



Environment and Planning Committee  
Legislative Council

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Inquiry: Inquiry into Ecosystem Decline in Victoria

Hearing Date: 10 August 2021

Question taken on notice

Directed to: **Ms Gavens, Office of the Conservation Regulator**

**1. Mr HAYES (Page no. 5)**

**Question asked.**

Can you provide further details of numbers of prosecutions led by the Office of the Conservation Regulator, including those currently before the courts?

**Response:**

Since 21 October 2019 when the Office of the Conservation Regulator was established:

- There have been **60** finalised prosecution matters consisting of **276** charges;
  - 2 charges under the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987
  - 35 charges under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958
  - 55 charges under the Forests Act 1958
  - 18 charges under the Land Act 1958
  - 11 charges under the Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Regulations 2013
  - 2 charges under the National Parks Act 1975
  - 3 charges under the National Parks Regulations 2013
  - 36 charges under the POCTA
  - 2 charges under the Sustainable Forests (Timber) Act 2004
  - 99 charges under the Wildlife Act 1975
  - 13 charges under the Wildlife Regulations 2013
  
- There are **14** prosecution matters currently before the Courts consisting of **945** charges;
  - 1 charge under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994
  - 42 charges under the Forests Act 1958
  - 1 charges under the Land Act 1958
  - 15 charges under the Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Regulations 2013
  - 3 charges under the National Parks Act 1975
  - 171 charges under the POCTA
  - 16 charges under the Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2012
  - 1 charge under the Wildlife (State Game Reserve) Regulations 2014



- 616 charges under the Wildlife Act 1975
- 79 charges under the Wildlife Regulations 2013

There are a total number of **16** matters that did not proceed to court, and the following actions were taken for these matters:

- **8** matters resulted in 'No Further Action' taken; and
- **8** matters resulted in Warnings issued.

The total number of infringement notices issued over this period is **1,139**. These notices have been issued for matters such as:

- unattended campfires
- illegal collection of firewood
- illegal use of a motor vehicle on public land
- damage, disturbance or destruction of wildlife habitat
- illegal deposit of litter
- illegal camping