

ACTIVITY: Stand-Up Foilboarding

CASE: **GSAF 2016.08.06**

DATE: Saturday August 6, 2016

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean off the North Shore of Maui, between Pa'ia and Hamakuapoko, Hawaii, USA.

NAME: Connor Baxter

DESCRIPTION: A 21-year-old male, and a stand-up paddleboard racing champion.

BOARD: The Go Foil is an underwater wing that lifts the board and rider out of the water during downwinders or while surfing.



Connor Baxter

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waxing Crescent, 16% of the Moon was illuminated. New Moon, August 2, 2016. First Quarter, August 10, 2016.

SEA CONDITIONS: The water was turbid.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: One mile

DEPTH OF WATER: 40 to 50 feet

TIME: 16h30



NARRATIVE: Connor Baxter was downwind standup foilboarding Maui's Maliko Run with fellow professional paddlers, Zane Schweitzer and Alex Aguera, when a shark latched onto his board's foil underwater and began thrashing. The turbulence was enough to knock Baxter—a three-time Molokai 2 Oahu champion and multiple SUP Award recipient—flat on his back but he was able to stay on his board. "After about 20 seconds (of thrashing) I realized, 'OK, this thing is not letting go and I need to do something quick,'" Baxter said. He spent the next few minutes warding off the shark, jabbing it with his paddle from atop the board. It took about ten solid blows before the shark relented and left Baxter—a lifelong paddler of his hometown's Maliko Run—trembling from the experience.

INJURY: No injury. The shark bit the hydrofoil.

SPECIES: A tiger shark, reported to be about 10 feet in length.

SOURCES: SUP, August 9, 2016

<http://www.supthemag.com/videos/bull-shark-attacks-connor-baxter-foilboarding->

GrindTV, August 9, 2016

<http://www.grindtv.com/paddle-sports/sup-world-champ-connor-baxter-fought-off-a-tiger-shark-while-hydrofoiling/>

