

SHARK DRUM LINE PROGRAM

**230. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the Minister for Fisheries:**

- (1) To the minister's knowledge, how many dusky sharks have been caught on the drum lines to date?
- (2) Please give the sizes, dates and locations of all dusky sharks captured on the drum lines to date, as well as details of the animals' release or death.
- (3) How does the minister explain the reported capture of blacktip sharks on drum lines in the south west given the Department of Fisheries' "Field identification guide to Sharks and Shark-like Rays" states that the natural range of both blacktip and blacktip reef sharks is Shark Bay northwards?
- (4) What degree of confidence does the minister place in the south west contractor's ability to correctly identify the species of the sharks he captures?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

- (1) One.
- (2) A 2.9-metre dusky shark was caught at 7.45 am on 10 March 2014 at Floreat Beach and released alive.
- (3) One blacktip shark was reported as caught on 6 February 2014. Blacktip is the common name; the more appropriate description of the shark is a spinner shark.
- (4) The south west contractor uses the Department of Fisheries' field guide and, in addition, the identification of the shark is later verified by Department of Fisheries' officers.