

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2007-2008 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome CSIRO

DEST Question No. E029_08

Senator Carol Brown asked in writing on 30 May 2007.

Question:

Have any research voyages been cancelled, curtailed, delayed or otherwise amended as a result of damage, repairs or other problems with the vessel?

Please provide full details of all these occurrences.

Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

Southern Surveyor

Over the last four years no research voyages have been cancelled.

The research schedule has been affected as follows:

- The vessel's departure on Voyage SS04-2004 was delayed one day by blocked fuel filters.
- The vessel arrived in Noumea two days early on Voyage SS05 -2004 and departed two days late on Voyage SS06 -2004 to allow for hydraulic pipe repairs.
- The vessel arrived in Port Hedland two days early on Voyage SS06-2006 due to a hydraulic gearbox leak.
- Repairs to winch systems were conducted for two days during Voyage SS01-2007.
- Voyage SS02-2007 was rescheduled. This arose through a combination of a change of staff in the client agency leading to a new Chief Scientist being proposed for the voyage and the timing of CSIRO's program of targeted maintenance. The Ship Management Group offered the agency the option of delaying the voyage and this was accepted. If this had not been acceptable to the client, the voyage would have proceeded as originally scheduled.