ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS OFFICE (TASMANIA) INC

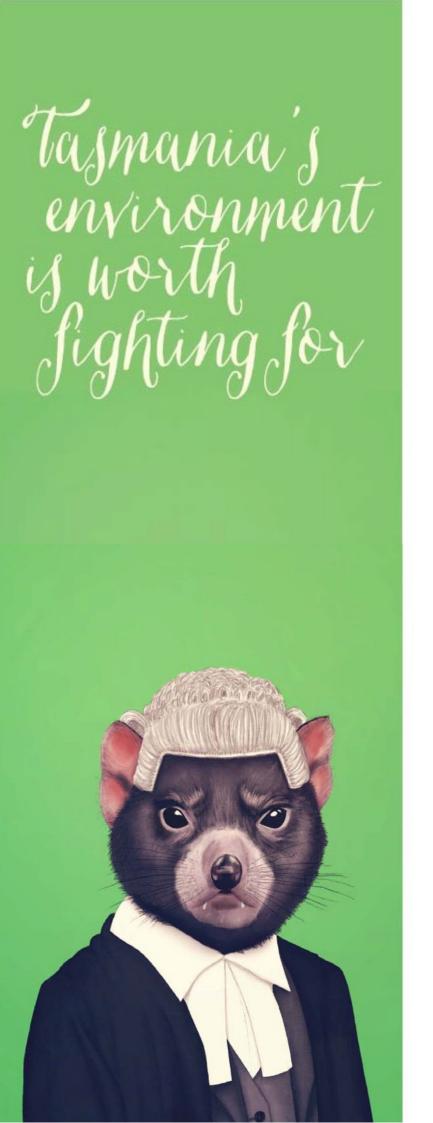
ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

Tasmania's environment is worth fighting for







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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This year has been one of change for EDO Tasmania, particularly on our management committee and in planning for the future of EDOs around Australia. It is therefore a great tribute to the talents, professionalism and hard work of our staff that they continue to deliver such fantastic service, made possible by our many generous supporters.

Public Interest Environmental Law

Australia's natural and cultural heritage remains under attack. So do those who seek to uphold the law, including through public interest litigation. The federal Attorney-General describes such litigation as 'lawfare' and has sought to wind back standing under the Howard Government's EPBC Act. That is the attitude of a Government which considers itself above the law, and disdainfully treats access to justice as a selective (not needed in environmental or planning law), rather than universal, right.

EDO Tas continues to advise and represent those seeking to defend and uphold environmental law in matters including State planning law and acting for the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre in its ongoing efforts to prevent Tasmania's Government reopening 4WD tracks in takayna / the Tarkine, which will damage national heritage listed values of that cultural landscape.

Appeal

Since the Abbott Government cut all federal funding for EDOs, EDO Tas relies financially on the support of our members and other donors. But, not content with Abbott's federal funding axe, the Turnbull Government wants to wind back the tax deductibility of donations to ENGOs like your EDO. The Government has done nothing to reform political donations law, but is anti-advocacy for the environment. It's like telling a doctor they can advise individual patients, but not speak about a cancer cluster or its causes – and lose Medicare access if they do. So there's never been a better time to make a tax-deductible donation to EDO Tas to sustain its great work.

Management Committee

Our last AGM saw the retirement of Roland Browne, our greatly esteemed President since the organisation was founded in 1995. Our loss has been Constitutional law's gain, having liberated some of Roland's time and remarkable energy to, amongst other matters, defend environmental activists charged under the Hodgman Government's draconian anti-protest legislation. EDO Tas and others explained to the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders concerns about this legislation, which he later condemned. We are delighted to welcome Roland back to speak at this year's AGM, fresh from a fantastic High Court victory for freedom of political communication by defeating that legislation: Brown v Tasmania [2017] HCA 43. As nurse Jessica Hoyt, arrested for peacefully protesting logging near her home, poignantly told the media of the judgment, "It means that Lapoinya meant something, that it wasn't for nothing." Other EDOs are already considering the judgment's implications and potential application in their States.

Recently, Michael Lynch also retired from our board, to chair the boards of the TCT and a community bank for the Huon Valley. Over the two decades since our EDO's establishment, Michael has served in nearly all of its management committee positions, including Treasurer, Secretary and Public Officer – sometimes simultaneously.

Lindi Wall, another long-standing board member and our former Public Officer, also retired from the Management Committee during the past year. Lindi was an invaluable voice of experience, including in HR matters. On behalf of the EDO, I would like to thank Roland, Michael and Lindi for their enduring commitment and contribution to the EDO throughout its life so far. They leave a great legacy for us to carry forward.

At a more youthful level, Kellie Jay also stood down from the board during the year. We will miss Kellie's energy and enthusiasm, particularly in fundraising, but Biosecurity needs her.

Given those board vacancies, we were delighted to welcome a number of new board members at, and since, the 2016 AGM:

- over-achieving Law students Elsa Bland and Brook Dambacher (also delegate to international climate negotiations);
- senior executive Scott Moorhead;
- experienced barrister Gary Corr; and
- new Treasurer and Senior Tax Consultant with PwC, Michael Fuller-Smith.

Their wealth of talents and fresh perspectives has brought board renewal and helped balance our skills matrix. Sincere thanks to all Committee members for their participation in guiding the good ship EDO Tasmania forward.

Staff

EDO Tasmania's greatest assets are our incredibly dedicated staff, led by the phenomenal Jess Feehely. She not only runs EDO Tas professionally and effectively, but also does a power of work in fundraising, in supporting other Tasmanian community legal centres, and for national environmental law organisations, including EDOs of Australia.

Our Litigation Lawyer, Claire Bookless, has taken to Tasmanian environmental law like a seal to salmon. While defending the former from fish farmers of the latter, she has also continued work on EDO's court cases, particularly representation of advocates for takayna / the Tarkine.

Vicki Campbell's energetic efforts saw EDO Tas raise more money than any other team in the 2016 Point to Pinnacle. We are delighted (in a slightly masochistic sense) to have Vicki spur us on to greater heights this year. Sappho Brothers served as our part-time Fundraising Officer until her growing small business demanded more of her time. Consultant Louise Blaik efficiently and affordably keeps our books in order.

Future for EDOs of Australia

With no certainty regarding any future improvement in government funding, EDO boards and staff from around Australia have, during the past two years, been exploring ways in which we might restructure to enable better delivery of public interest environmental legal services across Australia.

From an EDO Tas perspective, our Financial Report explains our predicament (albeit, the 2016-17 Income Statement predates subsequent recovery of litigation costs overcoming the shortfall). With no Federal funding and only \$8,750/year from the State Government we are forced to spend significant time pursuing donations and generating income. Despite considerable efforts, the generous support of our donors and other income is not covering even our minimal annual expenses. While we currently have financial reserves to cover this, that's not sustainable in the long term.

Negotiations on a potential merger have been cautious, but we are keen to advise our members of progress to date and look forward to explaining more to members at the AGM.

EDO Tasmania's Management Committee and staff have been strong supporters of this move towards national integration. We believe the likely benefits, including a net improvement in capacity to provide and sustain environmental law services nationwide, are less risky than the status quo.

Ultimately, it is the membership of each incorporated EDO around Australia that will decide on the direction we take. Any EDO Tasmania member unable to attend the AGM is welcome to contact us to seek more information.

Thank you

Many thanks to all those listed in this Annual Report's Acknowledgments, the Committee, our dedicated staff, members and other supporters for your ongoing commitment to this wonderful little community legal centre. This Annual Report gives an insight into the volume, variety and exceptional quality of work performed, publicly and behind the scenes, to improve access to justice and protection of Tasmania's natural and cultural heritage.



Tom Baxter President

PRINCIPAL LAWYER'S REPORT

Earlier this year, our article in *Tasmania 40° South* discussing the role of environmental law in shaping Tasmania noted:

The law in its many applications has continued to preserve and protect Tasmania's most appealing places ever since [the Franklin Dam decision]. Much of what draws tourists to the island, and provides recreational, artistic and cultural fulfilment for those lucky enough to live here, has been won through committed people fighting to secure stronger laws, and to make sure that government decisions uphold the protections that such laws demand.

In many ways, 2016-2017 felt like Groundhog Day. Another round of litigation challenging the decision to re-open off-road vehicle tracks on the takayna / Tarkine coast. Lots more submissions about how to strengthen the planning system. More work to improve environmental regulation of salmon farming and address the declining health of Macquarie Harbour. Another fight about standing to challenge mining decisions. Another report highlighting flaws in the Regional Forests Agreement.

2017-2018 has already promised more of the same, with the renewal of the RFA, the government's continued commitment to re-opening the takayna tracks, further proposed changes to planning laws, and new plans to dump fish waste into Macquarie Harbour.

The repetitive nature of environmental and planning policy debate in Tasmania, and the prospect that a State election in 2018 could re-set the discussion again, can be frustrating.

But it also demonstrates our value. Despite unyielding political and financial tension, we've helped keep the takayna tracks closed, protect standing rights, and advocate for independent regulation of the salmon industry. Our familiarity with laws, policies and political strategies is comforting to clients who are experiencing it all for the first time. Our long history in environmental governance makes us a trusted source of credible advice, and a port of call for informed comments on proposed reforms.

2016-2017 has been a year of wonderful collaboration, extending our reach and expertise through partnerships with a range of organisations. We've worked with NRMs to develop resources and deliver workshops to farmers across Southern Tasmania, we've teamed up with the National Environmental Law Association, EIANZ and the Planning Institute to promote public conversations about environmental management issues, and we've collaborated with other CLCs on a range of social justice activities.

We've continued to work with UTAS to provide opportunities for law students to gain practical experience through the Student Legal Service and our internship and volunteering programs. The talent and commitment of these budding lawyers gives me confidence that the future of environmental law is in safe hands.

Significantly, we have also been discussing opportunities for greater collaboration with our interstate EDO colleagues to deliver services most effectively. As our financial accounts bear out, funding insecurity is placing incredible pressure on service delivery, while ongoing development pressures confirm the need for access to legal services. We look forward to progressing collaborative discussions over the coming year and strengthening national public interest environmental law capacity to meet legal needs across the country.

As we said in Tasmania 40° South:

Tasmania will only keep its unique identity if people continue the tradition of standing up for the places that they love, and have access to legal advice to help them do that.

My gratitude and respect goes out to all who stand up for Tasmania in whatever capacity they can. While the same environmental problems keep arising, we'll keep using our experience to help the community to fight them.



Jess Feehely Principal Lawyer

Meet the team

In 2016-2017, the EDO Tasmania team included:

- Jess Feehely, Principal Lawyer (full time)
- Claire Bookless, Litigation Lawyer (part time)
- Sappho Brothers, Fundraiser (part time to April 2017)
- Vicki Campbell, Fundraising Administration (part time to April 2017)
- Louise Blaik, Bookkeeper (casual)

We have also received invaluable support from regular volunteers Philippa Fairbairn, Carly Rusden, Theresa Lam and Kathryn Kirk.



Claire Bookless has worked tirelessly, guiding clients through legal options, risks and alternatives available to secure environmental outcomes, and identifying areas where the law needs to be tested. The volume of litigation work undertaken by our office is rarely reflected in the number of cases run, but in the painstaking analysis of legal opportunities and assessment of prospects.

I'd also like to acknowledge the immense contributions of Sappho Brothers and Vicki Campbell, both going above and beyond to maintain donors, organise and promote events, and to seek funding to support our work. It isn't easy to secure funds in an extremely competitive environment, where many worthy organisations are vying for attention and support, and we have Sappho and Vicki's creativity and persistence to thank for our survival.

Governance decisions at EDO Tasmania are ably managed by our dedicated volunteer Management Committee. During the year, we farewelled a number of long term members. Roland Browne, Michael Lynch and Lindi Wall have championed access to environmental justice for over 20 years and their collective wisdom and support will be missed. I'd also like to acknowledge and thank Kellie Jay for the youthful enthusiasm she injected into the Committee and wish her well in future pursuits.

Summary of activities

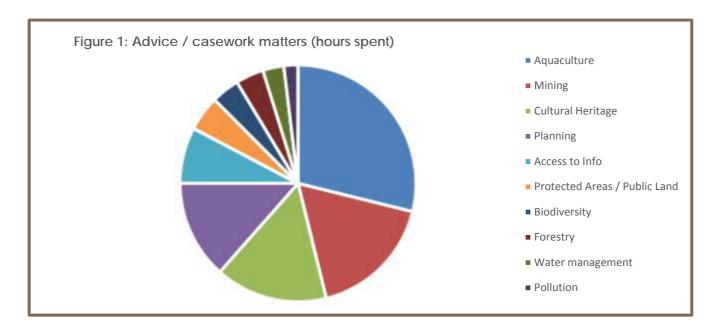
Using the law			
New client matters	186		
Continuing client matters	21		
Complex casework (advice)	37		
Case involving litigation	7		
Explaining the law			
Publications • Major guides / reports • RMPAT Bulletin • EDO Bulletin	2 11 editions 23 editions		
Articles published in journals	2		
Workshops and presentations	12		
Public forums	3		
Defending / Reforming the law			
Law reform submissions	13		
Appearances at public inquiries / hearings	2		
Media interviews	12		
Consultation group involvement	2		
Promoting the law			
Internships / placements	12		
Volunteers registered	35		
Funding			
Funding applications	7		
Fundraising events / initiatives	6		

Using the law

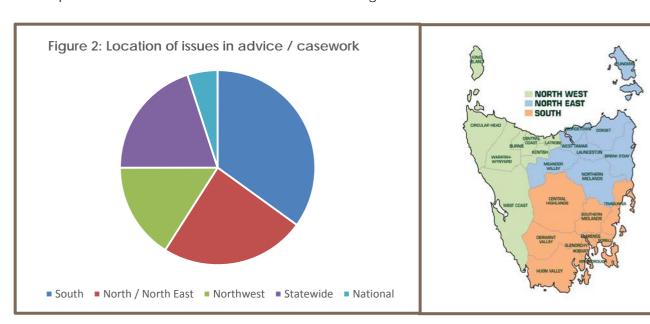
EDO Tasmania's key objective is to use the law to protect the environment. In pursuit of this objective, in 2016-2017 we have provided advice to individuals and groups throughout Tasmania on a wide range of environmental and planning law matters.

In total, we estimate our staff spent over 2,250 hours providing advice and legal representation.

Figure 1 shows the diversity of issues raised by clients, and the relative time spent addressing each resource management topic in 2016-2017. Mining and cultural heritage issues have continued to dominate our litigation case load, while planning, aquaculture and access to information have remained a core source of advice work.



Our office is based in Hobart and awareness of our service is highest in the south. As a result, we continue to receive more enquiries regarding the southern region. However, Figure 2 demonstrates the growing reach of our service across the State, facilitated by a Statewide phone advice line, social media promotion and outreach sessions for clients in regional areas.



EDO Tasmania engages in litigation activity in only limited circumstances. We generally consider litigation to be a last resort and will agree to represent clients only if we are satisfied other options have been exhausted and the legal action is in the public interest (as determined by our Casework Guidelines).

However, there are clearly times when litigation is the most appropriate action in response to threatened or actual damage to natural and cultural values.

Key litigation activities for 2016-2017 have included:

- Representing the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Inc in the Tasmanian Government's appeal against the earlier Federal court decision that the proposal to re-open off-road vehicle tracks in takayna / the Tarkine required assessment under the EPBC Act.
 - Following the Full Court decision, the Tasmanian Government committed to referring the proposal under the EPBC Act. In October 2017, a delegate of the Federal Minister determined that the proposal was a controlled action and cannot proceed without approval under the EPBC Act. While the government remains committed to seeking that approval, the controlled action decision was a vindication of the TAC's court proceedings.
- Defending the Tarkine National Coalition's right to a statement of reasons for a decision to grant a mining lease after the Tasmanian government appealed against the Supreme Court decision that the group was entitled to reasons.
 - The Full Court unanimously upheld the TNC's right to reasons, and described the Minister's appeal as "a shining example of an appeal failing to identify an error on the part of the primary judge."
- Representing the Tarkine National Coalition in its challenge to the decision to grant mining leases for Venture Minerals' Livingstone and Mt Lindsay projects. Though unsuccessful, the case was the first time the Supreme Court had been asked to review decisions relating to the grant of mining leases in Tasmania, and raised important questions about the lawful exercise of Ministerial powers under the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995*.
- Assisting clients to secure better permit conditions through mediation, including conditions
 providing better protection for nesting birds affected by construction of a wharf, restricting
 vegetation clearing, and re-routing of channel works to avoid shorebird breeding habitat.
- Continuing to challenge decisions refusing access to documents relating to the Geelong Star's interaction with an endangered whale shark.

Information and advice provided by EDO Tasmania also helps clients to understand evidentiary requirements and the risks associated with their appeal, allowing them to make an informed decision about whether to commence or continue with litigation. In this way, we play an important role in discouraging appeals with limited prospects of success, and facilitating mediated outcomes, and ensuring that limited judicial resources are directed to the most significant cases.

Image: <u>Arwen Dyer</u>



Explaining the law

EDO Tasmania's community legal education program is designed to assist members of the community to understand the laws, how to comply with them, and how to use them to secure better environmental outcomes.

Our key education achievements in 2016-2017 have included:

- Delivering training to councillors regarding the decision-making powers and functions of a planning authority
- Partnering with NRM South to deliver a series of "Farming and the Law" workshops across the Southern region
- Speaking at numerous community forums to discuss the implications of the State Planning Provisions and opportunities to comment on the Local Provisions Schedules
- Hosting a public forum on national and international climate litigation activities, featuring Sean Ryan and Jeff McGee
- In partnership with EIANZ and the Planning Institute, delivering workshops to planning professionals regarding how natural values can be protected under the State Planning Provisions

We continue to maintain an informative website (including the <u>Have Your Say</u> portal), social media accounts and fortnightly Bulletin keeping people up to date on changes to laws and opportunities to have a say in decisions affecting them and places that they love.

Our lawyers also regularly deliver presentations and participate in panel discussions at community and professional events.



Macro images: Arwen Dyer

Promoting the law

EDO Tasmania continues to encourage interest in environmental law amongst law students through our summer internship program, ongoing practical legal placements and our successful external volunteer register. In 2016-2017, we hosted the following interns and placement students:

Rosary Pardinas

Michael Flanagan

Olivia Castrisios

Ashleigh McCoach

Taya Ketelaar-Jones

Rebecca Hadfield

Grace Dudley

Melanie Bakewell

Connie Ye

Robert Johnson

Lillian King Roberts

Natalie Holman

35 additional students are also registered as external volunteers to undertake research and drafting tasks to assist us with our work.

In 2016-2017 we also consolidated our collaboration with UTAS, assisting in the delivery of the new Clinical Legal Placement subject and supervising students to provide advice through the Student Legal Service. These programs provide invaluable exposure for students to the reality of practice and enhance their interviewing, drafting and communication skills.

Defending the law

It is often also necessary to defend current environmental and planning laws against regressive reforms. In 2016-2017, we engaged in a series of activities to defend existing protections:

- Meeting with Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders, to discuss Tasmania's anti-protest laws, access to information issues and proposed restrictions on standing for environmental groups
- Opposing proposed changes to tax laws to remove deductibility for donations to environmental charities
- Defending the entitlement of environment groups to seek statements of reasons for mining decisions
- Challenging decisions to refuse access to government information, vital to transparent governance and ensuring that laws are being enforced

Reforming the law

EDO Tasmania continues to draw on our legal expertise and the experience of our clients to identify legislative deficiencies and to advocate for reforms to improve the effectiveness of our environment and planning laws. Key law reform initiatives in 2016-2017 include:

- Working with councils, NRMs and government agencies to explore various enforcement options for the regulation of unlawful firewood collection across Tasmania
- Hosting a forum on urban farming, the public health benefits of access to locally grown food, and current legislative and planning hurdles to establishing urban agriculture projects.
- Assisting Groundbreakers to advocate for changes to provisions for sustainable burials in northwest Tasmania
- Advocating for the introduction of contemporary, respectful Aboriginal heritage legislation
- Commenting on the proposed Climate Action Plan and changes to the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008
- With support from North East Tasmania Land Trust, preparing a report outlining options to improve the protections offered by conservation covenants over private land
- Advocacy on planning reforms, including appearing at Commission hearings regarding the State Planning Provisions, meeting with politicians to discuss reforms, and submissions on the proposed planning policies and changes to the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
- Detailed submissions on a range of resource management issues, including regulation of marine farming, the Okehampton Bay expansion proposal, the extension of the Regional Forest Agreement and mining rehabilitation

Conservation Covenants:
Options to improve security for the protection of private band in Tamania.

All submissions are available on our website at www.edotas.org.au/resources/submissions/.

In addition to submissions on behalf of EDO Tasmania, we have provided advice to a range of community groups and businesses to inform their advocacy on law reform issues.

Images: Brendan Gogarty and Arwen Dyer



Fundraising

Constrained resources continue to be an issue for social justice and environmental organisations across Australia. We have spent more than 40 hours preparing grant applications for various education and access to justice projects but, in a highly competitive environment, have not enjoyed success this year.

As a result, EDO Tasmania remains heavily reliant on philanthropic grants and donations to continue our work, and I am grateful for the support we've received from the community to keep the service stable in 2016-2017. Key initiatives have included:

- Go for EDO Point to Pinnacle team
- Summer @ Shambles
- Tasmania 40° South article
- Enhancing our workplace giving & bequest programs
- Can You Dig This? Urban Farming event
- Annual quiz night
- Christmas and end of financial year fundraising drives

Yoga from the Heart and the Student Environmental Law Society also held fundraising events and donated the profits to EDO Tasmania.

Each of these initiatives were made possible through the generosity and hardwork of many people. In particular, I'd like to thank Sappho for her ingenuity in organising our events, Vicki for turning our ragtag Point to Pinnacle crew into the highest fundraising team, Sarah, Kellie, Elsa, the Phils, Axel, Adam, Ilia, Alice, Camilla and Alison for their help at the quiz night and other events, the wonderful bands who performed at Summer @ Shambles, and Ryan Lynch for making sure we could hear them!



Principal: Rendell W Ridge B.Ec Registered Company Auditor #161503

Independent auditor's report to members of Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc

I have audited the special purpose financial report of Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc for the year ended 30 June 2017.

Management Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Management Committee is responsible for preparation and fair presentation of the special purpose financial report and information contained therein. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting amounts and other disclosures in the accounts, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Concepts and Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) (where applicable), and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

To the best of my knowledge and belief, there has been no contravention of auditor independence and any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Limitation of Scope

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable to establish complete accounting control over cash received from all of its activities. Verification therefore has been limited to the receipt of funds recorded in the Association's financial records.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the special purpose financial report of Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc presents fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2017 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

MAX PECK & ASSOCIATES

Rendell W. RIDGE 7 September 2017

Environmental Defenders Office (Tas) Inc 131 Macquarie Street. Hobart 7000

Income Statement for year ended 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
•		
Income CLE - inc Conferences	1,423	0
Costs Recoverd & Retained	5.455	4,533
EDO (Tas) Gift Fund	132,829	113,339
Fees Received	52,227	20,574
Fundraising	7.145	13.607
Grant: NRM South	1,100	4,868
Interest	2.395	3,845
Membership	2,967	1,609
Publications	10,620	7,390
State Funding	8,750	8,750
Sundry Income	25	1,050
Sundry Income		1,030
Total Income	224,936	179,565
Expenses		
Accountancy	3,100	2,510
Audit	465	460
Bank Fees	1,963	595
Client related expenses	222	804
Communications	3,243	3,061
Computer-Consumables	160	412
Depreciation	1,713	0
Electricity	1,589	1,607
Fundraising	4,293	5,494
Insurance	967	1,457
Lease expenses	1,189	1,017
Litigation	43,070	4,123
Memberships	898	373
NACLC Levy (inc Public Liab)	329	1,870
Office Equipment	53	1,499
Projects	3,974	10,116
Publicity	179	698
Rent	7,787	6,526
Repairs	4,520	0
Resources, Publications	226	147
Salary, related expenses	182,086	157,028
Stationery, Postage, Printing	2,343	3,224
Subscriptions	2,298	1,726
Sundry Expenses	1,157	880
Travel, Training	1,598	1,649
Total Expenses	269,424	207,274
Net Loss for period	-\$44,487	-\$27,709

Environmental Defenders Office (Tas) Inc 131 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2017

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current Assets		
Operating Account	7,801	1,783
EDO(Tas) Gift Fund	57,390	79,638
MEBank Business Account	125,483	168,134
GST Due from ATO Business	0	5,037
Trade Debtors	2,591	977
	193,265	255,570
Non-Current Assets		
Plant, Equipment at Cost	42,018	36,879
Deduct Provision Depreciation	-38,592	-36,879
Total Non-Current Assets	3,426	0
Total Assets	196,691	255,570
Current Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	6,684	10,074
Accrued Audit fee	450	450
Employee Entitlements:		
Provision annual leave	1,582	13,849
Provision long service leave	4,086	2,821
Total Liabilities	12,802	27,194
Net Assets	\$183,888	\$228,376
Equity		0
Retained Earnings	228,376	256 005
Net Loss for period	-44,487	256,085 -27,709
		-27,709
Total Equity	\$183,888	\$228,376

Organisation: Environmental Defenders Office (Tas) Inc State Service Agreement

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD 1 July 2016 TO 30 June 2017

State Funding 2016/2017 Department of Justice

RECEIPTS \$'s Grant 4,375 Other (eg Interest etc) Total Receipts 4,375 Less PAYMENTS Salaries 4,375 Other (specify) - Other Total Payments 4,375 BALANCE NIL

State Funding 2016/2017 Dept of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

RECEIPTS	\$'s	
Grant	4,375	
Other (eg Interest etc)		
Total Receipts	4,375	
Less Payments		
Salaries	4,375	
Other (specify) - Other		
Total Payments	4,375	
BALANCE	NIL	

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I certify that the above Statement of Receipts and Payments is in agreement with the records of the **Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc.** and that the expenditure has been incurred in accordance with the purpose of the grant(s).

Signature

Rendell W. RIDGE

Registered Company Auditor

Date

18 October 2017

131 Macquarie Street Hobart TAS 7000

email: edotas@edotas.org.au

tel: (03) 6223 2770

ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

The structure of the management committee of Environmental Defenders Office (Tasmania) Inc for the 2016-2017 financial year was as follows:

Position	Name	Address
President	Tom Baxter	42 Brinsmead Road, Mount Nelson
Vice-President	Leslie Frost	420 Brightwater Road, Howden
Secretary	Alison Hetherington	16 Earlwood Court, Taroona
Treasurer	Michael Lynch	26 Golden Valley Road, Cygnet
Public Officer	Lindi Wall (to January 2017) Kellie Jay (from January 2017)	20 Milfords Road, Kaoota 10 Hopfields Road, Margate
Ordinary Member	Sarah Wilson	105 Letitia Street, North Hobart
Ordinary Member	Elsa Bland	9A Lynton Ave, South Hobart
Ordinary Member	Brook Dambacher	601 Leslie Vale Road, Leslie Vale
Ordinary Member	Scott Moorhead	27 Linda Street, Sherwood
Ordinary Member	Gary Corr (from February 2017)	Sir Owen Dixon Chambers, Level 64, 19 Martin Place, Sydney

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDO Tasmania has received support from all corners of the community this year.

Our casework has been bolstered by expert pro bono assistance from barristers Brian Walters AM QC, Jim Delany QC, Keyran Pitt AM QC, Juliet Forsyth, Tiphanie Acreman, Claire Harris, Roland Browne, Natasha Hammond, Nicole Sommer and David Deller.

Our fundraising efforts could not have succeeded without sponsors, speakers, artists and goodwill from venues and performers. A special thanks to James Da Costa, Graeme Lynch, Kirsha Kaechele, Sean Ryan, Wes Ford, Jeff McGee, The Scary Family Band, Emma Anglesey, Mocane, Emily Conolan, Shambles Brewery, Mathers Place, Plants of Tasmania, Tradewear, Straight Up, Fullers, Refind, Teros, Eumarrah, T42, Hobart Bookshop, Tasmanian Coffee Roasters, Red Parka, Hobart Hideaway Pods, Pennicott Wilderness Journeys, Orlando Plenty, Polkadot Liquor, Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary, Karen Brown Photography, The Duke, Senator Lisa Singh, Josh Willie MLC, Rob Valentine MLC, Michael Gaffney MLC and Lara Giddings MP.

Arwen Dyer, Dan Broun, Rob Blakers, Brendan Gogarty, Bruce Newey, Kelly Slater, Grant Dixon, Frederique Oliver, Dr Eric Woehler, Alex Edwardes, Conor Feehely and Dennis Harding for allowing us to use their fabulous images for our website and publications, and to Sam Lyne for our law devils.

Find Your Feet (particularly Hanny Allston) for mentoring our Point to Pinnacle team.

Our colleagues across the national EDO network for the ongoing support and inspiration to protect Australia's environment and advocate for a more sustainable future.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal community for entrusting us to help protect takayna.

The Florentine Protection Society for their generous gift upon winding up their wonderful organisation. We'll use the funds to continue your legacy of forest conservation.

Every single one of our clients who makes the effort, often against the odds, to stand up for places that they love.

And a final, sincere thanks to all those who continue to support us, through donations, promoting our work, using our services, championing our cause and keeping us focused and reassured.

We couldn't do it without you!



Tasmania's environment is worth fighting for

FIND OUT MORE:

www.edotas.org.au



Support our work by making a tax-deductible donation



