

Question on Notice

No. 190

Asked on 19 February 2020

MR S KING ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update on any recent enforcement action that the Department of Fisheries has taken in the Moreton Bay area?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

I am advised by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries that the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol (QBFP) has conducted over 300 patrols in Moreton Bay since 1 July 2019, inspecting over 3 200 individuals.

These inspections detected over 400 offences resulting in the issuing of over 160 fisheries infringement notices and 240 cautions.

In addition, 10 prosecutions have been finalised since 1 June 2019, with a further 21 matters pending. Details of the 10 matters finalised are provided below.

QBFP also undertakes dedicated compliance action plans for priority areas. This includes, for example, patrols of foreshores in Moreton Bay to ensure compliance with the ban on collecting molluscs that was introduced in 2019.

Finalised prosecutions July 2019 to February 2020:

F18/080	Plea of Guilty, fined \$3,000 - Possess 174 undersize tailor
F18/085	Plea of Guilty, fined \$1,000 - 14 charges of failing to complete sales dockets with the required information
F18/038	Found Guilty, fined \$15,000 - Commercially fish in Moreton Bay Marine Park Zone and operating on 3 occasions without functioning vessel tracking unit.
F18/010	Plea of guilty, fined \$8,500 ordered to pay legal costs of \$250 and costs of court- Possess 8 female, 5 undersized mud crab and 1 female blue swimmer crab. Possess 2 excess pots and fail to mark 6 crab apparatus.
F18/040	Plea of Guilty, fined \$8,000 and costs of court - Take non-permitted species by trawl being 10 shark and 1 Guitarfish

F19/006	Found Guilty exparte. Fined \$1,700 and costs of court. Conviction recorded - Possess 20 undersize yellowfin bream
F18/100	Trial - Court found guilty, fined \$3,500 and costs of court – Interfere with crab apparatus
F18/099	Early plea of guilty, Fined \$7,000 + 3 year enforcement order issued, no conviction recorded, costs of court - cause assessable development without permit; destroy 240.32m2 of marine plants
F18/072	Plea of guilty in person. Fined \$2,500 and costs of court. No conviction recorded - Obstruct an Inspector by using offensive language.
F18/039	Plea of guilty - fined \$2,000 and costs of court Take non-permitted species by trawl - 10 shark and 1 guitarfish. Co-defendant entered a plea of guilty and was fined \$8,000 on 30/07/2019.