

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources

Recreational Fishing Survey

1. When was the tender awarded for the work, Recreational Fishing Survey?

A: *The tender was lodged on 5 November 2008 and a notice of acceptance was issued on 1 December 2008.*

2. Who was the tender awarded to?

A: *The tender was awarded to Kewagama Research.*

Kewagama Research is the only consultant to have experience with two previous recreational fishing surveys of the NT in 1995 and 2000. Kewagama Research was identified as the preferred tender for this project over Northern Territory (NT) and interstate potential suppliers due to its comprehensive knowledge of recreational fishing survey methodologies; and the cost savings that could be achieved by using the same consultant that conducted the two previous such surveys in the Territory.

Additionally, Kewagama Research has primary intellectual property rights over the telephone/diary survey methodology and is widely recognised throughout Australia as the expert in this field which was pilot-tested and first employed in the NT in 1995.

The success of that project lead to the refinement and use of the methodology in license database studies in Tasmania and South Australia and ultimately in the first comprehensive assessment of recreational fishing in Australia that was conducted in 2000.

For the last 20 years, Kewagama Research has specialised in recreational fisheries research for government agencies in Australia and was assessed to be best qualified to conduct this consultancy.

provide

3. What is the prime place of residence of the successful consultant?

A: *Kewagama Research is based in Queensland however all on-site staff employed during the survey were NT residents.*

4. What was the cost of the tender work?

A: *The final contract was for a total of \$439 803.*

5. What other costs have been incurred in the undertaking of the survey work that is, accommodation, air fare travel and sundries?

A: *No other costs have been incurred by the consultant in the undertaking of the survey work. However, there were other expected costs associated with the training and employment of on-site staff to conduct fisher interviews at designated boat ramps and accommodation venues across the Territory.*

6. What was the timeframe to complete the survey work?

A: *The survey was to be conducted over a 12 month period from April 2009 to April 2010. A final report was to be available by late 2010 however alterations to the scope of the project to address changes in visitor fishing activity and a need to increase sample size for the survey have delayed the completion of the final report.*

7. What were the terms of reference for the tender work?

A: *Refer to attached "Request for Tender".*

8. Who was/is overseeing the tender work?

A: *A Steering Committee was formed to guide development of the survey. The committee included the Amateur Fishermen's Association of the NT, the NT Guided Fishing Industry Association, the NT Seafood Council, the Water Police Section and the Executive Director of Fisheries as Chairman.*

The Manager, Aquatic Resource Management Group with DoR was the project manager for the contract.

9. Has a final report been delivered to Government and if not, why not?

A: *The consultant has provided a penultimate draft of the survey report. It is understood the final report from the survey will be provided to government in April 2012.*

The report has been delayed due to the expansion of scope of the project and complications in the different methodologies required for analysing data for resident and visitor activity.
