



**Inquiry into Environmental volunteerism**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Jo Clay MLA

In relation to: The National Parks Association of the ACT gave evidence that roads and fire trails in Namadgi are in need of repair.

- 1) What is the current state of roads and fire trails in Namadgi?
- 2) How much budget funding was allocated last year for these works?
- 3) How much is allocated in future years for these works?
- 4) Is funding sufficient to repair roads to the standards required for access by park users, park carers and emergency vehicles?
- 5) What proportion of the repairs have been completed?

Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Namadgi National Park's fire trail network is essential to supporting a wide range of functions. These include land management, the maintenance of critical infrastructure (water, energy, communications), public safety and emergency response, bushfire risk reduction, research, and public visitation into the park.

The standard of the trail network has been negatively impacted by the combined impacts of prolonged drought, the Orroral Valley bushfire in 2020 and extreme rainfall events. These combined impacts have eroded trails, blocked drains, and damaged stream crossing infrastructure. For safety reasons and to prevent further damage, several trails have been closed.


2. The ACT Government has invested \$987,000 in 2021-22 for the maintenance and management of fire trails under the Bushfire Operations Plan. In addition, repair of damage to trails in Namadgi is funded through an insurance claim and the Commonwealth-funded Black Summer Recovery program.

In addition, the ACT Government has an annual budget for unsealed road maintenance of around \$500,000. Approximately \$1.1m was spent on upgrading Boboyan Road last financial year.

3. \$2.8 million from the \$6.582 million awarded to the ACT by the Australia Government under the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Program has been allocated to fund repairs and resilience building activities to stream crossings and the fire trail network.
4. The funding provided for road and fire trail repair and maintenance will meet the needs of park users, park carers and emergency vehicles.

5. The schedule for the delivery of repair, maintenance and resilience building activities has been impacted by wet weather that has saturated parts of the Namadgi catchment, however work is ongoing.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature: 

Date: 8/8/2022

By the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman MLA