

Wallabi Point NSW



Picture: David Howarth

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2014.10.29](#)

DATE: Wednesday October 29, 2014

LOCATION: The incident took place at Wallabi Point, New South Wales, Australia. Wallabi Point is 250km north of Sydney.
31°59'42"S, 152°34'6"E

NAME: Ryan Hunt

DESCRIPTION: He is a 20-year-old male, an experienced surfer from Old Bar. He recently returned from competing in Japan.



*Ryan Hunt
on Instagram*

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 18h00, Taree recorded an air temperature of 69°F, dew point 56°F, humidity 54%, sea level pressure 30.01 inches, and wind direction was East at 10.4 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waxing Crescent, 27% of the Moon was illuminated. First Quarter, October 31, 2014.

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: 18h00

NARRATIVE: Ryan Hunt had been in the water for 30 minutes, surfing small waves. "I caught a wave in, got off, and then stood on a shark's head," Hunt said. "I thought it was a rock at first and then it latched on to my foot." Hunt kicked the shark off with his right foot but it "bit back again", he said. He kicked it a second time before it swam between his legs and swam away.

INJURY: Laceration to dorsum of the left foot. Hunt posted an image of his injury on

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Instagram about 21h30 with the caption "Apparently sharks like feet..."

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Hunt made his way to the beach where he was helped by a mate and a local who applied first aid. He was then taken to Manning Hospital where he was admitted for further treatment.

SPECIES: Not identified. Hunt estimated the shark's head was 25cm [10 inches] wide.

SOURCES: Manning River Times / The Courier, October 29, 2014; The Sydney Morning Herald, October 30, 2014; Gulf News, October 30, 2014, <http://gulfnews.com/news/world/other-world/bitten-australian-surfer-kicks-off-shark-1.1406098>; Instagram/ryanjhunt

NOTE: This was a provoked incident. The shark was attempting to defend itself; it bit the surfer after he stepped on it.

