

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 80

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 17 February 2006:

How many boats apprehended for illegally being in Australian waters:

- a) sink of their own accord
- b) are deliberately sunk at sea after a decision by ACS or AFMA
- c) make landfall to be handed over to AFMA
- d) escape from apprehension

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The following data relates to the financial years 2004-05 and 2005 to 17 February 2006.

The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) has advised that:

- a) 2004-05 – 22 boats became unseaworthy whilst under tow and either sank of their own accord or were destroyed at sea; and

2005 – 17 February 2006 – six boats became unseaworthy whilst under tow and either sank of their own accord or were destroyed at sea.
- b) 2004-05 – 22 boats were destroyed at sea after a decision by Customs or AFMA; and

2005 – 17 February 2006 – 70 boats were destroyed at sea after a decision by Customs or AFMA.
- c) 2004-05 – 181 boats were brought to port and handed to AFMA; and

2005 – 17 February 2006 – 141 boats were brought to port and handed to AFMA.
- d) 2004-05 – one boat escaped after apprehension; and

2005 – 17 February 2006 - one boat escaped after apprehension