

MARRON FISHERY

1038. Mr D.T. REDMAN to the Minister for Fisheries:

Before I ask my question, I would like to acknowledge in the Speaker's gallery Western Australia's latest Rhodes scholar, Natasha Lutz. Now she has put her hand up!

[Applause.]

Mr D.T. REDMAN: She is here with her massively proud family. Mr Speaker, with your indulgence —

The SPEAKER: I will sign you a photo after!

Mr D.T. REDMAN: — members will remember that one of the Rhodes scholars in this place was Dr Geoff Gallop, who was awarded in 1972. He came from Geraldton Senior High School. I think it significant that we have a regional Rhodes scholar and one who went through a regional government school. When Natasha becomes Premier, I think she is going to change the rules on photography in this place!

[Applause.]

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I refer to a recent letter from the minister's department's director of aquatic resource management to some commercial marron growers alerting them to an exemption issued under the Fish Resources Management Regulations 1995 that, in effect, lowers the bar of accountability for anyone transporting marron.

- (1) Is the minister aware of this change affecting licensed marron growers whereby consignment notes will be replaced by receipts for the transport of marron?
- (2) Does the minister agree with growers that the new receipt process opens the potential for movement of illegal marron, putting the commercial industry and prized native fishery at risk?

Mr D.J. KELLY replied:

I have a brief answer to the member's question. No, I am not aware of that letter. I will get some details and I will get back to the member.