

ACTIVITY: Bodyboarding

CASE: [GSAF 2012.10.02](#)

DATE: Tuesday October 2, 2012

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Indian Ocean at Mullaloo, Western Australia.

NAME: Andrew Gavriiliu

DESCRIPTION: He is an 11-year-old male.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 12h00, Perth recorded mostly cloudy skies and 6.2-mile visibility. The air temperature was 75.2°F, dew point 59°F, humidity 57%, sea level pressure 29.89 inches (falling), and wind direction was WNW at 13.8 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 96% of the Moon was illuminated.

ENVIRONMENT: Mullaloo is a northern coastal suburb of Perth, located within the City of Joondalup.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 50 metres

TIME: Midday

NARRATIVE: Andrew was bodyboarding when he felt a tug on his swim fin. "At first I thought it was nothing, but then I saw the fin and I was scared," he said. "It was a shark."

Andrew yelled "shark" to alert his mate and other surfers who were nearby. He caught a wave to the shore and alerted other swimmers. The incident was reported to the Water Police who alerted the Surf Life Saving WA, which posted details of the sighting on Twitter and sent the lifesaving rescue helicopter to patrol the area as local rangers warned other beach users.

INJURY: Andrew was not injured by the shark, but there were teeth marks on his fin and it was torn.

SPECIES: Not identified. The encounter was reported to Water Police by a man on the beach who told them the shark may have been 2m long.

SOURCES: The West Australian October 3, 2012,

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/wa/15025722/boy-reports-shark-contact-at-mullaloo/>

Luke Eliot and Gabrielle Knowles, The West Australian, October 4, 2012,

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/breaking/15029790/boy-tells-of-brush-with-shark/>



Photo courtesy of Simon Santi/The West Australian

Lennon Williams and Andrew Gavriiliu (both 11-years-old) after Andrew's shark scare.



Mullaloo Beach