



TOPSIDE



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The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

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TRAINING SCHEDULE

Training requests are still being accepted for the January **Working Diver/Divemaster** courses, and **DMT Prep** and **DMT** courses in December. Please contact Laurie Barber for enrollment or if you have any questions about requirements.

The **DMT Preparation** course has replaced EMT – see last month’s TOPSIDE for more information. Course schedules through January 2004:

2003:

Sep 15 - Oct 03	Working Diver	Seattle, WA
Sep 29 - Oct 03	Divemaster	Seattle, WA
Dec 01 - 06	DMT Prep	Seattle, WA
Dec 08 - 13	Diver Medic	Seattle, WA

2004:

Jan 12 - 30	Working Diver	Key West, FL
Jan 26 - 30	Divemaster	Key West, FL



T.R.I. TEST KITS

T.R.I. dive compressor test kits were mailed out the second week of July. **Please complete the required dive compressor testing and return the kits ASAP.** NOAA Diving Regulations require the testing of all dive air compressors every 6 months. Failure to complete the test and return the kit to T.R.I. in a timely manner may result in a late fee charged to your unit.



RETURNING DIVE GEAR

Some brief notes about SEP gear:

? **When returning dive gear** to the Center, please include a note with the gear stating whose equipment is being returned. This will help cut down on some confusion...

? **NOAA Commissioned Corps officers: If you don't have dive orders** at your current unit (or your next unit) you need to **return your dive gear.**

? **The equipment you get is the equipment you've got....** All SEP issued equipment will be of good quality and good condition. It may not be brand new or the most recent model in our inventory but it will meet the above criteria. Issued equipment should work properly and fit reasonably well. Please do not request replacement gear simply because it's not the newest or the latest. If you have an equipment problem please contact Lisa Glover.



DMT TRAINING

It's not too early to sign up for DMT-Prep (Dec 01-06, 2003) or Dive Medic Training (DMT) (Dec 08 - 13, 2003). Dive Medic Training is offered every two years and will not be held again until December 2005. An overview of the courses is repeated in this issue, by popular request. Contact Laurie Barber if you are interested in attending either of these courses.



DIVE ACCIDENT SURVEY

The NDP is gathering information on the current state of dive accident management within NOAA. Information on evacuation times, transport modes, chambers, and on-site O2 availability is requested. The information provided by this survey will be used to review current diving accident management procedures utilized by NOAA diving units worldwide. Such information is extremely important and can only be obtained from NOAA personnel in the field. The attached survey (fillable pdf) is being routed to all divers in the hopes that they will complete the survey and either e-mail (requires Adobe Acrobat) or fax it back to the NDC by October 10th. The NDC fax number is 206 526-6506.



DMT PREP & DMT COURSE OVERVIEW

An intensive DMT Prep Course will be conducted at the NDC from December 1, 2003 through December 6, 2003. Thereafter, the DMT component of the course will be held from December 8 through December 13, 2003. Instructors will include NOAA and PHS medical staff personnel, and visiting guest lecturers from Madigan Army Medical Center and Bremerton Naval Hospital. Both courses will include classroom and practical sessions.

The DMT Prep Course is modeled after the Medical Person-In-Charge (MPIC) curriculum, for shipboard medical providers. U.S. Coast Guard approval for the MPIC certification is pending. However, the National Board of Diving and Hyperbaric Medical Technology (NBDHMT) has approved the DMT Prep Course as a pre-requisite for DMT training and certification. The second week will focus on DMT material including practical sessions in IV's, intubation, suturing, injection administration, operating a hyperbaric chamber, and more. Any questions, please contact the NDC.



USCG TRAINS AT NDC



The USCG District 13 Maritime Safety and Security Team used the NDC Tower for training in surface supplied diving this past month. Lt(jg) Steve Schultz, USCGR, and his team of five divers practiced surface supplied diving techniques while enjoying the sunny Lake Washington climate. Lt(jg) Dave Kessler, USCG, and divers from the icebreakers USCGC POLAR SEA and POLAR STAR are scheduled to practice drysuit diving next month, prior to deployment to the Antarctic.



NEW OPS MANAGER

As of July 14, 2003, LCDR Mike Lemon replaced LT Bill Cobb as the Executive Officer/Operations Manager, NOAA Diving Center. Mike has been a diver since 1970 and a NOAA Diver since 1992. He most recently served as Executive Officer and later Acting Commanding Officer of the NOAA Ship MILLER FREEMAN. In this assignment Mike will serve as the point of contact for physical examination reviews and editor of this fine newsletter. Mike will appreciate your assistance in learning the nuances of his new assignment. Diving supervisors may assist this transition by re-checking materials submitted to NDC for completeness. This will minimize delays in processing. He may be reached by e-mail at michael.lemon@noaa.gov or (206) 526-6460.

