

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024–33

381. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the development of the next forest management plan and the minister's media statement of 22 June 2021, "WA public invited to have their say on native forests", which curiously did not involve the Minister for Forestry as a co-author.

- (1) What was the minister's consultation with the timber industry prior to the publication of the media statement, noting the claim made within the statement —

The McGowan Government wants to hear from the public and industry, via this preliminary consultation survey, ahead of the formal process for the development of the next Forest Management Plan (FMP) 2024–33.

- (2) On what dates and times did this consultation occur?
- (3) Given that the statement also claims that "WA's native forests are ... highly valued by all Western Australians", what further insights are likely to be elicited from this public survey, which will have a significant bearing on how the government negotiates the next FMP?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I provide the following answer on behalf of the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment.

- (1) The media statement of 22 June 2021 announced the government's intention to hear from the public and industry through this preliminary consultation survey. The minister meets regularly with relevant stakeholders including industry representatives, non-government organisations and individuals. As the member would be aware, there will be further consultation throughout the formal drafting process of the next forest management plan, which is a detailed and thorough process spanning 12 to 18 months.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The survey considered a wide range of areas, including, but not limited to, biodiversity, climate change, conservation, native timber harvesting/forestry, mining, recreation and tourism. This preliminary consultation survey does not replace the formal consultation process that will take place during the drafting of the new FMP.