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Depeftmmt: Envi‹onmentaIAflalrs REPUBLIC OF BOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL A98EMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO.169{KW1127E}

## INTERNAL QUE9TIOK PAPER flO. 3 of 2019 DATE OF PUBLICATION: 05 July 2019

Mr J R B Lorimer (DA) to ask the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries:

1. Whether her department appealed the Western Cape High Court niling against fishing quotas for West Coast Rock Lo@tar (WCRL); if so, what a‹e the details of p«›geu in thi9 case; if not,
2. whether the court action will go ahead; if not, why not; if co, what a‹e the elevant details;
3. whether, in light of the r«ling, she has found that the total allowable catch figu‹ae for WCRL quotas ears improperly set; if not, what is the positon in this ‹agad; if so, what ae the elevantdetails;

## on what scientific data did her department reply when it set the total allowable catch

levels for WCRL;

1. 6at steps has her department taken to stop the decline in the WCRL number to prevent it from becoming extinct? NW1127E

## 213. THE MINI8TER0F ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FI6HERES REPLIED:

1. Yes. However the department subsequently withdew the appeal application on 10

## December 2018.

1. The court action will not proceed as the department has withdrawn the appeal lodged against the ruling.
2. I am guided in this matter by the court judgement wherein the judge bund, intar alia that: '..the 2017/18 TAC detorninaton of dete‹minaton of 1924.08 tons waa unlawful....". The judge cibd, among other things, the fact that the decision-maker failed b have egaxl B mandatory objectives and principles concerning the need for lobster to be potected f‹om over-exploitation and fbr the exploitation of lobster b be ecologically sustainable. However, the judge stopped ahort of instructing the Department b ‹aduce the TAC alloca6on as the 2017/18 West Coast Rock Lobster season had already closed.
3. *\* am advised by the Department that the data

# ecommendation included:

* 1. Commercial Catch Per Unit of Effort(CPUE);

## Somatic Growth Rata;

* 1. Fisheries Independant Monibring Survey(FIMS) Indices; and
  2. Poaching eatimatas.

## in the scientific

(5)(a)

West Coast Rock Lobster (WCRL) has been identified as one of the two priority

## species with a recovery plan and stately in place.

(5)(b) The‹e a‹e improved eeea«›h and compliance efbrts as well as a move kwards ensuring moe effective coopera8on with various lawenb‹cement agencies B educe the levels of poaching. The Department has, through the Chief DiecBrate: Monitoring Control and Survaillance (MCS), embarked on a number of nearsho‹e enforcement efforts B the WCRL and abalone sectors. This has been augmented by Operation Phakisa joint operators in partnership with South African Police Services (SAPS), the Department of Transport (Taxes), the Department of Home Affairs and various Municipal Metro Police.

Regards

MB B D CREECY, MP

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

DATE:....!.... . .. .