

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE

Outcome: Enhanced scientific knowledge supporting the protection and sustainable development of Australia's marine resources

DEST Question No. E180_04

Senator Carr asked on 4 June 2003, EWRE Hansard page 279

Question:

What was the opportunity cost of the James Cook University using the Lady Basten?

Answer:

Use of AIMS vessels by other organisations

AIMS has provided the following response.

AIMS is providing 10 days of RV Lady Basten ship time per year as an in-kind contribution to an ARC funded study of Wonky Holes in the Great Barrier Reef lagoon. AIMS is a partner investigator in the project, which complements the Institute's research into groundwater discharge into estuaries. The project has a three year duration and, as the RV Lady Basten charter rate is \$5,500 per day, the total value of the AIMS' contribution is \$165,000.

Last year vacant ship time was also made available for a sea snake study by a James Cook University researcher. In this case, the charter was bare boat – 17 days at \$3,000 per day.