



**ACTIVITY:** Wading

**CASE:** [GSAF 2016.01.05](#)

**DATE:** Tuesday January 5, 2016

**LOCATION:** The incident took place on the Great Barrier Reef at Heron Island, Queensland, Australia.

**NAME:** Nicolas Davis

**DESCRIPTION:** An 11-year-old male from Italy.



### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** Heron Island recorded air temperature of 26.8°C, humidity 86%, and sea level pressure 1005.7 hpa. At 13h00, YGLA , the airport nearest Gladstone, reported mostly cloudy skies and visibility of 6.2 miles. The air temperature was 87.8°F, heat index 93.8°F, dew point 71.6°F, humidity 58%, sea level pressure 29.65 inches and wind direction was West at 10.4mph. By 18h00, the air temperature had risen to 89.6°F, heat index 93.4°F, dew point 68°F, humidity 49%, sea level pressure has dropped to 29.62 inches and the wind had shifted to WNW.

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Crescent, 24% of the Moon was illuminated. New Moon January 10, 2016.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** At Heron Island, mean low tide occurred at 12h22.

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Knee-deep

**TIME:** Afternoon

**NARRATIVE:** Nicolas Davis and his family were on holiday in Australia. "He was on the beach, just in the water wading near deep water and he said he actually saw the shark ... and the next minute it bit him and Dad got him out the water, " said Queensland Ambulance Service paramedic Brad Lawson.

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**INJURY:** Bite to right calf.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** The patient was taken from the water by his father and brought to the island's medical centre where the injury was cleaned and dressed by a registered nurse and the patient was prepared for transport. The nurse, the patient and his father flew from the island by sea plane to the mainland where they were met by paramedics just before 17h00 and the patient was transported to Gladstone Hospital, arriving there in stable condition. Afterwards he was flown 440 kilometers (270 miles) to Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in Brisbane where he underwent reconstructive surgery. The patient is expected to remain there for a few days but is not believed to have suffered any permanent damage.

**SPECIES:** Queensland Ambulance Service Advanced Care Paramedic Brad Lawson paramedic, reported that the incident involved a blacktip reef shark.

**SOURCES:** 9 News, January 5, 2016

<http://www.9news.com.au/national/2016/01/05/17/56/boy-attacked-by-shark-off-heron-island-in-queensland>

Brisbane Times, January 5, 2016

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/shark-bites-11-year-old-boy-off-heron-island-20160105-glzvpb.html>



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