



NATIONAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS CENTER INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR MARINE EDUCATORS

JUNE 2004

This update is provided as a service by the National Marine Protected Areas Center to share information pertinent to the marine educator community. It is intended to encourage exchange of information and programs. We hope that it will also promote collaboration among the different educators addressing similar issues in their programs. Please share this email with your colleagues and constituents. Contact me directly to discuss further enhancements or to contribute information for future issues. Please let me know if you wish or do not wish to receive future updates by sending **me** an email (**do not** "reply to all") at phyllis.dermer@noaa.gov.

The information included here has been compiled from many different sources, including SeaSpan, NSTA Express, edinfo at FREE, EE-NEWS @NAAEE, Creec-LA, EEinGEORGIA, Scuttlebutt, and others. I have attempted to verify web addresses, but make no guarantee of accuracy. The Department of Commerce/NOAA does not necessarily endorse the views expressed or the facts presented on these sites. If you have trouble downloading some of the more interactive activities, try using Internet Explorer[®] instead of Netscape[®].

Please note: If you request materials or respond to a request for information, please try to mention that you learned about it in the MPA Information Exchange.

MPA FACTS

Stay Informed about Marine Protected Areas

With the Internet and email, listservs and newsletters, information flows quickly and from many directions. Sometimes it's difficult to sort through the sheer amount of information available. If you want to keep on top of news about marine protected areas (MPAs), check out the following free information sources.

MPA News serves the global MPA community with news, views, analysis, and tips gathered from experts around the world. The newsletter is published monthly by Marine Affairs Research and Education in association with the University of Washington, School of Marine Affairs. To read issues or to subscribe, check out <http://depts.washington.edu/mpanews/>.

MPA Connections is the National MPA Center's monthly e-mail newsletter. It includes articles about training, technology, science and research, publications, the MPA Federal Advisory Committee, and the marine managed areas inventory. To read issues or to subscribe, check out http://www.mpa.gov/information_tools/newsletters.html.

Campam listserv, moderated listserv for Caribbean MPA Managers, provides news of note regarding protected areas in the Caribbean. To subscribe, check out <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/campam/> .

Notable Addition to MPA Library

Financing Marine Conservation: A Menu of Options. This World Wildlife Fund Center for Conservation Finance report describes 30 ways MPA and other managers can finance the conservation of marine biodiversity. Chapters cover government revenue allocations; grants and donations; tourism revenues; real estate and development rights; fishing industry revenues; energy and mining revenues; and for-profit investments linked to marine conservation.

Barry Spergel and Melissa Moye, January 2004, *Financing Marine Conservation: A Menu of Options*. Center for Conservation Finance, World Wildlife Fund, Washington DC, USA

The direct link to the report is available at <http://worldwildlife.org/conservationfinance/pubs/fmc.pdf> .

The main MPA Library link is: http://www2.mpa.gov/mpa/mpaservices/virtual_library/virtual_library.lasso .

PROGRAM OF THE MONTH

International Brant Monitoring Project

The International Brant Monitoring Project was developed to monitor the migration of a small sea goose, the brant. Project participants gain a greater understanding of the importance of local ecosystems and global environmental health through the observation of brants and sharing of information between participants in three countries.

The lifecycle of the brant begins in the high Arctic tundra of Alaska, Russia, and Canada, followed by a 3000 mile journey over the Pacific Ocean to wintering grounds in the estuaries and lagoons of southern British Columbia, the United States and Mexico, and back again beginning in mid-February. Brant depend highly upon eelgrass, which has very specific habitat requirements and is therefore only available at limited key sites. Thus, the entire population of brant is vulnerable to pressures at any one location, including recreational hunting, loss of eelgrass habitat, subsistence hunting, and egg gathering.

The International Brant Project brings together participants that include students, wildlife biologists, concerned citizens, national estuarine research reserves, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and various others along the Pacific flyway. Students monitor through field observations and counting of the brant in their area and then share their findings with others via the Internet. In the classroom, students learn about the brant from their teachers, environmental educators, biologists, and other local brant enthusiasts.

The project website, hosted by the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR), hosts a log for posting brant observations, downloadable curriculum, and more. For more information, check out <http://www.padillabay.gov/brant/index.html> . And while you're on the Padilla Bay NERR website, check out their down-loadable Estuary Guide,

available for primary grades, grades 4-8, and high school, at <http://www.padillabay.gov/educationcurriculum.asp> .

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

California Center for Ocean Science Excellence in Education (CA COSEE)

CA COSEE is dedicated to creating environments in which collaborations among ocean scientists and K-12 educators flourish, with the goal of enhancing the general public's understanding and appreciation of the ocean. The Center marshals the considerable resources of UC San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Center at the Monterey Peninsula College, the Marine Activities Resources and Education (MARE) Program at UC Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science, and California Sea Grant.

CA COSEE has launched a strategic campaign to integrate ocean education and research, focusing on the following strategies:

- Facilitating relationships that spark and sustain collaborations between scientists and informal science educators that efficiently and effectively translate research into educational resources.
- Disseminating a model course, Communicating Ocean Science, designed to introduce undergraduates and graduate students in ocean science related majors to inquiry-based instructional strategies for communicating their passion for their subject area.
- Creating a groundbreaking interactive Ocean Career Website to provide access to accurate information about ocean careers and available employment opportunities.
- Developing model K-12 Ocean Education sites focused on increasing ocean awareness in K-12 students and their families and for infusing ocean science into pre-college classrooms nationally.

For more information, check out <http://www.cacosee.net/index.html> .

REQUESTS

American Museum of Natural History Looking For Pilot Teachers

The American Museum of Natural History is developing free, online, supplemental science education resources to accompany the Science Bulletins website. They are looking for teachers to pilot drafts of these resources this coming fall to help ensure the quality and effectiveness of curriculum materials by testing them in your classrooms. For more information about the website, check out <http://sciencebulletins.amnh.org> . To participate in the pilot, contact Stacey Warner stacey@rockman.com, or (415) 544-0788.

Looking for Coral Reef Education Materials

Alissa Barron, Outreach and Education Coordinator for NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program, is coordinating a CD of coral outreach and education materials. If you have materials to be considered for inclusion, please let her know.

- Author of materials (person, agency, etc) and date created/updated
- Title, brief description (few sentences), and format (lesson plan, activity book, website, etc)
- Intended audience and existing distribution mechanisms

- Provide a copy of your materials or instructions on how I can obtain a copy for our files

Hurry: please contact her before June 4, 2004 to be able to have the materials added to the CD. She will also hold a workshop at the NMEA annual conference in July. For more information, contact Alissa at alissa.barron@noaa.gov .

Understanding SCUBA Diver Preferences for Coral Reef Conservation

This is your chance to provide input to managers! U.S. divers over 18 years old with experience diving at coral reef sites, who are interested in participating in a study on preferences for coral reef conservation and management, may participate in a diver preference study. This study is being conducted by Texas A&M University's Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences using a mail questionnaire that will take about 15 minutes to complete. For more information on this project you can view an informational sheet at <http://lutra.tamu.edu/hdlab/statprefflyer.htm> . Any information provided will be strictly confidential and used solely for the purpose of this project. All study participants will receive an executive summary of the results and access to the web-based final report. If you are interested in participating, please send your snail mail address in an email to michael.sorice@tamu.edu .

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Action Grants for Students Through 3D Life Adventures

3D Life Adventures is a nonprofit educational organization that has three fundamental themes: nature, culture and community. Its mission is to build and sustain a community of caring and resilient individuals who appreciate, celebrate, and protect both natural and cultural diversity. The organization's Action Grants support student-led initiatives related to the environment or culture. For more information, check out <http://3dzone.org/html/programs/grants.asp> .

Do Something BRICK Awards

The Do Something BRICK Awards were created to recognize and financially support outstanding young people, to create a network of young community leaders across the United States, and to inspire other young people to become active in their communities. The program honors and funds the efforts of dynamic leaders age 18 and under who have devised and implemented innovative solutions to problems in their local communities in the areas of community building, health, and the environment. The application deadline is November 1, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.dosomething.org/brick-awards.htm> .

EETAP Scholarships For Fundamentals Of EE Online Course

EETAP has scholarships available for fall 2004 offerings of the *Fundamentals of EE* online course. State-level EE leaders, such as state coordinators for programs such as PLT, WILD and WET and board members of state EE associations, are encouraged to apply. Others may also qualify. The deadline for the fall 2004 scholarship application is August 1, 2004. For more information about the course, check out http://eetap.org/html/online_ee_course.php . For scholarship information, contact Sarah Wilcox at Sarah.Wilcox@uwsp.edu .

Environmental Education Grants for North Carolina EE Centers

Grants are now available to North Carolina Environmental Education Centers for projects that promote public awareness and education about preventing polluted runoff

into the lakes, rivers and streams of the state. The funds have been made available by the US EPA under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The application deadline is July 1, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.eefund.org> .

Jordan Fundamentals Grant Program

Hurry: this deadline is June 15, 2004. The Jordan Fundamentals Grant Program, created by Nike and Michael Jordan to help teachers purchase resource materials, supplies, software, equipment, and other items needed to fulfill their lessons, awards grants to recognize outstanding teaching and instructional creativity in public secondary schools that serve economically disadvantaged students. Applicants must develop an original lesson plan or thematic unit (a series of lessons with related learning objectives united by a common theme) that demonstrates high expectations for students. Applicants are encouraged to involve students in the development of this plan or unit. For more information, check out <http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page=26&item=jordan>.

Kresge Foundation Science Initiative for Scientific Equipment Grants

The Kresge foundation makes grants to colleges, universities, and research institutions to help upgrade used or obsolete equipment and endow scientific equipment. A grant will provide one-fourth of the total project costs in two equal payments, but the applicant must raise two-thirds of the total needed before applying to Kresge. For more information, check out <http://www.kresge.org/programs/index.htm> .

The Life Story of the Queen Conch

The life story of the Queen Conch, *Strombus gigas*, is available in Spanish, French or English on this website, by CD, or available for downloading in pdf format. (Note: the pdf loads very slowly). The book is a revised and updated edition of *La vie des Lambis* by Katherine Orr and Liliane Frenkiel published in 1986 in Guadeloupe and used in the French Caribbean for educational purposes. For more information, check out <http://www.mda.cinvestav.mx/biblioteca/strombus/inicio.htm> .

NSF Informal Science Education Programs Request for Proposal

The National Science Foundation has issued a Request for Proposal for the Informal Science Education (ISE) program. The ISE program seeks to develop and implement informal learning experiences that are designed to increase their interest, engagement, and understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, as well as projects that advance the theory and practice of informal science education for individuals of all ages and backgrounds. Projects for consideration will include those that directly target public audiences for self-directed learning, such as permanent and traveling exhibitions; films; television and radio series; web-based projects; citizen science programs; and youth and community programs. Letter of intent deadlines are June 11 and November 5, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf04579> .

The Nature of Learning Grants

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and its partners solicit applications from organizations interested in initiating or expanding The Nature of Learning in their communities. The Nature of Learning is the National Wildlife Refuge System's community-based environmental education initiative that seeks to:

- Use National Wildlife Refuges as outdoor classrooms to promote a greater understanding of local conservation issues;

- Encourage an interdisciplinary approach to learning that seeks to enhance student academic achievement;
- Utilize field experiences and student-led stewardship projects to connect classroom lessons to real world issues; and
- Involve a partnership among local schools, community groups, natural resource professionals and local businesses.

Application deadline is June 28, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/tnol.htm> .

Ocean Literacy Educational Materials Available

The National Geographic Office in Santa Barbara has quantities of the following materials available:

- Ocean Atlas Teacher's Guides
- Oceans for Life Brochures (ocean literacy - smaller quantities available)

If you're interested, please send an email listing the items and quantities you would like, along with a current address. For more information, contact Sally Ziegler at Sally.Ziegler@noaa.gov .

President's Environmental Youth Awards

Since 1971, EPA has sponsored the President's Environmental Youth Awards. The program recognizes young people from all 50 states and the U.S. territories for projects which demonstrate their commitment to the environment. To be eligible to compete, a student or students, sponsored by an adult, must submit to their local EPA regional office evidence of a completed project as defined in the President's Environmental Youth Award application, as well as a completed application. The application deadline is July 31, 2004. For more information visit: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/awards.html>

Presidential Freedom Scholarships For High School Students

Two students from every high school in the U.S. are eligible for Presidential Freedom Scholarships in recognition of their outstanding service to the community. This annual college scholarship program is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service's Learn and Serve America program and provides half of the award, which must be matched with \$500 from a community organization, civic group, or business and secured for the student by his or her high school. The application deadline is July 1, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.nationalservice.org/scholarships> .

Smart Gear International Competition

A coalition of fishermen, scientists, and conservationists has announced a competition to seek innovative fishing gear that reduces bycatch. The International Smart Gear Competition is open to anyone, with prizes awarded to the designs judged to be the most practical, cost-effective method for reducing bycatch of any species. Competition participants are asked to develop fishing gears or methods that increase selectivity for target fish species and reduce bycatch of non-target species in ways that still allow fishermen to fish profitably. There are three categories for entries: gear that reduces sea turtle bycatch, gear that reduces cetacean bycatch, and gear that reduces bycatch of any other non-target species. The submission deadline is Dec. 31, 2004. For more information, check out www.smartgear.org .

START Young Scientist Awards

The International SysTem for Analysis, Research, and Training (START) Secretariat is soliciting nominations/applications for the 2004 START Young Scientist Awards. These awards recognize the research accomplishments of outstanding young scientists from developing countries in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Mediterranean. Nominations must be for young scientists who have published a paper in an established peer-reviewed journal (preferably in English) in keeping with START's mission of conducting research on regional aspects of global change. For more information, check out <http://www.start.org/> .

Toshiba America Foundation Grants

Toshiba America Foundation contributes to the quality of science and mathematics education in the U.S. with an annual grant budget of approximately \$500,000. The deadline for K – 6th grade programs is October 1, 2004. Grant Applications for 7th – 12th grade programs are accepted year round for grants under \$5,000 and are due February 1st and August 1st for grants over \$5,000. Contact the Toshiba Foundation directly before submitting an application. For more information, check out <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/index.html> .

INTERNSHIPS AND TEMPORARY OPPORTUNITIES

Research Apprenticeship Class at the Friday Harbor Laboratories

Undergraduates nearing the completion of their degree and recent graduates considering graduate school are eligible to apply for a 3-month research apprenticeship on Seismic Deformation and its Relation to Volcanic, Hydrothermal and Biologic Activity along the Juan de Fuca Ridge. The course, September 27-December 11, 2004 at the University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories, located on San Juan Island, Washington, provides intensive research training experience and 15 credits. For more information, check out <http://depts.washington.edu/fhl/apprentice04.html> .

SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Adventure and Eco-Educators Camp

SeaWorld and Busch Gardens offer Adventure Camps for students and Eco-Educator Camps for interns and teachers. They provide campers behind-the-scenes, hands-on experiences with animals, time alongside veterinarians, and programming with education staff. Students can chose from:

- Resident Camps - multi-night, sleep-away programs for grades 4th through college. Campers live, sleep, work and play behind the scenes at SeaWorld or Busch Gardens parks,
- Day Camps - Summer day programs for grades Pre through 12, or
- Sleepovers - One-night overnights for groups and individuals.

Teachers and interns can select from Eco-Educator or Eco-Adventure camp. For more information, check out <http://swbg-adventurecamps.com/adventure-camps/index.htm> .

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

The theme of the 134th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, August 22-26th, 2004, Madison, Wisconsin, is *The Gathering: Leopold's Legacy for Fisheries*. Gather on the Isthmus to learn how Leopold's legacy has influenced the conservation of

our aquatic resources in the past and to plan how it may influence the future. Symposia include discussions about socio-economics and extension, history, stewardship, and science. For more information, check out <http://www.afs2004madison.org/index.shtml> .

Boeing Teacher Institute

The Aquarium of the Pacific's 2004 Boeing Teacher Institute, August 23-27, 2004, will provide K-8 teacher participants an intensive introduction to the aquarium, marine biology and Southern California's diverse marine life, habitats and ecosystems. Guided tours, standards-based activities and field trips to such locales as Santa Catalina Island will provide teachers with an up-close look at California marine life. Participants also receive a complete aquarium, including filtration and a guidebook on how to incorporate aquariums into their curriculum. Hurry; application deadline is this Friday, June 4. For more information or to apply, contact John McCord at 562/951-1624 or jmccord@lbaop.org.

Cool Waters: Water Workshop for Georgia Educators

This free water workshop for Georgia educators, June 14-16, 2004, is geared toward middle school teachers. Each day of the workshop will include field trips and hands on classroom activities. Food, field trips, and many free resources are included. For more information, check out <http://eeingeorgia.org/event.asp?eventID=17802> .

EECOM 2004 Conference - Canada

The Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication (EECOM) Conference, *Developmental Education for a Sustainable Future*, August 19-22, 2004, Vancouver, British Columbia, weaves together themes relevant to environmental educators across the continent. The conference will focus on emergent themes related to both the development of social and educational capacity, while allowing for the thoughtful analysis of environmental and sustainability issues of critical importance to educators. For more information, check out <http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ecom/about.html> .

Environmental Educators Training Program

The Environmental Educators Training Program, cooperatively presented by the Headlands Institute, the National Park Service and UC Berkeley Extension, is a residential training program for formal and nonformal educators to enhance knowledge of environmental sciences, concerns, and skills for teaching integrated, hands-on curriculum. This five-day residential course is offered July 26-30 or August 9-13, 2004, in Sausalito, California. Scholarship assistance is available for teachers who work with underserved populations, low-income communities or who have financial need. For more information, check out <http://www.yni.org/hi/educator.html> .

International Leadership Institute For Biodiversity Education

World Wildlife Fund and Disney's Animal Kingdom are looking for 40 leaders to participate in the *International Leadership Institute for Biodiversity Education* to be held October 11-16, 2004, Orlando, Florida. The goal of this institute is to provide the tools to enable participants to lead, engage, and inspire others to protect biodiversity. The institute is open to leaders who have a broad reach, experience in implementing programs, and creating effective partnerships. Funds may be available to support registration fees and travel for pre-service educators and those who work with pre-service educators. There is no cost for educational materials and housing during the institute. Applications are due June 11, 2004. For more information, check out www.worldwildlife.org/windows/institute.cfm .

Mapping Ocean Sanctuaries GIS Workshop in Georgia

A *Mapping Ocean Sanctuaries* GIS workshop, July 7-9th, 2004, Savannah, GA, includes three days of hands-on instruction in Global Positioning Systems (GPS), Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies, and field data collection techniques. Participants receive complimentary copies of NOAA's *Exploring Data with GIS to Experience Sanctuaries* (EDGES) curriculum and ESRI's *Mapping Our World GIS Lessons for Educators* curriculum. The latter includes a 1-year educational site license for ArcView GIS software. Both curriculum are aligned to national geography standards; the EDGES curriculum is also aligned to national science standards. For more information, contact Jenny Brady at jennyb@evisual.org or (800) 322-9884 x 253.

National Teachers Enhancement Network

The National Teachers Enhancement Network (NTEN), created by Montana State University, Bozeman and funded by the National Science Foundation, delivers teaching resources and professional development opportunities through the Internet directly to K-12 science teachers. University scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and science educators teach NTEN's graduate courses. Educators access electronic teacher resources, discuss issues with other educators online, and participate in high-quality graduate telecomputing courses. Check out the *Global Warming, Climate Change and our Environment* course. For more information, check out <http://www.scienceteacher.org/default.htm> .

Society for Conservation GIS Domestic Scholarship Program

The SCGIS Domestic Scholarship Program offers competitive scholarships to conservation GIS users to attend advanced GIS training courses focused on conservation applications. Scholarship funds will cover all or partial airfare, waivers for SCGIS conference related fees, as well as pre- and post-conference training. The annual ESRI User Conference is August 9 - 13, 2004, in San Diego, California. The annual SCGIS conference will be held September 27-29, 2004, in West Virginia. Hurry: the application deadline has been extended until June 13, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.scgis.org/> .

Wonders of Water - National Park Service Environmental Education Training Course

This multi-certification course, July 26-30, 2004, Chattahoochee River Environmental Education Center, Alpharetta, Georgia, provides participants with certificates for Project WET, Wonders of Wetlands, EPD Adopt-A Stream, and National Park Service environmental education training. Participants receive the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide with 89 activities, Wow! the Wonders of Wetlands: An Educator's Guide with over 40 activities, and other lesson plans and resources. For more information, check out http://www.nps.gov/chat/educational_techniques.htm .

Workshop on the Beach in the Florida Keys

During this workshop, hosted by the Institute for Biomedical Philosophy, July 10-16, 2004, Marathon Key, Florida, educators will explore national standards-based biology and ecology concepts using hands-on marine biology models. The program is open to middle and high school teachers, pre-service teachers, informal educators, and science education faculty. Enrollment is limited to 16-25 persons. The application deadline is June 10, 2004. For more information, check out <http://www.biophi.org/pages/1/index.htm>

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Alaska Small Press Catalogue

Wizard Works publishes a variety of titles through the Alaska Small Press Catalogue for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, including *Arctic Nesting Shorebird Guide*, *Wetlands and Wildlife*, and *Teach About Geese*. In addition, they publish the Alaska Wildlife Curricula for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. This includes *Alaska's Ecology*, *Alaska's Forests & Wildlife*, *Alaska's Tundra & Wildlife*, *Wildlife for the Future*, and the *Alaska Ecology Cards*. For more information, check out <http://www.xyz.net/~wizard/home.htm> .

At Sea Newsletter

The University of Delaware College of Marine Studies and the Delaware Sea Grant College Program have launched a new e-newsletter, At Sea. It provides information on the marine research, education, and outreach activities at the University of Delaware. The website also has links to educational resources. For more information, check out <http://www.mis4.udel.edu/deptnews/deptnews.html?3501> .

Avibase – The World Bird Database

Avibase is an extensive database information system about birds of the world, containing over 1.4 million records about 10,000 species and 22,000 subspecies of birds, including distribution information, taxonomy, conservation status, and more. This site is hosted by Bird Studies Canada, an affiliate of Birdlife International. For more information, check out <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/avibase.jsp> .

EETAP Resource Library

The EETAP Resource Library, now moved to EE-Link, makes environmental education resources more accessible. A major component of the Library is Info-Sheets, 1-2 page descriptions that summarize a specific EE topic and identify resources for additional reading. For more information, check out <http://eelink.net/eetapresourcelibrary.html> .

Environmental Inquiry from Cornell University

Environmental Inquiry is a website and curriculum series developed at Cornell University to help students conduct environmental science research and participate in communities of fellow student scientists. Students learn specific research protocols and then conduct interactive research projects. Downloadable forms help students design feasible experiments and then analyze, interpret, and present the results. The website also includes discussion boards and an online peer review forum. The four-part Cornell Scientific Inquiry Series includes Watershed Dynamics, Assessing Toxic Risk, Invasion Ecology, and Decay and Renewal. Check out additional publications at <http://www.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/Ext/NATURAL%20RESOURCES%20PUBLICATIONS.pdf> . For more information, check out <http://ei.cornell.edu/> .

EurekaAlert! Marine Science Portal

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has an online news service called EurekaAlert! The online Marine Science Portal includes a calendar of events, links to marine science resources, press releases, and more. It offers marine science information from universities, research institutes, and other organizations engaged in all aspects of marine science research. For more information, check out <http://www.eurekaalert.org/marinescience/> .

Farming the Seas

Habitat Media, the California-based non-profit media production house, creators of *Empty Oceans, Empty Nets*, is offering *Farming the Seas* to marine and environmental educators, zoos and aquariums for screening at upcoming events during the summer and fall of 2004. Will fish farming avert a global food crisis? Or speed its arrival? *Farming the Seas* explores what's at stake as the aquaculture industry spreads across the globe. The film highlights ground-breaking efforts by scientists, communities and industry to develop viable, sustainable operations. For more information about the film, check out www.habitatmedia.org . To request a copy for screening, contact Rivkah Beth Medow at rivkahbeth@habitatmedia.org .

Floating Classroom Program - Texas

Sign up your class for a learning adventure on the R.V. Karma, 57-foot teaching and research vessel. Students can use otter trawls, plankton nets, water samplers and test kits, bottom corers and video-enhanced microscopes to investigate topics such as marine biology, ecology, fisheries and environmental impact. Jointly sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Texas Sea Grant College, program introduces students to the fascinating underwater universe of the Texas coast. For more information, check out <http://extensioneducation.tamu.edu/karma.htm> .

GEO Year Book 2003

The United Nation's Environment Programme (UNEP) presents its first annual Global Environment Outlook (GEO) statement to highlight significant environmental events and achievements during the year and raise awareness of emerging issues from scientific research and other sources. Based upon a collaborative/comprehensive tracking and stocktaking process established with many partners, the GEO Year Book 2003 includes:

- An Overview of major global and regional environmental issues and developments that shaped policy decisions and actions during the course of the year
- A Feature Focus on Freshwater
- Emerging Challenges - new findings presenting scientific progress made in 2003
- GEO Indicators highlighting some of the key global and regional environmental issues and trends.

For more information, including pdf files, check out <http://www.unep.org/geo/yearbook/> .

Gulf Facts

Visit the Gulf of Mexico Foundation website for information about the Gulf of Mexico. Representing a wide range of interests (agriculture, business, fisheries, industry, tourism, and the environment), the Foundation promotes and funds research, education, and conservation programs. The focus area encompasses all areas bordering the Gulf – Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Mexico, Cuba, and the adjacent Caribbean. The website covers geography, resources, history, environmental concerns, education, and more. For more information, check out <http://gulfmex.org/facts.htm> .

Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students (LiMPETS)

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program introduces the LiMPETS network for middle school, high school, and other volunteer groups to monitor the rocky intertidal, sandy

shore, and offshore areas of the five west coast sanctuaries (Olympic Coast, Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay and Channel Islands).

The LIMPETS website describes the monitoring procedures used, both in general and at specific sites, along with some commonly found species. The collected data is set up in a manner that allows users to follow long-term changes. All of the information in this website is public and free to be used in any way. However, please credit the National Marine Sanctuary Program when information or photographs are used by other websites or in publications. For more information, check out <http://limpets.noaa.gov/>.

Living Waters: Aquatic Preserves of Florida

A one hour documentary, "*Living Waters: Aquatic Preserves of Florida*", highlights 12 aquatic preserves in Florida and features Clyde Butcher, renowned nature photographer. The Department of Environmental Protection through the Florida Coastal Management Program and the Office of Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas cooperated with several sponsors to create this educational and artistic documentary to educate, inform and entertain Florida's citizens and tourists, letting us experience the complexity of the essential components of these water-bound ecosystems. For more information, check out [http://www.liveoakproductiongroup.com/Aquatic%20 Preserves/AP_Home.html](http://www.liveoakproductiongroup.com/Aquatic%20Preserves/AP_Home.html). There is a new education list serv within NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program. If you would like to subscribe to this list, instructions and details regarding the subject matter are included below.

NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program Launches External Newsletter

NOAA Coral Reef News is a new monthly e-newsletter established to provide current information on the activities of NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program and other relevant NOAA programs. The NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program supports effective management and sound science to preserve, sustain and restore valuable coral reef ecosystems. To subscribe to the newsletter, send an e-mail with "Subscribe coralreefnews" in the subject line to requests@willamette.nos.noaa.gov. Back issues of the newsletter will be available at <http://www.coralreef.noaa.gov>. For more information, contact Lindsey.C.Williams@noaa.gov.

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Education Listserv

The new sanctuary education listserv is a closed list server that allows for efficient communication between America's teachers and National Marine Sanctuary Program Education Coordinators. Please use this list server for disseminating pertinent information about NOAA and National Marine Sanctuary education opportunities and other related information to the entire group. For more information, and to subscribe, please contact the List Administrator, Claire Johnson, at claire.johnson@noaa.gov.

NOAA Ocean Explorer Educator E-mail Update List

NOAA Ocean Exploration has developed a new listserv for educators. The listserv will notify you about professional development, virtual courses and other online offerings, notifications of upcoming NOAA Ocean Exploration Expeditions and launches of associated web site materials and lesson plans, and information about ocean career webcasts and web forums. To subscribe to either of two listserves, check out http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/backmatter/email_update.html.

Rip Currents: Break the Grip of the Rip

NOAA's National Weather Service and National Sea Grant Program, in partnership with the United States Lifesaving Association, are working together to raise awareness about the dangers of rip currents. Research is also being conducted in order to develop and improve the ability to predict the occurrence and strength of rip currents. A new website has background information, a downloadable brochure and sign, and links to other information. For more information, check out <http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov/index.shtml> .

RMS Titanic Expedition 2004

Dr. Robert Ballard and scientists from NOAA and other institutions will spend 11 days, May 27-June 12, 2004, at the site of the sunken remains of the R.M.S. Titanic, mapping the ship and conducting scientific analyses of its rapid deterioration, nearly 20 years after its discovery. The team will work aboard the NOAA research vessel Ronald H. Brown and will use remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) to conduct a sophisticated documentation of the state of Titanic that was not possible in the 1980s. Educators and scientists developed a series of lesson plans for students in Grades 5 – 12 that are specifically tied to the Return to Titanic Expedition. For more information, check out <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/04titanic/welcome.html> and www.returntotitanic.com .

SciLinks Assignment Tool

SciLinks[®], NSTA's Internet referencing system, now features a new Assignment Tool to help teachers create and review student online assignments, and help gauge student progress. SciLinks is accessible using print-linked codes found in many textbooks, NSTA Press books and journals, and independently as a benefit for all NSTA members. For more information, check out http://science.nsta.org/nstaexpress/nstaexpress_2004_05_10_extra.htm .

Seafood Watch Pocket Guides

The new Seafood Watch pocket guides are here! The Seafood Watch program has launched a new pocket guide for the Southeast region and updated the West Coast pocket guide. The Southeast guide includes several new species such as tilefish, conch, mackerel, and mullet. Seafood Watch has also added or updated species reports to their website. To learn more about these new recommendations please visit the All-Fish List on their website. For more information, check out http://www.seafoodwatch.org/cr/cr_seafoodwatch/ .

Seas the Day! Desk Calendar

The Ocean Project works with and through a broad network of more than 500 zoos, aquariums, and museums to increase their partners' effectiveness in educating and communicating for conservation outcomes. They are producing a monthly desk calendar (for 2005) featuring images from underwater photographer, Wolcott Henry (www.wolcotthenry.com), with conservation messages and tangible ways people can make a difference appearing on the backside of each themed month. For more information, contact Bill Mott at bmott@theoceanproject.org, or 401.272.8822.

Walt Disney's Sacred Planet

Walt Disney's new film, Sacred Planet has been released in IMAX theaters. Some of the film locations include old growth forests of British Columbia, underwater Borneo, New

Zealand beaches. The images include the landscape, the people, and the animals indigenous to the land. For more information, including the downloadable Educator's Guide, check out www.sacredplanet.com .

The Why Files

Science touches our lives in countless ways. Yet people often think science is relevant only to a white-coated, lab-dwelling elite. The Why Files portray science as a critical human endeavor conducted by ordinary people. They use news and current events as springboards to explore science, health, environment, and technology, with plenty of focus on the ocean. Their real-life approach to science writing, and correlation to science teaching standards, can help you bring the news and science into the classroom. For more information, check out <http://whyfiles.org/index.html> .

Wonderful World of Weather

This standards-based Real Time Data Module for elementary students, developed by the Center for Improved Engineering and Science Education (CIESE) at the Stevens Institute of Technology, allows students to investigate weather phenomena locally and in other places around the world. By using hands-on activities and real-time data investigations, the students develop an understanding of how weather can be described in measurable quantities, such as temperature, wind and precipitation. The lesson plans have been designed to allow teachers to select the ones which fit into their curriculum to allow for flexibility in implementation. For more information, check out http://www.k12science.org/curriculum/weatherproj/index_NEW.html .

World Heritage Sites

Looking for information about natural and cultural heritage sites around the world? The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) encourages the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. The World Heritage List has 754 properties - 582 cultural, 149 natural and 23 mixed properties in 129 States. In addition to information about existing sites, the IUCN Evaluation reports for new nominations of natural and mixed World Heritage sites are now available in English and French. The natural site datasheets provide plenty of information for comparisons. There's also a summary *World Heritage Information Kit* downloadable document that provides a program overview. Some digging through government-type documents may be involved, but there's plenty of interesting information for those who look. For more information, check out <http://whc.unesco.org/pg.cfm?cid=1> .

INITIATIVES and JOURNALS

June Initiatives

- **American Rivers Month:** The month of June is American Rivers Month. Check out <http://www.amrivers.org/index.php?module=HyperContent&func=display&cid=811> for celebrations in your state.
- **World Environment Day, June 5:** The theme selected for 2004 is *Wanted! Seas and Oceans – Dead or Alive?* Check out <http://www.unep.org/wed/2004/about.asp> .

- **World Oceans Day, June 8:** The Ocean Project is coordinating information about scheduled events. Check out <http://www.theoceanproject.org/news/oceanday.html> .

Smithsonian Folklife Festival

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival, will be held on the National Mall in Washington, DC, June 23-27, and June 30-July 4, 2004, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. More than one million visitors are expected to attend during the 10-day run. One of the festival themes this year is *Water Ways: The Past, Present, and Future of Maritime Communities in the Mid-Atlantic*, celebrating the coastal region stretching from Long Island, New York, through New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Maritime workers and artisans from 15 communities in these states will come together to demonstrate their skills and share their stories. Keep a lookout for NOAA volunteers lending a helping hand. For more information, check out <http://www.folklife.si.edu/CFCH/festival2004/Festival2004.htm> .