Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice **Environment portfolio**

Question No: 86

Hearing: Budget Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 1.4

Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)

Topic: Dolphin Imports

Hansard Page: 69

Question Date: 26 May 2015

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Rhiannon asked:

Senator RHIANNON: So, are you saying that all of those dolphins that have come to Australia—and we have had more than those two oceanariums or marine mammal parks since, I think you said, the 1970s. Are you confident that all of those mammals have been sourced locally?

Mr Murphy: I have not checked that. I have just checked the imports from Japan. I will have to take it on notice and we would have to do some inquiries in the database to see if there has been any other imports of dolphins from other countries.

Answer:

According to the CITES trade database which provides trade records back to 1975, and the Department of the Environment's internal trade databases, Australia has not imported live dolphins from any country.