



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2011.08.16.c](#)

DATE: Tuesday August 16, 2011

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at a small pass between Te Ava Iiti Vairao and Teahupoo on the southwest coast of Tahiti.

NAME: Adam D'Esposito

DESCRIPTION: He is a 32-year-old male, an American.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 15h00, Tahiti recorded partly cloudy skies and visibility of 6.2 miles. The air temperature was 82.4°F, dew point 66.2°F, humidity 58%, sea level pressure 29.92 inches, and wind direction was SSW at 9.2 mph.

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, August 14, 2011

ENVIRONMENT: According to Surfline, "Tahiti's Teahupoo (pronounced cho-po) is essentially a glorified closeout — a hideous, deadly barrel promising a heap of trouble for even the most capable of surfers."

The incident took before the start of the Billabong Pro Tahiti 2011, scheduled to run August 20th through the 31st at Teahupoo.

TIME: 15h30

NARRATIVE: Adam D'Esposito turned to catch a wave, he struck something. Initially he thought it might be a turtle, but then he saw the shark. As he attempted to put his board between himself in the shark, the shark bit the board next to his fist. Then he was clipped on the head by the shark's tail. D'Esposito hit the shark and it swam away.

© Global Shark Accident File, 2011,. All rights reserved. This report may not be abridged or reproduced in any form without written permission of the Global Shark Accident File.

INJURY: The surfer was not injured by the shark, but his board was bitten.

SPECIES: A grey reef shark *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos*.

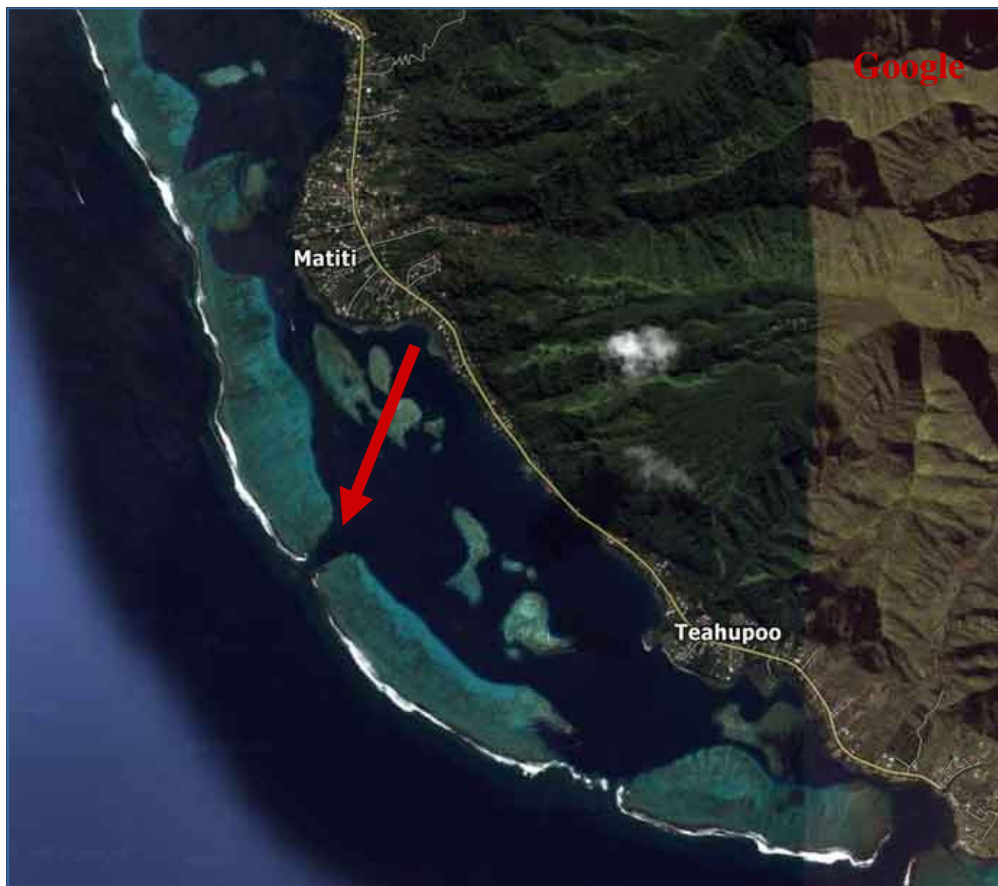
SOURCES: Les Nouvelles de Tahiti, August 17, 2011, <http://www.lesnouvelles.pf/article/ca-fait-la-une/un-requin-attaque-a-teahupoo>

Les Nouvelles de Tahiti, Thursday, August 18, 2011, <http://www.lesnouvelles.pf/article/ca-fait-la-une/biff-s%E2%80%99est-battu-avec-le-requin>



Adam D'Esposito





© Global Shark Accident File, 2011,. All rights reserved. This report may not be abridged or reproduced in any form without written permission of the Global Shark Accident File.