

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 7-9

Output Number: Whole-of-Government

Date: 22 June 2021

From: Ms Marie-Clare Boothby MLA

To: Hon Paul Kirby MLA

Portfolio: Recreational Fishing

Agency: Industry, Tourism and Trade

Subject: Recreational Fishing Grant Scheme

QUESTION:

In December 2019, AFANT received \$100,000 in funding from the Recreational Fishing Grant Scheme to construct an access route through Manbulloo Station to a spot on the Katherine River known locally as 50K hole. Where are negotiations at with the landowner? When will the new access route be constructed and grant funds paid?

ANSWER:

A number of successful applications under the Recreational Fishing Grant Scheme, including the AFANT proposal, were extended due to the impact of COVID in 2020. In addition, the change in ownership of Manbulloo Station resulted in negotiations between the parties having to be revisited.

It is understood AFANT will be applying for a further extension to the timeframes to allow it to undertake negotiations with the new land owner. Once the negotiations are finalised, the remaining grant funding will be provided. If this project does not go ahead, the outstanding grant payments will not be made and any unspent funds returned.

Increasing access opportunities for recreational fishers remains a priority for Government.

Funds will be provided following successful negotiations.