

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

Question No: 349
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Program: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)
Topic: Site Monitoring
Hansard Page: 35-36
Question Date: 17 October 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Waters, Larissa asked:

Senator WATERS: Okay. Well, can you just advise what sort of site monitoring has occurred at the grounding site but also the surrounding areas over the last 6½ years.

Dr Reichelt: Would that be something that we could summarise in a table and get back to the committee quickly?

Dr Banks: That would be the best thing. There have been a number of reports prepared, and it is probably just getting that into a summary form that provides it.

Senator WATERS: Okay, thank you. I will look forward to that, because obviously we need to know where to focus the rehabilitation.

Dr Banks: Yes.

Senator WATERS: If you have not done comprehensive monitoring because you have had no money, because the Commonwealth has been stingy, then it is hard to work out where to start.

Dr Reichelt: We did do comprehensive work for the purpose of the trial, but we are happy to provide the background to the surveys.

Senator WATERS: Great.

Answer:

The following table contains a summary of the reports that have been prepared to assess the impacts of the grounding of the *Shen Neng 1*:

<p>Marshall, P. Preliminary Impact Assessment Report: Grounding <i>Shen Neng 1</i> on Douglas Shoal. Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, dated 30 July 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Park and Wildlife Service staff conducted a preliminary assessment of the damage to Douglas Shoal.
<p>Stieglitz, T. Structural Damage to Douglas Shoal caused by the grounding of <i>Shen Neng 1</i> derived from high resolution Multibeam Sonar Bathymetry and Backscatter Strength. JCU, dated 9 May 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report summarises the site visit (led by AIMS) to record multibeam bathymetry of Douglas Shoal.
<p>Negri et al. A. Grounding of the <i>Shen Neng 1</i> on Douglas Shoal: Multibeam Sonar Bathymetry and Towed Video Assessments. AIMS, dated October 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report summarises the site visit (led by AIMS), which carried out a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - high resolution multibeam sonar bathymetry and backscatter strength survey of Douglas Shoal to quantify physical damage caused by the grounding - towed underwater video assessment of native and damaged habitats.
<p>McCook, L. Grounding of the <i>Shen Neng 1</i> on Douglas Shoal, April 2010: Impact Assessment Report. Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, dated June 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report provides a description of the spatial distribution of physical damage and

<p>chemical pollution of the shoal habitats and benthos as a result of the grounding of the <i>Shen Neng 1</i>.</p>
<p>Monkivitch, J. <i>Shen Neng 1</i> Hull Sampling. Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, dated 13 December 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report outlines observations, scraping samples and photographs which were taken of the hull of the <i>Shen Neng 1</i> whilst it was at anchor in Platypus Bay, Queensland on 21 May 2010.
<p>Kettle B. Independent Review of Impact Assessment Report Grounding of the <i>Shen Neng 1</i> on Douglas Shoal 2010. Project X Consulting (Brisbane), July 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical review of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority June 2011 Impact Assessment Report.
<p>Kettle B. October 2013 Reef Damage Reassessment of the <i>Shen Neng 1</i> Grounding Site. Babel-SBF, dated 7 May 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the grounding site 3½ years following the grounding.
<p>Kettle B. Remediation Trial for the <i>Shen Neng 1</i> Grounding Site. Babel-SBF, dated 1 September 2015 (2015a).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of the site visit was to develop equipment and a methodology for cleaning up the site and demonstrate that the approach will not further disperse pollutants.
<p>Kettle B. Supplementary report: Remediation Trial for the <i>Shen Neng</i> Grounding Site. Babel-SBF, dated 15 September 2015 (2015b).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report summarises the site assessment of the grounding site post Tropical Cyclone Marcia (20 February 2015).