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BIAV Submission to Fisheries (Mako Shark) Notice Statutory Consultation Plan

BIAV welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposed Fisheries Notice to introduce a minimum size limit for mako shark species.

Recreational fishing in Victoria for Shortfin Mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) is an important driver of growth in the recreational boating industry, particularly in the game fishing trailer boat and chandlery sectors.

While noting obligations on the recreational fishing community, industry and government to deliver sustainable management outcomes for HMS, a review of available evidence¹ has not provided BIAV the ability to support the proposal via any concerns with current management arrangements.

Therefore, the BIAV do not support the proposed fishery notice.

Whilst pleased with the consultation process and impressed by the efforts of a 12-year-old proponent to stimulate the discussion and drive the Notice, BIAV remains of the view that current arrangements and management are appropriate.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Steve Walker
Chief Executive Officer
Boating Industry Association of Victoria

¹ REFERENCES

French, RP (2017). 'Integrating Biological and Social Information to Inform Responsible Practices for Recreational Shark Fishing', Doctor of Philosophy thesis, Institute of Marine and Antarctic Sciences, UTAS.

NATIONAL REPORT (2016). Second Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, San José, Costa Rica

Rogers, P. J. & Bailleul, F. (2015). Shortfin Mako Movement.

Shark futures (2014): A synthesis of available data on Mako and Porbeagle sharks in Australasian waters. Current status and future directions. FRDC Project No 2011/045.