



# International Game Fish Association Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum

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18<sup>th</sup> January 2010

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and the Arts  
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## RE: FISHING OF MAKO AND PORBEAGLE SHARKS AS MIGRATORY SPECIES UNDER THE EPBC ACT

Dear Minister:

The International Game Fish Association represents recreational anglers in 120 countries worldwide and promotes ethical fishing practices for all its members. Conservation is one of our major objectives particularly in this time of overfishing in all major oceans by commercial interests.

We understand the Australian Government wishes to take utmost care of the mako and portbeagle sharks, however, we are very concerned that this listing will preclude game/recreational anglers from taking these species. This is discrimination against recreational anglers as your Government is still permitting commercial fishers to kill and take the species in very large numbers.

The CMS listing is Appendix II category which stipulates these species require management for their conservation. It does not stipulate "no take".

IGFA is aware of the ethical practices of game fishers in Australia and supports their call for an exemption to the listing. Game fishers in Australia are responsible for many of the scientific studies on Short Fin Mako through tag and release programs and most importantly sampling for age and growth by biologists at the weigh stations during tournaments.

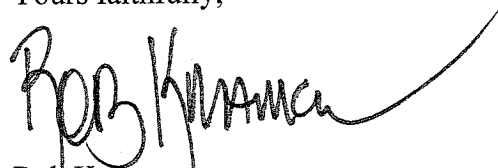
Many of our members from all areas of the world travel to Australia for the fantastic game fishing opportunities, which greatly enhances the economic value of game fishing to the Australian economy and at the same time supports tourism, the game fishing industry and general regional economies.

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The loss of the opportunity to catch and take one of the listed species which are very prevalent in your waters may have a major affect on the decision of many anglers thinking of traveling to Australia.

I request your urgent consideration to exempt recreational anglers from the provisions of Part 13 of your EPCB Act relating to migratory species listed on Appendix II of the Bonn Convention (CMS).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Kramer", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Rob Kramer  
President  
The International Game Fish Association

c.c. Neil Patrick – IGFA Trustee Australia  
Grahame Williams – President, GFAA Inc and IGFA Representative