

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

Question No. 58

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:

With reference to the study being conducted by the CSIRO mentioned in the hearing on 13 February 2007 by Rear Admiral Goldrick:

- a) When did the study commence?
- b) When is it expected to be completed?
- c) How much was budgeted for the study?
- d) Can Customs provide any preliminary findings?
- e) Can Customs provide the committee with a copy of the final report upon completion of the study?

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

The title of the study is "Estimating Reliable Foreign Fishing Vessel Fishing Effort from Coastwatch Surveillance and Apprehension Data". This is a joint study funded by the research organization (CSIRO), Border Protection Command, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority.

- a) The study commenced in July 2006.
- b) The final report will be available in the second quarter of 2007
- c) The cost of the study to agencies is \$143,358, excluding GST, apportioned as follows: Border Protection Command (\$53,838), Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (\$35,000) and Australian Fisheries Management Authority (\$54,520). The CSIRO is also absorbing some costs.
- d) No preliminary findings are available at this stage of the study.
- e) A copy of the report can be provided when it is finalised.