

Question on Notice

No. 633

Asked on Wednesday, 22 June 2022

MR M HART 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 provide advice on the closure of the Tallebudgera Creek Conservation Park walking track and a timeline for the repairs and track re-opening given it has remained closed since March this year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

Severe weather events in February and March 2022 caused a number of landslides along a section of the Tallebudgera Creek walking track in David Fleay Conservation Park.

The landslides caused damage to over 25 metres of bitumen walking track and undermined one of the bridges rendering it structurally unsound and unsafe for use.

The Department of Environment and Science engaged geotechnical engineers, who assessed the extent of damage on 21 June 2022. The engineer's initial onsite assessment identified that the area destabilised by the weather event is much greater than first thought, with approximately 100 metres of walking track affected, including the area immediately above and below this site.

The geotechnical engineer submitted a report on its findings and recommendations towards remediating the area on 5 July 2022. All remediation options will require considerable planning as well as extensive consultation with the First Nations peoples of the area.

The decision to close a walking track is not one taken lightly, and the timeline for repairs and a re-opening will be understood further once the planning stage has progressed.

The safety of community members and visitors remains the department's first and foremost priority. The department recognises the importance of the Tallebudgera Creek walking track to the local community and all efforts will be made to reopen the track as soon as possible.