

NUMBAT HABITATS — PRESCRIBED BURNING PROGRAM

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

I refer to the minister's answer of 4 May 2021 concerning the DON 100 Weinup prescribed burn, conducted by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, and the burn's impact on one of two endangered numbat habitats.

- (1) How many numbat dens were identified by the DBCA and adjacent property owners prior to the prescribed burn, and how many dens remain?
- (2) How many numbats were observed before, during and after the prescribed burn, and in what condition were these animals at each of the three occasions that observation took place?
- (3) When were the above observations undertaken and how were these observations recorded?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

- (1) Seven marked numbat dens were identified prior to the burn and five of these have been observed since the burn.
- (2)–(3) The following numbers of numbats were observed incidentally in the DON 100 Weinup prescribed burn area: 15 numbats between 3 September 2019 and when the final cell burn commenced on 25 March 2021; three numbats during the burn on 25 March 2021; two numbats after the burn on 26 March and 1 May 2021. All numbats were reported as active.

The observations were made in the field by both staff of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and members of the public, and were recorded on a report form and transferred into the department's fauna file reporting system.