



K W A Z U L U - N A T A L
SHARKS BOARD
Maritime Centre of Excellence

Promulgated in terms of the KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008)

1A Herrwood Drive
Umhlanga 4320
PBag 2
Umhlanga 4320
South Africa

Tel: 031 566 0400
Int: +27-31 566 0400
Fax: 031 566 0499
Int: +27-31 566 0499
www.shark.co.za

Sardine Run 2017

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 21 June 2017

Sardines made a surprise appearance at Scottburgh this morning, 21st June 2017. A total of 110 crates were netted in one net at Scottburgh main beach. 25 crates of mackerel were also netted. Reports suggest that numerous shoals of baitfish have been seen between Scottburgh and Umtwalume and it is highly likely that some, but not all of these, are sardines (pilchards). These shoals were not accompanied by the normal predator activity. The Sharks Board will be undertaking a flight tomorrow to see if any shoals can be seen further southwards.

It is very generally difficult to try and predict the movement of these fish especially when they move in from deep offshore which we suspect was the case this morning. The next day or so should give us a better understanding of whether the netting this morning was a once off or a sign of more to come.

Shark safety gear has been removed from Scottburgh, Umgababa and Karridene at this stage. All the other shark safety gear along the coast remains in place and beaches are open for bathing. This may change as the run develops and more gear may be removed over the coming days depending on the status of the sardine shoals.

ENDS

Mike Anderson-Reade
Head of Operations