

February 15, 2015

Monterey, Coral Street

Jeff Fornes of Nor-Cal Skindivers was freedive spearfishing with his club off of Coral Street in Monterey. After his first buddy had sinus issues and paddled back in, Jeff joined a few others on the inside of the south point in open water.

He decided to spot dive with one end of his 60' float line on his kayak and the other on his 90 cm Rob Allen gun. After he had enough of the current he paddled in to where he could see the bottom and continued spot diving.

Visibility was good, at 25-40 feet depending on the location. He found a fishy location and turned to pull his kayak closer so he could dive and he came face-to-face with a large GWS coming up slowly right at his fins. He yelled and the fish turned slowly and headed away. Jeff kept watching the beast while he frantically pulled his kayak closer. The shark made a 180 degree turn and headed steadily back toward Jeff's chest. With his right hand on his kayak and the left pointing the gun at the shark, the fish made a right turn when it was just off the speartip. It then made another 90 to give Jeff a tail view. Jeff says the girth was impressive. When the fish was about 30 feet away and on the edge of visibility Jeff launched himself into his kayak, almost rolling it. He grabbed his paddle and booked it hard out of there to warn the others. The shark was not seen again.