

PORT KENNEDY RESORT DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

116. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Housing and Works representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

In relation to the Port Kennedy Resort Development -

- (1) When will the feral fence be completed?
- (2) Who will pay for this?
- (3) Has any fox baiting been carried out this year?
- (4) What damage has been caused to the wetlands at Port Kennedy from 4-wheel-drive vehicles?
- (5) How many 4-wheel-drive vehicles have been charged with damaging the environment at Port Kennedy?
- (6) How often each week are the reserves patrolled?
- (7) Will the Minister provide the detail of the work sheets and number of patrols at Port Kennedy for the past 12 months?
- (8) What activities and offenders have been prosecuted during this time?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

- (1) The fence will be completed as soon as the newly appointed developer of the Port Kennedy Resort provides funding in accordance with the Port Kennedy Development Agreement Act 1992.
- (2) The Port Kennedy Development Agreement Act 1992 requires the developer to install fencing to an agreed standard. The original developers of the Port Kennedy Resort had committed to supply funding for the final three kilometres of fencing.
- (3) No. Consideration was given to commencing a fox baiting program in July 1999. The Department of Conservation and Land Management chose to defer the fox baiting program until the final three kilometres of vermin-proof fence is constructed.
- (4) There is evidence that four wheel drive vehicles have caused the following damage to the wetlands within the Port Kennedy Scientific Park:

Vehicles have driven through several wetlands, damaging the vegetation and increasing opportunity for weed invasion and erosion.

Car bodies have been dumped in two wetlands and general rubbish dumped in five wetlands. This has caused damage to the vegetation and increased opportunity for weed invasion.

Vehicles have driven over the primary dunes to access the beach causing damage to the vegetation and the start of a possible dune blow-out which, if uncontrolled, could cover wetlands behind the primary dunes
- (5) None.
- (6) The reserve is patrolled at least once per week. During the peak fishing season the patrols are extended to include weekends and evenings and are generally conducted twice per week.
- (7) On behalf of the Minister, I now table Attachment 1. [See paper No 344.]
- (8) In the past 12 months, patrols have involved staff from the Department of Conservation and Land Management and also joint patrols with the City of Rockingham. To date 60 caution notices have been issued. No offenders have been detected more than once.