

ENVIRONMENT — PLAN FOR OUR PARKS

1056. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the McGowan Government's commitment made in February 2019, 'Plan for our Parks' to secure a further five million hectares of new national parks, marine parks and other conservation areas over the next five years. Now, more than three years and eight months on from that commitment, and I ask:

- (a) how many hectares of conservation estate have now been created under the Plan for Our Parks initiative; and
- (b) is the Government on track to achieve the full five million hectares in the next 16 months, by February 2024 as initially promised?

Hon Stephen Dawson replied:

- (a) A total of 1,127,042 hectares has been created under the Plan for Our Parks initiative.
- (b) The establishment of conservation reserves under Plan for Our Parks is largely dependent on the negotiation of Indigenous Land Use Agreements with native title holders, which have been interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is still likely that the five million hectares will be created by February 2024.