

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2008.04.27](#)

DATE: Sunday April 27, 2008

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

29°04.166'N, 080°54.585'W

NAME: Adam Tobin

DESCRIPTION: He is a 24-year-old male from Merritt Island. He is 5'8" tall and weighs 165 pounds. He was wearing white board shorts.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: High pressure extended over the state of Florida. At 10h48, New Smyrna Beach recorded scattered clouds and visibility of 10 miles [15.1 km]. The air temperature was 77°F [25°C], dew point 62.6°F [17°C], humidity 61%, sea level pressure 30.12 inches [1019.9 hPa], and wind direction was SSE at 5.8mph [9.3 km/h].

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 58% of the Moon was illuminated Last Quarter, April 28, 2008.

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was murky, sea surface temperature was 72°F, and the tide was incoming. At New Smyrna Beach, mean low tide occurred at 07h49 [0.90 ft] and mean high tide occurred at 13h31 [3.03 ft]. There was 1-2-3' ENE/E swell. The surf was two to three feet [knee to chest high and choppy, resulting in poor to fair surfing conditions].

ENVIRONMENT: The incident took place over a sandy bottom, about a block north of the site where Mark Pattison was bitten on Saturday.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 100 feet

DEPTH OF WATER: Four feet (waist-deep)

TIME: 10h30

NARRATIVE: Two people were within 10 feet of Adam Tobin. About 30 were within 10 to 50 feet of him and another 50 were 50 to 100 feet away. Tobin fell off his board in the shallows and was pushing off the bottom to remount his board when he felt the shark grab his right lower leg. Tobin said he reached down, hit the shark, and it released him and disappeared. The surfer paddled to shore.

INJURY: The surfer's right calf was bitten. The injuries consisted of four to five ½" to 4" lacerations on the lateral lower shin, and four to five ½" to 4" lacerations on the medial aspect of the calf. Beach patrol said this bite was worse than Saturday's bite, which occurred around the same time at the same area of the beach.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The surfer was treated on the scene by beach patrol officers but declined emergency transportation to the hospital. He was driven to the Bert Fish Medical Center by a friend. Tobin's wound required 40 stitches.

SPECIES: According to the beach patrol, Adam Tobin did not see the shark nor did any of



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the 30 surfers nearby. Based on the size of the bite, Tobin estimated the shark was about four to five feet in length.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn

*Waning Gibbous,
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was illuminated*

