

Community feedback summary | February to April 2021

Our approach

The SharkSmart drone trial began at five South East Queensland beaches in September 2020. Between February and April 2021, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries sought community feedback through a market research survey (by invitation) and a community survey (open to all). Feedback received will help inform future decisions about the SharkSmart drone trial.

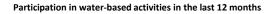
Who we heard from

Market research survey



Queensland water users 71% South East QLD 29% Rest of QLD

Surveyed by invitation from a market research panel between 1 and 11 February 2021





snorkeling 52% 30%



7%

28% 23%



20%

68%



jet skiing

20%



sailing

15%



scuba diving

12%





windsurfing spear fishing 9%

Community survey



Respondents 67% South East QLD 15% Rest of QLD 18% Other location

Opted to participate in survey on DAF eHub portal between 10 March and 7 April 2021

Participation in water-based activities in the last 12 months

31%

fishing

jet skiing

7%

swimming

84%

29%

snorkeling

sailing

8%

44%



scuba diving

18%

27%

windsurfing

3%

SUP

27%

spear fishing

5%

Community quick poll



1,761 responses on DAF eHub portal between 10 March and 7 April 2021

Social media



206 comments

on Fisheries Queensland social media between 10 March and 7 April 2021

Emails



6 email submissions received between 10 March and 7 April 2021

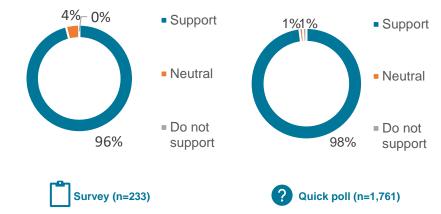




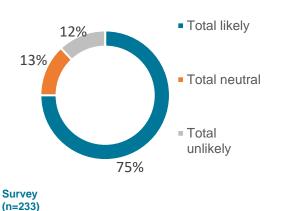
What we heard

Community feedback

Attitudes toward drones as a shark spotting tool

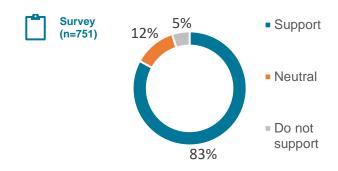


Likelihood of choosing a beach with a shark spotting drone



Market research survey

Attitudes toward drones as a shark spotting tool



Key feedback themes across all methods

Drones do not harm sharks / noninvasive / better than nets or drumlines

Good / great idea which I support

Drones are efficient
/ have good
overhead vision /
can cover areas
quickly

Drones don't endanger marine life and are safe for all creatures Drones are cost effective / cheaper than helicopter surveillance

Drones ensure swimmer safety / can save lives