



Reef Check Foundation

annual report 2008

Saving Reefs Worldwide

Reef Check Foundation

Founded in 1997, Reef Check is a non-profit organization dedicated to marine conservation, especially tropical coral reefs and California's rocky reef ecosystems.

Reef Check Board Members

Leonardo DiCaprio - Actor and Environmentalist*
Sylvia Earle - Oceanographer and Conservationist*
Christeon J. Costanzo - Allen & Overy LLP
Craig Shuman - Environmental Consultant
Eric Cohen - Sea Dwelling Creatures
Gary L. Justice, Chair - Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
Ingrid Steiner - The Castle Press
Jim Miller - Attorney
Regina Rubino - IMAGE: Global Vision
Richard Woulfe - Dive Industry Representative
Russ Lesser - President, Body Glove
Scott Campbell - Smith Barney
Sue Chen - CEO, Nova-Ortho Med
Susi McConaghy - Development Specialist
Tim Hynes - BioStorage Technologies, Inc.
Tim Krause - Energix Controls Inc.
Will Knox - Restaurant Consultant
* Honorary Co-Chair

Staff

Headquarters

Gregor Hodgson, PhD - Executive Director
Jennifer Mihaly - Program Manager
Mary Luna - Program Manager, Outreach & Mexico;
IYOR Facilitator
Deidre Pilotte - Assistant Program Manager
Neil Hao - Webmaster
Aniela Paneno - Bookkeeper

California Program

Cyndi Dawson - Director of Science
Fiona Nagle, PhD - Program Manager
Colleen Wisniewski - Southern California Manager
Bridget Benson - Southern CA Volunteer Coordinator
Megan Wehrenberg - Central CA Volunteer Coordinator
William Golden - Database Manager

Reef Check Offices

Australia
Dominican Republic
Germany
Indonesia
Hawai'i
Hong Kong
Malaysia
Philippines



**REEF
CHECK**



Photo: Derek Tarr, wildoceanphoto.com



Photo: RC California



Photo: Scott Harrison

Director's Message

For Reef Check, 2008 was significant because it was the 2nd International Year of the Reef (IYOR). I had a personal interest in IYOR because I helped to plan the first IYOR that occurred in 1997, and then pressed to launch this second IYOR. In addition, Reef Check was one of the outcomes of the first IYOR. IYOR 2008 was effective in getting the message out to the public about the value of coral reefs, threats to their health and conservation solutions. Over 100 countries participated and major programs were launched in education, research and conservation. Our own Board member, Body Glove President Russ Lesser, wrote and recorded the "Year of the Reef" song that became the basis for an international video singing contest among children from tropical countries all over the world. Reef Check teams promoted our Declaration of Reef Rights and it was signed by over 30,000 people from over 100 countries including four country Presidents and the Governor of American Samoa. Many other notable people signed including our Honorary Co-Chair Dr. Sylvia Earle and Actress Daryl Hannah who signed it underwater off the California coast. But it was the comments of people in dozens of languages that were most impressive – everyone asking, begging, demanding that we take better care of coral reefs.

In addition to our Tropical reef work, the California program blossomed in 2007 and

Cover Photo: Coral Reef Adventure, MacGillivray Freeman Films
Back Cover Photos: Background - Rob Clayton; From Left - Gregor Hodgson, Gregor Hodgson, Coral Reef Adventure, MacGillivray Freeman Films
Graphic Design: Daniele Nance (nancenet.com); Neil Hao

highlights

o f 2008

Photo: RC Australia



came into full bloom in 2008. Our publication of the first underwater survey of California rocky reef ecosystems by citizen scientists was widely reported in the media and the data are being used directly by the science advisory group planning the new MPA network in the state. Over 70 sites are being surveyed by hundreds of newly trained volunteers from north to south and even into Mexico. Our Mexico program is also expanding in Baja California, with a focus on sustainable fisheries in partnership with Comunidad y Biodiversidad. We hope to create opportunities wherein more of our US-based divers will participate in our Tropical EcoDiver program and join our research expeditions to the Philippines, Thailand, Honduras, Oman and Mexico.

The value of Reef Check can be measured in many ways. First, through "immersion learning", we build a constituency of educated citizens who will support government efforts for conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. Second, we collect data that are used directly by governments for determining how to manage

fisheries and even whole countries. In 2008 we contributed to two major scientific publications – a paper on the status of Pacific coral reefs and a cover story in the pre-eminent journal "Science" placing reef-building corals on the IUCN "Red List." Finally, we often stimulate direct conservation such as in the Dominican Republic, where the government requested Reef Check DR to co-manage La Caleta Marine Protected Area.

This annual report provides short summaries of the amazing work that Reef Check staff and volunteers contribute each year all over the world. Our Board of Directors works tirelessly to promote and fund the organization and our Scientific Advisory Board helps keep us accurate. Reef Check is defined by its volunteers from more than 100 countries and territories – the largest volunteer organization focusing on reef conservation in the world. In 2008, Reef Check divers volunteered 15,920 hours of dive time surveying the world's reefs! We are grateful to all of the people who have contributed to a highly successful year, especially our donors, sponsors and members.



Photo: RC Belize

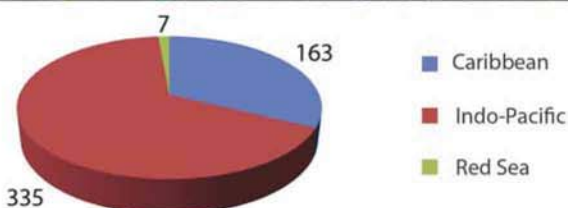
Gregor Hodgson, PhD
Executive Director

Photo: Coral Reef Adventure/MacGillivray Freeman Films

Global Status of Reefs

In 2008, 581 Reef Check surveys were conducted at 397 sites in 36 countries and territories around the world. This brings our total to 6562 surveys at 3249 sites in 96 countries and territories worldwide.

2008 Reef Check
Surveys by Region
(Tropical)



Location of Reef
Check surveys in
2008



Photo: Gregor Hodgson

"The results of Reef Check surveys are an important contribution to the scientific assessment of the world's coral reefs and the search for solutions to the crisis threatening them."

Dr. Terry Done
Australian Institute of
Marine Science

Ten years of data collected by Reef Check teams across the globe has shown that coral reefs in the Indo-Pacific region have largely recovered from the devastating bleaching event that killed up to 90% of corals on some reefs in 1998. Ten years later, recovery has occurred more quickly and more completely than expected. Caribbean reefs, however, are losing about 3% living coral every four years due to a combination of human impacts.

"When the devastating 1998 bleaching event occurred and the extent of dead coral was tallied, many scientists feared that the dead reefs would not recover, and that the remaining live reefs could be killed if such intense bleaching events continued," says Reef Check Executive Director Gregor Hodgson.

Although smaller bleaching events have occurred, the damaged reefs began to slowly recover. New larval corals settled and began to grow. Now some of these corals measure more than 1m in diameter and carpet the previously damaged reefs such as in the Maldives.

In 2005, another large bleaching event occurred in the Caribbean; however, much less damage was recorded. Reef Check scientists believe that this is because species such as branching staghorn and elkhorn corals were already decimated due to other factors in the 1980s. The remaining corals may be more resistant to being killed by bleaching.

"On the scale of a decade, Reef Check data show that coral reefs can recover following damage," says Hodgson. "Looking ahead several decades, however, a combination of threats – global warming, seawater acidification, and overfishing that are destabilizing coral reef ecosystems – raise the risk of extinction."

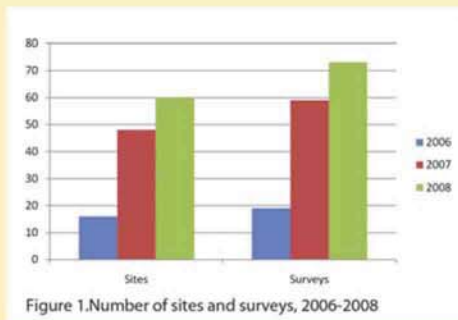


Figure 1. Number of sites and surveys, 2006-2008

California Program

California's oceans are in decline – fish and shellfish numbers are dwindling and pollution has increased. Reef Check's California program is playing a significant role in helping to alleviate some of these problems. The period 2006-2008 represented the critical first years of consistent annual monitoring and there was rapid growth in surveys and sites (Figure 1). During these surveys, divers counted more than 30,000 fishes, 40,000 invertebrates, 20,000 seaweeds, and 70,000 kelp stipes. That's a lot of counting and a testament to the enthusiasm of California's volunteers! The surveys cover a broad stretch of California's rocky reef ecosystem and, in many cases, provide the only information available for a site, particularly north of San Francisco. Our results help enable a more thorough understanding of reef status, allow the early detection of any abnormal changes due to human or natural causes, inform management decisions by government agencies and policy-makers, and contribute to resource assessments by researchers and stakeholders such as fishermen. The annual consistency of monitoring, coupled with the wide geographic expanse of sites, fills in unmonitored gaps along California's coast – an urgent need of the under-resourced California Department of Fish and Game and a necessity for adaptive ecosystem-based management (Figure 2).

The California program's 'immersion learning' training and monitoring effectively engages hundreds of divers. These divers are trained through partnerships with academic dive programs, organizations with staff divers, and dive clubs. Trainings consist

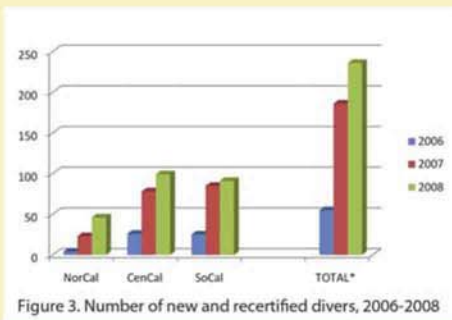


Figure 3. Number of new and recertified divers, 2006-2008

of multi-day curricula focused on reef issues, a review of safe diving practices learned in the diver's SCUBA certification class, identification of 73 target species, and scientific data collection procedures. Through this process, volunteers acquire a thorough understanding of the value of a healthy marine environment, an appreciation for the importance of monitoring, and the tools to conduct scientific surveys. Divers who complete the course continue to expand their knowledge by actively participating in or leading underwater surveys. The California survey protocol was designed with oversight from resource managers and leading marine scientists, and is formally recognized by the California Department of Fish and Game as a valuable tool for management and public engagement. In 2007-2008, RCCA trained more than 300 new divers and recertified over 100 previously trained RCCA divers, greatly expanding the program from 2006 levels (Figure 3).

Research Partner: California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)

Building on the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding signed by Reef Check and CDFG, we assisted the agency by providing divers for CDFG research cruises. In return, CDFG divers helped complete six Reef Check sites in 2007 and nine sites in 2008, with boats and scuba tanks donated by CDFG for many of these surveys.

The results of this partnership are improved safety, increased recognition and acceptance of Reef Check data by agencies and academic researchers, and opportunities for mutually-beneficial collaborations crucial to improving marine management in California.

Baja California

The California program began to extend beyond the state in the summer of 2008 to Baja California. During this time, we joined with the Mexican nonprofit, Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI, www.cobi.org.mx), to focus on Isla Natividad off Baja's Pacific coast. Local fishermen and COBI adopted a modified version of the RC California methodology to monitor both inside and outside two marine reserves they had recently established to rehabilitate their local fishing resources. Cyndi Dawson, the California program's Science Director and Mary Luna, RC's Mexico Program Manager spent 10 days with local divers in a mutual training exchange: the divers and COBI taught about local marine issues and our staff taught about basic ecology, scientific sampling, and monitoring protocols. In 2009, a research expedition to Isla Natividad will include RC divers, thus extending the benefits of the exchange to our volunteers. Training opportunities such as this help strengthen our efforts to more fully monitor the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem.



Figure 2. RCCA Survey Sites

education

"Reef Check has created a global coral reef monitoring program using a mixture of scientists and recreational divers that is providing coral reef managers in many countries with important and timely data."

Professor Richard Kenchington
Chair of the Board of the International Coral Reef Action Network



Photo: Jonathan Shives



Photo: Jean-Luc Solandt



Photo: Biosphere Expeditions



Photo: Biosphere Expeditions

EcoExpeditions

Reef Check's EcoExpeditions offer divers the chance to visit some of the world's foremost diving destinations and the opportunity to help conserve marine resources in those regions. All EcoExpedition participants become Reef Check certified divers and conduct surveys as part of their holiday experience.

In 2008 Reef Check EcoExpeditions went to a number of exciting destinations. Below are a few of the EcoExpeditions run in 2008.

Reef Check, Chicago City Day School and the Shedd Aquarium Bahamas Expedition

For the past five years, middle school students from Chicago City Day School have participated in an expedition culminating in a Reef Check Survey of Bimini in the Bahamas. Two expeditions are made every summer for students to explore the coral reefs of the Bahamas and learn their importance and dire need for conservation.

Reef Check and Earthwatch Thailand Expeditions

In 2008, Reef Check and Earthwatch continued a long history of partnership for nine training

and survey expeditions in the southern Gulf of Thailand. Reef Check Thailand Co-coordinator Kim Obermeyer and Reef Check Europe Coordinator Georg Heiss hosted divers from all over the world and taught them about coral reefs and the Reef Check protocol.

Reef Check and Biosphere Expeditions in Honduras

Located in the Bay Island Archipelago of Cayos Cochinos, Reef Check and Biosphere Expeditions teamed up for a third year to survey part of the world's second largest coral reef system.

Reef Check Maldives EcoExpedition

Since 2005, Reef Check, the Marine Conservation Society, and Maldives Scuba Tours have teamed up to offer biannual expeditions to train new Reef Check divers to survey permanent monitoring stations set up to record damage from the December 2004 tsunami. The 12-day survey trips, typically comprise 30 dives whilst visiting far flung isolated sites over the vast atoll nation.

Reef Check Executive Director Dr. Gregor Hodgson also ventured to Musandam, Oman to scout dive locations for a 2009 EcoExpedition with Biosphere Expeditions.



Photo: Georg Heiss

Education in California

RC's educational efforts included creating a public database for our survey information, working with researchers and decision-makers, building partnerships, public outreach, and synthesizing our first biennial report:

In 2007-2008, we developed and launched an innovative online Nearshore Ecosystem Database (NED; <http://ned.reefcheck.org>) with assistance from state agencies and scientific researchers. This interactive and public web portal displays RC's California data and allows users access to information in comprehensible, manageable, and engaging formats (Figure 4). The data can easily be retrieved and utilized by a variety of end users including resource managers, policymakers, scientists, and the general public. NED was formally presented to the California Ocean Protection Council in November 2008, and data are being added to the State's Marine Map Database to inform the establishment of new marine protected areas.

Data must be made available to scientists and others in a professional context in order to be taken seriously for research and management purposes. Accordingly, in 2008 RC staff gave talks at conferences of The Coastal Society and the Global Underwater Explorers as well as to a meeting of the California Ocean Protection Council. In addition, we are co-organizing a monitoring workshop with the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), with support from the State's MLPA Monitoring Enterprise. This workshop will be held at the 2009 International Marine Conservation Congress in Washington DC and includes speakers from state and federal agencies, universities, nonprofits, and RCCA.

RC also developed beneficial institutional partnerships in order to maximize scientific contributions and increase program efficiency given limited resources. Relationships were built with the following: CDFG, PISCO, the Port of Los Angeles, California State Lifeguards, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, Catalina Island Marine Institute, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Moss Landing Marine Labs, UC Santa Barbara, Humboldt State University, Aquarium of the Pacific, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Santa Barbara Baykeepers, Santa Barbara Channel Keeper, and San Diego Channel Keeper. The academic partnerships were especially fruitful because the schools integrated RC California training into their curricula, provided students with a strong basis in scientific sampling techniques and species identification, and committed to adopting survey sites to assure the long-term sustainability of monitoring in an area.

Public education was also a focus, with live presentations made to about 40 dive clubs, communities, and schools. Topics included reef issues, marine management, and the value of monitoring. Other general outreach included public information booths at Earth Day street fairs, the annual Long Beach Scuba Show, and other similar venues.

In May 2008, we published and disseminated our first biennial report, Reef Check California 2006-2007: Citizen Monitoring to Improve Marine Conservation (<http://www.reefcheck.org/rcca/2yr.php>) a comprehensive 135-page document detailing RCCA's work thus far. This report was given to managers, decision-makers, academics, stakeholders, and RCCA supporters. The accompanying press release, produced jointly with CDFG, garnered high-profile media attention from newspapers, radio, and television.



Photo: RC California

www.ReefCheck.org



Photo: RC California



Photo: Kenneth Kopp

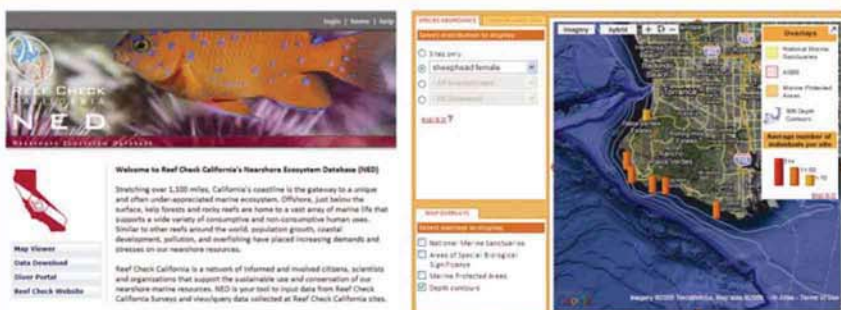


Figure 4



EcoDiver

Since its launch in 2006, Reef Check's EcoDiver program has continued to grow at a rapid pace. The EcoDiver certification program has attracted a wide variety of participants, from fishermen to businessmen to fellow conservationists. Over the course of the past year Reef Check has certified 38 trainers from 8 different countries. In turn, those trainers have continued on to certify more than 260 EcoDivers in 13 countries, creating a vast new suite of volunteer surveyors to help monitor the health of the world's coral reefs. Reef Check remains the world's largest volunteer monitoring network and our data are continually being utilized by managers and scientists to establish coral reef health and aid in determining their future.

Reef Check's EcoDiver program has continued to build partnerships with businesses, educational institutions and other non-profits. Some noted successes of the past year include teaming up with Oceanswatch, a non-profit connecting sailors and divers with conservation and humanitarian projects. In April, staff members and a local dive shop were certified as Reef Check EcoDivers at a training in Tonga. They have gone on to survey reefs in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, while also holding a second Tonga training. Reef Check also continued its collaboration with Yacht Aid on its endeavor to engage the yachting community in coral reef conservation through the distribution of education and conservation materials to school children in South America and the South Pacific. The Reef Check EcoDiver program was also featured in the January 2008 issue of Dive Training Magazine.

Reef Check Guadeloupe Educates Kids About Local Reefs

In January 2008, the Terre d'Avenir organization along with Regional Environmental Direction (DIREN) and the Pareto Ecoconsult Environmental Engineering office organized a demonstration aimed at educating young children about the degradation of the health of the coral reefs of Guadeloupe. After carrying out a mock survey in the lagoon, students aged 5 to 10 years old from Bragelogne in Saint Francois signed the International Declaration of Reef Rights. Local marine experts were also on hand to explain the impacts on the marine environment, including coral reefs, mangroves, and marine turtles.

Reef Check Indonesia Teams Up With Coca-Cola for Bali Coastal Clean-Up Program

"Everybody leaves a footprint, and everybody has a responsibility. So, let's do the right things together!" said Reef Check Indonesia Foundation chairwoman Naneng Setiasih at the opening of the Coca-Cola for Bali Coastal Clean-Up Program, a collaboration to raise awareness about the garbage problem in coastal areas.

The July opening was held in Kuta by Naneng Setiasih and Tery Davis, the Group Managing Director of Coca-Cola Amatil. Clean-up activities were done at Kuta Beach, Sanur, and Nusa Lembongan. A total of 446 volunteers participated, including Miss Indonesia 2005 Nadine Candrawinata, singer Nugie, surfer Tipi Jabrik, and actor Marcel Candrawinata. About 7.8 m³ of garbage was collected from the three areas after only one hour of cleanup. The opening event also sold special wristbands, raising 12.6 million rupiah (\$1,377 USD).

Reef Check Indonesia and Coca-Cola Indonesia initiated the program as part of the International Year of the Reef to raise awareness and public involvement for garbage management in Bali. While the initial goal is to clean the beaches, waters, and reefs of Bali, the program also aims to generate an environmentally-minded movement by increasing awareness and involvement of people in garbage management as well as government and other strategic stakeholders to support the effort.

Dominican Republic Students Get To Know Their Marine Resources

In September, The Hotel Association of La Romana Bayahibe, in coordination with Reef Check Dominican Republic, conducted a camp for kids called "Empapémonos y Sumerjámonos (Let's get Soaked and Submerged)", in Bayahibe. Fifteen children from the communities of Bayahibe and Padre Nuestro attended the two day camp, filled with activities designed to bring the ocean into the lives of the boys and girls. The children learned about the ocean, its fundamental importance to their community and the planet Earth, and the interesting creatures that inhabit its coasts and depths, as well as the greatest threats to its health and actions they can take to ensure all of us have a better future by taking care of our natural resources. At the end of the camp, the kids created a mural on the school wall illustrating their newly acquired knowledge, which will serve to raise awareness among fellow classmates.

conservation



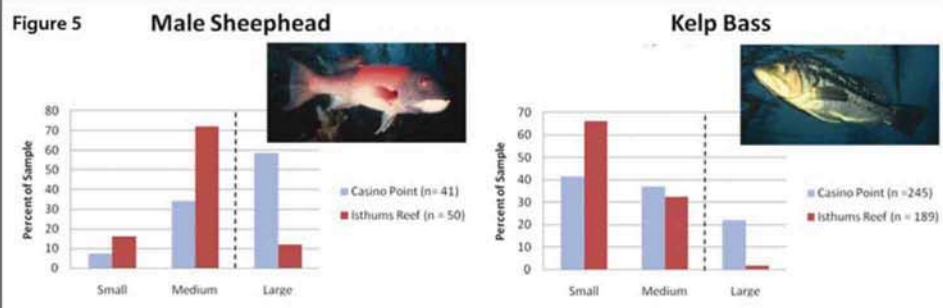
Photo: Coral Reef Adventure/MacGillivray Freeman Films



Photo: Colleen Wisniewski



Photo: RC California



With RC's California monitoring system firmly in place, we have become more strategically engaged in various research, management, and decision-making processes in the state. Principal among these is the establishment of new marine protected areas (MPAs) under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). For example, on the central coast, a new network of MPAs went into effect on September 21, 2007. RC data were used to help determine their locations, and future monitoring will be crucial for evaluating their effectiveness. In southern California, the MPA decision process began in summer 2008, and RC data are being incorporated into the MLPA's Marine Map database. This database is being used to inform the MLPA Science Advisory Team and Regional Stakeholder Working Group for the Santa Barbara-to-San Diego region. In other efforts, we worked with commercial fishermen in Santa Barbara to begin gathering data for sea urchin stock assessments which are needed to help implement the Marine Life Management Act. Our ability to report data quickly and to efficiently disseminate the data to individuals directly involved in making marine management decisions is unique among monitoring efforts along the California coast.

Catalina Island – A Tale of Two Sites

Reef Check survey results describe the biological profile and habitat of each site. The condition of the reefs at different sites can be compared and trends observed.

The kelp bass is one of the most important recreationally fished species in southern California, whereas the California sheephead is important to both the recreational and commercial fisheries. The density and size of these species were assessed by Reef Check volunteers at two popular reefs on the front side of Catalina Island: Isthmus Reef and Casino Point. While the density of these species was similar at both sites, the size structure was very different. Both species had a higher percentage of individuals in the large size class at Casino Point than at Isthmus Reef (Figure 5). Although the sites are in close proximity to each other and have similar habitats, Casino Point is more sheltered than Isthmus Reef and lies within a community-enforced MPA where fishing is banned. The level of fishing effort and site exposure may help explain the different trends in fish size.



Photo: Cyndi Dawson



Photo: Mary Luna



Photo: COBI

Reef Check Baja California: New and recertified fishermen monitor Marine Protected Areas of Isla Natividad

In 2006, Reef Check partnered with the Mexican organization Comunidad y Biodiversidad (COBI) to begin work on two marine programs in Loreto and Isla Natividad in Baja California Sur, Mexico. Both of these have evolved into a larger program focused on marine reserves and identifying existing markets or creating new ones to offset part of the opportunity cost of not fishing inside reserves, thus providing socioeconomic incentives for conservation of natural resources.

In Mexico, fishermen can form cooperatives and gain access to concessions to a particular fishery. In the case of Isla Natividad, the Sociedad Cooperativa de Producción Pesquera Buzos y Pescadores de Isla Natividad has the concession around the island.

In partnership with COBI, the members of the Cooperative voluntarily closed two areas to extractive fishing in 2006. Their main fisheries are abalone, wavy turban snail, sea cucumber, and lobster. The Cooperative patrols the island perimeter to discourage poaching both inside and outside the reserves. In addition, every year they pay some of their best divers to get certified or recertified in a modified version of Reef Check's California protocol to

monitor reserve and non-reserve sites. The plan is to test the notion that reserves can serve as sources to seed the surrounding fished areas. Invertebrates are particularly good candidates to test this hypothesis as they are relatively sedentary, and it is much easier to ensure a significant portion of the population will remain within the boundaries of a reserve.

In 2008, RC California's Director of Science Cyndi Dawson and Mary Luna (Reef Check's Mexico Program Manager) traveled to the island to recertify local fishermen trained the previous year, and to train four new divers or "buzos." The host on the island was Dr. Andrea Sáenz-Arroyo, COBI's Director of Science, who along with three amazing field techs from COBI -- Arturo, Mario and Paco -- ensured everything ran smoothly.

It was a very productive ten days, with eight divers from the Cooperative trained and ready for surveys. The recertified divers -- Alonso Ramirez, Abraham Mayoral, Alonso Grosso, and Roberto Vazquez -- and the new divers -- J. Alberto Zuniga, Jhonatan Castro, Jesus E. Flores, and Sergio M. Aguilar -- made everyone proud with their hard work, dedication, and attention to detail. After the training was completed, site-surveys were started

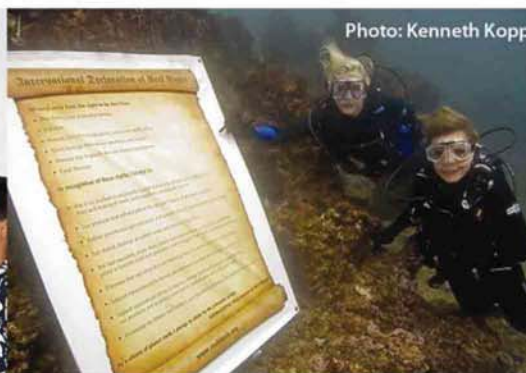
and the Baja divers collected data at Punta Prieta, one of the new reserves. Significant progress was also made on the Training Manual for the project. The protocol, now adapted specifically to Isla Natividad will be sent to RC's Science Review Team to approve some modifications, and to be printed and distributed.

Reef Check is organizing a live-aboard EcoExpedition leaving from San Diego to Natividad in Fall 2009. The trip will include survey sites along the mainland coast with plenty of time for recreational dives. The trip will culminate with diving on the island with the fishermen, collecting data in the reserves, and having them show visitors the incredible underwater habitat of Isla Natividad. With a water temperature in the mid to high 60s (°F), this was really the most beautiful kelp forest diving Cyndi and Mary have ever done!



Photo : Mary Luna

public awareness



"Growing up in Hawai'i, I learned about the value of coral reefs. Reef Check's unique educational efforts are very inspiring and highlight the urgent need to reverse the global coral reef crisis."

Kelly Hu, Actress and Reef Check Spokesperson

Reef Check International Declaration of Reef Rights

In honor of the International Year of the Reef 2008, Reef Check launched the International Declaration of Reef Rights in March 2007. This worldwide campaign highlighted the significance of coral reefs and encouraged all people and governments to support coral reef conservation. The campaign was a great success! Citizens from 157 countries signed the Declaration, as well as many leaders in government, science, and art. Dignitaries and celebrities who supported the reefs included: American Samoa Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono; Malaysia Secretary-General of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Datuk Suboh Mohd Yassin; President of the Republic of Palau Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.; President of the Federated States of Micronesia Emanuel Mori; and President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands Kessai Note. Renowned oceanographer Dr. Sylvia Earle, actress Daryl Hannah, and artist Wyland also signed the Declaration.

Reef Check will present the list of almost 25,000 names to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as well as leaders of coral reef countries. This list will demonstrate the global commitment of citizens across the world to the cause of reef conservation.

International Year of the Reef

The legacy of The International Year of the Reef 2008 will continue through 2009 and beyond, promoting awareness and generating action for the benefit of the world's reefs. As exemplified below, the activities and events of this year-long campaign have been eclectic and unbound by geographic or ideological barriers, designed to effectively address the nature of the challenges faced by these underwater ecosystems.

The first IYOR was held in 1997 by the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) with very limited funding; yet, it raised support and laid the foundation for future actions that included the establishment of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and the Coral Reef Conservation Act. In 2005, Reef Check Founder Dr. Gregor Hodgson proposed that a second IYOR be held to stimulate global action for reef conservation. Consequently, IYOR 2008 was launched at the ICRI general meeting in Washington on January 23, 2008. The Philippines Tourism Authority kicked off IYOR in March at the Philippines Dive Expo (PDX). Dr. Domingo Ochavillo, former Director of Reef Check Philippines, spoke about the status of Philippine reefs, efforts to protect and rehabilitate them,

and public involvement. As a result, PDX launched two initiatives dealing with mooring buoy installation and outbreaks of the Crown of Thorns starfish.

In an effort to streamline the communication process among reef stakeholders, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Reef Check, and other NGOs teamed up to generate a U.S. messaging campaign. Public Service Announcements and posters based on the campaign's five key messages were created and made available for free to the public. The US Virgin Islands IYOR Committee successfully engaged residents of all ages in learning about local marine resources through movie nights, snorkel clinics, underwater and beach cleanups, radio PSAs, and an essay contest. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' Organization for Conservation Outreach encouraged Saipan residents to "Take the Right Route" and reduce carbon emissions thus helping stop global warming and ocean acidification—issues that affect reefs worldwide. It also held the Reef 2 Ridge Scavenger Hunt, an event where locals learned about nonpoint source pollution and water quality.



Photo: Scott Hanson



Photo: Ben Troxell



Photo: Tiffany Klerk

A variety of contests around the world raised awareness among new audiences. Reef Check Hawai'i sponsored two photo categories at the 2008 Kona Classic, an annual underwater photography event. Central Sulawesi (Indonesia) celebrated the IYOR at the Togean Festival with photo and film contests and other fun activities. Horizon International Magic Porthole's First Environment Achievement Contest asked participants to write about their efforts to help save coral reefs, no matter how far they lived from the ocean. The first annual Ultimate Diver Challenge, where divers compete for the title of "Ultimate Diver," was held in Cozumel and included diver awareness strategies conceived by the organizers and Reef Check. Reef Check Australia hosted its second annual photo contest, and Reef Check Headquarters expanded it to an international audience through its "What Do Reefs Mean to You?" competition, which included categories relating to tropical and temperate reefs. The contest was a tremendous success with over 290 entries from 33 countries and territories. The winning photos are featured above. In an effort to engage youth in learning and protecting reefs, Reef Check organized an International Singing Contest featuring the "Year of the Reef Song."

Science is an essential component in preserving and rehabilitating reef communities. A key event of the IYOR was the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium held in Florida. Here, Reef Check Executive Director Gregor Hodgson announced that coral reefs in the Indo-Pacific region have largely recovered from the bleaching event that killed up to 90% of corals on some reefs in 1998. He reported that 10 years later, recovery has occurred faster and more completely than expected. Caribbean reefs, however, are losing about 3% living coral every four years due to a combination of human impacts. The International Union for Conservation of Nature hosted the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona, where it celebrated the IYOR by highlighting coral reefs and oceans. The Brazilian NGO PRO-MAR held a seminar "Ano Internacional dos Recifes de Coral" (Portuguese for IYOR). Topics discussed included the development of the National Program for Monitoring the Brazilian Reefs based on Reef Check Brazil, achievements and advances in experiments on the conservation of reefs, and Marine Protected Areas. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Coral Reef Conservation Program celebrated by offering free environmental classes throughout the year on Marine Invertebrate and Stony Coral Identification. The Oceanarium in Bournemouth, England held special

talks on coral conservation during its Surf Week. The Suganthi Devadason Marine Research Institute in Tuticorin, India organized a national seminar in conjunction with the IYOR. Leading scientists and forest officials discussed the status of the nation's coral reefs and were treated to a performance of the "Year of the Reef Song" by a group of local school girls. Reef Check Italy scientists also created two educational videos to celebrate IYOR.

Art has many ways of discussing its subject, and in 2008 the subject became reefs for many artists. Troy Hotard created "Bringing the Light" as a tribute to IYOR and traveled the world promoting coral reef conservation through art. American Samoa Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono invited renowned artist Wyland to paint a mural commemorating the IYOR and the Festival of Pacific Arts. Artist Carlos Hiller painted a massive mural as a tribute to coral reefs in Playas del Coco, Costa Rica. More than 70 local children from local NGO "Proyecto de Luz" joined Hiller and painted, wrote letters, and created drawings to send to government institutions, indicating their perceptions, desires, and hopes about the importance of protecting the marine environment. Italian artist Ana Bikic held events in Florida featuring the Declaration and activities for kids. Some of these artists' works were showcased at the "Artists for Reefs"

IYOR



Photo: RC American Samoa



Photo: Kenneth Kopp

online gallery. Centro Ecologico Akumal in Quintana Roo, Mexico held a Reefs Photo Show to kick off the IYOR. The beauty and magnificence, as well as threats to reefs and marine environments were showcased at Morse College of Yale University through a photo exhibit titled "Paradise Despoiled: The World's Threatened Coral Reefs."

Music was another great way to celebrate the IYOR. The USVI IYOR Committee held the St. Croix Reef Jam. The concert was a great success and profits went to benefit marine conservation programs. In China, 500 kids from Sichuan Province entered a coral reef drawing contest and 200 others gathered to sing and record the "Year of the Reef Song"; most of these children have never experienced the ocean first hand. Thin Ice, the creators of the Year of the Reef Song and whose members include RC Board Members Russ Lesser and Jim Miller, held their annual concert at Polliwog Park in Manhattan Beach, California.

Reef monitoring is an essential component in the efficient management of reef areas, and to contribute to IYOR, many groups around the world organized reef surveys. Reef Check Taiwan's IYOR celebration on Green Island focused on aboriginal culture and reef conservation. During this event, divers conducted a Reef Check survey and discussed ideas about marine conservation with aboriginals from the SanYuan A-Mei Tribe. The Marine Biology College of Egypt held a Reef Check monitoring session at Tondoba

Bay in Marsa Alam. Kosrae Village and Oceanearth conducted a two-week monitoring session highlighting the IYOR. Palu, capital city of Central Sulawesi in Indonesia, celebrated Earth Day and the IYOR with the event "The Oceans are our Front Yard." Activities included divers and snorkelers pulling trash out of the local reefs and conducting a Reef Check.

The official U.S. ceremony marking the culmination of IYOR 2008 was held on December 9 in Washington DC. This event, however, did not symbolize an end but a continuation—the beginning of a new chapter in the journey to protect and rehabilitate the magical underwater places that are reefs. Join this effort and remember what the "Year of the Reef" song says - the Year of the Reef is Every Year!

Reef Check Honors Greg MacGillivray

Over 300 guests attended Reef Check's 6th annual Reef Rescue Gala on November 15 to raise awareness about the coral reef crisis and threats to California marine life. Held at the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific, this year's event honored Greg MacGillivray of MacGillivray Freeman Films with the 2008 Spirit of the Reef Award for documenting the beauty and fragility of the reefs and oceans in IMAX splendor in films such as *Coral Reef Adventure* and *The Living Sea*.

Reef Rescue 2008 was attended by celebrities including actresses Kelly Hu and Nia Peeples, Olympian Carl Lewis, and musician Mitch Allan. Highlights of the evening included the silent auction bidding wars among the tropical tanks during the cocktail hour, the Halau Hula O' Nalikotauikawekiulani group's beautiful hula performance, and a charming rendition of the "Year of the Reef" song by a children's choir. Fourteen year old Annie Schwab from Chicago made a special trip to Reef Rescue to share her story with event attendees. Earlier this year, Annie raised over \$6000 for Reef Check.

Guests also enjoyed a scuba exhibition at the California tank demonstrating Reef Check surveying. A moving acceptance speech was given by Greg MacGillivray who shared his mission of using film to make a positive impact on the world.



Troy Hotard's "Bringing the Light"

funding



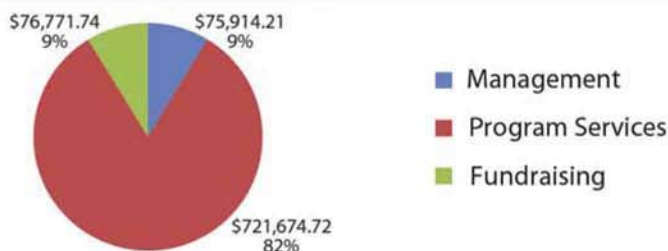
Photo: Derek Tarr - wildoceanphoto.com



Photo: OceansWatch

Expenses in 2008

Total Expenses: \$874,360.67



Revenue in 2008

Direct Revenue: \$843,352.09

In-Kind Revenue: \$750,618.00

Total Revenue: \$1,593,970.09

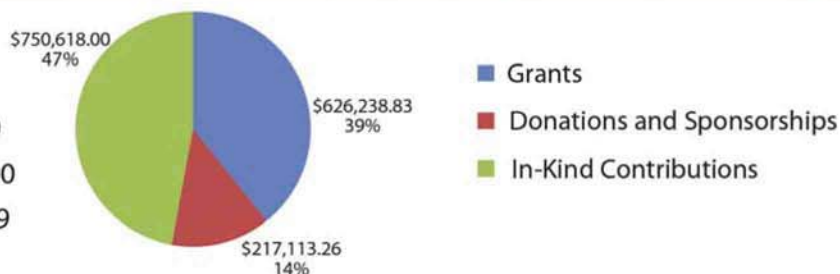


Photo: Phil North

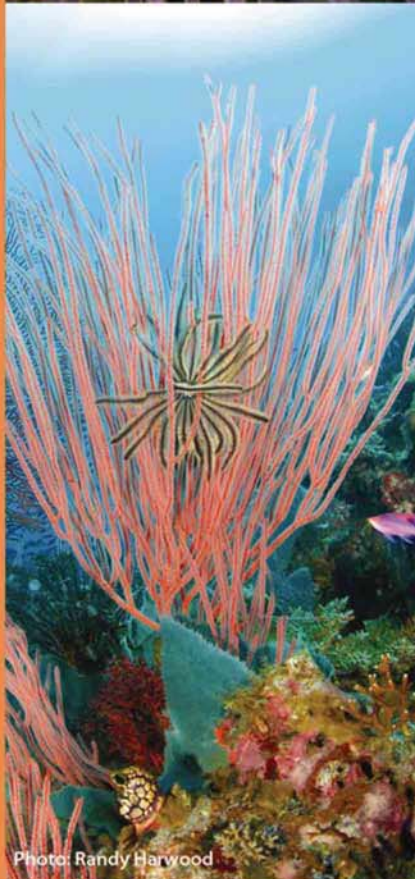


Photo: Randy Harwood

In 2008, a number of large grants cycled down for the Tropical Program so there was a drop in total revenue while revenue for the California Program increased. Meanwhile, earned income through sales of training activities, materials and books increased. Reef Check was a university-based program for many years; we are still in the process of transforming the organization into a free-standing non-profit supported by a diverse funding base of sponsors, memberships, earned income and individual donors. The current Board of Directors is committed to growing our support base substantially over the next five years in each of these areas.



2008 in-kind revenue includes the 15,920 hours of dive time our volunteer divers spent surveying the world's reefs

our thanks to our Program Partners

Coordinators, Team Leaders, and Team Scientists Highlighted in blue

American Samoa

Jeremy Goldberg
American Samoa
Community College
American Samoa's Coral
Reef Advisory Group

Aruba

Susan Hieter
JADS Beach Store and
Dive Center

Australia

Chris Boland
Joanna Roberts
John Hueston
Jos Hill
Steve Prutzman
Tara Swansborough
Adrenalin Dive
Australia Post
Australian Institute of
Marine Science
Canon
Christmas Island
National Park (Indian
Ocean)
City of Townsville
Community Benefit
Fund, Queensland
Cruise Whitsundays
Department of
Environment and Water
Resources (Parks Australia)
Digital Dimensions
EES
Ergon Energy
Fantasea Cruises
Great Barrier Reef Marine
Park Authority
Hayman Island Resort
Imaginocean Productions
James Cook University
JCU Dive Club
Landcare Australia
Pulu Keeling National
Park (Cocos Islands)
Quicksilver Cruises
Quicksilver International
Reef & Rainforest
Research Centre
Reef HQ Aquarium
Reef Safari
Scuba Schools International
Stage Systems
Sunferries
Sunsea Cruises
Sunshine Foundation
The John Butler Trio

Bahamas

Cara Smith
Cliff Bodie
David Glandorf
Jose Abreu
Kevin Turnquest
Noah Schlager
Robyn Irwin
Thomas McFeely
Tyler Korte
Will Gordon
Chicago City Day School
Friends of the Environment
Ocean Blue Education
Shedd Aquarium

Bangladesh

Zahirul Islam
Explorewild Ecotour
operator
Marinelife Scuba Diving
Wilderness Conservation

Barbados

Andre Miller

Belize

Marciano Mendez
Mito Paz
Polly Wood
Amigos del Mar Dive Shop
Banyan Bay Villas
Belize Department of
Fisheries
Bottom Time Dive Shop
Coral House Inn
Cotton Tree Lodge
Earthwatch
Ecologic Divers
Greenreef Environmental
Institute
Hickatee Cottages
La Gaviota
Reef Conservation
International

Brazil

Beatrice Ferreira
Aratur
Atlantis Divers
AVINA
CEPENE/IBAMA
Coral Vivo Project
ICMBio
Maracajaú Divers
Meros do Brasil Project
Museu Nacional/UFRJ
PróMar
Universidade Federal de
Pernambuco
Universidade Federal do
Rio Grande do Norte

British Virgin Islands

Clive Petrovic
Trish Baily
AquaVenture Scuba
Services Ltd
Australian High Commission
for the Caribbean
Blue Water Divers
Conservation and Fisheries
Department
Department of Labour
and Natural Resources
Dive BVI
National Parks Trust
Paradise Divers (Peter Island)
Sail Caribbean

Brunei

Mohd Yusrin Salleh
Brunei Fisheries
Department
Greenforce Borneo Staff &
Volunteers
Scuba-Tech International
Pte Ltd

California

Avrey Parsons-Field
Bill Field
Craig Shuman
Dan Abbott
Michelle Stamme
Richard Alvarez
Rob Matteri
Scott Chapman
Aqua Adventures Unlimited
Aqua Safaris
Aquarius Dive Shop
Ben Troxell
Bill Bouton
California Department of
Fish and Game
California Diving Company
California State Lifeguards
Captain Frog Scuba
Chad King
Chris Borowski
Dan Gotshall
Dan Schwartz
Depth Perceptions Diving
Services
Derek Tarr
Ed Bierman

Howard Hall Productions

Humboldt State University
Ian Sayers
John Butler
Jon Gross
Jonah Mulski
Kathy Ann Miller
Kenneth Kopp
Marine Life Protection
Act Initiative
Michael Weber
Monterey Bay Dive Center
Moss Landing Marine Labs
MPAs Monitoring
Enterprise
Nick Fash
Ocean Adventure Dive
Company
Ocean Science Trust
OEX Dive and Kayak
Centers
Partnership for
Interdisciplinary
Studies of Coastal
Oceans (PISCO)
Peace Scuba
Peter Haaker
Port of Los Angeles
Rachel Woodfield
Reef Seekers
San Diego Channel
Keeper
San Diego Underwater
Adventures
Santa Barbara Baykeepers
Santa Barbara Channel
Keeper
Scripps Institute of
Oceanography
Scuba Haus
Scuba Schools of
America
Shie Rozow
Sonoma State University
Southern California
Coastal Water Research
Project (SCCWRP)
Steve Lonhart
UC Santa Cruz
West Coast Divers
Supply
Xtreme Scuba

Cambodia

Gianluca Lamberti
Dive Shop Cambodia
Ecosea
Scuba Nation Diving
Center

China

Liu Bin
Min Liu
Mindy Zhou

Colombia

Giovanna Peñaloza
Coralina
Felipe Diving Dive Shop
Scuba Town Dive Shop
Sirius Center Dive Shop
Sonny Dive Shop

Cuba

Edelkis Rodriguez

Curacao

Marjo van den Bulck
Paul Hoetjes
Curacao Sea Aquarium
Dive School Wederfoort
Foundation Uniek
Curacao
Habitat Curacao Dive
Resort
Ocean Encounters West
PortoMari Sports
Silent Immersion
Sunset Divers Curacao

Dominica

Arun Madisetti
ALDive & Watersports
Cabrits Dive Center
Dominica Watersports
Association
Images Dominica
Nature Island Dive
Sunset Bay Resort and
Dive Centre

Dominican Republic

Angel L. Franco
Julio Cesar Martinez
Ruben Torres
Aecomar, S.A.
Almacenes Carballo
Alvarez & Sanchez
Ambev Dominicana

Bachich Family Foundation

Brugal & CIA
Cerveceria Nacional
Dominicana
Club Hemingway
Cooperativa de Pescadores
y Prestadores de Servicios
Turísticos de La Caleta
Cuerpo de Paz de los
Estados Unidos
Desde el Medio Tours
Dewar's
Duolos Discovery School
Embajada Británica
Europcar
Fundacion Brugal
Fundacion Ecologica
Punta Cana
Golden Arrow Technical
Diving Center
Grupo Punta Cana
Grupo Rica
GUS Dive Center
Hard Rock Cafe Santo
Domingo
Hotel Quality Real Santo
Domingo
Intercontinental Groups
Pages BBDO
Porter Novelli
Red Bull
Red Nacional de Apoyo
Empresarial a la
Proteccion Ambiental
Revista Gastroteca
Secretaria de Estado de
Medio Ambiente
Servicios de Proteccion
Ambiental

Egypt

Christian Alter
Georg Heiss
Jenny Kruttschinna
Mohammed Kotb
Moshira Hassan
Paul Vinten
Takahisa Watanabe
Al Saraya Cotton Houses
and Tondoba Bay Lodges
Blue Heaven Holidays
Desert Divers
Egyptian Environmental
Affairs Agency
Emperor Divers (Sudan)
Jasmin Diving Center
Magic Life, Safaga
PERSGA
Red Sea Environmental
Centre, Dahab

our thanks to our Program Partners

Robinson Club Soma Bay
Sinai Divers
Sub Aqua
Subbase (Germany)
SUBX Diving Centers

Europe

Alastair Harborne
Carlo Cerrano
Georg Heiss
Michel Pichon
Rogier Boks
Rolf Voorhuis
Antinea (Switzerland)
A.P. Distribution
(Germany)
Coral Cay Conservation
(UK)
Coral Reef Research Unit,
University of Essex (UK)
International Coral Reef
Action Network (ICRAN)
Operation Wallacea (UK)
Robinson Club GmbH
sub-base • Logbuchsysteme
(Germany)
The Amadis Project (UK)
TUI Germany

Fiji

Andrew Potter
Ed Lovell
Helen Sykes
Johnny Singh
Aqasafari, Coral Coast,
Viti Levu
Diveaway at Hideaway
Resort, Coral Coast, Viti
Levu
Garden Island Resort and
Aquatrek Taveuni,
Taveuni Island
Jean-Michel Cousteau Fiji
Islands Resort, Savusavu,
Vanua Levu
Lalati Resort, Beqa Island
Marine Ecology Consulting
Matava Resort, Kadavu
Island
Nai'a Cruises
Resort Support
Subsurface Fiji Ltd,
Musket Cove Resort,
Mamanuca Islands
Waitabu Marine Park,
Taveuni Island
Westside Watersports at
Nanuya Island Resort,
Yasawa Islands

Florida

Alex Brylske
MarineLab
Pro Dive

French Polynesia

Bernard Salvat
Elodie Laguoy
Air Tahiti
Blue Dolphins (Rangiroa)
Blue Nui Dive Centers
(Manihi)
Coco Pearl Lodge
CROIBE (Centre de
Recherches Insulaires et
Observatoire de
l'Environnement)
Department of
Sustainable Development
of French Polynesia
Eleuthera (Tahiti)
Espace bleu
Hemisphere Sub (Raiatea)
Hotel Pearl Beach Resort
Huahine Pearl Farm
IFRECOR
La Bonne Bouteille
(Tubuai)
la Service de la Periculture
Mahana Dive (Huahine)
Paepae no te ora
Polynesia Mana
Project CRISP
Proscience-Te Turu 'Ihi
Tahiti Pearl Market
Te mata ara te miti
Te Mana o te Moana
WIPA

Guadeloupe

Franck Mazeas
Rémi Garnier
Anchorage Plongée
Arawak Surf Club
ARVAM
DIREN Guadeloupe
Eden Plongée
IFRECOR

Karukera Surf Club
PARETO Ecoconsult
Quiksilver Europe
Quiksilver Foundation
Quiksilver Guadeloupe

Guatemala

Lucia Gutierrez
Asociacion de Biologia
Marina de Guatemala
Pana Divers

Hawai'i

Darla White
Dave Krupp
Dave Raney
Gary Dietrich
Jeff Eble
Kara Osada
Krista Heide
Lea Hollingsworth
Linda Kosen

Matt Dunlap
Robin Newbold
Stephanie Krieger
AquaLuminous Productions
Aqua Zone
Bottomtime Hawaii
Fathom Five Divers
Hawaiian Rafting
Adventures
Jacks Diving Locker
Kona Honu Divers
Pacific Dive
Pirate Divers
Trilogy Excursions
TwoGood Kayaks

Honduras

Adrián Oviedo
Jon Shrives
Marcio Aronne
Anthony's Key Resort
Biosphere Expeditions
French Harbour High
School
Honduras Coral Reef
Foundation
HSBC
ICRAN
Idem
Loma Linda University
Luna Environmental
Operation Wallacea
PMAIB
RIMS
West End Marine Park

Hong Kong

Keith Kei
Agriculture, Fisheries &
Conservation Department,
HKSAR
Seafari Resort Limited

Indonesia

Abigail Moore
Andi Arham Atjo
Aulya Seto Sandy
Huda Saka Al Alam
Ir.Wisnu Widjtmoko
M Yasser
Marjan van der Burg
Naneng Setiasih
Richard Chin
Riyan Heri P

Samliok Ndobe
Ton Egbers
ADS Indonesia
Air Diving Academy
Bali International Diving
Professionals
BioDC University of
Udayana, Denpasar

Center for Wildlife Con-
servation Aceh (CWC)
CI Indonesia
Ena Dive Centre &
Marine Adventures
FDC – IPB
Fish Dic University of
Brawijaya, Surabaya
Kapal Selam Dive Club
Kelompok Jurnalis Laut
(Marine Journalist
Group)
MDC – University of
Diponegoro, Semarang
MPA Zooxanthellae Unsrat
MSDC – University of
Hasanuddin, Makasar
Ody Dive Center
Indonesia
PT. Bali Diving Persada
PT. Equator Dive & Travel
Scuba Schools
International
Lumba Lumba Diving
Centre, Pulau Weh
Unit Selam UAJY
Unit Selam University of
Gajah Mada, Yogyakarta
WWF Indonesia
Yayasan Adi Citra Lestari
Yayasan Bahari/LDC
Unhalu

Yayasan Bahtera
Nusantara
Yayasan JARI
Yayasan Konservasi Laut
Indonesia
Yayasan Minang Bahari
Yayasan Mitra Bentala
Yayasan Palu Hijau
Yayasan Pekat, Medan
Yayasan Taka

Iran

Hamid Rezai
Wahab Maghsoudlou
Iranian National Center
for Oceanography
Kish Island Free Zone
Organization
University of Hormozgan
(Bandar Abbas)

Jamaica

Ainsley Henry
Camilo Trench
Clifford Kelly
Dave Guinness
Hugh Small
Jerome Smith
Loureene Jones
Matthew Lee

Michelle McNaught
Monique Curtis
Omar Spence
Rachel D'Silva
Sean Green
Caribbean Coastal Area
Management
Foundation
Centre for Marine
Sciences - University
of the West Indies
Green Castle Tropical
Study Centre
Montego Bay Marine
Park
National Environment
and Planning Agency
Negril Coral Reef
Preservation Society
Sandals - Beaches
Boscobel Family Resort
SuperClubs - Grand
Lido Braco Resort
The Institute of Jamaica
The Jamaica Defence
Force, Coast Guard
The Jamaica Sub-Aqua
Club
The Nature Conservancy
University Sub-Aqua
Club

Japan

Akihiko Hiramoto
Kenji Kajiwara
Mariko Abe
Megumu Tsuchikawa
Nobuo Watanabe
Yasuaki Miyamoto
Blue Forest
Blue Point
Bluetry
BSAC-Japan
Buku Buku Divers
Dive Estivant
Dive Service Aokawa
Dive Service Noguchi
Diver's House Takeuchi
Sensuido
Diving Center Marine Life
Diving Club Blue Forest
Diving Team Unarizaki
Dugong Network
Okinawa
Dugong No Sato
Everblue
Fuji Marine Service
Fuji Xerox
Hasu Club
Iriomote Ecotourism
Association
Ishihara Sport Club

Japan Fund for Global
Environment
KAIZIN
Marine Girl
Mity Diving Resort
My Beach Project Okinawa
Namiyoikujira
NPO Okinawa O.C.E.A.N.
Okinawa Reef Check and
Research Group
Olympus
Pricia Resort Diving
Reef Interpretation
Society, Miyako Islands
Regulus Diving
Save Awase Tidal Flat
Save our ocean
Sea Land Diving Service
Seatopia
Small World Diving Club
Snack Sunafukin
Star Dolphins
Sunabe no sango wo
mimamoru kai
The Reef-fish Conservation
Network of Japan (RCNJ)
Underwater Creature
Network
WWF Japan
Yoron Is. Diving Business
Union
Yoron Diving Service

Kenya

Samuel Ndirangu

Kosrae

Katrina Adams
Kosrae Conservation &
Safety Organization
Kosrae State Marine
Resources
Kosrae Village Resort
oceanearth
PADI Project Aware
World of Diving

Kuwait

Shaker Al Hazeem

Madagascar

Bemahafaly
Randriamanantsoa
Bic Manahara
Reef Doctor
The Wildlife Conservation
Society

Malaysia

Barb Makohin
Daniel Lee
Julian Hyde
Peter Heyes

our thanks to our Program Partners

Saras Suresh Kumar
Steve Oakley
Bali Hai Divers
Great Marine Project
Marine Parks Department,
Ministry of Natural
Resources & Environment
Redang Kalong
Scuba Explorers
Scuba Zone
Sime Darby
Tioman Dive Centre
Watercolours Dive Centre

Maldives

Abbie Hine
Chris Wood
Jean-Luc Solandt
Rory Moore
Four Seasons Resort
Maldives Scuba Tours
Marine Conservation
Society
MV SeaQueen & MV Sea
Spirit

Mayotte

Julien Wickel
Club Hippocampe
Crédit agricole
Direction de l'Agriculture
et de la Forêt
Intersport
Majiclub
Mayotte Découverte
Mayotte Lagoon
Rêve Bleu
Service Environnement/DAF
Mayotte

Mexico

Gaby Nava
Aquatic Sports Cozumel
Casa Tropica El Cantil Sur
Centro Ecological
Akumal
Dive Aventuras
Dive Paradise
Dive with Martin
DreamTime
Go-Cenotes
Liquid Blue Divers
Manta Raya Divers
Oceanus
Parque Nacional
Arrecifes de Cozumel
Scuba Caribe
Scuba Staff Divers
Tank-Ha Dive Center
Yucatech Divers

Montserrat

James Hewlett
Finger Lakes Community
College
Green Monkey Dive Shop

Mozambique

Maria Joao Rodrigues
Southern African
Underwater Ecology
Society (SAUES)

New Caledonia

Claire Garrigue
Laurent Wantiez
Sabrina Virly
Bourail Sub Loisir
Club Babou Plongée
Hienghène
Club de Plongée de
Bourail
IFRECOR (French Coral
Reef Initiative)
Isle Province of New
Caledonia
Lifou Fun Dive
Northern Province of
New Caledonia
Photo Discount
Scubateck – STIM
Southern Province of
New Caledonia

Oman

Biosphere Expeditions
HSBC
Sultan Qaboos University,
Muscat

Palau

Coral Reef Research
Foundation
Fish n Fins Dive Shop
Palau International Coral
Reef Center

Papua New Guinea

Chris Bone
Irene Lladrés Pohl
OceansWatch

Philippines

Bonar Laureto
Dan White
David Murphy
Harriet Morrall
Kristina Magallones
Kristofer Chan
Lee Goldman
Mike & Nora Ross
Myrtle Arias-Paquiobot
Romeo Erbito
Wilfredo 'Al' Licuanan
Alegre Beach Resort
Camp Explore

Coastal Conservation
Education Foundation, Inc
Coastal Dynamics
Foundation
Coral Cay Conservation
Dive and Trek Resort
Durham University (UK)
Coral Awareness and
Research Expedition
Eco-Rescue
Financial Executives
Institute of the Philippines
Maximo T Kalaw Institute
for Sustainable
Development
National Youth Commission
Nico de los Angeles
NOAA
Ocean Adventure
Philippine Tourism Authority
Reef Inc
Rockport Resort
Royal Geographical
Society (UK)
scuba1.net
ScubaWorld
The Municipality of Dauin,
Negros Oriental
Tropical Island Adventures
University of San Carlos -
Marine Biology Section
Visayan Sea Squadron

Reunion

Harold Cambert
Jean Pascal Quod
ARVAM
L'Excelsus
Plongée Salée
Suwan macha
Transphere association
Quiksilver Europe
Quiksilver Foundation

Singapore

Jeffrey Low

Solomon Islands

Solomon Watersport Ltd
The Nature Conservation
Organisation Solomon
Islands

South Africa

Michael Schleyer
Southern African Under
water Ecology Society
(S.A.U.E.S)

Sri Lanka

Arjan Rajasuriya
Hong Kong and
Shanghai Banking
Corporation
National Aquatic
Resources Research
and Development
Agency

St Eustatius

Lee Munson
Golden Rock Dive Center
Scubaqua Dive Center
St Eustatius National
Parks staff & interns

St Lucia

Allan Smith
Jessica Fry
Kai Wulf
Anse Chastanet Resort
Dive Fair Helen
Environment and
Sustainable Development
Unit of the Organisation
of the Eastern Caribbean
States, (OECS ESDU)
Frogs Diving
Island Divers
Laborie Development
Foundation
Le Sport Hotel
NOAA
Saint Lucia Department
of Fisheries
Sandals Resorts Saint
Lucia
Scuba Saint Lucia
Sea|mester
Soufriere Marine
Management Association

St Maarten

Ocean Care

St. Martin

Franck Mazeas
Rémi Garnier
Réserve Naturelle de
Saint-Martin
WindyReef

St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Dianne Wilson
Sophia Punnett
Basil's Bar Mustique
Bequia Dive Adventure
Canouan Dive Centre
Caribbean Compass

Grenadines MarSIS
Indigo Dive Academy
Mustique Company
Mustique Water Sports
Sandwatch, Bequia
Community High
School
St. Vincent & the
Grenadines Fisheries
Division
Sustainable Grenadines
Project
Tobago Cays Marine
Park
University of the West
Indies, Centre for
Resource Management
& Environmental
Studies (CERMES)

Taiwan

Allen Chen
Chao-Yang Kuo
Garmin
Sung-yin Yang
Yungchun Tsai
Affiliated Aquarium,
Penghu Marine Biology
Research Center,
Taiwan Fisheries
Research Institute
Biodiversity Research
Center, Academia
Sinica
CF Diving Center
Chong Hsing Primary
School, Penghu
Coast Guard
Administration
Department of Institute
of Life Science,
National Taitung
University
East Coast National
Scenic Area
Administration
Flying Fish Diving Center
Marine National Park
Pacific Diving Center
Penghu Zooxanthellae
Association

Tanzania

Hassan Kalombo
Tanga Coastal Zone
Resources Center
Tanga Regional
Authorities

Thailand

Dennis Adams
Justin Mayers
Kim Obermeyer
Kristel Golsteyn

Suchana Apple Chavanich
Aqua Scuba
BB Divers
Crystal Dive Resort
Department of Marine
Science, Faculty of
Science, Chulalongkorn
University
Lanta Diver Co. Ltd
Mermaid's Dive Center
Phuket Marine Biological
Center
Planet Scuba & Wild Planet
Plant Genetics Conservation
Project Under the Royal
Initiative of Her Royal
Highness Princess
Mahachakri Sirindhorn
Reef Watch Worldwide, Ltd.
Scuba Cat Diving
Scubadive Thailand
Scubafish
Similan Diving Safaris

Timor Leste

Anselmo Lopes Amaral
Leo Dutra

Trinidad & Tobago

Jan-William Van Bochove
Banana Boat Inn
Charlottesville Adventure
Dive Centre
Coral Cay Conservation

Turks & Caicos

Catherine Jadot
Devon Francke
Karen Cangialosi

United Arab Emirates

Emirates Diving Association
Dibba Municipality
HSBC Middle East
Majid Al Futtaim Group Of
Companies
Naturalization &
Residency Administration
- Dubai
Pavilion Dive Center -
Jumeirah Beach Hotel
Shell
UAE Ministry Of Fisheries
& Agriculture

US Virgin Islands

Cynthia Moulton
Rebecca Webster

Vanuatu

James Pitman
Katie Thomson
Melinda Taylor

our thanks to our Board, Donors & Sponsors

Board of Directors

Leonardo DiCaprio –
Honorary Co-Chair
Sylvia Earle
Honorary Co-Chair
Chris Costanzo
Craig Shuman
Eric Cohen
Gary L. Justice
Ingrid Steiner
Jim Miller
Regina Rubino
Richard Woulfe
Russ Lesser
Scott Campbell
Sue Chen
Susi McConaghy
Tim Hynes
Tim Krause
Will Knox

Friends of RC

Andrew Wiens
Annie Chang
Carol Connors
Charlotte Lesser
David Manwarren
Gale Anne Hurd
Gilbert Leistner
Greg MacGillivray
Jerry Schubel
Kathie Armstrong
Kelly Hu
Ken Kurtis
Nancy Miller
Richard Murphy
Shepard Smith

CA Board of Scientific Advisors

Amanda Jensen
David Osorio
Dirk Burcham
Dr. Dan Pondella
Dr. Donna Schroeder
Dr. Jennifer Caselle
Dr. John Stephens
Dr. Kathy Ann Miller
Dr. Mark Carr
Dr. Mary Bergen
Dr. Pete Raimondi
Dr. Richard Ambrose
Gary Davis
John Ugoretz
Mike Anghera
Tom Ford

Donors & Sponsors

Coral Beauty (\$500 - \$999)

Alex Kotowitz
Alvin Rosenfeld

Annie Sue
Bentley Cavazzi
Bill & Nannette Van
Antwerp
Bill Meistrell
Channel Islands
Surfboards
City of Del Mar
Earth Rehab
Electronic Arts
Eric Cohen
Gale Anne Hurd
Glenn Newland
Great Reef Treasure
Company
Hua Chen
Jeannie Openshaw
Jim & Judy Ryan
John & Ann MacEachern
John & Margo Alden
John Peruzzi
John Waller
Joy & Elizabeth Paul
Kohler
Laura Ulrich
Laure Capozza
Malibu Rum/Pernod
Ricard
Mark Halperan
Photography Studio
Mark Thompson &
Family
Michael Pedicone
Monterey Bay Aquarium
Nancenet Designs
Patricia Keighley
Penny Mangione
Reef and Rainforest
Ricardo & Carol
Reznichuk
Richard Tobin
Sam George
Steve & Sara Weisberg
Louis & Sonia Muckle
Thomas Murphy
Wendi Knox
World of Diving
ZJ Boarding House

Queen Angel

(\$1000 - \$4999)

Abel Automatic Reels
Aerodom Siglo XXI SA
AES Dominicana
Air Pacific
Amelia Wenger
Anfitriones, S.A.
Angela Damato
Banco BDI
Banco de Reservas
Barbara Lloyd
Beqa Lagoon Resort

Biodiversity Research
Center, Academia
Sinica, Taiwan
Birch Aquarium at the
Scripps Institute of
Oceanography
Body Shop
California Department
of Transportation
Capitan Suizo Costa Rica
Carl Lewis
Castle Press
Cementos Andinos
Central Romana
Corporation
Chevron Texaco
Cindi Walters
CiUDAD & Border Grill
Coast Guard Administration,
Taiwan
Comunicaciones y
Eventos
Curtis & Co
Darren Fox
David Press
Dive Into Your Imagination
Domsky Glass
East Coast National
Scenic Area Administration,
Taiwan
El Portillo Beach Club
and Spa
Elio's Fitness for Success
Four Seasons Resort
Bahamas
Fundação Matter Natura
GES Asesores Estrategicos
Gibson, Dunn &
Crutcher LLP
Glenn Alan Bartels
Greg & Valerie Keenan
Greg & Barbara
MacGillivray
Grupo de Estrategia
Solucion
Image Entertainment
Julia Scholtes
Klaus E. Stinshoff,
Switzerland
La Paix Fine Jewelry
Larry & Debbi Vanselow
Las Olas Wine
Lewis Brisbois
Bisgaard & Smith, LLP
Lions Club of Kota
Budaya
Long Beach Aquarium of
the Pacific

Manthiri Maldives
Marine National Park,
Taiwan
Steve & Marisa Robbins
Mercasid
MHD Marketing Ltda.
NAI/A
OAC Shipping
Dominicana, SA
Ocean Legends Dive
Adventure
Oceanic Worldwide
Promate
ReefLab
Reef Redemption
Regina Rubino
Ron Ablazey
Route 66 Modern
Classics
Russell Bedford
Scott Campbell
Seacamp San Diego
Shark Reef at Mandalay
Bay
Sidney Blum
Startfish
Stephanie Ng
The Victorian Santa
Monica
Tricom
Undersea Explorer
United Parcel Service
University of California,
Santa Barbara
Visanet
Watson Land Company
Xerox Corporation
XM Malaysia
Zuji

Majestic Angel (\$5000+)

AJ Steinberg
Alstom Power
Body Glove
BP Malaysia
Catalina Island Marine
Institute
Direction de
l'Agriculture et de la
Foret
Dorobo Safaris
Doug Huberman
Gary Justice
GEF-SGP
HSBC
John Bachich

KPMG
Lewis & Clark College,
Oregon
MacGillivray Freeman
Films
Maldives Scuba Tours
Matthew Harris
Ministry of Environment
of Brazil
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric
Administration
Nova Ortho-Med
Russ & Charlotte Lesser
Sam Merrell
Sime Darby
Sue Chen
Troy Hotard
William & Tally Wegner
YTL Group

Foundations & Grants

Anonymous foundation
Channel Islands
National Marine
Sanctuary
Code Blue
Comunidad y
Biodiversidad AC
Curtis and Edith
Munson Foundation
IUCN
Keith Campbell
Foundation for the
Environment
Make Yourself
Foundation
Occidental College
Ocean Protection
Council/State Coastal
Conservancy
Patagonia
Quiksilver Foundation
Resources Legacy
Foundation
Fund/California Coastal
Marine Initiative
Richard & Rhoda
Goldman Fund
Santa Monica Bay
Restoration Commission
Sassafras Foundation
SIMA Environmental
Fund
UCSB Coastal Fund
United Nations
Environment Program

Celebrity Supporters

Alexander Gould
Andrew Keegan
Ashlee Simpson
Asia Smith

Barbi Benton
Brian Grazer
Brody Hutzler
Carl Lewis
Carol Connors
Cheryl Holdridge-Post
Chris Harrison
Daize Shayne
Daniel Curtis Lee
Daniel Dae Kim
Daryl Hannah
Ed Begley Jr.
Erin Cahill
G. Love
Gale Anne Hurd
Governor Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Huell Howser
Incubus
Jack Osbourne
James Cameron
James Whitmore
Jason Scott Lee
Jean-Michel Cousteau
Jessica Alba
Jessica Simpson
Jonathan Silverman
Kate Linder
Kelly Hu
Kelly Slater
Kimberly Burke
Kyla Pratt
Kyle Swann
Leonardo DiCaprio
Linda Gray
Marilyn McCoo
Monet Monaco
Nastassja Kinski
Nia Peeples
Nick Lachey
Pam Dawber
Penelope Ann Miller
Rachel Sibner
Reichen Lehmkuhl
Rob Pinkston
Ross Thomas
Ryan Carnes
Sharon Lawrence
Shaun Tomson
Steve Valentine
Terry Moore
Tyson Breech

And our heartfelt thanks
go to the thousands of
esteemed Reef Check
volunteers around the world!



www.reefcheck.org



research education conservation



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER