

ACTIVITY: Wade fishing

CASE: GSAF 2011.08.28.a

DATE: Sunday August 28, 2011

LOCATION: The accident took place on the Copano side (north side) of Grass Island, Aransas County, Texas, USA.

23°08'51"N, 96°55'06"W

NAME: Mary Locklear

DESCRIPTION: She is a 39-year-old female. She is 5'4" and was wearing an aqua-blue tank top, black Nike shorts, black neoprene socks and tan ankle-length wading boots. She had a diamond and white gold wedding ring on her left hand, a diamond ring on her right hand and silver earrings. She had no injuries prior to the accident. She did not have her menstrual period but she was spotting.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: It was a sunny day. The air temperature was 103°F, wind direction was south- to-southeast at 10 to 15 mph.

MOON PHASE: New Moon

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was green, calm and very warm with two-foot visibility. Mean high tide occurred at 18h00.

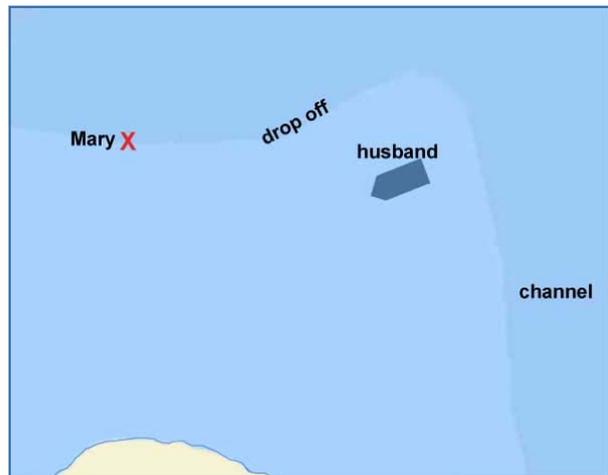
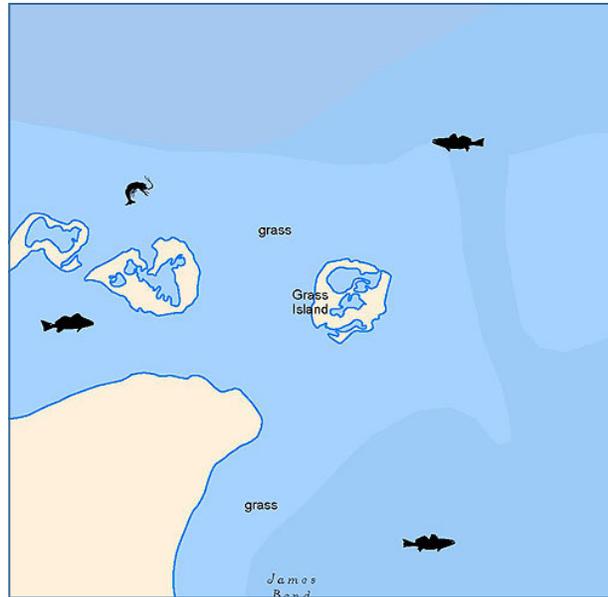
ENVIRONMENT: Firm grassy bottom at the drop-off. She was on the northwest edge of a 10- to 15-foot deep channel. Baitfish were in the area and an unusually large number of pelicans were diving. Small trout and redfish had been caught prior to the accident.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 150 yards

DEPTH OF WATER: Four feet.

TIME: 19h00

NARRATIVE: Mary Locklear was wade fishing with her husband; no one else was in the area. After 30 minutes, her husband decided to head back and got in the boat and fished 50 to 75 yards due south of the drop off. Meanwhile, Mary continued to fish. She had been in the water about an hour and was facing seaward, reeling in her line, when the shark approached from behind. Suddenly, she felt a very powerful 'bump' on the back of her right leg. "The shark swam between my legs and bit the front left leg." she said. "After that happened, which took only a couple of seconds, it left me alone. I didn't feel the bite. I just knew it struck me. Then I saw the damage to my leg. It didn't come back while I waited for my husband to pick me up. We immediately headed in to go to the emergency room."



INJURY: At the site of the initial bump (posterior right knee), she sustained abrasions and a small laceration. On the anterior lower leg there was a crescent-shaped injury with several lacerations and parallel markings (i.e. tooth marks).

TREATMENT: She was taken by private car to Care Regional Medical Center Emergency Room at 1711 W. Wheeler Avenue, Aransas Pass, TX 78336, arriving there 60 minutes after the accident. At the Medical Center she was treated by the emergency room physician. She felt no pain until her wound was cleaned in the ER. Follow up care was provided by Dr. Trang Trinh, M.D., 21770 Kingsland Blvd, Katy, TX 77150 (281-646-0740), Treatment consisted of antibiotics, tetanus shot and dermabond at site.

SPECIES: Not identified.

NOTE: Initially, Mary said she thought the shark left when she slapped the water with her fishing rod, but said she doesn't remember doing so. "But my husband noted the tangled line and grass along the entire rod. I remember situating the rod after the attack with the "butt" end toward the water ready to defend myself but I never had to since it didn't return. I just wanted to clarify since I cannot be 100% sure that I slapped my rod in the water during the attack since it happened very fast. "

She adds, "I was fishing with Berkley 'Gulp'. This is the second time I have encountered a shark while doing so. The first time there was no incident; the shark swam slowly by."

She was using Berkley Gulp! Alive! Ripple Mullet, and the color was Goby Magic/Chartruese.

<http://www.berkley-fishing.com/products/soft-bait/gulp-alive/ripple-mullet-gulp-alive>

