

SUBMISSION NO.25
TT 25 & 26 November 2009

12 January 2010

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Department of House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir,

My name is Bill Pedrina and I am an active recreational fisherman and member of Waverley and District Angling club (Vic).

I am writing to you to express my shock and exasperation at the pending decision to list the shortfin mako, longfin mako and porbeagle sharks as migratory species under the EPBC Act. ie. to effectively ban all fishing for mako sharks. From my own reading of scientific data relating to Australian waters makos and and my personal involvement in the Victorian fishery it would seem that such a ban is not only unnecessary from a conservation point but would have far reaching detrimental economic effects in Victoria.

I can't help but feel that this has been a decision made in haste and had there been an appropriate process of public consultation, the real situation regarding shark stocks and the economic and social consequences of such a ban would have been better understood and a different conclusion arrived at.

Should this ban be implemented I and many others will find ourselves with several hundred dollars worth of fishing gear suddenly rendered superfluous in Victoria and the ten or so Mako trips I normally take per year at a fuel cost alone of \$100+ would not happen. Multiply this by the hundreds of Mako fishers and you get some indication of the economic effect. Socially, a recreational activity enjoyed by individuals and families alike is removed.

I respectfully implore your support to rescind this "no take" proposal and commit to a process of public consultation on the issue which can lead to an agreed management plan.

Sincerely,

Bill Pedrina