

Question on Notice

No. 517

Asked on Tuesday, 9 May 2023

MR R KATTER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the crocodile egg harvesting in Queensland, which was legalised in 2018—

Will the Minister advise how many permits (and for how many eggs) have been approved by the department annually?

ANSWER [MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (HON L LINARD)]:

I thank the Member for the question.

On 18 May 2023, I was appointed as Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for Multicultural Affairs and as such, I am now the responsible Minister to answer this Question.

In September 2018, the Queensland Government introduced a framework for the commercial harvest of estuarine crocodile eggs from the wild. This was based on findings from peer reviewed scientific research which demonstrated that the removal of a limited number of crocodile eggs would not detrimentally impact the local crocodile population. Since this time, the Department of Environment and Science has issued four Harvesting Licences.

In 2019, 2020 and 2021, 800 eggs were approved to be removed from the wild each year.

In 2022, a total of 300 eggs were approved to be removed from the wild.

As at 31 May 2023, no applications have been made to the department in the year to date.