



ACTIVITY: Surfing
CASE: [GSAF 2015.07.23.a](#)
DATE: Thursday July 23, 2015
LOCATION: Tyrendarra, Victoria, Australia.
38.22°S, 141.78°E

NAME: Unknown
DESCRIPTION: A male in his 40s from Heywood. He was wearing a wetsuit.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 19h30, YMTG, the airport nearest Portland, recorded 6.2 mile visibility. The air temperature was 50°F, dew point 39.2°F, humidity 66%, sea level pressure 30.01 inches and wind direction was NNE at 8.1 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waxing Crescent, 40% of the Moon was illuminated. First Quarter, July 24, 2015.

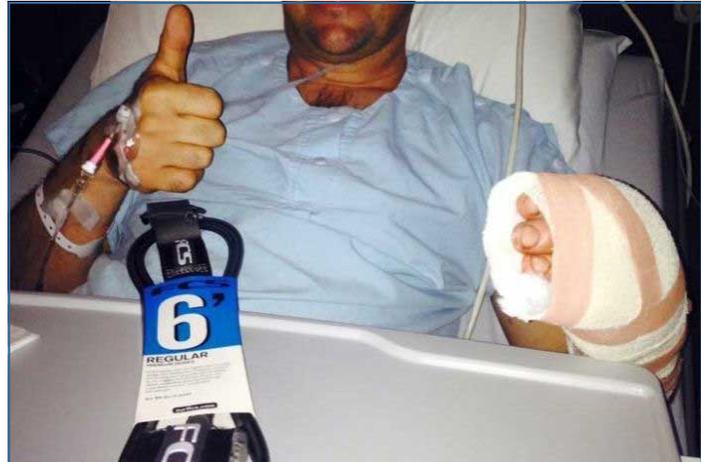
ENVIRONMENT: Tyrendarra Beach is 200 kilometres west of Melbourne and 45 kilometres west of Port Fairy. The beach was unpatrolled and the surfer said he saw seals breaching the water before the incident. Surf Life Saving Portland state training assessment supervisor Katrina Anthony said sharks were known to frequent the area. "All the way from Narrawong right through to Cape Bridgewater ... we also have a seal colony which is located out in Cape Bridgewater, so we know we have sharks in our waters," she said.

TIME: Night

NARRATIVE: He was surfing alone when he felt "a bit of splash" at the back of his board. "Then the shark came up on my right-hand side," he said. "It put a bite in my wetsuit on my left-hand thigh, and basically from there it just kept coming back on each side. Every time I saw its head or it was up near me I tried to punch it as hard as I could." The man said he managed to break free from the shark and paddled straight to the beach.

INJURY: He sustained a tendon injury to his left hand. Although the shark attempted to bite the surfer's leg and damaged his wetsuit, the shark did not injure the man's leg.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The man applied temporary bandage to his injured hand, then



drove 20 minutes to the Portland District Hospital where he received initial medical treatment before undergoing surgery at the Warrnambool Base Hospital where he underwent micro-surgical treatment to his injured hand the following day.

SPECIES: According to the surfer the incident involved a two-metre bronze whaler shark.

SOURCES: Bridget Judd, ABC News,
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/bridget-judd/6651912>

News 24, July 27, 2015

<http://www.news24.com/World/News/Australian-surfer-survives-shark-attack-drives-himself-to-hospital-20150727>