

ACTIVITY: Boogie-boarding

CASE: **GSFAF 2004.01.22R**

DATE: Reported January 22, 2004

LOCATION: The incident took place on 90 Mile Beach, halfway between Lone Pine and Ahipara, Northland, New Zealand.



NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: The surfer is a male, a visitor from Far North.

BACKGROUND

ENVIRONMENT: “The thing I remember most – that there was a lot of fish in the water that day. A shag was in the water and there was also a lot of brown plankton which fish like to eat,” said the boogie boarder’s friend.

NARRATIVE: The boogie-boarder and a friend, a local surfer, were out on the water when the boogie-boarder felt a light tug on his swim fin. He didn’t think anything of it until he got on the beach 10 minutes later and discovered that a sizeable chunk of his swim fin was missing.



INJURY: No injury

EQUIPMENT DAMAGE: His swim fin was damaged. A piece of 21mm of vulcanized rubber had been removed with apparently little or no effort.

SPECIES INVOLVED: According to the board riders, they consulted with local fishermen who thought the bite was made by a shark at least six feet in length based on the circumference of the tooth marks. Shark involvement, however, is not confirmed.

SOURCE: The North Age, <http://www.northnz.co.nz/Sports%20January%202004.html>



