



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2015.07.03

DATE: Friday July 3, 2015

LOCATION: Lennox Head, New South Wales, Australia.

NAME: Michael Hoile

DESCRIPTION: A 52-year-old male.

BACKGROUND

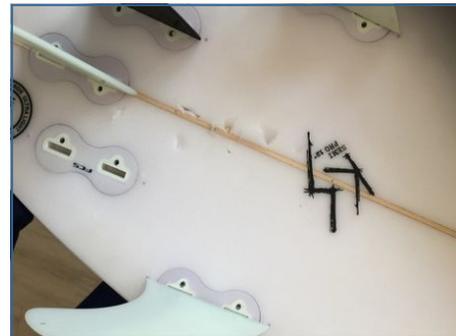
MOON PHASE:

The previous day body-boarder Matt Lee was attacked and seriously injured by a shark just six miles (10 km) to the south of Lennox Head at Ballina. Despite Ballina beaches being closed, the Skullcandy Oz Grom Open 2015 surf competition began as planned at Lennox Head on Friday, but was called off after this incident. "We've cancelled the event for the day," event organiser Tony O'Brien told 2GB radio of the contest that attracts more than 250 young surfers, many from around the world.

ENVIRONMENT: Lennox Head is 600 kilometres (350 miles) north of Sydney. Northern NSW lifeguard coordinator Scott McCartney, who is responsible for around 279 miles (450km) of the Australian coastline stretching south from the northern NSW border, said that many sharks had gathered 60 miles (100km) down the beach to feed on a floating sperm whale carcass. NSW Department of Primary Industries senior research scientist Vic Peddemors, who has been



One of the board's fins is missing and there are bite marks on the board



studying sharks for more than 30 years, said large schools of bait fish had been reported moving through Ballina just before Thursday's attack and once again yesterday around Lennox Head. He said that, combined with the death of a large sperm whale off Coffs Harbour and the annual humpback whale migration, would almost certainly be attracting "massive" sharks into the area.

NARRATIVE: Michael Hoile was sitting on his board when a shark bit the tail of his board, knocking him into the water. Observers said the encounter caused a big splash, and other surfers in the water scrambled to the beach. Hoile regained his board and paddled to shore.

INJURY: No injury

SPECIES: Not identified

SOURCES: CTV News, Friday, July 3, 2015

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/shark-bites-australian-surfer-s-board-a-day-after-surfer-badly-mauled-1.2451841>

Nine News, July 3, 2015

<http://www.9news.com.au/national/2015/07/03/08/58/shark-attack-in-queensland>

The Telegraph, July 3, 2015

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/australiaandthepacific/australia/11715874/Second-suspected-great-white-shark-attack-in-Ballina-Shire-in-24-hours.html>

Northern Star, July 3, 2015

<http://www.northernstar.com.au/news/skullcandy-in-doubt-if-more-sharks-sighted/2694367/>

The Australian, July 04, 2015

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/ballina-shark-defying-surfers-chase-great-waves/story-e6frg6nf-1227427528807>