

The Sunshine Coast Daily

Stonefish stings man at beach

8:00a.m. 24 September 2006

A 25-YEAR-OLD man was taken to Caloundra Hospital in severe pain after standing on a stonefish at Bulcock Beach yesterday.

Sunshine Coast Surfcom duty officer Dave McLean said the man had been walking over rocks along the beach around 11.30am when he was stung.

He tried to paddle across to Bribie Island but turned back because of the pain, he said.

When he walked up the beach (to the lifesaving patrol) he started shaking and went into slight shock.

Lifesavers treated the wound with hot water to ease the pain until an ambulance arrived.

He was released from hospital after treatment. Stonefish are considered the most venomous fish in the world and can inject toxins from their dorsal spines which are capable of causing severe pain.

However they are not considered deadly.

Meanwhile, a 20-year-old woman was taken to hospital after suffering a suspected spinal injury at Noosa Beach around 1.30pm.

Mr McLean warned that while the surf was not overly large at the moment, the onshore dump at beaches like Noosa and Mooloolaba was always a danger for unwary swimmers.

At Rainbow Beach a 50-year-old man was rescued after being caught in a rip about 200 metres north of the flags.