

WANDOO FOREST, WELLBUCKET BLOCK, MUNDARING

**349. Hon J.A. COWDELL to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Forest Products:**

- (1) Can the minister confirm that shortly the Department of Conservation and Land Management will log approximately 1 000 hectares of wandoo forest in the Wellbucket block near Mundaring?
- (2) Is this land vested in the Water Corporation?
- (3) For what purpose is the wandoo timber being removed?
- (4) Is the area in the Helena River recovery catchment?
- (5) Has the logging plan been forwarded to the Water and Rivers Commission for a salinity risk reassessment?

**Hon PETER FOSS replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Approximately 1 500 hectares in Wellbucket block have been identified on the Swan region 2000-01 indicative logging plan, recently released by the Department of Conservation and Land Management, as an area proposed to be harvested. The forest type is a mixture of regrowth jarrah and wandoo forest. The broad area shown on the indicative logging plan will be field checked to identify specific areas suitable for harvesting. This process will significantly reduce the actual area to be harvested. It is not expected that more than approximately 100 hectares will be harvested during 2000-01.
- (2) No. It is freehold land owned by the Water and Rivers Commission.
- (3) The forest area is to be harvested mainly for the purpose of thinning to improve the forest vigour, with sawlogs produced as a result of the silvicultural thinning operation.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) It is normal practice for the Department of Conservation and Land Management to liaise with the Water and Rivers Commission regarding operations CALM conducts on land managed by the Water and Rivers Commission. Detailed planning will take place when the public consultation process accompanying the recently released indicative logging plans has been completed.