3. COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT BY OUTPUT GROUP

	Note	Food Industry Development		Resource and Product Integrity		Water Testing Services		Corporate and Governance		Total	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
INCOME											
Grants and subsidies revenue											
Current		294	569	1 999	173	0	0	0	0	2 293	742
Appropriation											
Output											
Commonwealth											
Sales of goods and services	6	17 862	17 182	17 325	18 585	252	196	6 170	5 711	41 609	41 674
Goods and services received free of charge ⁽¹⁾	4	0	0	10 455	10	0	0	0	0	10 455	10
Gain on disposal of assets	5	1 495	1 449	1 351	1 743	2 153	1 876	2 102	2 103	7 101	7 171
Other income	6	854	714	771	644	84	70	403	337	2 112	1 765
		0	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	43	0
		2 093	1 226	1 196	804	0	0	25	21	3 314	2 051
TOTAL INCOME		22 598	21 140	33 140	21 959	2 489	2 142	8 700	8 172	66 927	53 413
EXPENSES											
Employee expenses											
Administrative expenses											
Purchases of goods and services	7	13 408	12 378	17 098	12 994	1 338	1 230	5 552	4 755	37 396	31 357
Repairs and maintenance											
Depreciation and amortisation	10	6 559	6 146	10 210	8 069	854	697	1 780	1 799	19 403	16 711
Goods and services free of charge ⁽¹⁾		1 604	2 009	1 301	1 631	121	152	415	520	3 441	4 312
Other administrative expenses		1 515	1 488	1 146	1 043	122	109	350	338	3 133	2 978
Grants and subsidies expenses		854	714	771	644	84	70	403	337	2 112	1 765
Grants and subsidies expenses		(3)	17	(3)	13	(2)	1	(3)	3	(11)	34
Current		437	927	1 126	1 217	1	4	1	2	1 565	2 150
TOTAL EXPENSES		24 374	23 679	31 649	25 611	2 518	2 263	8 498	7 754	67 039	59 307
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(1 776)	(2 539)	1 491	(3 652)	(29)	(121)	202	418	(112)	(5 894)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME											
Items that will not be reclassified to net surplus/(deficit)											
Asset revaluation reserve		0	904	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	904
Transfer from reserves		0	2 445	0	(44)	0	(4)	2	(14)	2	2 383
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		0	3 349	0	(44)	0	(4)	2	(14)	2	3 287
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		(1 776)	810	1 491	(3 696)	(29)	(125)	204	404	(110)	(2 607)

⁽¹⁾ DCIS service charges

The Comprehensive Operating Statement by output group is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

	2015	2014
	\$000	\$000
4. GOODS AND SERVICES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE		
Inter-agency notional service revenue/charge (Department of Corporate and Information Services)	2 112	1 765
	2 112	1 765
5. GAIN ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS		
Net proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	51	0
Less: Carrying value of non-current assets disposed	(8)	0
Total Gain on Disposal of Assets	43	0
6. SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES AND OTHER INCOME		
The net surplus/(deficit) has been arrived at after crediting the following income:		
Sale of Goods and Services:		
Department of Mines and Energy Service Level Agreement	2 052	2 052
Water Analysis Testing	2 108	1 896
Research Farms	1 185	1 223
Livestock Export and Diagnostic Testing	279	114
Sale of Fingerlings	1	317
OCPE Apprentices Program	51	62
Disease Risk Assessment	0	226
Other Goods and Services	421	388
	6 097	6 278
Fees from Regulatory Services:		
Fisheries Licence Fees	872	807
Biosecurity Fees	118	70
Veterinary Licence Fees	14	16
	1 004	893
Other Income:		
Private research and development organisations	3 281	1 864
General provision	33	187
	3 314	2 051
TOTAL	10 415	9 222

2015	2014
\$000	\$000

7. PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES

The net surplus/(deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:

Goods and services expenses:

Consultants ⁽¹⁾	754	791
Advertising ⁽²⁾	178	65
Marketing and promotion ⁽³⁾	146	90
Document production	164	52
Legal expenses ⁽⁴⁾	45	267
Recruitment ⁽⁵⁾	28	28
Training and study	392	256
Official duty fares	539	537
Travelling allowance	287	307
Other expenses	16 870	14 318
	19 403	16 711

⁽¹⁾ Includes marketing, promotion and IT consultants

⁽²⁾ Does not include recruitment, advertising or marketing and promotion advertising

⁽³⁾ Includes advertising for marketing and promotion but excludes marketing and promotion consultants' expenses, which are incorporated in the consultants' category

⁽⁴⁾ Includes legal fees, claim and settlement costs

⁽⁵⁾ Includes recruitment-related advertising costs

8. CASH AND DEPOSITS

Cash on hand	9	8
Cash at bank	5 146	2 577
	5 155	2 585

9. RECEIVABLES

Current

Accounts receivable	755	607
Less: Allowance for impairment losses	(25)	(45)
	730	562
 GST receivables	 762	 251
Accrued revenue	156	215
	918	466
Total Receivables	1 648	1 028

	2015	2014
	\$000	\$000
10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Land		
At fair value	30 765	30 765
	30 765	30 765
Buildings		
At fair value	129 619	128 387
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(89 725)	(87 085)
	39 894	41 302
Infrastructure		
At fair value	224	145
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(44)	(38)
	180	107
Plant and Equipment		
At fair value	7 162	7 765
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(5 151)	(5 103)
	2 011	2 662
Computer Hardware		
At fair value	273	273
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(252)	(235)
	21	38
Transport Equipment		
At fair value	3 272	2 776
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(2 467)	(2 622)
	805	154
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	73 676	75 028

10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

2015 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2014-2015 is set out below:

	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Plant and Equipment	Computer Hardware	Transport Equipment	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2014	30 765	41 302	107	2 662	38	154	75 028
Additions	0	1 232	79	(277)	0	762	1 796
Disposals	0	0	0	(7)	0	(9)	(16)
Depreciation	0	(2 640)	(6)	(363)	(17)	(107)	(3 133)
Impairment losses	0	0	0	(4)	0	5	1
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2015	30 765	39 894	180	2 011	21	805	73 676

2014 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2013-2014 is set out below:

	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Plant and Equipment	Computer Hardware	Transport Equipment	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2013	29 868	42 517	113	2 189	27	83	74 797
Additions	0	0	0	865	26	106	997
Depreciation	0	(2 545)	(6)	(377)	(15)	(35)	(2 978)
Additions/ (Disposals) from asset transfers	(2 533)	1 473	0	(14)	0	0	(1 074)
Revaluation increments/ (decrements)	3 430	(143)	0	0	0	0	3 287
Impairment losses	0	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2014	30 765	41 302	107	2 662	38	154	75 028

11. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

a) Fair Value Hierarchy

Fair values of non-financial assets categorised by levels of inputs used to compute fair value are:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total Fair Value
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2014-2015				
Asset Classes				
Land (Note 10)			30 765	30 765
Buildings (Note 10)			39 894	39 894
Infrastructure (Note 10)			180	180
Plant and Equipment (Note 10)			2 837	2 837
Total			73 676	73 676

2013-2014				
Asset Classes				
Land (Note 10)			30 765	30 765
Buildings (Note 10)			41 302	41 302
Infrastructure (Note 10)			107	107
Plant and Equipment (Note 10)			2 854	2 854
Total			75 028	75 028

There were no transfers between Level 1 and Levels 2 or 3 during 2014-2015.

b) Valuation Techniques and Inputs

Valuation techniques used to measure fair value in 2014-2015 are:

	Level 2 Techniques	Level 3 Techniques
Asset Classes		
Land		Cost
Buildings		Cost
Infrastructure		Cost
Plant and Equipment		Cost

There were no changes in valuation techniques from 2013-2014 to 2014-2015.

Level 3 fair values of specialised buildings, infrastructure and plant and equipment were determined by computing their depreciated replacement costs because an active market does not exist for such facilities. The depreciated replacement cost was based on a combination of internal records of the historical cost of the facilities, adjusted for contemporary technology and construction approaches. Significant judgement was also used in assessing the remaining service potential of the facilities, given local environmental conditions, projected usage, and records of the current condition of the facilities.

c) Additional Information for Level 3 Fair Value Measurements

(i) Reconciliation of Recurring Level 3 Fair Value Measurements

	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Plant and Equipment	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
2014-2015					
Fair value as at 1 July 2014	30 765	41 302	107	2 854	75 028
Additions	0	1 232	79	485	1 796
Disposals	0	0	0	(9)	(9)
Depreciation	0	(2 640)	(6)	(487)	(3 133)
Gains/losses recognised in net surplus/(deficit)	0	0	0	(7)	(7)
Gains/losses recognised in other comprehensive income	0	0	0	1	1
Fair value as at 30 June 2015	30 765	39 894	180	2 837	73 676
2013-2014					
Fair value as at 1 July 2013	29 868	42 517	113	2 299	74 797
Additions	0	0	0	997	997
Disposals	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation	0	(2 545)	(6)	(427)	(2 978)
Gains/losses recognised in other comprehensive income ⁽¹⁾	904	(143)	0	(14)	747
Additions/(Disposals) from asset transfers	(7)	1 473	0	(1)	1 465
Fair value as at 30 June 2014	30 765	41 302	107	2 854	75 028

⁽¹⁾ Includes revaluations and impairment

(ii) Sensitivity analysis

Unobservable inputs used in computing the fair value of assets include the historical cost and the consumed economic benefit for each asset. Given the large number of agency assets, it is not practical to compute a relevant summary measure for the unobservable inputs. In respect of sensitivity of fair value to changes in input value, a higher historical cost results in a higher fair value and greater consumption of economic benefit lowers fair value.

	2015	2014
	\$000	\$000
12. PAYABLES		
Accounts payable	774	937
Accrued expenses	1 114	991
Total Payables	1 888	1 928

13. BORROWINGS AND ADVANCES

Current		
Proceeds of borrowings	1 220	0
Total Borrowings and Advances	1 220	0

14. PROVISIONS

Current		
<i>Employee benefits</i>		
Recreation leave	2 421	2 407
Leave loading	471	473
Airfares	122	71
Other employee benefits	100	109
On costs	610	594
	3 724	3 654
Non-Current		
<i>Employee benefits</i>		
Recreation leave	1 767	1 822
	1 767	1 822
Total Provisions	5 491	5 476

The department employed 331 employees as at 30 June 2015 (310 employees as at 30 June 2014).

15. OTHER LIABILITIES

Current		
Unearned Revenue	2 112	1 786
Total Other Liabilities	2 112	1 786

16. RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Surplus

(i) Nature and purpose of the asset revaluation surplus

The asset revaluation surplus includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets. Impairment adjustments may also be recognised in the asset revaluation surplus.

(ii) Movements in the asset revaluation surplus

Balance as at 1 July	33 284	32 380
Increment/(Decrement) – land	0	904
Balance as at 30 June	33 284	33 284

17. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Reconciliation of Cash

The total of department 'Cash and deposits' in the Balance Sheet is consistent with that recorded as 'Cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.

Reconciliation of Net Surplus/(Deficit) to Net Cash from Operating Activities

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(112)	(5 894)
<i>Non-cash items:</i>		
Depreciation and amortisation	3 133	2 978
Asset write-offs/write-downs	7	1
Asset donations/gifts	0	14
(Gain)/Loss on disposal of assets	(43)	0
Repairs and Maintenance – Minor New Work non-cash	2	61
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities:</i>		
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables	(620)	201
Decrease/(Increase) in prepayments	(11)	106
(Decrease)/Increase in payables	(41)	464
(Decrease)/Increase in provision for employee benefits	20	4
(Decrease)/Increase in other provisions	(5)	85
(Decrease)/Increase in other liabilities	327	722
Net Cash from Operating Activities	2 657	(1 258)

18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments held by the department include cash and deposits, receivables, payables and finance leases. The department has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

a) Categorisation of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts of the department's financial assets and liabilities by category are disclosed in the table below.

	2015	2014
	\$000	\$000
Financial Assets		
Cash and deposits	5 155	2 585
Receivables	1 648	1 028
	6 803	3 613
Financial Liabilities		
Deposits held	246	186
Payables	1 888	1 928
	2 134	2 114

b) Credit Risk

The department has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default). In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the department has adopted a policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the agency's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

Receivables

Receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. A reconciliation and aging analysis of receivables is presented below.

Internal Receivables	Aging of Receivables	Aging of Impaired Receivables	Net Receivables
	\$000	\$000	\$000
2014-2015			
Not overdue	135	0	135
Overdue for less than 30 days	0	0	0
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	38	0	38
Overdue for more than 60 days	0	0	0
Total	173	0	173
2013-2014			
Not overdue	104	0	104
Overdue for less than 30 days	7	0	7
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	0	0	0
Overdue for more than 60 days	20	0	20
Total	131	0	131

External Receivables	Aging of Receivables	Aging of Impaired Receivables	Net Receivables
	\$000	\$000	\$000
2014-2015			
Not overdue	1 401	0	1 401
Overdue for less than 30 days	74	0	74
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	12	(12)	0
Overdue for more than 60 days	13	(13)	0
Total	1 500	(25)	1 475

Reconciliation of the Allowance for Impairment Losses

Opening	45
Written off during the year	(2)
Recovered during the year	0
Increase/(Decrease) in allowance recognised in profit or loss	(18)
Total	25

2013-2014

Not overdue	681	0	681
Overdue for less than 30 days	215	0	215
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	14	(13)	1
Overdue for more than 60 days	32	(32)	0
Total	942	(45)	897

Reconciliation of the Allowance for Impairment Losses

Opening	28
Written off during the year	0
Recovered during the year	0
Increase/(Decrease) in allowance recognised in profit or loss	17
Total	45

c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the department will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The department's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

The following tables detail the department's remaining contractual maturity for its financial assets and liabilities. It should be noted that these values are undiscounted, and consequently may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Balance Sheet.

2015 Maturity analysis for financial assets and liabilities

	Variable Interest Rate			Fixed Interest Rate			Non Interest Bearing	Total	Weighted Average
	Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years	Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years			
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	%
Assets									
Cash and deposits							5 155	5 155	
Receivables							1 648	1 648	
Total Financial Assets							6 803	6 803	
Liabilities									
Deposits held							246	246	
Payables							1 888	1 888	
Total Financial Liabilities							2 134	2 134	

2014 Maturity analysis for financial assets and liabilities

	Variable Interest Rate			Fixed Interest Rate			Non Interest Bearing	Total	Weighted Average
	Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years	Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years			
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	%
Assets									
Cash and deposits							2 585	2 585	
Receivables							1 028	1 028	
Total Financial Assets							3 613	3 613	
Liabilities									
Deposits held							186	186	
Payables							1 928	1 928	
Total Financial Liabilities							2 114	2 114	

d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. It comprises interest rate risk, price risk and currency risk.

(i) Interest Rate Risk

The department is not exposed to interest rate risk as agency financial assets and financial liabilities are non-interest bearing.

(ii) Price Risk

The department is not exposed to price risk as it does not hold units in unit trusts.

(iii) Currency Risk

The department is not exposed to currency risk as it does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies or transactional currency exposures arising from purchases in a foreign currency.

e) Net Fair Value

The fair value of financial instruments is determined on the following basis:

- the fair value of cash, deposits, advances, receivables and payables approximates their carrying amount, which is also their amortised cost.

For financial instruments measured and disclosed at fair value, the following table groups the instruments based on the level of inputs used.

2015	Total Carrying Amount	Net Fair Value Level 1	Net Fair Value Level 2	Net Fair Value Level 3	Net Fair Value Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Financial Assets					
Cash and deposits	5 155	5 155			5 155
Receivables	1 648	1 648			1 648
Total Financial Assets	6 803	6 803			6 803
Financial Liabilities					
Deposits held	246	246			246
Payables	1 888	1 888			1 888
Total Financial Liabilities	2 134	2 134			2 134
2014	Total Carrying Amount	Net Fair Value Level 1	Net Fair Value Level 2	Net Fair Value Level 3	Net Fair Value Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Financial Assets					
Cash and deposits	2 585	2 585			2 585
Receivables	1 028	1 028			1 028
Total Financial Assets	3 613	3 613			3 613
Financial Liabilities					
Deposits held	186	186			186
Payables	1 928	1 928			1 928
Total Financial Liabilities	2 114	2 114			2 114

The net fair value of cash, receivables, and deposits held and payables are based on market value.

There were no changes in valuation techniques during the period.

2015		2014	
Internal	External	Internal	External
\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000

19. COMMITMENTS

(i) Capital Expenditure Commitments

Capital expenditure commitments primarily related to plant and equipment. Capital expenditure commitments contracted for at balance date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	0	52	0	0
	0	52	0	0

(ii) Operating Lease Commitments

The department leases property under non-cancellable operating leases expiring at various dates. Leases generally provide the department with a right of renewal at which time all lease terms are renegotiated. The department also leases items of plant and equipment under non-cancellable operating leases. Future operating lease commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	814	36	767	52
Later than one year and not later than five years	1 223	15	956	47
Later than five years	32	0	71	0
	2 069	51	1 794	99

(iii) Other Expenditure Commitments

Other non-cancellable expenditure commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	0	1 599	0	3 104
	0	1 599	0	3 104

20. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The department had no contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 30 June 2015 or 30 June 2014.

21. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to, or disclosure in these financial statements.

22. ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER'S TRUST ACCOUNT

In accordance with section 7 of the *Financial Management Act*, an Accountable Officer's Trust Account has been established for the receipt of money to be held in trust. A summary of activity is shown below:

Nature of Trust Money	Opening Balance 1 July 2014	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance 30 June 2015
Employee Award Scheme	45	28	(4)	69
Miscellaneous	24	13	0	37
NT Seafood Council	117	209	(186)	140
	186	250	(190)	246

23. WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS, WAIVERS, GIFTS AND EX GRATIA PAYMENTS

	Agency		Agency		Territory Items		Territory Items	
	2015	No. of Trans.	2014	No. of Trans.	2015	No. of Trans.	2014	No. of Trans.
	\$000		\$000		\$000		\$000	
Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers Under the <i>Financial Management Act</i>								
Represented by:								
<i>Amounts written off, postponed and waived by Delegates</i>								
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or an department written off	2	2	0	1				
Public property written off	7	16	1	2				
Total Written Off, Postponed and Waived by Delegates	9	18	1	3				
Gifts Under the <i>Financial Management Act</i>	0	0	14	1				
Ex Gratia Payments Under the <i>Financial Management Act</i>	0	0	224	2				

24. SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTERED TERRITORY ITEMS

The following Territory items are managed by the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries on behalf of the Government and are recorded in the Central Holding Authority (refer Note 2(c)).

	2015	2014
	\$000	\$000
TERRITORY INCOME AND EXPENSES		
Income		
Other income	0	213
Total Income	0	213
Expenses		
Central Holding Authority income transferred	0	213
Total Expenses	0	213
Territory Income less Expenses	0	0

25. BUDGETARY INFORMATION

Comprehensive Operating Statement	2014-2015 Actual	2014-2015 Original Budget	Variance	Note
	\$000	\$000	\$000	
INCOME				
Grants and subsidies revenue				
Current	2 293	0	2 293	1
Appropriation				
Output	41 609	40 650	959	2
Commonwealth	10 455	0	10 455	3
Sales of goods and services	7 101	7 229	(128)	
Goods and services received free of charge	2 112	1 761	351	4
Gain on disposal of assets	43	0	43	5
Other income	3 314	1 597	1 717	6
TOTAL INCOME	66 927	51 237	15 690	
EXPENSES				
Employee expenses	37 396	31 586	5 810	7
Administrative expenses				
Purchases of goods and services	19 403	11 530	7 873	8
Repairs and maintenance	3 441	3 478	(37)	
Depreciation and amortisation	3 133	2 923	210	9
Goods and services free of charge	2 112	1 761	351	10
Other administrative expenses	(11)	0	(11)	
Grants and subsidies expenses				
Current	1 565	2 575	(1 010)	11
TOTAL EXPENSES	67 039	53 853	13 186	
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(112)	(2 616)	2 504	12
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				
Items that will not be reclassified to net surplus/(deficit)				
Transfers from reserves	2	0	2	
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	2	0	2	
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT	(110)	(2 616)	2 506	12

Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 10 per cent or \$0.2 million, or where multiple significant variances have occurred. The original published budget was revised during 2014-2015 which decreased variations significantly.

1. Current grants increased by \$2.3 million largely due to funding from other state and territory jurisdictions for reimbursement of costs incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program (\$1.9 million) and additional funding from the Indigenous Land Corporation for research projects (\$0.25 million).
2. Output appropriation has increased by \$0.96 million largely due to additional funding of \$0.6 million for the interest rate Subsidy Scheme relating to the outbreak of the Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus (CGMMV) and \$0.24 million for the implementation of the Livestock Amendment Bill.
3. Commonwealth appropriation has increased by \$10.46 million due to funding from the Commonwealth for the reimbursement of costs incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.
4. Goods and services received free of charge relating to DCIS centralised corporate services for the processing of accounts payable, payroll and property management increased by \$0.35 million due to a higher use of these services.
5. The department did not budget for a gain on disposal of assets in the original 2014-2015 estimates.
6. Other income increased by \$1.72 million largely due to an increase in externally funded agreements and projects that were not finalised before the publication of the original 2014-2015 budget.
7. Employee expenses have increased by \$5.81 million, largely due to expenses incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.
8. The variation of \$7.9 million against goods and services is largely due to expenses incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program, approved unfunded expenses relating to the Blue Mud Bay negotiations (\$0.83 million), CGMMV (\$0.4 million) and the Barramundi Fishery Management Framework (\$0.22 million).
9. Depreciation increase of \$0.21 million was higher than anticipated and budget estimates were adjusted during the year.
10. Goods and services received free of charge relating to DCIS centralised corporate services for the processing of accounts payable, payroll and property management increased by \$0.35 million due to a higher use of these services.
11. The decrease in Current Grants of \$1 million is predominantly due to reclassification of expenditure between categories of cost.
12. The decrease in the deficit of \$2.5 million is largely due to the timing of reimbursements from the Commonwealth and other cost sharing jurisdictions relating to expenditure incurred by the department since 2013-2014 responding to the national response for the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.

Balance Sheet

	2014-2015 Actual	2014-2015 Original Budget	Variance	Note
	\$000	\$000	\$000	
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and deposits	5 155	3 683	1 472	1
Receivables	1 648	1 227	421	2
Advances and investing payments	1 220	30 000	(28 780)	3
Prepayments	54	148	(94)	4
Total Current Assets	8 077	35 058	(26 981)	
Non-Current Assets				
Property, plant and equipment	73 676	72 506	1 170	5
Total Non-Current Assets	73 676	72 506	1 170	
TOTAL ASSETS	81 753	107 564	(25 811)	
LIABILITIES				
Current Liabilities				
Deposits held	246	339	(93)	6
Payables	1 888	1 479	409	7
Borrowings and advances	1 220	30 000	(28 780)	8
Provisions	3 724	3 521	203	9
Other liabilities	2 112	1 071	1 041	10
Total Current Liabilities	9 190	36 410	(27 220)	
Non-Current Liabilities				
Provisions	1 767	1 933	(166)	
Total Non-Current Liabilities	1 767	1 933	(166)	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	10 957	38 343	(27 386)	
NET ASSETS	70 796	69 221	1 575	
EQUITY				
Capital				
Opening balance	63 951	63 544	407	11
Equity injections/(withdrawals)	1 598	251	1 347	11
Reserves	33 284	33 310	(26)	
Opening balance	(27 927)	(25 268)	(2 659)	
Current year surplus/(deficit)	(110)	(2 616)	2 506	
TOTAL EQUITY	70 796	69 221	1 575	

Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 10 per cent or \$0.2 million, or where multiple significant variances have occurred. The original published budget was revised during 2014-2015 which decreased variations significantly.

1. Cash and deposits increase of \$1.47 million is largely due to higher than anticipated cash from the Commonwealth for the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.
2. Receivables increase of \$0.42 million is largely due to higher than estimated GST receivables from the ATO.
3. The advances and investments variation of \$28.8 million relates to the Commonwealth funded Concessional Loans Scheme available to eligible farmers. The budget was adjusted down to \$15 million during 2014-2015 and actual take up of the loans was less than anticipated at \$1.22 million.
4. Prepayments reduced by \$0.09 million due to lower than anticipated prepaid expenses.
5. Property, plant and equipment increased by \$1.17 million and was largely due additions to government owned buildings through minor new works.
6. Deposits held decrease of \$0.09 million was due to higher than anticipated payments from the AOTA.
7. Payables increased by \$0.41 million and was largely due to higher than anticipated accrued salaries.
8. The borrowings and advances variation of \$28.8 million relates to the Commonwealth funded Concessional Loans Scheme available to eligible farmers. The budget was adjusted down to \$15 million during 2014-2015 and actual take up of the loans was less than anticipated at \$1.22 million.
9. Provisions increased by \$0.2 million as a result of higher than anticipated provisions for employee recreation leave.
10. Other liabilities increased by \$1.04 million due to higher than anticipated unearned revenue relating to revenue from external funding bodies for research projects.
11. The increase in capital of \$1.75 million is due to the purchase of additional equipment and additions to government owned buildings through minor new works.

Cash Flow Statement

	2014-2015 Actual	2014-2015 Original Budget	Variance	Note
	\$000	\$000	\$000	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Operating Receipts				
Grants and subsidies received				
Current	2 293	0	2 293	1
Appropriation				
Output	41 609	40 650	959	2
Commonwealth	10 455	0	10 455	3
Receipts from sales of goods and services	8 920	7 229	1 691	4
Other operating receipts	3 640	1 597	2 043	5
Total Operating Receipts	66 917	49 476	17 441	
Operating Payments				
Payments to employees	(37 203)	(31 586)	(5 617)	6
Payments for goods and services	(25 492)	(15 008)	(10 484)	7
Grants and subsidies paid				
Current	(1 565)	(2 575)	1 010	8
Total Operating Payments	(64 260)	(49 169)	(15 091)	
Net Cash From/(Used In) Operating Activities	2 657	307	2 350	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Investing Receipts				
Proceeds from asset sales	51	6	45	9
Total Investing Receipts	51	6	45	
Investing Payments				
Purchases of assets	(472)	(392)	(80)	10
Advances and investing payments	(1 220)	(15 000)	13 780	11
Total Investing Payments	(1 692)	(15 392)	13 700	
Net Cash From/(Used In) Investing Activities	(1 641)	(15 386)	13 745	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Financing Receipts				
Proceeds from borrowings	1 220	15 000	(13 780)	11
Deposits received	60	0	60	12
Equity injections				
Capital appropriation	274	251	23	
Total Financing Receipts	1 554	15 251	(13 697)	
Net Cash From/(Used In) Financing Activities	1 554	15 251	(13 697)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	2 570	172	2 398	13
Cash at beginning of financial year	2 585	3 511	(926)	
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	5 155	3 683	1 472	

Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 10 per cent or \$0.2 million, or where multiple significant variances have occurred. The original published budget was revised during 2014-2015.

1. Current grants increased by \$2.3 million largely due to funding from other state and territory jurisdictions for reimbursement of costs incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program (\$1.9 million) and additional funding from the Indigenous Land Corporation for research projects (\$0.25 million).
2. Output appropriation has increased by \$0.96 million largely due to additional funding of \$0.6 million for the interest rate Subsidy Scheme relating to the outbreak of the Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus (CGMMV) and \$0.24 million for the implementation of the Livestock Amendment Bill.
3. Commonwealth appropriation has increased by \$10.46 million due to funding from the Commonwealth for the reimbursement of costs incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.
4. Receipts from the sale of goods and services has increased by \$1.7 million largely due GST receipts being higher than anticipated.
5. Other operating receipts have increased by \$2 million due to additional externally funded agreements and projects that were not finalised before the publication of the original 2014-2015 budget.
6. Payments to employees have increased by \$5.6 million, largely due to expenses incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program.
7. The variation of \$10.48 million against goods and services is largely due to expenses incurred relating to the national response to the National Banana Freckle Eradication Program, approved unfunded expenses relating to the Blue Mud Bay negotiations (\$0.83 million), CGMMV (\$0.4 million), Barramundi Fishery Management Framework (\$0.22 million).
8. The decrease in Current Grants of \$1 million is predominantly due to reclassification of expenditure between categories of cost.
9. Proceeds from the sale of assets was higher than originally anticipated.
10. Purchase of assets was higher than originally anticipated.
11. Advances and investing payments/Proceeds from borrowings relate to the Commonwealth funded Concessional Loans Scheme available to eligible farmers. Actual take up of the loans was less than anticipated at \$1.22 million.
12. Deposits received were higher than originally anticipated.
13. The increase in cash held of \$2.4 million relates to higher than anticipated unspent cash committed to externally funded research projects in 2015-2016.

CHAPTER 6

Appendix



New Infrastructure Development on Robinson River as to the new IPP infrastructure stranded
- photo courtesy of Chaz Delacoeur

Grants and Sponsorships 2014-2015

Animal Welfare Fund	Expenditure \$
Wildcare Incorporated Alice Springs	47 500
Animal Management In Rural & Remote Indigenous Communities Incorporated	45 000
NT Cattlemen's Association Incorporated	45 000
Ark Aid Incorporated	40 909
RSPCA Nhulunbuy	20 000
TOTAL	198 409

Industry Development Grants	Expenditure \$
NT Farmers Association Incorporated	257 213
Amateur Fishing Association of the NT	185 000
NT Seafood Council	180 000
NT Livestock Exporters Association Incorporated	75 000
NT Guided Fishing Industry Association Incorporated	40 000
TOTAL	737 213

Indigenous Marine Ranger Grants	Expenditure \$
Northern Land Council	180 000
Anindilyakwa Sea Rangers Program	60 000
Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	60 000
Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Incorporated	60 000
Milingimbi Outstation Progress & Resource Association Incorporated	60 000
TOTAL	420 000

Other Grants	Expenditure \$
NT Seafood Council NT Caught Program	90 000
Error in expenditure coding	(3 000)
TOTAL	87 000

Sponsorship	Expenditure \$
Northern Territory Farmers Association	30 419
Nuffield Australia	8 000
Darwin Game Fishing Club Incorporated	7 500
The Australian Rangeland Society	4 545
Elcho Island, Gunn Point, Milingimbi, Ski Beach and Warruwi Indigenous Communities	3 350
Australian Women in Agriculture	3 000
Territory Resource Management Incorporated	3 000
Centralian Beef Breeders Association	2 000
Freds Pass Rural Show	1 500
Royal Agricultural Society Of The Northern Territory Incorporated	1 453
Douglas Daly Community Development Association Incorporated	1 000
Charles Darwin University	600
Daly Water Rodeo and Campdraft Association	500
The Nightcliff Orchid Society of the Northern Territory Incorporated	140
TOTAL	67 007

Subsidised Interest Rate Scheme

The Australian Government's Subsidised Interest Rate Scheme is administered by the department. It provides an interest subsidy on new and extended commercial lending of up to \$300 000 for up to two years.

	Number of payments	Expenditure \$
Pastoralists	8	43 924
Service Businesses	2	3 620
TOTAL	10	47 544

Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus Interest Subsidy Scheme

The Northern Territory Government's Cucumber Green Mottle Mosaic Virus Interest Subsidy Scheme is administered by the department. The assistance package provides \$600 000 per year for the next two years to affected growers that meet the eligibility criteria.

	Number of payments	Expenditure \$
Melon Growers	1	8 081
TOTAL	1	8 081

GRAND TOTAL	1 565 254
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