

WETLANDS, NOMINATIONS UNDER RAMSAR CONVENTION

1217. Hon Jim Scott to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development representing the Minister for the Environment
- (1) Has the Minister honoured her promise to make additional nominations of WA wetlands to the List of Wetlands of International Importance under the RAMSAR Convention?
 - (2) If so, which wetlands have been nominated?
 - (3) Is the Minister aware that there are many WA wetlands that would meet the RAMSAR criteria that have not so far been nominated?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

The Minister for the Environment provided the following response:

- (1) I have been advised by the Department of Conservation and Land Management of additional nominations that could be made to the list of Wetlands of International Importance. Within the wetlands that have been identified as meeting Ramsar criteria, factors such as security of tenure, long term viability and stakeholder support influence the final choice of wetlands to be nominated.
- (2) Negotiation with stakeholders is currently progressing and publicly naming these wetlands may jeopardise this process.
- (3) Yes, the Minister is aware that 38 wetlands were identified in a Wetlands International-Oceania document as meeting the Ramsar criteria. Twelve of these have been nominated and one has been removed, as it no longer meets the Ramsar criteria.