

FOREST PROTECTION — SCIENTISTS' STATEMENT

Statement by Member for Gosnells

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [3.46 pm]: I wish to acknowledge the scientists' statement on the protection of Western Australia's south west forests. It states —

We, the undersigned scientists with knowledge and understanding of the forest ecosystems of the south-west of Western Australia

... recognise that Western Australia's south-west forests are under stress and state that, based on the precautionary principle, the following measures should be incorporated in the next Forest Management Plan:

- Critical habitat for threatened species including forest that retains the structure of the original forests should be urgently protected from degradation and loss;
- Additional corridors for fauna movement should be urgently incorporated into the conservation reserve system to link refuge areas;
- Forests currently free of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* should be protected from activities that could introduce dieback;
- Jarrah forests receiving less than 600 mm of rain per annum, and jarrah forests projected to receive less than 600 mm of rain per annum by 2030 should be protected;
- Karri forests receiving less than 1000 mm of rain per annum, and karri forests projected to receive less than 1000 mm of rain per annum by 2030 should be protected;
- Water in rivers, streams, wetlands and aquifers should be protected from the impacts of logging and clearing;
- The value of Western Australia's south-west forests as a carbon store should be recognised, accounted for and prioritised above conflicting uses.

I table the statement for the rest of this day's sitting.

[The paper was tabled for the information of members.]