

SANDALWOOD HARVESTING — MANAGEMENT

5809. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment

I refer to the Department of Environment and Conservation's management of the harvesting of sandalwood on private land through licenses issued under the *Sandalwood Act 1929*, and the Forest Products Commission management of the harvesting of sandalwood on crown land, and I ask —

- (1) How many licensed sandalwood harvesters are in Western Australia?
- (2) Of those licensed harvesters at (1), how many are on —
 - (a) crown land;
 - (b) private land;
 - (c) pastoral leases; and
 - (d) land in the City of Kalgoorlie–Boulder and the Shire of Coolgardie?
- (3) How many tonnes of sandalwood are allocated to each harvester?
- (4) How many inspectors are used to check on harvesting quotas?
- (5) Do inspectors check on illegal harvesting and, if so, over the last 10 years, how many people have been prosecuted for illegal harvesting of sandalwood?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

- (1) 41 as at 1 September 2012.
- (2)
 - (a) 22
 - (b) 19
 - (c) 22
 - (d) 9
- (3) The individual Crown land allocations range from five to 250 tonnes of live pulled sandalwood, with a combined total not exceeding 1 350 tonnes. Dead sandalwood allocations range from five to 100 tonnes, up to a combined total not exceeding 1 350 tonnes. The individual private land allocations range from 0.3 to 18.75 tonnes of live pulled sandalwood up to a combined total not exceeding 150 tonnes and 0.1 to 14.75 tonnes of dead sandalwood up to a combined total not exceeding 150 tonnes.
- (4) There are five authorised Department of Environment and Conservation officers who have, as part of their normal duties, checked sandalwood harvesting in the past 12 months. There are up to 11 officers who could be involved in such inspections, if required.
- (5) Yes. Five people have been prosecuted in the last 10 years. In addition there have been three letters of warning and three cautions for minor offences.