Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Answers to questions on notice Environment portfolio

Question No:	203
Hearing:	Additional Estimates
Outcome:	Agency
Programme:	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Topic:	GBRMPA Act - Prosecution and Penalties
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Question Date:	24 February 2014
Question Type:	Spoken

Senator Stephens asked:

Senator STEPHENS: Can you give the committee an indication of how many people have been charged and prosecuted under the previous regime—which might indicate what revenue is generated from penalties and whether or not they are a disincentive.

Mr Richardson: We are talking about two different pieces of legislation. I will speak about the EPBC Act. I am not aware of any prosecutions for illegal take of, or trade in, dugongs and turtles.

Senator STEPHENS: Anything other than the dugongs and turtles? Dr Dripps: We can take on no tice the provision of information relating to the GBR

Answer:

Ten people have been prosecuted under Great Barrier Reef Marine Park legislation for the take of dugongs or marine turtles since 2000/2001.

These comprise:

- a person convicted in February 2007 for the take of a turtle at Cape York. The offender in this matter was fined \$400.
- eight persons prosecuted in December 2002 in relation to the take of turtles at Cape York. This matter comprised a total of 35 offences and resulted in fines totalling \$3,200.
- a person prosecuted for the take of turtles near Townsville in November 2000 who was required to enter into a good behaviour bond of \$500.