

**Submission  
No 78**

# **MANAGEMENT OF SHARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES WATERS**

**Name:** Ms Shona Macindoe

**Date Received:** 29/10/2015

## **Submission to parliamentary enquirer re: effect of shark activity.**

**I am a resident of Tintenbar (10 km west of Lennox head)'**

### **Boardriders**

**I am Vice President of all girls surfers Lennox head an all female surf board riding club that has been running for 23 years. Our club has not run for 2 months due to the increased risk of shark interaction. When we resume in 2 weeks we have already been informed that at least 5 of our members will not be returning to the club as they will no longer be surfing. We provide a non threatening introduction to surf board riding for females. From our club many of our members go on to be professional / successful competitive surfers. We also provide an environment that supports older women starting or continuing to surf. Females tend to be more fearful of sharks than males and as a result we will lose several members.**

### **Surfing**

**My husband and I and our 9 year old son are all keen surfers. Prior to this we would surf a couple of times on the weekend and al least one other time per week. My husband has surfed for over 40 years and I have surfed for over 20. We have not surfed since Matt lee las attacked in June. This is my husbands primary form of fitness and as a result he is now feeling the effects of being less active in terms of increased aches and pains. He is now paying for a personal trainer. I have an arthritic hip and surfing has allowed me to remain fit without too much wear on the joint. I have had to increase my walking and running to maintain fitness and had increase hip pain and stiffness as a result.**

### **Nippers**

**We are all members of Lennox head surf life saving club. My son is a nipper and is unable to train in the surf due to increased shark risk. As a result our previously highly successful surf sports team may struggle to compete against other clubs that are able to train in the ocean. My husband and I are both patrolling members and will be required to do our proficiencies in the next month. This includes a 100 m swim beyond the break. We are both fearful of doing this and my husband is considering giving up patrolling.**

**Increased shark activity has had a significant impact on our lives and many of those around us. With increased shark numbers we need to find a way of continuing to use the ocean in safety**

**Thanks**

**Shona macindoe**

