

PRESCRIBED BURNING — WALPOLE WILDERNESS

1606. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the coastal prescribed burn locations identified in the Walpole Wilderness by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' (DBCA) Burn Options Program 2023–2024, and I ask:

- (a) have any of these coastal burn locations been mapped or identified by DBCA as Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh as per the listing for this Threatened Ecological Community under the *Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC); and
- (b) if no to (a), when will mapping of this Threatened Ecological Community take place in the Walpole Wilderness (noting that the EPBC listing was effective 10 August 2013)?

Hon Darren West replied:

- (a) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions has not identified or mapped any occurrences of the Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh threatened ecological community within the coastal prescribed burn locations in the Burn Options Program 2023–2024.
- (b) Mapping of occurrences of the Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh threatened ecological community has occurred within the Walpole Wilderness Area and locations are known and managed.