

WETLANDS, NOMINATION FOR INCLUSION ON RAMSAR LIST

1950. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment

- (1) Did the Government promise to continue the process of nominating significant wetlands for inclusion on the Ramsar Convention's List of Wetlands of International Importance?
- (2) Has this promise been honoured?
- (3) If not, why not?
- (4) If yes to (2), which wetlands have been nominated and when?
- (5) Is a copy of the nomination report available to the public?
- (6) How many WA wetlands are currently listed on the Ramsar List?
- (7) How many additional wetlands are on the Government's indicative list and which ones are they?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) The Government's commitment was to continue the process of nominating significant wetlands for inclusion on the Ramsar Convention list of wetlands of international importance, and that wetlands already recognised as filling the criteria for nomination would be prioritised for possible listing.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Proposals for further nominations, including extensions to existing sites, have been developed and considered by the State Wetlands Coordinating Committee. I am awaiting further advice on priorities for the next round of nominations which will be subject to broad community consultation.
- (5) Copies of previous nomination reports are available from the Department of Conservation and Land Management.
- (6) 12.
- (7) The Government has not considered an indicative list. Areas that have been determined to have merit as priorities for further consideration by the State Wetlands Coordinating Committee are the Cape Range Subterranean Waterways, Ellen Brook Swamps System, Lake MacLeod, Spearwood Creek, Lake Ballard, Millstream Pools, Shark Bay East-Hamelin Pool and Lake Gregory/Paruku.