



Lunarfins Scuba Club

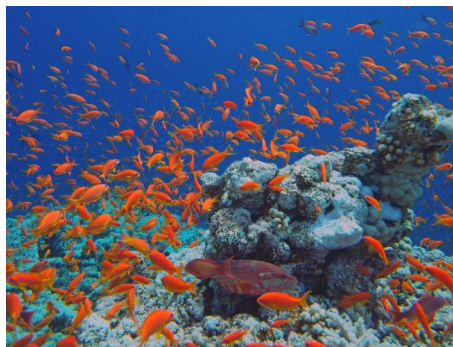
Lunarfins, a non-profit club that promotes the sport of scuba diving.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 19th at 6:00 p.m.
will be a LIVE in Person meeting with Cindy Reuland.**

Touring and Diving in Egypt by Cindy Reuland

Do you want to dive the Red Sea? Do you know where it is? Are you concerned about travel safety? Come and learn more about touring Egypt and diving in the Red Sea at the November General Meeting.

Cindy Reuland is the current Lunarfins Club President. Cindy overcame many fears to become certified in 2010 to accompany her husband, Tom, on fun trips! Cindy joined Lunarfins while Tom was the treasurer and Captain Randy was the President. Tom and Cindy went to Seattle for 8 years and came back to Houston in 2019 and rejoined Lunarfins. Tom and Cindy enjoy yearly fantastic international dive trips (Egypt, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, and Cozumel). Cindy will present their trip to Egypt in June of 2021 include touring the famous sites and diving in the Red Sea.



Lunarfins Board Meetings
are held each month
(except August & December) at 6:30 PM.
Arrive at 6 to select your supper.
Luka's BBQ and Steakhouse
17052 Saturn Ln

*If you have an item to bring before the board,
contact any board member to get on the agenda.*

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Contributors:

Dennis Deavenport,
Mike Peters
Ja Van Pruett,
Cindy Reuland,
Brion Saathoff



Lunarfins
P.O. Box 57514
Webster, TX
77598-7514

Events Calendar

(Tentative plans)



Membership

**2021 Membership dues are
Now being accepted.**

Membership runs from March
1st to February 28th 2022

The renewal form is required
each year in February.

*Please bring the form (below) to
the next meeting or mail it in.*

*Please fill in all fields completely
so that records can be verified
this time around.*

*Don't forget to check your
interest (s) and if you want to
be included in the directory.*

Membership Application

<https://www.lunarfins.com/>

**Nov. 16th — General Meeting— Cindy Rueland—Diving and
Touring in Egypt**

**Dec. 5th — Lunarfins Christmas Party@ 5pm—Contact Kim
Murphy**

**Dec. 11 or 18th— Festival of Lights — at Moody Gardens --
watch for date**

Pre-Owned Dive Gear for Sale

US Divers Shoe Fins Size 6 1/2-8 (40-41) Black

Please contact Ja Van Pruett (all proceeds goes to Lunarfins)

In the Market For New Gear?

Gigglin' Marlin has offered our members a discount on equipment. So if you are in the market for maybe a wet suit, a regulator, or a BCD, contact Louise Toole. A letter will be generated that you are a member in good standing and mailed to Gigglin' Marlin. Check out the Gigglin' Marlin web page and get more familiar with the dive shop. <https://gigglinmarlin.com>

**For those Lunarfins having SCUBA cylinders requiring hydrostatic testing,
Western Sales & Testing is recommended. They will also do a VIP if requested.**

They are located at 2814 East P Ave., Deer Park.



ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Cindy Reuland
Vice President	Ja Van Pruett
Secretary	Courtney Scherer
Treasurer	John Gorman
Social Director	Brion Saathoff

APPOINTED

Training information	Bill Jones
Trip information	OPEN
TGCC Representative	Tom Burns
Advisor	PeeWee Dwire
Advisor	Dennis Deavenport
Advisor	Fred Toole
Newsletter	Ja Van Pruett
Website	Tom Burns

**Do you have
any ideas for
event or**

**Topics for
Speakers for
2022?**

**Please share
them with any
of our
officers.**



Lunarphins President's Notes

Hi Lunarphins,

We tried our first General hybrid meeting in October at Las Haciendas with Zoom. We had many technology issues, and we will either solve them or not do hybrid meetings. If someone could volunteer their cellular hotspot phone for better internet connection, that would be great. Let the board know if you can help us smoothly hold hybrid meetings. If we can make hybrid meetings work, we may also be able to have more speakers and accommodate remote members. The October speaker, David Lenderman, was excellent with his presentation on Galapagos and appreciate his and everyone's patience on the video issues.

The November meeting will be in person until we can work out the issues with Zoom. Please join us in person at Las Haciendas on NASA 1 at 6 pm to order dinner and we will start our general meeting promptly at 6:30 pm to vote and our speaker (me!) at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you!

A reminder that we will be voting on the revised 2021 Constitution which was emailed last month and again with this newsletter. If you have comments, questions or issues, please send them immediately come or any board member. We prefer not to have a lengthy discussion on editorials at the general meeting. If there are any major concerns, we can certainly discuss those and its good to work those out ahead of voting.

Again, the board voted and approved that the 2022/2023 dues (paid by March 31, 2022) will be \$25 for individuals and \$35 for families. The new dues will go into effect upon approval of the Constitution.

Please join us for our Holiday party, December 5th at 5pm! It will be fun and festive.

Thank you and please reach out to me or other board members with any concerns.

Cindy Reuland

2020-2021 President



*Happy Birthday to anyone that has a birthday
this month!*

May your day be wonderful!

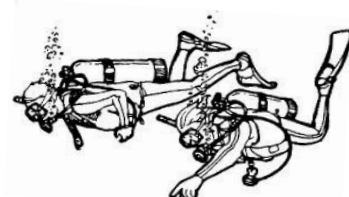


positions still open

Trip information

When you volunteer you become a bigger part of the club,
we always want new ideas.

Folks! Please remember, the more you volunteer for leadership or to be in charge of an event. *The more you enjoy your club.*



Thank you

Our speakers for September was [David Lenderman](#)

David is an avid traveler, diver and photographer. He is the current President of the Houston Underwater Photographic Society and was awarded HUPS Photographer of the Year for 2019. At our October Lunarfin's meeting David revisits his May 2021 trip to the Galapagos Islands. **Very informative presentations. [So sorry if you missed it.](#)**

New Logo Lunarfin's T-shirts

Would you like a New Logo Lunarfin's T-shirt? We have two colors the first order. If you would like to have one or more two styles, Blue or Red, a Crew or a V-Neck. We have only 3 left. Please contact Brion Saathoff at @ brionsaathoff@icloud.com. Or JaVan Pruett @ caladyfish@gmail.com



Pending Events

^{21th} Annual Bill Jones 2022 COZUMEL Vacation Package

NON-STOP Flight Departing from HOUSTON's Bush Intercontinental Airport.
Other Departure Cities are Available.

July 2022 for 8 Days, 7 nights

**for approximately \$1199 pp, dbl occ, tax incl.
Less than \$150 per day**

DIVING IS NOT INCLUDED or Required

Tickets will go on-sale in January 2022

Staying at the fabulous IBEROSTAR COZUMEL RESORT

The Annual Bill Jones Cozumel Vacations Group Package Price INCLUDES:

Round Trip Air Fare, Round Trip Ground Transportation, Length of Stay

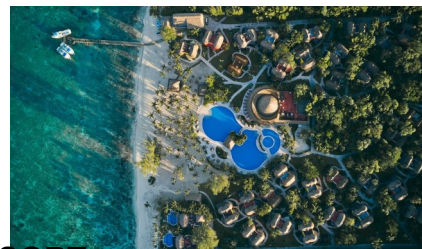
All-Inclusive Hotel Accommodations

ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK

All Taxes, Exit Fees, and Gratuities

For Detailed Information, Contact: **Mr.Bill.Jones@comcast.net**

All Taxes, Exit Fees, and Gratuities



Brion's Corner

Hello Lunarfans members, I hope all is well.

I was looking up dive lakes around the state of Texas and one of the questions that came up on the forum was: are there still jellyfish in one of the lakes. That piqued my curiosity so I started looking and reading and was amazed to find out that freshwater jellyfish are actually very prolific in many lakes and some slow-moving rivers all over the world including small private ponds. in fact, they are even found in the Yangtze River in China.



The freshwater jellyfish by its biological name is *Craspedausta sowerbii*. The short version is *C. Sowerbii*. They have been found in lake Amistad, lake Sysco, Grapevine, Joe pool, lime, Nacogdoches, Medina, Travis and many private lakes and ponds. The only places that they typically have not been found is in lakes in Siberia and those of the same nature due to the Extreme cold. The polyps will wait for extended periods of time for conditions to be right for reproduction. the medusa's, (which is the adult version) are typically about the size of a penny, this is their most visible stage in their life cycle. Most seasons *C.sowerbii* live in colonies of

tiny stacked polyps attached to underwater surfaces where they remain until conditions are ideal for reproduction. The polyps reproduce by budding. They may produce a branch that remains connected or a frustule larva which breaks off and crawls away. Every so often the polyps will bud off (Kind of like the bloom at the flower gardens) And develop into a crop of medusa which develops sex organs and go looking for mates. both the medusa and the polyps feed off of zooplankton. they have stinging cells (nematocysts). Which they use to capture food. the nematocysts are not tough enough to have much of an effect on humans, some people report a tingle when it touches a sensitive spot on their skin. the



blooms (Medusa) resemble a boiling pot as they come up from the bottom, sometimes a few, and sometimes hundreds come up. The bloom cycles last for a few weeks. If you're lucky enough to see one it will typically be a still day in late summer, the sun high in the sky. most of the populations are either typically all male or female. They are thought to travel from one body of water to another as polyps on the feet of birds and other animals. The more I researched the more questions I actually had. I have learned at Moody that there is about a four-point percentage window in salinity for the jellies, if it's too low the jellies will go to the bottom and if the salinity is too high they will hang on top and can't rotate through the aquarium, so I guess I will just have keep researching

until I can answer my questions. I hope someday I will be lucky enough to be diving in the middle of a freshwater jellyfish bloom with a camera, I think that would be awesome. It would make a great video for an entry to the Houston underwater film festival (huff) so keep your eyes peeled. I hope to see everybody soon God bless and be safe. Dive every chance you get life is short.

Cheers.

Brion

Events You Might Be Interested In



Las Haciendas c

November 16th, 6:00pm

**Come at 6pm– order off menu, 6:30—7pm announcements
& social. Speaker start at 6:30 pm.**

With Cindy Reuland

1020 W Nasa Rd 1 (off I-45 by Star cinema)

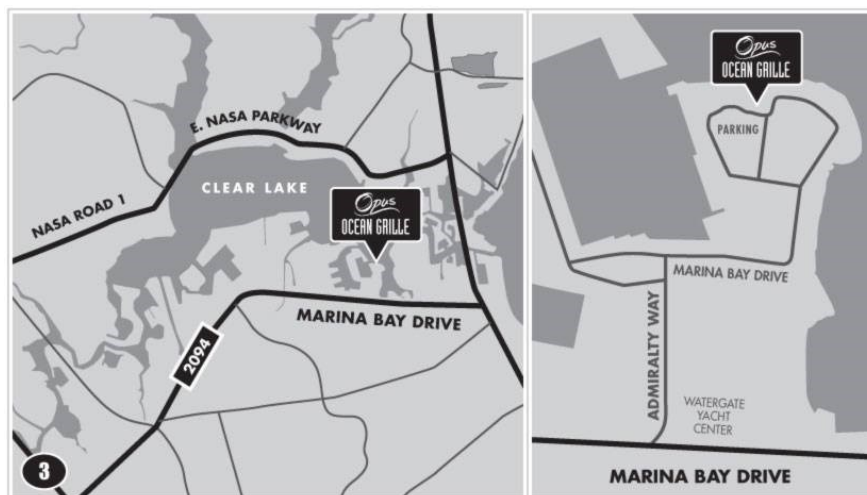
Webster, TX 77598

Join Zoom Meeting [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759900375?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759900375?pwd=eEcvVVlsN1FjU3NaSHZOT1J5MnREZz09)

[pwd=eEcvVVlsN1FjU3NaSHZOT1J5MnREZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82759900375?pwd=eEcvVVlsN1FjU3NaSHZOT1J5MnREZz09)

2021 NASA Lunarfins Christmas Party

OPUS OCEAN GRILLE



1510 Marina Bay Drive, Building 124

Opus Ocean Grille offers a variety of your favorite fresh seafood dishes; from oysters on the half shell, Alaskan King Crab, Chilean Sea Bass and much more!

Located within the Watergate Yachting Center in Clear Lake Shores, our waterfront dining experience makes for a perfect brunch or evening out with Friends and family.

Be sure to bring a gift (something you would like to receive) for Gift Exchange.

Door prizes!

I need a good head count by November 21th.

Please RSVP: Kim Murphy, text or email

kmutphy5717@gmail.com or caladyfish@gmail.com

<http://www.opusoceangrille.com/>



Festival of Lights

Date will be announced in an email.

This year, the holiday season will shine brighter than ever with an event that has become a tradition for families and groups alike.

Enjoy a festive stroll along this mile-long trail featuring more than two million lights and lighted scenes themed to holiday music that take

you around the Moody Gardens property with spectacular views of Galveston Bay. Stops along the way bring you to see Star the Dancing Tree of Light, concession areas, hot chocolate, fireside S'mores and other festive foods, Mistletoe, along with plenty of photo and selfie opportunities!

So, Lunarbins come join in the fun! Contact Kim Murphy—ksmutphy5717@gmail.com



Diver Discovers Giant Prehistoric Shark Tooth off Coast of Florida

Tara Massouleh McCay

Wed, October 27, 2021, 3:43 PM · 2 min read

Over the past 10 years, boat captain Michael Nastasio has made a lot of amazing aquatic discoveries. Hunting for black gold, also known as prehistoric shark or megalodon teeth, is a longtime passion for Nastasio. He loves the thrill of the hunt so much; he even made a career out of sharing his hobby through his company Black Gold Fossil Charters.

Michael Nastasio with 6 1/6-inch prehistoric shark tooth

The self-described "treasure hunter at heart" was on a routine charter off the coast of Venice, Florida, on October 15 when he stumbled upon a find he never thought possible: a whole 6-inch shark tooth. Most megalodon teeth are only around 4 inches long. Last December, Nastasio made headlines when a video of his reaction at finding a tooth measuring 5 7/8 inches went [viral](#). This time, he broke even that surprising record.

"To get a whole 6-inch tooth in Venice, Florida, is extremely rare," Nastasio told *Southern Living*. "It's every fossil hunter's dream—a goal honestly that a lot of fossil hunters won't achieve in a lifetime of hunting."

Courtesy of Michael Nastasio A prehistoric shark tooth measuring 6 1/6 inches in length.

Megalodon are giant prehistoric sharks that lived between 23 to 3.6 billion years ago. According to the [Smithsonian](#), megalodons could be up 60 feet long and weigh up to 50 tons. To put it in simpler terms: Megalodons were longer than school buses and as heavy as a railroad cars. At three times the size of a great white shark, they remain the largest shark to ever live in the ocean.

Venice is often referred to as the "shark tooth capital of the world" because 10 million years ago, the area was underwater and teeming with sharks. The seas receded over time, causing the prehistoric sharks to die. And while their skeletons disintegrated, their [fossilized teeth](#) remained, according to [VisitSarasota.com](#).

Though a 6 1/6-inch tooth is a pretty big win for Nastasio, he's far from checking off every item on his fossil bucket list. Up next he plans to go on the hunt for a golden beach tooth (a light blonde megalodon with a blueish blade) that he calls the "ultimate find."

"Each tooth is special and unique," he said. "Every time you find a really good one is like the first time all over again. It truly never gets old."

HOUSTON UNDERWATER FILM FESTIVAL

Will be held April 2-3, 2022

at the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston (MATCH)

HUFF aims to promote underwater film making and appreciation of the beauty and diversity of all things underwater as well as encouraging the art of underwater videography. Underwater videographers from around the world are invited to submit entries for consideration for screening.

Enter films at filmfreeway.com/houstonunderwaterfilmfestival. Entries are free.

See the rules and buy \$10 HUFF 2020.virtual tickets at hups.org/huff.

These are the categories to enter:

Novice: For persons entering the contest who are new to underwater video and who request assistance in video post processing, HUPS members, dive shop personnel, other friends, or someone familiar with video editing can provide assistance in editing, color correction and music. Such assistance is naturally limited, and videos will be accepted based on available resources as well as the other elements of acceptance criteria stated in the Rules & Terms. Length is limited to under 2 minutes. Contact us at huff@hups.org for more information.

Fixed Lens: This category is limited to cameras without interchangeable lenses such as compacts, GoPro, SeaLife and others. Wet lenses such as macro or wide angle are acceptable. Length is under 2 minutes.

Short Videos: Videos that do not fit in categories 1 or 2 but are under 2 minutes in length.

Feature Length Films: Videos that do not fall in the first 3 categories. The length is 2 - 5 minutes.

Made in Texas: This category will award winners from the other 4 categories for the best films submitted by a Texans. Creator(s) must have their primary residence in Texas. To win in this category you must submit a film to one of the other 4 categories.

The HUFF Committee visited the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston (MATCH) on July 22, to begin planning the event. **Very modern and high-tech.**

Submission Procedure:

Films must be submitted through FilmFreeway no later than January 10, 2020.

Acceptance status will be communicated no later than March 1, 2022 via email.

Entry Link: filmfreeway.com/houstonunderwaterfilmfestival

Dates & Deadlines: Opening Date: June 22,

Entry Deadline: January 11, 2022

Notification Date: No later than March 1, 2022

Event Dates: April 2-3, 2022

Contact Information:

Website - hups.org

Email: huff@hups.org

Phone: 713-231-4052

Address: 14 Windermere Ln.,

Houston, Texas 77063 USA



Researchers make startling find while mapping ocean floor

By Lauren Fox, AccuWeather staff writer

Published Nov. 8, 2021 9:31 AM CST | Updated Nov. 8, 2021 9:31 AM CST

Sent in by Mike Peters



Researchers at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) came across a historic discovery while mapping the ocean floor recently -- an oil tanker that dates back to World War II.

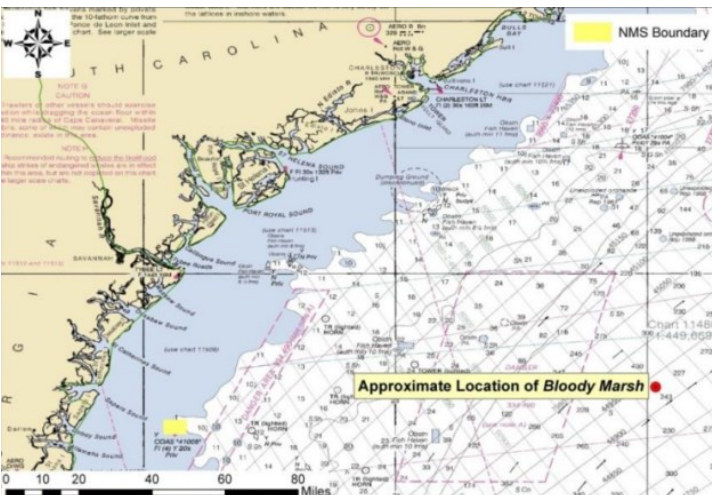
The sunken oil tanker is called the SS Bloody Marsh. Its construction was completed in 1943, and it faced its ultimate downfall that same year when it was struck by a torpedo from a German U-boat. It was made amid a push to get more oil tankers into the Atlantic and toward Europe during the war.

The oil tanker set off from a port in Houston, Texas, on June 28, 1943. It was headed for New York when

it was torpedoed on July 2 that same year.

When the torpedo struck the Bloody Marsh, it destroyed the engine room and killed three crewmen. According to reports from the time, the oil tanker sunk very quickly following a second torpedo in the attack. Some crew members were able to abandon ship and escape on life rafts.

The discovery was a long time coming. The Bloody Marsh was found off the coast of South Carolina while the NOAA researchers were mapping the ocean floor as part of the Windows to the Deep 2021 expedition.



A map from NOAA shows the approximate location of the S.S. Bloody Marsh, which was discovered off the coast of South Carolina this year during mapping of the ocean floor. (NOAA)

There is something about this wreck that makes it stand out to researchers aside from its history -- its ecological impacts.

"It was important to find Bloody Marsh and get an ROV [remotely operated vehicle] on-site to identify the wreck and assess it for pollution risk," [Mike Brennan](#), a Maritime Project archaeologist for SEARCH Inc., said.

The wreck is on the NOAA's ["Potentially Polluting Wrecks"](#) list, which is a list of 87 sunken vessels located in various spots across the United States ocean

floor that could pose a threat to the nation's coastal and marine resources through oil pollution. As the wrecks on the list corrode on the ocean floor, they may release hazardous materials and oil into the environment.

Of the 36 sunken vessels, 17 have been recommended for further assessment and potential removal.

According to the NOAA, there are approximately 20,000 sunken vessels across the U.S. Ocean floor, but only some of them are believed to contain oil.

An oil slick has been observed about 2.5 miles away from the shipwreck, which allowed the team of researchers to identify the wreck. At the time of the sinking, the Bloody Marsh was believed to be carrying more than 106,000 barrels of oil. According to Brennan, the slicks are likely due to the gradual corrosion of the wreck.

"Given the location of this wreck, the oil slicks observed upstream of it, the welded joinery and general appearance of the wreck as that of a T2 oil tanker, and the matching of the length of the hull section with the torpedo damage, I am confident that this is the wreck of SS Bloody Marsh," Brennan said in a report from NOAA on the discovery.

TGCC Awards Banquet 2022

The Lunarfin's Scuba Club was organized in 1963 by a small group of divers who worked at the Manned Spacecraft Center, as Johnson Space Center (JSC) was known back then. The club grew primarily through the sponsorship of SCUBA training classes, local dive trips and social activities. Since that time, membership has broadened to include anyone interested in diving. The majority of our members are in some way affiliated with NASA but this is not a requirement for membership and we have members from all across the board.



Lunarfin's

P.O. Box 57514
Webster TX 77598-7514

281-851-5206

webeditor@lunarfin's.com

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/687047211312336>

Website:

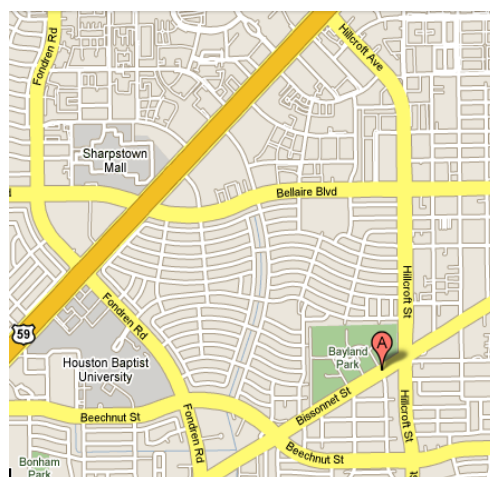
<https://www.lunarfin's.com/>

TGCC

<https://www.tgccdiving.org/>

TPWD reefs:

https://tpwd.texas.gov/landwater/water/habitats/artificial_reef/



Bayland Community Center

6400 Bissonnet
Houston TX 77074

The annual TGCC Awards Banquet is where TGCC recognizes and honors members for their outstanding achievements. It is also an opportunity for member clubs to award its outstanding members. It is an event designed to bring together our member clubs.

The **2022 TGCC Awards Banquet** will be held Saturday, January 29, at Bayland Community Center in Bellaire. Social starts at 11:00 AM, lunch at 11:45 AM, awards for all the clubs after the luncheon. Ticket price will be \$20.00 and includes salad, entree, dessert, iced tea or lemonade.

Tickets:

You may buy tickets from your club representative or by using Paypal. If using Paypal, please also email our treasurer that you have done so: Mark Leiserowitz He will reply with a confirmation email that will be your ticket(s).

Sanctuary Advisory Council News

From the last FGBNMS Sanctuary Advisory Council's (SAC) November 7th meeting:

There was a presentation on Shrimping in the Gulf:

TEDs have resulted in a 94% reduction in turtle deaths.

TEDs have resulted in about a 6% shrimp lose (cost of using the Turtle Excluder Device).

TEDs have also reduced the by-catch of some sharks and red snapper.

The by-catch of red snapper was also discussed:

- The count by fish does not accurately portray the positive effect of TEDs on this fish.
- No mature, reproductive red snapper are being caught. Only small, inch size fish.
- This is an insignificant number at a stage when they suffer the most mortality in nature.
- The argument was that recreational fisherman rather than shrimpers is where the greatest effect on this fish is occurring.

New find at the East Flower Garden Banks:

At about 150 feet a large area of Crustose Coralline Algae has been found, *Caustophytum* sp. nov - This is a new species to science.

FGBNMS Expansion:

- Presently in the regulatory process (simultaneously with the following) - Currently under review by the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Executive Order 12866 – "Regulatory Planning and Review", BOEM Analysis (effect on energy resources), and other agencies.
- Steps left in order:
 - Notice of Proposed Rule Making
 - 60-day Public Comment Period
 - Review/analysis of comments and new information from the Public Comment Period
 - Publish Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)
 - Publish Final Rule

Open Ocean Restoration Plan:

- This involves a second major source of funding and work from the Deep-Water zone (BP) oil spill.
- This involves the deep-water areas directly in the plumes of the spill.
- The FGBNMS may get involved in various projects and aspect because of:
 - Their research capabilities and expertise
 - Their location as the closest governmental agency with management expertise applicable to these areas.
 - Their research ship – the Manta

Trips Offered by Dive Shops etc.

Captain Beard Charters

1011 Casco Rd – Freeport TX

captainbeardcharters.com/index.shtml



Island Dreams

10245 Kempwood Dr E119 – Houston TX

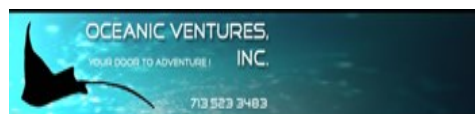
www.divetrip.com



Oceanic Ventures

5808 Newcastle Dr. – Houston TX

oceanicventures.com



REEF Trips

Dive Vacations That Count – Key Largo FL

reef.org/trips



Texas Dive Center

364 FM 1959 #D – Houston TX

txdivecenter.com/



Giggin' Marlin Dive & Swim

4502 Almeda Rd – Houston TX

gigginmarlin.com



Maximum Scuba

134 Gulf Freeway North – League City TX

maximum-scuba.com



Outside The Asylum

15015 Westheimer Rd #H – Houston TX

otadiving.com



Sport Divers

20814 Gulf Fwy #60 – Webster TX

sportdivers.com



Texas Scuba Adventures

2315 Mechanic St #120 – Galveston TX

texasscubaadventures.com