

WESTERN ROCK LOBSTER FISHERY AND DEEP SEA CRAB — QUOTA ALLOCATION

**268. Hon DARREN WEST to the Minister for Fisheries:**

I refer to quota allocations in the rock lobster fishery.

- (1) Was catch history permitted in quota allocation in the western rock lobster fishery; and, if not, why not?
- (2) Was catch history used to allocate access in the southern rock lobster fishery; and, if yes, why?
- (3) Was access to deep sea crab on the west coast, condition 106, allocated equally among condition holders; and, if yes, why?
- (4) Was access to deep sea crab on the south coast, condition 105, not allocated equally among condition holders; and, if so, why?
- (5) Why was access to deep sea crab on the south coast, condition 105, allocated on rock lobster catch history, particularly when this was inconsistent with what the access and allocation panel recommended?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

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

- (1) No. Quota allocation was based on units of entitlement held within the fishery.
- (2) Access and entitlement to zones 2 and 4 of the south coast crustacean fishery, which provides for the take of rock lobster and deep sea crab, was based on a combination of a prior access authorisation and catch history. Access in zones 1 and 3 was based on prior access authorisation. The determination of access and levels of entitlement granted reflect the circumstances in that fishery.
- (3) Yes. Allocation was based on existing entitlement within the fishery.
- (4) See answer to (2).
- (5) See answer to (2). Access and levels of entitlement were determined having regard to all relevant information, including recommendations of the independent access and allocation panel.