



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2012.01.18.a](#)

DATE: Wednesday January 18, 2012

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Tasman sea off Redhead Beach, near Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia.

NAME: Glen "Lennie" Folkard

DESCRIPTION: He is a 44-year-old male, a tattoo artist.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 16h30, Williamtown recorded partly cloudy skies and visibility of 6.2 miles. The air temperature was 80.6°F, dew point 66.2°F, humidity 61%, sea level pressure 29.92 inches, and wind direction was ESE at 12.7 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waning Crescent, 32% of the Moon was illuminated.

TIME: 16h45 (4:45 pm)

NARRATIVE: There were about 500 people on the beach with scores in the water at the time. Folkard was about 15 to 20 m from a large group of surfers and was lying on his board when a shark struck him.

"A big shark hit me side-on just like a car, bang. He turned me 180 degrees, then I went off the board. He had hold of my leg at that point, he stuck his teeth in down near the knee. While he was chewing on me I managed to get back on the surfboard and started screaming. The only thing I thought about was the kids and when I turned



around to see where he was there was just a blood trail of 20 feet and he was following. He was a dark shadow at the end of the blood trail, so he was coming to have a second go.”

The shark's bite also removed a chunk of fiberglass from his surfboard. Several surfers came to his aid and help him catch a wave to shore.

INJURY: Deep lacerations to his right buttock with avulsion of the entire anterior, posterior and lateral right thigh.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Lifeguards initiated treatment and ordered swimmers and surfers out of the water. Paramedics arrived and transported him to the hospital.

SPECIES: Vic Peddemors of Primary Fisheries concluded that Folkard was bitten by a white shark, 2.7 metres in length.



Glen Folkard



Damage to Folkard's surfboard