

SOUTH COAST PURSE SEINE FISHERY

**872. Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE to the minister representing the Minister for Fisheries:**

I refer to the shearwater bycatch reduction program in zone 1 of the south coast purse seine fishery.

- (1) What shearwater bycatch reduction measures will be employed during the special management period from February to April in 2014?
- (2) How will the effectiveness of these measures be monitored?
- (3) Where will the outcomes in terms of protected species mortality be reported?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The following measures will be taken during the 2014 special management period: the recording of all shearwater interactions in the Department of Fisheries catch and disposal returns; an industry-agreed voluntary dawn fishing closure; an increase in fishing crew numbers to three; the implementation of voluntary daily fishing closures; the engagement of people to walk Middleton and Goode Beaches in Albany; and the trial of a lead-weighted purse seine net.
- (2) The effectiveness of the mitigation measures will be monitored by the Department of Fisheries via data received from the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Parks and Wildlife and volunteers.
- (3) They will be kept in a report prepared annually by the Department of Parks and Wildlife and the Department of Fisheries.