

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2002.04.18

DATE: Thursday April 18, 2002

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean 200 yards south of the jetty at Ponce de Leon Inlet, New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA. 29.1°N, 81.0°W

NAME: Nolan Sutliff

DESCRIPTION: The surfer, a 28-year-old male, is from Port Orange. He was wearing dark-colored shorts (baggies).

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waxing Crescent, 29% of the Moon's visible disk illuminated. First Quarter, April 20, 2002.

ENVIRONMENT: There was fishing activity at the jetty 50 yards to the north of the incident site.

"It's that time of year," said Capt. Rob Horster of the Volusia County Beach Patrol. "We know the sharks are there and we know they bite."

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 20 to 50 yards

DEPTH OF WATER: Four feet

TIME: 11h10

NARRATIVE: Nolan Sutliff was surfing when he started screaming for help. Marc Latorre, a nearby surfer, was leaving the water when he saw Sutliff paddling in the surf, then heard screams. "I ran into the water and helped him out," Latorre said. "He was bleeding badly."

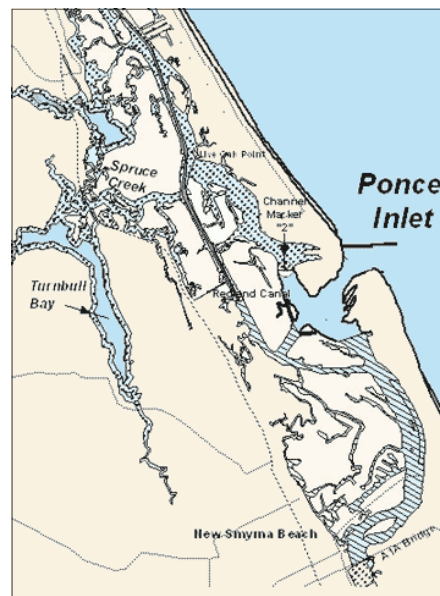
INJURY: The surfer had a three-inch half-moon shaped gash on his left ankle that extended onto the dorsal surface of the foot and several punctures on the plantar surface of the left foot. There were small lacerations on all toes, with the exception of the big toe.

TREATMENT: The surfer was taken to Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach where torn tendons were surgically repaired.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified

SOURCE: Orlando Sentinel, April 19, 2002, page G1

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn, GSAF



Beach Patrol, EVAC and Marc Latorre, help Nolan Sutliff on to