

**\*\* OUR FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT and YOUR INVITATION \*\***



## A North American Practitioners Workshop for Marine Reef Research and Monitoring by Volunteer Divers

20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE, 2002

Institute of Ocean Sciences  
Sidney (near Victoria), British Columbia

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Organized and sponsored by:

**Brian Smiley**

Science Branch, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Sidney, BC

**William (Bill) Seaman**

Florida Sea Grant College Program, and Dept. of Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida USA

and

**Tony Pitcher**

Fisheries Center, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC,

Bill (Professor/Associate Director), Tony (Professor/Director) and Brian (Research Biologist/ Reefkeepers Manager) are inviting you and a few dozen others to an informal, three-day workshop. Here we plan to collaborate as biologists and scientists who have first-hand experience and current interests in volunteer-based, underwater monitoring of natural and artificial ocean habitats around the United States and Canada. We believe that you too share our view that the recruiting, training and coordination of recreational divers as "citizen scientists" is probably one of the most effective ways of building and augmenting our basic and applied scientific knowledge of ocean habitats in North America and beyond. But this is accomplished at considerable cost of skill, effort, time, expense and patience. There's economy in helping each other.

Some outcomes desired of these three days together are:

- ◆ building an expanded network of international colleagues and friends who are active in scientific activities involving regular data collection by volunteer divers;
- ◆ outlining our projects, programs and other initiatives - past, current and planned;
- ◆ exchanging first hand knowledge and practical experience about accomplishments and lessons learned about methodologies, training, coordination, reporting, funding and so on;
- ◆ identifying some shared opportunities of future collaboration and partnering;
- ◆ agreeing on some practical next steps over the coming months;
- ◆ experiencing an advanced boat dive on a local ship reef, or an easier shore dive on a local Reefball™ complex, and their adjacent habitats;

- ◆ touring the Institute as a federal research and vessel facility;
- ◆ recording our deliberations to publish as a UBC Fisheries Centre Research Report to foster wider collaboration .

We'll try to keep our workshop expenses to a minimum, for example by providing shuttle vans between the airport, hotels, the Institute, restaurants and dive centers; by package deals on dive rentals and so on. For details about the workshop locale, check out the webpage <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/english/facilities/ios.htm>

If you're coming and/or need more information, please **let us know BEFORE APRIL 29<sup>th</sup>** by emailing one of us: Brian ([smileyb@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:smileyb@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca)), Bill ([seaman@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:seaman@mail.ifas.ufl.edu)) or Tony ([t.pitcher@fisheries.ubc.ca](mailto:t.pitcher@fisheries.ubc.ca))

For your interest, below are some of the people that are being invited. If you know of others who might like to attend, please pass along his/her name, affiliation and contact information.

### **From Canada:**

- ◆ Tony Pitcher -- Univ. British Columbia, Vancouver, BC <http://www.fisheries.ubc.ca/Staff/tpitcher.htm>
- ◆ Glen Jamieson -- DFO Science, Nanaimo, BC <http://www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/mehsd/people/jamieson.htm>
- ◆ Jackie King -- DFO Science, Nanaimo, BC <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/sa-mfpd/english/King.htm>
- ◆ Bev Bravender -- DFO Nanaimo, BC <http://www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/mehsd/people/bravender.htm>
- ◆ Jonathan Hepples/Brad Beath/Shelee Hamilton/Howard Larsen/Paul Winchell  
-- Cape Breton Reefkeepers, Nanaimo, BC <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/protocol/reefkeepers/>
- ◆ Neil McDaniel, Subsea Enterprises, Vancouver, BC <http://www.subsea-enterprises.com/>
- ◆ Carol Valkenier Victoria, BC [http://www.artificialreef.bc.ca/dive\\_sites/mar\\_life.html](http://www.artificialreef.bc.ca/dive_sites/mar_life.html)
- ◆ Brenda Burd, Ecostat Research Ltd, N. Saanich, BC
- ◆ Tex Enemark/Jay Straith, Artificial Reef Society of BC, Vancouver, BC <http://www.artificialreef.bc.ca/>
- ◆ Phil Lambert <http://rbcm1.rbcm.gov.bc.ca/research-collectionsdept/nat-hist/section/lambert.html>
- ◆ Jim Cosgrove Royal BC Museum, Victoria, BC <http://rbcm1.rbcm.gov.bc.ca/research-collectionsdept/nat-hist/section/cosgrove.html>
- ◆ Dana Haggarty/Susan Francis -- Living Reef Society, Nanaimo, BC <http://www.livingoceans.org/reef.htm>
- ◆ Jeff Marliave/Paul Malcolm Vancouver Aquarium, Vancouver, BC  
[http://www.artificialreef.bc.ca/news\\_items/020109%20VAMSC%20.html](http://www.artificialreef.bc.ca/news_items/020109%20VAMSC%20.html)
- ◆ Craig Millar, DFO Oceans, Ottawa, Ont.
- ◆ Francois Hazel, DFO Oceans, Mont Jollie, Que
- ◆ Gaye Sihin, Reefkeepers Coordinator, Vancouver
- ◆ Doug Bifford, BC Parks, Victoria

### **From USA**

- ◆ Bill Seaman -- University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida <http://www.flseagrant.org>
- ◆ Ed Parnell/Paul Dayton -- Scripps Institute, La Jolla, California <http://ljreserve.ucsd.edu/>
- ◆ William Lindberg -- University of Florida, Gainesville <http://fishweb.ifas.ufl.edu/Lindberg/Lindberg.htm>
- ◆ Lex Waters/John Perkner/Marc Dillon -- Jacksonville Reef Research Team, Florida <http://jaxrrt.org/>
- ◆ William Horn -- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
<http://floridaconservation.org/whos-who/00/reports/nov00/reefs.html> <http://marinefisheries.org/ar/index.htm>
- ◆ Noelle Berger -- San Diego Oceans Foundation, California <http://www.sdoceans.org/>
- ◆ Christy Pattengill-Semmens -- REEF Pacific Office, Seattle, Wash. <http://www.reef.org/data/surveyproject.htm>

