

SHARKS — HAZARD MITIGATION

898. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Fisheries:

I refer to shark hazard mitigation activities.

- (1) Prior to this past weekend's tragedy, when was the most recent occasion on which the Department of Fisheries undertook a shark tagging operation in the metropolitan area?
- (2) How many sharks, by species, length and interception location, have been tagged and released in the year to date?
- (3) I refer to the minister's media statement of 17 October and ask whether the two automated shark warning towers allocated "for deployment" to the Town of Cottesloe are operational?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Fisheries.

- (1) The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development last conducted shark tagging operations in the metropolitan area on 3 November 2021 in Cockburn Sound.
- (2) To date, 14 white sharks have been acoustically tagged and released in Western Australian waters in 2021. The rest of this part of the answer is in tabular form. I seek leave to have it incorporated into *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

Date	Species	Total Length (cm)	Release Location	
24-Oct-21	White Shark	280	Cockburn Sound	Metropolitan
14-Oct-21	White Shark	361	Cockburn Sound	Metropolitan
14-Oct-21	White Shark	303	Cockburn Sound	Metropolitan
22-Sep-21	White Shark	269	Cockburn Sound	Metropolitan
18-Jun-21	White Shark	431	Nanarup Beach	Albany
31-Jan-21	White Shark	319	Alexander Point (East)	Esperance
30-Jan-21	White Shark	308	Alexander Point (East)	Esperance
16-Jan-21	White Shark	260	Salisbury Island	Esperance
16-Jan-21	White Shark	419	Salisbury Island	Esperance
16-Jan-21	White Shark	387	Salisbury Island	Esperance
15-Jan-21	White Shark	361	Salisbury Island	Esperance
15-Jan-21	White Shark	292	Salisbury Island	Esperance
15-Jan-21	White Shark	356	Salisbury Island	Esperance
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- (3) Two shark warning towers were installed by the Town of Cottesloe on 1 November 2021. The towers can be manually activated by Town of Cottesloe rangers. DPIRD is currently working on programming these towers to operate automatically when a shark is detected on an adjacent shark monitoring receiver. It is expected that the towers will be automated by the end of November 2021.