

Question on Notice

No. 1444

Asked on 30 November 2022

MR M BERKMAN asked the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$5m in funding provided by the Federal Government to assist the State Government to comply with 2019 Administrative Appeals Tribunal orders requiring a non-lethal shark control program in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park—

Will the Minister provide (a) an itemised list of expenditure to date and future allocated spending from that funding, (b) has the government considered allocating part of that funding for trials of electrical shark deterrent technology in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and (c) will funding be allocated to expand a non-lethal shark control program in areas outside of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?

ANSWER:

Refer to Table 1 for a detailed breakdown of the \$5 million Federal Government funding for the Shark Control Program in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Table 1:

Activity	Total funding commitment (GST exclusive)	Spend as of 1 December 2022	Funds committed	Funds Remaining
Great Barrier Reef Region				
Catch Alert Drumlines	\$1,900,000	\$505,000	\$1,395,000	-
Shark Barriers	\$1,400,000	\$41,000		\$1,359,000
Drone trials (SLSQ)	\$100,000	\$100,000		-
Trial advanced camera technology	\$400,000		\$400,000	-
Education	\$100,000	\$30,000	\$70,000	-
Project Support	\$100,000	\$26,820	\$73,180	-
Subtotal	\$4,000,000	\$702,820	\$1,938,180	\$1,359,000
Whitsundays				
Shark tagging and tracking study	\$420,000	\$350,946	\$67,236	\$1,818

Human behaviour change research	\$115,000		\$115,000	-
Depredation/shark habituation research	\$200,000		\$200,000	-
Real time environmental monitoring	\$135,000			\$135,000
Signs/induction videos	\$60,000	\$50,000	\$10,000	-
Dive site assessment checklist (for industry)	\$50,000			\$50,000
Additional first aid training (for industry)	\$20,000			\$20,000
Subtotal	\$1,000,000	\$400,946	\$392,236	\$206,818
Total Project Funds - \$5,000,000				