

Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates February 2008

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: AFMA 01

Division/Agency: Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Topic: Vessel sightings, apprehensions and legislative forfeitures

Hansard Page: 113-114 (19/02/2008)

Senator Abetz asked:

Senator ABETZ—What about percentage of apprehensions in relation to sightings?

Mr Venslovas—They fluctuate on a month-to-month basis.

Senator ABETZ—Of course they do. Can you provide us, on notice if you do not have them, the number of sightings per month, the number of apprehensions per month—if you have them available, of course, I would be delighted to have them now—and the number of legislative forfeitures.

Mr Venslovas—I would have to take that on notice.

Senator ABETZ—All right. How are our friends in Papua New Guinea going with their banana boats?

Senator McLucas—Senator Abetz, over what period of time do you want that material?

Senator ABETZ—I thought we were talking about the last six months.

Senator McLucas—Okay, that is fine.

Senator ABETZ—But we could get, say, from 1 July 2007 through to 31 December 2007, plus the month of January 2008—and, by the time you get around to giving the answer, I am sure you will have the figures for February and March as well. Would that be a fair guess, or not? So please give us from 1 July 2007 up to date, as far as you can take us.

Answer:

Total Coastwatch sightings excluding type I and II vessels, apprehensions and legislative forfeitures from 01 July 2007 to 27 March 2008

| | 2007/08 YTD | 2007/08 YTD | 2007/08 YTD |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Month | Sightings inside AFZ | Apprehensions | Legislative forfeitures |
| Jul | 101 | 3 | 3 |
| Aug | 74 | 7 | 0 |
| Sep | 115 | 14 | 0 |
| Oct | 149 | 15 | 1 |
| Nov | 122 | 25 | 1 |
| Dec | 119 | 17 | 0 |
| Jan | 52 | 6 | 1 |
| Feb | 56 | 13 | 0 |
| Mar | 53 | 8 | 0 |
| Total | 841 | 108 | 6 |

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Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Question: AFMA 02

Division/Agency: Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Topic: Papua New Guinea banana boat legislative forfeitures

Hansard Page: 114 (19/02/2008)

Senator Abetz asked:

Senator ABETZ—All right. How many banana boats? I understand there was a bit of increased activity coming out of Papua New Guinea into the Torres Strait islands area.

Mr Venslovas—In 2007-08 there were six legislative forfeitures. I will have to take on notice how many of those were actually banana boats, but I can recall at least two. More recently there has been some activity in the Torres Strait, in particular on Warrior Reef, with PNG boats—or banana boats—targeting trepang, and there have been three apprehensions of banana boats.

Answer:

From 01 July 2007 to 27 March 2008 there have been a total of 6 legislative forfeitures of catch and fishing equipment from Papua New Guinea banana boats.

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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Question: AFMA 03

Division/Agency: Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Topic: Minutes from last WCPFC meeting

Hansard Page: 124 (19/02/2008)

Senator Macdonald asked:

Senator IAN MACDONALD—Is there anywhere I can read this that is publicly available?

Mr Hurry—Yes. I can give you the copies of the minutes from the last meeting. The last meeting is not up on the website yet, but it will be shortly. I can give you details of the website.

Answer:

The minutes from the last Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission's fourth regular session 2–7 December 2007 can be found at:

<http://www.wcpfc.int/wcpfc4/pdf/WCPF4%20Summary%20Report%20and%20Attachments.pdf>