

Question on Notice

No. 1479

Asked on 30 October 2018

MS N BOYD ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update on opportunities for inland fishing this spring/summer?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

This summer, Queenslanders will have even more opportunities to wet a line and catch a fish in our inland waterways.

The Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme, better known as SIPS, has been a central part of Queensland's freshwater fishing program since 2000. The scheme ensures freshwater recreational fishing opportunities throughout the state of Queensland by stocking native fish in impoundments across Queensland. Adult fishers are required to purchase a permit before line fishing in any of the 63 dams and weirs on SIPS.

In July 2016, SIPS was expanded to include an extra 31 dams and weirs across the state. Under the recent expansion, there is guaranteed funding and fishing opportunities available for the member's constituents at locations including Lake Kurwongbah (Sideling Creek Dam) and North Pine Dam.

Fishers can access more information about the SIPS dams and weirs online at qld.gov.au/freshwaterfishing. The webpage includes a search tool that allows dams and weirs to be selected based on location, fish species, type of vessels permitted and facilities available.

In recent years, the Scheme has generated over \$1,000,000 a year in revenue with at least 75 per cent of all revenue going directly back into stocking through community-based volunteer stocking groups.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all voluntary stocking group members who make the Queensland stocking program a great success.

Fish stocking provides recreational fishing opportunities in areas where they would otherwise be lacking, supporting regional communities and related jobs.