

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** GSAF 2007.06.24

**DATE:** Sunday June 24, 2007

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at a surf spot called Silva's channel in Mokuleia on the north shore of O'ahu, Hawaii, USA.

21.6°N, 158.2°W

**NAME:** E. Yamada

**DESCRIPTION:** Male

### BACKGROUND

**WEATHER:** At 06h55, Dillingham recorded mostly cloudy skies and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 67.1°F [19.5°C], dew point 61.5°F [16.4°C], humidity 82%, sea level pressure 30.01 inches [ 1016.3 hPa ], and wind direction was WNW at 4.6 mph [7.4 km/h ].

**MOON PHASE:** Full Moon, June 30, 2007

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The water was clear.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Mokuleia Beach, only 150 feet wide, stretches six miles from Kaiaka Bay to Camp Erdman, and borders some of the last undeveloped sections of shoreline on O'ahu. The incident took place at the edge of a channel.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 50 yards.

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Five to 10 feet at the channel's edge.

**TIME:** 07h00

**NARRATIVE:** George Rio spoke with the surfer just a few minutes after the encounter and said, "When he was paddling out, he felt something grab his board really hard and actually took him under the water. When it came up, it could have bit him, but he put the board towards the shark's mouth. Instead of going for him, the shark went for the board," said Rio. As for the surfer's reaction, Rio said, "he seemed like he was still in a daze...in shock like he cannot believe that a shark bit his board and could have bitten him".

**INJURY:** The surfer was not injured, but the shark bit the right side of his surfboard.

**SPECIES:** Tooth impressions in the surfboard are consistent with those of a tiger shark, perhaps around 6 feet, but length uncertain.

**SOURCE:** Grace Lee, KGMB9.com, <http://kgmb9.com/kgmb/display.cfm?storyID=11782>



*A picture sent to the newsroom shows the surfer and his surfboard. The bottom tip is missing.*

