

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 1998.05.25

DATE: Wednesday May 25, 1998

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at the Inlet at New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

29.1°N, 81.0°W

NAME: Jack Munteer

DESCRIPTION: He is a 40-year-old male from New Smyrna Beach, a banker. He was wearing baggies.

SURBOARD: The surfer was using a longboard.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: New Moon

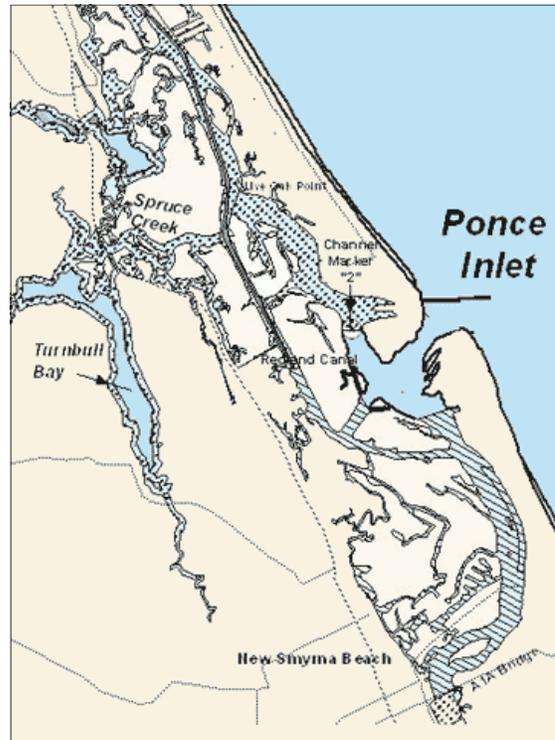
SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was calm with few rip currents, but the water was turbid.

ENVIRONMENT: This was Memorial Day and thousands of holidaymakers were at the beach.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 200 feet south of the Ponce de Leon Inlet.

DEPTH OF WATER: Five feet

TIME: 11h10



NARRATIVE: Jack Munteer was sitting on his surfboard. About 20 other people were within ten to 50 feet of him. The shark swam under his board, suddenly turned and made a single strike on the surfer. "He actually saw the shark go under him in chest-deep water," said Deputy Chief Mike Hensler of the Volusia County Beach Patrol. "It made a sharp turn and went under him and bit him on his right foot." The shark disappeared after it bit the surfer.

INJURY: He sustained four lacerations to his right foot: one on the dorsal surface, one on the sole, and on the heel. All the lacerations were about four inches in length.

TREATMENT: The surfer was taken by ambulance to Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach where his wound was repaired.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Munteer identified the shark as a 1.5-metre [five-foot] lemon shark.

SOURCES: Orlando Sentinel, May 26, 1998, page C.3

Daytona News-Journal, May 26, 1998, page 2D

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn