



Census of Marine Life Education and Outreach Network

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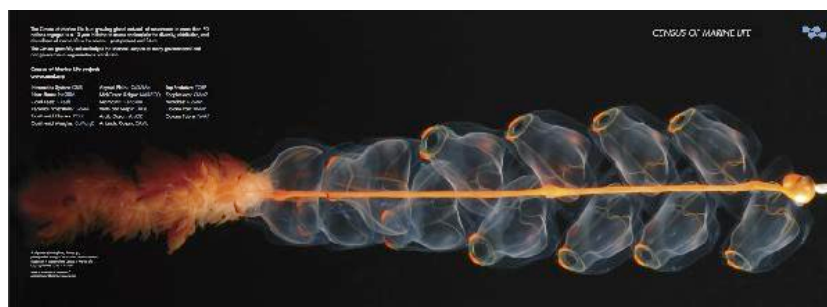
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NSF/AAAS 6th Annual Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge



The Science and Visualization Challenge is a great way to bring attention to the Census and all of the great work our projects do. All CoML partners are encouraged to submit an entry. The competition accepts entries under the following categories: Photography, Illustrations, Informational Graphics, Interactive Media, and Non-Interactive Media. The deadline for entry is May 31, 2008 so there's still plenty of time to go through all those images from the last expedition or to polish up that graphic or animation. Entry is free and winners will be featured in the September 26, 2008 issue of Science, Science Online, and on the NSF website. The Census E & O Team won an honorable mention in the 2006 Challenge for the 2005 Census Highlights Report. For more details and to download entry forms, please visit the Challenge's website at: [NSF/AAAS Visualization Challenge](#).

International Workshop on Barcoding

CeDAMar is working in cooperation with the Marine Barcode of Life Initiative to organize a workshop promoting DNA barcoding of deep ocean species. The International Workshop on Barcoding Deep-Sea Organisms will be held May 13th-18th 2008 at the Senckenberg Research Institute in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. The workshop will include



practical training and participants are encouraged to bring ethanol preserved tissues samples for barcoding. Please contact Stephanie Keller, the CeDAMar project coordinator (skeller@senckenberg.de), for more details.

Barcoding Clarifies Taxonomic Ties



Researchers at the University of Bergen in Norway have used DNA barcoding to prove that what was formerly believed to be two different species of Atlantic lumpfish are actually the male and female forms of a single species! Although the two "species" were morphologically distinct enough to have been classified as separate species, molecular analysis showed that the two forms were genetically identical. Through subsequent tests, it was also found that all available specimens of one "species" were male, and all specimens of the other were female. For more information on this work and other DNA Barcoding applications, please visit the Barcoding Blog on the Rockefeller University website at: [Barcoding Blog](#)

TOPP - Elephant Seal Homecoming

There is a new TOPP project underway along the California coast. Tagged elephant seals are returning to beaches in the Ano Nuevo State Reserve to give birth to their pups. In an E & O project entitled "Elephant Seal Homecoming Days," TOPP researchers, in collaboration with personnel from the California State Parks, are out on the beach throughout the month of January taking photographs and video of returning seals and their newborn pups. Other activities include a videoconference with area schools, educational handouts for reserve visitors, and sharing photos and vides with the local media. A blog with pictures and further information is at: [Homecoming Days](#)



SCAR-MarBIN Data Management Toolkit



SCAR-MarBIN, the OBIS node for the Antarctic region, has released a data toolkit to help manage and publish biodiversity data. This free downloadable resource kit contains tools and information designed to facilitate smooth publication of data according to the standards and protocols adopted by OBIS, GBIF and others. The data tool kit and further information regarding its use are available online at: [Downloads](#)

GoMA Featured on Maine Public TV - Jan 4,5,6



The work of our colleagues at the Gulf of Maine Area program was featured on a local television show. "Maine Watch", a public affairs program broadcasted state-wide on Maine Public Television, featured GoMA researchers, who explained the development of an ecosystem-based management approach for the Gulf of Maine. While the program originally aired on December 28th, 2007, it can be viewed online at the Maine Watch On-Demand website: [MaineWatch](#)

World Biodiversity Conference in Valencia, Spain



Many of our Census colleagues will be attending the World Conference on Marine Biodiversity this November 11-15. Abstracts for 24 different sessions are being accepted through April 1st, with additional options for poster session participation. This may be a perfect opportunity to share

preliminary results and to hear first-hand about some of the cutting-edge biodiversity work being accomplished. For more information and online registration, please visit the WCMB website: [WCMB](#)

New Zealand IPY-CAML Voyage to the Southern Ocean



Through February and into Mid-March 2008, the RV Tangaroa will be on a research cruise to collect marine life samples and survey the Ross Sea. A joint effort of the New Zealand government, the

International Polar Year (IPY) program, and Census of Antarctic Marine Life (CAML), the voyage will depart from Wellington for the southern reaches of the Ross Sea sampling as far east as ice conditions allow and then will continue sampling as they return on a northerly route back to Wellington. The Science Learning Hub, an initiative funded through the New Zealand Ministry of Research, Science, and Technology, features an informational page on the cruise as well as educational links and activities. Follow along as the cruise progresses at [CAML](#) and the [Science Learning Hub](#).

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. www.coml.org

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