



Census of Marine Life Education and Outreach Network

August 20, 2007

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ArcOD Offering Mini Grants

The Arctic Ocean Diversity project (ArcOD) is soliciting proposals to enhance knowledge of Arctic marine biodiversity, from micro-algae to marine mammals, on a pan-Arctic scale. Proposals for mini-grants, not to exceed \$5,000, must be submitted by September 15, 2007. Funding decisions will be made by November 15, 2007 with research beginning January 1, 2008.



Successful applicants will contribute to expanding knowledge of Arctic marine biodiversity through activities that strive for species-level taxonomic resolution. Proposed activities may include, but are not limited to: compilation of available data that currently exists and making them available to the ArcOD database in electronic form; facilitation or improvement of taxonomic resolution of historic or recent samples; student travel to receive expert taxonomic training directed toward problematic groups; genetic analysis; species descriptions; and synthesis of Arctic biodiversity information.

Application forms are available at www.sfos.uaf.edu/research/arcddiv/news/index.html). Send a completed application and curriculum vitae (max. 1 page) of all investigators to ArcOD@ims.uaf.edu, or by fax + 907 474 7204 or by mail to ArcOD, University of Alaska Fairbanks, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, Institute of Marine Science, P.O. Box 757220, Fairbanks AK 99775-7220, USA

Photo: A polychaete or marine worm. Russ Hopcroft, NOAA/University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Australian CReefs to be Launched

The official launch of the Australian CReefs will take place on August 22, 2007. Marcus Randolph, Group Executive and Chief Executive Ferrous and Coal, BHP Billiton, and the Honorable Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources will jointly announce the award of a \$A3.2M grant to the Australian Institute of Marine Science. The generous award will allow for exploration of three Australian CReefs sites.



Photo: Fisherman Jonathan Saunders retrieves a baited epifauna trap. Courtesy of CReefs.

Census Fun and Games

The U.S. National Committee has launched a series of entertaining and informative educational games on its website. Players can choose from Hangman, Matching, Concentration, and Word Search games in varying degrees of difficulty.



Try your hand at one of these exciting and informative games to see how easily Census information can be relayed in exciting and fun ways. Melissa Brodeur of the Secretariat (mbrodeur@COREocean.org) welcomes all questions and comments about this latest venture into "gaming."

http://www.coreocean.org/?anchor=us_fun_games

Photo: An example of a matching game on the U.S. National Committee webpage. Courtesy of U.S. National Committee.

World Conference on Biodiversity Planned for 2008

The first call for presentations was recently issued for the World Conference on Marine Biodiversity in Valencia (Spain) from November 11-15, 2008. The Conference is designed to review the current understanding of marine biodiversity, its role in marine ecosystem functioning and its socio-economic context, to assess current and future threats and potential mitigation strategies for conservation and regulation of marine resources, and to identify future research priorities.

The deadline for sessions is November 1, 2007. The

deadline for abstracts is February 1, 2008. Complete information including application materials is available at MAR-BEF's website www.marbef.org/worldconference.

CenSeam Releases Newsletter #8

Be sure to read a copy of the latest edition of the CenSeam newsletter to learn about the latest accomplishments of this active international team. Among the topics covered include recent seamount voyages, the latest CenSeam workshop on image collection and analysis, MBARI's video annotation and reference system, upcoming conferences, researcher profiles, and a whole lot more.

The newsletter is available online and can be downloaded at http://censeam.niwa.co.nz/censeam_news/newsletters.

The Census of Marine Life is a global network of researchers in more than 80 nations engaged in a 10-year scientific initiative to assess and explain the diversity, distribution, and abundance of life in the oceans. The world's first comprehensive Census of Marine Life-past, present, and future-will be released in 2010

Darlene Trew Crist
Census of Marine Life

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