

Pacific Northwest Diver

Publication of the Pacific Northwest Underwater Photographic Society
January, 2013



Oval-Anchored Stalked Jelly | Wendy Carey

Pacific Northwest Diver

BIMONTHLY MAGAZINE & WEB SITE PROMOTING UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY, EDUCATION, & TRAVEL IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST | JANUARY, 2013

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Pacific Northwest Diver: In This Issue

January's featured photographers are Wendy and Bruce Carey from Crofton, Vancouver Island. Steve Zedekar's (Vancouver, Washington) work is also featured. Wendy authored [Up Close and Personal: An Underwater View of Vancouver Island](#). Our featured operator is Copper Island Dive, based in Salmon Arm, BC. Greg Sweeney contributes the first of two articles on pole cams, and the travel section lists 2013 trips, and a review and photos of the October Sea of Cortez whale shark, sea lion, and marine critter outing. There is information about Vancouver Aquarium's Divers' Weekend, and the new Portland Aquarium. Also, check out the From the Archive video: 247' on air!

Portland Aquarium:
Grand Opening December 15



The Pacific Northwest has a new resource for those interested in our marine environment and educational resources.

The Portland Aquarium opened its doors and exhibits to the public on December 15, 2012. There is a more lengthy discussion of its goals and exhibits in the News Section, but if you are in the Portland area please stop by for a visit. Their address is:

[Portland Aquarium](#)
16323 SE McLoughlin
Milwaukie, OR 97267

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PNWUPS Free Membership



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From the Archives:
Jacques Cousteau's [The Silent World](#): 1956

In 1956 Jacques Cousteau released his documentary [The Silent World](#), which went on to win an Oscar.

From the 50 plus years since this film was made, it is amazing to see how technology and ecological awareness have advanced. It is also quite amazing to see what Captain Cousteau, his crew, and scientists accomplished.

If you follow the link to the four minute clip extracted from [The Silent World](#), you will see divers and a cinematographer descent to a depth of 247' on compressed air! Who knows, perhaps the French penchant for smoking somehow helps mitigate decompression complications.

While Captain Cousteau's English is excellent, at time marker 3 minutes and 44 seconds, the word is "fogged" brains, not a four letter word variant!



Pacific Northwest Diver: Featuring Wendy & Bruce Carey

Wendy & Bruce Carey



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e-Mail: mamabadger@shaw.ca

Wendy and Bruce Carey work together as a team while pursuing their passions of diving, underwater photography and videography. The diving pair call Vancouver Island their home in a little village called Crofton which is set halfway between Duncan (City of Totems) and Chemainus (Town of Murals).

With over 1100 logged dives and 1400 hours underwater since they learned to dive in 2003, the Carey's have little time for much else other than planning the next dive adventure or photographic expedition. Places that have called them to dive include Cuba, Mexico, Honduras, Cozumel, Hawaii, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Palau.

As much as foreign locales are great fun, they are always glad to come home

to dive the Emerald Sea around Vancouver Island: they are true cold water divers at heart. They can be found diving any season any weather and any time of the day or night if the tide is right! Their favorite place to dive close by is Maple Bay and Seducers at Northwest Bay. Wendy has been known to capture several of her best shots on Christmas Day in the past!

Both Bruce and Wendy are members of CAPA Canadian Association for Photographic Arts and have taken their judging courses. They belong to the Cowichan Valley Camera Club and are the recipients of awards from both organizations.

Their photos have been used on the cover of Northwest Dive News and as advertising for the New Sidney Marine Center. Many artists use their photos as inspiration to create their art in many different mediums. The latest pursuit is filming underwater scenes for a soon to be released children's movie called The Sea Serpent Song. It will be filmed at the location of the 737 artificial reef off Chemainus B.C.

In 2006 Wendy published a beautiful coffee table book titled Up Close and Personal: An Underwater View of Vancouver Island. The book is a true representation of the colors and beauty that we have in our temperate waters. Wendy encourages anyone that has

ever thought of trying to dive to just "Do it".

A love for the ocean and the environment drive these two to share their stories and adventures with young, old and anyone that wants to listen. They present slideshows to schools and special interest groups.

Underwater photography came secondary to learning to dive. On a dive trip to Vancouver shortly after learning to dive they ended up in a dive shop (Dive and Sea In New Westminster), and Bruce offered to buy Wendy an underwater camera for her birthday. She accepted, and from the first click of the shutter was totally addicted, and knew her calling was underwater photography.

At that time Wendy did not know what *f*- stops, shutter speeds, or ISO's were, so an incredible learning experience followed. She flooded her camera on nearly every dive. Each time the kind shop owner replaced the camera: very inconvenient. Eventually the manufacturer said no more replacements.

At this point it was not a question of needing a camera, but which one to buy. The decision: a Nikon D2X. Shop owner George Klikach helped order a Nexus housing and twin Inon strobes, which Wendy still uses. She

recently purchased a Nikon D 800 and will purchase a housing after researching manufacturers. Wendy thinks everything happens for a reason, and the reason she had so much initial camera trouble was so she could become friends with George!

Wendy's words of advice: first work on having great buoyancy and then get yourself a really patient, attentive dive buddy. Add to this lots of light, she feels you can't have too much). These things are more important than the kind of camera you shoot.

Next, dive slowly and take your time. Many of the most interesting subjects are the smallest. Last bit of advice is to enjoy yourself, get in the water as much as you can and relax!

Wendy prefers to shoot and frame her photos as finished products, with very little cropping or post processing. When she do need to "tweak" a photo due to a bit of backscatter or something out of her control, she uses Photoshop Elements 8.

Wendy and Bruce love to share their tips on diving and photography so anyone that wants to contact them may do so at www.badgercastlepublishing.com or www.oceanscapes-photography.com. This is the site for book purchases and image ordering, as well.

Sparring Decorated Warbonnets by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 105 mm | 1/160th | f 16 | ISO 200





Juvenile Wolf Eel Face by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 105 mm | 1/160th | f22 | ISO 100



Driving the Chemainus 737 by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 10 mm | 1/125th | f9 | ISO 100



Painted Anemone Eating a Sunflower Star by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 105 mm | 1/160th | f29 | ISO 100



Pacific Staghorn Sculpin Eating a Kelp Perch by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 105 mm | 1/160th | f29 | ISO 100



Tiny Black & White Sea Flea on Kelp by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 105 mm | 1/160th | f29 | ISO 100

Basket Star by Wendy Carey
Nikon D2X | 105 mm | 1/160th | f 18 | ISO 100



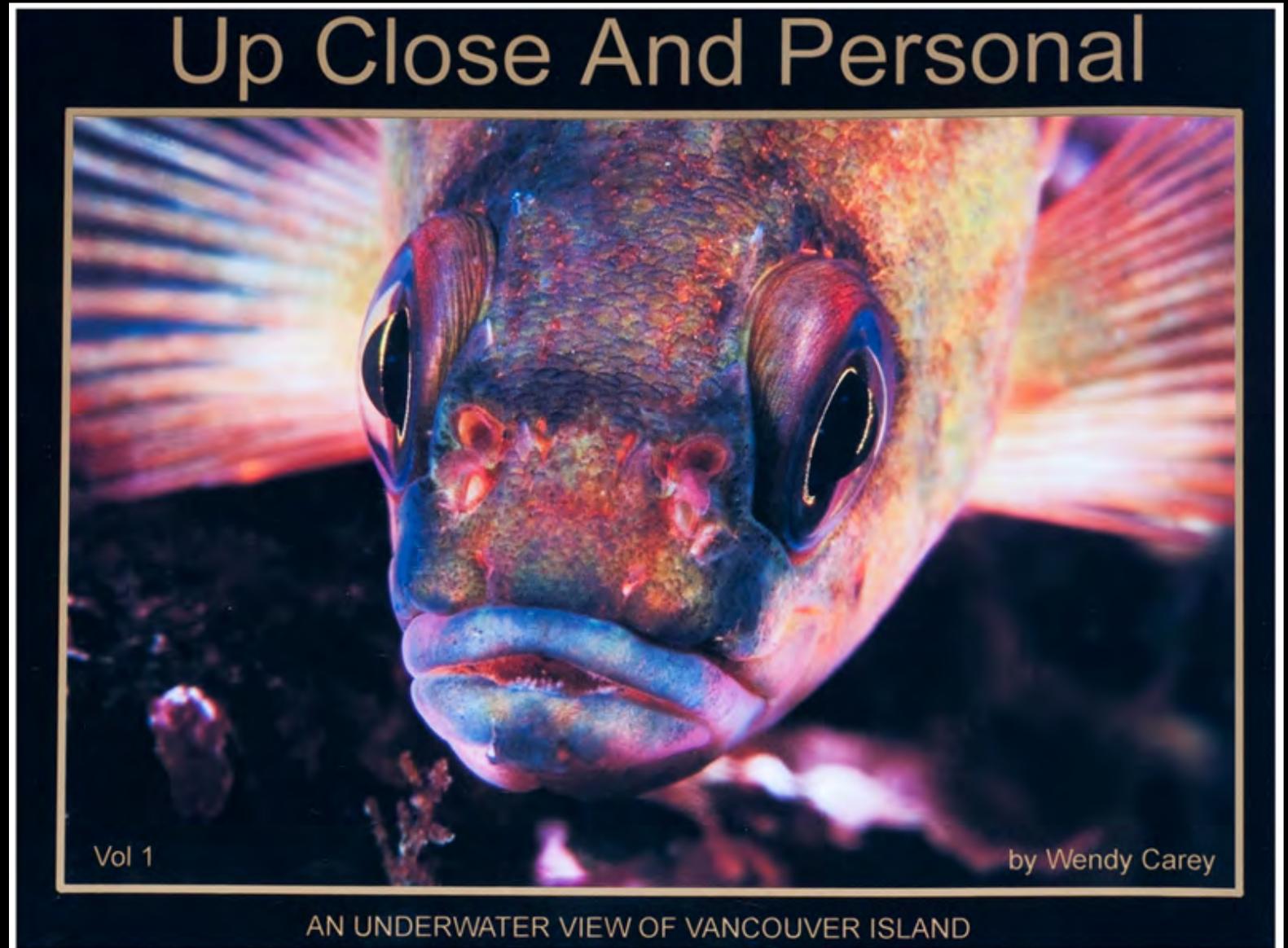
Up Close and Personal

by Wendy Carey

Available from [Badger Castle Publishing](#) for \$49.95 CDN



Wendy Carey



Pacific Northwest Diver: News Corner

Divers' Weekend:
January 19, 20, 2013



The [Vancouver Aquarium](#) will be hosting their 14th annual Divers' Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, January 19 and 20. The theme for Saturday's speakers is Exploration, while Sunday's is Conservation. Certified divers receive 50 percent off admission or 10 percent off Aquarium membership with a valid certification card!

Saturday January 19, 2013: Exploration

- 10:00 a.m. Innerspace Wonders: A Look At The World Underwater, Barb Roy, Outdoor Photojournalist
- 11:30 a.m. Man And The Sea: Exploration And Discovery, Bryce Casavant, Commercial Diver - Heritage Hard Hat Divers
- 1:00 p.m. Explore Your Own Backyard: Three Great Vancouver Shore Dives! Lee Newman, Diver and photographer
- 2:30 p.m. Muck Diving: Finding The Weird And Wonderful In The Most Unlikely Places Stewart L. Sy, SLS Photography
- 4:00 p.m. Technical Diving: Explore More, Greg McCracken, Owner and Technical Instructor Trainer - Ocean Quest Dive Centre

Sunday January 20, 2013: Conservation

- 10:00 a.m. El Niño, La Niña: Influences On The B.C. Dive Experience, Dr. Jeff Marliave, VP Marine Science - Vancouver Aquarium
- 11:30 a.m. Sixgill Sharks And Ratfish: An Update On Dinosaur Sharks, Peter Mieras, Rendezvous Dive Adventures
- 1:00 p.m. Community Based Approach To Shark Conservation, Kevin Huang, Director of Campaigns - Shark Truth
- 2:30 p.m. The Creation Of Voluntary Marine Sanctuaries In British Columbia, Roy Mulder, Marine Life Sanctuaries Society
- 4:00 p.m. Man-Eating Sharks Or Man Eating Sharks? Russ Hennessey, Founding Partner - Saving Our Sharks

As mentioned earlier in this issue, the [Portland Aquarium](#) officially opened this past December 15.

The Portland Aquarium features 30 exhibits displaying more than 2,500 species in a 12,500 square foot facility. Animals exhibited include sharks and stingrays, a jellyfish exhibit, a cold water tank with fish found off the Oregon Coast, and warm water tanks and tide pools with tropical fish.

In addition to aquatic and marine exhibits, the aquarium includes a rainforest room with animals like tree frogs and exotic birds.

The Portland Aquarium is intended to be a "hands-on" educational experience that will provide ample opportunity to pet and feed aquarium animals. Most exhibits will be geared toward children about age 10.

Of special interest are the "Close Encounter" experiences: either with giant Pacific octopus, or puffin.

The aquarium is located on a two-acre site that is zoned to permit the aquarium to build outdoor exhibits in the future. Future expansion plans Proposed future exhibits include a 30,000 gallon shark tank and seal exhibit.

The Aquarium is open 365 days per year from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Earlier openings and later closings are available for groups or special occasions.

Pacific Northwest Diver: Operator- Copper Island Diving



- Tracy Wood & Paul Downie

Looking for a fresh water adventure? Check out Copper Island Diving, located in Salmon Arm, central British Columbia. This area is “ground zero” for the famous Adams River salmon runs.

Paul Downie and Tracy Wood own and operate Copper Island Diving. The shop is a Scuba Schools International training facility that has been servicing the Shuswap and surrounding area for more than 19 years. They host a full line retail store with equipment sales, service, rentals, and air fills.

While there are numerous shore diving opportunities, Copper Island also operates two dive boats: one that can accommodate four divers, and an aluminum deck boat suitable for as many as 8-10 divers.

We contacted Paul to arrange a sockeye salmon check-out dive this October. While 2014 is the date for the dominant run with millions of fish, 2013 sees thousands of sockeye migrating up-stream.

For salmon diving, Paul recommends launching at Sorrento (see map on following page), which is half-way between Chase and Salmon Arm. The water temperature in October is approximately 16 C, or 61 F. Most of the salmon encounters will be shallower than 10 meters, or 30 feet.

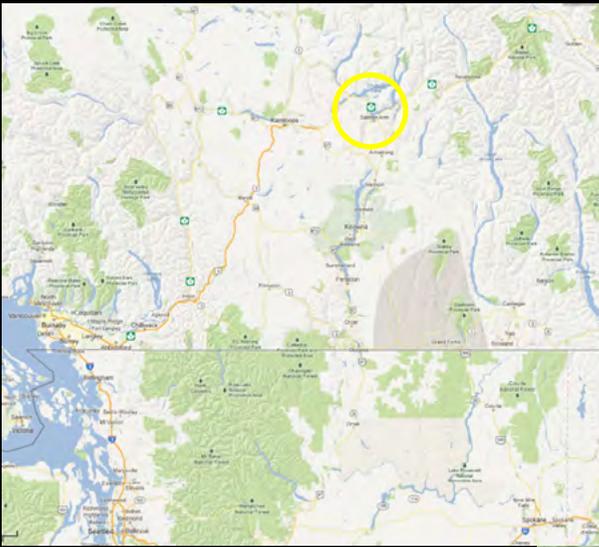
In addition to boat diving, Paul will also share his local knowledge so we can photograph fish in streams.

Depending on your tastes and budget, there are several hotels and camping areas located nearby. The PNWUPS outing will be based at the [Quaaout Lodge](#), while RV and camping is available at the [Shuswap Provincial Campground](#). Cottages are also available at [Scotch Creek Cottages](#).

If you are interested in more information about Adams River salmon runs, try visiting the [Adams River Salmon Society](#) site.

Web: <http://www.copperislanddiving.com>
e-Mail: info@copperislanddiving.com
Phone: 250.832.5737



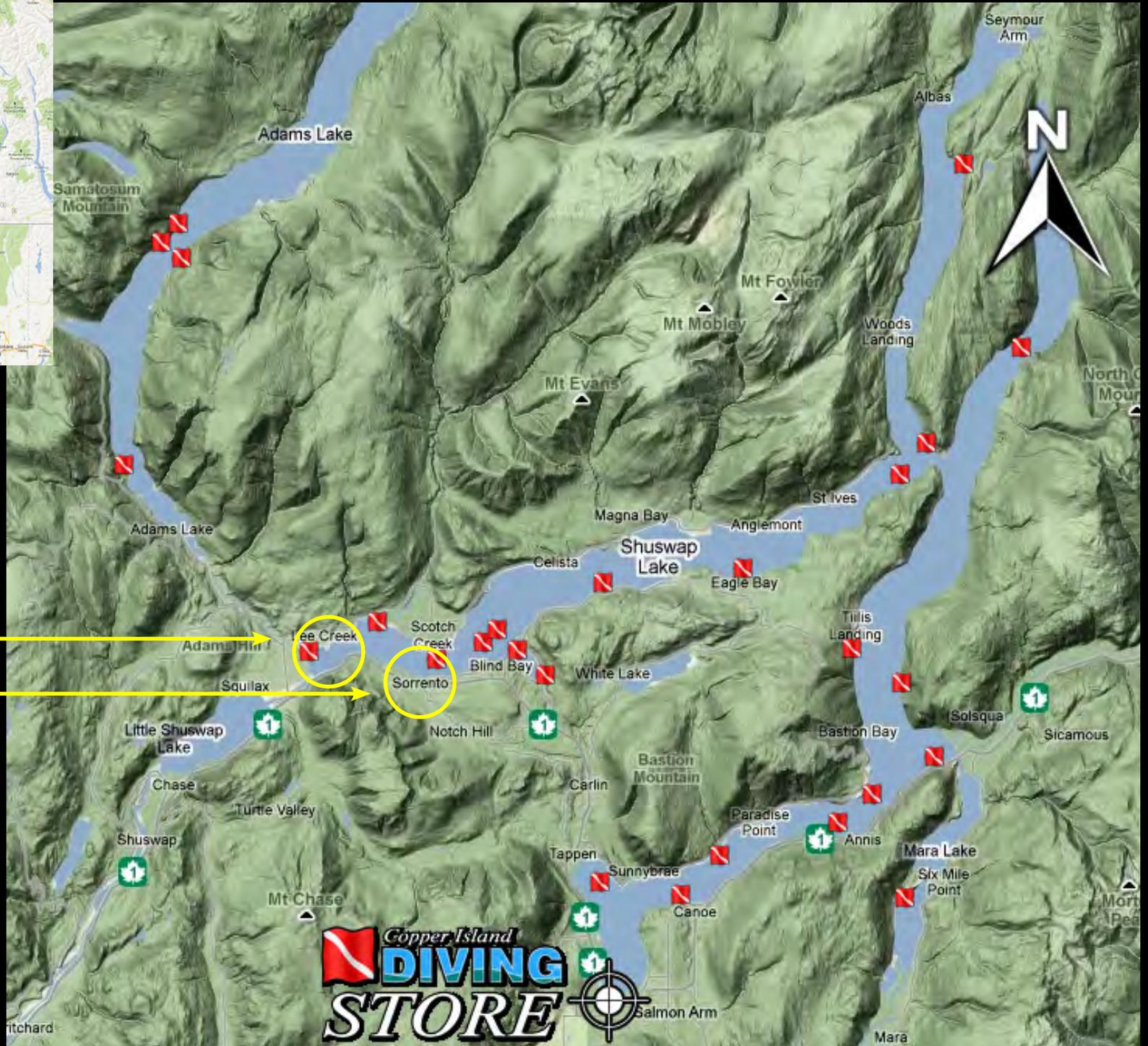


Salmon Arm Drive Times

Seattle | 357 mi, 574 km | 6 hrs
 Vancouver | 285 mi, 459 km | 5 hrs
 Kamloops | 62 mi, 100 km | 1 hr

Salmon dive: River mouth

Launch site: Sorrento





Valentine's Day Dive for the Romantic (And Hardy)



Halloween Pumpkin Carving (Much Warmer!)



But Warming Up Is So Much Fun!



Another Great Day on the Water

Pacific Northwest Diver: Washington

Steve Zedekar



e-Mail: zekeandboone@gmail.com

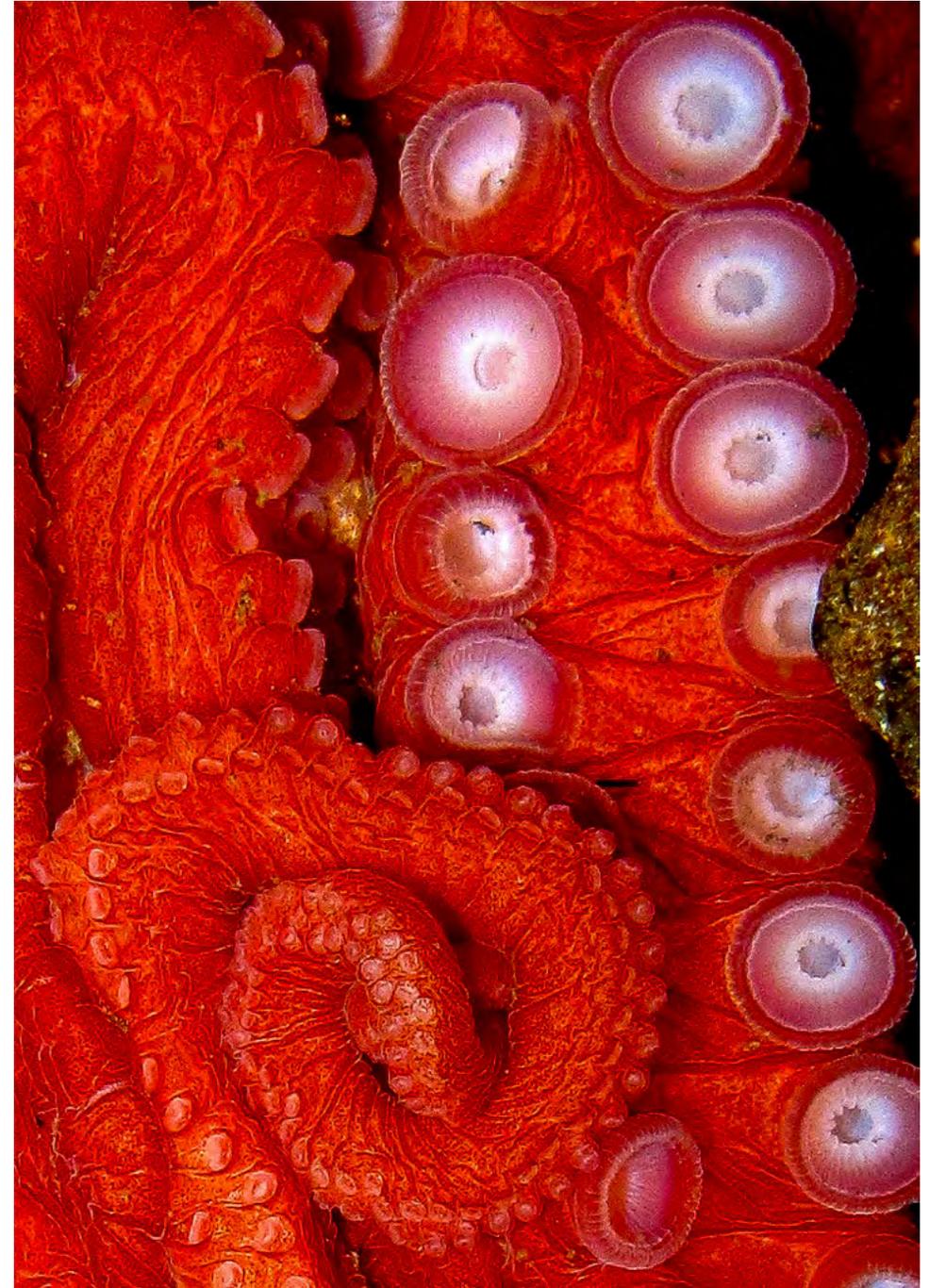
Steve Zedekar is a Native Washingtonian who was NASDS certified in 1972. Went south to college (briefly) and worked as a diver for DiverSystems, Inc. in Newport Beach, California. He then worked 18 years for United and American Airlines, and traveled to great dive spots on my days off.

More recently, Steve has been ranch foreman for the Pomeroy-Plowman Ranch in southwest Washington for 18 years. He has been married 31 years to Jeanie, a nurse and he says a “great cold water diver”. They have two daughters, the younger in graduate school, and older living in Aberdeen Scotland (anybody want to dive Scapa Flow next year?)

Steve is an instrument rated private pilot and PADI Divemaster. He is also one of the equipment techs at Seven Seas Scuba in Vancouver, Washington. He dives once or twice each week.

Moving on to underwater photography, Steve purchased an underwater rig in 2009 after diving with Honduran UW photographer Mickey Charteris. Great teacher! He has also taken photography classes at Clark College and attended seminars at NW Dive Expo and DEMA. He won Honorable Mention at the 2011 NW Dive and Travel Expo, and Second Place at the 2012 Expo.

His camera is a Canon G10 in a Canon housing, internal strobe. Steve uses Adobe Lightroom for cataloging and post processing.



Giant Pacific Octopus Tentacles by Steve Zedekar
Canon G10 | 10 mm | 1/60th | f 3.2 | ISO 80

Aeolid Nudibranch with Eggs by Steve Zedekar
Canon G10 | 9 mm | 1/60th | f 3.2 | ISO 80





Diving in the Fog by Steve Zedekar
Canon G10 | 14 mm | 1/60th | *f* 3.5 | ISO 200



Red Flabellina Nudibranchs by Steve Zedekar
Canon G10 | 12 mm | 1/60th | f 3.5 | ISO 80



GPO Tentacles and Eggs by Steve Zedekar
Canon G10 | 25 mm | 1/60th | f 4.5 | ISO 80



Giant Pacific Octopus by Steve Zedekar
Canon G10 | 12 mm | 1/60th | f 3.5 | ISO 80

Pacific Northwest Diver: Travel Corner 2013 (And One in 2014)



[MONTEREY/PT LOBOS KELP FOREST](#) | May 26 - 31, 2013 | Trip cost TBD.

Join the annual trip south to dive the kelp forests in Pt Lobos and Monterey. This year we are planning a meet-up and boat dive with the Northern California Underwater Photographic Society. Costs will be set once group agrees to dive itinerary.

Objectives: Harbor seals, sea otter, sea lion, rock fish, macro subjects.



[BARKLEY SOUND SHARK WEEK](#) | August, 2013 | Trip estimate \$900 US

This will be the third year for Shark Week at Rendezvous Lodge on Barkley Sound. Four days of diving, 2-3 dives per day. Dr. Chris Harvey Clark will return as the shark biologist. Price includes transportation to and from Port Alberni, meals, lodging, and air fills.

Objectives: Six gill sharks, rays, rock fish, nudibranchs, giant Pacific octopus, humpback whales.



[ADAMS RIVER, BC SOCKEYE SALMON RUN](#) | October, 2 - 6, 2013 | Trip estimate \$1,000, with Lodging

This coming Fall will see several hundred thousand sockeye salmon return to the world famous Adams River. This is an exploratory trip in anticipation of the dominant 2014 run, where several million salmon return. The plan is for three days of 2 tank boat diving with Copper Island Diving, including lunch, with afternoon salmon photography/observation in streams. Price includes lodging at the Quaaout Lodge, does not include transportation to Chase, BC.

Objectives: Sockeye salmon, other salmon species.



[LA PAZ WHALE SHARKS, SEA LIONS, & MARINE LIFE](#) | October 19 - 26, 2013 | Trip estimate is \$1,100

We head back to La Paz, Baja California to snorkel with whale sharks, dive with sea lion, and check out eel, bleenies, jaw fish, and the other marine life the area has to offer. Lodging will be with Posada Luna Sol, diving with Buceo Carey, and whale shark outings with Mar y Aventuras. Price includes lodging, park permits, 3 tank dives on SCUBA days, lunch on diving days, and snorkeling with whale sharks from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM on whale shark days. Does not include transportation to La Paz.

Objectives: Whale sharks, sea lion, bleenies, eel, jaw fish.



[GREY WHALE MOMS & BABIES](#) | February/March, 2014 | Trip estimate is \$1,500 - \$2,500

For the past three years my wife and I have spent time on Baja's west coast viewing mother and baby grey whales before they migrate north to the Pacific Northwest. We have applied for permits from the Mexican government to dive or snorkel with the whales as part of an article on their migration. This would be a seven day trip, and would include room, lodging, and transportation round trip from La Paz. The higher cost would be for permits to dive or snorkel with the whales. If you are interested, let Dan know ASAP, as resumes need to be submitted.

Objectives: Grey whales, mothers "nursing" babies.

Pacific Northwest Diver: Trip Report- La Paz 2012

La Paz Dive Sites



The Sea of Cortez offers a wide variety of marine life. La Paz is of particular interest because of its easy access from North America, resident whale shark population, and sea lion rookery. An October, 2013 trip is scheduled for interested divers.

In late October our intrepid group of divers took off for La Paz in search of whale sharks, sea lion, and all the other critters the Sea of Cortez has to offer.

What is really spectacular about La Paz is the incredible variety of marine life. The Google Earth snap-shot to the left shows some of our main dive sites, in relation to our Dive operator, Buceo Carey, located at the main city docks.

Los Islotes is well known as a sea lion colony where juveniles will play and interact with visitors. There are also blennies, jaw fish, and a myriad of other creatures. It is about an hour and twenty minute ride from La Paz. La Corolita has coral heads and blennies galore. Swanee Reef and La Reina have tropical and lots of moray. Swanee and the Salva Tierra wreck are also two of the only areas where we have been able to successfully photograph garden eel.

For most of our group, this was going to be their first time seeing whale sharks in the wild. When we checked in with our dive operator the afternoon before our first outing, we were told no whale sharks had been seen so far this season. This was extremely unusual, and was attributed to a hurricane that passed through the area a week or so prior to our arrival.

It turned out our worries were not justified. On "Day One" we found a whale shark, and those who had not seen one previously had

their first encounter. This was followed by several other sightings, with the culmination being on our final day when we had multiple sharks performing for us. And the sharks are a ten to fifteen minute ride from the docks.

As mentioned earlier, Los Islotes is an amazing area to dive and photograph marine life. The one objective hazard are the young sea lions who like to play with your fins and other gear. Several of us have photos of them trying to remove our fins.

While the babies are a riot to watch and play with, the rest of the colony also puts on quite an act. Jay Sprenger captured a mother and young one playing in front of his lens (next page).

And while the large subjects are great to photograph, some of the smaller subjects are equally entertaining. Pat Gunderson shot a Barnacle Blenny with about a quarter to half an inch of his body emerging from his tube dwelling.

Oh, I almost forgot: the eels. Jim Boon seemed to find them on each dive. At La Reina he photographed four in a single den: very unusual. We thought that the one he photographed on the following page was getting ready to have a piece of him for lunch!

This trip turned out to be so productive that we will be heading back in October of 2013. If you are interested in joining us, send a quick note to Dan at dan@e-clements.com.



Whale Shark | Dan Clements



Moray Eel | Jim Boon



Barnacle Bleeny | Pat Gunderson



Mother & Baby Sea Lion | Jay Sprenger

Pacific Northwest Diver: Technical Corner- Pole Cam, Part 1 of 2

Greg Sweeney



Greg Sweeney is an outstanding underwater photographer, and runs trips to Tiger Beach, Mexico for sailfish and whale sharks, manatees in Florida, and several other locations.

His pole cam solution for shark photography works well for other pole cam uses: whales and other mammals where water entry is prohibited, and stream photography.

In the next issue of Pacific Northwest Diver, an alternate method for creating a pole cam will be discussed.

Several years ago I came across the dilemma of how to photograph sharks with a half and half effect without getting into the water and risking all: Previously I used to stick my hand and camera in the water off the stern transom of the boat. This was not idea as it was a big possibility that I would loose the camera and my hands.

To cure this situation I came up with a plan to make a polecam mount for less than \$100 USD. I figured that if the Wright Brothers could build an airplane from parts in their bicycle shop, I could make a camera mount from bicycle parts and other garage items.

The pole cam rig consists of :

- Adjustable pool cleaning pole
- Bicycle break lever and cable
- Stainless steel springs and washers
- Boat universal antenna mount
- Fabricated stainless steel bracket
- Pool kick board
- Wire ties

A small hole was drilled though the trigger release for the bike cable to run through so it will be able to pull the release. The housing can be quickly removed from the polecam rig. The camera rig was outfitted with a fisheye lens, domeport, and two strobes.



On the boat we would assign someone to work a fishing pole with bait but no hook. They would cast it out then pull it toward the boat luring the sharks in toward the boat and polecam. When shark to the correct distance he would raise the bait and I would activate the shutter by squeezing the bicycle lever. I found that it works really well on calm water conditions. Always room for improvement, but I did get a few nice shots.

GREG SWEENEY CONTACT INFORMATION:

e-Mail: sweeneynz@clear.net.nz | Web: <http://www.gregorysweeney.com/>



Figure 1 | Pole Cam Rig and Shutter Release



Figure 2 | Bicycle Release Shutter Firing Mechanism



Figure 3 | Shutter Release Detail



Final Product: Lemon Shark Over/Under | Greg Sweeney

Pacific Northwest Diver: Our Team

The Pacific Northwest is a large, diverse region with diverse interests in underwater photography and videography. In order to make it easier for you to submit information about photographers, dive clubs, and operators/resorts in your area we have key contacts for British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon. Since we are all volunteering our time and efforts, we also hope to spread the work-load so we will all have ample time for diving and photography!

Below are our contacts, please either get in touch with one of the regional contacts listed below, or contact editor [Dan Clements](#) directly.

British Columbia: Marli Wakeling



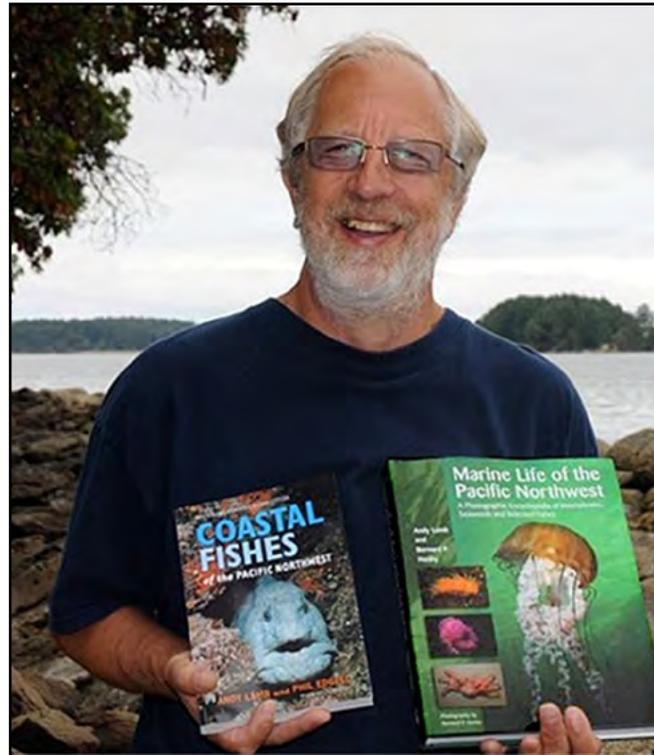
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