

Question on Notice

No. 1454

Asked on 15 November 2023

MR J KRAUSE ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide (reported separately by TMR district) the number of hazard reduction burns undertaken on State controlled roads each year for the last five financial years?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Scenic Rim for the question.

The Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner advised, earlier this year, that damp fuel loads in some parts of Queensland prevented hazard reduction burns and conditions rapidly changed from too wet to too dry. There were however a total of 724 hazard reduction (prescribed) burns completed on state-controlled roads between the 2018–2019 and 2022–2023 financial years, and the first quarter of the 2023–2024 financial year (July, August, September 2023). The number of hazard reductions burns completed separately by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) over the last five financial years are listed below by district.

Central West District: 2018–2019, zero*; 2019–2020, zero*; 2020–2021, zero*; 2021–2022, zero*; 2022–2023, zero*; first quarter of 2023–2024, 12.

**Hazard reduction burns were not undertaken in Central West District due to drought conditions and the lack of vegetation within the state-controlled road corridor.*

Darling Downs District: 2018–2019, seven; 2019–2020, eight; 2020–2021, three; 2021–2022, eight; 2022–2023, 11; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, 12.

Far North District: 2018–2019, six; 2019–2020, 14; 2020–2021, nine; 2021–2022, 15; 2022–2023, 20; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, zero.

Fitzroy District: 2018–2019, eight; 2019–2020, four; 2020–2021, eight; 2021–2022, 10; 2022–2023, 13; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, four.

Mackay Whitsunday District: 2018–2019, 21; 2019–2020, 12; 2020–2021, 18; 2021–2022, five; 2022–2023, 14; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, 10.

Metropolitan District: 2018–2019, three; 2019–2020, zero*; 2020–2021, zero*; 2021–2022, zero*; 2022–2023, zero*; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, zero*.

**Hazard reduction burns were not undertaken in Metropolitan District; alternative fuel mitigation treatments were deemed more appropriate, and have been undertaken. No external requests for hazard reduction burns were received post 2018–2019.*

North Coast District: 2018–2019, zero*; 2019–2020, zero*; 2020–2021, zero*; 2021–2022, zero*; 2022–2023, zero*; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, zero*.

**Planned hazard reduction burns were not undertaken in the North Coast District, due to inclement weather conditions during the scheduled burn period. Alternative fuel mitigation treatments have been undertaken.*

Northern District: 2018–2019, 17; 2019–2020, 18; 2020–2021, 14; 2021–2022, 18; 2022–2023, 14; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, six.

North West District: 2018–2019, zero*; 2019–2020, zero*; 2020–2021, zero*; 2021–2022, zero*; 2022–2023, zero*; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, zero*.

**Hazard reduction burns were not undertaken in the North West District due to low risk profile. Alternative fuel mitigation treatments have been undertaken.*

South Coast District: 2018–2019, two; 2019–2020, two; 2020–2021, zero*; 2021–2022, four; 2022–2023, zero*; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, zero*.

**Hazard reduction burns were not undertaken in South Coast District, as alternative fuel mitigation treatments are considered a more appropriate method. When requested, the district works with adjacent landholders and other third parties to facilitate burns through the road corridor as part of fuel mitigation treatments they are undertaking on their properties.*

South West District: 2018–2019, nine; 2019–2020, five; 2020–2021, five; 2021–2022, one; 2022–2023, 14; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, four.

Wide Bay Burnett District: 2018–2019, 67; 2019–2020, 31; 2020–2021, 38; 2021–2022, 29; 2022–2023, 110; in the first quarter of 2023–2024, 61.