

Question on Notice

No. 637

Asked on 10 June 2025

MR S KNUTH asked the Minister for Primary Industries (HON A PERRETT)—

QUESTION:

With reference to concerns about the lack of Working Group meetings for the Queensland Coral Fishery (QCF) and Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery (MAFF), regarding Queensland Fisheries handling of the QCF and MAFF and its failure to meet conditions under the Wildlife Trade Operation (export approval), its lack of transparency and engagement with industry and the lack of a plan to ensure the future of these fisheries—

Will the Minister order the department to fulfil its obligations and resume these working group meetings without further delay?

ANSWER:

The Marine Aquarium Fish Fishery (MAFF) and Queensland Coral Fish Fishery (QCF) Working Group met as recently as 24 June 2025. The meeting focused on updating members on progress toward meeting the conditions under the Wildlife Trade Operation (export approval) and invited input on proposed options to meet these conditions. Another Working Group meeting will be scheduled in the coming months to discuss opportunities and address further issues.

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is investigating a renewed engagement model including an industry co-chair to strengthen the engagement and collaboration between the working group and the department. This aligns with the Crisafulli Government's commitment to work with industry, not against it.

We are also working closely with fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders including the Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA), the Australian Fishing Trade Association (AFTA), and the United Recreational Fishers (URF) to help reach our goal of \$30 billion in output by 2030. These efforts align with the Prosper 2050 25-year blueprint and are delivering the Crisafulli Government's commitment for a sustainable, productive, and transparent seafood industry, with produce that can be shared and showcased across the world.