

**Dr Marisa Paterson MLA**

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Minister for Women

Minister for the Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence

Minister for Corrections

Minister for Gaming Reform

Member for Murrumbidgee

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Questions on Notice Paper No 3**

**7 March 2025**

**Question No. 167**

**MR CAIN:** To ask the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services —

1. Is the ACT Strategic Bushfire Management Plan considered adequate in providing protection during a bushfire event.
2. Should the Government take additional actions to prepare for this bushfire season; if so, what specific areas should be addressed.
3. Is the Minister concerned about the accessibility issues with fire trails in the ACT's nature reserves due to inadequate maintenance, and what actions are being taken to resolve this.

**MARISA PATERSON MLA** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Yes.
2. The bushfire season ended 31 March 2025. However, throughout the off season (April – September) the ACT Emergency Service Agency will conduct preparedness activities including, but not limited to, hazard reduction burns, vehicle and equipment servicing, community engagement, and training and up skilling activities.
3. All trails in the ACT's parks and reserves, managed by the Parks and Conservation Service estate are accessible to firefighting vehicles. With over 3,000 kilometres of management trails to maintain in harsh environments, it is not uncommon for some of these management trails to be damaged and temporarily closed due to severe weather events. In the 2024-25

financial year, over 400 kilometres of trails are undergoing work including construction, maintenance and storm repair.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

M. Paterson

Marisa Paterson MLA

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

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Date: 9/4/25

This response required 2hrs 5mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$226.51.