



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY
MARISA PATERSON MLA (CHAIR), ANDREW BRADDOCK MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), LEANNE CASTLEY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
4 March 2021

Asked by MS LAWDER:

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In relation to: Lake Tuggeranong water quality infrastructure

Is there a schedule for, you know, dredging or removing sediment from our lakes?

Mr Rattenbury: Switch back to the water people.

MS LAWDER: You can see I am really interested.

Mr Rattenbury: I know.

Mr Rutledge: There is a lot of community interest in Lake Tuggeranong, as there is in all our water bodies actually. But Lake Tuggeranong as a specific interest.

Mr Walker: After moving up. The answer, in terms of dredging and sediment, is there are no plans at this point to do that. We are certainly investigating and will continue to investigate the viability of doing that, because that would require a different operation to what we have currently put in play.

MS LAWDER: Okay. In—it might be before your time, I was going to ask, in 2015 the budget included an initiative to see the lakes cleaned on a quarterly basis. I guess that was the GPTs? Or—

Mr Walker: You are correct. It was before my time. I am—I cannot answer that—

Mr Rutledge: We will give you an update, Ms Lawder

MINISTER RATTENBURY: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The lakes are managed by Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) who have responsibility both for cleaning Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) in the catchment and for any initiatives to directly clean the lakes.

TCCS has advised me that:

- GPTs are inspected twice a year and after rain events of 25mm or more. If inspections indicate traps are 60 percent or more full, debris is removed.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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- TCCS maintains over 280 GPTs. One round of GPT cleaning costs approximately \$1.5 million.
- There are 22 large Gross Pollutant Traps (GPT) protecting the lakes from sediment, litter and debris, including Lake Burley Griffin, and an additional nine large GPTs to protect downstream of the lakes to the Murrumbidgee River. These large traps may be cleaned between four to eight times per year depending on rainfall events.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature:

Date:

16/3/21

By the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Shane Rattenbury MLA