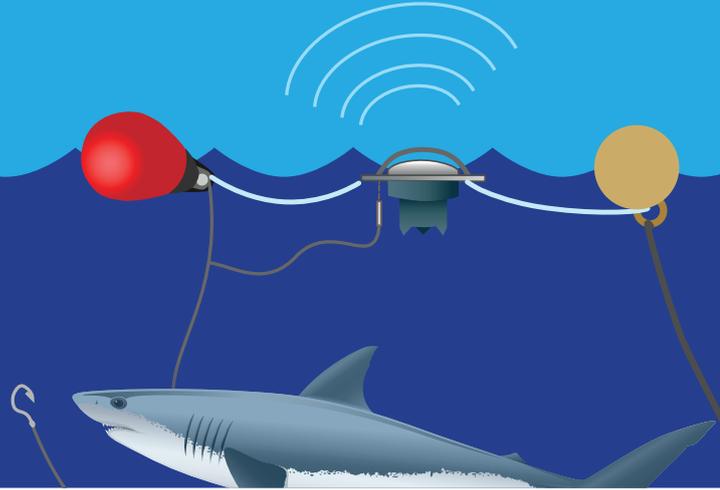


SMART DRUMLINE TRIAL

BEGA VALLEY REGION

February 2019



The NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is trialling SMART (Shark-Management-Alert-In-Real-Time) drumlines across Bega Valley beaches from 1 March to 28 April 2019.

Each day, 20 SMART drumlines will be set across two areas at Tathra and Short Point, Merimbula and Pambula beaches (weather dependent). They are set in the morning and collected in the evening. They are not left out overnight.

SMART drumlines are a new technology that allows target sharks to be intercepted beyond the surf break. Once caught, they are tagged and relocated 1km offshore.

'Target sharks' are White, Bull and Tiger sharks as they are the species mainly involved in shark bites in NSW.

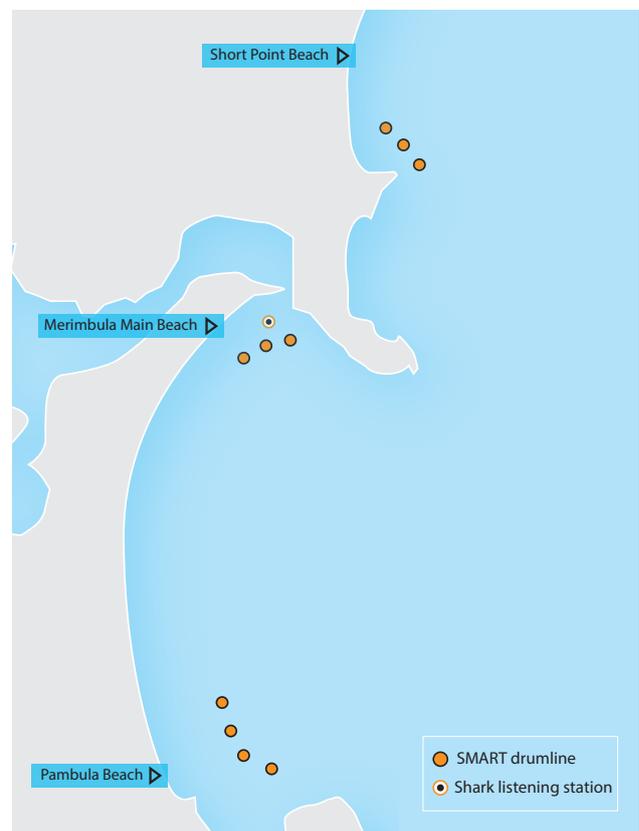
DPI manages the NSW Government's five-year Shark Management Strategy. SMART drumlines are being trialled for shark management along with drones and helicopters for aerial surveillance.

Currently, DPI is successfully trialling 35 SMART drumlines between Evans Head and Lennox Head, and 30 across the Newcastle and Sydney regions. Trials have been completed at Coffs Harbour, Forster, Kiama, and Ulladulla.

Trials in NSW have shown that SMART drumlines are effective at catching target sharks with minimal impact on the marine environment. Reports from other trials can be found on our website at dpi.nsw.gov.au/drumlines

This is the first time SMART drumlines will be trialled in Bega Valley.

Sharks tagged in the trial will allow DPI and the community to monitor the presence of sharks along the NSW coast.



SMART DRUMLINE

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a SMART drumline?

'SMART' stands for Shark-Management-Alert-In-Real-Time.

When a shark takes the bait and puts pressure on the line, the communications unit is triggered to alert the boat crew and DPI scientists. The team responds within 30 minutes to tag and release the shark.

SMART drumlines are set every morning (weather dependent) approximately 500m offshore at a depth between 8-22m of water. They are collected at the end of each day and are not left overnight.

Where are sharks released if they are captured?

Once a target shark (White, Bull or Tiger shark) is tagged, it is relocated about 1km offshore. Data collected from other trials show that relocated target sharks move away from the area for up to several months, before resuming their natural migratory path.

How will I know if a shark has been captured?

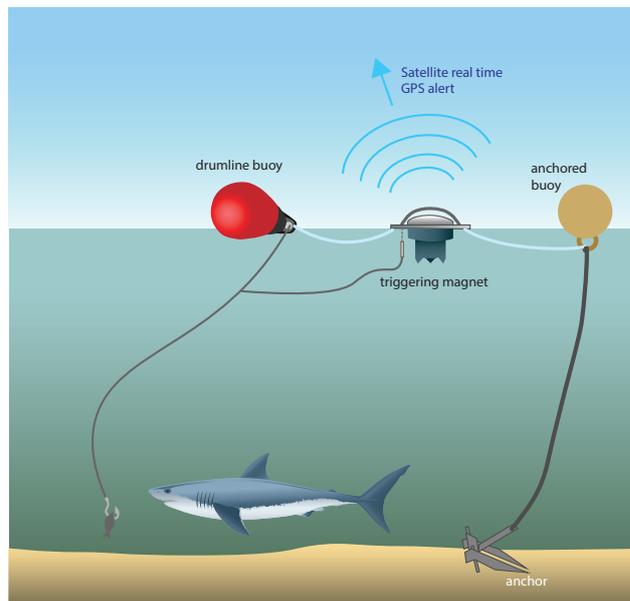
An alert will be made publicly available through DPI's [SharkSmart mobile app](#) and Twitter [@NSWSharkSmart](#) after the shark is released.

Automatic alerts are also posted when a tagged shark swims within 500m of one of the 21 shark real-time listening stations across NSW.

The closest shark real-time listening station (the big, yellow buoy) operates at Merimbula Main Beach.

Will the trial results be published?

Catch results are provided monthly on DPI's website dpi.nsw.gov.au/drumlines along with a results summary at the end of trial.



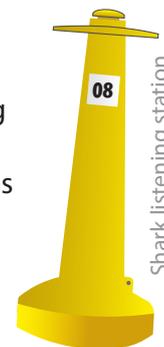
Do SMART drumlines attract sharks?

No burley or other attractants are used to attract sharks. SMART drumlines are set just beyond the surf break to intercept sharks as they naturally move along the coast. A single mullet used on each hook 500m offshore does not attract sharks into the beach.

35 SMART drumlines have been trialled daily (weather dependent) on the North Coast since 2016. Detection methods such as drones, helicopters and listening stations have shown no increase in the presence of sharks in any of the locations where SMART drumlines have been deployed.

How are sharks tagged?

For this trial, an acoustic tag will be attached at the base of the shark dorsal fin that will be picked up on the network of 21 real-time listening stations.



Shark listening station

For further enquiries contact nsw.sharkstrategy@dpi.nsw.gov.au

SMART Drumline
set in morning
and retrieved in
afternoon

Alert Sent
when shark,
or marine animal
takes the bait

Boat Deployed
DPI contractor responds
within 30 minutes

**Tag and
Release**

After Release
tracking shows
sharks move away
for a period