

**AUSTRALIAN HERRING STOCKS**

*Question without Notice 842 — Answer Advice*

**HON KEN BASTON (Mining and Pastoral — Minister for Agriculture and Food)** [5.06 pm]: I have an answer to question without notice 842 asked on 21 November by Hon Samantha Rowe.

I seek leave to have the document incorporated into *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The following material was incorporated —

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I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Formal advice on the status of Australian herring stocks was provided to Government in August 2013.
  - (2) The herring assessment found that a combination of the impact of environmental factors and fishing has diminished herring stocks.
  - (3) The recreational and commercial fishing peak sector bodies Recfishwest and the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC) participated in early discussions with the Department of Fisheries. The matter has been included for discussion at an upcoming meeting with commercial fishers. Further meetings with other stakeholders are still being planned.
  - (4) The Department of Fisheries will be providing advice on the most appropriate management response following further discussions with relevant commercial fishers, WAFIC, Recfishwest and other stakeholders.
  - (5) It is anticipated that an action plan will be finalised in early 2014.
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