

ACTIVITY: Wading

CASE: GSAF 2010.05.01

DATE: Saturday May 1, 2010

LOCATION: The accident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at New Smyrna Beach just north of 27th Avenue, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Caitlin Dubois

DESCRIPTION: She is a 10-year-old female from Orlando, Florida.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 10h53, Daytona Beach recorded partly cloudy skies and visibility of 10 miles. The air temperature was 82.9°F, dew point 70°F, humidity 65%, sea level pressure 30.05 inches, and wind direction was South at 6.9 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 85% of the moon was illuminated.

SEA CONDITIONS: The water was choppy and murky.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: Unknown

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: 10h30

NARRATIVE: Caitlin was wading in the water when she felt something at her ankle. "It just came over, bit me, hung on for three seconds and then swam away," she said. It wasn't until she left the water that she realized she had been injured. "I like swimming in the ocean," she said. "It's a freak thing, and a one-in-a-million chance that I would get bitten by a shark. So it really wouldn't happen again, I don't think."

INJURY: She sustained six to eight small puncture wounds to her right ankle.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Emergency workers treated her at the scene. The wounds were minor and she did not require transport to a hospital, and continued playing on the beach. However, emergency personnel advised her parents take her to Bert Fish Medical Center as a precaution.

SPECIES: Caitlin didn't see the shark. "The lifeguard said by the size of the mouth bite, it was a 4-foot shark," she said.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn

SOURCE: Daytona Beach News-Journal, May 2, 2010, <http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/southeast-volusia/2010/05/02/shark-bite-leaves-girl-with-minor-injuries.html>.



Caitlin Dubois