

## **CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT**

### **MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** November 16, 2017

**To:** Harbor Commission

**From:** Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director

**Subject:** **Population and Predation Trends among Great White Sharks in Southern California**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Harbor Commission receive a presentation on Population and Predation trends Among Great White Sharks in Southern California, from Dr. Chris Lowe, director of the Shark Lab at California State University, Long Beach.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Chris Lowe is a professor in marine biology and director of the Shark Lab at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), where he and his students work with acoustic and satellite telemetry to study the movement, behavior and physiology of sharks.

Dr. Lowe earned his Bachelor of Arts in marine biology at Barrington College in Rhode Island and a Master of Science degree in biology at CSULB. In 1998, he earned a doctorate in zoology, studying bioenergetics of juvenile hammerhead sharks, at the University of Hawaii.

In 1998, he returned to CSULB to teach marine biology and oversee the Shark Lab, founded in 1966 by Dr. Donald R. Nelson, a pioneer in the development and use of acoustic telemetry to study sharks. For the last ten years, he and his students have been studying baby and juvenile white sharks off Southern California and have greatly contributed to the field of knowledge for this enigmatic species. Dr. Lowe has earned several academic awards, including CSULB's Outstanding Professor Award and the 2012 Impact in Research Award.