

FISHERIES — NON-NATIVE SPECIES

932. Hon RICK MAZZA to the minister representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the 23 August 2019 media statement, “Freshwater fishing licence-free weekend a special treat for Father’s Day”, which explained TroutFest, an event that allowed the community to hand-release a few thousand trout into Drakesbrook Weir.

Can the minister advise whether consideration is being given to stock freshwater species such as Murray cod, bass and bream in freshwater dams in the south west to enhance the recreational fishing experience?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

I thank the member for the question. The Minister for Fisheries has provided the following information.

Currently, no proposals are under consideration to stock new non-native species into WA water bodies. The consideration of any new fish stocking proposal requires a risk-based translocation assessment that considers impacts of the proposed introduction on the local environment, including endemic finfish species and the highly valued recreational marron fishery. The translocation of any non-endemic aquatic species can be considered only when adequate physical and environmental controls are in place, with ecological risks mitigated.