

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

**Question No:** 157  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Programme:** Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority  
**Topic:** Marine Park - Permit decisions  
**Hansard Page:** 39  
**Question Date:** 19 October 2015  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Waters asked:**

**Senator WATERS:** On notice for me, could you just provide a bit more detail about the breakdown of the nature of the permits; in particular, the dredging and dumping permits as opposed to the general fishing and what have you. I am very happy to come back.

**Answer:**

Each Marine Park permit typically includes multiple permissions. Individual permissions are identified in the 'use and entry with permission provisions' as outlined in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003*.

In the financial year 2014-2015 the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority made decisions on 571 permissions (Table 1).

**Table 1: Permission decisions made in FY 2014-2015**

Type of Permissions	Permission Decisions 2014-15
Tourist program	195
Charter vessel/aircraft	162
Research	85
Moorings	63
Installation and /or operation of facilities	19
Other activities	17
Education	14
Harvest Fisheries	5
Removal of threatening species	10
Dredging and / or disposal	1

As at 30 June 2015, 2376 individual permissions were current for use and entry with permission pursuant to the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003* (Table 2). Of these, 37 per cent related to tourism operations (888), 30 per cent related to charter operations (722), 13 per cent related to operating a facility or mooring (329) and approximately 11 per cent related to research activities (267).

Of all 2376 current individual permissions, less than 0.5 per cent (11) are for dredging and/or disposal activities in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The remaining ten per cent of permissions relate to education activities, harvest fisheries and the removal of threatening species and any other purpose.

**Table 2: Current permissions as of 30 June 2015**

<b>Type of Permissions</b>	<b>Number</b>
Tourist program	888
Charter vessel/ aircraft	722
Research	267
Moorings	196
Installation and /or operation of facilities	133
Other activities	55
Education	42
Harvest Fisheries	32
Removal of threatening species	30
Dredging and / or disposal	11