

**International Shark Attack File
American Elasmobranch Society
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U.S.A.**

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The International Shark Attack File is a compilation of all known shark attacks world-wide. It is administered through the auspices of the American Elasmobranch Society, an international organization of leading shark research scientists, and through the Florida Museum of Natural History at the University of Florida. The purpose of the File is to synthesize information surrounding shark attacks in order to gain scientific insight into this phenomenon. Scientific researchers and physicians are granted access to the data only after careful screening carried out on a case-by-case basis. All information is considered privileged, and access by the press is strictly forbidden.

SHARK ATTACK QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire submitted by:

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

(1) VICTIM CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

(2) GENERAL OUTCOME OF ATTACK

- Fatal
- Non-fatal

(3) RACE AND SEX OF VICTIM

Sex:

- Male
- Female

Race:

- Caucasian/white
- Black (of african descent)
- Oriental
- Malayan/Polynesian
- Hispanic
- Race unknown or other than above (*specify if known*)

Skin color:

- Light
- Dark
- Tanned or equivalently colored naturally
- Unevenly tanned

(4) AGE, WEIGHT AND HEIGHT OF VICTIM

(Please Indicate Units)

Age:

Height:

Weight:

(5) NUMBER OF SHARKS INVOLVED

- Solitary attacking shark sighted, no other sharks seen in area of attack
- Solitary attacking shark sighted, other shark (s) seen in area of attack
- More than one shark sighted and considered directly involved in attack

Total number of sharks sighted:

(6) TYPE OF SHARK INVOLVED

- The shark was not seen well enough to describe its appearance
- At least part of the shark was seen

Please describe with as much detail as possible what the shark(s) looked like (color, shape of body and fins, shape of teeth, etc). Use additional page(s) if necessary:

(7) SHARK BEHAVIOR

- Shark seen, but not sufficiently clearly for evaluation of behavior

(If shark was seen sufficiently clear for evaluation of behavior, please choose *one* action in each of the following categories.)

Shark behavior prior to initial strike:

- Circling victim
- Following victim closely
- Shark in position between victim and barrier or obstacle/beach/reef/boat, etc.
- Shark not seen at all prior to contact with victim
- Straight and direct approach to victim
- Straight and direct approach to victim, passed close by other(s) in water
- Swimming erratically
- Swimming normally
- Behavior unknown
- Other (please describe)

Shark behavior at time of initial strike:

- Attack did not occur in water
- Shark did not contact victim
- Minimum of turmoil, victim initially unaware of situation
- Sudden violent interaction between shark and victim
- Behavior unknown

Other (please describe)

Shark behavior during subsequent strikes:

- Attack did not occur in water
- Shark made only one strike
- Shark made multiple/repeated deliberate strikes
- Frenzied behavior
- Released initial hold, quickly bit victim again
- Behavior unknown
- Other (please describe)

Shark behavior after final strike:

- Attack did not occur in water
- Shark remained attached to victim and had to be forcibly removed
- Shark remained in immediate area of attack
- Shark followed victim/rescuers towards shore
- Shark seen to leave area of attack
- Shark not seen after final strike
- Shark remained attached to victim after final strike, released hold without use of force by victim/rescuer(s)
- Behavior unknown
- Other (please describe)

Total number of passes and/or number of strikes made by shark:

Number of attempted bites _____

(8) SIZE OF ATTACKING SHARK

- The shark was not seen well enough to estimate its size
- The estimated total length of the shark was (_____)

(9) LOCATION OF ATTACK

Ocean:

Country:

State/province:

County:

Specific locality (name of the beach, distance from nearest major intersection or landmark, etc):

Longitude and Latitude (please use <http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html> if location on map is known):

Beach Patrol

- Unpatrolled Beach
- On Scene

Beach Patrolled- not on scene

(10) CONDITIONS AT TIME OF ATTACK

Attack occurred in:

- Salt water
- Fresh water
- Brackish water

Water Clarity:

- Clear
- Muddy
- Turbid/Murky

Tidal stage (if known):

Distance from shore:

General description of habitat (e.g. reef, sandbar, surf zone, river bank):

Water depth at immediate attack site: _____

Depth at which attack occurred:

- Attack did not occur in the water
- Attack occurred at surface of water
- Attack occurred at (_____) of water

Sea/Surf Conditions:

- Calm
- Choppy
- Surf
- Swells
- Violent/Storm-tossed

General weather conditions:

Air temperature (°C):

Water temperature (°C):

Wind direction:

Wind speed:

Season:

(11) TIME AND DATE OF ATTACK

(_____) AM / PM

Month/Day/Year:

(12) NATURE OF INJURIES

Please describe injury(s) in detail, including body part(s) involved, severity of blood loss, treatment needed, etc. Use additional page if necessary:

(13) TREATING PHYSICIAN/HOSPITAL

Emergency Treatment Facility

Follow-up Treatment Facility

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

Phone number:

Phone number:

Photos taken of victim's wounds before and/or after treatment? (YES) (NO)

If yes, are you willing to send your photos to ISAF? (YES) (NO) (INCLUDED)

Are you willing to allow ISAF to view your medical records? (YES) (NO)

(If yes, we will send the appropriate medical release forms)

(14) CLOTHING/GEAR WORN BY VICTIM

Electronic Repellant Device

- Not in use
- In use – turned on
- In use – turned off

Please describe the type of clothing and/or diving gear worn and used by the victim, including items such as jewelry, tattoos, etc. Please indicate the color(s) and pattern(s) of clothing:

Please describe the type of gear used, including swim fins, face mask, snorkel, body board, surfboard, kite board, etc. Please be as descriptive as possible and clearly indicate color, pattern, size, length, and number of fins as applicable:

(15) ATTRACTANT/NON-HUMAN PRESENCE

Choose all that apply:

- Victim's blood
- Other human blood
- Wounded fish/blood
- Artificial light (*indicate source*)
- Porpoise
- Seal
- Fish
- Dog/Pet
- Other:

(16) ACTIVITY OF VICTIM

(Please choose *one* of the following activities in *one* of the following categories.)

Wading/sitting activity in shallow water:

- Victim in shallow water, no specific activity information
- Wading
- Erratic splashing, horseplay, etc.
- Standing still on bottom
- Sitting on bottom
- Other shallow water activity : _____

Surface activity:

- Aboard a boat
- Swimming
- Floating, little or no motion (including use of flotation gear)
- Treading water (including use of flotation gear)
- Snorkeling (including use of mask and fins w/wo snorkel)
- Riding surfboard
- Sitting on surfboard with feet dangling
- Riding boogie board
- Aboard float, raft, innertube, etc.
- Body surfing, planing on waves
- Other surface activity: _____

Subsurface activity:

- Subsurface or diving activity, no details
- SCUBA diving
- Free diving (no gear) or subsurface swimming
- Free diving with mask and/or fins, w/wo snorkel

- Pearl diving
- Hard hat diving
- Other diving/subsurface activity: _____

Water entry or exit other than wading:

- Entering water (jumping, diving, falling, etc.)
- Leaving water (ladder, side of boat, etc.)
- Entry or exit other than above: _____

How long was the victim in the water prior to the attack? : _____

(17) OTHER PERSONS IN WATER

Choose all that apply:

- No other persons were within 10 feet of victim.
- The number of people within 10 feet of victim was (_____)
- No other persons were within 10-50 feet of victim.
- The number of people within 10-50 feet of victim was (_____)
- No other persons were in general area of (more than 50 feet away from) victim.
- The approximate number of people in general area of (more than 50 feet away from) victim was (_____); approximate distances from the victim: (_____)

(18) GENERAL ACTIVITY OF OTHERS NEAR VICTIM

Choose all that apply:

- Other person(s) were not nearby
- Normal bathing/swimming
- Splashing/horseplay, etc.
- Thrashing/flailing, etc.
- Diving/underwater activities
- Wading
- Unusually loud voices/noises
- Surfing, with or without board
- Other activity as specified:

(19) FISHING ACTIVITY

Choose all that apply:

- No person(s) were fishing
- Victim was fishing
Type of fishing _____
- Other persons were fishing nearby; approximate distance from victim: (_____)

- Fish being hooked
- Fish being netted
- Spearfishing
- Carrying/holding fish
- Other fishing activity as specified: _____

(20) DIVERSIONARY ACTIONS

Choose all that apply:

- No defensive/diversionary actions taken.
- Defensive/diversionary actions taken by victim.
- Defensive/diversionary actions taken by rescuer(s).
- (Struck) (Kicked) (Poked) the (Eyes) (Gills) (Nose) *(circle all actions that apply)*.
- Path blocked.
- Stabbed or speared with weapon**
- Other aggressive or defensive movements *(please specify)*.

Describe the effectiveness/outcome of these actions:

(21) NARRATIVE

Please describe the attack and all circumstances surrounding the event, including as many details as possible. Use additional pages as necessary. Audio or video tape is acceptable but must be understandable: