

Question on Notice

No. 1183

Asked on Wednesday, 11 December 2024

MR B HEAD ASKED MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION (HON A POWELL)—

QUESTION:

With reference to More Rangers, Better Neighbours policy —

Will the Minister advise how the government plans on being better neighbours to landholders surrounding National Parks?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government's commitment to increase the number of rangers by 150 will support the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service within the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation to be better park managers and neighbours.

Over the next four years, 150 rangers will be added to the ranger workforce across Queensland to help safeguard parks and forests and neighbouring properties from the impacts of bushfires and invasive species.

This will include a boost to the Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program to enhance land and sea management across Queensland and also create new jobs in regional areas.

This significant uplift will enable the Queensland Government to meet its responsibilities to protect natural and cultural values and deliver better outcomes with neighbours to manage invasive species and protect properties from bushfires.

It will also further support nature-based tourism opportunities across our beautiful terrestrial and marine parks.

Thirty rangers will be dedicated to supporting the delivery of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service' fire management program. The department's fire management activities are, first and foremost, focused on protecting life and property and reducing the risk of negative bushfire impacts on critical infrastructure, communities and park and forest values.

This Government is committed to ensuring invasive species management is prioritised on parks and forests to ensure that threatened species and ecosystems are maintained and impacts are minimised to the livelihoods of neighbouring communities.

The key to successful land and sea management is good planning and engagement across tenures, and the department is committed to engaging across Queensland Government agencies; federal agencies and local governments; industry groups and our neighbours to identify opportunities and priorities.