

PRESCRIBED BURNING — SOUTH WEST

1469. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Minister for Environment:

With summer officially beginning on Sunday and the bushfire season already in full swing, can the minister advise of —

- (a) the progress of the spring prescribed burning program in the south west;
- (b) what factors contributed to the extent of the burns; and
- (c) the total area of prescribed burning in the south west during spring 2019?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (a) From 1 July 2019 to 28 November 2019, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions has commenced 75 prescribed burns, completing three and partially completing 72 burns in its three south west forest regions.
- (b) A combination of intermittent rainfall over spring and rapid early drying has provided for a shortened window of opportunity for this spring burning season.
- (c) Since 1 July 2019, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions has achieved approximately 58 456 hectares of prescribed burning in its three south west forest regions.