

Accident Database

Report ID# 105

Help

1989-06-17
Date
Gary Kugler
Victim
23
Victim Age
Raritan, S. Branch
River
Town of High Bridge to confluence with North Branch of the Raritan
Section
Robert Street Dam in Bridgewater United States New Jersey, US
Location
Gage
Medium
Water Level
N/A
River Difficulty
Caught in a Natural Hydraulic
Cause

Injury Type(s)

– Does not Apply

Factors

– One Boat Trip

Inexperienced

Victim Experience Level

Private

Trip Type

Open Canoe

Boat Type

Group Info

Other Victim Names

Reported

Status



Accident Description

DAMS CLAIMS JERSEY PADDLER

June 17, 1989: South Branch of the Raritan River, N.J.: Gary Kugler, 23, drowned on an evening cruise at the Robert Street dam in Bridgewater. At about 11 PM the two attempted to land above the dam; he slipped into the water and was washed over the dam. His girlfriend heard him call for help and summoned rescue squads. His body was recovered three days later.

Source: Appalachian Mountain Club (NJ) "Paddle Splashes"

COMMENTS: These incidents further illustrates the danger of low-head dams.

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