

ACTIVITY: Kayak fishing

CASE: [GSAF 2012.07.07.a](#)

DATE: Saturday July 7, 2012

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean near approximately a quarter-mile from Pleasure Point off Capitola, California, USA.

NAME: Mel Camu

DESCRIPTION: He is a 52-year-old male from Fremont.

KAYAK: A 13.5-foot yellow kayak



BACKGROUND

WEATHER: Hazy sunshine with light Westerly winds.

At 08h35. Watsonville recorded overcast skies and five-mile visibility. The air temperature was 53.6°F,

dew point 51.8°F, humidity 94%, sea level pressure 30.02 inches, and there was no wind.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 81% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, July 3, 2012.

SEA CONDITIONS: The surf was three to four feet, and mean low tide took place at 07h44

ENVIRONMENT: Capitola is located about 65 miles south of San Francisco. The incident took place just outside a kelp bed. Dolphins were observed shortly before the incident.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 100 yards

DEPTH OF WATER: 40 feet

TIME: 08h30

NARRATIVE: Mel Camu was fishing from his kayak when a shark slapped up against the side of the boat and then came up from behind and capsized it.. Mr. Camu was thrown into the water and picked up by people in a power boat who had witnessed the incident. The boat brought the man to shore, where he and other witnesses alerted authorities.

INJURY: No injury.

DAMAGE TO KAYAK: Capitola Police Officer Chad Keane said the shark left bite marks 18 inches across the bottom of the kayak near the bow.

SPECIES: The incident involved a 14- to 18-foot shark. Officers pulled a fragment of a tooth out of the kayak back at the Capitola Village station.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Ralph Collier





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