The Department of Environment and Science (DES) recognises the enormous value a clean environment, innovative society and economy, and vibrant culture makes to our lives. These shared values directly contribute to the well-being, health and happiness for all Queenslanders, now and for generations to come.

The department’s 2019–20 operational budget of $797 million in environment, science, heritage and the arts will enrich Queenslanders’ lives now and into the future. This funding will also contribute to the Queensland Government’s economic plan for the next decade by supporting sustainable business and industry development and jobs creation.

**Major funding allocations**

- **$318.7 million** parks, wildlife and conservation services
- **$228.3 million** environmental protection services
- **$146.2 million** Arts Queensland
- **$94.4 million** science services
- **$6.7 million** heritage protection services

**Capital works**
In 2019–20, **$100.6 million** has been allocated to the department’s capital works programs, including:

**National parks:**
- **$7.5 million** towards the redevelopment of the Mon Repos Turtle Centre
- **$6.7 million** to support ecotourism opportunities and tourism recovery in the Whitsunday Islands National Park
- **$3.8 million** to enhance critical infrastructure to support tourism activities at Glass House Mountains National Park, Noosa National Park and D’Aguilar National Park

**Arts Queensland:**
- **$9.1 million** to renew and replace critical Infrastructure items across the Queensland Cultural Centre
- **$8.5 million** for priority infrastructure projects across state-owned arts and cultural facilities, delivered through the Arts Infrastructure Investment Fund
- **$4.4 million** to implement sustainability and energy efficiency measures at the Queensland Cultural Centre
- **$3.2 million** to renew and replace large critical infrastructure items at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre

**Science:**
- **$3.5 million** under the Accelerating Science Delivery Innovation Program, to modernise systems to enhance our environmental science capability
Key initiatives

Protecting the environment
- $8.9 million over two years to support environmental monitoring of land impacted by underground coal gasification by-products

Engaging Queenslanders in science
- $6.4 million over four years to maintain support for engaging Queenslanders in science and international science partnerships

Cape York Peninsula national park management
- $15.6 million over four years and $975,000 per annum ongoing for the continuation of the Cape York Peninsula Tenure Resolution Program

Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) national park management
- $8.7 million over four years to support the construction and operation of a permanent ranger base on Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island)
- $8.5 million over four years for Traditional Owners to implement the North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah) Townships Fire Management Strategies

Koala rehabilitation initiatives
- $816,000 over two years for renewal of infrastructure at the Moggill Koala Rehabilitation Centre
- $729,000 in 2019–20 for operations at the Moggill Koala Rehabilitation Centre, the Daisy Hill Koala Centre, and RSPCA oversight of the 1300 WILDLIFE HOTLINE

Protecting the Great Barrier Reef
- $261 million over five years from 2017–22 to fund key initiatives from the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan which aim to improve water quality
- $12.7 million in 2019–20 for the Great Barrier Reef Joint Field Management Program to protect and maintain marine and island ecosystems

Delivering better waste management
- $85.3 million over four years for waste levy operation, compliance and waste reform initiatives
- $1 million over two years deliver a waste management data strategy that will guide decision making on future waste infrastructure needs and opportunities for investment in resource recovery and recycling

Helping businesses be more efficient
- $1 million to continue the delivery of the Queensland Government’s flagship eco-efficiency program, ecoBiz

Upgrading infrastructure on national parks
- $10 million in new funding for national parks capital works

Local eradication of the Yellow Crazy Ant in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area
- $9 million over three years from 2019–20 for activities in and adjacent to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area to control the Yellow Crazy Ant

Enhanced fire management on national parks
- $16 million over four years from 2019–20 to enhance fire management activities on national parks and forests

Crocodile management and education
- $6 million over two years for crocodile management, including the Crocwise public safety education program and the crocodile monitoring program which will inform the long-term management of crocodiles in Queensland

Boost investment in research infrastructure
- $25 million for the Advance Queensland Research Infrastructure Co-Investment Fund to leverage Australian Government and industry funds and deliver a more coordinated and strategic approach to investment in research infrastructure

Protecting our heritage
- $1.5 million for urgent remedial conservation works to identified State heritage buildings

Arts Queensland

Queensland Cultural Centre
- $5 million over two years from 2019–20 to modernise QPAC luminaries via the installation of energy efficient LED lighting
- $7 million over two years from 2019–20 to continue the critical infrastructure works program at the Queensland Cultural Centre which includes the renewal of the central energy plant

Rockhampton Art Gallery
- $4 million in 2019–20 as part of the $15 million commitment for the construction of the new Rockhampton Art Gallery

Arts Infrastructure Investment Fund
- $6 million to revitalise state-owned arts and cultural facilities, including the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts and the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts

Queensland Museum
- $16.2 million for an expanded off-site research and biodiversity collection storage facility, ensuring the museum’s collection is maintained to the highest possible standard
- $3 million for the 2020 World Science Festival

First Nations Cultural Centre
- $2 million over two years to develop an options assessment to explore the development of a First Nations Cultural Centre

New blockbuster exhibitions
- $4 million over two years to secure blockbuster exhibition at GOMA that are exclusive to Brisbane