

ACTIVITY: Canoeing

CASE: GSAF 2011.12.21.b

DATE: Wednesday December 21, 2011

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean off Makahuena Point, Kauai, Hawaii, USA.

NAME: Keone Miyake

DESCRIPTION: He is the head coach of Kukui'ula Outrigger Club.



Makahuena Point

NARRATIVE: "I was surfing on a wave and I ran into a 7-foot to 8-foot shark,"Miyake said.

"After the collision, he spun around and charged me." Miyake said he tried to paddle away, but the shark was able to grab the canoe's rudder. "He was shaking it and trying to flip me over," he said. At that point, Miyake swung the paddle at the shark and yelled at it, causing the shark to swim away.

INJURY: No injury

DAMAGE: Miyake's canoe rudder might have to be replaced. But Miyake said he didn't blame the shark, rather the increasing number of people in the ocean. "I'm not mad at the shark because it's his home," Miyake said. "I'm just happy that he only grabbed my rudder and not me. Mahalo ke Akua."

SPECIES: Not identified, but according to Miyake the incident involved a shark, seven to eight feet in length.

NOTE: "There were a couple of (shark) attacks earlier this year," Miyake said, adding that the attacks took place in the South Shore. "Mine was the third one." He said he and his team members always try to paddle close together and in pairs for safety reasons. It also wasn't the first time a shark tried to make a meal out of a canoe. Miyake said a similar incident happened with one of his friends near Palama Pond, South Shore, when the paddler also ran into a shark. The shark got mad and attacked the canoe, but the paddler apparently escaped unscathed, . Miyaka said.

SOURCE: Al Brenneka, Sharkattacksurvivors.com, December 31, 2011, http://sharkattacksurvivors.com/shark_attack/viewtopic.php?f=46&t=1567