

# THE COASTAL WATCHER

The Newsletter for Crime-Conscious Communities

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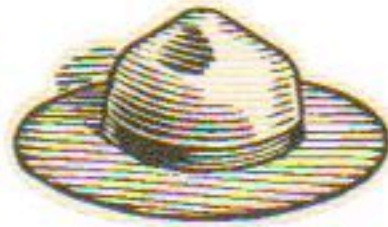
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## Great White Sharks in Ucluelet? Coastal Watch Investigates

### E Division Auxiliary Police Program

The "E" Division Auxiliary Constable Program (British Columbia) began in 1951 and is comprised of over 1100 members who dedicate their time to assisting regular members of the RCMP and the citizens of British Columbia. The purpose of the program is to strengthen community and police partnerships; the primary purpose of the Auxiliary Constable is to participate in community policing service activities relating to public safety and crime prevention under the supervision of a regular RCMP member. Auxiliary RCMP constables (A/Csts) are unpaid volunteers authorized to accompany regular members on patrol and perform other police functions under supervision including office duties, special events, property checks, and traffic and crowd control. In 2005 alone Auxiliary constables logged in over 180,000 volunteer hours.



Since 2003, enthusiastic RCMP A/Csts have been tasked to deliver and promote the Coastal Watch Program in their own communities. To date 140 A/Csts representing 27 detachments have eagerly participated in Coastal Watch training. These members dedicate hundreds of valuable hours to the program, and the RCMP Coastal Watch Program enjoys a high profile in these detachment areas during the boating season. A/Csts actively promote the program, conduct dock walks, speak to boaters, and plan and deliver events in their communities. Without them, the Coastal Watch Program would not have achieved such a high level public awareness, and we cannot thank them enough for their dedication to this initiative.

For further information about the Auxiliary Constable Program please visit the national RCMP website at [www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca) or contact the Detachment Auxiliary Coordinator in your community.

### Kayaker Guide Pleads Guilty

UCLUELET, BC. (from westcoaster.ca)

A Coombs man has pleaded guilty to operating a business without a permit inside Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. The incident began Aug 29, after park wardens rescued a kayaker from some rocks. The woman was suffering from hypothermia and abrasions after her kayak tipped. Upon further investigation, park wardens learned the man who was directing the kayakers did not have a permit to guide kayakers through the broken group.



### Ucluelet Great White Shark— Fact or Fiction?

This article has been circulating the internet, accompanied by some disturbing JAWS-like images.

"UCLUELET, BC. While the ocean vessel 'Dawn Raider' was commercial fishing for dogfish, this Great White was hooked in the mouth but only resisted slightly for 15 minutes before it came up alongside the boat to have a look; long enough for one of the crew members to slip a rope around its tail! The shark took off towing the 42-foot fishing boat backwards through the water at about 7 knots. Just like in JAWS, the boat was taking on water over the stern and the crew watched in horror as the shark would actually jump completely out of the water at times. This went on for an hour before the shark finally drowned. She weighted in at 1035 lbs. It is suspected she followed a weak El Nino current into local waters in search of food. Although mid 60 degree water is considered ideal for these sharks, the larger ones can tolerate water in the low 50's."



### Is it time to put all your diving equipment on EBay? Hang up your flippers and retire your Speedo?

After some extensive investigating, it would appear that the case of the Ucluelet Great White Shark is a great white myth. The images are real, as are portions of the article. However, the animal is a Mako shark and it was actually caught at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia in August 2004 during the Yarmouth Shark Scramble. Hooked by Jamie Doucette of Wedgeport, Nova Scotia, the shark measured 10 feet 10 inches (3.3 meters) and weighed 1082 pounds (492 kg). It netted \$3000 in prize money for Doucette. Particularly astute Coastal Watchers might notice that the phone number on the crane has a 902 area code (NS); the fishing boats in the background are all east coast vessels; and there is no 'Dawn Raider' registered in Canada.