



North Carolina Shark Attacks Project

Overview

This project is an effort to document encounters between people and sharks in North Carolina waters. Many of these episodes, especially those in the more distant past, are not well known today, and thus poorly understood. It is hoped that by providing basic information about these events, maritime historians, oceanographers, marine biologists and other researchers will benefit by gaining insights into the nature of these predators and their interactions with people.

There are individual datasheets for each respective shark attack listed. Most of these are newspaper or magazine clippings which were gathered down through the years from a variety of publications, each of which is cited on the respective datasheets.

Despite millions of dollars being spent by governments all across the globe, no one has yet figured out the exact reason why some sharks are compelled to attack people. For the best discussion of this topic as it relates to sharks in North Carolina waters, consult page 21 of the 2003 edition of Dr. Frank Schwartz's book, *Sharks, Skates and Rays of the Carolinas*.

This is a work in progress. More details about these and other shark attacks will be added as they become available. If you have any specific information about shark attacks in North Carolina that you would like to share, feel free to contact us at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort.

—John Hairr

Educational Curator

North Carolina Maritime Museums

Beaufort, NC