

ACTIVITY: Diving

CASE: **GSF 2011.10.29**

DATE: Saturday October 29, 2011

LOCATION: The incident took place in uShaka Marine World Aquarium in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

NAME: Unknown

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: New Moon, October 28, 2011

NARRATIVE: The divers were doing a routine procedure when one of the sharks bit a diver's arm.

SPECIES: A raggedtooth shark, *Carcharias taurus*.

NOTE: This is a provoked incident; it involved a captive shark.



Shark bite victim 'doing well'

An uShaka Marine World worker, who was bitten by a shark at the aquarium this morning, is doing well in hospital.

Ushaka CEO Dr Mark Penning says they were doing a routine procedure on one of their Ragged Tooth sharks, when one of the divers was bitten on his arm.

"Luckily he's a tough guy. He's in hospital, and he's being very well looked after. He was more worried about not being able to go to the cricket today than what the shark did."

Penning says while they've got systems in place to look after the people who work with sharks, and other potentially dangerous animals, in rare cases things don't work out according to plan.

"This is not an aggressive shark, it's not a species of shark that will deliberately go out and hunt a diver, but the animal got scared and it lashed out, and unfortunately his arm was in the way at that time."

SOURCE: Hannah Keal, East Coast Radio (Durban), October 29, 2011, <http://www.ecr.co.za/kagiso/content/en/east-coast-radio/east-coast-radio-news?oid=1430006&sn=Detail&pid=490476&Shark-bite-victim--doing-well->