

FISHERIES, AFFA RECREATIONAL FISHING SURVEY

1277. Hon Murray Criddle to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

According to a recent AFFA Recreational Fishing Survey, an estimated 10 million finfish were caught in a one year period from June 1999 - May 2000 WA-

- (1) Can you advise if there is an estimate for 2002-2003?
- (2) If not, what research is being conducted into the fish harvested by the recreational sector?
- (3) Can you advise how many FTE officers in the Fisheries are responsible for Commercial compliance?
- (4) Can you advise how many FTE officers in the Fisheries are responsible for Recreational compliance?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

- (1) No. The National Recreational Fishing Survey has not been funded for any repeats.
- (2) Estimates of recreational catch for unlicensed fisheries in WA are derived from 12-month on-site catch surveys by region which occur at approximately five-seven years intervals.

Surveys on recreational catch currently in progress are:

Recreational catches in the South Coast estuaries.

Recreational pink snapper catches from the inner gulf of Shark Bay.

A compulsory logbook program to record recreational catches from Licensed Fishing Tour (Charter) Operators.

Annual surveys of licensed abalone, rock lobster, marron, freshwater angling and net fisheries.

- (3) In the 2003/04 financial year 37 FTE fisheries officers have been budgeted against commercial fisheries compliance.
- (4) In the 2003/04 financial year 26 FTE fisheries officers have been budgeted against recreational fisheries compliance.