



Shark species rethink

THE discovery of a species of shark not previously seen in Australian waters could rewrite science, researchers say.

Shark biologist Ryan Kempster, of the University of Western Australia's Oceans Institute, said two sharks were identified as mandarin dogfish after a two-year investigation, including DNA sequencing.

The rare sharks, a male almost a metre long and a pregnant female about 1.2m long, were caught off Rott-nest Island at a depth of 430m.

Mr Kempster said the species had only previously been found in waters between Indonesia and Japan, and also off New Zealand. **AAP**