

ACTIVITY: Snorkeling

CASE: **GSAF 2019.09.18**

DATE: Wednesday September 18, 2019

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Haleiwa on the the north shore of Oahu, Hawaii, USA.

NAMES / DESCRIPTIONS: Lauren Russell (a 24-year-old female), her father Regan Russell (a 57-year-old male) and an unidentified 31-year-old male.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: Mostly cloudy sky.

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was clear, there was a northwest swell, the sea surface temperature was 77°F to 79°F. On September 18, 2019, mean high tide at Haleiwa occurred at 05h43 and 17h16 (5:16 pm), low tide occurred at 11h02.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: Three miles

DEPTH OF WATER: 600 feet (estimated)

TIME: 10h10

NARRATIVE: The snorkelers were bitten when a shark went for a school of fish near them.

INJURY: Minor injuries. Regan Russell was bitten on the right forearm near the elbow. Lauren Russell was bitten on the right hand and an unidentified male was bitten on the shoulder.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: None accepted EMT/ambulance service, and all left in their own vehicles with smiles on their faces. Lauren said, "Sorry, not much of a dramatic shark attack story here, just nature being nature in the ocean."

SPECIES: Galapagos shark, five to nine feet in length

SOURCES: KITV, September 18, 2019

<https://www.kitv.com/story/41068652/three-people-suffer-from-apparent-shark-bites-at-haleiwa-boat-harbor>

Hawaii News Now, September 18, 2019

<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2019/09/18/snorkelers-suffer-minor-injuries-shark-encounter-off-haleiwa/>

Newsweek, September 19, 2019

<https://www.newsweek.com/hawaii-haleiwa-shark-attack-feeding-frenzy-adventure-diving-snorkeling-1460124>

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