

PRESCRIBED BURNING — WALPOLE WILDERNESS

1541. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Environment:

I refer prescribed burns conducted by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) in the Walpole Wilderness from 1 October 2021 and now, and I ask:

- (a) has DBCA assessed the intensity or severity of the burns, and if yes:
 - (i) are the assessments recorded;
 - (ii) if yes to (a)(i), will the Minister table the records; and
 - (iii) if not, why not;
- (b) has DBCA assessed the scorch height and defoliation resulting from the burns, and if yes:
 - (i) are the assessments recorded;
 - (ii) if yes to (b)(i), will the Minister table the records; and
 - (iii) if not, why not;
- (c) has DBCA had aerial photographs taken of the area following the completion of any of the prescribed burns, and if yes:
 - (i) which areas have been photographed;
 - (ii) will the Minister table the photographs; and
 - (iii) if not, why not;
- (d) has DBCA completed all of the actions described in the Post Burn Checklists for any of the prescribed burns, and if yes:
 - (i) which prescribed burns;
 - (ii) will the Minister table the Post Burn Checklist for each burn; and
 - (iii) if not, why not; and
- (e) as DBCA completed the Burn Evaluation Summary in the *Prescribed Fire Plan* for any of the prescribed burns, and if yes:
 - (i) which prescribed burns;
 - (ii) will the Minister table the Burn Evaluation Summary for each burn; and
 - (iii) if not, why not?

Hon Darren West replied:

- (a) No. DBCA has only prepared indicative burn severity maps since January 2023.
 - (i) Not applicable.
 - (ii) Not applicable.
 - (iii) Not applicable.
- (b) Yes.
 - (i) Assessment summaries are recorded in the Burn Evaluation Summary in the prescribed fire plan.
 - (ii) Yes. [See tabled paper 2538]
 - (iii) Not applicable.
- (c) Yes.
 - (i) Approximately 80 per cent of all prescribed burns commenced or completed between 1 October 2021 and now have many associated aerial photographs taken for the purposes of burn security and confirming the success of burning under a heavy forest canopy.
 - (ii) No.
 - (iii) DBCA does not have this information readily available for tabling. There are many hundreds of aerial photographs taken at a scale that is not intended to capture entire burn treatment areas. Given the level of agency resourcing required to source and prepare the requested information, it is not considered to be a reasonable use of government resources.
- (d) Yes.

- (i) FRK_087 Surprise
FRK_085 Scotsdale UMR
FRK_081 Sharpe O'Donnell
FRK_092 Peak Roe Crossing
FRK_089 Horseyard Hill
FRK_082 Quickup Dam
 - (ii) Yes. [See tabled paper no 2538.]
 - (iii) Not applicable.
- (e) Yes.
- (i) FRK_087 Surprise
FRK_085 Scotsdale UMR
FRK_081 Sharpe O'Donnell
FRK_092 Peak Roe Crossing
FRK_089 Horseyard Hill
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 - (ii) Yes. [See tabled paper no 2538.]
 - (iii) Not applicable.