

Fisheries Minister Mark Furner
Queensland Government position regarding the state's shark fishery
4 September 2018

Extracts from, 'Globally endangered shark could be 'wiped out' by commercial fishing: researcher' by ABC environment reporter Laura Gartry.

- Mr Furner said the changes would prevent catches increasing to unsustainable levels, enable better data to be collected, reduce discards and enable fishers to keep fishing.
- 'The hammerhead shark catch in Queensland is around 1-3 per cent of the global harvest,' he said.
- 'While Queensland's fisheries have contributed very little to the declining abundance of hammerhead globally, the Queensland Government is doing all it can at a local level to ensure the sustainable harvest of the species in Queensland waters.'
- Mr Furner said Mr Gustafson's comment the was shark heading towards extinction was "not the view" of the Commonwealth threatened species scientific committee.
- He said catch limits were based on the Federal Government's own scientific assessment and backed up by his department's stock assessment, completed in 2015.
- 'The decision acknowledged that the Queensland Government complied with the threatened species scientific committee's request, which was to limit the catch and improve monitoring and reporting,' he said.

Website article link:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-09-04/globally-endangered-hammerheads-still-caught-commercially-qld/10179674>