



National Plan of Action for Sharks

A National Plan of Action for Sharks (NPOA – Sharks) has been launched to ensure the conservation and management of sharks and their long-term sustainable use.

In October the Minister of Fisheries released the plan, which meets New Zealand’s obligations under the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization’s International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.

Approximately 112 species of sharks have been recorded in New Zealand waters, and more than half of these are caught by fishers. The NPOA – Sharks outlines the objectives for managing sharks taken in New Zealand fisheries, and describes the actions that will be taken to achieve them.

It also recognises that sharks are particularly vulnerable to over-fishing, and the prescribed actions will strengthen measures to conserve and manage our shark species.

In launching this plan, New Zealand is giving an absolute commitment to achieving shark conservation and sustainable use.

The NPOA Sharks is available to view on the MFish website under ‘Completed Consultations’.