Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 19 February 2019] p453b-453b

Hon Rick Mazza; Hon Alannah MacTiernan

PROHIBITION ON FISHING (GREENS POOL) ORDER 2018

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

I refer to the Prohibition on Fishing (Greens Pool) Order 2018 published in the *Government Gazette* on 13 November 2018 and tabled in the Legislative Council on 20 November 2018 under the Fish Resources Management Act 1994.

- (1) What consultation with stakeholder groups, such as Recfishwest, Tourism WA, and the Shire of Denmark, was undertaken before the decision to close Greens Pool from fishing was reached?
- (2) Has Tourism WA and the Shire of Denmark assessed how many visitors to Greens Pool undertake the activity of recreational fishing?
- (3) Considering recreational fishing is estimated to have an economic value of \$569 million in Western Australia, has the minister assessed the financial impact of his decision?
- (4) Has the minister considered a seasonal ban at Greens Pool rather than a permanent ban?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

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

- (1) Consultation was undertaken with Recfishwest, the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council, the Shire of Denmark and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
- (2) This question should be directed to Tourism WA and the Shire of Denmark.
- (3) The decision to prohibit fishing at Greens Pool was made on a resource-sharing basis, noting this location is highly popular for swimmers and for other non-extractive activities. The economic value to the region as a consequence of visitors to Greens Pool is significant, plus there are alternative safe and accessible sites for recreational fishing in the vicinity.
- (4) Yes.