

SHANNON AND D'ENTRECASTEAUX NATIONAL PARKS

2634. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for the Environment

I refer to the Shannon and D'Entrecasteaux National Parks Draft Management Plan of 2005 that states that existing occupants of the huts will be allowed to stay for up to 6 years from the Gazettal of the Management Plan, if they take up a Conservation and Land Management Act lease, and ask:

- (a) given the public opposition to this recommendation in the Draft Management Plan, is it still intended that existing occupants of the huts only be allowed to stay for up to 6 years from the Gazettal of the Management Plan; and
- (b) when is Gazettal of the Management Plan expected?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (a) The proposed final management plan will remain consistent with the 1999 State Government policy on coastal squatters' huts. That is, the existing occupants will have to enter into a lease arrangement with the Department of Environment and Conservation, which will expire six years from the gazettal of the plan. At the end of the six years they will be required to relinquish occupancy of the huts, and where necessary bear the cost of removal and rehabilitation.

The submissions to the draft management plan did not give sufficient reason to depart from Government policy or amend the actions, in this instance, in the proposed final management plan.
- (b) The gazettal will occur after a final management plan has been approved by me. The Conservation Commission of WA expects to submit the proposed final management plan to me early in 2008.