



ACTIVITY: Snorkling

CASE: GSAF 2015.09.26

DATE: Saturday September 26, 2015

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Tasman sea at Russell Island, Queensland, Australia.

NAME:

DESCRIPTION: A seven-year-old female.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waxing Gibbous, 97% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, September 27, 2015.

ENVIRONMENT: Russell Island in North Queensland is part of the Frankland Islands which form Frankland Group National Park. It lies 30 km north-east of Babinda, and south-east of Cairns.

DEPTH OF WATER: Shallow

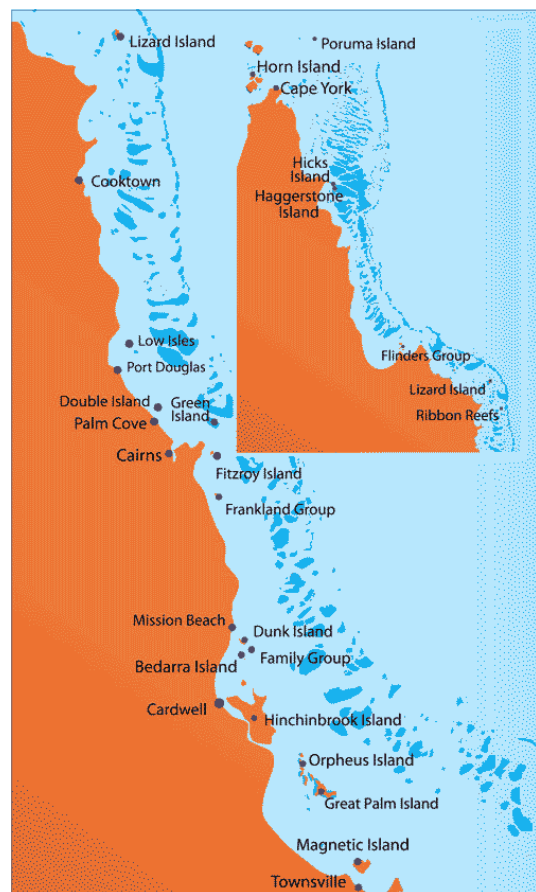
TIME: Afternoon

NARRATIVE: The girl was camping with her mother and several others. She was swimming when she felt something, turned around and saw a shark swimming away.

INJURY: Laceration to leg.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The girl's mother used a satellite phone to call for emergency rescue. A Queensland Ambulance Service helicopter arrived to find the girl in good spirits and her injury dressed. They airlifted her to Cairns Hospital in stable condition.

SPECIES: James Cook University shark expert Dr Colin Simpfendorfer said it was



impossible to guess what type of shark may have been involved as there were up to 25 species which inhabit that area. He said the girl may have unintentionally startled it, prompting it to react. "That is not an uncommon sort of response that we see," Dr Simpfendorfer said.

SOURCES: The Cairns Post, September 28, 2015

<http://www.cairnspost.com.au/news/cairns/young-girl-airlifted-off-far-north-queensland-island-after-shark-bite/story-fnjpusyw-1227546276526>

Brisbane Times, September 28, 2015

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/shark-sighted-in-cairns-after-girl-bitten-in-water-20150928-gjw8vq.html>