

**Submission
No 75**

MANAGEMENT OF SHARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES WATERS

Organisation: Coffs Harbour City Council
Name: Mr Enzo Accadia
Position: Section Leader, Community Programs and Cultural Services
Date Received: 27/10/2015

The Chair
Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission on Management of Sharks in NSW – Coffs Harbour City Council

Thank you for your invitation to provide a submission on this topic and please accept my apologies for this late submission – I hope it is still of value to your inquiry.

Coffs Harbour City Council's area of operations includes approximately 60km of coastline, including 32 beaches of which 7 are patrolled. All 7 beaches are serviced by professional Lifeguards, 1 of these all-year round, while the volunteer lifesavers patrol 4 of these beaches during weekends and public holidays over the surf season.

Although Coffs Harbour has few incidents involving sharks, we experience a number of sightings every year, particularly during the whale migration period between April and November. The area has also recorded one fatal attack in recent years, involving a tiger shark in November 2013 at an unpatrolled beach.

Council's Lifeguards currently have procedures in place for management of shark incidents (attached), however in the interest of consistency across the state would like to see a state-wide recommendation for all agencies to implement. The public would then be aware of what actions Council employed Lifeguards, volunteer agencies or contract services should be taking in any event involving sharks. Council's relevant procedures and process charts are attached for your information.

Should you require further information, please contact Council's Lifeguard Service Team Leader, [REDACTED] either by email on [REDACTED] or by phone on [REDACTED] at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,
Enzo Accadia

Section Leader – Community Programs
Community & Cultural Services | Sustainable Communities
Coffs Harbour City Council