

ENVIRONMENT — WETLANDS — RAMSAR CONVENTION

1005. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to question on notice 785 asked on 9 August 2022, and I ask:

- (a) (a) is the Minister aware of the final report to the Western Australian Department of Conservation and Land Management entitled “Nomination of Additional Ramsar Wetlands in Western Australia” by Roger Jaensch and Doug Watkins from Wetlands International – Oceania, dated March 1999;
- (b) (b) is the Minister aware that this report is available to the public via the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) website;
- (c) (c) is the Minister aware of table 11 on page 40 of this report which recommends that Lake MacLeod, Spearwood Creek Wetlands (Tributaries of the Lower Blackwood) and Cape Range Subterranean Waterways be nominated for Ramsar listing by May 1999;
- (d) (d) will the Minister and WA Government act on this scientific advice and endorse Lake MacLeod, Spearwood Creek Wetlands (Tributaries of the Lower Blackwood) and Cape Range Subterranean Waterways for Ramsar nomination;
- (e) (e) in response to question on notice 785, the Minister stated that no scientific advice was received by the Department regarding the nomination of the Cape Range Subterranean Waterways. Is the Minister aware the 1999 report provided to the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) and published on the DBCA website provides detailed scientific advice on the Ramsar nomination of the Cape Range Subterranean Waterways and recommends their nomination (see table 11); and
- (f) (f) will the Minister table summaries of consultation outcomes for Lake MacLeod and the Tributaries of the Lower Blackwood:
 - (i) if no to (f), why not?

Hon Stephen Dawson replied:

- (a) I have been informed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) that further investigation has located this document in the DBCA library.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) The scientific advice comprises one part of a Ramsar nomination. The Australian Ramsar Site Nomination Guidelines provide guidance on consultation. This includes obtaining in-principle support from site managers and landowners and broad consultation regarding the nomination and ongoing management with adjacent landowners, traditional owners, relevant Government departments, natural resource management bodies, community, and community interest groups.

Any new decision to further progress a Ramsar nomination would need to include contemporary scientific information and follow the Commonwealth Government’s Australian Ramsar Site Nomination Guidelines.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) [See tabled paper no [1819](#).]