
PVS Workshop Feedback

Please use this scale to rate your overall view of the workshop. Please circle one number for each question.

	1 Strongly Disagree	2	3	4	5 Strongly Agree
The key issues presentations were relevant to my needs	0	0	10%	68%	22%
The workshop sessions were relevant to my needs	4%	0	10%	68%	18%
The quality of presentations was high	0	0	10%	36%	54%
The presenters encouraged interactive exchange	0	4%	14%	27%	54%
Key issues were raised and discussed	0	0	18%	32%	50%
The workshop builds networks and camaraderie	0	0	0	14%	86%

Did the format of the workshop meet your expectations?

- Yes.
- Yes, though I think it is worth considering the option of a biennial gathering to justify the expense of such a large gathering.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- I can't usefully comment on the workshop itself due to practical impossibility this year of attending more than one evening and one morning session.
- Yes, with presentations, workshop sessions and reporting back. Also, social sessions were great too.
- Exceeded expectations.
- I thought it was fine, like they always are. It's a great way for us all to get together and exchange ideas in a friendly unobtrusive manner.

- Workshops are a great way to deal with issues and I believe it is one of the reasons PVS is ahead of other areas of the organisation. Involvement with the issue helps to provide an owner operated fix. The ability to raise (sometimes petty issues) and get a group to decide on its importance helps to deal with it. I thought Koodah's welcome and passionate talk was exceptional.
- Overall, yes. Liked to have seen more field staff and Regional and District Managers present. Suggestion: perhaps more personal invitations from the Director to RM's and DM's for next year's PVS Workshop (on a one to one basis rather than a general letter sent to everyone).
- Only went to one morning session of the workshop, but what I saw seemed to be an appropriate format. The afternoon workshop sessions sounded interesting.
- Cannot comment on all the aspects – but the presentations I saw were informative and interesting. The opportunity to meet other people working in PVS was also a highlight.
- The format of the workshop provided a great forum in which PVS issues may be presented. I think it is imperative that all PVS staff attend so that all staff are aware of what is happening in other areas of the State and so that coordinated State wide approaches to issues can be discussed and implemented.
- Yes, the structure and timing and grouping of topics worked well.
- Yes. I think the relatively informal environment works well for people to make comments or raise issues.
- Yes.
- Yes, always enjoy an opportunity to meet the large contingency of people that work in the PVS output.
- Yer it was good aye (sic).
- Yes.
- Yes, the workshop content has improved over the last few years, making it relevant to the program with key issues presently pending being discussed.
- Yes. It was my first year of attendance and it certainly met, if not exceeded my expectations.
- Yes with presentations, workshop sessions and reporting back. Also social sessions were great too.

What aspects of the workshop worked best for you?

- Being able to see how other districts are coping with issues and general discussions about issues.
- All – workshop on group issues.
- This is a very useful information workshop and opportunity to meet and catch up with PVS staff. It is the updates in the presentations that are of the most value.
- Whole of division involvement with guest speakers.
- I gained an appreciation of what other units/sections are doing, including their priorities. Special lectures on specific areas in relation to people in parks was great.
- Jim Sharp's presentation provided an important overview and established a 'common purpose' for all in PVS.
- Getting to meet staff from other regions and districts and also getting the 'big picture' perspective of our division from Jim Sharp and Peter Sharp.
- The short deliveries on a range of topics great to hear from some of the new and younger staff. Updates from related organizations i.e. Tom Shackles (outdoors WA) was very good.
- Positive feedback, variety of presentations.
- Individual presentations were excellent. The 'brainstorming' sessions were also good.
- Cannot comment on all the aspects – but the presentations I saw were informative and interesting. The opportunity to meet other people working in PVS was also a highlight.
- I think the Director's address is very valuable.
- All but the group task.
- Updates on what is happening in other sections of PVS. Good to obtain an idea of PVS strategic direction. Good opportunity to catch up with people from other areas and discuss common issues.
- The information talks followed by question/answer sessions.
- Important to have the Director's session, short and sharp information sessions, the issues section is good and one of the key components of the workshop that allows the "floor" to speak and interact.
- Interactive activities in group formats. Also hearing how things operate around Australia and not just WA.
- It was great to hear where the division is at and where it is heading. Friday morning session was of particular interest to me - visitor monitoring.
- Friday - visitor monitoring presentations & workshop were excellent. I think I learned most from this session. Work-shopping the chosen issues is a good process with valuable outcomes, although the method of choosing them is dodgy.

- The workshop sessions have proved a benefit with problems/issues being solved or at least followed up and outcomes targeted. The Friday sessions were very interesting and there is hope these studies will be further developed or used to assist our management.
- The break out sessions were very valuable and it was good to work with so many other staff members in different roles. It gives an understanding how the big picture of PVS Works. The Research sessions on day 3 were also valuable and very interesting. AND of course the Disco worked really well for me!!!! Great getting to know all the different staff members and more importantly the staff members from the Regions and being able to meet one and one and really discuss some of the more district issues eg: retailing in Visitor Centres, bulk purchasing of stock, staffing issues, interpretation opportunities and programming etc.
- All – workshop groups on issues.

What aspects of the workshop would you have changed? What would you have added/deleted?

- None really.
- After discussion of issues/brainstorming would like to see actions to be taken/ways of resolving the most important/priority issues. This happens in part for some issues only.
- None.
- The group task did not work because of the complexity and difficulty people had in understanding the requirements of the task. All other sections worked well. I believe we need the group task element but the topic has to suit. An issue I have with the workshop is that it is unidirectional ie it is structured each section for the specialist groups to inform the operations people what they are doing. There is no return of information unless by comment. If this is the purpose of the workshops then fine. But I would suggest there is a need for the operations people to tell of their achievements and issues and receive comment from specialist groups on how to solve or form teams to solve issues.
- No change to format.
- I can't think of a better way of voting for issues than Jim's DOTS, but I feel that at least one of the topics was not taken seriously (moving specialists out to the regions, it was put up, made the grade but not subscribed adequately to make it relevant – it was funny though). I would like more sessions from the field – ask Project Leaders to present significant outcomes, not just recreation development but successful volunteer initiatives, community consultation, various ways of interacting with indigenous communities, etc.
- It was all good. It would just be good if all crew could finish their talks on time as it impedes into other time.
- There was little preamble or appropriate preparation and not enough time devoted to the strategic planning and business planning workshop session. Some options for improvement are:
 - a) give this more time;
 - b) don't include it at all; or

c) form a separate, dedicated working group to address all of the objectives and strategies of the plan.

- The layout good and covers most important issues, or should focus on these that are relevant at the time.
- As mentioned at the workshop I think a field trip to a CALM location would be good or having the workshop at different regional locations. Although I understand money would then become an issue?
- It's a good model as is.

Were you satisfied with the venue (meals and accommodations, theatre)?

- Absolutely brilliant. By conducting the workshop in this type of venue it offers a far greater participation rate.
- Venue - good, meals - could have been better and didn't use accommodation, so can't comment on that.
- The one lunch I had was good – gave you the option of having a healthy roll and not just fried foods. Fruit was a nice touch.
- The meals were pretty average and an improvement here would be good. However the theatre was well laid out and the venue is in a good location. Parking was a little hectic though. As I didn't stay over I can't comment on the accommodation.
- Yes, adequate.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Didn't stay overnight, but I like the venue, meals are a bit ordinary if you were staying there for 3 days. Need a balance between good accommodation and good value for money. Don't think we should be doing the Pagoda thing!
- It was good to have all meals provided for a few days instead of having to do it yourself. A bit of variation would be good though.
- Only had lunch on Wednesday and that was fine.
- Yes, although I didn't stay overnight or have any evening meals. Great Disco/band venue.
- The venue is fine, the meals could be improved (same lunch for 3 days), theatre ok.
- Yes, satisfied.
- Very good.

Would you like to see the PVS Workshop held annually or biannually?

- Annually, in spite of others suggestions. My thoughts are that to make it biannual or more selective you run the risk of losing the great camaraderie that has evolved in this Division of the agency.
- Biannually, as this may provide a second opportunity to regional staff who might have missed the first one in the year.
- Not sure as yet – have only been to the one morning session perhaps it will depend on the number of issues that need addressing and guest speakers etc that are available.
- Annually, it would be difficult to get regional staff more often.
- Perhaps biannually and do about workshops ie one as is now and another six months later (off fire season and end of financial year) that is operations people orientated.
- Annually.
- I think biannually is too long between workshops – too much is happening and too many people are moving around. Keep ANNUAL. Suggestions of field trips and workshops held in regional centres sound good but not sure of logistics. Happy to provide advice/opinion if these ideas are being extended further.
- Annually. I have attended 2 of these now and it's a good way to catch up with crew you don't interact with that often and also being able to put a face to the many names you talk to over the phone and via e-mail.
- Annually.
- Annually.
- There needs to be an annual workshop held in Perth, maybe scaled down in format, this will enable PVS Staff interaction and prominent issues for that year/period to be workshopped/discussed. A biannual forum would be beneficial and focused on a Regional rotation. This could involve a 4-day program with one day as a field trip to some of the key developments in that region, may be across program developments (not only PVS). It would allow other staff to experience onground management issues, new techniques & how the Department is focused in other regions. We seem to get involved in our own backyard and never experience the rest of what the Department has to offer, unless when we visit while on holidays.
- Annually if in the Metro area, and biannually if held in other districts and regions.
- Annually.