

**ACTIVITY:** Scuba diving

**CASE:** [GSAF 1982.09.25](#)

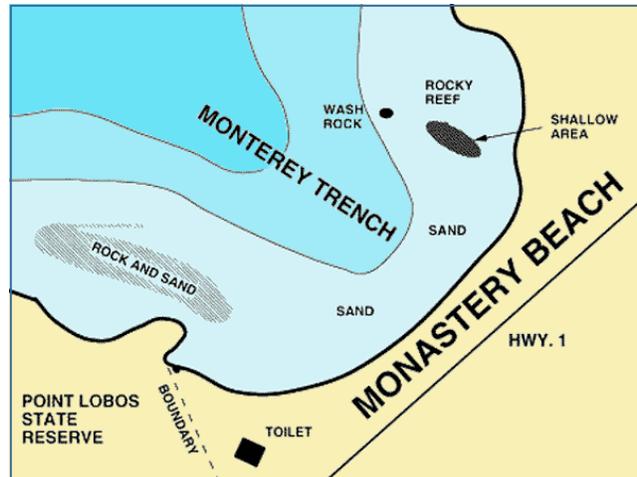
**DATE:** September 25, 1982

**LOCATION:** The incident took place at Monastery Beach, Carmel Bay, Monterey County, California, USA.

*36°31.5'N, 121°55.7'W*

**NAME:** Bruce Lang

**DESCRIPTION:** He was a 36-year-old Caucasian male. 6'1" tall and weighed 220 lbs. He was clad in a black wetsuit and was using silver-colored ScubaPro dive gear.



### BACKGROUND

**WEATHER:** The sky was overcast and the air temperature was in the 60s.

**MOON PHASE:** First Quarter, September 24, 1982

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The sea was calm and the water temperature 55°F with underwater visibility of 25 to 35 feet.

**ENVIRONMENT:** The ocean floor at the incident site consisted of a sloping sand bottom with rock formations. The incident took place about 100 feet from a deep channel and 30 to 50 feet from some sparse kelp. In the shallows the rocks are covered with an assortment of giant and palm kelp and an assortment of large anemones. Many boulders are covered with lush carpets of red *Corynactis* anemones. A great many species of nudibranchs, including the brightly colored Spanish shawl and the thick-horned aeolid, as well as sea stars and sea cucumbers inhabit the shallow area beneath the kelp bed. As divers drop deeper the kelp begins to thin out, and the bottom life shifts to *Telia* anemones and encrusting orange volcano and cobalt sponges. Small lingcod and a few rockfish are found among the nooks and crannies of the bottom. Large *Medusa* jellyfish may be commonly seen here, along with ocean sunfish. The diver noticed sea lions in the water prior to his dive. He was not aware of any prior incidents in the area, nor was he aware of any sharks in the water.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 100 yards

**DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE:** 70 feet

**DEPTH AT WHICH INCIDENT TOOK PLACE:** 40 feet

**TIME:** Morning

**NARRATIVE:** Bruce Lang had been observing life on the rock formations and the variety of fish (both schooling and solitary individuals) for about 20 minutes. Then, he said, the fish disappeared. He felt solid bump against side, thought it was a sea lion and turned to look. "I saw the large eye and several teeth of large white shark, and panic ensued. I tried to push away, and injured my hand on the shark's teeth. Blood gushed from my glove. I immediately surfaced and left the water. I was very fearful that full attack would occur as I swam in to shore. In retrospect, I feel the shark was simply curious."

**INJURY:** The diver sustained several deep lacerations to his right hand.

**TREATMENT:** He initially treated his own injuries. Afterwards, the lacerations to his hand were sutured at Kaiser Hospital.

**SPECIES:** White shark

**CASE INVESTIGATOR:** Ralph Collier