



ACTIVITY: Fishing for tuna

CASE: [GSAF 2009.03.02](#)

DATE: Monday March 2, 2009

LOCATION: The accident took place in the South Atlantic Ocean off Cape Point, Western Cape Province, South Africa.

NAME: Gabriel Fernandez

DESCRIPTION: He is a 40-year-old male from Bothasig and the skipper of the *Southwest Sea Hawk*.

BACKGROUND

TIME: 13h30

NARRATIVE: The *Southwest Sea Hawk*, with 16 crew members, was about 30 miles off the west coast of Cape Point. They were catching tuna when they hooked a shark. As Fernandez pulled the shark in, it turned and bit him. A team from the National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI) collected him from the fishing boat 30 miles west of Slangkop and took him to Hout Bay Harbour. At the harbour, they were met by a Metro EMS ambulance which transported the fisherman to Constantiaberg Medi-Clinic.

INJURY: The fisherman sustained lacerations on two fingers of his right hand and a six-centimetre laceration to his right arm.

SPECIES: The accident involved a blue shark, just over a metre in length.

NOTE: This was a provoked accident; the shark was hooked.