



TOPSIDE



February 2007

The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

TRAINING SCHEDULE

All individuals applying for any dive classes offered by the NDC must submit the following items; NOAA Diving Training Request and Authorization form, completed NOAA diving physical, swim test, dive resume, Standardized Equipment Measurement form, and current First-aid/CPR certificates. All forms are available online at: www.ndc.noaa.gov/forms.html. Completed forms can be mailed or faxed to the Diving Center.

XO's/CO's, please check your rosters and plan accordingly for rotations and their impact to your dive complements. Dive training is considered essential training.

Events scheduled through September 2007:

Jan. 22 - 26	Divemaster	Key West
Mar. 27 - 30	WD Refresher	Seattle
May 7 - 25	Working Diver	Seattle
May 20 - 25	Divemaster	Seattle
Sept. 10 - 28	Working Diver	Seattle
Sept. 24 - 28	Divemaster	Seattle

Please contact Laurie Barber at 206-526-6695 or via e-mail laurie.barber@noaa.gov.



Director - David Dinsmore, (206) 526-6705
 Operations Manager - LT Eric Johnson, (206) 526-6460
 Equipment Manager - Steve Urick, (206) 526-6223
 NDP Dive Medical Officer - CAPT Al Exner, (206) 526-6474
 SEP Technician - Bill Gordon, (206) 526-6450
 Chamber Supervisor- Jim Bostick, (206) 526-6450
 SEP Technician - Lisa Glover, (206) 526-6446

T.R.I. TESTING

TRI Air Sample kits were sent out to all units with NOAA air compressors last month and this month.

Those units with compressors need to do the testing ASAP and get the kit back to TRI.

If you anticipate not being able to do the test immediately and need an extension you may call TRI directly and let them know you will be holding onto the kit for another week or two or make some arrangement with them.

If you anticipate not being able to do the test for over a month or so then you will need to send the kit back to TRI and contact the dive office to put your unit on hold until further notice and T.R.I. will not send kits until the compressor is up and running again.

If you have questions on the air sampling process or kit use, please contact Laurie Barber at 206-526-6695, or laurie.barber@noaa.gov.



Budget/Program Analyst - Laurie Barber, (206) 526-6695
 Office Automation Secretary - Carla Feoranzo, (206) 526-6623
 - Fax - 206-526-6506
 - E-fax numbers: LT Eric Johnson (206)529-2759, Lisa Glover (206) 529-2757, Steve Urick (206) 529-2758
 - NOAA Diving Center 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA, 98115
<http://www.ndc.noaa.gov>

NDSB BULLETIN RE: USCG HEALY

The NOAA Diving Safety Board conducted its annual meeting this week at the Nancy Foster Complex in Key West, FL. A special session was held to discuss the recently released report by the USCG on the USCGC HEALY diving incident, which occurred last August in the Arctic Sea and resulted in the tragic death of two USCG divers. The goal in reviewing the report was to identify any issues that might lead to a similar occurrence within the NOAA Diving Program.

The members of the Board felt that the risk of a similar accident at NOAA was minimal. However, to address concerns regarding the unique conditions involved in the USCG incident, the Board decided that augmenting our program guidance to create a more complete set of standards for specialty diving would be prudent.

The NDC will begin developing standards immediately for operations involving ice and/or cold water (<37° F) diving, line-tended diving, overhead obstruction diving, and over-bottom (aka "blue-water") diving. In the interim, the Board will require that any of these specialty diving operations be pre-approved by the NDSB.

A full list of recommendations was formulated and sent to the Director, NMAO, and all divers, on February 27th, 2007



DIRECTOR'S MEMO

TO ALL NOAA DIVERS

The NOAA Diving Program is in the process of developing written standards for special diving operations including: ice and/or cold water diving, line-tended diving, overhead environments and over-bottom or "blue-water" diving. Until these standards are written, anyone desiring to perform such activities must complete a 1-page, fillable dive planning form and fax or email it to Steve Urick for review and approval. (form will be on NDP website)

For those of you that have already requested approval to perform one or more of these operations, please complete the form and send it to Steve Urick for review.

Please contact Steve Urick at (206) 526-6223, or Steve.Urick@noaa.gov if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Dave Dinsmore, Director NDP



MOCDOC'S

For our NMAO Fleet divers, each vessel has a copy of MOCDOC's onboard. The NDP has its own tab on the index that contains all current NDC related forms, from the annual unit inspection sheets, and Working Diver application paperwork, to the Annual Medical History Report.

If you need those dive forms or find a need to add something else, please let me know!

LT Eric Johnson, NMAO Fleet UDS.

