

ENVIRONMENT — KARRI FORESTS

1015. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Minister for Environment:

- (1) What is the definition of karri forest used by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPAW)?
- (2) What is the estimated area of karri forest at the time of European settlement?
- (3) What is the area of karri forest today?
- (4) What is the area of karri forest vested in the Conservation Commission and managed by DPAW?
- (5) In the area given in answer to (4), what is the area of:
 - (a) old growth karri forest;
 - (b) two tiered karri forest; and
 - (c) post clearfelling regrowth karri?
- (6) What is the area of karri forest in each category of formal reserve gazetted and approved, namely:
 - (a) national parks;
 - (b) nature reserves; and
 - (c) other (please specify)?
- (7) Given that national parks and nature reserves need to have rational boundaries and so some logged forest gets included in these reserves, for each category of formal reserve named in (6), what is the area of:
 - (a) old growth karri forest;
 - (b) two tiered karri forest; and
 - (c) post clearfelling regrowth karri?
- (8) Please identify the categories of reserve that are classed as informal and not included in the area available for wood production or the calculation for the sustained yield and allowable cut?
- (9) For each category of informal reserve named in (8), what is the area of:
 - (a) old growth karri forest;
 - (b) two tiered karri forest; and
 - (c) post clearfelling regrowth karri?
- (10) What is the area of karri forest available for wood production?
- (11) In the area given in answer to question (8), what is the area of:
 - (a) two tiered karri forest; and
 - (b) post clearfelling regrowth karri?

Mr A.P. Jacob replied:

- (1) The department defines karri forest as an area dominated by karri trees with an existing or potential crown cover of overstorey strata about equal to or greater than 20 per cent. This includes pure karri and karri in any degree of mixture with marri, jarrah, blackbutt or tingle species.
- (2) Estimated at approximately 250 000 hectares. This figure comprises 231 600 hectares within the area of the *Proposed Forest Management Plan 2014–2023* and ‘outlier’ karri forest in the Porongorups and south coast.

Note: The responses to questions (3) to (9) relate to the karri forest reported in Appendix 6 of the *Proposed Forest Management Plan 2014–2023* area. Minor variations to figures are the result of rounding.

- (3) Estimated at 190 160 hectares and includes areas on both private and public lands.
- (4) 173 960 hectares of karri forest is vested with the Conservation Commission of Western Australia with a further 1 480 hectares on land held in the name of the Conservation and Land Management (CALM) Executive Body.

Note: The area of land held in the name of the CALM Executive Body is not included in the responses to questions (5) to (9).

- (5)
 - (a) 63 540 hectares.
 - (b) 38 610 hectares.

- (c) 71 810 hectares.
- (6) (a) 90 880 hectares in gazetted and proposed national parks.
(b) 360 hectares in gazetted and proposed conservation parks.
(c) A total of 2 160 hectares in gazetted and proposed conservation park, reserves vested in the Conservation Commission under section 5(1)(h) of the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act) and State forest classified under Section 62 of the CALM Act as a forest conservation area.
- (7) (a) 56 910 hectares within gazetted and proposed national parks;
430 hectares is within gazetted and proposed 'other reserves' listed in (6) (c).
(b) 17 910 hectares within gazetted and proposed national parks;
360 hectares gazetted and proposed nature reserves;
600 hectares is within gazetted and proposed 'other reserves' listed in (6) (c).
(c) 16 060 hectares within gazetted and proposed national parks;
1 130 hectares is within gazetted and proposed 'other reserves' listed in (6) (c).
- (8) Informal reserves include areas of old-growth forest, river and stream zones, travel route zones, diverse ecotype zones, less well reserved vegetation complexes, poorly represented forest ecosystems and Regional Forest Agreement accredited linkage zones. Areas set aside as fauna habitat zones are also excluded from timber harvesting and while these are not informal reserves, these areas have been included in the response to question (9).
- (9) (a) 6 200 hectares.
(b) 10 220 hectares.
(c) 5 370 hectares.
- (10) 59 980 hectares of karri forest is available for wood production under the *Proposed Forest Management Plan 2014–2023*, including 1 200 hectares of karri forest on land held in the name of the CALM Executive Body.
- (11) The area available for wood production is comprised of
 - (a) 10 030 hectares two tiered karri forest.
 - (b) 49 950 hectares post clearfelling regrowth karri.