

Jacksonville Reef Research Team (JRRT) Meeting
June 18, 2008
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Jacksonville Public Library – Gate Parkway Branch

Attendees: Sue Wilcox, President
Genny Gunsolus, Vice President
Bill Lindholm, Treasurer
Phil Harville, Public Relations
Rob Bronson, Webmaster
Jim Davis, Safety Officer/REEF Coordinator
Denise Hughes
Joe Kistel
Jessica Weatherby
John Baxter

1. City of Jacksonville (COJ) Updates – NONE
 - a. COJ submitted artificial reef construction grant application to FWC in March 2008.
 - b. FWC typically announces grant recipients by the end of June.
 - c. Contract between the State and City would then be expected to be executed sometime in July/August.
2. The Bylaws are being formatted for print by a volunteer at Guana that Mike Barnes works with. Once that document is final and ready, it will be posted to the JRRT website and hardcopies will be made available to members.
3. The secretary position is open and volunteers are welcome.
4. 2006-2007 FWC Monitoring Grant updates – The submittal of the final report is due to FWC by June 30, 2008. The team needs to complete the following side scan sonar validation work to be included in the submittal:
 - a. Verify GPS numbers.
 - b. Dive the location and document what is/is not there.
 - c. Photos of the dive location.The information must be completed for inclusion in the June 30, 2008 submittal. If the side scan sonar validation work cannot be completed by that date, JRRT will request reimbursement of only what has been completed to date.
5. Fish count data needs to be submitted to Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF). There are approximately 55+ dives at 2 dive site locations. All the data obtained needs to be transferred to REEF. The folder Sue Wilcox has contains all the data except a couple of surveys that Rob Bronson has already entered. Jim Davis has agreed to enter the data and contact REEF to see if the data can be lumped into abundance groups or has to be submitted based on each individual/single diver.

6. Upcoming Events

- a. The Ships-2-Reefs bill was signed by the governor. This bill authorizes grant funding to be matched and allow drops for artificial reefs. <http://www.ships2reefs.com/displaycommon.cfm?an=7>
- b. July 7-11, 2008 – 11th International Coral Reef Symposium, Ft. Lauderdale <http://www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs/>
- c. July 22 – 26, 2008 – King Fish Tournament: Need volunteers for measurements of fish. Contact Sue for more information.
- d. July 2008 – REEF Great Annual Fish Count (GAFC) <http://fishcount.org/> : To become REEF certified you must to the following:
 - i. Join REEF
 - ii. Level 2 requires – Complete 2 surveys/2 dives
 - iii. Level 3 requires – Pass the Fish ID test with 80% and have 25 counts completed
 - iv. Level 4 requires – Have 35 to 50 counts completed
- e. REEF Calendar of Events http://www.reef.org/gafc_events/
 - i. July 19 2008 - Biscayne National Park GAFC Event
- f. August 26, 2008 – COJ Environmental Symposium: JRRT has been asked to present on artificial reefs. Volunteers should contact Sue Wilcox.
- g. August meeting – have a guest speaker on International Coastal Cleanup
- h. September 20, 2008 – Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup Day http://www.oceanconservancy.org/site/PageServer?pagename=press_icc
- i. End of 2008 – Florida Sportsman Show <http://www.floridasportsman.com/>

7. Training Updates

- a. Panama City has requested assistance from JRRT to set up a RRT program
- b. Mike Barnes and Beth Strawbridge would be best to assist with this effort

8. Treasury Updates – Bill Lindholm

- a. No changes
- b. Mike Barnes and Bill Lindholm have set up a JRRT account with Good Search. For each hit, JRRT earns \$0.01, so spread the word.
- c. Bill will register the JRRT at a Federal grant site.

9. Public Relations Updates – Phil Harville

- a. JaxSpots book: need to order more for demand in stores, but determine what JRRT wants to sell them for. Last year the book sold for \$17.00. Phil will find out what JRRT’s cost is and get back with group on the sale price.
- b. Jacksonville Landing has sent Phil a survey on Earth Day 2008. Please forward any suggestions of improvement to Phil.
- c. Adopt-A-Highway (Betty Carter) program – Phil has looked into several areas along A1A, but nothing is available. SR 105 between mile markers 4.0 and 6.0 is available on both sides. SR 105 is near Hecksher Drive and Little Talbot Island. The clean up efforts are 4 times a year.
- d. Rent-A-Boat – Phil contacted the Freedom Boat Club. Open house is June 20th 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Freedom Boat Club is off Beach Boulevard.

- e. Donation of a boat was discussed and at this time, JRRT may want to consider the insurance, liability, maintenance, storage, registration fees, trailer, and additional costs that are occurred with owning a boat.
- f. Phil has extra JRRT shirts for sale.

10. Website Updates – Rob Bronson

- a. Rob has resolved the issue with the JRRT website.
- b. Rob has begun updating the website, so if you have anything that might need to be added, please forward to Rob.

11. Safety Updates – Jim Davis

- a. A new Dive Safety Officer (DSO) is needed since Jim Davis is stepping down from this position.
- b. Jim Davis will ask Larry Davis if he is still interested in becoming the new DSO.
- c. NAUI rule of halves for safety stops has been changed. Now a 3 to 5 minute stop should be made at the half-way point, and a 1 minute stop should be made at 15 to 20 feet.

12. Meeting Adjourned