

SHARKS — HAZARD MITIGATION — DRUM LINE TRIAL

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

I refer to the McGowan government's planned Shark-Management-Alert-in-Real-Time drum lines trial in the south west to determine whether the non-lethal technology is effective at reducing shark attacks in Western Australia.

- (1) Why has the information provided by the New South Wales government been deemed not suitable to determine the effectiveness of SMART drum lines?
- (2) How many SMART drum lines does the government plan to use?
- (3) Where will SMART drum lines be sourced from?
- (4) When does the government anticipate the trial will commence?
- (5) If successful, in what other areas of the coast will drum lines be deployed?

Hon ALANNAH MacTIERNAN replied:

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

- (1) The information provided by the NSW government was insufficient to allow a proper analysis of the potential use of SMART drum lines off the Western Australian coast. The NSW government provided information on the number of sharks caught but did not provide information on the behaviour of sharks after relocation and release.
- (2) Approximately 10.
- (3) This is yet to be determined.
- (4) The trial will start as soon as possible, subject to staff training, capital purchases, tendering processes and approvals.
- (5) This will be determined following a scientific review of the trial by the Chief Scientist.