

PUBLIC NATIVE FORESTS

191. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to Western Australia's public native forest.

- (1) What percentage of public native forest in WA is set aside for conservation, recreation and visual amenity?
- (2) How many hectares does this percentage equate to?
- (3) Of these set aside areas, what proportion is in each of the south west's three forest regions?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) For public native forest within the "Forest management plan 2004–2013" area and also within the Regional Forest Agreement boundary, 42.5 per cent is set aside in formal reserves, including national parks, conservation parks and nature reserves; 1.5 per cent is set aside in forest conservation areas; and 11 per cent is set aside in informal reserves and fauna habitat zones.
- (2) For public native forest under the "Forest management plan 2004–2013" within the Regional Forest Agreement boundary, 802 940 hectares are set aside in formal reserves; 28 230 hectares are set aside in forest conservation areas; and 215 440 hectares are set aside in informal reserves and fauna habitat zones.
- (3) A separate analysis requiring more time would be necessary to calculate the proportion within each of the three forest regions.