

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 49
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Small pelagic fishery
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 23 February 2015
Question Type: Written

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

In reference to Minister Hunt's quote that the government is "considering its response to the [SPF] expert panel report as we work to develop a permanent solution".

Does the Department believe that policy measures being developed will provide a "permanent solution"?

Answer:

The Department considers that Australia has a well regulated commercial fishing industry. After considering the findings of the *Report of the Expert Panel on a Declared Commercial Fishing Activity: Final (Small Pelagic Fishery) Declaration 2012*, the Australian Government announced in December 2014 that a permanent ban on all fishing vessels of more than 130 metres in length operating in the Australian Fishing Zone will be introduced through regulations under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* (see media release at: <http://bit.ly/15sTzMz>).