





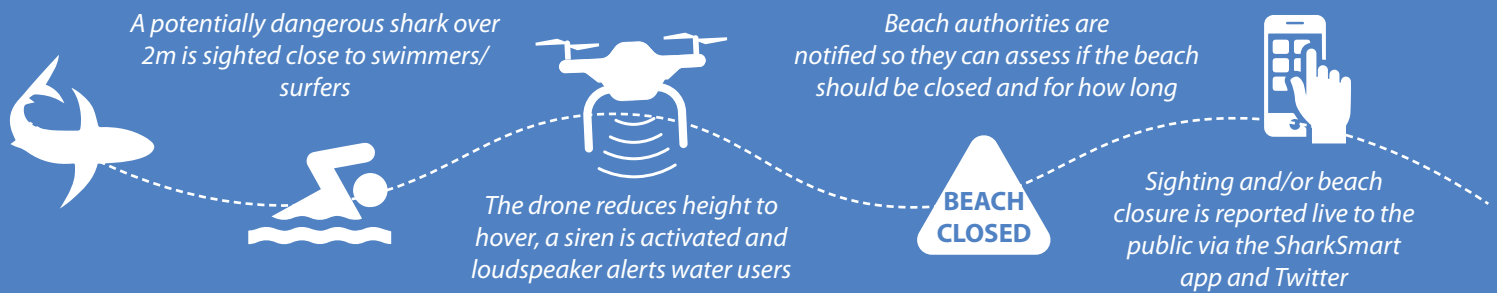
## BENEFITS

- No impacts to sharks or other marine animals
- Comparatively cheap and easy to operate
- In the future, automated software and flight paths will be able to detect sharks
- Targeted flights over a single beach and for events eg. surfing or swimming event
- Rapid response and general beach surveillance
- Help beach authorities to monitor the shark
- Versatility of drones as a multipurpose surveillance and rescue tool
- Potential to drop life saving devices to water users in distress

## CONSIDERATIONS

- Relatively inexpensive. Partnerships between SLS NSW, Councils and swimming/surfing groups could reduce costs
- Currently flights are restricted within 1 km of the pilot
- Proximity to airports may limit use and level of pilot training required
- Flights not possible in poor weather, eg. strong winds, water turbidity
- Requires training of operators

## WHEN A SHARK IS OBSERVED



### At a patrolled beach

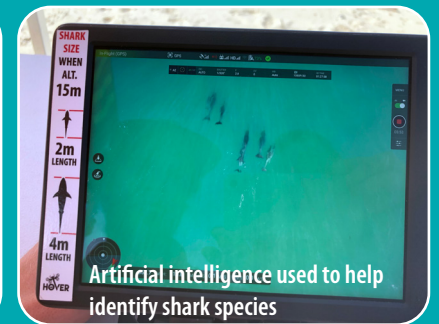
Drones are used at some beaches as a new tool for lifesavers and lifeguards. Drones assist beach authorities to bring a jetski or RHIB (boat) to herd the shark away

### At an unpatrolled beach

Drones can assist to alert water users that a shark is present



SLS NSW with drone used for the trials



Artificial intelligence used to help identify shark species

## WHAT THE COMMUNITY THINKS



- Drone shark surveillance is the most supported and preferred mitigation approach across all coastal regions
- Seen as the future of not just shark management but beach and ocean safety
- Valued for targeted coverage over individual beaches and ability to hover over sharks and water users in distress (e.g. rips or drowning)
- Non-invasive and versatile to provide general surveillance and ocean rescue functions
- Concerns of potential risks of human error and limitations in poor weather/water conditions
- Overall, excellent value for money, cheaper option and more environmentally friendly than helicopters