

◊ RRT REEF BRIEF ◊

Volume 99, Issue 5

May 11, 1999

Important Dates

- 5/8** First monitoring dive of the season!
- 5/12** 7:00 PM Scubanuts regular meeting @ Worman's on San Jose
- 5/16** JAXSPOTS Dive
- 5/19** 6:30 PM JAXRRT Officers/Board Meet @ Reid Hall on JU campus
- 5/19** 7:30 PM JAXRRT Regular meeting @ Reid Hall on JU campus
- 6/5-6** Annual Training Class "Expedition" – sign up for Saturday's JAX-SPOT dives and Sunday's Monitoring Dive

From Your Coordinator

This past week the wind gods forced Steve Parks to cancel our Saturday monitoring dive. For those of you who were signed up for the dive, I know you were as disappointed as me! Even though I was shivering at the thought of 70 degree water (no, Ray, I don't own a dry suit), I was ready to go offshore. Hopefully Lex can schedule a "rain date" soon so we can complete our first monitoring event.

Please take the time to review your methods manual on the mapping techniques. That is the other facet of our grant. So, we will plan each dive to complete our fish counts and, hopefully, complete a map of the area on the second dive. That will, obviously, take a lot of divers. So your mission—if you choose to accept it—is to sign up for the upcoming monitoring dives so that we can fill the *Native Diver II*. Look also at the dates for the JAXSPOT dives. Sign up for them and contact the boat captains and arrange to get wet! We have a lot to accomplish during the weeks that the weather allows us to go out.

Finally, I will echo the comments made this month by our PR guy, Jim Barnes, regarding the Earth Day booth that the team worked. These events are extremely valuable to recruit new team members. It is also a lot of fun to talk up the RRT to local divers and enthusiasts. A special thanks goes out to Phil Stoffel and Jim Barnes for the work that they did on the booth. It really shows off the Team in a very positive and professional manner. Sign up for the Kingfish Tournament. It will take a lot of man (and woman) hours to pull this one off. But anything of value takes some effort!

See you at Reid Hall on the 19th!

Jim Cribb

Public Relations

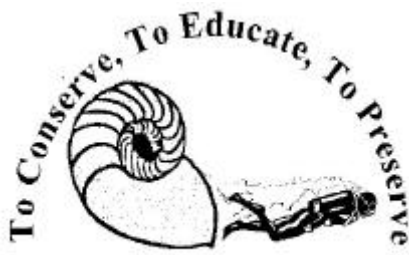
April's Reef Research Booth Event at Earth Day at the Jacksonville Landing was a huge success. Our "new" booth was utilized for the first time and all the feedback that I have had so far is positive. There are some minor 'kinks' to iron out but there will always be something to work on. This is why it is so important for all the members of the Reef Research Team to volunteer their time and their talent no matter how little or how much.

On behalf of the Jacksonville Reef Research Team I would like to thank all that participated in the Booth event at the Jacksonville Landing,

Phyl Stoffel ---- Booth Coordinator
Rusty Thomas
Mary Lyons
Jennifer Lyons
Jim Cribb
Lex Waters

Again THANK YOU guys for a job well done. The next event will be the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament in the month of July. Lex Waters is coordinating this one and he can be reached at 262-5001 or awaters@mediaone.net. The team will be needing a lot of participation by the team members for this one and it promises to be a major event for the team. Telephone Lex or Jim Barnes to volunteer your valuable time. It is needed and appreciated!

Jim Barnes



Jacksonville Reef Research Team

From your Vice President

The Florida Marine Science Educators Association (FMSEA) annual conference was held last weekend (April 30 - May 2) at the Sea Turtle Inn in Atlantic Beach and at the Mayport Marine Science Education Center. Presentations ranged from the Florida High School via the Internet to the JAXRRT. John Perkner and I gave a presentation on behalf of the team (do these count for PR points, Jim?), and the response was great!

We had a captive audience of about 20 conference attendees, who were very impressed with the work we do. We think they came away with a better idea that there actually ARE great places to dive offshore JAX, as well as a better appreciation for the conditions we have to endure, that are not a factor in most every other place in the state. We used a PowerPoint presentation that John has developed, followed up with Daniel's video of the Monachan Tug. They couldn't believe how much growth there was in just one year, and several of them kept asking, "Now, how long has that tug been down?" They just couldn't convince themselves that it would look that colonized in just a year's time! The conference wrapped-up with a great presentation by our own Dr. Quint who spoke to the entire group at the final breakfast Sunday morning about the St. John's River, the Kingfish Tournament, and his work on manatee's. They all loved it!

As I write this column, the first dive of the year has already been post-

poned for the usual reasons (not enuff viz & toooo much waveheight). I hope this isn't an omen of the coming season. Last year was so good, I know I got a little spoiled. However, it's still early in the season, and there are a LOT of good diving days headed our way. The sign-up list for the coming dives will be at the next meeting.

Lastly, we need warm bodies to sign up for our booth for the second week of July. This is the week of the Kingfish Tournament, and Mike Wheeler of the Tournament Committee has asked me for some recent team photos because they want to include us in the program! Between that and the booth, we should get some great exposure. So, make an effort to get a little booth time worked into your schedule during the tourney, and let's really showcase our efforts to the local marine community. We deserve it!!

See you at JU on the 19th.

Later, Lex

WE HAVE TO WANT TO!

It seems rather ridiculous to think you could do something about the pollution of the oceans. So much water. Is it really that bad? A little more or less rubbish in the ocean, what does it matter?

When you realise that about 70% of the earth's surface consists of water, you can draw the conclusion that we actually live on an island. Who wants to live on an island surrounded by polluted water? For one, that same ocean provides in our basic needs. We also spend a lot of time at the ocean and it's beaches. We don't want to turn all this into a dumpsite, do we? Nowadays you can almost find any kind of garbage in the ocean. There is pollution you can't see, like chemical and radio-active litter. But also garbage you can see like styrofoam, rubber and plastic which can cause a lot of damage. A dolphin or seal can choke in a piece

of plastic.

There would be less dumping if there was less garbage. A lot of garbage that ends in the ocean is produced by people like you and me, for example via sewage. Whether the dumping occurs at sea or on land, the problem remains the same. Most of that garbage is caused by our consumer goods. Besides making rules for the large companies, we can also do something ourselves. Even though beach-cleaning activities seem like carrying water to the sea, they do actually contribute to the awareness of people for protecting our oceans, seas, an coastal waters.

Team Shirts

For those of you who ordered the new team logo T-shirts, Polo shirts, or warm-ups, bring your checkbook to the May meeting. For those of you who picked up ordered items last month and didn't pay—pay! For those of you who didn't do anything, we have a few extra items. The T-shirts are 100% cotton and they all look great! The T-shirts are \$6.00, Polo shirts are \$19.00, and the warm-ups are \$35.00 for the set. We will have them at the May meeting. Lets all show off our new logo!

Editor

**YOUR ARTICLE
COULD HAVE GONE
IN THIS
AVAILABLE SPACE.
NEXT MONTH HELP
YOUR EDITOR!**

Training Update

The Training class of 1998-99 will have its Expedition on June 5 & 6 here, offshore Jacksonville. This will be in conjunction with a scheduled team dive on Sunday. As always the training class will be in dire need for team members to help out with data collection. If anyone can help out (either or both days) please contact me as soon as possible as we need to plan the dives. My home is 646-3241.

The students presented their photos at the last team meeting. Linda Black described the results and the actual dives to the team members. We dove with SCUBATYME Dive/Snorkel Charters out of Pompano Beach. The students did a wonderful job with the photos. I want to again thank both Frank and Linda Black for continuing teaching the Photo Module. That is what makes the Jacksonville Reef Research Team so wonderful, the TEAM effort of it's members.

So, again, thank you to all who have helped so far and will help with the "Expedition." This has made my first year as training officer a smooth process.

If you can help with the Expedition please call ASAP!

See you at the meeting.

Brian Salzman

1999 DIVE SCHEDULE

Day	Month	Dive Date	Rain Date	M	J	Location
Saturday	April	04/03	04/10		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	April	04/17	04/24		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	May	05/08	TBA	*		BB
Sunday	May	05/16	05/23		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	June	06/06	TBA	*		CR Culverts
Saturday	June	06/19	06/26		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	July	07/03	Open		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	July	07/04	TBA	*		JW
Saturday	July	07/10	07/24		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	July	07/18	TBA	*		EEF Culverts
Sunday	August	08/08	08/15		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	August	08/14	TBA	*		HH Barge
Sunday	August	08/15	08/22		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	August	08/28	TBA	*		TR Anna
Saturday	September	09/04	TBA	*		JW
Sunday	September	09/12	09/19		*	Jaxspots
Saturday	October	10/02	10/09		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	October	10/10	10/17		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	October	10/31	TBA		*	Jaxspots
Sunday	November	11/14	TBA		*	Jaxspots

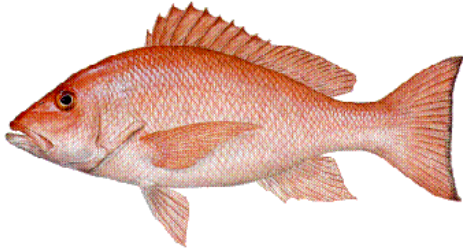
Notes: M = Monitoring Dives J = Jaxspots Confirmation and Discovery Dives

Meet at Mayport Marine promptly at 7:30 for all dives, unless specified otherwise

Contact Alex Waters at 262-5001 or John Perkner at 273-4562 with questions on the schedule.

1999 Officers/Board of Directors

President - Jim Cribb	904-264-1840 (H)	904-264-0520 (W)
Vice President - Alex Waters	904-262-5001 (H)	904-260-3911 (W)
Secretary - Mary Lyons	904-724-0324 (H)	904-708-8456 (M)
Treasurer - Jim Nelsen	904-641-0717 (H)	904-448-0305 (W)
Board/Webmaster - Ray Smith	904-389-9668 (H)	904-854-5990 (W)
Board/Chief Scientist - John Perkner	904-273-4562 (H)	904-791-5064 (W)
Board/Training Officer - Brian Salzman	904-646-3241 (H)	904-641-6611 (W)
Board/Safety Officer - Dennis Short	904-268-0414 (H)	904-332-1849 (W)
Board/Public Relations - Jim Barnes	904-757-1928 (H)	904-778-6089 (W)



Red Snapper

Family Lutjanidae, SNAPPERS
Lutjanus campechanus

Description: color pinkish red over entire body, whitish below; long triangular snout; anal fin sharply pointed; no dark lateral spot.

Similar Fish: vermilion snapper, *R. aurorubens*.

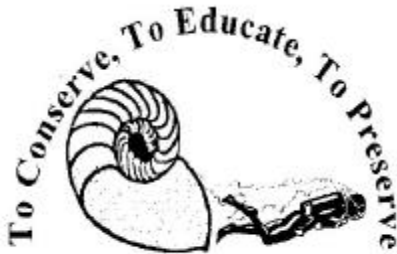
Where found: OFFSHORE on the continental shelf, more plentiful off the panhandle than in south or middle Florida.

Size: to 20 pounds. **Florida Record:** 46 lbs., 8 ozs.

Remarks: juveniles occur over sandy or mud bottoms and are often taken in shrimp trawls; adults may live more than 20 years, and attain 35 pounds or more; sexual maturity attained at age 2; spawns June to October; feeds on crustaceans and other fish.

In This Issue...

Let's go diving!



Jacksonville Reef Research Team

P. O. Box 8776
Jacksonville, FL 32239
Website: www.jaxrrt.org

RRT REEF BRIEF is published monthly by the Jacksonville Reef Research Team, Inc. Jacksonville Reef Research Team, Inc., is a 501 (c) 3 not for profit corporation. For information or comments contact Jim Cribb @ jimcribb@msn.com