

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

**Question No:** 37  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** Hammerhead Sharks - Fin exports  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 16 February 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

3. In relation to fin exports:
- a) How many tonnes of scalloped hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*) fins, great hammerhead fins (*S. mokarran*) and smooth hammerhead fins (*S.zygaena*) have been exported in 2013, 2014, 2015?
  - b) How much revenue came from the export of sharkfin from scalloped hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*) fins, great hammerhead fins (*S. mokarran*) and smooth hammerhead fins (*S.zygaena*) in the years 2013, 2014 and 2015?

**Answer:**

- 3.
- a) The scalloped hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*), great hammerhead (*S. mokarran*) and smooth hammerhead (*S.zygaena*) sharks were listed on Appendix II to the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora* (CITES) on 12 June 2013. The listing did not come into effect until 14 September 2014.  
  
In order to export products of shark species listed on Appendix II of CITES, the exporter must obtain a CITES permit from the Department of the Environment as the CITES Management Authority of Australia. Information on the quantity of product exported under a CITES permit is only available after the shipment has occurred and the exporter has acquitted the trade with the Department.  
  
The Department does not have access to information on exports of hammerhead shark fins prior to the date that the CITES listing for these species came into effect (September 2014).  
  
For the period 14 September to 31 December 2014, 23Kg of *Sphyrna lewini* fins, 43Kg of *S. Mokarran* fins and 0Kg of *S.zygaena* were exported from Australia.  
  
Information on exports of these hammerhead shark species during 2015 is not yet available as not all shipments have been acquitted.
  - b) The Department of the Environment does not have information on revenue from exports of shark fin.