

**ACTIVITY:** Windsurfing

**CASE:** GSAF 2016.12.10

**DATE:** December 10, 2016

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the North Sea near Felixstowe Pier, Suffolk, England.

**NAME:** Christopher Mills

**DESCRIPTION:** A 36-year-old male, a recruitment consultant for an Ipswich firm.

### BACKGROUND

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Gibbous, 83% of the Moon was illuminated.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Felixstowe is an Edwardian seaside town and civil parish between the River Orwell and River Deben on the North Sea coast of Suffolk, England.

**NARRATIVE:** Christopher Mills was windsurfing when something threw him off balance and into the water. As he surfaced he saw a shark swim away before disappearing beneath the waves. He managed to scramble to shore in a panic – and only then noticed a huge chunk had been bitten from his board. “It was terrifying,” he said. “I had heard of sharks off Cornwall, but had not realised they had now moved around the coast to the North Sea. It must be global warming. “I assume the shark was not after me because it swam off. Perhaps it thought the board was a seal or something.”

**INJURY:** No injury but board bitten by the shark.

**SPECIES:** Bartholomew Quint, of the UK Shark Society said: “Our team is examining Mr Mills’ board in order to match the bite marks to a particular species. To be on the safe side, we would suggest open-water swimmers, fisherman and surfers should be extra vigilant while in the North Sea around Suffolk.” He confirmed that the diameter of the bite mark indicated that whatever it was that chewed on Mr Mills’ surf board was around eight-foot long.

**SOURCE:** Suffolk Gazette, December 11, 2016

<http://www.suffolkgazette.com/news/shark-attack-felixstowe/>

