



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2010.05.18.a](#)

DATE: Tuesday May 18, 2010

LOCATION: Point Plomer, New South Wales, Australia

NAME: Craig Gibson

DESCRIPTION: He is a male from Bribie Island.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: It was overcast and dark. At 15h00, Kempsey recorded visibility of three miles and light rain. The air temperature was 59°F, dew point 54°F, humidity 79%, and wind direction was West at 2.3 mph. At 15h00, Port Macquarie recorded precipitation, air temperature of 58°F, dew point 54°F, humidity 83%, sea level pressure 29.98 inches, and wind direction was WSW at 9.2 mph.

MOON PHASE: New Moon, May 14, 2010; First Quarter, May 21, 2010

SEA CONDITIONS: The surf was small.

ENVIRONMENT: "There are a lot of sea mullet around and (commercial fisherman) were doing a big haul in the middle of the bay at the same time about 2km away," according to Jim Reardon, who witnessed the incident.

TIME: 16h30

NARRATIVE: Mr. Gibson was one of about 10 learner surfers in the water. He had just

finished the wave and was about to paddle back out when the shark bit him on his left calf. He punched it in the head three times but it didn't let go so he wrestled with it.

INJURY: The surfer sustained superficial lacerations to his lateral lower left leg from his midcalf to his ankle

TREATMENT: A qualified paramedic at the camping ground administered first aid and Mr Gibson was able to walk away with no major injuries.

SPECIES: "The shark had a head the size of a basketball," according to Mr. Reardon. He speculated the incident involved a bull shark that was chasing mullet.

SOURCE: Jarrod Lipscombe, May 21, 2010, <http://www.macleayargus.com.au/news/local/news/general/celebration-for-shark-survivor/1836455.aspx>