

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 1364
Asked on Wednesday, 1 November 2006

MR FENLON asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR MULHERIN)-

QUESTION:

With reference to protecting Queensland fish habitats and species—

- (1) What can the public do when witnessing suspected illegal fishing activities?
- (2) What action is taken by the Department of Fisheries following reports of illegal fishing activities?

ANSWER:

- (1) Any suspected illegal fishing activity can be reported 24 hours a day to the FISHWATCH HOTLINE on 1800 017 116. Callers can choose to remain anonymous or to leave their name and contact details.

The information that members of the public provide is an important source for identifying and apprehending illegal fishers.

- (2) All complaints are immediately forwarded to the appropriate Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol (QBFP) district office or patrol vessel where the appropriate response is determined and actioned. Complaints can be tracked via a database and the status of an action can be assessed.

Any person providing information can ask to receive feedback if they provide sufficient details.

These actions are part of a suite of activities in the sustainable management of Queensland's fisheries resources.