

SHARKS — HAZARD MITIGATION

**1110. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries:**

I refer to shark hazard mitigation this summer.

- (1) How many automated shark warning towers are operating in Western Australia presently?
- (2) Where are the towers located?
- (3) What is the approximate cost of the towers in capital and recurrent terms?
- (4) What is the specified range of the towers; that is, what is the limit of each tower's capacity to detect a tagged shark?

**Hon DARREN WEST replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries, I provide the following answer.

- (1) There are currently 10 automated shark warning towers operating in Western Australia.
- (2) Automated shark warning towers are located at: Esperance, which has two; Lefthanders surf break, which has two; Gracetown, which has two; Bunker Bay, which has one; and Cottesloe, which has two.
- (3) The capital cost of shark warning towers is \$9 500 and the annual recurrent cost is \$1 056.
- (4) The automated shark warning towers are located adjacent to a shark monitoring receiver that detects a tagged shark swimming within 500 metres of the receiver. The state government is in the process of upgrading the detection range of the shark monitoring receivers to approximately 800 metres.