

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

C421

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Tuesday, 15 August 2017

Hon Robin Chappie to the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the proposed baiting trial of 'Hisstory' in the Yampi Sound Training Area (YTSA) and unconfirmed reports that the trial has been cancelled for 2017, and ask:

1. Has the 'Hisstory' trial been cancelled at YTSA for 2017?
2. Please explain why.
3. Has the proposed trial site been moved to the King Leopold Ranges?
4. If yes, will this trial be referred to the EPA?
5. If no to (3), will there be a trial of 1080-based 'Hisstory' bait anywhere in Western Australia in 2017?

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The following information has been provided to me by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions:

(1)-(2) Recent information from the Department of Defence means that the site selected for the field trial of the *Hisstory* feral cat bait in the Yampi Sound Training Area is no longer suitable due to planned Defence activities.

(3) Yes.

(4) No. It is considered that the proposed trial is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment based on previous field trials of feral cat baits and laboratory trials of *Hisstory*. The proposed trial has been referred for assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* as it has the potential to impact on a threatened species. The referral documents for the King Leopold Ranges trial site were submitted on 15 August 2017.

(5) Not applicable.

