



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Inquiry: Inquiry into ecosystem decline in Victoria

Hearing Date: 3 December 2020

Question[s] taken on notice

Directed to: Dr Mark Norman, Parks Victoria

1. Ms BATH Page no. 27

Question asked.

What is DELWP's policy on track closures? And I mean on state dirt roads and gravel roads. How is it formulated, and what data is it based on? How many seasonal tracks have been closed in the last five years, and how many tracks are permanently closed?

Response:

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has a Permanent Road and Track Closures Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). This SOP ensures permanent road closures in State forests managed by DELWP are undertaken systematically and with full consideration of all values, users, and legal requirements.

This SOP was developed in 2017 and is currently being reviewed and will also look to include details on the process and considerations for seasonal road closures in State forests.

A copy of this SOP has been attached for your information.

DELWP can confirm that there are currently 475 tracks closed on a temporary basis under the *Forest Act 1958*. The vast majority of these are scheduled to open on 29 October 2021.

In relation to permanent track closures, there have been ten in the past five years.

Parks Victoria has a track closure procedures and safe work practice guidelines which outline the processes and steps in opening and closing access tracks for both vehicles and pedestrians across the parks estate.

Attachments (3)