

Question on Notice

No. 499

Asked on Tuesday, 24 May 2022

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister detail whether the seven remotely-operated cameras installed to detect wildfires in South-East Queensland are active and transmitting images 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and if not how often they are turned on and for what periods of time?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The Department of Environment and Science, through the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, manages seven remotely operated fire detection cameras across State Forests in southern Queensland. The cameras can monitor approximately 600,000 hectares from Chinchilla to Inglewood.

The cameras are manually activated and checked daily by trained departmental staff during the 'Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Fire risk period', periods of elevated fire dangers, and following dry lightning events.

The 'Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Fire risk period' is based on seasonal conditions across the State indicating increased likelihood of severe fire weather, fire weather warnings, and/or potential for extensive and damaging bushfire activity.

In times of elevated fire risk, camera reviews will be undertaken several times each day, seven days a week.