

ACTIVITY: Surfskiing
CASE: **GSAF 2002.09.13**
DATE: Friday September 13, 2002.
LOCATION: The incident took place just off the quarry at Glencairn in False Bay, Western Cape Province, South Africa.
34°09,6'S, 18°26,2'E

NAME: Paul Mauger
DESCRIPTION: The surfskier is a 47-year-old male from Fish Hoek.
SURFSKI: No description of the fiberglass ski.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, September 13, 2002

ENVIRONMENT: Reefs and gullies abound underwater and an artificial reef created by car tires provides additional habitat for sea animals. Cape fur seals are often observed in the area.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 100 metres

DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT

SITE: The maximum depth in this area is 10 metres.

TIME: Just after 16h00



NARRATIVE: "I was paddling along when something suddenly crashed into the back of my ski. I just heard a loud thud behind me and I was knocked off the ski and under the water. When I surfaced I saw it was a huge shark. The dorsal fin sticking out of the water was about half a metre high. I was terrified. I thought my time had come. I was on the one side of the ski and the great white was on the other. I watched as he chewed on the piece of ski that he bit off. "I dangled with my legs in the water and tried to hold on to the ski." Then the shark swam past him, submerged and disappeared. Mauger swam back to shore.

INJURY: No injury. "I was back in the water after a day or two, but it took a while before I was not scared in the water," said Mauger.

DAMAGE TO EQUIPMENT: The shark bit the fiberglass surfski.

SPECIES INVOLVED: According to Mauger, the incident involved a white shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*.