



ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: GSAF 2012.07.08

DATE: Sunday July 8, 2012

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean near Marina Way in North Topsail Beach, Onslow County, North Carolina, USA.

NAME: Tracy Fasick

DESCRIPTION: She is a 43-year-old female from Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. She is 6'1" tall, weighs 265 lbs, and wore a black one-piece bathing suit with light blue flowers and black water shoes. She had no injuries before entering the sea and did not have her menstrual period. A boogie board was attached to her wrist by a black cord, but she was not riding the board.

DESCRIPTION OF BOARD: The board was about three feet in length with a black top, and black and white undersurface.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At the time of the accident the sky was overcast at North Topsail Beach. At 17h56, New River MCAS, recorded clear skies and visibility of 10 miles. but the area was hit by a thunderstorm 45 minutes later. The air temperature was 90°F, dew point 70°F, humidity 52%, sea level pressure 29.86 inches (rising), and wind direction was South at 10.4 mph, with gusts to 20.7 mph .

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MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 64% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, July 10, 2012.

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was choppy and dark blue to blackish with underwater visibility less than 12 inches. The sea surface temperature was 80°F, estimated and there was a fairly strong south-to-north current.

ENVIRONMENT: It is an uncrowded beach backed by dunes.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 30 to 40 feet

DEPTH OF WATER: At least six feet or greater

TIME: 17h30

NARRATIVE: Tracy was swimming with three friends. They had been in the water 30 to 45 minutes. She was last of the line of swimmers. Wind and current pushed and pulled the swimmers to the north. "I was pulled to a drop-off where I could no longer touch the bottom," said Tracy. "This is when I felt something come under me at a great speed and bump me. I remember seeing its mouth shut and the top of its head. At this point I kicked and began to swim in the opposite direction. It did not follow me and I made it to shore."

INJURY: Minor lacerations to right ankle and calf.

TREATMENT: Tracy cleaned the wound but did not immediately seek medical attention. Upon her return to Pennsylvania she received a tetanus shot and an antibiotic from Dr. Jeffrey Rittenhouse, her family physician.

REPORTED BY: Al Brenneka, Shark Attack Survivors.

SOURCE: Tracy Fasick

