

Question on Notice

No. 460

Asked on 5 April 2011

MS FARMER asked the Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure (MR WALLACE) -

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how the views of recreational fishers are being considered in the management of Queensland marine life?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bulimba for her question.

The views and experience of recreational fishers are essential to consultation on the management of Queensland's marine resources.

This is reflected by the large number of Fisheries Queensland stakeholder engagement programs that specifically invite comment, particularly from the recreational sector. Fisheries Queensland holds significant consultation processes whenever there are potential changes being considered that may affect the fishing sector.

For example when Fisheries Queensland undertook a review of the Inshore Fin Fishery over 100 public and industry meetings were held from Cooktown to the Gold Coast prior to the government making a final decision on new rules and regulations for this fishery.

Any potential changes to legislation that may impact recreational fishers are released for consultation prior to any decision being made.

Recreational fishers are also represented on the Queensland Fisheries Advisory Committee which provides high level advice to the government on fisheries matters, and representatives contribute to a number of technical advisory groups involved in developing or changing fisheries management arrangements.

Importantly, Fisheries Queensland is currently undertaking the 2010 Statewide Recreational Fishing Survey which will provide up to date information on the number of recreational fishers in Queensland and their fishing habits. This information is collected through telephone surveys, face to face interviews and a year long voluntary diary program with fishing families.

Fisheries Queensland will continue to provide opportunities for stakeholder input into fisheries management decisions.