



Australian Government

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts



Secretary
Senate Committee on the Environment, Communications and the Arts
Parliament House
Canberra 2600

Dear Secretary,

**Additional Estimates Hearings, Environment Water, Heritage and the Arts
Portfolio, Tuesday 9 February 2010**

I wish to clarify evidence I gave in the above hearings.

In response to a question from Senator Siewert concerning proposed amendments to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (see page ECA54 of the draft Hansard) I said:

No, it does not change the listing system, so the shark would remain listed but it will amend another provision of the act close by that lists some exemptions, so it will formalise the exemption for this recreational catch and release.

In referring to the exemption covering “recreational catch and release”, I should have said “recreational catch” as the proposed amendments will cover all kinds of recreational catch, not just catch and release.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Burnett
First Assistant Secretary
Approvals and Wildlife Division

18 February 2010