

AGRICULTURE PROTECTION BOARD, DOGGERS IN KALGOORLIE ZONE CONTROL AREA

926. Hon Kim Chance to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Primary Industry:

- (1) How many doggers were either employed by, or contracted to the APB, on a full-time FTE basis in the Kalgoorlie Zone Control Area in 1993?
- (2) On the same basis, how many doggers are currently employed or contracted by the APB in the Kalgoorlie Zone Control Area?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1)-(2) In 1993 there were seven operators employed by the APB in the Kalgoorlie Zone 9 Control region to carry out control work on crown land. These operators were employed as declared animal and plant control operators and included time allocation to wild dogs, feral goats and declared plant control. The estimated time spent on each of these species has been assessed as 70 per cent wild dog management, 10 per cent feral goat management, 20 per cent declared plant management. This would equate to 4.9 FTEs allocated to wild dog control.

In 2000-01, three declared animal and plant operators are employed for the Kalgoorlie Zone 9 Control region. Their work allocation on crown land includes approximately 80 per cent on wild dog control and 20 per cent on declared plant management. This equates to 2.4 FTEs on wild dog control. There has been increased preventative aerial baiting for wild dogs on both crown land and pastoral leases across the goldfields region with 236 hours of aerial baiting (240 000 baits) conducted in 1999-2000 compared with 181 hours (153 400 baits) in 1993-94. Ground baiting on pastoral leases has also increased through pastoralists being trained in the preparation and laying of baits using 1080 Rhodamine oats. This complements other control on leasehold land undertaken through three declared animal groups in this region.