

**Submission
No 35**

MANAGEMENT OF SHARKS IN NEW SOUTH WALES WATERS

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Submission into the Inquiry of the Effects of the Sharks on the North Coast on Tourism

We have owned and operated the Lennox Head BeachHouse YHA for the last 26 years.

We acknowledge the terrible loss of life and devastating injuries suffered from shark attacks in the recent months.

We are a popular accommodation venue for International and Australian surfers wanting to surf the Lennox break during winter and also for those wanting to learn the sport.

We have not experienced any downturn in accommodation bookings because of the attacks. Our occupancy rate has stayed the same.

In fact one of our longer term guests is back in the water despite having had a close encounter with a shark himself.

While not all our guests are surfers it is noted that the swimming season has not yet really started. Now that the initial period of media cover has stopped incoming guests have generally little knowledge of the past events.

Winter is a period that we get a lot of travelling Australians, with more international guests coming later in the summer season.

Several years ago one of our guests went for an evening surf and was never seen again. Even with the possibility that it was a shark attack it did not have an effect on the remaining guests.

Anna Dicker