

First shark incident of 2021 occurs off Waikoloa

1-3-2021

Star-Advertiser staff

Hawaii's first shark attack of the year occurred Saturday when a 68-year-old woman suffered a serious leg injury while swimming off Waikoloa, the Hawaii County Fire Department said.

The incident came less than a month after a Maui surfer was fatally bitten by tiger shark at Honolulu Bay on Maui.

Saturday's incident happened around 8 a.m. as the woman was about 500 yards offshore at Anaehoomalu Bay on the Kohala Coast. The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources said the captain of an ocean sports vessel reported the incident after hearing calls for help coming from near a channel marker located about 600 feet offshore.

A tender from the Spirit of Aloha tour vessel was used to take the woman to shore, where she was met by first responders who treated her lower right leg injury and transported her to North Hawaii Community Hospital in Waimea.

The woman's name and condition were not provided.