

FISHERIES — SHARKS — TAGGING

4243. Mr D.J. Kelly to the Minister representing the Minister for Fisheries:

How much money will be saved in the 2015/16 financial year by the Government's decision to cease tagging sharks as part of the shark monitoring network program and how much money will be saved in 2015/16 by changes to the maintenance of the shark monitoring network?

**Dr K.D. Hames replied:**

The tagging of white sharks was a component of a research project designed to improve knowledge on movement of white sharks in South-Western Australian waters. An amount of \$2 million was provided in 2012 to extend both the time and the scope of the research project. As planned, the data collection phase of the project has ended and a series of research reports are now being generated.

There are no ongoing Departmental savings associated with cessation of the research project.