

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 141  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 4  
**Program:** Environment Standards Division (ESD)  
**Topic:** Gippsland Lakes  
**Hansard Page:**  
**Question Date:** 14 March 2017  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Rice asked:**

As far as the Department is aware of the rationale for the dredging, are there uses for the dredging other than navigation by boats and ships? I.e. is the deeper entrance channel being relied upon to better flush out pollution discharging into the Lakes?

**Answer:**

The referral to the Department (EPBC 2011/5932) described the dredging as part of the Long Term Management Plan for maintaining navigability across the Bar and in the Inner Channels at Lakes Entrance to provide ocean access between the Gippsland Lakes and Bass Strait.