

NOTES FROM FUNDRAISING CONVENTION

The following are the notes I took at the 8th Australasian Fundraising Convention recently. The notes cover only the workshops I attended, which included: direct mail appeals, capital appeals, acknowledging and recognizing donors, corporate proposals, what motivates the larger gifts? and creative copy-writing.

Some of the other workshops, which were run at the same time as these, are written up in the Speakers Notes which have been published by the Australasian Institute of Fundraising. I have a copy of these notes and you are welcome to borrow them to make copies. Papers which have been published include:

1. The Annual Report as a Fundraising Tool
2. A Joint Fundraising Exercise: How to raise \$150,000 from 10 Foundations. (Education oriented)
3. Planned giving: programme practicalities (Relates to bequests)
4. Government Submissions: Building a Strong Case.
5. Market Research (very general).
6. How a good Board of Directors should work.
7. C.S.R. and the Arts.
8. Special Events that Raise Money: SWIM FOR HEART.
9. Resource Development: The two faces of merchandising.
10. 'Privacy' How New Legislation will affect your fundraising.
11. An Approach to Corporate Philanthropy (ESSO Australia).
12. The Importance of Market Research
(This paper emphasises fundraising for the Arts).
13. Trusts and Foundations: A case study.
14. Tax Deductions for Charitable Donations: A Tax Expenditure Analysis
(By a tax lawyer).
15. The Biennale of Sydney: Fundraising Strategies for Australia's Major Exhibition of Contemporary Art.
16. Resource Development: in-kind gifts, who is giving what.
(Written with special interest in fundraising for the Arts).
17. Donor Communication: the cultivation process.
18. The Third Sector - the importance of private initiative: Third Sector Mission In Australia.
19. Public Relations and Fundraising.

I also have a copy of an excellent paper called 'Using Direct Mail Effectively'. This paper was given by a direct marketing consultant and includes useful check lists as well as other useful practical information.

1. DIRECT MAIL FUNDRAISING Paper given by Graeme Bradshaw.

Direct mail fundraising can be used for:

1. Budget Fundraising - raising money for on-going, recurring expenses. Generally small donations, from a large number of people, quite often a continuous activity.
2. Capital Fundraising - for special projects. Aim for a few, large donations. Once-off.

Even when doing fundraising by mail it is important to remember that people give to people. Thus a personal approach is important. People are more likely to donate if they feel important (to the cause, staff of the organisation etc).

An Integrated Fundraising Programme will include

- direct mail
- special events
- appeals to commerce/industry
- submissions to government
- bequests

A Healthy programme is characterized by

1. A steady increase in the number of donors
 2. A rising annual gift value for most/all donors.
- * Continuity in contact with donors is a vital factor in maintaining these.

Direct Mail Appeals

- o lowest cost when used in finding new donors
- o a first-off direct mail appeal will rarely break even, however once a donor has made an initial gift, they will almost certainly keep donating and increase the amount they donate.
- o each donor is worth 11½ times the value of their initial gift.
- o direct mail appeals provide a reliable, long-term source of funds.
- o direct mail appeals require investment before income is generated. (You've got to spend money to make money!)
- o Once a donor has made a gift, if they are kept informed and made to feel that their donation is important and appreciated, this is the basis for much larger donations.

Fundraising Budget

It is important to have a budget component for fundraising so that appeals can be planned in advance.

A 'revolving fund' is also a useful concept: This is a budget component used for aquiring new donors.

- o it should be kept in a separate account
- o donor acquisition generally will only cover costs so this account won't increase significantly in value, but any profits should be kept in the account to increase the donor acquisition capacity.
- o it is an investment in the future.
- o donor acquisition must be on-going because 20% of donors are usually lost every year (due to moving, death etc).

Donor Renewals

Having got donors on the list, the next step is to get them to donate again. This will provide a permanent source of funds. Good Fundraising

- will ensure the loyalty of the donor
- will depend on the creativity of the fundraiser
- will depend on the persistence allowed by the budget.

Donor renewal will be 50% higher if a direct mail appeal is combined with a telephone call. Wait 10 days after appeal letter is sent out, if someone hasn't donated, phone them.

Direct Mail aims to direct specific messages (about the cause) to targetted audiences identified as being most likely to respond. Thus Market Research is a vital fundraising tool, to establish your donor profile.

Careful files should be kept on all donors. Useful information includes how much they've donated, when, in response to what.

Stratification of the donor file will enable specific mail packages/appeals to relate to:

1. a donor's level of donation, e.g. it would be useful to know who donated
 - o up to \$20
 - o \$20 - 49
 - o \$50 and over
2. a donors' interest in a particular issue/project. Donors will respond to different aspects of a programme.

Follow-up Mailings

Shouldn't mail an appeal to someone within 6 weeks of the initial appeal.

Response Rates

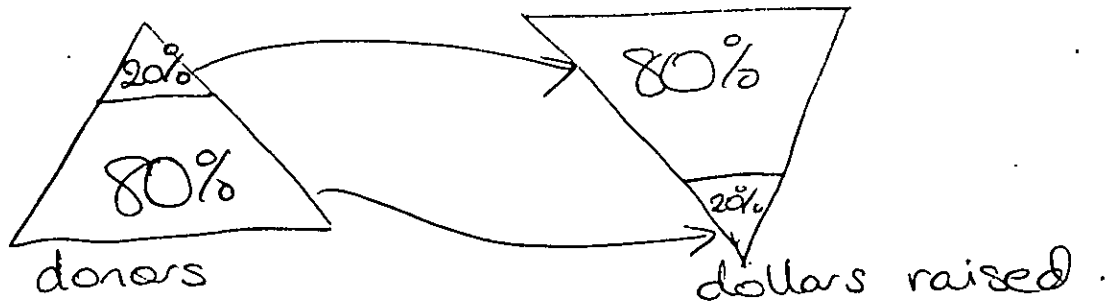
For a donor acquisition appeal 50% of all the money will have come in after 6 weeks, most will be in by 12 weeks.

- | | |
|--|--|
| o Donor acquisition | 0.5 - 4% response |
| o Donor renewal | 60 - 70% response
(if they've been well looked after) |
| o Lapsed donors
(people who haven't donated
for some time) | 5 - 10% response
(never take them off the list!) |
| o Letterbox drop | up to 1% response |
| o 'Dear Householder' | up to 1% response |
| o Magazine Inserts | below 1% |

4.

Donor Dollars: Generally, 20% of donors will contribute 80% of the total money raised; 80% of donors will contribute 20%.

i.e.



Production and Implementation of a Direct Mail Programme

Two starting rules

1. A good copy-writer is essential
2. A good designer is essential

Production is generally a weak point.

See Paper on 'Using Direct Mail Effectively' for more practical information on this topic.

2. ACKNOWLEDGING AND RECOGNISING DONORS.

- o Early acknowledgement of a donation is essential.
- o New donors should be welcomed as well as thanked.
- o All donors should be kept up to date with what's happening - all should receive newsletters.
- o People who give large donations should be phoned or visited.
- o It is important to try and establish a personal relationship with donors.
- o They should be made to feel part of the 'family.'
- o Major donors should be invited to special events launchings etc.
A personal invitation from a committee/executive members to a function can be helpful - that executive member would then sit with them etc. throughout.
- o Donors will often donate again almost immediately if they are sent further information detailing specific programmes/projects, if there is an indication of specific needs for money.
- o 'Thank You' is not a once-off: it's a cultivation process - the \$2 donor this year is a \$5 donor next year \$15 the year after and so on.
- o A receipt is not enough, a personalized thank you letter is essential.
- o A monthly list acknowledging donors and new supporters in the Newsletter.

3. EFFECTIVE CORPORATE PROPOSALS

Ian Permezel.

What kinds of Companies give?

- those that are profitable

In the U.S. 23% of all companies donate

Of these, 35% are profitable

1% are making a loss.

The largest companies make 55% of all donations to charities and causes.

- most are in manufacturing

The biggest donors are petrol companies, followed by

Electrical

Chemical

Food & Beverage

Machinery

Pharmaceutical

- in non-manufacturing banks are the biggest donors followed by

Merchandisers

Insurance

Communications

General Service

Transport

Some companies will give technical or on-the-job training rather than cash.

- Many companies will only donate to organizations "on their list".
- Many will only donate to local organizations.
- Many have special categories which they'll only donate to, e.g. education, arts, social welfare.

What companies like

1. a sense of being sought after
2. to be part of a worthwhile group
3. to have confidence in the leadership of the group
4. to have a sense of being part of a winning team
5. a deadline/urgency
6. to deal with people, not bits of paper.
7. to get to the hub of things quickly.

Presentation

1. A brief supporting letter. A few paragraphs at most.
Should be personalized and powerful (emotive).

2. Supporting material should be as appendices and should include
 - o Committee of Management
 - o Charter of organisation
 - o Finances, including where other money comes from
 - o Supporting statement from someone important
 - o Photos, to add colour and life
3. Correct Salutation
4. Make it clear exactly what you want. Don't leave it open.
5. Avoid hard sell
6. Avoid gloom, doom and despair - be positive (how the project offers solutions)

Remember Companies get thousands of requests. Yours must stand-out in the crowd.

Find out the best timing: some companies have a charities budget which they spend all year-round; others only give at end of financial year.

Research companies, find out their "interests" (business) and tailor approach accordingly. They don't mind being contacted and asked about guidelines.

Most companies have community affairs or corporate relations committees that handle requests. These can donate small amounts; large amounts go through the Board. For large amounts you need contacts in the company.

4. PLANNING CAPITAL APPEALS

Capital Appeals are for special projects. e.g. a building, an expensive television commercial, expensive capital equipment etc.

Person-to-person asking normally used for capital funding.
A person-to-person contact will bring in 19 times more than a mail contact.

1. Setting goals and targets.

Two approaches a) according to need

b) according to capacity of constituents to give.

b) is ONLY approach, if you want to be successful. An enormous amount of goodwill will be lost if a capital appeal is undertaken and fails. People don't like to donate to unsuccessful organisations.

Before undertaking an appeal the feasibility of raising the target needs to be evaluated. It is vital to planning.

DON'T START A CAPITAL APPEAL CAMPAIGN THAT WILL FAIL

DON'T START A CAPITAL APPEAL CAMPAIGN WITHOUT SUPPORT

To Determine Feasibility

Look at

1. needs
2. potential donors
3. leadership
4. workforce
5. climate
6. timing

1. Needs

Should be genuine, as part of total programme of the organisation.

realistic

urgent and dramatic

capable of being met

challenging

2. Potential donors. Who?

must have a link with cause

must be accessible

must be informed about cause

must be financial capacity

Normal giving patterns

top 1/3 of total amount donated comes from 1 - 2% of donors

middle 1/3 comes from 10 - 15% of donors

bottom 1/3 comes from 80 - 85% of donors

Should be able to get 1 gift from 1 donor equal to 10% of target. If this potential doesn't exist, appeal will fail.

3. Leadership Availability

Need to have voluntary leadership available; this should be in the form of both financial leadership (i.e. people who will themselves donate) and executive leadership (i.e. people who will work).

This is important because capital appeal approaches are made person-to-person. Someone who has themselves donated and who is prepared to work on the capital appeal will have a significant impact on the donors willingness to donate.

4. Workforce

- o need volunteers
- o available in sufficient strength
 - each person should be able to make 8 - 10 approaches over 8 - 10 weeks.
- o willing to give time
- o must be trained and coached: what to do, and how to do it.
 - A leaflet with 'most asked questions' and answers on it.

5. Climate

All capital appeals must be preceded by an educational programme to inform and enthuse potential donors.

- o evaluate present educational/promotional programme (Market research can be used here).
- o what must be done to create favourable climate?
- o evaluate capacity of organisation to mount worthwhile P.R. campaign.

6. Timing

- o Tax year (80% of cash receipts come in during May and June)
- o Not too close to other appeals (avoid conflicts within organisations and between organizations)
- o Duration of campaign - volunteers will usually only work effectively for a single programme for 12 weeks.

Assessment of 1 - 6 will give an idea of whether a capital appeal will work. If there is a weakness in any of these areas DO NOT PROCEED. Build-up in a weak area first.

Stages In a Capital Appeal Campaign.

1. Preparation
2. Implementation
3. Consolidation

1. Preparation

- o finalise list of potential donors
- o check addresses and other details
- o prepare a case statement (i.e. what the needs for money are, what it will be used for and a rationale for giving)
- o commence educational programme
- o commence leadership recruitment
- o prospect grading (have small confidential group to work out tailored approaches to prospective donors)
- o seek initial leadership gifts

2. Implementation

- o set up appeal office space (separate accounts, costs etc)
- o recruit and brief leadership
- o recruit workforce (from potential donor list or existing volunteer list). Ask people to give a certain number of nights per week over a given number of weeks.
- o launch appeal, when 1/3 of total is already in the bank
- o mail promotional material
- o commence asking activity
- o have weekly meetings of voluntary staff, for updates and morale boosting
- o maintain momentum. Expect a lull in about 3rd week of appeal therefore need to plan a special morale boost
- o provide administrative back-up
- o organize a wind-up function (start planning this as the appeal is launched).

3. Consolidation

- o acknowledge gifts, thank donors
- o institute gift payment reminder system*
- o maintain P.R. contact with donors over gift payment period (newsheets, open days etc)
- * Sometimes more money can be raised if the donor is given the option of staggering their donation over a period of time.
- o try to involve donors in organisation's on-going programmes.

Overall, for capital appeals, PLANNING IS VITAL. 12 months planning might take place for an appeal which only runs for 3 months.

5. CREATIVE COPY WRITING. APPEAL LETTERS. Paper by:

A good appeal letter should:

- o attract attention immediately. The opening lines are vital. They must get the reader emotionally involved.
- o sustain interest throughout.
- o build the desire to do something.
- o get them to take the action you want.

Remember your appeal letter will probably be the least important thing that happens to a person the day they receive it.

People give to save the environment (or whatever) not to your organisation.

The letter should include:

- o statement (powerful, emotional) of the (environmental/community..)problem.
- o the solution we have (showing how well we can carry out the solution)
- o call for support. Don't be embarrassed about asking, e.g. "...please rush your donation to us using the enclosed envelope."

Use an emotive, motivating ending.

To aid writing:

- o characterise audience. Imagine someone who will receive the letter, visualise someone typical and write to them.

Rules

- o explain your appeal - why should they donate?
- o be personal - "you" should appear often
- o show how their donation will help
- o don't forget to ASK for money!
- o be brief
- o use the language of your potential donors.

Use of the "P.S."

An extra message can be added to the bottom of the letter as a "P.S."
This can be used to:

- o offer an extra inducement
- o thank in advance
- o re-emphasize an important point

6. WHAT MOTIVATES THE LARGER GIFT?

Paper by Jerold Panas.

This paper was given by the author of the book "Mega Gifts: Who gives them, who gets them?" Jerold Panas. To write the book Panas surveyed a number of people (Americans) who have donated vast sums of money to "causes" in the U.S. He also surveyed about 1000 fundraisers in the U.S. The aim was to discover what motivates people to give money away.

He discovered that the three most important factors which influenced "mega donors" were:

1. a deep commitment to the "cause"
People don't donate to institutions, or to "needs", they donate to solutions. They donate so that they can help solve a problem.
2. a belief that the institution is financially stable. No-one wants to donate to incompetent managers.
3. a high regard for the staff of the organisation. A belief that the staff would be able to carry the project through.

Other factors which have bearing on peoples' inclination to donate:

- o people give to bold, exhilarating, exciting ideas.
- o they must be asked. Don't forget to ask them to donate.
- o once someone has made a significant donation they are likely to repeat their donation.
- o giving money is emotional.
- o people get a buzz out of giving money.
- o the decision to donate is spontaneous.
The donor might not know how much they will give immediately nor when they will give it. But the decision is usually made immediately after being asked.

I have a copy of Panas' book if anyone wishes to have a look at it. It's very American, but amid the Americanese is good information on the motivations people have for donating to causes.

3/1
OPENED
→ 1985
CLOSED → 1995

Finances/Grants



Mr James Tedder MBE
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Access, Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

ACQUITTAL OF 1993-94 GVCO GRANT

Following a review of the acquittal of grants awarded under the 1993-94 Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations (GVCO) Program, I wish to advise you of the status of acquittal of the general purpose grant of \$10,188 awarded to your organisation under the 1993-94 Program.

You will be aware that acquittal of grants is a requirement of the GVCO Program. One of the conditions of award of the grant was that your organisation's audited financial statement covering the period for which the grant was made will be provided to the Department and that the grant and the grant amount will be identified as a separate item in the statement as income from the GVCO Program.

The Department also has an obligation under Commonwealth Finance Directions to ensure that previous years' grants have been acquitted prior to the payment of another grant. Payment without acquittal may be made where exceptional circumstances exist and the Minister has been made aware of the situation and has agreed that the grant may be paid pending acquittal of the previous grant.

Our records show that you have provided a copy of your organisation's audited financial statement for the reporting period ended 30 June 1994 and that the 1993-94 GVCO grant has been satisfactorily acquitted.

If you have any queries concerning the above matter, please write or contact Mr Patrick Jones on telephone number 06 274 1708 or facsimile number 06 274 1858.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Norman', written in a cursive style.

Jim Norman
Environment Coordination and Liaison Branch

13 January 1995

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, SPORT AND TERRITORIES

**PROGRAM OF
GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS
GUIDELINES**

1. The aim of the GVCO Program is to empower the community through its environmental organisations to contribute to the achievement of the Commonwealth's objectives of promoting nationally and internationally the protection and enhancement of ecological processes and natural resources as essential components of the well-being of current and future generations.

Organisations are assisted with a view to raising community awareness and understanding of environmental issues and ecologically sustainable development principles and having an effective conduit for the community to express its concerns.

Funding is provided under the Program to maintain or enhance the operational capacity of eligible organisations to pursue their programs.

2. The purpose of the grants is to assist eligible environmental organisations with their administrative costs as distinct from program, project or campaign costs. These costs include salaries and salary on-costs for executive and administrative staff, office accommodation and equipment, communications, staff and volunteer training, photocopying, printing and travel.

3. To be eligible for financial assistance under the Program an organisation must:

- have the protection and enhancement of the environment as its primary objective and its actions must be consistent with that objective;

Note: Applicants are expected to demonstrate their commitment to the protection and enhancement of the environment through their work during the previous two years. New applicants may wish to demonstrate their bona fides by supplying written references from two recognised conservation organisations.

- be a national, state or regional body that can demonstrate a substantial degree of community support and representativeness through membership and/or subscriber levels across its potential constituency and membership participation in policy making and:
either have a proven capacity to provide a channel of communication between Government and the community;
or provide a proven environmental service to the community.

Note: A national body has a primarily national scope in its interests, operation and membership. A state body has a primarily state-wide scope in its interests, operation and membership. A regional body has a primarily regional scope in its interests, operation and membership.

- be a non-profit organisation;
 - have a constitution and be incorporated (or be in the process of becoming incorporated) under the law of a State or Territory as a company, incorporated association, co-operative society or similar body;
 - have audited accounts.
4. Applications for grants should be made to the Department of the Environment, Sport and Territories with the following information:
- the name and address of the applicant organisation;
 - a copy of the organisation's current constitution if not already supplied;
 - a copy of the organisation's certificate of incorporation if not already supplied;
 - a statement of present membership numbers;
 - a copy of the organisation's most recent annual report, which should acknowledge any grant received under the Program;
 - an audited statement of income and expenditure for the organisation's previous financial year, which should clearly identify the receipt of any grant received under the Program;
 - if applicable, a brief report on the use of any particular purpose grant received under the Program in the previous year;
 - a statement of the amount sought under the Program and the purposes for which the grant is sought;
 - a statement of any general purpose funds received in the previous year from Commonwealth and State government sources, or a statement that no such funds have been received;
 - a statement of any other applications for Commonwealth and State government general purpose funding for the forthcoming year, or a statement that no such applications have been made or are contemplated.

September 1994

PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR THE 17TH. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NORTH COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL INC.

This year we have held seven general meetings compared to five the previous year and is probably a good indication of the state of the environment on the North Coast.

How has the environment fared with respect to governments?

At the Global level:- The Rio conference showed governments for what they are, short term thinkers, economically biased and pragmatic opportunists.

At the Australian Government level:- The environment was taken off the agenda and an admission that we cannot meet our International obligation to reduce Co2 levels by the year 2000.

The one billion trees programme will not come close to compensating for the four billion trees that will be cleared for agriculture, urban development and forestry by the year 2000.

At the N.S.W. State Government level:- The environment was never on the agenda of the Coalition and indeed they have tried to legislate against it with the T.I.P. Act, Resource security for the big players in the timber industry via wood supply agreements and a Claytons Wilderness declaration.

At the Local Government level:- Despite the heroic efforts of the few Green councillors the environment is ignored in the growth is good philosophy and the race to attract the biggest development or accommodate the most people.

Generally their State of the Environment reports are pathetic.

N.C.E.C.Inc. has now its biggest membership since its formation in 1977

We are now a registered charity and approved for tax deductible donations

Our seven meetings have been held at Grafton twice, Bundagen, Broken Head, Corindi Beach and Stuarts Point twice.

N.C.E.C.Inc. is represented on the following committees:-

N.S.W. Forest Advisory Committee by Lyn Orrego

Dept. of C.A.L.M. Soil Erosion Mitigation Guidelines for Logging by Lyn Orrego

Northern Industry Development Board Eco Tourism Task Force by John Corkill & Sharron Proctor.

Dept. of Health Environmental Health Committee by Jim Croft & Jill Cranny

Dept. of Agriculture C.A.L.M.A.C. by Don Want

Dept. of Agriculture D.I.P.M.A.C. by Don Want

Dept of Planning Northern Rivers Regional Planning Advisory Committee by Jim Croft

Greening Australia Environmental Training & Employment Northern Rivers by Dailan Pugh.

Natural Resource Audit Council by John Corkill

Meetings with Senior Government Officials.

December 93 Director General of N.P.&W.S.

March 94 Director General of C.A.L.M.

March 94 Forestry Commissioner of N.S.W.

April 94 Director General of E.P.A.

Meeting with T.C.M. Coordinating Committee at Coffs Harbour 15th. September

Meeting with T.C.M. Coordinating Committee at Coffs Harbour 15th. September
 I was invited to address this committee about N.C.E.C. and its concerns re T.C.M.
 This was almost certainly as a result of front page headline in the Coffs Harbour Advocate which stated "Cut funding to TCMs say Greens" and radio interviews following the headline in which I repeated N.C.E.C.'s stance that the Federal Government should withhold T.C.M. funds until they were free from political interference.

My address highlighted the continuing degradation of the land and that if land clearing was not addressed by T.C.M. then they were only 'band aiding the environment'.
 I listed some of the concerns voiced by member bodies at the two workshops held to discuss T.C.M.s

The committee stated that they too had concerns at political interference and had written to the Minister expressing this. The Minister's reply did not admit to the charge but reserved the right to appoint the Committees.

Submissions by N.C.E.C.

North Coast Urban Planning Strategy.

National Transport Strategy.

Review of Commonwealth Environmental Impact Assessment Decisions.

Kempsey Wauchope Forests E.I.S.

R.T.A. Possum Brush-Colongolook E.I.S.

R.T.A. Chinderah-Billinudgel E.I.S.

Woodchip Draft E.I.S. by Sawmillers Export Pty. Ltd.

Rural Lands Protection Board Review.

E.P.A. on Framework for issuing Pollution Control Licences to State Forests.

Grants

N.C.E.C. was successful in obtaining one grant for Cultural Heritage on the North Coast which John Corkill is administering.

We also received a Commonwealth grant to run the National conference of Conservation Councils and Environment Centres.

Legal Cases:-

(1) Coffs Harbour Environment Centre lost its Supreme Court appeal over the Look at Me Now Headland Ocean Outfall case but will take it to the Land & Environment Court.

(2) Wingham Action Group is awaiting the decision in the case against the N.P.&W.S. for issuing Fauna Licences to the State Forests at Wingham.

(3) Nambucca Valley Conservation Association is awaiting a decision in the case against State Forests over water quality downstream affecting Bev Valance's property from logging in the Mistake Forest.

(4) On 12th. September E.D.O. filed N.C.E.C.'s affidavit in the case against the Minister for Resources over the issuing of woodchip export licences.

This action is as a result of N.C.E.C.'s long standing concern over the impacts of woodchipping on the North Coast Forests.

The inaugural meeting of this Council in 1977 had woodchipping on the agenda.

Volumes of documentation necessary to mount this case has caused the Secretary and myself a lot of time in extracting relevant material from the files and photocopying to send to the E.D.O.

I have to express my admiration for Jim Tedder's meticulous filing system as I had to try and extract evidence to support all statements in the affidavit whilst Jim was absent and the fact that I was able to find most of it is a testimony to his system and the work he has done in keeping the N.C.E.C's documentation in such fine order.

While on the subject of record keeping I would like to pay a tribute to Garry Grahame our minute Secretary for his excellent minute recording which enables the business of the Council to be carried out efficiently.

(5) Batsons Quarry Broken Head Appeal case which Peter Helman is running has ramifications for all North Coast Councils in the way they determine developments.

Conferences:-

N.C.E.C. hosted the National Conference of Conservation Councils & Environment Centres at Coffs Harbour 18-21 March .

Focussing on the Coast the Conference responded to the R.A.C. Coastal Report, Forestry, Wetlands and chemical issues.

Our Secretary Jim Tedder was coordinator for the Conference and deserves our congratulations for a splendid job.

For those of our delegates who attended it was an opportunity to meet with fellow environmentalists from all parts of Australia and to measure our successes and failures.

N.C.C. Conference "Environment in Crisis" 27th. August.

Approximately 250 people attended for a unanimous condemnation of the Coalition State Government's Environment record.

A pre conference questionnaire regarding the Government's successes and failures and election priorities for member bodies drew 125 responses of which N.C.E.C. member bodies were well represented

A 134 page document of these responses is a graphic indictment of the Government's environmental record.

The Conference business papers edited the responses and grouped them into 20+ headings and workshops corresponding to these headings had to produce 5 resolutions each on their topic to put to the full conference.

Thus over 100 resolutions were voted on and to be successful had to have a 95% affirmative vote.

Nearly all achieved this and of the few rejected some were later reworded and passed.

An outstanding achievement to get all conservation groups united and focussed to produce these resolutions.

A follow up conference is planned for February.

Search Conferences on Plantation Forestry has been attended by Patrick McEntee.

Publications:-

On 12th. April N.C.E.C. and N.E.F.A. jointly launched the public release of The Old Growth Assessment Methodology for Wild Cattle Creek at Coffs Harbour's Botanic Gardens. Congratulations to Megan Edwards and her Co workers for an outstanding project.

I also represented N.C.E.C. at the launch of the Dunggir Conservation Proposal for the Mistake forest on the 30th. July at Bowraville. Our member group the Nambucca Valley Conservation Association commissioned this study and document and should be justifiably proud of the result.

These two documents are excellent examples of the skills and resources available within the N.C.E.C. and are in marked contrast to the unscientific way in which our state forests are being managed.

Our N.C.E.C. leaflet was produced and distributed to Environment Centres.

I have found it a very useful tool in getting the message across about who we are and what we do and what our vision is. At every opportunity when I am with non members I invite them to take a copy and inform themselves.

We have provided a grant to the Toxin Action Group to produce the leaflet Chemical Use In Schools.

Similarly we have approved a grant to Great Lakes Environment Association to produce the leaflet on Wetlands.

Bongil Bongil Coastal Park:-

We were rejoicing at our last general meeting over the government's announcement that it was going to purchase the land under the Dept. of Planning's Coastal Protection Scheme.

It now seems the Government can't get it right even when they appear to be doing the right thing.

An area of land has been omitted which is essential to the integrity of the park to act as a buffer and to provide the recreational aspect of the park away from the sensitive areas.

Public Participation:-

Is enshrined in the Environmental Planning And Assessment Act 1979. however, what the public expects and what the public gets are poles apart.

Whilst it has brought some successes and the N.S.W. Act is better than other States, public participation at all government levels is tokenism.

We in the Environment movement know it as we are the ones who participate and respond to the surveys, the enquiries, the committees and the forums and suffer the disappointments of being ignored.

Just one example among hundreds was the Wilderness public participation process which over a protracted period attracted an enormous response.

Approximately 70% of the respondents were in favour of the N.P.W.S recommended areas of Wilderness.

The State Government's greatly reduced version of the recommended areas announced in December has now been further reduced following National Party and 4 Wheel drive clubs influence.

I can't resist adding another example. Look At Me Now Headland Ocean Outfall has had referendums, demonstrations and a commission of enquiry all adequately revealing the public's attitude but is being ignored by the Coffs Harbour Council.

So where do we go from here? From the E.D.O's workshop on Environmental Law I will use a note I recorded that **Laws reflect community attitudes or if they do not change the laws or the people who make them.**

The letter "W"

Have you ever stopped to think of the many issues that start with the letter W. Water, Waste, Wetlands, Woodchips and Wilderness.

Conclusion:-

How about N.C.E.C. prepare its own State of The Environment Report for the Region ?
If every member group produced one for their area we could combine them to produce a regional report and publish it.

This is my tenth year as President of N.C.E.C and I think I am in a good position to be able to say that last year we excelled ourselves in fulfilling the objectives of N.C.E.C.inc. Within this report I have paid tribute to various people but I would like now to thank all of you, the delegates, who are the council and who have given me the honour of representing the council as president.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Terry Parkhouse".

Terry Parkhouse

NORTH COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL
INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30/6/94

INCOME			
GENERAL PURPOSE GRANT	10,188		
CONFERENCE GRANT	8,000		
SUBSCRIPTIONS	755		
IN PRINCIPLE" DONATIONS	300		
INTEREST	291		
EDO"OYSTER FIGHT"	175		
SUNDRIES	153	19,862	
EXPENSES	7,673		
CONFERENCE COSTS	3,810		
DONATIONS/GRANTS*	3,500		
LEGAL EXPENSES	1,244		
PUBLICATIONS	822		
TRAVEL	665		
FAX AND PHONE	587		
POSTAGE STATIONERY	395		
INSURANCE	390		
F O I WETLANDS	373		
COPYING	320		
MEETING COSTS	156		
SUBSCRIPTIONS	229	20,164	
SUNDRY		(302)	
CASH DEFICIT FOR YEAR		8,371	
BANK BALANCE	1/7/93		
BANK BALANCE HASTINGS CREDIT UNION		30/6/94	8,069
COMMONWEALTH BANK ACCOUNT			
BALANCE 1/7/93		1,865	
PLUS DEPOSIT	2/3/94	1,000	
PLUS INTEREST		36	
		1,036	
BALANCE 30/6/94			2,901
* GRANTS AND DONATIONS			
NAMBUCCA VALLEY ASSOC	1,000		
NCC WOODCHIP FIGHTING FUND	1,000		
GREAT LAKES E A	500		
NEFA	500		
GREAT ESCARPMENT WALK	360		
NCC PLO SUBSIDY	150		
BELLINGEN E C	100		
ULMARRA NETWORK	100		
STOP OCEAN OUTFALL	50		
NATIVE FOREST NETWORK	50	3,810	

The above Statement has been prepared from the records of
the North Coast Environment Council as presented to me

22/9/94
R L Laxton B Comm A C A (NZ) Chartered Accountant
P O Box 34 BOWRAVILLE 2449 (065) 647 312

Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch
Department of Environment, Sport and Territories
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA 2601

~~Dear M/s Roy~~

STATEMENT OF ALL GENERAL PURPOSE GRANTS
RECEIVED FROM COMMONWEALTH OR STATE IN 1992/93

An amount of \$8,160 received on 3 February 1993 from the
Commonwealth Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation
Organisations

An amount of \$1,840 received on 8 April 1993 from
Commonwealth Program of Supplementary General Purpose Grants
to voluntary conservation organisations.

Total amount of grants received \$10,000

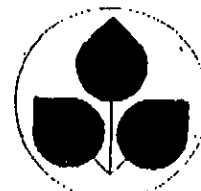
No grants of any kind received from the State Government.

James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.

4 Aug 93

ACF

Australian Conservation Foundation (A.H.N. 007 408 482)
1st Floor, 88 George Street, Sydney NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 247 4285 Fax: (02) 247 1206



27/7/93

Mr George Souris
Minister for Water and Land Conservation
Level 3
State Office Block
Phillip Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Souris

RE: Meeting with Australian Conservation Foundation

The Australian Conservation Foundation would like to place the following matters on the agenda for our meeting with you on Tuesday 24th August at 3pm:

- * Implementation of the National Forest Strategy including price reform and accounting and a moratorium on old growth logging.
- * Regional Assessment Process in NSW and progress on addition of wilderness, high conservation value forest areas to reserve system.
- * Protection of water yield and water quality values in forested catchments (including Dorrigo)
- * Research in Forest hydrology.
- * Feasibility study for Hardwood Plantation establishment in NSW.
- * Victorian Auditor General's Report on Victorian Timber Industry Strategy.
- * Progress on Public Accounts Committee Review of NSW Forestry Commission.
- * Institutional Arrangements for Management of Water Resources in NSW.
- * Cubbie Station proposal for 100 000 ML private dam and implications for NSW.
- * South Australia's call for moratorium on water allocation.
- * ACF campaign directions.

Yours sincerely



Sue Salmon
National Campaign Convenor

Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch
Department of Environment, Sport and Territories
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA 2601

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PURPOSE GRANT
SOUGHT FROM COMMONWEALTH IN 1993/94

An amount of \$12,000 is sought from the Commonwealth under the Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations for the following purposes :-

Administration

Stationery, phone, postage, insurance, photocopying

\$4000

Travel

Some members receive 10 cents per kilometre to attend up to five Council meetings per year, distances that some Councillors travel exceed 500 km per meeting. Some Councillors do not make claims. Delegations are sent to meet Members of Parliament in Sydney on occasions and fares are granted if applied for.

\$3000

Legal Advice

The NSW Legal Aid Commission has stopped any legal aid to environmental cases. This Council has made small grants for Member bodies to seek legal advice which if they decide to go ahead, have to raise funds by all available means eg cake stalls, to conduct the Court cases

\$4,000

Research

There are increasing demands from Government Departments to respond to Inquiries and comment on proposals. As this Council operates entirely without any paid or full time staff there is need at times to pay a consultant to research

\$500

Conference Expenses

The cost of attending important conferences is increasing and though special rates can sometimes be negotiated it is often necessary to meet the cost of fees to enable this Council to be represented

\$500

TOTAL GRANT SOUGHT

\$12,000

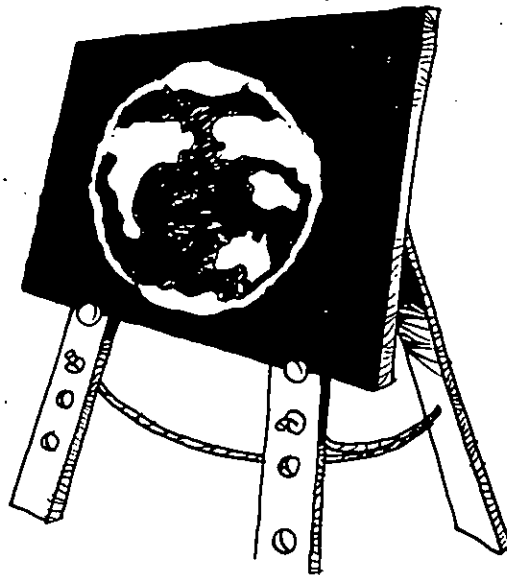
No grants of any kind received from the State Government.

James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.

4 Aug 93

DON'T DELAY ENROL NOW

EARTH WORKS free training courses in August



help turn a waste problem into
a waste solution

Lismore City Council is coordinating an exciting new program designed to train environment and garden conscious Lismore residents, free of charge, to be certified EARTH WORKS Trainers.

During a 4 day course, EARTH WORKS Trainers will be taught the latest techniques in waste reduction and home composting, as well as how to pass on these vital practical skills and information to others in the community.

Three trainers, experts on composting and waste minimisation, will conduct the courses on behalf of the ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY.

1) Weekend course: 9am-4pm

Sat 14th & Sun 15th and Sat 21st & Sun 22nd AUGUST

2) Weekday course: 9am-4pm

Mon 16th to Thurs 19th AUGUST

EARTH WORKS is one way that you can work hand-in-hand with your neighbours, friends and workmates in putting into effect our Council's Waste Minimisation Plan.

LIMITED PLACES - CALL TODAY

To reserve your place in a course, or for more details about EARTH WORKS, or the Lismore Council Waste Minimisation program, contact Tony Kohlenberg at Council on tel. 250 533

EARTH WORKS is a joint project of the EPA and LISMORE CITY COUNCIL



1994-95 PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS (GVCO)

Please find attached an application form and guidelines for the 1994-95 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations (GVCO).

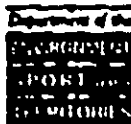
Applications are invited from national, state and regional voluntary conservation organisations for general purpose grants for the purpose of assisting with administrative costs.

The GVCO Program was advertised in the national press on Saturday 15 October 1994 and applications close on Monday 14 November 1994. A copy of the advertisement is attached for your information.

If you have any queries concerning the Guidelines or grant application procedures, please contact Debbie Foulcher on telephone (06) 274 1455 or facsimile number (06) 274 1858.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Burgess", is written over the typed name.

Philip Burgess
A/g Director
Environment Coordination
and Liaison Unit
14 October 1994



GRANTS

to voluntary conservation organisations 1995

Applications are invited from eligible environmental organisations for a general purpose grant under the 1994-95 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

Grants are available from early 1995 to assist environmental organisations with their administrative costs as distinct from program, project or campaign costs. These costs include salaries and salary on-costs for executive and administrative staff, office accommodation and equipment, communications, staff and volunteer training, photocopying, printing and travel.

To be eligible for financial assistance under the Program an organisation must:

- have the protection and enhancement of the environment as its primary objective and its actions must be consistent with that objective;
- be a national, state or regional body that can demonstrate a substantial degree of community support and representativeness through membership and/or subscriber levels across its potential constituency and membership participation in policy making and;
- either have a proven capacity to provide a channel of communication between Government and the community, or provide a proven environmental service to the community.
- be a non-profit organisation;
- have a constitution and be incorporated (or be in the process of becoming incorporated) under the law of a State or Territory as a company, incorporated association, co-operative society or similar body;
- have audited accounts.

Additional information, application forms and guidelines are available by telephoning (06) 274 1455 or (06) 274 1415 or by writing to:

GVC O Program Administrator
Environment Co-ordination and Liaison Branch
Department of the Environment, Sport and
Territories
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Applications will close on Monday, 14 November 1994.

APPLICANTS SHOULD NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS MAY BE LIABLE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES TELEPHONE (06) 274 1415 OR FACSIMILE (06) 274 1439

AN AUTHORISED OFFICER OF THE ORGANISATION SHOULD SIGN THIS APPLICATION BELOW

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

OFFICE HELD

John T.C. Fielder
Hon Sec. & Public Officer

DATE

4 August 1993



North Coast Environment Council Inc

DRAFT

BUDGET 1994/95

	Budget 93/94	Actual	Over/Under + -	Budget 94/95	
INCOME					
Federal grant	10000	10000 "	"	12000	
Subscriptions	800	800		900	
Publications	10	30	+ 30	20	
Interest	200	260	+ 60	200	
Conferences	50	8000	+7950	50	
Donations	100	100		200	
Fee	-	500	+ 500	10	
				13380	
EXPENDITURE					
Post/Stat	800	632	-168	800	
Phone/fax	1200	1110	- 90	1200	
Photocopy	500	410	- 90	500	
Insurance	450	395	- 55	420	
Subscription	250	176	- 74	250	1.
Maint equip	150	67	- 83	150	
Incorporation	100	38	- 62		
Travel Exp	2500	824	-1676	2500	
Meeting Exp	100	110	+ 10	100	3.
Contingencies	100	237	+137	150	4.
Expences of Sec				1500	2.
Legal Exp	3000	5000	+2000	3500	7.
Grants	1000	2000	+1000	1500	
Conferences	500		- 500	500	
Publications	100	983	+ 883	500	5.
Capital Exp	350		- 350	200	6.
Nat Conf CC&EC		7950	+7950		
			apparent surplus	1610	
1.EDO ,NCC ,					
2.If necessary to pay hon.and expences to secretary					
3.Hire of halls etc					
4.Bank charges etc					
5.Environ for Members ,leaflets					
6.Fax modem					
7.Includes payment for FOI requests					



3/1

Department of
THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Thank you for forwarding copies of the Council's annual report and audited financial statement for 1990-91. These have now been included with your application for a general purpose grant under the 1991-92 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

Your attention is drawn to a discrepancy in the financial statement which reports as income an amount of \$8,813 as the 1990-91 GVCO grant to the Council instead of the actual grant of \$8,733.

Yours sincerely

Jim Norman
Environmental Liaison Section

16 October 1991

*\$80 subscription
included*



Department of

THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

I refer to your application dated 14 August 1991 for a general purpose grant of \$10,500 under the 1991-92 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

I am pleased to advise that the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, the Hon Ros Kelly MP, has approved a grant of **\$8,000** to the North Coast Environment Council to assist with its general administrative costs.

A requirement for the payment of approved grants under the Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations is that the conditions of award applying to offered grants be accepted by recipient organisations. If you are prepared to accept the grant under the conditions set out in the attached form, please complete the form and return it to the Department as soon as possible so that early payment can be made.

Enclosed for your interest is a copy of a media release announcing the grants as well as a review of the Program.

Yours sincerely

Jim Norman
Environmental Liaison Section

3 December 1991



3/1

Department of
THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Enclosed is a cheque for \$8,160 being your organisation's grant for the purpose of general administrative assistance, from the 1992-93 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

Yours sincerely

Lynise Witherden

Lynise Witherden
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

3 February 1993

Quality in Life



3/1

Department of
THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Further to Mr Norman's letter of 8 April 1993, please find enclosed a cheque for \$1,840.

Yours sincerely

Lynise Witherden

Lynise Witherden
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

20 May 1993

Quality in Life



Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

I refer to your application dated 4 August 1993 for a general purpose grant of \$12,000 under the 1993-94 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

I am pleased to advise that the Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories, the Hon. Ros Kelly MP, has approved a grant of \$10,188 to the North Coast Environment Council to assist with its general administrative costs.

The grant will be paid to your organisation on completion and return of the attached Acceptance of Grant form. *Please note that it is a condition of award of grants that payment will be made subject to the satisfactory acquittal of the previous year's grant.*

If you have any queries please contact Mrs Lynise Witherden on telephone (06) 274 1415.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jim Norman'.

Jim Norman
Environment Coordination and Liaison Branch

23 December 1993

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, HERITAGE AND ENVIRONMENT

GPO BOX 1252, CANBERRA, ACT 2601. TELEPHONE 467211. TELEX AA62960



. 82/2135

Mr J.L.O. Tedder
Hon. Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via Stuarts Point NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Thank you for your letter of 6 November 1984 expressing the difficulties experienced by the North Coast Environment Council in establishing an Environment Centre.

Under the 1984-85 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations the North Coast Environment Council received a grant of \$4,000. This grant was made to assist the Council to meet its general administrative costs and for technical assistance, conference attendance, legal assistance and research project expenditures approved, on the Minister's behalf, by this Department. No condition was laid down requiring that an Environment Centre be established. It should also be emphasised that no commitments can be made in respect to future grants.

For your information, I enclose copies of the News Releases announcing the 1984-85 grants.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "G.D. Mills".

G.D. Mills
for Secretary

-4 JAN 1985



North Coast Environment Council Inc

DRAFT

BUDGET 1993/94

	Budget 92/93	Actual	Over/Under + -	Budget 93/94
INCOME				
Federal grant (1)	8000	8160		
Subscriptions (2)	700	1840	+2000	10,000
Publications	100	440	- 260	800
Interest	200	-	- 100	10
Conferences		364	+ 164	200
Donations		275	+ 275	50
		950	+ 950	100
				11160
EXPENDITURE				
Post/Stat	800	762	-38	800
Phone/fax	1000	1165	+165	1200
Photocopy	600	330	-270	500
Insurance	400	390	- 10	450
Subscription	150	388	+238	250 1.
Maint equip	150	-	-150	150
Incorporation	-	98	+ 98	100 2.
Travel Exp	2000	1955	- 45	2500
Meeting Exp	-	90	+ 90	100 3.
Contingencies	-	104	+104	100 4.
Legal Exp	1000	4100	+3100	3000
Grants	2000	2400	+ 400	1000
Conferences	200	515	+ 315	500
Publications	500	247	- 153	100 5.
Capital Exp	-	100	+ 100	350 6.
				11100
			surplus	60

3/1

13 Sept 93

N.J.Newell
Member for Richmond
1/133 Wharf St.
TWEED HEADS 2485

Dear Mr.Newell

This Council at its recent meeting asked that you be thanked for all your efforts in support of this Council

In March this Council received a supplementary grant from the Commonwealth bringing our grant for the year up to a total of \$10,000. We are most grateful for your help in this matter. The extra money has proved most valuable particularly as Members are having to meet all their legal costs when taking cases of public concern in the Land and Environment Court.

In our application this year we are seeking a grant of \$12,000 as we do not anticipate any change in the Legal Aid Commission ruling on aid for environmental cases though we have asked the Commonwealth Attorney General to take up this matter with the NSW Legal Aid Commission.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours sincerely

James L.O.Tedder
Hon.Sec.

also to H. Woods Member for Page

ENERGY

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Label No.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Mr, Mrs, Ms

Position

Company/ Organisation

Type of Company/Organisation (eg Mining, Consultant, Government, Educational, Supplier, etc)

Address

Postcode

Reader Category:



Telephone().....



Fax ().....

3/1

9 Nov 93

Environmental Liaison Section
Department of Environment, Sport, and Territories
GPO Box 787
Canberra

Dear Mr. Norman,

Please refer to this Councils application dated 4 August for an administrative grant under the 1993-94 program .

The Presidents report and the audited financial statement for the 1992-93 period which were not available at the date of our application are now enclosed.

Yours sincerely

James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.

13 Sept 93

Environmental Liaison Section
Department of Environment, Sport and Territories
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA 2601

Dear Mr. Norman,

At its recent meeting this Council asked that you be thanked for your efforts in obtaining an extra \$20000 administrative grant for this Council in the early part of this year. This was most appreciated by the Council.

As legal aid for environmental cases has been refused by the NSW Legal Aid commission there has been a large burden falling upon members to raise funds to fight important issues of public concern. The extra funds provided through the Commonwealth are most welcome.

You expressed concern to the undersigned that any build up in funds would not be viewed favourably. We wish to point out that the end of the financial year for this Council is the 30 June and as the Commonwealth does not reach us until December there is always a carry over to tide the Council over that six month period.

Could you please forward to me a new application form for this Council to be registered to receive tax deductible donations. Our Rules of Association are in course of amendment.

Yours sincerely



James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.



TWEED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE LAUNCH

Date: 6th September, 1993

Venue: Murwillumbah Civic And Cultural Centre

Time: 1.15pm (light refreshments will be provided 1.15 - 1.30)

Chairperson: John Butcher, Regional Director, Department of Conservation and Land Management

AGENDA:

1.30pm Introduction by Chairperson of Mr Max Boyd, Mayor, Tweed Council

1.35pm Mr Max Boyd (Mayor Tweed Council)
Welcomes the Tweed Catchment Committee to Tweed Local Government area

1.40pm Mr WA Watkins, Chairperson State Catchment Management Coordinating Committee
TCM - A State Perspective
Introduces Mr Don Beck MP, Member for Murwillumbah

1.50pm Mr Don Beck (Member for Murwillumbah)
Introduces the Minister for Land and Water Conservation, the Hon George Souris MP

2.00pm Hon George Souris MP (Minister for Land and Water Conservation)
Presentation of folders to Committee Members and Launch of Tweed Management Committee

2.15pm Vote of thanks to Minister by Brian Harbison, Chairman Tweed Catchment Management Committee

2.20pm Close

Total Catchment Management
Community and Government Working Together

3/1

4 Aug 93

Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch
Department of Environment, Sport and Territories
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA 2601

Dear M/s Ray

ACQUITTAL OF 1991/92 GVCO GRANT

Please refer to your letter of 26 July asking for a copy of this Councils 1991/92 audited financial statement.

Enclosed is the document required. I regret that the copy sent you after our AGM 1992 appears to have gone astray.

Yours sincerely

James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.



AUSTRALIAN MINERALS & ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION A.C.N. 053 137 929

9th Floor, 128 Exhibition Street,
Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia

ADDENDUM

It is intended to publish an addendum to bring this bibliography up to date.

If you are interested in receiving one, please detach and return the form below.

Mr. D.F. Fairweather
Secretary
Australian Minerals & Energy Environment Foundation
9/128 Exhibition Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

"Mining and the Environment" - a decade of Australian documentation

I should like to receive _____ copies of the addendum when it becomes available.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

.....



Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Thank you for your application of 4 August 1993 applying for a general purpose grant of \$12,000 under the 1993/94 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

The Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories is expected to announce the award of grants in December 1993. Shortly thereafter we will inform you of the outcome of your application.

If you require assistance in the meantime please contact either myself or Lynise Witherden on telephone number (06) 274 1415 or facsimile number (06) 274 1439.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Chris Ray'.

(Ms) Chris Ray
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

12 August 1993.



Mr J L O Tedder
Hon. Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

ACQUITTAL OF 1991/92 GVCO GRANT

In 1991/92 the North Coast Environment Council received a general purpose grant of \$8,000 from the Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations. To date we have not received any of the required documentation to acquit the grant.

An acceptable acquittal is a copy of the organisation's audited financial statement showing receipt of the grant and administrative expenditure.

It would be appreciated if the above documentation could be forwarded as soon as possible.

If you have any queries please contact me on telephone (06) 274 1415 or fax (06) 274 1439.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'CB Ray'.

Chris Ray
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

26 July 1993



Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Enclosed are copies of the Guidelines for the Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations (GVCO) and an application form for a grant in 1993-94.

If you wish to apply for a grant under the 1993-94 GVCO Program, please note that the closing date for applications is 31 August 1993. It is expected that the award of grants will be announced in December 1993.

The 1993-94 Budget for the Program is not known at this time. However, the Prime Minister announced in his Environment Statement of December 1992 that an additional \$200,000 will be available to the 1993-94 GVCO Program.

Current grantees are advised that last year's grants must be acquitted before any grant under this year's Program will be paid. An acceptable acquittal is a copy of the organisation's audited financial statement for its most recently concluded financial year showing receipt of the grant and administrative expenditure.

If you have any queries concerning the Guidelines or grant application procedures, please contact myself or Ms Lynise Witherden on telephone number (06) 274-1415 or facsimile number (06) 274-1439.

Yours sincerely

CB Ray

Chris Ray
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

21 July 1993



3/1

Department of
THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

I refer again to your application dated 11 September 1992 for a general purpose grant of an unspecified amount under the 1992-93 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations (GVCO).

I am pleased to advise that the Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories, the Hon Ros Kelly MP, has approved a supplementary general purpose grant of \$1,840 to the North Coast Environment Council from the additional \$100,000 provided to the GVCO Program this year in the Prime Minister's Environment Statement of 21 December 1992.

The grant will be paid to your organisation in the near future. The conditions of award for the grant are the same as agreed to by you when accepting the initial grant, and your formal acceptance of the initial grant also applies to the supplementary grant.

Enclosed for your interest is a list of the approved grants.

Yours sincerely

Jim Norman
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

8 April 1993

Quality in Life

**1992-93 PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION
ORGANISATIONS**

ADDITIONAL GRANTS - APRIL 1993

Grants approved by the Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories, the Hon Ros Kelly MP, on 6 April 1993 from the additional \$100,000 provided to the 1992-93 GVC0 Program in the Prime Minister's Environment Statement of 21 December 1992.

	\$
National	
Australian Conservation Foundation	10,000
Australian National Parks Council	3,000
Australian Littoral Society	4,903
Murray Darling Association	4,375
New South Wales	
North Coast Environment Council	1,840
Big Scrub Environment Centre	694
The Environment Network, Bega	913
Clarence Environment Centre	2,191
Environmental Defender's Office	2,800
Victoria	
Conservation Council of Victoria	10,000
Victorian National Parks Association	15,000
Queensland	
National Parks Association of Queensland	2,078
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre	2,064
North Queensland Conservation Council	724
Mackay Conservation Group	2,913
Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council	2,809
Toowoomba and Region Environment Council	2,913
Western Australia	
Blackwood Environment Society	1,650
South Australia	
Conservation Council of South Australia	7,000
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia	1,530
Tasmania	
Tasmanian Environment Centre	4,000
Launceston Environment Centre	3,850
Northern Territory	
The Environment Centre N.T.	10,000
Australian Capital Territory	
Canberra and South-East Region Environment Centre	2,753

1992-93 PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

ADDITIONAL GRANTS TO CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

The Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories, the Hon Ros Kelly MP, today awarded 24 grants from the additional funding of \$100,000 provided to the Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations (GVCO) this year in the Prime Minister's Environment Statement of 21 December 1992.

A list of the grants is attached.

When announcing the first round of grants on 31 December 1992 - 54 grants totalling \$1,413,763 were awarded - Mrs Kelly indicated that extra funding would be allocated in the new year to help overcome the threat of cuts by some States to funding for conservation groups. \$39,000 has been provided for this purpose from the additional funds.

The remainder of the available funds has been allocated to organisations with special cases for increased grants such as the Australian Littoral Society, and to regional groups such as the Toowoomba and Region Environment Council to improve their funding as recommended by the Review of the GVCO Program (May 1992).

Grants to the Clarence Environment Centre and Blackwood Environment Society have been renewed, and a new grant has been awarded to the Environmental Defender's Office, Sydney, to facilitate national networking between EDOS in Australia.

An additional \$200,000 is available to the GVCO Program in 1993-94 as foreshadowed in the Prime Minister's Environment Statement. Applications for grants in 1993-94 will be invited in July 1993.

Department of the Environment, Sport and Territories
Canberra

6 April 1993



3/1

Department of
THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Hon Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

I refer to your application dated 11 September 1992 for a general purpose grant of an unspecified amount under the 1992-93 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

I am pleased to advise that the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories, the Hon Ros Kelly MP, has approved a grant of \$8,160 to the North Coast Environment Council to assist with its general administrative costs.

The grant will be paid to your organisation on completion and return of the attached Acceptance of Grant form. Please note that Mrs Kelly may ask a local member of the federal parliament to personally present the grant cheque where the member is able to do so and in reasonable time; otherwise the cheque will be posted direct.

Enclosed for your interest is a list of the approved grants totalling \$1,413,763.

At the meeting of peak conservation organisations with Mrs Kelly on 9 December 1992, some State conservation organisations raised their concerns about possible cutbacks to their State Government administrative funding. Mrs Kelly undertook to consider assisting these organisations and to seek further funding for the GVC0 Program through the Prime Minister's Statement.

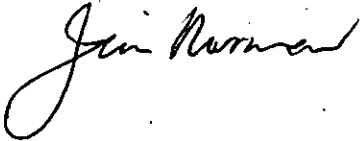
Quality in Life

~~De~~ Lenise Wetkroden

2

The Prime Minister in his Environment Statement of 21 December 1992 announced that voluntary conservation organisations will receive a further \$700,000 for administrative support over the next four years, including \$100,000 to be provided this year. Accordingly, any organisations which consider that they may be subject to cutbacks in State funding this year may apply for supplementary general purpose funding under the GVC0 Program. Applications should reach Ms Robyn Bromley, Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch, **by 15 January 1993**; the applications should include an account of the nature, extent and effect of any proposed funding reductions. Ms Bromley may be contacted on telephone number 06 274 1420 and facsimile number 06 274 1439.

Yours sincerely



Jim Norman
Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch

24 December 1992

Lenise Wetkroden

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

1992-93

General Purpose Grants

	\$
National	
Australian Conservation Foundation	183,248
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	57,385
The Wilderness Society	56,844
Friends of the Earth Australia	18,990
Australian Committee for IUCN	25,000
Australian National Parks Council	5,000
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	12,807
Australian Littoral Society	6,097
Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union	6,386
Keep Australia Beautiful National Association	68,783
Murray Darling Association	19,625
RSPCA Australia	14,690
United Scientists for Environmental Responsibility and Protection	2,191
New South Wales	
Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales	95,202
Total Environment Centre	18,476
National Parks Association of New South Wales	22,411
Project Jonah	2,500
Rainforest Information Centre	2,323
North Coast Environment Council	8,160
Big Scrub Environment Centre	2,000
South Coast Conservation Society	5,400
The Environment Network, Bega	2,087
Albury Wodonga Environment Centre	6,097
Victoria	
Conservation Council of Victoria	92,107
Victorian National Parks Association	22,801
Project Jonah Victoria	2,500
Queensland	
Queensland Conservation Council	105,442
National Parks Association of Queensland	5,922
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	17,071
Rainforest Conservation Society	20,226
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre	20,000
North Queensland Conservation Council	19,276
Mackay Conservation Group	2,087
Capricorn Conservation Council	15,000
Wide Bay Burnett Conservation Council	5,869
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	7,374
Gold Coast and Hinterland Environment Council	2,191
Toowoomba and Region Environment Council	2,087

Western Australia

Conservation Council of Western Australia	52,168
Environment Centre of Western Australia	54,347
WA National Parks and Reserves Association	4,645
Denmark Environment Centre	5,217
Broome Botanical Society	3,000

South Australia

Conservation Council of South Australia	68,862
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia	13,470

Tasmania

Tasmanian Conservation Trust	33,329
Tasmanian Environment Centre	47,495
Launceston Environment Centre	12,077

Northern Territory

The Environment Centre N.T.	53,186
Arid Lands Environment Centre	21,816

Australian Capital Territory

Conservation Council of the South-East Region and Canberra	20,000
Canberra and South-East Region Environment Centre	25,000

Particular Purpose Grants

Arid Lands Environment Centre	7,500
Tasmanian Conservation Trust	9,996



**1992-93 PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY
CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS**

Grants to voluntary conservation organisations for 1992-93 were announced today by the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories, Ros Kelly.

Mrs Kelly said, "the Government has provided these grants in recognition of the important role the voluntary conservation movement plays in raising environmental awareness in the community.

Grants totalling \$1.4 million for 1992-93 have been allocated to 52 individual organisations which have the protection and enhancement of the environment as their primary objective. The financial assistance will be used to help with their administrative costs.

The Prime Minister's Environment Statement committed the Commonwealth to providing an additional \$700,000 over the next four years to voluntary conservation groups.

"At a time when environmental issues are still uppermost in peoples minds, some of the States are threatening to cut funding to conservation groups.

"We will be allocating extra funding in the new year to help overcome this shortminded approach by some of the States".

Mrs Kelly said the Government had already expanded the funding potential of many environmental groups through the provision of tax deductibility.

"Earlier this year I announced a review of the grants scheme to determine how best to help voluntary conservation organisations remain effective into the 1990s".

"That review has now been completed and its report made public. It affirmed the valuable, role played by the voluntary conservation movement in promoting conservation action in Australia. The review also found that the grants scheme is an important factor in maintaining the ability of conservation organisations to contribute to informed and constructive debate and action on the environment.

"Already a Register of Environmental Organisations eligible to receive tax deductible donations has been established as recommended by the review, and guidelines for the grants scheme have been revised. Other recommendations will be considered in the coming year".

For further information contact: David Lording 06 277 7640 or 018 624 712

31 December 1992

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

1992-93

General Purpose Grants

	\$
National	
Australian Conservation Foundation	183,248
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	57,385
The Wilderness Society	56,844
Friends of the Earth Australia	18,990
Australian Committee for IUCN	25,000
Australian National Parks Council	5,000
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	12,807
Australian Littoral Society	6,097
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Arid Lands Environment Centre	21,816

Australian Capital Territory

Conservation Council of the South-East Region and Canberra	20,000
Canberra and South-East Region Environment Centre	25,000

Particular Purpose Grants

Arid Lands Environment Centre	7,500
Tasmanian Conservation Trust	9,996

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

1992-93 PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

The NORTH COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL Inc.

(Name of Organisation)

is prepared to accept the general purpose grant offered under the 1992-93 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations on condition that its audited financial statement covering the period for which the grant is made will be provided to the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories and on condition that the grant and the grant amount will be identified in the organisation's audited financial statement as income from the Commonwealth Government and that, in any reporting of the organisation's funding, due acknowledgement will be made of the Commonwealth grant.

Signature

Jan T. Tedder

Office Held

Hon Sec. & Public Officer

Date

30 December 1992

Return to

Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

(Attention: Jim Norman, Climate Change and Environmental Liaison Branch)

Tel: (06) 274 1409
Fax: (06) 274 1439

Copy

Report on "FORGOTTEN RAINFORESTS" by Geoff Williams

This is a major scientific work of high quality, and well merits publication. There is every evidence that the work is original, for there is no way in which data from the eleven localities studied could be produced as it has been except as the result of long-term, painstaking, original effort.

The study is primarily an ecological, not a systematic one, and as such it succeeds admirably. At the same time it has involved the author familiarizing himself with the basic systematics of at least five or six - eight or nine major fields of biological research. Again, this effort has been achieved beyond doubt. Currently the accuracy of scientific references to flora and fauna have been checked in detail, according to the most up-to-date text books in the various fields, and the results demonstrate a remarkable level of meticulous scientific accuracy.

The work is certainly stimulating and interesting in terms of the analysis of the different types of rainforest involved in the one geographical area represented by the Manning. It emphasises the inter-relationships of the different types of fauna with each other, and with the vegetation in a new and rather unusual way.

The study should be of interest to a wide audience. It should interest specialists on rainforest, as such. It should interest specialist ecologists. It should be of significance to botanists, to zoologists, to entomologists.

Essentially the writing style is good. It contains some weaknesses which it should be possible to rectify rather easily. Many sentences contain clear and simple statements which tend to be obscured by the addition of words - sometimes technical - which add little to the meaning.

The section p.4 - p.14 requires revision. The main problem relates to singulars and plurals associated with the use of "rainforest" as a cumulative word.

Following "(v) Cool Temperate Rainforest", a paragraph "(c) The Manning as a Rainforest Physical Environment" should be inserted explaining the geomorphology of the Manning area as some



MINISTER FOR THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT
AND TERRITORIES

Hon. Ros Kelly M.P.

Phone: (06) 277 7640
Facsimile: (06) 273 4130

THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT AND TERRITORIES

Details of particular programs follow the Index.

B.R.1	Australian Heritage Commission:	\$13.4m
B.R.1	Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service:	\$55.1m
B.R.3	Australian Sports Commission:	\$59.6m
B.R.3	Australian Sports Drug Agency:	\$3.2m
B.R.1	Barrier Reef (G.B.R.M.P.A.):	\$11.0m
B.R.1 & 6	Biodiversity:	\$1.0m
B.R.1 & 2	Climate Change:	\$4.0m
B.R.3	Community Cultural Recreation and Sporting Facilities Program:	\$12.3m
B.R.1 & 5	Cultural Centres (Uluru & Kakadu National Parks):	\$6.2m
B.R.2	Ecologically Sustainable Development:	\$15m
B.R.1	Environment (Total):	\$157.6m
B.R.1 & 2	Environmental Resources Information Network (ERIN):	\$2.4m
B.R.1 & 4	Feral Pests Program:	\$1.5m
B.R.1 & 2	Forest Conservation:	\$1.0m
B.R.1	Greenhouse Research Program:	\$5.7m
B.R.1	Office of Supervising Scientist:	\$7.0m
B.R.1	One Billion Trees Program:	\$5.4m
B.R.3	Recreation & Water Safety Programs:	\$2.0m
B.R.3	Sport and Recreation (Total):	\$82.9m
B.R.1	Structural Adjustment Program (North Queensland):	\$4.0m
B.R.3	Sydney Olympic Bid:	\$5.0m
B.R.1	Voluntary Conservation Program:	\$1.4m
B.R.3	Water Safety Program:	\$2.0m
B.R.1	World Heritage Area (Queensland Wet Tropics Management):	\$8.0m

Quality in Life



Minister for The Arts, Sport, The Environment and Territories

ROS KELLY

MEDIA RELEASE

B.R.6

FUNDING FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Ros Kelly, Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories, today announced additional Commonwealth funding of \$1 million for biological diversity conservation.

Mrs Kelly said that "the additional funding strengthens Australia's commitment to the conservation of biological diversity. We are the only developed nation in the world that is mega-diverse and we have a duty to conserve and use our considerable biological wealth wisely".

"The funding will enable the continued development of a National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia's Biological Diversity in cooperation with State and Territory Governments, business and industry and the wider Australian community," the Minister said

"Funding will provide for the development of education, information and extension programs to promote the importance of biological diversity conservation and the benefits that sustainable use of our biological diversity brings. It will also address measures to improve our scientific knowledge and I am looking at cooperative projects with users of biological diversity to demonstrate practical conservation applications.

Australia will continue to build on its international standing in relation to biological diversity conservation. We took a prominent role in development of the Convention on Biological Diversity which I signed for Australia at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in June this year. Australia has indicated it will move promptly to ratify the Convention. Our task now is to look at the manner of implementing our obligations under the Convention.

"We will also be looking at ways of assisting our regional neighbours in the area of biological diversity conservation. The biological diversity of the Asia-Pacific region is of major global significance. This funding will assist in the development of regional approaches to the conservation of biological diversity," Mrs Kelly said.

Further information:

Garrie Hutchinson (Minister's Office) (06) 2777640
Wayne Fletcher (DASET) (06) 2741553

18 August 1992

3/1

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Sydney NSW Australia 2041

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Facsimile (02) 810 2290

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International +1 415 949 4249

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Email Pegasus: learthcare

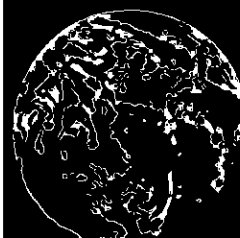
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EARTHCARE
ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY INSTITUTE
PTY LTD

A.C.N. 054 803 280



EarthCare

DIRECTORS
Don Henry
Molly H. Olson

29th May, 1992

Mr Tedder
Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear *Mr Tedder,*

We have completed our Review of the 'Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations' Program, "Supporting Community Conservation Action in Australia", for the Hon. Ros Kelly, MP, and submitted a final Report to her on 29th May, 1992.

The willing and generous assistance of all Voluntary Conservation Organisations was deeply appreciated and greatly increased the effectiveness of the conduct of the Review.

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your assistance and to wish you well for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Don Henry and Molly Olson

NATIONAL FUNDING SUBMISSION

ON BEHALF OF

THE ENVIRONMENT CENTRES AND CONSERVATION COUNCILS
OF AUSTRALIA

OBJECTIVE

TO EXPAND THE FUNDING BASE OF ENVIRONMENT CENTRES
AND CONSERVATION COUNCILS THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH
GOVERNMENT'S GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION
ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM FROM 1988/89 AND ONWARDS

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PREFACE

This submission is concerned with the funding of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils by the Commonwealth Government.

It is presented to the Commonwealth Government on behalf of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils throughout Australia, and was prepared as a result of resolutions passed at both the 1985 and 1986 National conference of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils, and subsequent discussion at the 1987 and 1988 National Conferences.

1. SUMMARY

Environment Centres and Conservation Councils are now part of the Australian political and social landscape. While the division of tasks and structure may vary slightly from place to place, these broad interest groups between them provide the basic physical resources and skills necessary to present the case for the protection of the environment and to inform the community of the need to do this.

Environment Centres and Conservation Councils have been receiving Federal Government assistance since the GVC0 grant commenced in 1973. After an extended period of declining grant allocations, the current ALP government has honored its promise to restore the levels to 1975 figures in real terms.

However, there is an urgent need to place the GVC0 program on a rational footing. While the total allocation is roughly equal to 1975 levels (accounting for inflation) it is now divided amongst 41 organizations compared to 20 in 1975/76. Decisions on allocation to individual groups is made on a fairly ad hoc basis and no account has been taken of the real needs of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils.

This submission realistically assesses the needs of metropolitan and regional groups. It argues that a metropolitan group requires at least 300m² space in or near the central business district, 4 staff on wages commensurate with comparable jobs elsewhere in the community and a minimum 20% of staff costs in administrative expenses.

Regional groups, to be eligible for funding, should satisfy two of the following three criteria:

- (a) it should cover a significantly large geographical area.
- (b) it should be a significant distance from an existing funded group.
- (c) it should serve a significant population catchment.

and both of the following two criteria:

- (a) it should have the support of the existing environment movement (the views of the relevant state Conservation Council/Environment Centre could be sought to ascertain this).
- (b) it should have demonstrable local support.

It is argued that Regional Groups require 200m², 2 full-time staff on commensurate salary and 20% of staff costs for administration.

Based on information provided by existing Environment Centres and Conservation Councils, the total allocation required to satisfy the minimum requirements outlined above would be approximately \$2 million. Additional funding would be required for other categories of voluntary conservation organizations.

We reiterate our view that this would be money well-spent. A vital service is provided at far less expense than would be the case if it was the responsibility of a government department.

The submission argues that all groups should receive the minimum calculated level of funding from the Commonwealth. Any State funding should be additional to this. However, it may be necessary for some groups in particular adverse circumstances to receive a greater allocation from the Commonwealth.

Consideration should be given to the introduction of a more prompt method of payment, rollover triennial grants and grants for capital equipment.

2. CONSERVATION COUNCILS AND ENVIRONMENT CENTRES

Conservation Councils are umbrella organizations which act as a voice for their representative organizations on agreed policies, promote education, conduct research, provide information and other help to members, hold conferences, make submissions and provide other technical input to governments. They have responsibility to serve as advocates for each region's environment movement, and to influence Government policy on matters of concern to environmentalists.

Environment Centres are information and resource bases. They provide a physical resource to the conservation movement and to the general public by providing library and research facilities, meeting rooms, printing and secretarial services and by disseminating information.

Environment Centres are generally non-political and are not campaign and issue-oriented. Some carry out project and educational work. Other centres, particularly those in regional areas, have taken on a more activist role - and in some cases the role of Environment Centre and Conservation Council are served by a single organization. Where a Centre has taken on an activist role, it has usually been because no other body fulfills these functions in the area.

Regardless of what other functions it performs, however, the distinguishing feature of an Environment Centre is the provision of information, resources and facilities on a broad scale to the conservation movement and the community at large, including, in many instances, to government itself.

Environment Centres are far from being a universal phenomenon, although judging by the enthusiasm of many overseas visitors they may eventually become so. The concept appears to have originated in Australia. As far as we have been able to ascertain, the first Environment Centre in the world was the Total Environment Centre in Sydney, which opened its doors in 1972. Australia can be proud of this innovation, although it should be acknowledged that resource centres servicing a similar range of needs do exist elsewhere.

3. GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANIZATIONS

In 1987/88 a total of \$ 1.242 million was allocated to the Grants to the Voluntary Conservation Organizations (GVCO) Program.

In December, 1987, grants to some 41 organizations totalling \$1.042 million were announced. An additional \$200,000 was allocated to assist conservation groups in their submissions to the Helsham Inquiry.

Of the \$ 1.042 million, \$ 396,400 was given to specific interest or national groups; the remaining \$645,600 was disbursed to Conservation Councils and Environment Centres. In other words these bodies

currently receive 62% of the total GVC O' grant.

This submission is concerned specifically with the level of funding to Environment Centres and Conservation Councils. This in no way implies that levels of funding to other bodies are considered adequate. It is our belief that a strong case can be made for substantially increased levels of funding across the board, but it is not our brief to make this case here.

3.1 THE ORIGINS OF GVC O FUNDING

The history of Federal Government provision of financial assistance to voluntary conservation organizations goes back to 1964 when a grant-in-aid of \$2,000 was made available to the fledgling Australian Conservation Foundation. The Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organizations Program (as it is known today) had its beginnings in the early 1970's. In 1973 the Federal Labor Government established a Committee of Inquiry into the National Estate. This Committee's fifth term of reference was to report on:

"the manner in which the National Trusts of Australia and other appropriate conservation groups could be supported by public funds and the amount required in order that these bodies can immediately increase their effectiveness in arguing and working for the preservation and enhancement of the National Estate."

As a result of submissions received, the Committee reported in its "Findings and Recommendations" that:

"The needs of voluntary organizations are:

- * office facilities;
- * research offices;
- * legal aid;
- * access to information including advice from expert consultants; financial help in achieving special objectives".

Included, as an interim measure, in the 1973/74 Budget was an allocation of \$323,000 for grants-in-aid to 17 voluntary conservation organizations (excluding the National Trusts). This included grants to each State Conservation Council (with the exception of the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory) of approximately \$15,000.

In New South Wales, this money was requested to provide for the "establishment of a conservation centre with administrative staff to act as a clearing house for environmental work and to supply material to people engaged in environmental surveys". Similar requests came from South Australia and Western Australia, with Queensland and Victoria seeking to appoint executive officers and office staff.

Environment Centres were by now an important component of the Australian environmental movement. Even at this stage however the Committee of Inquiry said "We regard present assistance as minimal".

In April 1974 the then Prime Minister announced the Government's acceptance, in principle, of the major recommendations of the National Estate Inquiry. Four financial assistance programmes relating to the National Estate were established:

- i) grants to voluntary conservation organizations;
- ii) grants to National Trusts;
- iii) the National Estate grants programme;
- iv) the technical assistance grants programme.

In the first full year of operation of this programme, 1974/5, \$350,000 was distributed amongst the 17 organizations. In many states, while the grant was made to the Conservation Council it was, in fact, meant to be used as well for the Environment Centre operated by that Council. The same is true today in States such as Queensland and NSW where a grant is received jointly for both the state-based Conservation Council and Environment Centre.

3.2 THE FRASER YEARS

Since 1974, successive Governments have pledged their continuing commitment to the GVC O program and have acknowledged the value of the contribution made by the voluntary conservation movement. In 1980, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation, in its report on Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organizations, recommended that "The Government review its priorities and examine the possibility of increasing the funding to voluntary organizations to a level sufficient to ensure their continued effectiveness."

However, the level of funding to the GVC O program remained fairly static right throughout the 1970's and early 1980's - while measures of inflation such as consumer price index certainly did not - so that for 1982/83 the total allocation was still only \$350,000. By this stage, the grants program still existed on paper but, in reality, the recipients, particularly those organizations who by their very purpose and structure did not have substantial additional sources of funding, were undergoing financial strangulation.

3.3 RECENT TIMES

The situation changed in 1983 with the return of Labor to Government. While in Opposition, the Labor Party had made a commitment to restore GVC O grants to a level, in real terms, equivalent to that of 1975/76. Over the past four years this promise has largely been fulfilled, with grants of \$650,000 (1983/84), \$850,000 (1984/85),

\$945,000 (1985/86) and \$1,010,000 (1986/87). The announcement of a GVC0 program totalling \$1.242 million for 1987/88 maintained the real value of the program in a year of all-round financial restraint.

It is important, however, to realise that in 1975/76 only 20 organizations were covered by GVC0 funding, whereas in 1987/88, \$1.042 million was allocated among 41 organizations. Hence although the overall GVC0 total has been restored to its original level in real terms, the average amount received by each organization has declined.

4. THE CASE FOR INCREASED FUNDING

From the very first year of the GVC0 program, decisions regarding the grant to be received by each Conservation Council and Environment Centre have been fairly ad hoc. Apportionment of an established (and rather meager) level of funding has been based largely on precedent. Until now, there has been no attempt to carry out an objective assessment of the true financial needs of recipient bodies.

The present Government has made a number of statements about the restoration, in real terms, of the GVC0 program to an earlier given level. We acknowledge this achievement, and are grateful for the substantial increases that have occurred over the past few years. The activities of many organizations would have been severely curtailed without them. However, there is a need to address the overall level of funding and to establish rational criteria for its allocation.

A case for increased funding can be readily made.

4.1 PREVIOUS REPORTS ON THE GVC0 PROGRAM

An articulate case was made for increased funding of voluntary conservation organizations in general, and Environment Centres and Conservation Councils in particular, in the May 1980 report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation, which found that voluntary conservation organizations "... contribute to reasoned public debate, to public education and an increasing awareness of environmental issues, and play an important role through their input to government inquiries".

The Report of the Australian Heritage Commission The National Estate in 1981 concluded that "... the size and expanding membership of voluntary conservation bodies and the views expressed in public opinion polls on environmental issues demonstrate very strong underlying public concern for the environment".

The same Report further recognised "... the deep feeling of most Australians that their descendants have the right to at least as many options in the cultural and natural environment as they have themselves".

A primary objective of the voluntary conservation movement is to ensure that those options continue to exist.

The wealthiest and most powerful forces in our society are predominantly interested in development. Unfettered freedom of these forces has caused and continues to cause environmental devastation. The principle force acting to avert this destruction is community concern for the environment.

4.2 SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY

A principal role of government is to make decisions on land and resource use. Governments have a responsibility to make the best choice on behalf of society as a whole.

By the provision of funds to voluntary conservation organizations, the government facilitates the enunciation of community concern for the environment. The government benefits by receiving a balancing view, enabling it to make more informed decisions. This principle was expressed by former Environment Minister, Barry Cohen in 1980, while serving as opposition spokesperson for the Environment.

"...The important thing is that in relation to conservation, on the one hand the Government has the (views of) very wealthy companies and, on the other, it has the point of view of a section of the community. It is then up to the Government to make its judgement on the evidence presented in both cases".

The conservation movement is often viewed as constantly in conflict with governments. While there are certainly disagreements from time to time, it must also be acknowledged that the work of the movement is often supportive of government initiatives. We would argue that only a minute fraction of all development proposals are opposed by the conservation movement.

In the words of the Australian Conservation Foundation:

"Whether explaining the problems of soil conservation or publicising restrictions needed to deal with air pollution most voluntary conservationists are supporting Government departments and agencies. With more adequate funding this support work could be extended even further.

The cost-effectiveness of the voluntary bodies has also been the subject of favorable comment. Referring to Environment Centres, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation Report said:

"...These centres provide a valuable information facility to a wide variety of users which, if provided by government, would

be infinitely more expensive to the taxpayer".

However, the rationale for the GVC.O program extends even further. The cost of what might be called "bad development", which the environment movement seeks to avert, can be enormous. This can often be measured in monetary terms (witness the huge sums of money now being spent in an attempt to restore lands which were degraded as a result of unsound practices). Less measurable, but no less real, are the social costs. In its most serious forms, it may prove that 'bad development' puts in jeopardy our very survival as a species within a functioning biosphere - witness the current concern over the depletion of the ozone layer - an effect which has been linked to the release of fluorocarbons into the atmosphere.

4.3 THE GROWING DEMANDS ON CENTRES AND COUNCILS

As a result of an increasing community awareness and interest in conservation, the environment movement has expanded dramatically over the last decade or so. However, changes over this period have not made the task of the movement easier.

Often, improvements in environmental principles and practices have not decreased, but merely changed, the pressures on conservation bodies. The environment movement is increasingly being asked to play a role in management of resources and long-term programmes. Improvements in environmental legislation have brought increased opportunity for public participation, which is effected through the conservation movement.

Overall, the demands on environment groups have increased enormously.

The work of the conservation movement is both short and long term. Short term work is mainly concerned with campaigning to help solve or avert specific crises. Although vitally necessary, this work is mainly reactive. Longer term work, such as environmental education programmes, research into alternatives and the development of ventures which generate environmentally worthwhile employment, is the environmental equivalent of preventative medicine. Both are work of the greatest importance - the best safeguard for a healthy future as a society.

5. ESTABLISHING A COMMON FUNDING FRAMEWORK

A central tenet of this submission is that, without a certain minimum level of government funding, environment centres and conservation councils operate at vastly reduced effectiveness.

In the absence of this minimum level of funding, a disproportionate amount of the organization's time and effort is given over to raising,

by whatever means possible, that necessary funds to ensure survival. This, of course, is at the expense of carrying out the roles which are the *raison d'être* of the Centre or Council. Having recognised the need for, and facilitated the establishment of, Environment Centres and Conservation Councils, the Government should also accept responsibility for ensuring that we are resourced to a level which enables us to carry out essential functions effectively.

In preparing this submission it has been necessary to recognise the differing structures that exist in different States.

In some cases, one organization fulfills the role of both Environment Centre and Conservation Council; in others there is a separate Centre and Council, each with its own complementary functions but with one body dominating the management of the other; elsewhere the Centre and Council each operate as fully independent organizations, although of course contact and co-operation is always strong.

However, whatever the arrangement, the same cluster of functions are fulfilled. This submission quantifies the total cost of supplying those functions without consideration for the way the task is split up.

5.1 THE ESSENTIAL NEEDS

For Environment Centres and Conservation Councils to function effectively, three essential requirements must be satisfied: space; staff; and basic operating costs. It is sensible to examine a level of funding sufficient to satisfy each requirement, and calculate the overall grant as the aggregate of the three.

Space

Clearly, the need for suitable premises is fundamental.

Requirements must include adequate office space, library area, sales outlet area and meeting space over and above any area sublet to other groups.

As for any business, security of tenure and suitable location are very important.

With regard to the former, an organization cannot undertake proper planning if it has only a short-term lease on its premises. The costs and disruption involved in changing premises can be debilitating. A minimum three year lease is preferable.

Location is equally important. An Environment Centre must be in the central area of a city or regional town, readily accessible to its users (particularly to students). Additionally, a metropolitan Centre/Council should be near to other major conservation bodies, relevant government departments, the Parliament and the media. This generally

necessitates a location in, or at the very least on the fringes of, the central business district.

Staff

The second fundamental need is for an adequate level of staffing. The workload will always expand to take advantage of extra staff, as the tasks facing Centres and Councils are theoretically limitless.

The actual mix of staff adopted by an organization should be a matter for each body to decide individually.

Wage justice, a basic principle espoused by the Labor Government, dictates that employees should be paid award rates at least equivalent to the salaries they would receive elsewhere in the community. The poor levels of income received by virtually all Environment Centre/-Conservation Council staff around Australia has resulted in a high turnover of personnel.

Basic Operating Costs

These are the administrative costs associated with any organization, including such items as telephone and fax services, postage, insurance, electricity, repairs and maintenance, stationery, etc. It is difficult to arrive at an exact figure, but at a modest estimate 20% of total wages are needed to cover these costs.

We therefore arrive at the following equation to determine the level of grant necessary to provide for minimal effectiveness:

GVCO GRANT = Cost of office space.. + Award wages + 20%

It should be appreciated that it will still be necessary for such bodies to raise further funds to meet other kinds of expenditure (for example, no provision has been made in the above analysis for travel costs).

5.2 THE CAPITAL CITIES

Excluding areas available for sub-tenancies, experience has shown that at least 300 square metres is needed to provide the space requirements of a capital city environment centre/conservation council. The cost of three year leases over this space will vary from city to city.

Experience indicates that for minimal effectiveness, and to avoid placing unreasonable strain on employees, a minimum of 4 full-time staff (or the equivalent in part-time positions) is required in each capital city. These four staff are the minimum number of employees necessary to carry out the range of functions including administration, research, librarianship, clerical tasks, information dissemination,

advocacy, project management, environmental education.

Therefore the Grant to metropolitan bodies is equal to:

Lease over 300m³ + Wages for 4 staff + 20% wages

5.3 THE REGIONAL CENTRES

The last ten years in Australia has seen the establishment of an increasing number of regionally-based Conservation Councils and Environment Centres. This is indicative of a growing awareness of and interest in environmental matters.

Some of these Centres and Councils have traditionally received some degree of funding from the Commonwealth Government under the GVC O Programme. Many do not. There are also many areas where the need for a Centre/Council has been identified, but lack of funds prevents their establishment.

There has been some suggestion in recent times that the Commonwealth should not provide funds to regional bodies at all. In this submission, we strongly reject this suggestion. Regional bodies have tended to be established as a result of the remoteness of the region to a state Centre/Council, the magnitude of the environmental problems in the region and the need to service a growing, locally-based clientele. They are just as much concerned with the protection and promotion of the National Estate as are the state-based bodies, albeit on a smaller scale, and thus should receive some degree of financial assistance.

This principle of funding for regional bodies was put forward in the National Estate Inquiry Report and was reiterated by Barry Cohen in 1980 when he said "... The Opposition believes that there should be funding on a regional basis and grants made for one-off projects...". Mr Cohen made this statement when speaking to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation (Report on Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organizations).

We do not suggest that any group which sets up in an area and calls itself an Environment Centre or Conservation Council should be entitled to receive Federal funding. A decision to allocate Commonwealth funding should be based on certain criteria.

We suggest that to be eligible, a regional group should satisfy two of the following three criteria:

- (a) it should cover a significantly large geographical area.
- (b) it should be a significant distance from an existing funded group.
- (c) it should serve a significant population catchment.

and both of the following two criteria:

- (a) it should have the support of the existing environment movement (the views of the relevant state Conservation Council/Environment Centre could be sought to ascertain this).
- (b) it should have demonstrable local support.

Once again, it is argued that if the Government accepts the need to fund a regional body, funding should be provided at a level to cover basic minimum running costs.

For a regional body it is suggested that the minimum level of funding should allow for the rent of 200 sq. metres, centrally located and available on at least a 3-year lease, the equivalent of 2 full-time staff at award rates, and operating costs assessed as 20% of wages. The sum involved will naturally vary by location.

5.4 STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING

There has been considerable discussion recently about the link between State Government funding received by Centres and Councils and the level of Commonwealth funds granted to the same bodies under the GVC0 program. State Governments undoubtedly have a responsibility, arising from their decision-making role on matters such as environment protection, nature conservation, land use and land management within their individual states, to ensure that the public is informed and that community concerns on environmental matters, as enunciated through the conservation movement, are articulated and considered. As such we believe that they should contribute to the funding of conservation bodies.

This should not, however, supercede or supplant the Commonwealth's responsibilities. While the individual States and Territories have historically been allocated these decision-making powers, these powers are exercised over the heritage of all Australians. Any individual should therefore have the right to contribute towards and participate in nature conservation in other states.

Conservation Councils and Environment Centres are all working towards the protection, presentation and management of the National Estate. State and Territory borders are nothing more than arbitrary lines drawn on a map. The National Estate belongs collectively to all Australians but citizens of one State have no power to influence actions in another - except through the Commonwealth Government. On a broader front, many aspects of our National Estate are of significance internationally, in these cases the Commonwealth has responsibilities as a member of the world community.

We therefore believe that in considering the question of Federal Government funding, the Commonwealth should provide a level of

support at least equal to the minimum amount established in this submission and this figure should not, for individual bodies, be discounted by the amount of State/Territory government funding that an organization may receive. However, the Federal Government should retain the right to give a grant higher than the minimum level to any organization for whatever reason it wished.

If the GVC O program is expanded to the baseline level cited above, Conservation Councils and Environment Centres will be able to get on with the job for which they were established much more effectively, and not have to divert time and resources into fund-raising simply in order to achieve a bare minimum level of operation.

5.5 THE BOTTOM LINE

Based on information provided by existing Environment Centres and Conservation Councils, the total allocation required to satisfy the minimum requirements outlined above would be approximately \$2 million. Additional funding would be required for other categories of voluntary conservation organizations.

We reiterate our view that this would be money well-spent. A vital service is provided at far less expense than would be the case if it was the responsibility of a government department.

6. A REALISTIC FUNDING PROGRAM - SOME ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 FUNDS FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

A further aspect of the funding requirements of all Centres and Councils which we believe should also be addressed by the Commonwealth Government are the costs of establishing a new organization, and the replacement of items of capital equipment.

When many of the older Centres were first set up, their initial grants were sufficient to cover not only running costs for that first year, but establishment costs as well. The equivalent costs today of setting up and equipping a new Centre are substantial. Provision must be made for the purchase of such basic items as desks, chairs, tables, bookshelves, typewriter, word processor, photocopiers, cupboards, filing cabinets, etc. In addition, some organizations have special needs. For example, it is important that Centres in tropical areas are equipped with air-conditioning.

The cost of capital equipment is also a problem for existing bodies, when they must replace existing items or install new ones. These costs can place an enormous financial strain on already stretched

budgets and are, in many instances, a prohibitive burden. Preceding sections have established a minimum level of funding for Councils and Centres which essentially covers operating and administrative costs. We propose that, in addition to operational funding, separate provision be made for establishment costs and purchase of items of capital equipment (just as at present in the GVC O Programme there is provision for special purpose grants). Organizations that satisfy the general criteria to receive GVC O funding would then be able to make special application for funds from this allocation.

6.2 TRIENNIAL 'ROLLING GRANTS'

Another matter for consideration is the desirability of three-year rolling grants. This has been suggested many times to various reviews and inquiries during the past ten years.

It is extremely difficult for Centres and Councils to carry out long-term planning and budgeting when they have no idea what level of operational funding they will receive from one year to the next - nor even a guarantee that any grant will be made! This uncertainty severely constrains their ability to enter into extended financial commitments, and to offer staff security of employment - another contributory factor to the poor terms and conditions experienced by workers in this industry. Triennial funding commitments by the Commonwealth would go a long way to removing these uncertainties - and would help increase the efficiency of Centres and Councils.

6.3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

At present, the workings of the GVC O program may cause grave difficulties for grant recipients - difficulties which we believe can and should be alleviated.

The overall level of funding for the GVC O Programme is announced when the Budget is brought down in August. Following this, the Department of the Environment makes recommendations to the Minister concerning which bodies should receive funds, and how much each grant should be. A decision is then announced by the Minister - typically around November. Cheques are distributed somewhat later.

Several organizations have experienced difficulties because of significant variation from year to year in the date GVC O grant cheques are actually received. Some have found themselves in the invidious situation of having no funds to pay rent and wages even though their grants have been announced. We therefore request that efforts be made to dispatch cheques in the same month of each year.

7 CONCLUSION

If the principles of this submission are accepted and adopted, the level of funding for Environment Centres and Conservation Councils under the GVC O Program will be increased to a realistic level for the financial year 1988/89 and beyond - a level which more accurately reflects their minimum needs. It will therefore be essential that funding levels be maintained in real terms and be flexible in order to adapt to changing situations and needs.

49 Grove Street
BIRCHGROVE NSW 2041
Tel/Fax: (02) 810 2290

3/1
EARTHCARE
ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY INSTITUTE
PTY LTD
A.C.N. 054 803 280



15th January, 1991

Mr Tedder
Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road, Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

DIRECTORS
Don Henry
Molly H Olson

Dear Mr Tedder,

The Federal Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories, the Hon Ros Kelly MP, has asked us to undertake a review of the Grants for Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

The terms of reference are to report to the Minister on:

1. the operation and effectiveness of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations and their relationship to other funding sources for voluntary conservation organisations;
2. the effectiveness of grants as a mechanism for achieving Commonwealth objectives of raising community awareness and understanding of environmental and heritage issues and having an effective conduit for the community to express its concerns;
3. options for improving the program including the extent to which, if any, the emphasis should be changed from general purpose grants to specific purpose or project grants;
4. the guidelines for disbursement of grants;
5. establishment of performance criteria for evaluation of the programs;
6. any transitional arrangements that may be appropriate if significant changes are recommended.

To facilitate this review we are seeking submissions from interested organisations and individuals, particularly those that currently receive grants under this program or have applied for such grants. These submissions should be concise and address the terms of reference for the review. Appendix 1 outlines areas of information that would be of particular assistance to the review.

Submissions should reach us no later than the 10th February, 1992. It is intended that discussions will be held with a representative selection of organisations, and these will be contacted in the near future. Your assistance with this review is most appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Don Henry and Molly Olson

3/1
C/- J. TEDDER
PAVANS RD., GRASSY HEAD,
via STUARTS POINT. 2441
(065) 69 0802

10 Feb 92

Earthcare Environmental Policy Institute
49 Grove St
Birchgrove 2041

Dear Directors


Enclosed is this Councils information for the review of the grants for voluntary conservation organisations program which you are preparing for the Commonwealth.

It is a pity that the review is being conducted in such haste Your request did not reach the secretary until 22 January and we were given but three days notice that there was to be a meeting five hours travelling north from where three of the executive live.

Apparently too you did not use the list of conservation organisations put out by DASETT and it seems only by accident you discovered the existence of this Council which also possibly delayed information reaching us in time.

The draft of this information was shown to our meeting held at Byron Bay yesterday. The Council expressed concern that they were not able to meet with you and asked if it was not possible to arrange a meeting with at least some of the Council before your final report is submitted ?

Yours sincerely


James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.

CALM will have to do a public relations exercise with us if it is to allay our feelings that it is part of a 'divide and rule' technique, and a strategy to dispose of Crown Land without proper public approval.

9. BRANCH MAINTENANCE WORK WITHIN NATIONAL PARKS

Our efforts have been toward keeping Bitou Bush growth at Diamond Head within CROWDY BAY NATIONAL PARK down to a minimum. Progress to date indicates this can be done effectively by a once a year working bee, at a time when fruiting is not under way. Many areas along the coast however are already beyond rescue from Bitou Bush by such a small programme. (e.g. KATTANG N.R. near Laurieton). Within LIMEBURNERS CREEK NATURE RESERVE we have had a number of working bees to clear lantana from an open area within the valuable coastal rainforest patch at Big Hill south of Crescent Head. It has not been possible to gauge the effectiveness of our work because of the recent drought. Follow-up work will continue, until the affected patch is restored to rainforest quality.



Roy Pullen
NPA Council delegate
MID-NORTH COAST BRANCH
Ph. (065) 821669

P.O. Box 1437
PT MACQUARIE
NSW 2444

APPENDIX 1:

Information for Review of the "Grants for Voluntary
Conservation Organisations" Program

The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide information that will be of assistance to the review. You may wish to use this questionnaire as your full submission to the review, or attach it to your submission.

Name of organisation NORTH COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL Inc.
Address C/- J. TEDDER PANANS ACC. GRASSY HEAD
VIA STUARTS POINT Postcode 2441
Telephone no. (065) 690 802 Facsimile no. () Same as phone
Contact person James L.O. Tedder

Aims of organisation To promote the cause of conservation
see attached objects

Type of organisation ☐ Resource Centre
☒ Coordinating Body
☒ Activist
☐ Other (please specify)

Date of formation 1977

Status of organisation ☒ Incorporated association
☐ Company limited by guarantee
☐ Co-operative
☐ Other (please specify)

Involvement with GVC0 program
☒ Current recipient
☐ Previous recipient, but not currently receiving grant
☐ Unsuccessful applicant
☐ Not applicable

Return to: EarthCare by 10th February, 1992
49 Grove Street, BIRCHGROVE NSW 2041
Tel/Fax: (02) 810 2290

Organisational Information

Membership Information:

- * Membership numbers (specify whether individual members or organisational members). 39 org. 1 individual
- * If organisational members, estimate total individual membership of organisations. 2500
- * Can members of the public join the organisation? Yes but encouraged to join local group
- * If organisation has limited membership, how many paid up supporters/subscribers does the organisation have? -
- * Describe geographical distribution of membership/supporter base.
☐ Local ☐ State ☐ National ☒ Regional

Structural Information:

- * Does organisation have regional branches, and if so, how many? N.A.
- * Are Board (Council) members
☒ elected ☐ appointed
- * Length of term (if applicable) annual election

Personnel Information:

- * Total number of staff employed Nil
- * Total number of weekly person hours of staff employed Nil
- * Total number of conservation and managerial staff employed -
- * Total number of weekly person hours of conservation and managerial staff employed -
- * Estimated average term of employment of conservation and managerial staff -
- * Estimate number of weekly person hours of volunteers 100
- * Estimate number of weekly person hours contributed by Board (Council) members 100-120
- * If organisation has regional branches, estimate the number of person hours of regional staff employed -
- * If organisation has regional branches, estimate the number of person hours of branch volunteers -

Financial Information

- * List annual income for each of the last 3 financial years.

1989	\$ 7773
1990	\$ 9707
1991	\$ 11513
- * List GVC0 grant for each of the last 3 financial years.

1989	\$ 6050
1990	\$ 6413
1991	\$ 8733
- * List amount of GVC0 grant applied for each of the last 3 financial years.

1989	\$ 6000
1990	\$ 6000
1991	\$ 8000
- * List any other government grants received during the last financial year

Government Program	Grant Size	Purpose of Grant	Once off or Ongoing
Reg. Geographic Information system.	\$ 14000	Study feasibility for regional use	Once off
Chemical Data Base	\$ 42000	Set up data base on N. Coast	once off

- * For the last financial year, provide an estimate of income sources in the following categories:

Government Grants	\$ 8733
Consultancies	\$ 907
Commercial Activities (eg trading/licensing)	nil
Membership/subscriptions	\$ 784
Donations	\$ 500
Other	\$ 589

- * Do you produce an annual report? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- * Does your group have tax deductible status? ☐ Yes ☒ No

- * How do you think the GVC0 program could better assist Voluntary Conservation Organisations' financial viability?

Grants should be related to actual costs of providing administrative services to conservation councils including Regional Conservation/Environment Councils and to Environment Centres. The present grants are not now based on what is required to pay a living wage, rent of reasonable premises, "out of" costs of administration. There will always be need of and plenty of scope for voluntary efforts but there must be a framework onto which volunteers can work. The work in the nature of submissions sought from Government there has increased enormously. In 1986/87 Dec/Jan this Council received 28 inwards correspondence. In 1991/92 Dec/Jan the amount was 77.

- ### Skills Development:

- * What training initiatives does your organisation currently undertake?

- * How do you think the GVC0 program could better assist with Voluntary Conservation Organisations' skills development?

More money to enable employment, even if part time, of persons to carry out specific tasks.

Raising Community Awareness about Conservation

- * How many people visited your organisation during the last financial year? no office
- * How many requests for information were serviced? 200 plus
- * What publications does your organisation produce and how many are distributed?

Tourism & the Environment - 2000

Tourism & Conservation Movement - 2000

- * Detail any specific community awareness raising activities, and initiatives that facilitated the community awareness raising activities of other organisations, during the last year.

Displays held at various fairs shows on the North Coast on Rainforests, Woodchipping, Forestry, Sandmining, Wetlands, Coastal development

Displays lent to libraries & schools

Two weekend courses titled "Caring for the Environment"

Newspaper articles.

- * Estimate the number of weekly person hours spent by staff and volunteers preparing and providing the above initiatives. 40
- * How do you think the GVCO program could better assist the Voluntary Conservation Organisations' ability to raise community awareness about conservation?

By providing a specific grant to regional bodies to employ persons part time to prepare and exhibit displays, Repare materials for sale and distribution to schools and public; to prepare articles for newspapers, radio and newsletters on a range of issues

Conduit for Community Concerns

- * What facilities do you offer to other organisations (e.g. photocopies, fax, telephone answering service, office space, meeting rooms)?

Council office is in the private house of the honorary secretary

- * How many organisations make regular use of these facilities?

nil

- * Estimate the number of weekly person hours spent by staff and volunteers preparing and providing technical advice and views, by whatever means (e.g. submissions, meetings, phone calls), to governments:

Local Government
State Government
Federal Government

40
60-80
80

- * How could the GVCO program assist Voluntary Conservation Organisations' in their role as conduits for community concerns?

Provide funds to employ persons to prepare submissions and do initial research. Such persons could be employed on a project basis

Environment Issues Addressed on behalf of the Community

- * List the environment issues dealt with during each of the last 3 calendar years, noting whether they involved national, state or local issues and the role (a prominent role, a significant role, a minor role) that your organisation played in those issues.

Issue	Year	National State Local	Prominent role/ Significant role/ Minor role
Coastal Planning Inquiries	1989-1990	Nat/State/LG	Prominent
National Park Proposals	1989-91	Nat/State	Significant
ICAC on land development	1989, 1990	State	Significant
Pulp Mill Proposal	1989	Nat/State	Significant
Transport Strategies	1989, 90, 91	Nat/State	Significant
Solitary Islands Marine Reserve	1989, 90, 91	Nat/State	Prominent
Sand Mining	1989-91	Nat/State	Significant
Wetland Protection	1989-91	Nat/State/LG	Significant
National Rainforest Cons. Program	1989-91	Nat/State	Prominent
Planning Issues	1989-91	State/L.G.	Prominent
Wood chips	1989-91	Nat/State	Prominent
Intractable Wastes/Chemical	1990	Nat	Prominent
Biological Diversity Inquiry	1990-91	Nat	Significant
Soil Conservation	1990-91	Nat/State	Minor
Forestry - RAC - Management issues	1990-91	Nat/State	Significant
E.S.D. Reports	1990-91	Nat	Minor
Energy	1990-91	Nat/State	Minor
Waste Minimisation/Recycling	1989-91	Nat/State	Significant
World Heritage Issues Qld/Tas.	1990-91	Nat	Minor

Operation and Effectiveness of GVCO and its Relationship to Other Funding Sources

- * General comments on the operation and effectiveness of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations and their relationship to other funding sources for Voluntary Conservation Organisations.. (1st term of reference of review.)

As an umbrella group there is very little scope for direct fundraising as Councillors (two per Member) are active in their own Organisation.

The present grants are very cost effective but very inadequate if the government is genuine in seeking public response to a wide range of issues

There must be a minimum amount for Council/Centre
If the Environment/Social Services combined the idea of a "one stop" information centre would achieve great savings

Effectiveness of Grants for Achieving Commonwealth Objectives

- * General comments on the effectiveness of grants as a mechanism for achieving Commonwealth objectives of raising community awareness and understanding of environmental and heritage issues and having an effective conduit for the community to express its concerns. (2nd term of reference of review.)

The most cost effective method is to increase grants to voluntary organisations rather than consultants or public servants
Umbrella groups eg this Council can assist purely local voluntary bodies in their research, their publicity and ~~research~~ contribute towards their costs by small grants. This Council is able to aid the community awareness program far more cost effectively than government agencies.
This Council's membership has increased from 30 to 42 in the past three years while the research arm has become involved in many issues with the public and authorities through seminars, meetings and projects.

- * What do you perceive to be your organisation's main achievements during the last three calendar years?

Review of National Rainforest Conservation Program
Coastal Planning
Prompting more consultation by Government departments with
the community

- * Estimate percentage of time spent on issues of national, state and local concern.

National
 State
 Local

30
60
10

Response to Variability of Grants

- * If your GVC0 grant was decreased, what activities would you be unable to address?

Most activities would be curtailed as the grant primarily
meets communication costs of the Council

- * If your GVC0 grant was increased, what priority activities would you address which you are currently unable to address due to a lack of funds?

Education/Information to the public
Research on issues where information may only be
available in Sydney offices/libraries

More forward looking policies on issues such as

- coastal management
- pulp mills / forestry
- transport
- planning
- climatic change
- energy conservation
- waste minimisation
- biological diversity
- ecologically sustainable development

If the overall grant was subdivided among more bodies the net effect would be reduction of effectiveness of the conservation movement as the sums involved would not be of any great use for anything except perhaps buying stamps.

Options for Improving the Program

- * General comments on options for improving the program including the extent to which, if any, the emphasis should be changed from general purpose grants to specific purpose or project grants. (3rd term of reference of review.)

Project grants should be added to the scheme but could be administered by regional councils such as NCEC. General grants must remain and be increased as these provide the foundation on which all other projects and work rest.

Guidelines for Disbursement of Grants

- * General comments on the guidelines for disbursement of grants. (4th term of reference of review.)

The National Conference of Conservation Councils/Environment Centres prepared in 1989? its guidelines for grants. These guidelines were welcomed by DASETT but there has been no action to put them into effect.

Grants for regional conservation councils such as NCEC should be increased to allow parttime employment on certain information/education tasks. There should be grants for the establishment and running costs of information (multiple) centres in all towns with 30000 or more in population. Such grants should enable the employment of 1/2 persons, rent of small shopfront and 20% for "on costs". Such centres would provide all kinds of information beside environmental.

The H of R Standing Cttee on Environment in 1980 held an inquiry into funding voluntary conservation organisations. The main changes since that inquiry (see attached) is removal of the requirement to raise a dollar for every two dollars (which created more work for public servants and slowed conservation work) and the huge increase in work flowing to councils and centres

Establishment of Performance Criteria

- * General comments on establishment of performance criteria for evaluation of the programs. (5th term of reference of review.)

Much of the work of Councils is educational in the broadest terms and preparing submissions, media releases, etc. Surely one will not judge a Council on the number of letters written!

Environment Centres are there to provide information to the public. Counting the number of visitors or phone calls does not include the people who may have gained information from a display or a leaflet.

Transitional Arrangements if Changes are Recommended

- * General comments on any transitional arrangements that may be appropriate if significant changes are recommended. (6th term of reference of review.)

This Council covers the North Coast from Tweed to the Great Lakes (Wallis Lake) and west to the New England Highway. The area is important nationally as it is an important tourist destination for people from all over Australia. Protecting the coast is therefore of national importance and not just State signi

This Council operates on the volunteered time and money of its Councillors. The grant meets phone, stationery, postage etc. It does not meet all the travel costs, loss of income, accomodation costs of Councillors attending meetings (even with government departments). There is no need for transitional arrangements if the grants are to be maintained or increased or reduced. If they are to be targetted to phone, postage etc then this will involve more government servant time as well as more volunteer time. Splitting the grants among more smaller groups will ensure less problems for Government but more administrative costs.

PART II - OBJECTIVE.2. NAME

The name of the organisation shall be the 'NORTH COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL INCORPORATED'.

3. DEFINITION OF AREA.

- (1) The prime geographical sphere of interest and activity of the Council is defined as being:

a region bounded to the south by Newcastle, to the north by the Queensland border, to the west by a line 15 kilometres west of the New England Highway and to the east by the territorial boundary of the coast of New South Wales.

- (2) The defining of the above area is not to be taken as necessarily precluding the involvement of the Council in conservation or environmental activities in other areas or regions, as may be decided from time to time

- (3) The defining of the above area is not to be taken as presenting any obstacle to the possible future reduction of this area to allow for the establishment of similar Regional Conservation Councils within specific parts of the area now defined.

4. OBJECTS.

The prime aim and object of the Council is to promote the cause of conservation throughout the defined area or elsewhere as may be determined from time to time and more particularly but without limiting the generality of the foregoing:

- (1) To work for the better conservation of the physical environment of the defined area, its landscape, its flora and fauna, its waters and foreshores and coasts, to work for the maintenance and improvement of its human amenities, and the wise use of its natural resources, and to engage in any and all conservation, environmental, ecological or planning activities and in such ways as the Council may decide

- (2) To represent generally the views of such bodies as may be engaged in any aspect of the conservation of the defined area; to foster optimum liaison between such bodies in the inter-change of information and views; and in particular to support as requested, the conservation activities of its member organisations
- (3) To encourage and assist the formation of conservation bodies throughout the defined area and in particular the formation of such bodies as would act in areas or aspects not at present covered
- (4) To co-operate or to conjoin in any suitable way with other bodies or organisation having objects completely or in part similar to those of the Council
- (5) To arrange ready access to all relevant forms of expertise, media management and publicity, information; professional, scientific, technical and other services and to arrange the availability of these for its own purposes and to its member bodies and to other conservation organisations
- (6) To sponsor or engage in education and research activities publications, conferences, symposia in any area or field of conservation alone or in cooperation with other bodies or individuals
- (7) To act as spokesperson and to make representations and submissions to any person organisation or public authority or instrumentality on such conservation matters as apply generally to the defined area or to other areas excepting that in any matter of prime concern to a member body and specifically affecting only the local area covered by that member body the agreement of that member body must be gained before such Council actions are taken
- (8) To provide a central clearing house, a central office, and a repository of conservation information at some location within the defined area

Stdy Ctee of H of R - Environment
Voluntary Conservation Organisations - Report 1980
RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends that:

- 1 The Commonwealth Government review its priorities and examine the possibility of increasing the funding to voluntary conservation organisations to a level sufficient to ensure their continued effectiveness;

(paragraph 36)

- 2
 - (a) Commonwealth funds be provided to voluntary conservation organisations (other than Environment Centres) with a \$2: \$1 matching requirement up to the amount allocated to each group; and
 - (b) Commonwealth funds be provided to the Environment Centre in each State capital and in large regional centres with no requirement to match the allocated amount;

(paragraph 41)

- 3 the eligibility criteria for funding under the program of grants to voluntary conservation organisations be amended to delete 'nature conservation' and replace it with 'protection and enhancement of the environment' (as defined in the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974;

(paragraph 43)

- 4 the Minister for Science and the Environment allocate grants to voluntary conservation organisations on the basis of advice received from the Australian Heritage Commission, the Australian Conservation Foundation and the principal conservation organisation in each State, as well as from organisations under his administrative control;

(paragraph 44)

- 5 a fund be established, with monies not necessarily allocated each year, to assist voluntary conservation organisations with specific one-off projects;

(paragraph 45)

- 6 a Technical Assistance Program be introduced to provide assistance to voluntary organisations, and that allocations be determined on a case by case basis;

(paragraph 46)

- 7 the Commonwealth Government establish a research fund from which monies can be allocated by the Minister for Science and the Environment to sponsor research projects by professional consultants and researchers on the basis of advice received from voluntary conservation organisations;

(paragraph 49)



Ros Kelly

Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories

4 December 1991

1991-92 PROGRAM OF GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

Grants to voluntary conservation organisations for 1991-92 were announced today by the Acting Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, David Simmons.

A total of \$1,389,000 has been provided by the Government for financial assistance to approved voluntary conservation groups primarily to help with the cost of their general administrative expenses.

Grants totalling \$1,351,500 for 1991-92 have been allocated to 54 individual organisations which have the protection and enhancement of the environment as their primary objective.

A new grant for \$5,000 has been included this year to help with the establishment of the Kimberley Region Environment Centre at Broome by the Broome Botanical Society and other local groups.

The primary purpose of the grants is to help voluntary conservation organisations with their administrative costs such as accommodation, salaries, printing and telephone but can be used for other purposes such as attendance at conferences, legal advice and office equipment provided this is approved in advance.

The grants are made in recognition of the important role played by the voluntary conservation movement in raising environmental awareness in the community and contributing to the development of effective environmental policies.

Mr Simmons also announced that a review of the grants scheme is to be undertaken.

He noted that the scope, number and needs of voluntary conservation organisations had changed dramatically since the scheme was established eighteen years ago but that only one major review had been undertaken since then - in 1980 by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation - which had not resulted in significant changes.

Mr Simmons said, "I hope that the review will indicate how the grants can best help voluntary conservation organisations to contribute effectively to the development of environmental awareness and policies in the 1990s". He expected that the review would be completed by the end of March 1992 and that new guidelines for the grants scheme would be in place in time to take effect from 1992-93.

For further information contact:
Gerry Morvell (Department) 06 2741919
Mark Ryan (Minister's Office) 06 2777640

GENERAL PURPOSE GRANTS

\$

National

Australian Conservation Foundation	179,655
Keep Australia Beautiful National Association	68,783
The Wilderness Society	55,729
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	56,260
Friends of the Earth Australia	18,618
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	12,556
Murray Valley League for Development and Conservation	19,240
Australian National Parks Council	2,846
Australian Committee for IUCN	9,290
Australian Littoral Society	5,977
Project Jonah	3,984
Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union	6,261
RSPCA Australia	14,402
United Scientists for Environmental Responsibility and Protection	2,148

New South Wales

Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales	93,335
National Parks Association of New South Wales	21,972
Total Environment Centre	18,114
North Coast Environment Council	8,000
South Coast Conservation Society	5,294
Albury Wodonga Environment Centre	5,977
Rainforest Information Centre	2,277
Blue Mountains Environment Centre	2,000
Clarence Environment Centre	2,148
Bega Environment Network	2,046

Victoria

Conservation Council of Victoria	90,301
Victorian National Parks Association	22,354

Queensland

Queensland Conservation Council	103,375
National Parks Association of Queensland	5,806
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre	21,631
North Queensland Conservation Council	18,898
Wide Bay Burnett Conservation Council	5,754
Capricorn Conservation Council	8,197
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	7,229
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	16,736
Rainforest Conservation Society	19,829
Gold Coast Environment Centre	2,148
Mackay Conservation Group	2,046
Toowoomba and Region Environment Council	2,046

Western Australia

Environment Centre of Western Australia	53,281
Conservation Council of Western Australia	51,145
WA National Parks and Reserves Association	4,554
Denmark Environment Centre	5,115

South Australia

Conservation Council of South Australia	67,512
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia	13,206

Tasmania

Tasmanian Conservation Trust	32,675
Tasmanian Environment Centre	46,564
Launceston Environment Centre	11,840

Northern Territory

The Environment Centre N.T.	52,143
Central Australian Conservation Council	21,388

Australian Capital Territory

Canberra and South-East Region Environment Centre	27,209
Conservation Council of the South-East Region and Canberra	13,206

PARTICULAR PURPOSE GRANTS

Big Scrub Environment Centre	2,400
Blackwood Environment Society	1,000
Broome Botanical Society	5,000

3/1

4 Feb 92

Earthcare Environmental Policy Institute

Dear Mr. Henry and M/s Olson,

We consider it would be helpful in your deliberations if you had further background information about this Council. It should be noted that the present honorary secretary was for seven years the director of the Conservation Centre in Adelaide from the beginning of 1975 and is therefore able to compare the two situations.

The North Coast Environment Council began fifteen years ago with a combined role of environment centre and Council office with a small grant. But with each change of secretary so the location of the centre changed as the secretary was supposed to run the centre and if the secretary lived in the bush there was no centre. Eventually the centre was established at Lismore where there was a great source of volunteers and a desperate need for an environment centre. The Council helped the centre with grants but eventually the centre became self funding with an excellent shop front. The new centre now called the Big Scrub Environment Centre became a member of this Council. Other centres were set up with or without financial help from this Council. These include the Caldera Environment Centre, the Nimbin Environment Centre, the Byron Environment Centre and the Coffs Harbour Environment Centre. Attempts to establish a centre at Port Macquarie have not been successful due mainly to the lack of a large pool of volunteers. A smaller centre has been established at Bowraville by the Nambucca Valley Conservation Association. All these centres are members of this Council.

The majority of the members of this Council are small organisations some of which have been established to fight a particular issue, others are general conservation organisations and a few are for particular interests such as Field Naturalists and a walking club. Most of the members take a keen interest and active role in the general work of the Council.

The region covered by the Council reaches from the Great Lakes Shire Council to Tweed Shire Council and west to the New England Highway. It is an area of perhaps the most rapid population growth in Australia, in percentage terms; the forest and the natural environment are the second richest in biological terms in Australia, it is a very important tourist destination with increasing overseas tourists, it contains a World Heritage listing, it has important horticultural and farming activities, and its transport and services to cope with this development are inadequate.

The Council meets some five times a year in different locations on the coast. It involves twenty to thirty people travelling up to five hours each way for a meeting. The Council has agreed that it will pay a fuel allowance of 10 cents per kilometre to those who travel in their own vehicles and who request the amount. Compare that sum to what is paid per kilometre by Government. When delegates require accommodation it is offered by friends, usually as space for a

Barrier Reef Holdings Limited



NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NSW
39 GEORGE ST
THE ROCKS NSW 2000
PHONE: (02) 247 4206/247 2228
FAX: (02) 247 5945



URBAN BUSHLAND IN WESTERN SYDNEY SEMINAR: Proceedings

Papers from the Urban Bushland in Western Sydney seminar held on 23rd March 1991 at the Werrington Campus of the University of Sydney are now available.

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW held the seminar to encourage discussion of ways to adequately protect and properly manage Sydney's unique urban bushland. Papers from the seminar will be of value to everyone who cares about the conservation of urban bushland.

Speakers and their topics were:

Doug Benson (Herbarium of NSW)

'The Native Vegetation of Western Sydney'

Patrick Antcliffe (Environmental Education Consultant)

'Birds and Mammals of North-Western Sydney'

David Robinson (Environmental Defenders' Office)

'Legal Measures to Protect Urban Bushland in Western Sydney'

Ian Perkins (Park and Bushland Management Consultant)

'The Management of Urban Bushland in Western Sydney

The Basis for Action - A Local Government Perspective'

'The Management and Restoration of Native Grassland in Sydney - A Strategy'

Robyn Buchanan (Ryde TAFE)

'Site assessment - A Vital Part of Bush Regeneration'

Keith Muir (Total Environment Centre)

'How to Mount a Campaign'

Tein McDonald (Ku-ring-gai Council)

'Getting Started - Councils and Volunteers'

Gay Spies (Willoughby Environmental Protection Association)

'Getting Started - Local Groups'

Stephen Dacey (Residents Action Group for the Environment)

'The Londonderry Tip Campaign'

If you'd like a copy (or copies) of the speakers' papers in bound form, please complete and detach the following order form, enclosing \$15 plus \$2.00 (postage) and return to NCC.

Please send me ... copies of the Urban Bushland in Western Sydney seminar proceedings.

Name/Organisation
Postal address
.....
Amount enclosed

sleeping bag. Delegates meet their own costs of food while attending meetings. Ages of delegates range from over 65 to the early 20s, some are unemployed, some self employed and others are in full time employment. It is not easy being a Councillor and it costs everyone cash as well as time.

The work of the Council has increased enormously over the past three years and the number of Government departments both nationally and state which seek comment on various papers increases each month. These submissions are dealt with by the Councillors or the secretary and so the matter of communications is vital. Phone and postage charges and now fax are taking an increasing share of the budget, while the public liability insurance, a requirement for incorporation increases annually and takes nearly 4% of the Federal grant.

There is pressing need for the proper funding of environment centres at strategic locations on this coast and where there is sufficient voluntary help to ensure its successful operation. A minimum of five in this region with funds to pay 1 and 1/2 staff, rent of a shop front and 20% on costs for each centre would ensure success. This Council requires an doubling of its grant in order to employ part time people to work on projects, improve education and information services, and to meet more fairly some of the costs incurred by Councillors in attending meetings. Three hundred kilometres to attend meetings five times a year is different to catching the local bus or suburban train and involves lots of wear and tear on private vehicles.

Yours sincerely

James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RESERVES COMMITTEE HELD AT 500 GEORGE ST, SYDNEY,
COMMENCING AT 6.30 pm ON 8 OCTOBER 1991

PRESENT: Keith Clarke, Brian Everingham, Penny Roberts

APOLOGIES: Paul Barnes, Alan Catford, Richard Mason

CHAIRMAN: Brian Everingham

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the September Meeting were confirmed (moved Roberts, seconded Clarke).

It was noted that the NPWS list of reserves had not been attached (see attached).

2. GAZETTALS: No report was tabled.

3. MINING NOTICES

A large backlog of mining notices has accumulated. Consideration of these was deferred until a procedure for dealing with them is developed.

4. MEDIA

No media releases were tabled. A variety of press clippings, mostly dealing with Chaelundi and NPWS funding, were noted.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

5.1 Marine National Parks

Copies of the NPA policy were distributed. The policy will be discussed at a meeting with David Papps.

5.2 Chaelundi

The Committee noted a letter from Minister West describing protection of threatened species during proposed logging of Chaelundi.

5.3 Forest Policy

Discussion of the NPA policy was deferred in the absence of Anne Reeves.

5.4 Meeting with NPWS Staff

Ian Brown will attend the meeting on 12 November at 6.30 pm. Penny Roberts will seek a similar meeting with Bob Pressey on 5 November and advise Committee members.

Action: Penny Roberts

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 12 November, 6.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE: 1) Ian Brown will attend this meeting

2) On Tuesday, 5 November at 6.30 pm, Bob Pressey from NPWS will give a presentation on the Western Division.

05-FEB-1992 11:39

FROM CONSERVATION COUNCIL SA

TO

065690802

P.01



**Conservation Council
of South Australia**

Incorporated
120 Wakefield Street
Adelaide
South Australia 5000
Telephone
(08) 223 5155
Facsimile
(08) 232 4782

FACSIMILE ADVICE

To: *Jim Tedder*

Fax No: *065 690802*

Number of pages following: *2*

Date: *5/2/92*

Comments: *It was a 1980 publication Jim*

Regards - Sandra Kerck

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends that:

- 1 The Commonwealth Government review its priorities and examine the possibility of increasing the funding to voluntary conservation organisations to a level sufficient to ensure their continued effectiveness;

(paragraph 36)

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(paragraph 41)

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(paragraph 46)

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(paragraph 49)..



Department of

THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM and TERRITORIES

Mr J L O Tedder
Secretary
North Coast Environment Council
Pavans Road
Grassy Head
via STUARTS POINT NSW 2441

Dear Mr Tedder

Thank you for your application dated 14 August 1991 for a general purpose grant of \$10,500 under the 1991-92 Program of Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations.

It is noted that the Council's annual report and audited financial statement for 1990-91 will be forwarded when they become available.

Grants are expected to be announced by the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories no later than early December, at which time we will inform you about the outcome of your application.

Yours sincerely

Jim Norman
Environmental Liaison Section

23 August 1991

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM AND TERRITORIES

PROGRAM OF
GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

APPLICATION FOR GRANT

FULL NAME OF ORGANISATION NORTH COAST ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL Inc

POSTAL ADDRESS c/- J. TEDDER

PAVANS A/c GRASSY HEAD VIA STUARTS POINT 2441

CONTACT OFFICER JAMES TEDDER TELEPHONE NO 065 690 802

NUMBER OF FINANCIAL MEMBERS 40 Member Societies FACSIMILE NO —
(BY CATEGORIES)

COPY OF CONSTITUTION OF ORGANISATION

COPY ATTACHED

PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED ✓

COPY OF MOST RECENT ANNUAL REPORT

COPY ATTACHED

PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED ✓

1990-91 Due late September

COPY OF PREVIOUS YEAR'S AUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENT CLEARLY IDENTIFYING THE RECEIPT
OF ANY GRANT RECEIVED UNDER THE
GVCO PROGRAM

COPY ATTACHED

TO BE SUPPLIED AS ✓
SOON AS AVAILABLE

STATEMENT OF ALL GENERAL PURPOSE FUNDS RECEIVED
IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR FROM COMMONWEALTH AND
STATE GOVERNMENT SOURCES

STATEMENT ATTACHED ✓

NO GOVERNMENT
FUNDS RECEIVED

STATEMENT OF AMOUNT SOUGHT UNDER THE GVCO
PROGRAM AND PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE WOULD BE USED

STATEMENT ATTACHED ✓

STATEMENT OF ANY OTHER APPLICATIONS FOR
COMMONWEALTH AND STATE GOVERNMENT GENERAL
PURPOSE FUNDING IN THE COMING YEAR

STATEMENT ATTACHED

NO OTHER APPLICATIONS ✓
ARE PROPOSED

/OVER

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE FORWARDED BY 30 AUGUST 1991 TO:

DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL LIAISON SECTION
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS, SPORT, THE ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM AND TERRITORIES
GPO BOX 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

APPLICANTS SHOULD NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS MAY BE LIABLE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY UNDER
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES TELEPHONE 06-2741409 or FACSIMILE 06-2741439

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Jan Z. G. Tedder

OFFICE HELD

Hon. Secretary

DATE

14 August 1991

North Coast Environment Council Inc.

A grant of \$ 8813 was received as a general purpose grant from the Commonwealth Government in the period 1990-91

The 1990-91 accounts are now being audited and will be presented to the Annual General Meeting to be held

21 September 1991

A copy of the audited accounts will be forwarded as soon as they are available.

James L.O.Tedder
Hon. Sec.
14 August 1991

North Coast Environment Council, Inc.

A grant of \$ 8813 was received as a general purpose grant from the Commonwealth Government in the period 1980-81. The 1980-81 accounts are now being audited and will be presented to the Annual General Meeting to be held 21 September 1981. A copy of the audited accounts will be forwarded as soon as they are available.

James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.
14 August 1981

North Coast Environment Council Inc.

A grant of \$ 8813 was received as a general purpose grant from the Commonwealth Government in the period 1990-91. The 1990-91 accounts are now being audited and will be presented to the Annual General Meeting to be held 21 September 1991.

A copy of the audited accounts will be sent as soon as they are available

JL
James L.O. Tedder
Hon. Sec.
14 August 1991

One Year Moratorium on Tasmanian Logging

Legislation was introduced into Federal Parliament on 26 February to establish a Commission of Inquiry into World Heritage values and foresty resources in the Lemnathyme and Southern Forests areas of Tasmania.

The legislation also provides for the protection of the areas for the twelve month period of the Inquiry.

The Commission will inquire into whether all or part of the Lemnathyme and Southern Forest areas are of, or contribute to, World Heritage values.

It will also determine whether there are prudent and feasible alternatives to logging in areas found to have World Heritage values. ■



Martin Jones

Aquarium Curator Named

The Great Barrier Reef Aquarium, due to open in June as part of the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland complex in Townsville, has appointed its first curator.

He is Martin Jones, who originally hails from the ice and snow of Canada, but has lived in North Queensland for the past 16 years. He has worked at the James Cook University and the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

Mr Jones has had experience in a wide variety of scientific fields ranging from chemistry through oceanography to the life cycle of the giant clam.

Mr Jones says the Aquarium will give everyone a glimpse of what they can expect to see if they visit the Reef. It will be important to understanding the Reef and its wise use. ■

Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations 1986-87

Administrative grants to voluntary conservation organisations for 1986-87 have been announced by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment, Mr Barry Cohen.

The grants are made in recognition of the important role played by the voluntary conservation movement in raising environmental awareness in the community and contributing to the development of effective environmental policies.

The organisations which are to receive grants are:

NATIONAL

Australian Conservation Foundation	145,000
Keep Australia Beautiful Council — National	60,000
Friends of the Earth Australia	13,000
Australian National Parks Council	2,500
Australian Committee for IUCN	8,000
The Wilderness Society	45,000
Project Jonah	3,200
Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union	5,300
Murray Valley League for Development and Conservation	16,000
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	4,300

NEW SOUTH WALES

Nature Conservation Council of NSW	84,400
National Parks Association of NSW	18,800
Total Environment Centre	9,400
North Coast Environment Council	4,700
South Coast Conservation Society	4,300

VICTORIA

Conservation Council of Victoria	70,500
Victorian National Parks Association	16,500

QUEENSLAND

Queensland Conservation Council	88,200
National Parks Association of Queensland	5,000
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre	10,200
North Queensland Conservation Council	15,200
Wide Bay Burnett Conservation Council	2,500
Capricorn Conservation Council	6,600
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	4,000
Rainforest Conservation Society of Queensland	8,000
The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland	7,000

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Environment Centre of WA	41,200
Conservation Council of WA	38,500
WA National Parks and Reserves Association	3,700

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Conservation Council of South Australia	55,600
The Nature of Conservation Society of South Australia	10,700

TASMANIA

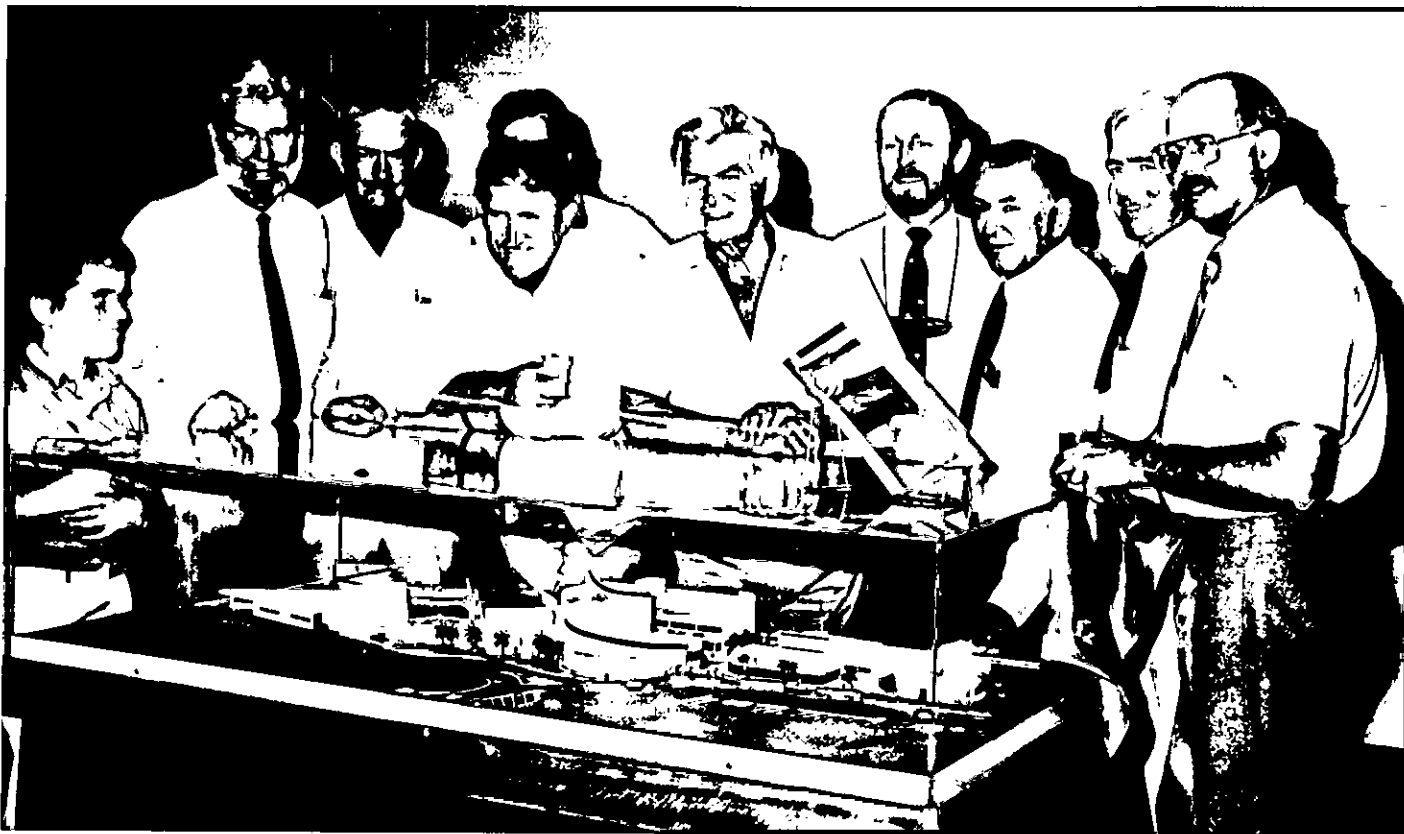
Tasmanian Conservation Trust	24,600
Tasmanian Environment Centre	37,600
Launceston Environment Centre	8,600

NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Environment Centre of NT	41,200
------------------------------	--------

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra and South-East Region Environment Centre	21,100
Conservation Council of the South-East Region and Canberra	7,100



Wonderland a "Marvellous Venture"

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, has described the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland as a marvellous venture which will provide great benefits to Queensland and Australia.

The Prime Minister was speaking during a visit to the Wonderland complex and the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium with the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism, Mr John Brown and the Member for Herbert, Mr Ted Lindsay.

"Imaginative planning and building together with wonderful local support have produced an amazing attraction that will both entertain and educate the public about our special piece of world heritage, the Great Barrier Reef," he said.

"The Commonwealth Government is pleased to be involved in this Bicentennial project and the builders, the Kern Corporation, are to be congratulated."

The Prime Minister saw the huge Aquarium in which the sand and basement rock for the reef structure are being built.

"I believe that the acrylic tunnel will allow visitors an incredible view of a living coral reef," said Mr Hawke as he emerged from the 20 metre underwater tunnel.

Mr Hawke congratulated the many local individuals and organisations who have supported the project with promises of over \$1 million to outfit the educational facilities in the Aquarium building.

"It is hoped that public understanding of the Great Barrier Reef will facilitate its management and ensure its preservation for future generations."

"I am proud that this great development was the brainchild of a Commonwealth Government agency, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority." ■

Historically Speaking ...

A glimpse at significant environmental events of our past.

10 years ago:
Whaling in Australian waters ceased.

20 years ago:
The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act was passed and the first national parks administration set up.

60 years ago:
Eggs of the moth, *Cactoblastis*, were distributed to control prickly pear.

100 years ago:
Opals were discovered at Lightning Ridge.

The Prime Minister inspects the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium in the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland complex — a Bicentennial project in Townsville.

Freeze on Mining in Antarctica

Australia is taking an active role in international forums to protect the environment of Antarctica.

Recent negotiations have centred on the development of a mineral regime to ensure that any mining activity is consistent with the principles of the Antarctic Treaty.

In 1977, parties to the Treaty agreed to place a moratorium on mining in Antarctica, conditional on the development of an acceptable regime.

Australian proposals, considered at the last Special Consultative Meeting on Antarctic Minerals in Tokyo in October, included the creation of an environmental contingency fund and amendments to the current draft treaty to strengthen consideration of environmental issues in decisions on mineral exploration and development.

Other issues discussed include the liability of operators for environmental damage, the role of environmental impact assessment and the environmental conditions to which any mineral activity may be subjected.

The next session of the Special Consultative Meeting is to be held in Uruguay in May. ■

(a) Name: Dennis Turner—University of NSW.
(b) Cost: \$93.12. (c) Purpose: Personnel Development. (d) Period: 14/11/88—17/11/88.

(a) Name: Dexter Dunphy—University of NSW.
(b) Cost: \$93.12. (c) Purpose: Personnel Development. (d) Period: 14/11/88—17/11/88.

(a) Name: Department of Industrial Relations.
(b) Cost: \$1,200.00. (c) Purpose: Personnel Development. (d) Period: 2 days—12/11/88—20/1/89.

(a) Name: John Piggott. (b) Cost: \$2,500.00. (c) Purpose: Tax Reform. (d) Period: 10 days work on GEM program 30/12/86

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT

(1) The Royal Australian Mint has spent the following on consultants: (a) 1986-87 Nil. (b) 1987-88 Nil. (c) 1988-89 \$37,110.

(2) There were 3 consultancies undertaken during the period with the following details: (a) Name: Touche Ross. (b) Cost: \$8,000. (c) Purpose: Financial performance of Mint products. (d) Period: 3 weeks.

(a) Name: FACT International. (b) Cost: \$25,000. (c) Purpose: Review and implement FACT software modules. (d) Period: Ongoing.

(a) Name: National Safety Council. (b) Cost: \$4,110. (c) Purpose: Safety Improvement Programme. (d) Period: Annual Survey.

Tax Deductible Donations to Organisations

(Question No. 1991)

Dr Klugman asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 15 August 1989:

(1) Further to his answer to part (2) of question No. 1651, will he take steps to close the loophole in the Income Tax Assessment Act which enables organisations not eligible for tax deductible donations to receive such funds in a tax deductible form.

(2) What sum of potential revenue has been forgone during the last three financial years through tax deductible donations to the Australian Conservation Foundation.

Mr Keating—The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

(1) The Commissioner of Taxation has advised me that there are certain organisations which, under the gift provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act, are able to pass on funds in the form of grants to other organisations. These organisations are known as "umbrella organisations", one of which is the Australian Conservation Foundation. The Commissioner said that, where an umbrella organisation is used in fund-raising activities, his office has consistently applied two conditions:

- (i) although the donor may express a preference as to how the donation is to be used, the umbrella organisation must have a completely

unfettered discretion as to how it uses the donation; and

- (ii) any organisation to which money is passed by the umbrella organisation must have objects which conform with the objects of the umbrella organisation.

Based on the Commissioner's advice I do not consider it necessary at this stage to amend the income tax law. However, as I advised you in answer to your earlier question, the Commissioner is monitoring the matter to ensure that the law is being complied with.

(2) The available income tax statistics do not identify separately deductions for donations to the Australian Conservation Foundation. However, based on details contained in the published accounts of the Australian Conservation Foundation the revenue forgone for the last three financial years is estimated as follows:

Financial year	Cost to Revenue
1986-87	\$000
1987-88	280
1988-89	390
	400

Qantas Airways Ltd: Directors

(Question No. 2032)

Mr Macphee asked the Minister for Transport and Communications, upon notice, on 31 August 1989:

(1) What is the procedure for making appointments to the Board of Qantas and does he initiate action to make the appointments.

(2) What qualifications are considered necessary for appointment as a director of Qantas.

(3) What are the (a) remuneration and (b) travel entitlements of Qantas directors.

(4) What is the (a) name (b) age (c) date of appointment (d) date of expiry of appointment and (e) value of company paid travel incurred in the last 12 months for each director of Qantas.

Mr Willis—The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

(1) Directors of Qantas are appointed by the Minister for Transport and Communications in accordance with Article 86 of Qantas' Articles of Association, which states that the Minister shall have the sole right to appoint the directors of the Company.

(2) Qantas directors are appointed because of a wide range of skills which they can bring to bear in guiding the affairs of the Company. These skills cover managerial, financial and organisational aspects and represent a number of different backgrounds all of which are relevant to the running of a modern airline.

(3) (a) Remuneration Tribunal and the a are as follows:

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Directors

The Board decline Tribunal's November

Name

J B Leslie AO MC
J N Davenport AO E
Sir Tristan Antico AC
J P Ducker AO
R Gietzelt AO
W Bolitho AM
S Same AM
J W Utz AO
J R Broadbent
S Crean
J B Horgan

(4) (c) This information. However I can disclose amount incurred by direct business was \$57,508. expenditure was incurred resident in NSW, travel pany's Head Office in Sydney

Jindalee R

(Question

Mr Blunt asked the upon notice, on 3 Oct

(1) What is (a) the Jindalee radar system and its construction and maintenance.

(2) Has any decision by the Jindalee radar system, expected.

(3) If a decision has been site the system near Longreach.

(4) Has an environmental prepared on the possible Longreach; if not, why not.

(5) If the system is to be (a) when will construction completed, (b) which property owners and (d) what are sitting for the "Macsland" project. D. A. Scarr.

(6) Has his Department Mr Scarr and other property area for information on the Jindalee radar system the effect on their properties; if so.

guide to the direct effects of the exchange rate movements on the CPI growth since the December quarter 1984.

TABLE 2

	Percentage point contribution to increase in CPI		
	1984-85(a)	1985-86	1986-87
Automotive fuel . . .	0.7	0.1	0.0
Goods and services wholly or predominantly imported . . .	0.6	1.3	1.4
Total	1.2	1.4	1.4
Total CPI Increase (per cent)	3.3	8.4	9.3

(a) Change in second half of 1984-85 only.

My Department has also undertaken some empirical analysis which seeks to estimate the total (direct and indirect) effects of the depreciation on inflation. While subject to a number of limitations, this work suggests that, on average over the period from the December quarter 1984, the total (direct and indirect) effects may have been of the order of two to three times that in Table 2.

Australian Conservation Foundation (Question No. 506)

Mr Downer asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 25 November 1987:

(1) Does the Australian Conservation Foundation, through its preference grants scheme, enable financial donors to other organisations, including the Movement Against Uranium Mining, the Peace Publications Co-operative and the People for Nuclear Disarmament, to claim a tax deduction.

(2) Does the Government approve of this practice; if so, will it allow other organisations to provide funding at taxpayers' expense to groups of their choice.

(3) If the Government does not approve of this practice, will it instruct the Australian Conservation Foundation to terminate the scheme.

Mr Keating—The answer to the honourable Member's question is as follows:

(1) to (3) The basic legal position is that gifts of \$2 and upwards made to the Australian Conservation Foundation are specifically tax deductible under the gift provisions of the income tax law. However, gifts to the types of organisations mentioned by the honourable Member are not deductible. The situation to which the honourable Member refers appears to have arisen because gifts to the Australian Conservation Foundation are specifically deductible and because its constitution enables it to provide assistance to, or to co-operate with, other bodies concerned with or interested in conservation.

The question whether gifts made in the circumstances described would be allowable as tax deductions is primarily one for the Commissioner of Taxation to determine according to law. The advice furnished by the Commissioner is that the answer would depend upon whether the gift in question is made to the Foundation

in its own right or, rather, to another organisation with the Foundation acting merely in the nature of a trustee or agent in respect of the gift. In the latter event, of course, the gift would not qualify for deduction under the gift provisions.

Industry Councils (Question No. 599)

Mr Andrew asked the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce, upon notice, on 16 February 1988:

Will the Minister provide a list of all industry councils, including the

- aims and objectives;
- total membership;
- number of staff;
- (i) estimated and
(ii) actual running costs; and
- achievements of each council.

Mr Barry Jones—The Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce has provided the following answer to the honourable member's question:

The Government has established, on a tripartite basis, the Australian Manufacturing Council (AMC) and eleven Industry Councils covering all the major sectors of the manufacturing industries: Aerospace; Automotive; Basic Metals; Chemicals and Plastics; Electrical, Electronic and Information; Forestry and Forest Products; Machinery and Metal Engineering; Metal Fabrication; Paper conversion, Printing and Publishing; Processed Foods; and Textiles, Clothing and Footwear.

- (a) The AMC and Industry Councils have three main functions—

To provide a consultative forum in which unions, industry and government can exchange economic and industrial information and discuss issues in a productive and non-adversarial environment.

To provide advice to the Minister, responding to matters referred to them in addition to proposing initiatives to the Government and assessing the effect of government policies thus ensuring the continuing relevance of Government programs.

To contribute to the public debate on industry policy matters by communicating deliberations and publishing reports.

The Terms of Reference for the AMC together with a typical terms of reference for the Industry Councils are set out on page 46 of the AMC's Annual Report 1986-87.

- (b) the membership of the AMC and the Industry Councils is tripartite. Members are appointed by the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce and are drawn from firms, industry associations, trade unions, Commonwealth and State Industry Departments, the CSIRO, and Universities and research bodies.

Please read
revenue also
Vera



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR GRAHAM RICHARDSON

**Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment
Tourism and Territories**

EMBARGOED TILL MIDDAY SATURDAY

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS 1989/90

Administrative grants to voluntary conservation organisation for 1989-90 were announced today by the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, Senator Graham Richardson.

A total of \$1,219,000 has been provided for financial assistance to approved voluntary conservation groups to assist in meeting the cost of general administrative expenses, approved office equipment, technical assistance and research.

Administrative grants totalling \$1,179,793 for 1989-90 have been allocated to 50 individual organisations which have the protection and enhancement of the environment as their primary objective.

A special grant of an additional \$3,000 (\$1,500 from the GVCO program) has been allocated to Keep Australia Beautiful - National Inc towards its inaugural National Tidy Towns Award.

"A further \$20,000 has been set aside to assist with travel costs to enable representatives from peak conservation organisations to engage in direct discussions with me about environmental issues", Senator Richardson said.

The grants are made primarily to assist with administrative costs such as accommodation, salaries, printing and telephone. They can also be used for other purposes such as attendance at conferences, legal advice, technical assistance, research project expenditure and office equipment, provided this is approved in advance.

The grants are made in recognition of the increasingly important role played by the voluntary conservation movement in raising environmental awareness in the community and contributing to the development of effective environmental policies.

Contact: Gregg Borschmann 062 - 777 640

23 DEC 1989

(recycled paper)

NATIONAL	\$
Australian Conservation Foundation	167,268
Keep Australia Beautiful Council - National Inc	65,508
Friends of the Earth Australia	14,999
Australian National Parks Council	2,650
Australian Committee for IUCN	8,650
The Wilderness Society Inc	51,887
Project Jonah Inc	3,710
Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union	5,830
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	6,929
RSPCA Australia Inc	13,409
Australian Littoral Society Inc	5,565

NEW SOUTH WALES

Nature Conservation Council of NSW	86,900
National Parks Association of NSW Inc	20,458
Total Environment Centre	16,865
North Coast Environment Council	6,413
Hastings Environment Council Inc	2,120
South Coast Conservation Society Co-op Ltd	4,929
Albury Wodonga Environment Centre	5,565
Rainforest Information Centre	2,120
Flu Mountains Environment Council	2,000
Clarence Environment Centre	2,000

VICTORIA

Conservation Council of Victoria	84,076
Victorian National Parks Association Inc	18,020
Gippsland Waters Coalition	875

QUEENSLAND

Queensland Conservation Council Inc	96,248
National Parks Association of Queensland Inc	5,406
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre	20,140
North Queensland Conservation Council Inc	17,596
Wide Bay Burnett Conservation Council	2,968
Capricorn Conservation Council	7,632
Sunshine Coast Environment Council Inc	6,731
Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Inc	15,582
Rainforest Conservation Society (Inc)	18,462
Gold Coast Environment Centre	2,000

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Environment Centre of WA (Inc)	49,608
Conservation Council of Western Australia Inc	45,580
WA National Parks and Reserves Association (Inc)	4,240
Denmark Environment Centre	3,180

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Conservation Council of South Australia Inc	62,858
Nature Conservation Society of South Australia Inc	12,296

TASMANIA

Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc	30,422
Tasmanian Environment Centre Inc	43,354
Launceston Environment Centre Inc	11,024
United Scientists for Environmental Responsibility and Protection	2,000

NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Environment Centre (NT) Inc	48,548
Central Australian Conservation Council Inc (Arid Lands Environment Centre)	19,914

ACT

Canberra & South-East Region Environment Centre Inc	25,334
Conservation Council of South-East Region & Canberra (Inc)	12,296

OTHER

Murray Valley League for Development & Conservation	17,914
Marine Education Society of Australasia	2,120

For further information contact Peter Edgar, ph. (062) 741411

CANBERRA
DECEMBER 1989



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR GRAHAM RICHARDSON

Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment
Tourism and Territories

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS 1988-89

Administrative grants to voluntary conservation organisations for 1988-89 were announced today by the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories, Senator Graham Richardson.

A total of \$1.116m has been provided for financial assistance to 44 approved voluntary conservation groups. The grants will assist with meeting the costs of general administrative expenses, technical assistance and research.

Senator Richardson said the grants recognised the important role of the voluntary conservation movement.

"The voluntary conservation movement has helped raise environmental awareness and contributed to the development of effective environmental policies. The groups, ranging from national organisations to State and regional bodies, have encouraged and also reflect greater community participation in environmental issues.

"Our relationship to our environment is increasingly gaining an unequalled prominence. Environmental considerations are now more than ever recognised as a vital and legitimate part of the political and economic decision making process," Senator Richardson said.

Administrative grants totalling \$1,087,450 for 1988-89 have been allocated to individual organisations which have the protection and enhancement of the environment as their primary objective. In addition, \$10,000 has been provided to assist with the Australian Conservation Foundation's national conference; and \$6,000 has been allocated for assisting attendance at the 1989 National Conference of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils.

This year's total allocation represents about a 7.1% increase over the similar allocation for last year.

The grants are made primarily to assist with administrative costs such as accommodation, salaries and general office expenditure. They can also be used for other purposes such as attendance at conferences, legal advice, technical assistance and research projects provided this is approved in advance.

Senator Richardson said to be eligible for grants, organisations had to be non-profit, properly constituted, have audited accounts and a membership open to any interested person.

The organisations to receive grants are attached.

CONTACT: Gregg Borschmann (Minister's office) 062-777640
Peter Edgar (Department) 062-741420.

21 DEC 1988

NATIONAL	\$
Australian Conservation Foundation	167,800
Keep Australia Beautiful Council - National	61,800
Friends of the Earth Australia	14,150
Australian National Parks Council	2,500
Australian Committee for IUCN	8,650
The Wilderness Society Inc	48,950
Project Jonah	3,500
Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union	5,500
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	4,650
RSPCA Australia Inc	12,650
Australian Littoral Society	5,250
NEW SOUTH WALES	
Nature Conservation Council of NSW	86,900
National Parks Association of NSW	19,300
Total Environment Centre	10,250
North Coast Environment Council	<u>6,050</u>
Mid North Coast Environment Centre	2,000
South Coast Conservation Society Co-op Ltd	4,650
Albury Wodonga Environment Centre	5,250
Wildlife Survival Inc	2,000
VICTORIA	
Conservation Council of Victoria	72,600
Victorian National Parks Association	17,000
QUEENSLAND	
Queensland Conservation Council Inc	90,800
National Parks Association of Queensland	5,100
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre	19,000
North Queensland Conservation Council Inc	16,600

Wide Bay Burnett Conservation Council	2,800
Capricorn Conservation Council	7,200
Sunshine Coast Environment Council	6,350
The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland Inc	14,700
Rainforest Conservation Society of Queensland	12,700
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	
The Environment Centre of WA (Inc)	46,800
Conservation Council of Western Australia Inc	43,000
WA National Parks and Reserves Association (Inc)	4,000
Denmark Environment Centre	3,000
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	
Conservation Council of South Australia Inc	57,300
The Nature Conservation Society of South Australia Inc	11,600
TASMANIA	
Tasmanian Conservation Trust Inc	28,700
Tasmanian Environment Centre Inc	40,900
Launceston Environment Centre Inc	10,400
NORTHERN TERRITORY	
The Environment Centre (NT) Inc	45,800
Arid Lands Environment Centre	16,900
ACT	
Canberra & South-East Region Environment Centre Inc	23,900
Conservation Council of South-East Region & Canberra (Inc)	11,600
OTHER	
Murray Valley League for Development and Conservation	16,900

Canberra, 1 December 1988

For further information contact Roland Beckett (062) 741320

15 Dec 87

Hon. R.J. Carr,
Minister for Planning & Environment,
Sydney.

Dear Mr Carr,

As you are aware environment groups are now playing an ever increasing and significant role under the Environmental Assessment & Planning Act and bring to the scene very considerable experience and expertise. Without their interest and effort many happenings which could turn into environmental disasters would go unnoticed until it was too late to interfere.

There are now twenty five groups from the Tweed to the Great Lakes under the umbrella of our Council and I attach a list of matters presently under consideration.

All these groups are voluntary workers.

All groups and our Council are faced at all times with a great amount of work and expense and if we are to just hold the line and properly assist those working in the field on numerous projects to properly do their work we must have some small permanent bases to do some of the routine work, provide information to the public and act as a focus for contact with conservation groups.

It is very difficult to ask volunteers to do all the work of responding to EISs, asking them to meet their often considerable phone accounts, their travel and out of pocket expenses then expect them to turn round and raise funds with cake stalls.

The work carried out by conservation groups is on behalf of all State residents now and of the future. No organisation believes it has the answer to every problem but it believes debate must be stimulated among the public. With local newspaper owners increasingly turning away from hard news it is often difficult for the public to know what is going on which affects their area.

The provision of environment information centres at the main population centres Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour and Lismore would help to involve more of the public in decision making in their areas. The centres would also remove some of the burden from the volunteers of organisations now being overwhelmed by proposals. It is not unusual to make grants to special interest groups e.g. sports clubs, horse racing, so our request for funds for a public interest body should not cause concern.

2.

Our request is for the part time funding of three environment information centres @ an annual cost of \$15000 per centre ie. \$45000.

Such a sum would enable premises to be leased, part time employees to do some of the research work and meet some of the expenses connected with a public information centre.

As the work carried out by such centres must and does assist your Department we respectfully request an annual grant of \$45,000.

Yours sincerely,

J.L.O.Tedder,
Hon.Sec.

LIST OF PROJECTS.

1. Protection of brahmany kite and osprey nesting sites by identification, notification and negotiation.
2. Seeking and providing information for the public on management of Crown Lands.
3. Investigating, commenting on, publishing details of large scale coastal developments.
4. Commenting on proposals for power transmission lines.
5. Researching areas for listing on the National Estates.
6. Commenting on Local and Regional Environmental Plans.
7. Attending conferences to put conservation viewpoints.
8. Checking on wetlands, commenting on proposals for deletions and additions and developments.
9. Keeping in the public attention the fragility of beaches, dunes and littoral rainforests.
10. Keeping an alternate argument to that of the Forest Industries in front of the public concerning forest management problems.
11. Discussing with Local Councils the importance of better environmental policies.
12. Proposing policies for tourism which have minimum environmental impact.

3/1

CANBERRA AND SOUTH-EAST REGION

ENVIRONMENT CENTRE INC.

P.O. Box 1875
Canberra City
Australian Capital Territory
2601
Telephone (062) 47.3064
Telephone (062) 48.0885

Kingsley St
Acton
Australian Capital Territory
2601



27.8.87

Dear *Jim*,

Many apologies for the long delay in sending you this first draft of the proposed *Joint Environment Centre and Conservation Council National Funding Submission*.

The submission has been prepared jointly over the course of the last year by Pam Eiser of the NSW Environment Centre and myself. It arose out of discussions and resolutions at the last three Environment Centre and Conservation Council National Conferences. Much of the detailed work was Pam's - and she deserves the credit for this and a very minor share of the blame for the delay! However, rather than indulge in excuses, I will focus on the positive aspects of getting the submission underway at this time.

We now know that the ALP has won a historic third term of office, and that the environment is being billed as a major area for Commonwealth Government activity over the next three years. The new Minister for the Environment, Senator Graham Richardson, said recently that he believed the environment would be the number one issue over the coming decade, and that his role was to ensure the ALP would lead rather than follow developments in this field.

It is a reasonable inference that the potential now exists - if we make our case competently - for a significant expansion in Commonwealth Government financial support for our activities. The enclosed draft submission aims to be a first stepping stone towards this.

.....

A few points need to be made about the process from here on:

1/ In my opinion, our objective should be to have a final version of the submission ready by no later than early March 1988. We will then be able, potentially, to influence the 1988/9 budget which will be finalised around that time.

2/ If this timescale is adopted, then we have sufficient time for the submission to go through at least two further drafts before the final version. I suggest a timescale along these lines:

Deadline for comments on the first draft.....
Second draft sent out.....
Deadline for comments on the second draft.....
Third draft sent out.....
Deadline for final suggested amendments
Final submission presented to Minister & media

end of October 1987
mid-November 1987
end of January 1988
mid-February 1988
end of February 1988
mid-March 1988

3/ Regretably, I will not be able to co-ordinate this process myself. I leave CASEREC, after two and a half years of paid employment, at the end of this month. Although I intend to remain involved with the environment movement in Canberra, I am conscious of how much time would be involved in steering the submission forward, and believe the task should be at least in part the job of a paid employee of the movement.

Are there any volunteers for the job? Assuming that at least one volunteer identifies him/herself to us in the next month, CASEREC undertakes to write to you all, identifying the submission co-ordinator(s) to whom, of course, comments on the draft should be addressed. It would help, although it is by no means essential, if the co-ordinator(s) have access to a Macintosh computer (I can send the disk of the first draft so that modifying the body of the text, as it evolves, will be a less time-consuming activity).

4/ Some of the data which must be incorporated into the submission - in particular the \$ amounts for rent and award wages levels in different locations around Australia - are not given in this first draft. This is because, as I indicated at the conference, it is data to be supplied by you. Please ensure that at minimum you send this information to the submission co-ordinator by the deadline (which I have suggested should be the end of October 1987). Once these data are collated, assuming that the general drift of the submission is widely supported, it will be possible to put an all-up \$ figure on our collective funding request.

5/ There are other parts of the submission where suggestions and examples derived from your experience are absent from this first draft and should be included in the final version. Two such cases spring to mind.

Firstly, the section entitled 'Services to Government and the Community' on page 5, needs enriching with examples of your activities in these areas - such as short case histories of successes you have had in research projects, input into legislative change and participation in the E.I.S process.

Secondly, the last section of the submission ie. 'The next decade.....', which starts on page 12, is principally my own work. I have included a few project ideas as a stimulus to discussion, but it necessarily a list influenced by my experience and interests. Once again, *your* ideas and experiences should be incorporated into the final version.

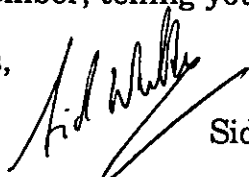
6/ It was agreed at the last National Conference that the final version of the submission must be accompanied by a one or two page summary sheet.

7/ It was also agreed that when it is presented to the Minister, there should be a certain amount of fanfare and media coverage. Firstly this will increase the probability that the politicians will take it seriously. Secondly, it will help promote the role and value of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils to the public at large - a worthwhile objective in itself.

8/ Finally, a special request from Pam Eiser, to bear in mind when formulating your response to the first draft. Feel free to criticise if you have *serious* disagreements with the content or style, but don't nit-pick! It will make the task of the co-ordinator quite impossible!

Happy reading and good luck. Expect to get a letter from CASEREC before the end of September, telling you to whom comments on this first draft should be sent,

Regards,



Sid Walker.

**JOINT
ENVIRONMENT CENTRE
& CONSERVATION
COUNCIL NATIONAL
FUNDING SUBMISSION**

OBJECTIVE:

**TO EXPAND THE FUNDING BASE OF
ENVIRONMENT CENTRES AND
CONSERVATION COUNCILS THROUGH
THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT
GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY
CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS
PROGRAM FROM 1988/9 ONWARDS**

FIRST DRAFT

(AUGUST 1987)

PREFACE

This submission is concerned with the funding of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils throughout Australia by the Commonwealth Government.

It is presented to the Commonwealth Government on behalf of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils throughout Australia, and was prepared as a result of resolutions passed at both the 1985 and 1986 National Conference of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils, and subsequent discussion at the 1987 National Conference.

CONSERVATION COUNCILS AND ENVIRONMENT CENTRES

Conservation Councils are umbrella organisations which act as a voice for their representative organisations on agreed policies, promote education, conduct research, provide information and other help to members, hold conferences, make submissions and provide other technical input to governments. They have responsibility to serve as advocates for each region's environment movement, and to influence Government policy on matters of concern to environmentalists.

Environment Centres are information and resource bases. They provide a physical resource to the conservation movement as a whole by providing library and research facilities, meeting rooms, printing and secretarial services and by disseminating information.

Many Environment Centres act as information and resource bases, are non-political and are not campaign and issue oriented. Some carry out project and educational work. Other centres, particularly those in regional areas, have taken on a more activist role - and in some cases the distinction between an Environment Centre and a Conservation Council or other conservation body has become somewhat imprecise.

Where centres have taken on an activist role, it has usually been as a direct response to the lack of other bodies fulfilling these functions in the area. Regardless of what other functions it performs, however, the distinguishing feature of an Environment Centre is the provision of information, resources and facilities on a broad scale to the conservation movement and the community at large, including, in many instances, government itself.

Environment Centres are far from being a universal phenomenon, although judging by the enthusiasm of many overseas visitors, they may eventually become so. The concept appears to have originated in Australia. As far as we have been able to ascertain, the first Environment Centre in the world was the Total Environment Centre in Sydney, which opened its doors in 1972. Australia can be proud of this innovation, although it should be acknowledged that resource Centres servicing a similar range of needs do exist elsewhere.

GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANISATIONS

In 1986/7 a total of \$1,010,000 was allocated to the Grants to the Voluntary Conservation Organisations (GVCO) Program.

In January 1987 Barry Cohen as Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment, announced grants to some 37 organisations totalling \$947,500. An additional \$12,500 was allocated as a conference fund, and the remaining funds were left as a reserve to be distributed throughout the remainder of the financial year.

Of the \$947,500, \$302,300 was given to specific interest or issue groups - mainly groups with a national focus; the remaining \$645,200 was disbursed to Conservation Councils and Environment Centres. In other words, regional bodies currently receive just 60% of the total GVCO grant.

This submission is concerned with this last figure of \$64500 and specifically with the level of funding to Environment Centres and Conservation Councils. This in no way implies that levels of funding to other bodies are considered adequate. It is our belief that a strong case can be made for substantially increased levels of funding across the board, but it is not our brief to do so here.

"..... It is, I believe, a healthy sign of democracy in action when groups of publicly interested citizens are assisted by government to watch over the state of the Australian environment. These groups perform an important function in representing the interests of environment and conservation and stimulate public debate on what is really a finely balanced relationship, the interdependence of environment and the use of our physical resources"

(SOURCE FROM PAM EISER)

THE LAST THIRTEEN YEARS

ORIGINS OF GVCO FUNDING

The history of the Federal Government providing financial assistance to voluntary conservation organisations goes back to 1964 when a grant-in-aid of \$2,000 was made available to the fledgling Australian Conservation Foundation. The Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations Program (as it is known today) had its beginnings in the early 1970's. In 1973 the Federal Labor Government established a Committee of Inquiry into the National Estate. The fifth of this Committee's terms of reference was to report :

"the manner in which the National Trusts of Australia and other appropriate conservation groups could be supported by public funds and the amount required in order that these bodies can immediately increase their effectiveness in arguing and working for the preservation and enhancement of the National Estate."

As a result of submissions received the Committee reported in its 'Findings and Recommendations' that :

"The needs of voluntary organisations are:

- office facilities;
 - research offices;
 - legal aid;
 - access to information including advice from expert consultants;
- financial help in achieving special objectives."

Included, as an *interim* measure, in the 1973/4 Budget was an allocation of \$323,000 for grants-in-aid to voluntary conservation organisations (excluding the National Trusts). This included grants to each State Conservation Council (with the exception of the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory) in the order of approximately \$15,000.

In New South Wales, this money was requested to provide for the "establishment of a conservation centre with administrative staff to act as a clearing house for environmental work and to supply material to people engaged in environmental

surveys". Similar requests came from South Australia and Western Australia, with Queensland and Victoria seeking to appoint executive officers and office staff. Environment Centres were by now an important component of the Australian environmental movement. In all, in 1973/4 a total of 17 organisations received funding. Even at this stage however the Committee of Inquiry said "We regard present assistance as minimal".

In April 1974 the then Prime Minister announced the Government's acceptance, in principle, of the major recommendations of the National Estate Inquiry. Four financial assistance programmes relating to the National Estate were established:

- i) grants to voluntary conservation organisations;
- ii) grants to National Trusts;
- iii) the National Estate grants programme;
- iv) the technical assistance grants programme.

In the first full year of operation of this first programme, 1974/5, \$350,000 was distributed amongst 17 organisations. In many states, while the grant was made to the Conservation Council it was, in fact, meant to be used as well for the Environment Centre operated by that Council. The same is true today in states such as Queensland and NSW where a grant is received jointly for both the state-based Conservation Council and Environment Centre.

THE FRASER YEARS

Since 1974, successive Governments have pledged their continuing commitment to the GVCO program and have acknowledged the value of the contribution made by the voluntary conservation movement. In 1980 the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation, in its report on Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations, recommended that "The Government review its priorities and examine the possibility of increasing the funding to voluntary organisations to a level sufficient to ensure their continued effectiveness."

However, the level of funding to the GVCO program remained fairly static right throughout the 1970's and early 1980's - although measures of inflation such as consumer price index certainly did not - so that for 1982/3 the total allocation was still only \$350,000. By this stage, the grants program still existed on paper but in reality the recipients, particularly those organisations who by their very purpose and structure did not have substantial additional sources of funding, were undergoing financial strangulation.

RECENT TIMES

The situation changed in 1983 with the return of Labor to Government. While in Opposition, the Labor Party had made a commitment to restore GVCO grants to a level, in real terms, equivalent to that of 1975/6. Over the past four years this promise has largely been fulfilled, with grants of \$650,000 [1983/4], \$850,000 [1984/5], \$945,000 [1985/6] and \$1,010,000 [1987/8]. The announcement of a GVCO program totalling \$1.01 million for 1986/7 maintained the real value of the program in a year of all-round financial restraint.

It is important, however, to realise that in 1975/6 only 20 organisations were covered by GVCO funding, whereas in 1985/6 \$945,000 (excluding the \$58,400 held as a reserve for research projects) was allocated among 37 organisations. Hence although the overall GVCO total has been restored to its original level in real terms, the average amount received by each organisation has declined.

UNDERLYING RATIONALE FOR THIS SUBMISSION

We believe the above summary was necessary to place this submission in historical context. However, a fixation on the past is to be avoided. It has been a major cause of our current difficulties.

From the very first year of the GVCO program, decisions regarding the grant to be received by each respective Conservation Council and Environment Centre have primarily been concerned with the need to make an equitable apportionment of an established (and rather meagre) level of funding. Until now, there has been no attempt to carry out an objective assessment of the true financial needs of recipient bodies.

This Government has made much in recent times about the restoration, in real terms, of the GVCO program to an earlier given level. We acknowledge this achievement, and are grateful to the present Government for the substantial increases that have occurred over the past few years. The activities of many organisations would have been severely curtailed without them. Unfortunately, this previous level did not bear any relation to the real needs of the recipient organisations.

We need to put aside the past and, for the first time, assess objectively the minimum needs of our organisations.

ACCEPTED RATIONALES FOR THE GVCO PROGRAM

The work of the conservation movement is both short and long term. Short term work is mainly concerned with campaigning to help solve or avert specific crises. Although vitally necessary, this work is mainly reactive. Longer term work, such as environmental education programmes, research into alternatives, and the development of ventures which generate environmentally worthwhile employment, is the environmental equivalent of preventative medicine. It is work of the greatest importance - the best safeguard for a healthy future as a society.

PREVIOUS REPORTS ON THE GVCO PROGRAM

An articulate case for the funding of voluntary conservation organisations in general, and Environment Centres and Conservation Councils in particular, was made in the May 1980 report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation, which found that voluntary conservation organisations "... contribute to reasoned public debate, to public education and an increasing awareness of environmental issues, and play an important role through their input to government inquiries".

The Report of the Australian Heritage Commission *The National Estate in 1981* concluded that "...the size and expanding membership of voluntary conservation bodies and the views expressed in public opinion polls on environmental issues demonstrate very strong underlying public concern for the environment". The same Report further recognised "...the deep feeling of most Australians that their descendants have the right to at least as many options in the cultural and natural environment as they have themselves". A primary objective of the voluntary conservation movement is to ensure that those options continue to exist.

The wealthiest and most powerful forces in our society are predominantly interested in development, and unfettered freedom of these forces has caused and

continues to cause environmental devastation. The principle force acting to counterbalance this is community concern for the environment.

SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY

An important role of government is to make decisions with respect to land and resource use. Often there are competing uses for a resource; sometimes these competing interests can be satisfactorily accommodated, but in other cases there is an "either/or" situation. In these situations, governments have a responsibility to make the best choice on behalf of society as a whole.

By the provision of funds to voluntary conservation organisations, the government facilitates the enunciation of community concern for the environment. The government benefits by receiving a fairer balance of views, enabling it to make a more informed decision. This principle was expressed by Barry Cohen in 1980, while serving as opposition spokesperson for the Environment:

"...The important thing is that in relation to conservation, on the one hand the Government has the (views of) very wealthy companies and, on the other, it has the point of view of a section of the community. It is then up to the Government to make its judgement on the evidence presented in both cases."

The conservation movement is often viewed as constantly in conflict with governments. While there are certainly disagreements from time to time, it must also be acknowledged that the work of the movement is often supportive of government initiatives.

In the words of the Australian Conservation Foundation: "Whether explaining the problems of soil conservation or publicising restrictions needed to deal with air pollution most voluntary conservationists are supporting Government departments and agencies. With more adequate funding this support work could be extended even further."

The cost-effectiveness of the voluntary bodies has also been the subject of favourable comment. Referring to Environment Centres, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation Report said "...These centres provide a valuable information facility to a wide variety of users which, if provided by government, would be infinitely more expensive to the taxpayer."

However, the rationale for the GVCO program extends even further. The cost of what might be called "bad development", which the environment movement seeks to avert, can be enormous. This can often be measured in monetary terms (witness the huge sums of money now being spent in an attempt to restore lands which were degraded as a result of unsound practices). Less measurable, but no less real, are the social costs. In its most serious forms, it may prove that 'bad development' puts in jeopardy our very survival as a species within a functioning biosphere - witness the current concern over the depletion of the ozone layer - an effect which has been linked to the release of fluorocarbons into the atmosphere.

DETERMINING THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF FUNDING

The roles and functions of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils were outlined in the Preface. A brief history of the GVCO program, long-accepted rationales for this expenditure and indications that the Commonwealth has long accepted the cost-effectiveness of the GVCO program have been given in the two previous sections.

An appropriate level of funding, however, remains to be established.

THE NEED TO FUND AT A EFFECTIVE LEVEL

It is intrinsic to the purpose and structure of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils that we do not readily have access to additional sources of funding. This is not uniquely true of conservation bodies - the same applies to many other types of community service organisations.

Any funding received from the government has an impact, makes some difference, and is thus to be welcomed. However, a central tenet of this submission is that unless a certain minimum grant is received, we become engaged largely in an exercise of "chasing our tails".

In the absence of this minimum level of funding, a disproportionate amount of the organisation's time and effort is given over to raising, by whatever means possible, the necessary funds to ensure survival. This, of course, is at the expense of carrying out the roles which are the *raison d'être* of the Centre or Council. Having recognised the need for, and facilitated the establishment of, Environment Centres and Conservation Councils, the Government should also accept responsibility for ensuring that we are resourced to a level which enables us to carry out our essential functions effectively.

THE GROWING DEMANDS ON CENTRES AND COUNCILS

As a result of an increasing community awareness and interest in conservation, the environment movement has expanded dramatically over the last decade or so. However, changes over this period have not made the task of the movement easier.

Often, improvements in environmental principles and practices have not decreased, but merely changed, the pressures on conservation bodies. The environment movement is increasingly being asked to play a role in management of resources and long-term programmes. Improvements in environmental legislation have brought increased opportunity for public participation, which is effected through the conservation movement.

Overall, the demands on environment groups have increased enormously.

ESTABLISHING A COMMON FUNDING FRAMEWORK:

(a) THE CAPITAL CITIES

In preparing this submission it has been necessary to recognise the differing structures that exist in different States.

In some cases, one organisation fulfils the role of both Environment Centre and Conservation Council; in others there is a separate Centre and Council, each with its own complementary functions but with one body dominating the management of the other; elsewhere the Centre and Council each operate as fully independent organisations, although of course contact and co-operation is always strong.

However, whatever the arrangement, the same cluster of functions are fulfilled. For the purposes of determining a funding level appropriate to each capital city of Australia, this submission treats them as one entity.

THE ESSENTIAL NEEDS

To function effectively three essential requirements must be satisfied: space; staff; and basic operating costs. It is sensible to examine a level of funding sufficient to satisfy each requirement, and calculate the overall grant as the aggregate of the three.

SPACE

Clearly, the need for suitable premises is fundamental.

Requirements include adequate office space, library area, bookshop/sales outlet area and meeting space. In addition, there should also be sufficient physical space to allow sub-tenancy to other environment groups as an important role of major centres is the facilitation of fledgling new groups. However, rental of sub-let space should, as a norm, be recouped from sub-tenants.

Excluding areas available for sub-tenancies, at least 300 square metres is needed to provide the space requirements outlined above.

Two other factors are important in relation to premises: security of tenure and a suitable location.

With regard to the former, an organisation cannot undertake proper planning if it has only a short-term lease on its premises. The costs and disruption involved in changing premises can be debilitating.

Location is equally important. An Environment Centre must be in the central area of a city, readily accessible to its users. Additionally, the Centre/Council should be near to other major conservation bodies, relevant government departments, the Parliament and the media. This generally necessitates a central location, on or near public transport routes.

While the actual market rate will vary from city to city, the GVCO grant component to cover the cost of premises for Centres/Councils in capital cities should therefore be calculated on the basis of 300 sq. metres (more if sub-tenancies are in demand) located in, or at the very least on the fringes of, the central business district with a minimum three year lease.

STAFF

The second fundamental need is for an adequate level of staffing. The workload will always expand to take advantage of extra staff, as the tasks facing Centres and Councils are theoretically limitless. However, experience indicates that for minimal effectiveness, and to avoid placing unreasonable strain on employees, a minimum of 4 full-time staff (or the equivalent in part-time positions) is required.

These four staff are the minimum number of employees necessary to carry out the range of functions including administration, research, librarianship, clerical tasks, information dissemination, advocacy, project management, environmental education. The actual mix of staff adopted by an organisation should be a matter for each body to decide individually. Employees should be paid at award rates - currently a rarity in environmental organisations.

BASIC OPERATING COSTS

These are the administrative costs associated with any organisation, including such items as telephone and telex, postage, insurance, electricity, repairs and

maintenance, stationery, etc. It is difficult to arrive at an exact figure, but at a modest estimate 20% of total wages are needed to cover these costs.

We therefore arrive at the following equation to determine the level of grant to provide for minimal effectiveness:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{GVCO GRANT} & = & \text{Cost of 300 sq m.} & + & \text{Award wages (4 full-time staff)} & + & 20\% \\ \text{A} & & \text{B} & & \text{C} & & + \text{C/5} \end{array}$$

Estimates of the actual value of these grants in 1986/7 for the capital cities of Australia are as follows:

ADELAIDE	\$
BRISBANE	\$
CANBERRA	\$
DARWIN	\$
HOBART	\$
MELBOURNE	\$
PERTH	\$
SYDNEY	\$

TOTAL

\$

(WE ARE RELYING ON EACH GVCO RECIPIENT BODY TO SUPPLY THE INFORMATION ENABLING US TO CALCULATE THE OVERALL TOTAL)

It should be appreciated that it will still be necessary for such bodies to raise their own funds to meet other kinds of expenditure that will naturally arise (for example, no provision has been made in the above analysis for travel costs) and also in order to boost their range of operations above the minimum level. Where it is possible for GVCO recipients to gain 'top-up' funds from local or state Government, this will allow an expansion of activities into areas of work which cannot be covered by the four core-staff; additional funds can therefore be directed at largely at project activity and not be relied upon by Centres/Councils to meet their basic needs.

In this way, Centres and Councils which are not able to gain extra funds from other Government sources will not be chronically disadvantaged - and in those cases where extra grants are forthcoming they can they can be used to generate additional projects.

In conclusion, if the GVCO program is expanded to the baseline level cited above, capital city Conservation Councils and Environment Centres will be able to get on with the job for which they were established much more effectively, and not have to divert time and resources into fund-raising simply in order to achieve a bare minimum level of operation.

ESTABLISHING A COMMON FUNDING FRAMEWORK:

(b) THE REGIONAL CENTRES

The last ten years in Australia has also seen the establishment of an increasing number of regionally-based Conservation Councils and Environment Centres.

There should be no apology for the growth of such bodies - it is a sign of a growing awareness of and interest in environmental matters. Some of these Centres and Councils have traditionally received some degree of funding from the Commonwealth Government under the GVCO Programme but many of the newer ones in particular do not receive any Commonwealth funding. Additionally, there

are areas where the need for a Centre/Council has been identified, such as in the north-west of Australia, but there are no funds available for such bodies to be established. There has, in fact, been some suggestion in recent times that the Commonwealth should not provide funds to regional bodies at all.

In this submission, we strongly reject this suggestion. Regional bodies have tended to be established as a result of distances involved in a State and the remoteness of the region to a state Centre/Council, the magnitude of the environmental problems in the region and the need to service a growing, locally-based clientele. They are just as much concerned with the protection and promotion of the National Estate as are the state-based bodies, albeit on a smaller scale, and thus should receive some degree of financial assistance.

This principle of funding for regional bodies was put forward in the National Estate Inquiry Report and was reiterated by Barry Cohen in 1980 when he said "...The Opposition believes that there should be funding on a regional basis and grants made for one-off projects...". Mr Cohen made this statement when speaking to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation (Report on Grants to Voluntary Conservation Organisations).

This is not to suggest that the way should be clear for any group to set up in an area, call itself an Environment Centre and be entitled to receive Federal funding. Regional bodies should have to meet certain criteria before being eligible to receive Commonwealth GVCO funding.

It is therefore suggested that to obtain Federal Government funding a regional group should satisfy two of the following three criteria:

- a) it should cover a significantly large geographical area.
- b) it should be a significant distance from an existing funded group.
- c) it should serve a significant population catchment.

In addition, for new regional groups to receive funding, these additional criteria should be met:

- a) it should have the support of the existing environment movement (the views of the relevant state Conservation Council/Environment Centre could be sought to ascertain this).
- b) it should have demonstrable local support.

Once a regional body - existing or proposed - has met these criteria, we believe it should qualify for funding under the GVCO Programme. Once again, it is argued that if the Government accepts the need to fund a regional body, funding should be provided at a level to cover basic minimum running costs.

As for the major capital city bodies, the essential needs of regional bodies can be defined as space, staff and basic operating costs. Clearly, however, their needs can be quantified at a lower level than those of the major state bodies.

Thus, for a regional body it is suggested that the minimum level of funding should allow for the rent of 200 sq. metres, centrally located and available on at least a 3-year lease, the equivalent of 2 full-time staff at award rates, and operating costs assessed as 20% of wages. The sum involved will naturally vary by location, but a reasonable estimate of the funds sought per approved regional Centre is \$XXX.
(GVCO RECIPIENTS PLEASE SUPPLY THIS INFORMATION)

ESTABLISHING A COMMON FUNDING FRAMEWORK:

(c) FUNDS FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND CAPITAL EQUIPMENT

A further aspect of the funding requirements of all Centres and Councils which we believe should also be addressed and met by the Commonwealth Government are the costs, when applicable, of establishing a new organisation, and the replacement of items of capital equipment.

When many of the older Centres were first set up, their initial grants were sufficient to cover not only running costs for that first year, but establishment costs as well. The equivalent costs today of setting up and equipping a new Centre are substantial - provision must be made for the of such basic items as desks, chairs, tables, bookshelves, typewriters, photocopiers, cupboards, filing cabinets, etc. In addition, some organisations have special needs. For example, it is important that the Darwin Environment Centre is equipped with air-conditioning.

The cost of capital equipment is also a problem for existing bodies, when they must replace existing items or install new ones. These costs can place an enormous financial strain on already stretched budgets and are, in many instances, a prohibitive burden.

Preceding sections have established a minimum level of funding for Councils and Centres which essentially covers operating and administrative costs. We propose that, in addition to operational funding, separate provision be made for establishment costs and purchase of items of capital equipment (just as at present in the GVCO Programme there is provision for special purpose grants). Organisations that satisfy the general criteria to receive GVCO funding would then be able to make special application for funds from this allocation.

STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING

This matter was touched on earlier in the submission, but will be dealt with more fully here.

There has been considerable discussion recently about the link between State Government funding received by Centres and Councils and the level of Commonwealth funds garanted to the same bodies under the GVCO program. State Governments undoubtedly have a responsibility, arising from their decision-making role on matters such as environment protection, nature conservation, land use and land management within their individual states, to ensure that the public is informed and that community concerns on environmental matters, as enuciated through the conservation movement, are articulated and considered. As such we believe that they should contribute to the funding of conservation bodies.

This should not, however, supercede or supplant the Commonwealth's responsibilities. While the individual States and Territories have historically been allocated these decision-making powers, **these powers are exercised over the heritage of all Australians.** Any individual should therefore have the right to contribute towards and participate in nature conservation in other states.

Conservation Councils and Environment Centres are all working towards the protection, presentation and management of the National Estate. State and Territory borders are nothing more than arbitrary lines drawn on a map. The National Estate belongs collectively to all Australians but citizens of one State have no power to influence actions in another - except through the Commonwealth

Government. On a broader front, many aspects of our National Estate are of significance internationally. In these cases the Commonwealth has responsibilities as a member of the world community.

We therefore believe that in considering the question of Federal Government funding, the Commonwealth should provide a level of support at least equal to the minimum amount established earlier in this submission and this figure should not, for individual bodies, be discounted by the amount of State/Territory government funding that an organisation may receive. The Federal Government should additionally have the prerogative to give a grant higher than the minimum level to any organisation for whatever reason it wished.

TRIENNIAL 'ROLLING GRANTS'

Another matter for consideration is the desirability of three-year rolling grants. This has been suggested many times to various reviews and inquiries during the past ten years.

It is extremely difficult for Centres and Councils to carry out long-term planning and budgeting when they have no idea what level of operational funding they will receive from one year to the next - nor even a guarantee that any grant will be made! This uncertainty severely constrains their ability to enter into extended financial commitments, and to offer staff security of employment - another contributory factor to the poor terms and conditions experienced by workers in this industry. Triennial funding commitments by the Commonwealth would go a long way to removing these uncertainties - and would help increase the efficiency of Centres and Councils.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

At present, the workings of the GVCO program cause grave difficulties for grant recipients - difficulties which we believe can and should be alleviated.

The overall level of funding for the GVCO Programme is announced when the Budget is brought down in August. Following this, the Department of the Environment makes recommendations to the Minister concerning which bodies should receive funds, and how substantial each grant should be. A decision is then announced by the Minister - typically around November. Cheques are distributed somewhat later.

Several organisations have experienced difficulties because of significant variation from year to year in the date GVCO grant cheques are actually received. Some have found themselves in the invidious situation of having no funds to pay rent and wages even though their grants have been announced. We therefore request that efforts be made to dispatch cheques in the same month of each year.

TOWARDS THE FUTURE

If the principles of this submission are accepted and adopted, the level of funding for Environment Centres and Conservation Councils under the GVCO Program will be increased to a realistic level for the financial year 1988/89 - a level which more accurately reflects their minimum needs. It will thenceforth be essential that funding levels be maintained in real terms and be flexible in order to adapt to changing situations and needs.

The following section will look at the type of opportunities which could open up - and the additional project activities which could be pursued - if this 'base-line' level of funding is provided.

THE NEXT DECADE - SOME POSSIBILITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENT CENTRES AND CONSERVATION COUNCILS

The ten-year period during which Environment Centres and Conservation Councils became established in Australia is best viewed as their establishment phase.

Centres and Councils tended to concentrate on consolidation of basic functions, with some expansion into geographic areas previously lacking effective coverage. This was accompanied by steady growth, throughout the community as a whole, in awareness of - and support for - conservation objectives.

The environment movement can take some satisfaction in the spread of environmental literacy; we have all been at least partially responsible for making this happen. It will make the election of an environmentally irresponsible Federal Government very much more difficult than before and provides some defence against the actions of environmentally insensitive State Governments.

Over the last couple of years, there has been a flowering of new ideas adopted and developed by various Centres and Councils - often in conjunction with other community groups. We believe they point the way forward, not only as potentially self-supporting ventures for environmental organisations, but also as important local employment initiative case studies for the society as a whole. But they are embryonic, and are likely to remain so as long as Centres and Councils are struggling to remain afloat on grossly inadequate budgets.

The future will determine to what extent these new departures flourish, but the success of the current submission would be a major boost to their development. If the basic functions of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils are funded adequately (the request made in this submission), there can be expansion into new areas. Many of these have substantial potential for job creation and at least one example given would help boost Australia's receipt of foreign currency.

The following examples are given only as indications of potential development. They should not be regarded as a comprehensive list of possibilities:

PROJECTS WITH JOB CREATION POTENTIAL

1/ RECYCLING.

It is clear that there is tremendous community interest in this subject; certainly as our society necessarily becomes a 'conservator society', far more recycling of solid and liquid wastes will prove essential.

There are numerous overseas precedents, particularly in North America, for community organisations operating extremely efficient and well supported recycling enterprises. Perhaps this is due to the strong commitment community enterprises have to recycling for its own sake - and the substantial community support on which they can rely.

In Australia, several community-based environmental organisations have shown long-standing interest in and commitment to the development of practical recycling projects. A modest levy imposed by the Government on packaging companies and other major contributors to the waste stream could be used to finance recycling ventures such as these.

2/ ENVIRONMENTAL REPAIR AND REHABILITATION

There is widespread and growing recognition - throughout Government circles and the community as a whole - that many regions of Australia suffer from severe environmental degradation. The cost of environmental rehabilitation - where possible - will be very high, and there will be a growing demand for a labor force skilled in all aspects of this work if the problem is to be addressed on a meaningful scale.

At the same time, a number of surveys have shown that this is an attractive field to unemployed young people. The participative working arrangements common to community organisations offer an ideal framework for young and unemployed people to become involved in worthwhile activities, gain work experience and develop skills - a fact recognised in Government programs such as the Community Employment Program.

We propose that Environment Centres, working in conjunction with community groups such as the Greening of Australia, could become the focus for - and organisers of - cost-effective environmental rehabilitation programs, which could also provide solutions to some critical social problems.

3/ ORGANIC FOOD PRODUCTION

Many Centres and Councils have, as affiliates, groups concerned with organic food growing techniques which are largely untapped reservoirs of expertise in this vital area.

It is already becoming apparent that a transition to organic farming methods will be essential if we are to evolve a sustainable agricultural system. The contemporary habit of 'mining' the land, with attendant problems of soil erosion, nutrient depletion and salination, must be superseded by agricultural practices which do not destroy the ecological basis for continued production. Moreover, there is growing recognition of the long-term deleterious consequences of pesticide, herbicide and fertiliser use for both the environment and human health.

However, organic methods are not readily amenable to conventional modern educational processes; accumulated experience based on practice is the essential ingredient for which there is no substitute.

There is enormous potential for socially useful job-creation in this field. New generations of farmers will need training in organic techniques appropriate to their region and with adequate financial support, the conservation movement can muster the skills required for this training. In addition, we propose that Environment Centres can assist in the establishment of distributive systems for organically produced foodstuffs. The lack of effective marketing systems for organic produce is currently a major impediment to growers and would-be consumers.

4/ FURNITURE PRODUCTION

As a society, we need to increase the economic value which we add to forest products. In this way we can help effect a reconciliation between seemingly conflicting demands on our forests: one the one hand, the need to conserve native forests as ecological and aesthetic resources and on the other, the generation of economic value and thus employment.

The environment movement believes that our society must move rapidly away from the current situation, in which most timber removals are derived from native

forests, to a timber industry based on plantations - preferably plantations of mixed native species grown on currently deforested land.

So long as our forests are managed sustainably - not only for timber production but also to conserve, in perpetuity, the full range of forest values - we support the principle that economic value is gained from forest products. Indeed, we believe that the environment movement may be able to contribute positively to this process.

Working with wood - particularly native hardwoods - is a skilled occupation. At present, the skills required to carry out this work are as rare and endangered as many forest flora and fauna! Environment Centres, working in conjunction with other community organisations such as Community Youth Support Schemes, are well placed to assist in training programs designed to foster this industry.

If the skill-base of the coming generation is developed in this field, it is quite possible that Australia will become a major exporter of hardwood furniture in the early part of the next century.

.....

In a number of the project examples cited above, we are proposing that VCO's can act as a bridge between the environment movement and other sectors - in particular the employment creation sector - to help establish new ventures which achieve important environmental and social objectives.

The remaining cases are of enterprises which can be - and in some cases have been - more or less autonomously launched by Centres and Councils, given appropriate support from Government.

NEW ENVIRONMENT CENTRE/ CONSERVATION COUNCIL INITIATIVES

5/ ENVIRONMENTAL TOURISM.

Australia has unique wilderness resources. The 'people pressure' on these resources is very low by world standards - it has been estimated that national parks in Japan are visited on a person per unit area basis approximately 100 times more than Australian national parks.

The flora and fauna of the Australian continent are utterly unique. Charles Darwin mused, while visiting Sydney, that this continent's biota appeared to be the handiwork of 'a separate Creator'.

We can expect that the demand from overseas tourists to visit Australia and experience the natural wonders which it offers will continue to grow. In this context, the economic value of Australia's wilderness to this economy is enormous. Unlike many of our industries, tourism is on a growth curve and we can expect the importance of tourist revenue will continue to increase over coming decades. Catering adequately for overseas visitors with a interest in Australia's natural heritage will be an major challenge which this society should address with some urgency.

It will be necessary to expand services for low-impact tourism. Clearly, increased funding for National Parks and Wildlife Services and other relevant Government services is part of the answer. However, we also believe that the conservation movement is ideally suited to fostering this development. We have the detailed knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, local natural environments which environmental tour guides must be able to impart.

There are precedents of tour operations on a small scale run by a number of Environment Centres and Conservation Councils. With better inter-Centre communications a national 'environmental tour operation' network could be established.

6/ ENVIRONMENTAL BOOKSHOPS

Already some enterprising environment centres - notably Melbourne - have established extremely professional bookshops which also operate a mail-order scheme and are sufficiently profitable to pay staff wages.

These bookshops serve the dual function of providing employment and a source of revenue - as well as helping to disseminate environmental information. With better communications, we could operate a national network of bookshops - and perhaps a national mail-order service. Given sufficient skilled staff time apportioned specifically to bookshop work, VCO's can both service and profit from the spread of environmental awareness.

7/ NEW ENVIRONMENT CENTRES

Several Environment Centres, including Canberra and Sydney, have proposed that their long term accomodation needs should be solved with custom-built new Environment Centres. These new centres could serve as displays of environmental design, and have a major educational function as well as more adequately housing the organisations' activities.

We believe that the construction of such centres would be an extremely cost-effective way for the Government to promote energy efficient design principles in the community (the CERES building in Brunswick, Victoria is one such model).

8/ DATABASE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

A national, public-access computerised database of environmental information has become technologically feasible in recent years. Environment Centres are the ideal bodies to develop and run this service - as it would be an extension of existing information services which they provide.

A computerised data link-up could also facilitate other developments such as a national environmental bookclub, a national tour-operating network, and the use of 'common text' in regionally published journals.

Summary

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DISCUSSION PAPER - GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION

This paper is put forward in order to stimulate and initiate possible discussion on the distribution of grants under the Commonwealth Government's GVCO Programme. As such it is not binding on any department or organization, nor does it necessarily reflect any specific views or policies.

BACKGROUND TO PAPER

At the April meeting between the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment, Mr Cohen, and representatives of peak conservation organizations, the point was made when discussing the Grants Programme that there was no fair and equitable formula for distributing the grants. The present disbursement seems to have been arrived at in an ad hoc way. This paper, therefore, is an attempt to put forward some ideas that may be considered in distributing grants.

This paper does not attempt to address the criteria for determining which groups are eligible to receive funding. This is a separate question which has been the subject of other reviews (for example, House of Representative's Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation Inquiry into Grants to VCO's.) Nor is the question addressed of how it is determined which groups, of those that meet the eligibility criteria, will actually receive funding.

BASIS OF THE PROPOSAL

Thirty-six organizations received funding directly under the GVCO Programme for 1984/85 (this does not include allocations that may subsequently have been made for Research Projects or from the Reserve.) Groups that presently receive funding under the Programme have an expectation that they will continue to do so at a level at least equal to the present level, adjusted for CPI increases. Any cutbacks in funding to individual recipients, particularly in the case of environment centres and conservation councils, will cause economic hardship. The introduction of any new formula for distributing grants should not therefore result in an existing recipient receiving less, in real terms, than it does at present. Thus to achieve the ratio between the individual bodies as indicated by a new formula we believe that this must be done by the provision of additional funds and not at the expense of some of the existing recipients.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Theoretically, it should be possible to develop a quantitative formula for determining the level of funding for individual voluntary conservation organizations. If the objective, however, is to achieve a more equitable distribution of funding then there must be a recognition that the organizations receiving funding are not an homogenous group.

Looking at the present list of recipients the following two groupings can broadly be identified: specific interest or issue groups (usually individual membership groups) and conservation councils/environment centres. The suggestion is therefore that these be treated as two separate groups and that the funding be firstly split between the two groups and then secondly be allocated within the group. On this basis, of the present funding of \$850,000, \$ 299,500 went to the first group and \$472,500 to the latter. (An additional \$78,000 was put into a Special Grants category). This establishes a ratio of approximately 7:11. In any proposed redistribution of funding, one of the first questions that would need to be looked at, and a decision made on, would be whether this is a reasonable ratio.

Once funding has been allocated to each of these groups, then decisions can be made as to how it is to be divided within the group. This paper will concentrate on the conservation council/environment centres group.

One way to approach the distribution of funds for this group would be on a state basis. I would suggest four variables as being relevant in determining an equitable distribution of funding. These are:

- i) population of the state
- ii) area of the state
- iii) relative cost of living in each state.
- iv) level of state government funding received.

With the last variable, it is suggested that this should be treated as a compensatory factor so as to avoid an unlimited trade-off between the level of state grant and the Federal grant received. This could be achieved by establishing what may be thought of as a minimum desirable level of state funding for each state. The type of thing that could be considered here could be the provision of 1,000 square feet of office space at market rates for the Central Business District of that state's capital city or the employment of one full-time person at Clerk's State Award rates. Once this level is established for each state, then if the State Government grant received is less than this minimum level additional funding will be received up to the minimum level. If the state government grant is above that level then this is treated as a fortuitous situation and the organization is not penalised Federally for it. In practical application it would be necessary to base the calculation of one year's grant on the state funding received in the previous year.

Putting this into a formula, and assuming equal weighting for each of the variables, the following formula emerges:

$$\text{Level of funding (per State)} = 1/3 \left[\frac{\text{Pop. of State}}{\text{Pop. of Aust}} + \frac{\text{Area of State}}{\text{Area of Aust.}} + \frac{\text{Rel. cost of living}}{\text{of living}} \right] + \text{State funding compensation}$$

At this point a further complication arises given that some regional ECs and CCs also receive Federal Government funding. One question that should be addressed is whether regional bodies should receive Federal funding directly. If the decision is made to fund a regional EC/CC then one way of distributing the funds could be to decide that the State EC/CC gets a set percentage of the State allocation and then the State EC/CC and regional EC's/CC's share the remainder on a population and area basis in a similar way as was done above.

Assumptions

The following assumptions have been made:

- 1) All groups presently receiving funds continue to do so at least at the present level so that the base for any proposal is the existing level and allocation of funds, CPI adjusted.
- 2) Funding for additional organizations is not at the expense, in real terms, of funding to individual existing organizations.
- 3) For this purpose the Tasmanian Conservation Trust is treated as a de facto conservation council.
- 4) The variables in the model have equal weighting.
- 5) Conservation councils and environment centres have been treated as one group given that, in many cases, their funding received is joint funding.

Finally, there is the question of the distribution of grants to those organizations in the specific interest/issue groups grouping. Most of the organizations in this group funded presently are individual membership bodies with some exceptions such as ANPC and ACIUCN. This paper leaves the development of an appropriate formula for this group to others to attempt. In developing such a formula, some of the factors that may be considered include: membership numbers; area covered by constituency; and other income. One factor rejected is the number of issues covered. This is an internal decision and there is basically an infinite number of issues any group could work on, given sufficient financial resources.

It is beyond the scope of this paper to attempt to address and solve the many problems and difficulties in trying to achieve a fairer, more equitable system for distributing grants. Some of the problems arise from the reality of an existing distribution which has developed over a number of years in an ad hoc manner.

The treatment here is necessarily simplistic and many aspects are not covered but it is hoped that the ideas presented will give some basis for further discussion.

Pam Eiser
12.7.85.

In May, at the invitation of N.C.E.C., I attended a Canberra conference "Marketing Conservation" sponsored by the Federal Department of Arts Heritage and Environment. This department will produce a Marketing Manual, for conservation groups, from material presented at the conference and so I'll not attempt to reproduce any detail from the various conference papers.

However the conference themes have serious and far reaching implications for the conservation movement as the Right Wing of the Labour Party cements its control over Australia's political future.

CONSERVATION MOVEMENT HEADING FOR EXTINCTION or at least IRRELEVANCY ???.

The May conference highlighted the contemporary era of crisis for the Australian conservation movement. This era may see the conservation ethic swept aside or trodden into the dust as a result of the current pseudo Labour Government's surrender of Australia to Thatcherite laissez-faire international market forces.

Two themes dominated the conference ie; that from here on in the conservation societies will be on their own and can expect little or no support from government, that the government is to embrace capitalist market worship and abdicate its responsibility for environmental education, leaving self-funding voluntary conservation organizations to undertake what should be essentially the role of government.

The conservation movement will be thrown to the wolves and left to fend for itself in Keating's Brave New World of Worship of the Market Place.

Conservation groups are expected to adopt the philosophies and tactics of capitalism to firstly establish our own capital base and cash flow, to then fund perennial promotional and public relations campaigns to sell the conservation ethic and practicality to the Australian domestic market. In this market we will be up against the omnipotent forces of the Australian monopolists and multinational corporations, which currently control and direct the Keating/Hawke Tory Government, competing for a share of the hearts and minds of a population now already largely captured and controlled by media barons whose lust for power and wealth is only matched by their total disregard for what's left of our natural environment.

It is this government's worship of international market forces which now poses the greatest threat to the remanent natural habitat in Australia and may see the dream of major reforestation and earth rehabilitation vaporise on the horizon.

In his address to the conference Bob Brown spoke, with promise, of a new golden age of conservation and caring for the earth about to dawn. However what followed over the three days of conference dashed this dream against the rocks of current political reality.

We appear to have no choice but to accept that the current mind-set of the Keating government (worship of international market forces) will prevail throughout the closing years of the twentieth century and, through privatisation of public assets (this may include privatization of State Forests as well), the last protective bastions of the Australian economy will be eliminated exposing all our natural resources to the greed of the multi-national corporate machines.

We will see existing parks and reserves surrendered for short term balance sheet reconciliation.

Waste Management and Recycling Workshop.

This workshop, programmed over the three days, was not a total dead loss, but very nearly so. The workshop put the cart before the horse, focusing on developing a marketing plan for a theoretical recycling program based on local government areas. Of course no such recycling program exists and this workshop denied any opportunity for input into development of such a programme.

Don't be surprised if, when the conference papers are published, the resulting market plan is used to justify widespread introduction of those giant 'wheely-bins'. Comments made by one State Government and one Federal Government officer during the course of the workshop indicated that this is on the cards.

However this issue, **recycling**, is perhaps one area where there is potentially major gains attainable in the short term, especially whilst worship of market forces is the prevailing mind-set within the government. Currently the major obstacle to effective recycling of commodities within our economy is that it remains cheaper for manufacturers to source their raw material requirements from the natural environment rather than from the waste stream within the economy. (The term 'natural environment' used in this context is intended to include plantations of trees planted for either pulp or saw log production.)

FIRST RECOMMENDATION.

The conservation movement should be demanding the immediate introduction of either **resource and or consumption taxes** set, for individual commodities, at levels which will ensure that sourcing raw materials from the waste stream becomes more economical than sourcing them from the natural environment. The new tax should only apply at that point where the material is removed from the natural environment or enters the Australian economy through our ports; Ensuring that all materials, once included into the manufacturing and or waste streams remain exempt from any further application of consumption or sales taxes.

The critical threshold level for any raw material or commodity, where involvement within the new recycling economy becomes economically based for both industry and consumers, will need to be identified so that the new consumption/resources taxes can be set at the appropriate rates.

For example currently the weekday Sydney Morning Herald sells for 50 cents and wastes enormous volumes of pulped trees. Ideally a new tax would raise the price of a copy to say \$2.00, with the consumer able to resell her/his copy to paper merchants for at least \$1.00, possibly upto \$1.50. Presumably the volume of pulped trees used in any one month by the News Paper Industry could be used over and over, add-infinity, almost eliminating demands for raw pulp from the natural environment. Spinoff benefits could include releasing plantations, currently committed to pulp production, to the saw-log industry.

SECOND RECOMMENDATION

FUTURE FUNDING OPTION for N.C.E.C. BANANA COAST CREDIT UNION.

I have initiated discussions with the Marketing Manager for the Banana Coast Credit Union, Mr Ken Palmer; with the aim of setting up the following funding scheme for the North Coast Environment Council.

*The N.C.E.C. and Banana Coast Credit Union will establish a Environmental Lands Conservation Trust Fund. The fund will be managed by appointees of the North Coast Environment Council, and will have three component funds;

- ie. i) 40% of the total fund for a 'Reafforestation Fund', to be used to finance the purchase of land for reafforestation, loans to fund private reafforestation projects and management of N.C.E.C. owned reafforestation properties.

- ii) 40% of total fund for purchase of significant conservation lands/habitat, to be granted to the N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service for ownership, care and management.
- iii) 20% of the total fund for both expenses incurred in management of the Trust Fund and to fund special conservation projects of the N.C.E.C..

THE SCHEME;

All current and potential depositors in the Banana Coast Credit Union will be given the opportunity of contributing to the fund by pledging part of their interest payments, due to their savings and investment accounts, to the N.C.E.C. Conservation Trust Fund. Tax deductibility will have to be organized in the future. The Credit Union will automatically transfer payments to the Trust Fund (which will be held by the Credit Union as an investment account), until drawn by the N.C.E.C. to fund approved projects.

Promotion, marketing, of the scheme should be undertaken by both the N.C.E.C. and affiliate groups, and the Credit Union.

RECOMMENDED MOTION;

- i) That the North Coast Environment Council appoint Mr Trevor Pike to liase with Mr Ken Palmer, Marketing Manager of the Banana Coast Credit Union, and negotiate draft details of the proposed Land Conservation Trust Fund Scheme, to be brought before the N.C.E.C. for ratification; and
- ii) That the N.C.E.C. write to Mr Ken Palmer, Marketing Manager of the Banana Coast Credit Union, 6 Park Avenue, Coffs Harbour 2450.; advising him that the N.C.E.C. wishes to proceed with establishing the proposed Land Conservation Trust Fund and that Trevor Pike has been appointed to liase with the Credit Union on behalf of N.C.E.C..

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Environment Centre (Victoria)

285 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne 3000. Phone: 663 1561.

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To all Conservation Councils,
Environment Centres etc.

Dear Friends,

Earlier this year I attended the 8th Australasian Fundraising Convention, courtesy of the CEP grant I am employed under.

Since this useful convention was quite out of reach of most environmentalists, due to the outrageous cost, I have written up the notes I took for circulation. Please find these enclosed.

I also have a copy of the speakers notes published by the Australasian Institute of Fundraising and a copy of an excellent paper on direct mail fundraising. These notes are not covered in my notes. I have listed the papers printed in the published notes and if you would like copies of any of these papers, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I hope you find the enclosed notes useful.

Kind Regards



Linda Parlane.