



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

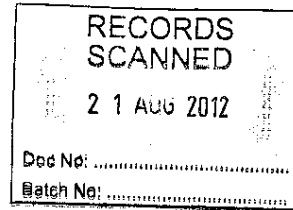


**DON PAGE, M.P.**  
MEMBER FOR BALLINA

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17<sup>th</sup> August 2012

Cr Phil Silver  
Mayor  
Ballina Shire Council  
PO Box 450  
BALLINA NSW 2478



*Phil*  
Dear Cr Silver,

I refer to my representations on your behalf to the Hon. Katrina Hodgkinson MP, Minister for Primary Industries regarding the commercial harvesting of pipsis.

I now enclose herewith a copy of the response received from the Minister for your information.

Yours faithfully

*Don Page*  
Don Page MP  
MEMBER FOR BALLINA

encl.  
DP:dc



**The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP**  
Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Small Business

IM12/18197

15 AUG 2012

The Hon. Don Page MP  
Minister for Local Government  
Minister for the North Coast  
Member for Ballina  
PO Box 1018  
Ballina NSW 2478

- 9 AUG 2012

Dear Minister *Jan*,

Thank you for your representations of 16 May 2012 on behalf of Ballina Shire Council concerning the commercial harvesting of pipsis.

The NSW Government is aware that there has been a decline in the abundance of pipsis in NSW in recent years and recognises the role that pipsis play in the broader environment and the importance of the resource to many NSW coastal communities.

I wish to assure you that both myself and the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) are committed to the sustainable management of pipsis into the future. That is why the management arrangements for commercial pipi fishing have been bolstered through the introduction of an increased minimum legal size limit and commercial daily and possession limits.

I am advised that recent surveys facilitated by DPI have indicated a recovery in pipi numbers on many NSW beaches. While the recovery appears strong on many beaches, there are still concerns for Stockton and South Ballina beaches. For those beaches, large areas will remain closed to commercial harvesting while monitoring takes place.

Additionally, DPI has initiated research aimed at investigating the abundance and size structure of pipi populations on NSW beaches. DPI will continue to analyse all available information on pipsis and work with key stakeholders to refine management controls for pipi harvesting across all relevant fisheries.

I have asked that Dr Geoff Allan, Executive Director, Fisheries NSW, be available to discuss this matter further with you. Dr Allan may be contacted on 02 4916 3909.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina', written over a horizontal line.

**Katrina Hodgkinson MP**  
Minister for Primary Industries

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