MANAGEMENT OF SHARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES WATERS

Organisation: Dorsal

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Dorsal is a free community based mobile application aimed at providing beachgoers with real time information on shark sightings and attacks in their area.

In a recent study commissioned by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, [Shark Deterrents and Detectors](), it found the only program that ticked all of its criteria was the Shark Spotters program out of South Africa.

Shark Spotters requires intensive labour to display at significant costs which are estimated at $200K+ per year. Additionally, the detection is limited to detection at one beach.

Dorsal provides a low cost, digital solution that provides immediate, real time alerts to shark sightings around Australia via a mobile application.

It combines content curated across the various shark sighting resources as well as a crowd sourced database of shark sightings of spots around NSW and Australia.

Unlike many other technologies, its benefit is that it pushes in real time any shark reports or sightings immediately to the users of the app, resulting in the quicker dissemination of shark sighting information and thus reducing the risk of attack to the broader public.

The app went live in the [Apple App Store on 20 October 2015]() with an Android version due in the coming weeks. The website, dorsalapp.com is also being reconfigured to allow reports to be submitted and accessed online.

Key features of the app include:

- Latest sightings and alerts from the public and authorities
- Sightings provided in list and map view with location and time (last 12hrs, last 24hrs, last week and all time) filtering
- Immediate Push notification of shark sightings within 50kms of your current GPS or Favorite locations
- Submit your own sighting to warn others of current sharks in your area
- Detail the location, time, type of shark, length, distance from shore, conditions and photos for your Shark Report

Dorsal is designed to disseminate as much information to its users as quickly as possible, decreasing the users risk in the water by staying up to date and informed.

We would like to see some of the NSW official channels use Dorsal as a means to get alerts out to the public as quickly as possible. We would provide a dedicated, secure login to any of the relevant NSW authorities to enable verified reports to be sent immediately to the public, whether it be from a helicopter, a fisheries boat or a surf lifesaving tower via mobile or web interface.

With the technology already built and available, it is hoped that Dorsal becomes one of the key planks of the future NSW deterrent strategy, enabling NSW authorities such as the Fisheries department to submit their own verified sightings in real time via a

dedicated login as well as using the shark sighting database to aid in research activity of shark behaviors and migrations.
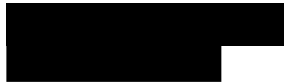
We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the Dorsal solution with you at a time convenient to you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Allan Bennetto
Dorsal

DORSAL

App Screenshots

GET SHARK ALERTS
INSTANTLY TO YOUR PHONE

SEE ALL THE MOST RECENT
SHARK ALERTS

VIEW ALL SHARK ALERTS VIA
LOCATION

RECEIVE ALERTS BASED ON
CURRENT LOCATION OR

SUBMIT YOUR OWN SIGHTING
TO INSTANTLY WARN OTHERS