

◊ RRT REEF BRIEF ◊

Volume 99, Issue 11

November 10, 1999

Important Dates

- 11/10** Scubanauts meeting @ Wormans Deli on San Jose
- 11/17** 6:30 PM JAX RRT Officers/ Board meeting at JU-Reid Hall
- 11/17** 7:30 PM JAX RRT meeting at JU-Reid Hall

Next Classroom training dates:

- 12/1** **JU-Reid Hall** (check with Brian for times)

From Your Coordinator

As often is the case, November has started off like a lion! Diving offshore Jacksonville the past few months has been pretty much non-existent with first the closeness of a few hurricanes, then the infamous Red Tide, then more winds and high seas. In fact it has been so bad, Steve Parks (of *Native Dive II* fame) offered to rent us his boat for the months of October through April. Thanks, Steve, but I think we will pass on that "generous" offer!

As you can tell from the accompanying articles, there is a lot going on with your Team. An opportunity to meet people, have fun, and donate some volunteer hours for a good cause is coming up the second weekend of November in the form of the 20th annual Jacksonville Jazz Festival. Contact Rob Rush for that event. Additionally, there has been some busy days with the Reef Ball project recently. Contact Lex Waters if you want an update or to find out how you can help. And, last but certainly not least, the 1999-2000 training class is progressing along quite well! Brian Salzman is doing a great job. The students, no doubt, are glad that the next few months will be classroom sessions and not in the water. The water temp is getting pretty cold!

If you have an interest in these activities, call up the person in charge and volunteer your time and talent. This past weekend, we had five (5) team members that helped out with the training class at Camp Blanding.

It may be Winter, but there still is a great deal going on and, as always, **WE NEED YOU!**

Jim Cribb

Training

The Training Class of 1999-2000 conducted training on November 6 & 7, 1999 at Camp Blanding. We were at Kingsley Lake this month. We were to be at Magnolia Lake, but a Special Forces group bumped our weekend.

We completed both the: 1) Site Selection & Reef Deployment module, and 2) Mapping module. We had eight students show up this weekend. Both modules went well. There were six team members assisting, which made the training go smoothly. I want to thank Frank Black, Jim Cribb, Mary Lyons, Doni Parkinson, and Billy Taylor for their help.

The training class met at Jacksonville University on Wednesday, November 3, 1999. We reviewed the two modules and the schedule for this years training class. Included was the plan for this year's Expedition. The plans are for this year's class to coordinate the placement of the Reef Balls.

I'll see you at the next team meeting.

Brian

Attention All Team Members!

I am going to do a reorder of our Team logo items (T-shirts, polo shirts, and Sweat tops and bottoms) the week of November 18th (after our November regular meeting). If you didn't get what you wanted last time, now is your chance! Also, there has been some interest in ordering embroidered Ball Caps. Let me know your interest!

Editor



From your Vice President

Meeting of the key participants in Jacksonville's ongoing effort to make us the leader in artificial reef development went well at the Music Shed downtown Jacksonville on Saturday, October 23. Members from the Reef Research Team, the Offshore Club, Jacksonville University, and Mandarin High School's Scuba Explorer Post were present to discuss their involvement with the Reef Ball project. We did have one news crew from Channel 25 and a writer from the Beaches Leader show up.

What the Media Day event did provide was a chance for all the players to network and spend part of a beautiful day sharing ideas and experiences. Currently, it seems the date for deployment of the Reef Balls will be sometime this summer. The month of June seems to be the month most mentioned.

What we will need to look at pursuing in the near future is the Adopt-A-Reef Ball fundraiser project. I am attempting to put one together for the Scuba Post here at school. Larry Beggs is due back from South Carolina any day now, and hopefully work to get this going will commence.

I had the opportunity to speak to the members of the Fish Tales dive club last week, and was met with great optimism regarding their support of the Adopt a Reef Ball program. I was encouraged and feel very strongly that this will be a real boon to all who participate.

Again, if anyone has a spot where some Reef Balls could be placed for a display until May or June, let me know so I can make arrangements for it with Larry.

Hopefully, the Jazz Fest event comes off alright without any extra beverages being served up unnecessarily. However, it sounds like it could still be fun regardless.

We are looking into the possibility of meeting back at the Southside Library again beginning in January. Will keep you posted on that.

See you at JU,

Lex Waters

DEEP SEA RESEARCH

The Whole History of Earth's Environmental Change is Recorded on the Deep Sea Bottom

The concept of ocean is today being changed drastically. It has been discovered by the survey of deep seas in the past several decades that, in the extreme environment of dark sea bottom where temperature is very low and pressure is very high, and no electromagnetic energy can penetrate, there still exist creatures which do not depend on solar energy for living but on a completely different metabolism of hot water, and such sea bottom is full of amazing features. It was also found that the records from the time of creation of the sea is left on the deep sea bottom, and it is important to clarify such record in predicting the future changes in terrestrial environment. JAMSTEC is conducting the study of such sea bottom with deep sea exploration system.

GEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Today, it is believed that the earth's surface consists of a number of plates. When two of such plates meet and one of them subducts underneath the other, a trench is created. When two plates sepa-

rate from one another, a volcanic activity is created to fill the gap, and a large ridge named the "mid-ocean ridge". Therefore, regions of such trenches and mid-ocean ridges are geologically active, where seismic and/or volcanic activities occur frequently. The mid-ocean ridges are usually located several thousand meters below sea level, and their actual status is not clearly known. However, new volcanoes and hydrothermal activities related to volcanism are observed, and this region is one of the important study themes in earth science.

There exist trenches exceeding 6,000 meters along the Japanese Islands, and it is believed that plates subduct along these trenches. As this subduction causes earthquakes and volcanic activities on the land side, the mechanics of the trench is deemed important in analyzing seismo/volcanic phenomena. At the central part of a plate, where there is no interference from other plates, sediments accumulate quietly on the sea bottom some 5000 meters deep, and manganese nodules are frequently produced. JAMSTEC is conducting geological researches by observing the conditions of sea bottom and bottom sediments sampling.

We use three methods in its plan for long-term observations of the deep-sea floor. They include a self-recording method, real-time method and buoy satellite method, which has provided a great deal of data in 1993. A comprehensive ocean floor observation station was established in September 1993 in a clam bed in water 1,174 m deep off Hatsushima Island in Sagami Bay. Long-term observations were begun using a real-time method.

For more information or to view this complete article visit the www.jaxrrt.org website and click on our link section, then Deep Sea Research.

Editor

Public Relations

The Jacksonville Jazz Festival is upon us and we have a time slot of from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM Saturday the 13th of November. I haven't talked to Rob Rush to see how many volunteers we have this year but I feel sure that we could always use more. So, if you are tired of that old boring Saturday night routine just give Rob a call and I feel sure that you can enjoy an exciting time with the team at the Jacksonville Jazz Festival.

Jim Cribb was kind enough to stand in for me at PR Day with the REEFBALL bunch down at the Music Shed downtown on 23 October. I understand that it went well with coverage by Channel 25 and a few paragraphs in some local area newspapers. Thanks, Jim.

Well, coming up in the spring we have a few events where we will be wanting to show off our new booth. We will be wanting volunteers to manage and man these booths so please give this some thought. The Jacksonville Reef Research Team and its' booth won't work if we don't have you good people to make things work.

We'll see you at the Scubonauts meeting, at the Jazz festival Saturday night, or at the RRT meeting at JU on November 17th.

Jim Barnes

**IF YOU HAD SENT
US AN ARTICLE, IT
WOULD BE IN THIS
MONTH'S NEWSLETTER!
MAYBE NEXT MONTH
YOU TOO CAN BE A
"PUBLISHED" WRITER**

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

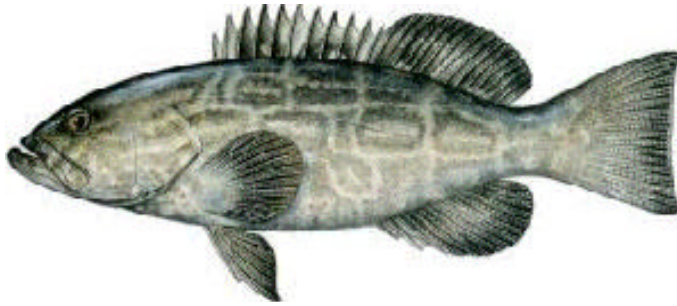
Meet at Mayport Marine promptly at 7:30 for all dives, unless specified otherwise

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)

SUPPORT YOUR NEWSLETTER BY SENDING AN ARTICLE OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE TEAM!



Description: olive or gray body coloration with black blotches and brassy spots; gently rounded preopercle.

Similar Fish: gag *M. microlepis*; yellowfin grouper, *M. Venenosa*.

Where found: OFFSHORE species; adults associated with rocky bottoms, reef, and drop off walls in water over 60 feet deep; young may occur INSHORE in shallow water.

Black Grouper

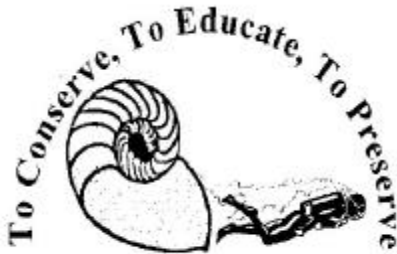
Family Serranidae, SEA BASSES AND GROUPEL
Mycteroperca bonaci

Size: common to 40 pounds, may attain weights exceeding 100 pounds.

***Florida Record:** no Florida record because of identity confusion with gag, which are mistakenly called "black grouper."

In This Issue...

Jazz Festival, 1999-2000 Training Class update, and more!



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