

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** GSAF 2009.04.25.R

**DATE:** Reported April 25, 2009

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Dogpatch/Old Mans Beach at San Onofre State Beach, San Diego County, California, USA.

**NAME:** Drew Senner

**BACKGROUND**

**SEA CONDITIONS:** “The water was murky brown,” according to the surfer.

**TIME:** 10h00

**NARRATIVE:** Drew Senner had been on the water about one hour. Senner reported; “I was paddling against the current, heading Northwest, parallel to the beach when my hand struck what I thought was a seal. However, the animal then moved

against my leg and board and was too big to be a seal. The skin also felt tough, not like a seal. I have fished and caught Shark both Mako and Thresher and my initial reaction was that it felt like shark skin. I didn't wait around to see what it was and began paddling as fast as I could towards the shore and immediately caught a wave back”

**INJURY:** The surfer was not injured.

**SPECIES:** “I didn't get a clear visual shot of the animal,” said Senner. “When I returned to shore, the lifeguards told me they had witnessed a Great White in the same area and they were in the process of clearing the beach. My best guess is the shark was probably eight to ten feet in length. It didn't seem aggressive, more like it was bumping against me to check me out, or perhaps we just crossed paths.”

**CASE INVESTIGATOR:** Ralph Collier

