

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** [GSAF 2013.08.18](#)

**DATE:** Sunday August 18, 2013

**LOCATION:** The incident took place at a surf spot known as “Dead Trees” near the Pohoiki boat launch in Pohoiki Bay, Hawaii, USA.

**NAME:** Jimmy "Ulu Boy" Napeahi

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 16-year-old male.



*Jimmy Napeahi*

### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** At 13h53 Honolulu recorded scattered clouds and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 87.1°F, dew point 64.9°F, humidity 48%, sea level pressure 29.99 inches and wind direction was ENE at 15 mph with gusts to 26.5 mph.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The water was clear. Mean low tide occurred at 20h17.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Pohoiki in Big Island is an exposed reef break that has pretty consistent surf and can work at any time of the year. Works best in offshore winds from the west northwest. Windswells and groundswells in equal measure and the ideal swell angle is from the east. Both left and right reef breaks. When it's working here, it can get crowded.

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Gibbous, 93% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, August 20, 2013.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 50 yards

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Estimated 20 feet

**TIME:** Just after 13h30



*Pohoiki Boat Ramp. Hawaii 24/7 File Photo*

**NARRATIVE:** “He was coming down the wave and a shark came from the side and took him out by the leg and that’s all I could see right from there,” says Issac Belisaro, who was surfing nearby. Surfers who brought the boy to safety told lifeguards that the shark was chasing them.

**INJURY:** “There were two big lacerations to his buttocks and thigh,” said Pohoiki Lifeguard Nohea Matsuoka.

**FIRST AID:** Lifeguards provided first aid at the Pohoiki Boat Ramp and prepared the boy for transport. The boy was taken by ambulance to the Pahoia Fire Station, then airlifted to the Hilo Medical Center for treatment. He was admitted to the hospital and was discharged on August 29, 2013.

**SPECIES:** Witnesses described the shark as “gray-colored and about eight feet in length. Local experts believed the incident involved a tiger shark, 10 feet in length.

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**SOURCE:** Tammy Mori, KHON2, Sunday August 18, 2013,  
<http://www.khon2.com/2013/08/18/shark-bites-big-island-surfer-beach-closed/>  
*et al*



*Jimmy Napeahi*

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