



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

26 June 2015

Senator the Hon. Bill Heffernan
Chair
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs
and Transport Legislation Committee
PO BOX 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Heffernan

Having reviewed the proof Hansard of the Budget Estimates hearing conducted by the Senate and Rural Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on Tuesday 26 May 2015, I wish to make the following correction:

The correction relates to my response to a question from Senator Cameron. The relevant dialogue is on page 42 of the proof Hansard.

Senator Colbeck: I was reflecting on some of the conversations over the last 24 hours.

Mr Rayns: Tier 1 is where there has been a recent full, quantitative stock assessment. A good example of that is the small pelagic fishery census of the eastern jack mackerel stock. There was a fresh survey done, there was a new assessment undertaken, a new harbour harvest strategy applied, and a result came out of that in terms of a catch level. Tier 2 is where the data is ageing. So it may be five years or older, or it may be that the type of assessment done is not as good as a daily egg production method, which is a type of assessment. A good example of that is that, this year, we used an ecosystem model, called Atlantis, that, while it is well proven nationally and internationally, it is a tool to help assess the health of the egg system ecosystem and the fish stocks in it. The reality is that it is not as good as a DEPM and it is relegated to that tier 2 level. At tier 2 we drop the harvest rates quite dramatically, often to half of what a tier 1 rate would be. You may see the harvest rate at tier 1.

I wish to advise the Committee that I mistakenly referred to the small pelagic fishery survey as the small pelagic fishery census. The correct response should read:

Canberra
PO Box 7051
Canberra Business Centre ACT 2610
P 02 6225 5555 F 02 6225 5500

Darwin
PO Box 131
Darwin NT 0801
P 08 8943 0333 F 08 8942 2897

Thursday Island
PO Box 376
Thursday Island QL D 4875
P 07 4069 1990 F 07 4069 1277

Dr Rayns: Tier 1 is where there has been a recent full, quantitative stock assessment. A good example of that is the small pelagic fishery survey of the eastern jack mackerel stock.

Yours sincerely
^

√ Dr Nick Rayns
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Canberra
PO Box 7051
Canberra Business Centre ACT 2610
P 02 6225 5555 F 02 6225 5500

Darwin
PO Box 131
Darwin NT 0801
P 08 8943 0333 F 08 8942 2897

Thursday Island
PO Box 376
Thursday Island QLD 4875
P 07 4069 1990 F 07 4069 1277