

SUBMISSION NO.17
TT 25 & 26 November 2009

From: Mr Robert Ellett

Dated 14th January 2010

To: Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Department of the House of Representatives

The Banning of Fishing for Mako Sharks in Australian Waters.

I strongly appose any Ban on Recreational Fishing for Mako Sharks and Porebeagle Sharks in Australian Waters since they were added to CMS Act Appendix 11.

Being a Victorian fisherman and Member of Three Game Fishing Clubs, I frequently target Mako Sharks as they are one of the few Game Fish which are easily accessible in Victorian Waters. Their fighting abilities make them enjoyable to catch. I usually tag and release them to fight another day, as there are other fish that you can eat. Hardly anything compares to the sport of hooking a Mako Tagging it and watching a magnificent beast swim away alive and healthy after a few photos have been taken.

The EPBC Act which is being used to Ban Recreational fishing for Mako Sharks etc is inherently flawed as it does not differentiate between the two Appendixes's of the CMS Act (Appendix 1 – Endangered Species Total Protection. Appendix 11 - Endangered Species Manage Fish Stocks). All it states is if a Species is Listed on the CMS Act it will be Banned regardless of which Appendix it is Listed under.

This Banning of Recreational Fishing for Mako's etc in Australia is being made with no consultation with affected Parties in Australia and also with no Scientific Proof. Dr Julian Pepperell a noted Australin Marine Biologist states that there is no evidence of north south hemisphere migrationof Mako Sharks.

Yours Sincerely
Mr Robert Ellett

Member Victorian Game Fishing Club
Member Bermagui Big Game Angling Club
Member Canberra Game Fishing Club