

FISHERIES — WHALES AND WESTERN ROCK LOBSTERS

1612. Mr D.J. Kelly to the minister representing the Minister for Fisheries:

Can the Minister please advise:

- (a) how many interactions between whales and western rock lobster fishing operations have occurred, for each of the calendar years from 2002 to 2012; and
- (b) how many interactions between whales and western rock lobster fishing operations have occurred for the calendar year 2013 to date?

Mr T.R. Buswell replied:

- (a) The number of whales reported as being entangled in rock lobster fishing gear in each year from 2002 to 2012 as recorded by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPAW) was as follows:

2002	3
2003	2
2004	4
2005	0
2006	6
2007	1
2008	3
2009	1
2010	0
2011	6
2012	13

- (b) Department of Parks and Wildlife recorded 18 entanglements of whales in rock lobster fishing gear in 2013.