

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2011.12.06

DATE: Tuesday December 6, 2011

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Seaside Cove, Clatsop County, Oregon, USA.

45°58'41"N, 123°56'7"W

NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: Female



BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 09h01, KORSEAS11 (the weather station at the cove), recorded an overcast sky.

The air temperature was 36.4°F, dew point 34.8 F, humidity 94%, sea level pressure 30.38inches, and wind direction was East at 1 mph with gusts to 4 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waxing Gibbous, 88% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, December 10, 2011.

SEA CONDITIONS: Sea surface temperature was 46.9°F.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 400 yards

TIME: 09h00

NARRATIVE: Other surfers in the ocean at the time of the incident said they heard a large splash. "I looked up and I saw her and the board thrashing," said John Roger. "She was able to paddle over to another surfer and they paddled into shore together. Another surfer brought in the women's surfboard.

INJURY: The woman's right calf was injured. Seaside fire Captain Dale Camrath, who was on the beach when medics carried the woman away, said "some kind of marine creature" bit the woman. The cuts were "very minor," he said.

TREATMENT: She was taken by ambulance to Seaside Providence Hospital where she was treated and released.

SPECIES: George Matsumoto, marine biologist at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, said the marks on the woman's surfboard were not consistent with the jaw structure of a shark. "That's not the right shape," he said. "A shark has a semi-circle bite. The mark here is angular, which looks man-made."

SOURCES: KGW-TV, December 6, 2011,

<http://www.ktvz.com/oregon-northwest/29937182/detail.html>

Seattle Times, December 6, 2011,

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2016949676_surferbitten07m.html

The Oregonian, December 6, 2011, http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2011/12/identity_of_marine_creature_wh.html

Seaside Signal, December 6, 2011, http://www.seasidesignal.com/news/article_bbf9e794-2034-11e1-bfcf-0019bb2963f4.html?mode=image&photo=0

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Damage to surfboard

