

ACTIVITY: Wading

CASE: GSAF 2011.08.17.c

DATE: Wednesday August 17, 2011

LOCATION: The accident took place in the Atlantic Ocean near the H Avenue beach access at Kure Beach, New Hanover County, North Carolina, USA.

NAME: Trang Aronian

DESCRIPTION: She is a female from Massachusetts, and in her early 20s.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 16h55, Southport recorded clear skies and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 84.2°F, dew point 68°F, humidity 58%, sea level pressure 30.07 inches and wind direction was ESE at 6.9 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 86% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, August 13, 2011.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 15 feet

DEPTH OF WATER: Four to five feet.

TIME: 17h00

NARRATIVE: Trang and her husband, Matt, were standing side-by-side when the shark grabbed the top of her foot, jerked her and then let go. The shark followed the couple to the beach then swam away. As result of the accident, lifeguards closed the beach.

INJURIES: She sustained lacerations to the dorsum, sole and toes of the foot.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Lifeguards applied pressure to the wound and turned the woman over to EMS who took her to New Hanover Regional Medical Center where her wounds were repaired with 60 stitches.

SPECIES: According to the couple, the shark was five to six feet in length. Based on photographs, Matt Aronian believes the accident involved a sandtiger shark.

SOURCES: WMBF, August 16, 2011; Julian March, Star News Online, August 19, 2011

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Clay Creswell, GSAF

