

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

**Question No:** 95  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Program:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia – Current Studies  
**Hansard Page:** n/a  
**Question Date:** 24 October 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Whish-Wilson, Peter asked:**

What studies are the department aware of (current or past) on the value of these forests to fishing or other communities (diving/tourism)?

**Answer:**

The Department is not aware of specific studies that give an economic value for these kelp forests either for fishing or diving/tourism.