

ACTIVITY: Wading

CASE: [GSAF 2006.02.13](#)

DATE: Monday February 13, 2006

LOCATION: The incident took place at Golden Beach in Caloundra, Queensland, Australia.
26.8°S, 153.1°E

NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: He is an 18-year-old male.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At Noon, Beerburrum Forest Station recorded air temperature of 87°F [31°C], dew point 71°F [22°C], humidity 50% and wind direction was East at 5.8 mph [9.3 km/h].

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, 100% of the Moon's visible disk was illuminated.

ENVIRONMENT: Several beaches along Queensland's popular Gold Coast were closed over the weekend as scores of hammerheads, gray nurse and bronze whaler sharks fed off massive schools of pilchards moving along the coast. "There are numerous reports of sharks chasing people in knee deep water in pursuit of food, with some even stranding themselves in the shallows," said Fisheries Minister Tim Mulherin. "Swimming at patrolled beaches is certainly a safer option as shark safety equipment is strategically placed off 84 beaches along the Queensland coast. These beaches have the added protection of having lifesavers on duty." He also warned bathers to beware of bull sharks, bronze whalers and tiger sharks spotted in estuarine, canal and nearshore waters.

DEPTH OF WATER: Less than 30 centimetres

TIME: 11h00

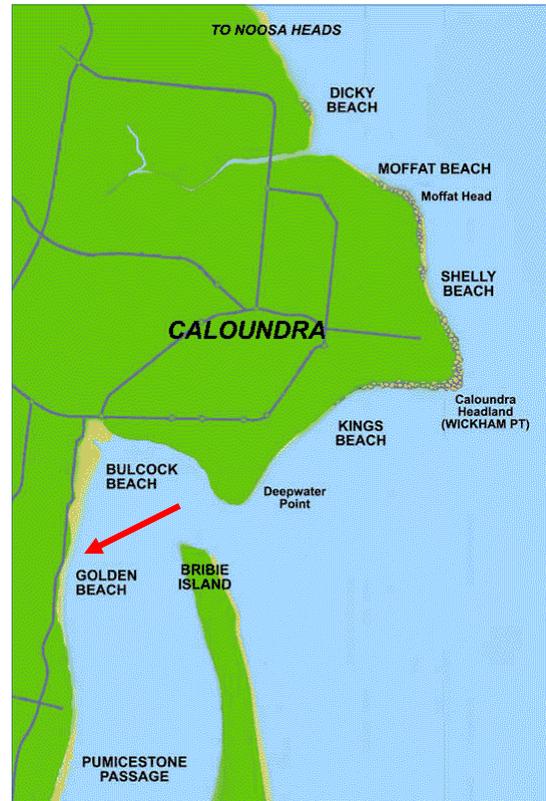
NARRATIVE: No details. The man, who was either wading or standing when he was bitten by the shark, did not report the incident to police or Queensland Ambulance Serve, but a Queensland Boating and Fisheries spokesman confirmed that it happened near the Caloundra Powerboat Club.

INJURY: The man was bitten on the foot. Eleven stitches were required to repair the injury.

SPECIES: Not identified, but it was said to be a small shark. Lifeguard Milton Brutton, who chased several sharks out of the shorebreak at Surfers Paradise on his wave runner, said most of the sharks feeding on the shoals of pilchards were less than a metre in length.

SOURCE: Greg Stolz, Gold Coast bureau chief, Courier-Mail, February 14, 2006

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Swimmers, bait fish and sharks jostle for space in the shallow waters off Surfers Paradise on February 12, 2006

Photo by Adam Head