Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 9 May 2023] p1912b-1913a Hon Dr Brad Pettitt; Hon Sue Ellery

PORTS — BROOME

1376. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Transport; Planning; Ports: I refer to the Port of Broome land and sea, and I ask:

- (a) what are the listed Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) on Port of Broome land and sea;
- (b) what are the Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) on Port land and sea;
- (c) what threatened species listed under Commonwealth and State legislation are likely or known to occur on Port land and sea;
- (d) how many hectares of port land and sea are above the high tide mark;
- (e) how many hectares of port land and sea are in the intertidal zone;
- (f) how many hectares of port land and sea are in the marine area;
- (g) how many hectares of port land and sea are listed as National Heritage under the *Environment Protection* and *Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- (h) are there Management Plans in place for the TEC's, PECs and threatened species on port land and sea;
- (i) is there a Management Plan for the National Heritage area;
- (j) has the port done any seagrass surveys in the area under its jurisdiction;
- (k) what is the health status of seagrass in the port's jurisdiction;
- (l) How many hectares of seagrass are in the port's jurisdiction;
- (m) Have any marine invasive species been identified in the past five years on port land and sea;
- (n) if yes to (m), which species;
- (o) has the port conducted any intertidal reef surveys on port land and sea;
- (p) if no to (o), why not;
- (q) does the port know where intertidal reef exists in its jurisdiction;
- (r) does the port know how many species of coral, fish, gastropoda, seaweeds and crabs are extant on port land and sea:
- (s) how often does the port survey for invasive marine species;
- (t) are these surveys and their results made public;
- (u) if no to (t), why not;
- (v) will the Minister table all marine surveys done over the past two years;
- (w) if no to (v), why not;
- (x) has the port done any surveys to determine whether the dredging done in 2019 was successful;
- (y) if yes to (x), will the Minister table these reports; and
- (z) if no to (x), why not?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) Monsoon vine thickets; and Roebuck Bay mudflats.
- (b) Relict dune system dominated by extensive stands of Minyjuru (Mangarr Sersalisia sericea).
- (c) The following are listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* on the threatened species list and are likely or known to occur on the Port of Broome land and sea:

Seringia Exastia;

Monsoon vine thickets on the coastal sand dunes of Dampier Peninsula;

Flatback turtle (Natator depressus); and

Green turtle (Chelonia mydas).

- (d) Approx 66.8ha.
- (e) Due to the 10m tidal range the intertidal zone is variable.

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- (f) Approx 14,229ha of port waters.
- (g) The Port of Broome is listed within 'The West Kimberley' National Heritage place.
- (h) KPA has tenant environmental management conditions which includes protecting flora.
- (i) No.
- (j)–(l) The Broome Community Seagrass Monitoring Project has run scheduled seagrass monitoring events for 16 years. Three of the monitoring sites are within port waters and the results from these surveys are publicly available.

KPA also undertakes subtidal benthic community habitat (BCH) surveys adjacent to the wharf which includes seagrass.

The seagrass is currently classified as having a 'Good' health status by Seagrass-Watch.

- (m)-(n) Didendum Perlucidum
- (o)–(p) KPA's marine monitoring program surveys Mangroves as an intertidal community.
- (q) The rocky shoreline and reef under and adjacent to the wharf is considered intertidal reef/intertidal rocky shoreline.
- (r) No.
- (s)–(u) Surveys are undertaken every 6 months.
- (v)-(w) The following environmental marine surveys have been completed since April 2021:

State-Wide Array Surveillance Program (SWASP) summer survey October 2021

SWASP winter survey March 2022

SWASP summer survey October 2022

Marine water quality dry season survey August 2021

Marine water quality wet season and BCH survey March 2022

Marine water quality dry season survey August 2022

Marine water quality and BCH wet season survey April 2023

(x)–(z) Dredging undertaken has been successful.