

WEST COAST DEMERSAL SCALEFISH RESOURCE

221. Hon COLIN de GRUSSA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to the \$10 million fund to support the west coast demersal scalefish resource management arrangements.

- (1) How many commercial fishing licences have been identified for voluntary buyback within the fishery?
- (2) When will the buyback be completed, and what will be the total amount of compensation paid to licence holders?
- (3) To date, what support package has been put in place for charter operators?
- (4) What amount of the \$10 million package funding has been allocated to each of the six support measures?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Fisheries.

- (1) There are currently 60 interim managed fishery permits in the west coast demersal scalefish interim managed fishery that will be eligible for the voluntary fisheries adjustment scheme when it opens.
- (2) The voluntary fisheries adjustment scheme closing date has not yet been determined. There has been \$2.5 million allocated to fund the scheme to buyback entitlement in the west coast demersal scalefish interim managed fishery; however, this is a voluntary scheme and a final figure will not be known until the scheme concludes.
- (3) The details of the \$500 000 charter fishing business diversification grants program are being prepared to support charter fishing businesses diversify their operations from demersal scalefish to other fishing and marine tourism experiences.
- (4) The \$10 million recovery support package funding allocation is as follows.
 - (a) There is \$2.5 million for a voluntary fisheries adjustment scheme.
 - (b) There is \$2.474 million to boost fisheries science and monitoring, including recreational digital catch reporting.
 - (c) There is \$1.75 million for a public education and awareness campaign.
 - (d) There is \$1.5 million for the statewide fish aggregation devices, or FADs, program.
 - (e) There is \$1 million for restocking pink snapper in the west coast bioregion.
 - (f) There is \$776 000 for charter tourism business diversification and charter sector management reform, including \$500 000 referred to in response to (3).