

# Basic Detail Report

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**00055283**

**Title**

Seim Boy

**Date**

2018

**Primary Maker**

Jimmy Kenny Thaiday

**Medium**

Ghost net (reclaimed fishing net and rope), polypropylene, rope and twine, steel frame

**Dimensions**

Overall: 3170 × 1100 × 1400 mm, 27000 g

**Name**

Sculpture

**History**

Artist Statement: "Right across the Torres Strait irwapaup (hammerhead sharks) are considered to be an important cultural symbol. In the Eastern Torres Strait Islands, it is a totem for a number of tribes. The irwapaup has also been portrayed in traditional dances with the dancers wearing either facemask or head dress representing the shark and mimic the movement of the shark for dancing performances. Large hammerheads are often seen off the northwestern side of Erub where the reef drops off quite sharply. They swim up from the deep water into shallows searching for stingrays to eat. The irwapaup uses it's widespread vision to hunt prey and it's mallet shaped head is covered with sensory receptors. They have a white belly and greenish colour on their backs allowing them to sneak up on their prey. Shark attacks in the Torre Strait are uncommon, as we know when to be in the water. It's about respecting the shark and his environment. Around the Australian coast sharks are perceived as dangerous predators but the marine debris that man is creating is equally as lethal. I named this particular irwapaup Seim Boy because it is the name of the village in which I live on Erub. Sometimes a smaller irwapaup can be seen from my village, swimming along the edge of the reef." - Jimmy K Thaiday, Erub Erwer Meta Arts Centre, Erub Erwer Meta Torres Strait Islander Corporation.