### INFORMATION SHEET

### PROJECT TITLE: Understanding the perceived conservation benefits shark-marine tourism

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| *You are invited to take part in a research project about how shark-marine tourism programs are perceived to contribute to conservation. The study is being conducted by Aliya Siddiqi under the supervision of Dr. Andrew Chin and Dr. Amy Diedrich and will contribute to the Master of Science (Professional) in Marine Biology at James Cook University.* | |
| Thank you very much for agreeing to participate in this interview, your involvement is very much appreciated. As I mentioned in my initial e-mail, I am a master’s student at James Cook University in Australia, and I am conducting a study exploring people’s experiences with shark-marine tourism, including their views on how it contributes to shark conservation, and what factors hinder or enhance this potential. The information gained from this study will be used to better understand how to manage marine-shark tourism so that it produces benefits for both operators and sharks.  If you agree to be involved in the study, you will be invited to be interviewed. The interview, with your consent, will be recorded, and should only take approximately 30 minutes of your time. The interview will be conducted via Zoom, Skype or telephone. The interview can be conducted with anyone currently or previously involved in the design, planning, implementation, monitoring, and/or management of shark marine tourism programs. All of your responses will remain confidential. Your participation is entirely voluntary, and you are free to leave any questions that you would prefer not to answer. You can stop taking part in the study at any time without explanation or prejudice. | |
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| **If you know of others that might be interested in this study, can you please pass on this information sheet to them so they may contact me to volunteer for the study.** | |
| Your responses and contact details will be strictly confidential. The data from the study will be used in research publications and reports. You will not be identified in any way in these publications. | |
| If you have any questions about the study, please contact **- Aliya Siddiqi or Andrew Chin** | |
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| **Principal Investigator:**  **Aliya Siddiqi**  **College of Science and Engineering**  **James Cook University**  **Email: aliya.siddiqi@my.jcu.edu.au** | **Supervisor:**  **Andrew Chin**  **College of Science and Engineering**  **James Cook University**  **Phone: +61 (7) 4781 4486**  **Email: andrew.chin@jcu.edu.au** |

***If you have any concerns regarding the ethical conduct of the study, please contact:***

***Human Ethics, Research Office***

***James Cook University, Townsville, Qld, 4811***

***Phone: (07) 4781 5011 (ethics@jcu.edu.au)***