



Census of Marine Life Education and Outreach Network

July 1, 2008

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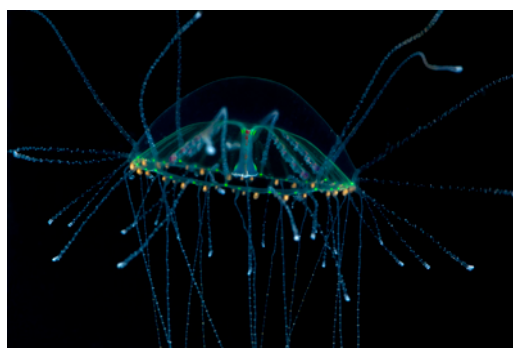
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CReefs Images, Photographer Recieve Awards



The Australian Institute of Professional Photography (AIPP) has awarded Gary Cranitch, a photographer from the Queensland Museum, the 2008 Professional Science, Environment and Nature Photographer of the Year award. Gary's photos, which were all from the 2008 CReefs Lizard Island Expedition, were awarded one Gold Medal and three Silver Medals, winning out over more than 2000 other entries. The winning images will be featured in the AIPP Awards Exhibition and also in a hard cover book showcasing the competition. Please join us in extending contratulations to Gary on a job well done. Gary's images, along with other winning images, can be viewed on the [Award Winners](#) page of the AIPP website.

The Great Turtle Race II: The Olympiad

The



second Great Turtle Race took place earlier this month, from the 2nd until the 15th of June. The race tracked eleven critically endangered Pacific leatherback turtles as they migrated from breeding grounds in Indonesia to foraging grounds out in the Pacific Ocean, or from the California coast to breeding sites in Indonesia. Organized by TOPP, the Leatherback Trust, Drexel University, The Global Cause Foundation, and the Sea Turtle Restoration project and supported and sponsored by an

international assemblage of conservation groups, public agencies, and educational institutions, the Great Turtle Race II aims to educate the public about the life cycle, migrations and ecology of the leatherback sea turtle, as well as efforts to conserve this 100 million year old species. To view the race results, learn more about leatherbacks and conservation efforts, or get involved please visit: [The Great Turtle Race II](#).

HMAP Call for Paper for Oceans Past II



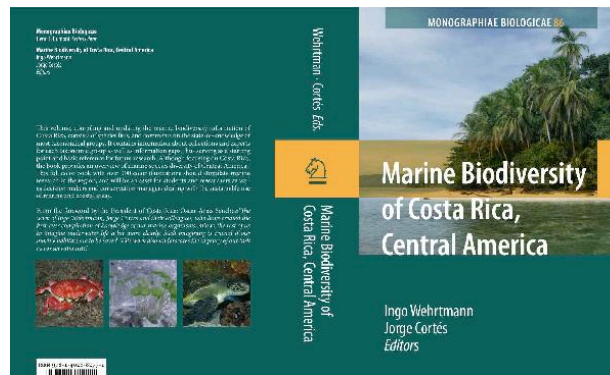
Taking place from May 26-28th 2009 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, the HMAP conference Oceans Past II: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on the History and Future of Marine Animal Populations

is now actively seeking paper and poster submissions. With the intent of discussing dynamics of marine environmental changes over time, the conference focuses on 5 themes:

1. Historical patterns of change in marine ecosystems
2. Social and Economic drivers and consequences of ecosystem changes
3. Historical examples of ecosystem recoveries and recovery prospects
4. Development of multidisciplinary studies of marine environmental history
5. The Sea Ahead: the future of marine ecosystems - sponsored by the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies

Submissions may be made by emailing your abstract to: [Oceanspast Submissions](#). For additional information, guidelines, or inquiries, please visit the [Oceans Past](#) page on the HMAP website.

New Publications Highlight Census Work in the Caribbean



Researchers from the CARICORAL project of the Caribbean Census of Marine Life have released a new volume entitled "Marine Biodiversity of Costa Rica, Central America". This new book from Jorge Cortes and



Springer

Ingo Wehrtmann
compiles species lists

and information regarding most taxonomical groups living in Costa Rican waters. The volume also discusses species collections and experts, making this an important work for students and researchers alike. The aim of the text to serve as a point of reference for future research and management efforts and to identify not only what is known about Central American marine biodiversity, but also where information gaps exist. This text, with over 100 full color illustrations, is available for pre-publication order from Springer. For additional information please contact [Jorge Cortes](#).

Dr. Patricia Miloslavich, co-Senior Scientist of the Census, has also recently published an article in the journal *Revista de Biología Tropical* that highlights the Caribbean program. The article discusses the foundations and philosophy of the Census and its goals and provides an overview of the CoML program. It then gives a detailed description of the various field projects working in the Caribbean and presents a discussion of the unique conditions and environments found in the Caribbean region and the inherent challenges of studying marine biodiversity in this setting. The article can be found in the May 2008 (Vol. 56, Suppl. 1, pp 171-181) issue of *Revista de Biología Tropical* under the title "The Census of Marine Life in the Caribbean: A Biodiversity Program."



WoRMS Release Continues to Make a Splash

Just short of a week since its release, the announcement that the World Register of Marine Species has cataloged of more than 120,000 species names continues to make headlines around the world. The news release resulted in at least 21 stories in 9 languages distributed by 14 newswires, which have now been captured from more than 275 media websites across 27 countries.



Also confirmed are several electronic media stories, including the BBC World Service (The World Today), Deutsche Welle, Radio NZ, TV NZ, CBC Radio, National Public Radio and a New Jersey TV interview with Edward Vanden Berghe. To hear Sylvia Earle's discussion of the contribution of the Census on NPR's Talk of the Nation Science Friday, please visit the [NPR Health and Science](#)

webpage. The full WoRMS press release and media coverage can be accessed at www.coml.org.

Census Well Represented at World Biodiversity Conference



The presentation programme for the World Conference on Marine Biodiversity, scheduled for November 11-15 of this year, has been posted online. A short glance through it reveals that the Census of Marine Life is very well represented. The majority of sessions are chaired by or feature presentations by Census researchers. We would encourage the Census community to visit the conference webpage for more information regarding conference themes, sessions, and presentations by our colleagues. Please also join us in extending congratulations to all in the Census community who have had their work accepted for presentation in Valencia. More information can be found on the [World Biodiversity Conference](#) webpage and the [Programme](#) page.

IUCN Seeks Underwater Images of Coral Reefs



The Climate Change and Coral Reefs Working Group of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) is seeking contributions of underwater coral reef video footage. The group is compiling a series of short videos on coral reef resilience for the IUCN Conservation Congress, scheduled for October of this year. As the Congress will be a high profile event, the video will be viewed by a large and varied international audience. For more information or to make a video footage contribution, please contact [Gabriel Grimsditch](#) or [David Obura](#).

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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