Deputy Premier
Attorney-General
Minister for Justice, Corrections and Rehabilitation
Minister for Small Business, Trade and Consumer Affairs
Minister for Environment and Climate Change

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Tasmanian Government

Mr Vica Bayley MP
Parliament House
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25 NOV 2026

Dear Mr ~~Bayley~~ Vica

In the House of Assembly, you asked the following question:

> ***My question is from Andrew in relation to the Orange-Bellied Parrot Migration Tracking Report 2025. We've been raising this issue for a while now, including a constituent question which had the reply that it was coming 'in the coming months'. That was asked in April. The secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment Tasmania (NRE) told Ms O'Connor upstairs in Estimates that it would be 'later this month'. The Department refused an RTI of mine in August, saying it would be released in September. NRE told Dr Woodruff that it would be released 'soon'. That was in October. And you met with the head of NRE and other people on 4 September regarding this report. So, my questions to you are: what exactly have you been briefed on in relation to this Orange-Bellied Parrot Tracking Report, have you had an involvement in delaying the report, have you sought changes to its conclusions and when will it be released?***

The Orange-bellied Parrot Migration Tracking Report is a substantial body of scientific work drawing on two years of tracking data collected across Tasmania and Bass Strait.

The Orange-bellied Parrot Migration Tracking Report 2025 is now publicly available on the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania's (NRE Tas) Orange Bellied Parrot web page.

The report provides important new information on Orange-bellied Parrot migration behaviour, habitat use and seasonal movements and will contribute to the evidence base supporting future conservation, monitoring and recovery efforts for the species.

Preparation of the report has been undertaken by NRE Tas's subject matter expert for Orange-bellied Parrot migration ecology, while simultaneously delivering annual tracking and monitoring activities for the 2026 migration season and contributing to other priority species recovery work.

The report has required detailed analysis and interpretation of complex datasets generated through a relatively new tracking program, together with an independent scientific peer review process to ensure the findings are robust and appropriately presented.

Given the significance of the findings and their relevance to threatened species conservation, it was important that I, as Minister, be appropriately briefed on the report prior to its public release.

NRE Tas has also undertaken appropriate stakeholder engagement and briefing activities ahead of release, including providing information to key stakeholders, such as Dr Eric Woehler; wind farm companies that collaborated to obtain the data; Minister Duigan given his energy portfolio interests; and a briefing invitation extended to and provided for Members of Parliament on 19 October 2026.

The report is the product of rigorous scientific investigation and analysis. Its findings and conclusions have been developed by departmental scientists based on the available evidence.

Thank you for your question.

Yours sincerely

Hon Guy Barnett MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Environment and Climate Change