



NSW SHARK PROGRAM 2020/21

This map shows the different shark mitigation
measures across NSW coastal council
areas during 2020/21.



HELICOPTER PATH

SHARK NETS

HELICOPTER

SHARK LISTENING STATION

NSW SURF LIFE SAVING DRONE

SHARK TAGGING

SMART DRUMLINES

NSW SHARK PROGRAM 2020/21

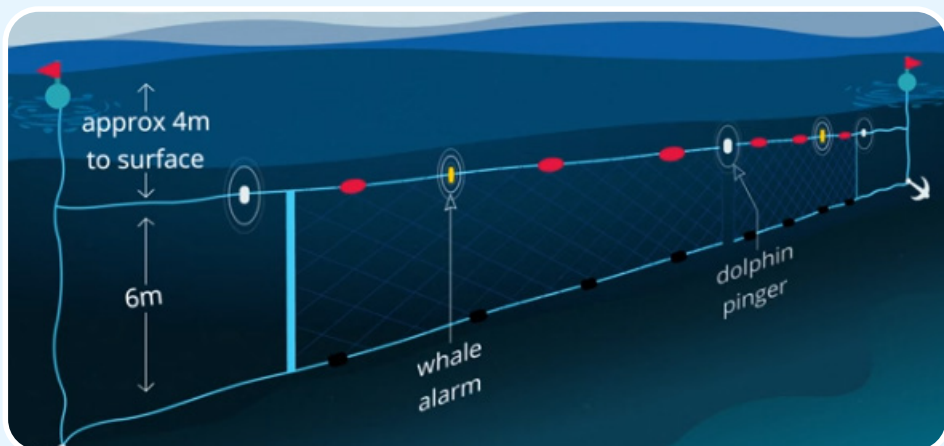
The **NSW Shark Program** aims to increase protection for beachgoers whilst minimising harm to sharks and other marine life.

The Program in 2020/21 includes the most effective and popular components of the **Shark Management Strategy**, including drones, SMART drumlines, and listening stations. The Program also includes the existing **Shark Meshing Program** using shark nets and helicopters between Newcastle and Wollongong.

SHARK NETS

Since 1937, shark nets have been placed at the State's most popular beaches under the **NSW Shark Meshing (Bather Protection) Program**. Shark nets are installed at 51 beaches from 1 September to 30 April annually between Newcastle and Wollongong, and complemented by helicopters on weekends during school holidays and public holidays.

Shark nets are 150m long by 4-6m deep with a mesh size of 60cm. They are set in about 10-12m of water, roughly 500m from shore. Shark nets are fitted with 'whale alarms' and 'dolphin pingers' to warn marine mammals of the presence of nets.



TARGET SHARKS

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



WHITE SHARK



BULL SHARK



TIGER SHARK

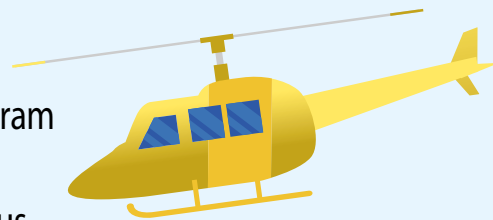
DRONES

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), often known as drones, provide aerial surveillance of coastal waters and real-time vision of the area to detect sharks and other hazards. Surf Life Saving NSW is working towards making drones a standard part of their beach safety service delivered by their volunteer lifesavers and professional UAV pilots.



HELICOPTERS

Helicopters fly over Shark Meshing Program beaches to alert beach authorities and beachgoers to the presence of dangerous sharks. If a dangerous shark is sighted, a siren is sounded and a PA is used to alert beachgoers, and beach authorities are notified.



SMART DRUMLINES

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

SMART drumlines are new technology that allow target sharks to be intercepted beyond the surf break. Once caught, they are tagged and relocated 1km offshore. SMART drumlines are set every morning (weather dependent) approximately 500m offshore at a depth between 6-25m of water. They are collected at the end of each day and are not left overnight.



SHARK LISTENING STATIONS

Shark listening stations also known as VR4Gs are satellite linked receivers that detect tagged sharks. When a tagged shark swims within 500m of one of the 21 listening stations along the NSW coast, an instant alert is sent to the public and beach authorities through DPI's **SharkSmart** website, mobile app and Twitter @NSWSharkSmart.

