

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

Question No: 344
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Program: Director of National Parks
Topic: Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review – New Consultation Period
Hansard Page: n/a
Question Date: 01 November 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

On Friday 7 October, you announced that the 1st consultation period for the redevelopment of the reserves' management plans would be extended to 31 October. Approximately how many submissions were received to that point? Were most of the submissions calling for more high level MNPZ protection? Approximately how many submissions received to that point were from recreational fishers? Why was the deadline for public comments extended?

Answer:

As at 7 October 2016, the Director of National Parks had received:

- 49 non-campaign submissions, six of which were identified as being from the recreational fishing sector. The remainder included Indigenous community, government, commercial fishing, general public, conservation and commercial tourism submissions.
- 20,795 campaign submissions; of these, 3,369 were from a campaign identified as being from people with recreational fishing interests.

This first public comment period was extended until 31 October 2016 to ensure all interested parties had the opportunity to comment.