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SANFORD SHARK POLICY

Sanford is committed to, and a strong advocate for sustainable shark fisheries and agrees that there is a need for global improvement.

Sanford absolutely supports international efforts to stop the illegal, unreported and unregulated harvesting of sharks. Sanford is committed to global efforts that address situations where local management approaches do not ensure sustainable shark populations.

New Zealand shark stocks are among the best-studied and managed in the world. New Zealand manages catches of sharks in commercial fisheries under the Quota Management System (**QMS**). The QMS sets yearly catch limits based on stock assessments, monitoring programmes and the biological characteristics of the species. Catch limits are required to be set at levels that ensure long term sustainability.

There are currently 11 species of shark in the QMS. The New Zealand Government rigorously monitors shark catches against defined limits using a catch reporting and balancing system. Sanford contributes to ensuring that sustainable catch limits are set for shark stocks as part of the Quota Management System. Sanford will take all practical steps to ensure that sharks harvested as unintentional by-catch of other fisheries are within the sustainable limits set by the New Zealand government.

As a member of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, New Zealand has adopted a National Plan of Action – Sharks (**NPOA-Sharks**). This plan sets the direction for ensuring the conservation, management and sustainable utilisation of sharks caught by New Zealand vessels in New Zealand waters. In accordance with the goals identified in the NPOA-Sharks a ban on shark finning has been implemented in New Zealand since October 2014.

Sanford ensures that all of its vessels and crew understand and follow fisheries regulations. Not all shark species are threatened or endangered – a number of shark stocks in New Zealand are in very good health and are an integral part of catch plans.

Sanford requires all fishers and fishing companies that we do business with to undertake their fishing activities legally and to be fully compliant including monitoring, recording and landing their catch except for those species that are legally required to be returned to the sea.

For us at Sanford sustainable harvesting of sharks means ensuring that we limit our impact on the environment to ensure the continued availability of shark stocks for generations to come.

Volker Kuntzsch
Chief Executive
Sanford Limited

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