



West Australian
Friday 21/04/2017

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Buoys go as City Beach trial ends

Angela Pownall

Shark detection buoys are expected to be pulled out of the water at City Beach now that a trial has ended.

Inventor Craig Anderson, from Shark Mitigation Systems, said they were preparing to remove the two sonar devices after having no direction from the State Government.

The two Clever Buoys, which are deployed 250m off City Beach, detected 28 sharks during the three-month, \$500,000 trial, which led to the beach being closed 19 times.

“We will start taking it out over the next few weeks,” Mr Anderson said. “There’s been no

direction really from the new Government. The process is that there is a review of this trial going on.”

He said the devices detected 28 sharks between 1.1m and 3.8m long during the trial. Clever Buoys use sonar technology linked to telecommunications to alert life savers if shark-sized objects come within a certain range.

Lisa Clack, from the Department of Fisheries, said no decision had been made on the use of

the system. “In line with the terms of the grant agreement between Shark Mitigation Systems and the WA Government, the trial was always scheduled to

cease on March 31 and for a review to be conducted,” she said.

Mr Anderson said the devices could work in big swell and at remote beaches, such as the Esperance surf spot where Laeticia Brouwer was killed on Monday.

Two French Government officials were at the beach yesterday to assess the devices for use off Reunion Island.



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Craig Anderson is removing his shark mitigation system from City Beach. Picture: Daniel Wilkins