

Question on Notice

No. 1714

Asked on Tuesday, 22 October 2019

MR N DAMETTO ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to figures recently made available by the Department of Environment and Science showing that there have been eight estuarine crocodiles removed so far this year in the Townsville/North Queensland region and a total of forty across all of Queensland—

Will the Minister reveal how much these crocodile removals have cost Queenslanders this year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

Crocodile management is undertaken as a complete program of works by a dedicated, highly experienced team of officers based in various locations across the State. The program includes monitoring, performing risk assessments, active intervention where crocodiles are declared ‘problem crocodiles’, education and compliance, and research and evaluation. The program also funds the necessary operational facilities, response vehicles, vessels, and specialist equipment required for safe and effective operations.

Due to the nature of crocodile management, and the requirement for best available science to continue to inform conservation, risk management and intervention strategies, all of the program elements are interrelated and it is not possible to isolate program expenditure to the specific cost of removal of one or any number of ‘problem crocodiles’, rather, success is measured by the effectiveness of the whole program.