



Mid-West Times, Geraldton WA 11 Jul 2013

General News, page 9 - 44.44 cm² Regional - circulation 20,632 (--W----)



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ID 202936786 PAGE 1 of 1

Stingray study examines attraction

Sexual attraction of the electric sort happens when stingrays meet, according to a researcher at The University of Western Australia's Oceans Institute and the finding may help prevent shark attacks on humans.

PhD candidate and shark biologist Ryan Kempster is the lead author of a paper about stingrays' use of electroreception in identifying mates, published in the journal Brain, Behaviour and Evolution.

The author undertook the research with colleagues at UWA's Neurecology Group.

Knowing more about the electrosensory system may help to ensure that electronic shark mitigation devices work effectively.