



**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** [GSAF 2012.09.06.b](#)

**DATE:** Thursday September 6, 2012

**LOCATION:** The accident took place in the Atlantic Ocean near South Street in Neptune Beach, Duval County, Florida, USA.

*30°19'00"N, 81°24'11"W*

**NAME:** James Fyfe

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a male in his 30s.



*James Fyfe*

### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** At 11h52, Mayport (2.1 miles from Neptune Beach) recorded scattered clouds and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 87.1°, dew point 72°F, humidity 61%, sea level pressure 30.01 inches and wind direction was ESE at 6.9 mph.

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Gibbous, 63% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, September 8, 2012.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The long period swell from Tropical Storm Leslie that first reached the beaches on late Monday has been luring more surfers than usual to the beach. The nice swells will be with the First Coast through at least Sunday, according to chief meteorologist Tim Deegan. Although the swell is not all that large, with it having a period of 15 seconds it will continue to make for great surfing but also for dangerous rip currents.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Neptune Beach is one of several towns on San Pablo Island which stretches from Duval County on the northern end to St. Johns County on the southern tip.

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Waist-deep

**TIME:** "Just before noon"

**NARRATIVE:** "It wasn't really a clean hit, but it definitely caught the back of my calf," Fyfe

said. "I reached down once I got up on my board, knew something was wrong – felt a hole in my leg. There was blood everywhere." Friends helped him out of the water.

**INJURY:** His right calf was bitten by a shark. "It was a pretty large shark because the cut was bone-deep from my calf, and it was about 5 inches long," Fyfe said.

**TREATMENT:** Some 20 stitches were needed to repair the injury.

**SPECIES:** Not identified

**SOURCE:** <http://www.news4jax.com/news/Suspected-Shark-Bites/-/475880/16527538/-/6bp8hw/-/index.html>