

SHARKS — HAZARD MITIGATION

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

I refer to the answers provided to my questions which concerned shark hazard mitigation provided on Tuesday, 9 November.

- (1) What framework applies to the conduct of planning and implementing shark tagging operations in Western Australia? For example, how are the areas of operation and the timing of these operations determined?
- (2) What deployable assets are available to the department to facilitate these operations? For example, how many vessels are available and is this a full-time tasking?
- (3) In tabular form, can the minister advise by date and location how many individual shark tagging operations have been conducted in 2021, irrespective of whether these operations eventuated in the successful acoustic tagging of a white shark?

**Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The answer has been provided by the Minister for Fisheries and was current on Wednesday, 10 November.

- (1) Shark tagging operations are conducted to coincide with attractants such as whale carcasses, large fish aggregations and seal pupping seasons. These opportunities include, but are not limited to pink snapper spawning aggregations in Cockburn Sound in September and October each year; whale carcass strandings during the humpback whale migration from June to November each year; and the seal pupping season at the offshore islands at Esperance in November to February each year.
- (2) Shark tagging operations are conducted year-round, subject to suitable environmental and weather conditions. The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development uses a dedicated 20-metre patrol vessel and a specialised nine metre tagging vessel for these operations. DPIRD also utilises patrol vessels stationed at districts around the state for shark tagging operations.
- (3) As requested, the answer is provided in tabular form. I seek leave to have it incorporated into *Hansard*.

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

Date	Location
13-Jan-21	Esperance area
14-Jan-21	Esperance area
15-Jan-21	Esperance area
16-Jan-21	Esperance area
17-Jan-21	Esperance area
26-Jan-21	Esperance area
27-Jan-21	Esperance area
28-Jan-21	Esperance area
29-Jan-21	Esperance area
30-Jan-21	Esperance area
31-Jan-21	Esperance area
10-Feb-21	Esperance area
11-Feb-21	Esperance area
12-Feb-21	Esperance area
13-Feb-21	Esperance area
14-Feb-21	Esperance area
18-Jun-21	Nanarup Beach, Albany
19-Jun-21	Nanarup Beach, Albany
05-Aug-21	Offshore Mandurah
18-Aug-21	Perth Metro
12-Sep-21	Perth Metro
22-Sep-21	Perth Metro

**Extract from *Hansard***  
[COUNCIL — Tuesday, 16 November 2021]  
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Hon Tjorn Sibma; Hon Kyle McGinn

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06-Oct-21	Perth Metro
07-Oct-21	Perth Metro
13-Oct-21	Perth Metro
14-Oct-21	Perth Metro
15-Oct-21	Perth Metro
23-Oct-21	Perth Metro
24-Oct-21	Perth Metro
28-Oct-21	Perth Metro
29-Oct-21	Perth Metro
30-Oct-21	Perth Metro
31-Oct-21	Perth Metro
03-Nov-21	Perth Metro

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