

TUARTS AND ENDANGERED BUSHLAND — SOUTH METROPOLITAN REGION

1182. Hon Lynn MacLaren to the Minister for Environment

- (1) How many Tuarts are currently under threat by road building in the South Metropolitan region?
- (2) How many Tuarts are under threat with the Mundijong Road extension from the Kwinana Freeway to Old Mandurah Road?
- (3) How many Tuarts were destroyed on the upgrade to Paganoni Road in March 2008?
- (4) How many would have been destroyed had there been no 'walk through' with representatives from the Southern Gateway Alliance and the Conservation Council Western Australia and Friends of Paganoni?
- (5) Could you list the fauna in Paganoni Swamp currently listed as rare, threatened and endangered?
- (6) Could you list the flora in Paganoni Swamp currently listed as rare, threatened and endangered?
- (7) How many Tuarts grow in Paganoni Swamp and what is the age of the oldest?
- (8) How many areas of the size and condition of Paganoni Swamp, a 550 hectare Bush Forever site currently remain in Perth?
- (9) How many areas of this size and condition remain in Perth that are not invaded by major weed species such as Geraldton Carnation Weed, Veldt grass, the Cape tulip and gladioli?
- (10) Since the inception of Bush Forever, how many Bush Forever sites in the South Metropolitan region have been partially or totally cleared?
- (11) Were environmental offsets provided for the loss of any Bush Forever bushland, and if so were the offsets 'like for like'?
- (12) How are these sites being maintained, monitored and managed?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

- (1) It is not possible to identify the number of tuart trees that are proposed to be cleared. Clearing permits for roadworks specify the area of vegetation to be cleared, not the number of individual tuart trees.
- (2) See the answer to (1).
- (3) Southern Gateway Alliance has advised that the number of tuarts removed was not documented at the time of the works but that the recollection of the site coordinator is that less than six tuarts were cleared.
- (4) Southern Gateway Alliance has confirmed that up to 27 trees were protected following Southern Gateway Alliance's consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Conservation Council and the Friends of Paganoni. Of these, five were not tuart trees.
- (5) Fauna listed as specially protected as threatened fauna under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 recorded from the Paganoni Swamp bushland are Carnaby's black cockatoo (ranked as endangered) and the Australasian bittern (ranked as vulnerable).
- (6) The Paganoni Swamp bushland supports the largest known population (about 2500 plants) of the Glossy Leaved Hammer Orchid which is declared rare flora under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 and has a threat ranking of 'critically endangered'.
- (7) The Paganoni Swamp bushland contains over 290 hectares of tuart woodland. Within this area there are many hundreds of individual tuart trees. Detailed on-ground assessment would be required to determine the age classes present.
- (8) There are 13 bushland areas of similar or greater size to the Paganoni Swamp bushland on the Swan Coastal Plain in the Perth area. The majority of these areas are inferior in condition to Paganoni Swamp.
- (9) See the answer to (8).
- (10)-(12) These parts of the questions should be referred to the Minister for Planning, as the administration of Bush Forever program is the responsibility of the Department of Planning.

