

Nature Conservation and Other Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2017

Explanatory notes for SL 2017 No. 83

made under the

Forestry Act 1959

Marine Parks Act 2004

Nature Conservation Act 1992

Recreation Areas Management Act 2006

General Outline

Short title

Nature Conservation and Other Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2017

Authorising law

Section 97 of the *Forestry Act 1959*

Section 150 of the *Marine Parks Act 2004*

Section 175 of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

Section 232 of the *Recreation Areas Management Act 2006*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The objective of the amendment regulation is to index regulatory fees for the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing (NPSR) for 2017-18. These regulatory fees have been subject to the annual review required under Government policy and then indexed by the approved Government indexation factor, which Treasury has advised to be 3.5% for 2017-18.

Government is currently considering indexation of Apiary and Stock Grazing Permit fees. Therefore these fees have not been adjusted and left at the 2016-17 fee amount in this amendment.

A small number of fees have not been adjusted by the indexation factors as the amount of the fee is below a value for the indexation factor to affect an increase, taking into account coinage and rounding factors. The indexed fees have been rounded in accordance with NPSR's current rounding policy.

Achievement of policy objectives

The amendment regulation will achieve its objective by increasing fees and charges under the *Forestry Regulation 2015*, *Marine Parks Regulation 2006*, *Nature Conservation (Administration) Regulation 2006*, *Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2006* and *Recreation Areas Management Regulation 2007*.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The amendment regulation is consistent with the objective of the authorising Acts.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The amendment regulation is not inconsistent with any policy objectives of any legislation.

Benefits and costs of implementation

The indexation of fees provides a mechanism understood by the community and industry to maintain price relativity, aiding the Government in formulating the State and departmental budgets.

There are no additional costs associated with implementing the regulation.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The amendment regulation is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

In accordance with the Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation, the Office of Best Practice Regulation was not consulted in relation to the regulatory proposal. The department applied a self-assessable exclusion from undertaking further regulatory impact analysis (Category (h) – Regulatory proposal that put forward standard annual fee variations in line with or below a government endorsed indexation factor).

Queensland Treasury was consulted and is supportive of the amendment regulation.