



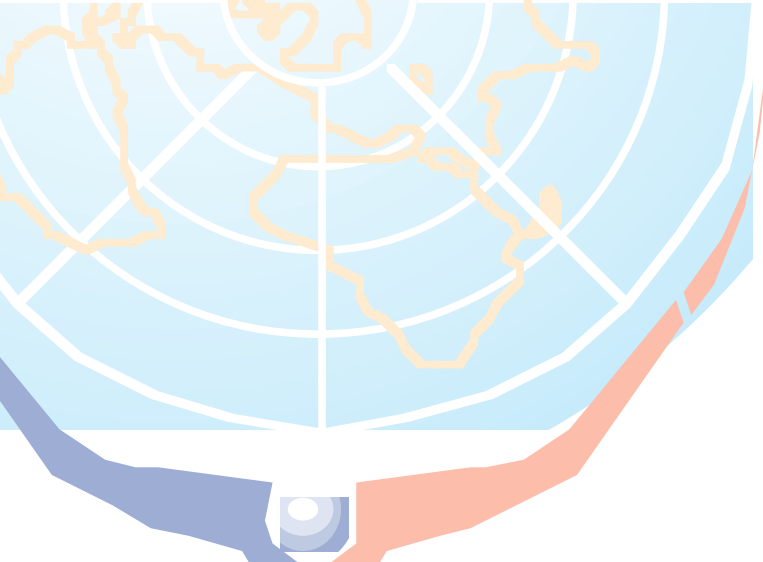
# EARTHDIVE

“The health of our oceans is intrinsically linked to the future of life on this planet”

## PRE-DIVE BRIEFING PACK

### Eco-Region 5 Mediterranean





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## 1.0 General Information

This booklet is a **pre-dive briefing pack** for the **Mediterranean** eco-region. Please feel free to print it and take it with you as an 'aide memoir' for your dive. It contains all the information you need to contribute to the **EARTHDIIVE** Global Dive Log.

## 1.1 Introduction

The **EARTHDIIVE Global Dive Log** is a pioneering methodology that has been developed in partnership with **UNEP-WCMC** and marine scientists from around the world. These marine scientists helped establish thirty **EARTHDIIVE** eco-regions - areas of water that share a relatively similar climate and contain a common assembly of natural habitats and species. They then identified key indicator species for each region - an important set of marine animals whose numbers and changing population can tell us a lot about the changing state of our oceans.

You can help observe and record sightings of these marine animals during a dive or snorkel trip and enter observations into the **Global Dive Log**. You can also record evidence of key anthropogenic pressures - changes in the marine environment brought about by human activity such as pollution and overfishing. Any data you enter onto the **EARTHDIIVE** website can be viewed by you and other visitors.

The **EARTHDIIVE** eco-regions span all of the world's oceans - not just those areas with warm water and coral reefs. Whether you are diving in Scotland or Saint Lucia, Connecticut or Cocos, Denmark or Dominica, your data collection is equally valid and valuable. So you don't have to wait for the next exotic dive trip - home waters are just as important!

Each eco-region also has its own types of megafauna, from dolphins to whale sharks, from whales to polar bears (if you like really cold water) and provision is also made in the Global Dive Log to record sightings of these exciting animals.

Collecting this valuable information for **EARTHDIIVE** helps create a **Global Dive Log** - a valuable research tool.

This briefing pack lists the indicator species and anthropogenic pressures for the **Mediterranean** eco-region.

Thank you for recording scientific information for **EARTHDIIVE**.

## 1.2 How to record your observations into the Global Dive Log

When recording scientific information for **EARTHDIIVE**, divers are recommended to follow our 7 Point Plan. You will find the use of a slate or some other method of taking notes underwater, such as a laminated fish identification card, invaluable. Always try to transfer your data to the **EARTHDIIVE** website as soon as possible following your dive. Let dive buddies and dive leaders know what you are measuring, as they may be able to help with some post-dive questions on identification.

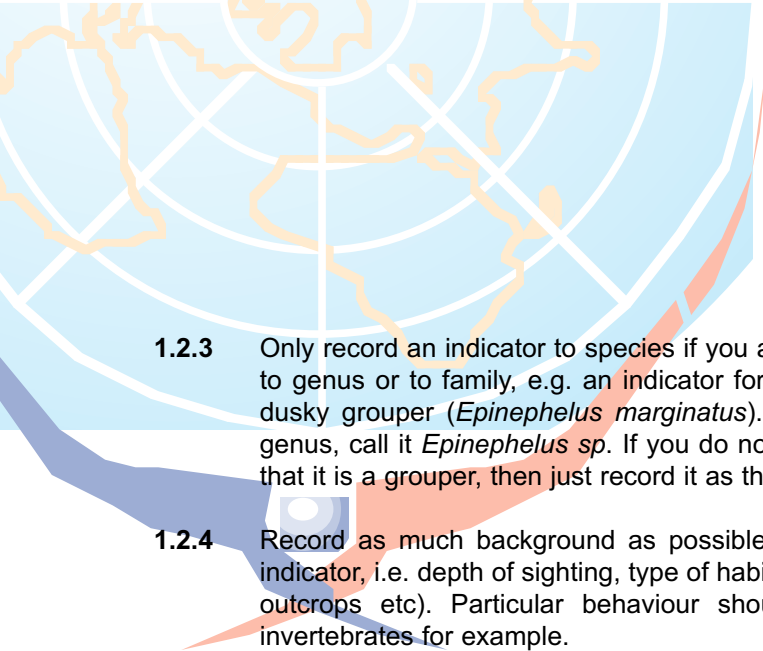
**1.2.1** Try and ensure that the time of the underwater recording session is accurately noted. The length of the session can be all of the dive or just a period during the dive e.g. 10 minutes. You may even spend periods of time recording different indicators. For example there may be a dense aggregation of drums, which you count for 10 or 15 minutes. On the other hand you may look for other species such as groupers for most of the dive. Whatever your choice, the data is important so try to add the recording time in the notes for each indicator.

**1.2.2** When possible always record **actual** counts of indicator species. If this is too difficult on the dive then enter your data into the abundance scale in the Global Dive Log as an estimate.



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- 1.2.3** Only record an indicator to species if you are 100% certain that it is that species. Otherwise record to genus or to family, e.g. an indicator for the sub-tropical Atlantic Coast of South America is the dusky grouper (*Epinephelus marginatus*). If you are uncertain of the species but recognise the genus, call it *Epinephelus* sp. If you do not have time to recognise it, or do not know it apart from that it is a grouper, then just record it as that - it's just as important!
  - 1.2.4** Record as much background as possible in the notes section of the Global Dive Log for each indicator, i.e. depth of sighting, type of habitat (lower reef slope, kelp bed, sand with scattered rocky outcrops etc). Particular behaviour should also be noted - spawning behaviour in fish or invertebrates for example.
  - 1.2.5** When recording always fin slowly and evenly with minimal sudden movements. Moving rapidly will disturb resident fish causing them to hide from view more quickly. By moving slowly and evenly you have more chance of seeing indicator species and recording their presence/absence more accurately. Always look carefully for particular indicators such as lobsters, which are often under overhangs or in crevices.
  - 1.2.6** On your way to and from your dive site, record any observations you have made regarding the listed anthropogenic pressures for this eco-region.
  - 1.2.7** Following your dive, make notes from your slate or memory and keep them in a safe place. Add any further comments within 24 hours before you lose some of the detail from your memory.

**Thank you**

## 2.0 The Mediterranean Eco-Region

This eco-region comprises the countries, sovereign islands and island states of the Mediterranean Sea, including: Albania , Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Gaza Strip, Gibraltar, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey. It covers 26,000 km of coastline.

The Mediterranean is somewhat unique, in that it is almost completely land-bound, with Europe to the north, Africa to the south and Asia Minor to the east. The Black Sea is linked to the Mediterranean through the Turkish straits, but is considered a separate ecosystem.



The major inflow into the Mediterranean is nutrient-poor, oxygenated Atlantic surface water through the Strait of Gibraltar, resulting in generally well-oxygenated but nutrient-poor bottom waters. Freshwater inflows are relatively low. With the exception of areas of local enrichment, such as the river estuaries, coastal waters receiving terrestrial run-off, and where sewage is discharged into the sea, primary production is low. For this reason there is very little plankton in the Mediterranean, resulting in the characteristic transparency and blue colour of the sea.

The Mediterranean Sea is in essence a large basin, separated from the Atlantic Ocean by a 320m deep sill at the Strait of Gibraltar. It contains a narrow shelf, with wider shelves and has an average depth of approximately 1500m. The large basin is made up of a number of smaller basins, with tides generally of low amplitude, for example only 0.06m around Malta.

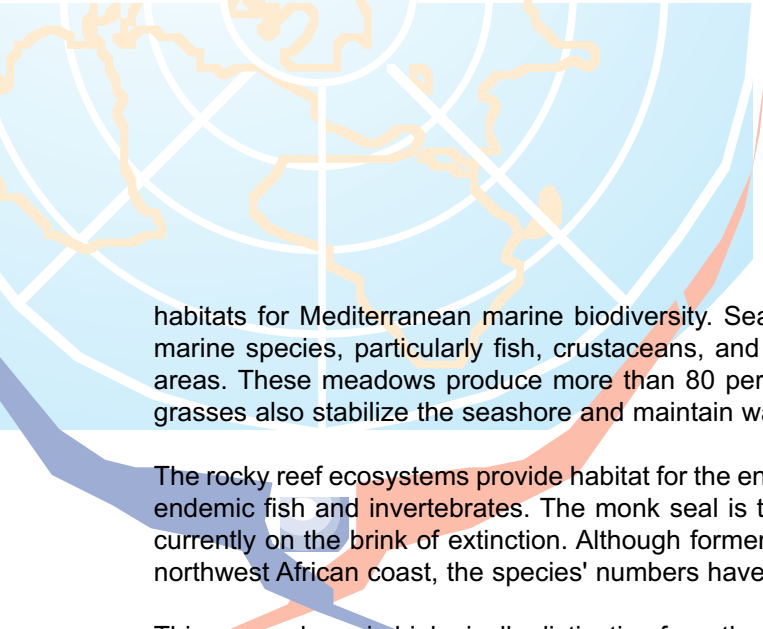
Rocky reefs, seagrass meadows and upwelling areas are particularly important



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habitats for Mediterranean marine biodiversity. Seagrass meadows are an important habitat for numerous marine species, particularly fish, crustaceans, and marine turtles, providing breeding, feeding, and resting areas. These meadows produce more than 80 per cent of the annual fish yield in the Mediterranean. The grasses also stabilize the seashore and maintain water quality, particularly through oxygen production.

The rocky reef ecosystems provide habitat for the endangered monk seal (*Monachus monachus*), and several endemic fish and invertebrates. The monk seal is the most endangered pinniped species worldwide and is currently on the brink of extinction. Although formerly found all over the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and northwest African coast, the species' numbers have now been reduced to perhaps less than 400.

This unusual sea is biologically distinctive from the adjacent Atlantic Ocean, with significant endemism over a range of marine fauna. Important species include the endangered monk seal of course; Mediterranean mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*), mullets (*Mugilidae*), gilthead sea bream (*Sparus aurata*), sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*), dolphins (*Stenella coeruleoalba*), fin whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) and several species of dolphins.

General threats to this eco-region are legion and include coastal development, intensive tourism and land reclamation for agriculture place pressures on key wildlife habitats. Local and regional problems created by pollution arising from domestic and industrial effluent, oil transportation and refineries, and agricultural runoff, are beginning to have an impact on wildlife as well as on human populations and fisheries. Ten species of sea grass in the region are now considered endangered by intense development, urbanization, and the release of untreated sewage into the sea.

### 3.0 Indicator Species

What to look for and record in the **Mediterranean**:

Groupers (*Epinephelus* spp.)

*Low numbers are indicators of overfishing*



Lobsters/Crayfish (*Homarus gammarus*, *Palinurus elephas*)

*Low numbers are indicators of overfishing*



Large Seafans (*Eunicella* spp., *Paramurecea clavata*)

*Rare species - healthy environment*



Red Coral (*Corallium rubrum*)

*Rare endemic*



Drums (*Scianidae*)

*Low numbers are indicators of overfishing*



The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) provides a listing of species that are at risk of global extinction. The 'IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria' are intended to be an easily and widely understood system and can be found at <http://www.redlist.org> The general aim of the system is to provide an explicit, objective framework for the classification of the broadest range of species according to their extinction risk. If any of the indicator species for this Eco-Region have been classified as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable on the list, then we have included that information below.



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### 3.1 Groupers

When people talk about coral reefs, fishermen tend to shrug their shoulders and complain about snagged lines and torn nets. But when you talk about groupers, they suddenly sit up and pay attention. Groupers are among the economically most important fishes of the coral reef, because of their popularity as food. Yet without the coral reef there would probably be no groupers. For this reason, groupers are an extremely important indicator species and your record of their existence or non-existence during your dive tells us a lot.

**The dusky grouper** (*Epinephelus marginatus*) is solitary and territorial, with a preference for rocky bottoms. It feeds on reef fishes, crabs and octopi and can grow up to 150cm. It has a sturdy, stocky body, with very rounded dorsal and ventral profiles and large head.



Dusky Grouper

**The white grouper** (*Epinephelus aeneus*) is found on rocky or mud-sand bottoms in the southern Mediterranean. It grows to 120cm.

**The dogtooth grouper** (*Epinephelus caninus*) is found on sandy mud bottoms, preferring depths in excess of 30m. It can grow up to 157cm.

**The orange-spotted grouper** (*Epinephelus coioides*) may be found in the eastern Mediterranean in turbid coastal reefs or brackish waters over mud and rubble. Mature adults reach a length of 120cm.

**The goldblotch grouper** (*Epinephelus costae*) feeds on crustaceans, molluscs, and fish and is found on sand, mud or rock bottoms. It grows to 140cm.

Although **the haifa grouper** (*Epinephelus haifensis*) is resident within the Mediterranean and inhabits mud, rock or sandy bottoms, its preference for depths in excess of 90m mean that they are unlikely to be seen by recreational divers.

There have been reports of **the greasy grouper** (*Epinephelus tauvina*) being seen in the eastern Mediterranean, but this is generally thought to be a misidentification.

Like all indicators, it is valuable if you can record the particular species you sight. However, recording the total number of groupers is just as important.

### 3.2 Lobsters/Crayfish (*Homarus gammarus*, *Palinurus elephas*)



*Homarus gammarus*

The Crawfish or Crayfish (*Palinurus elephas*) or spiny red lobster is larger than the European lobster, growing to about 60cm in length. It has a stout, heavily armoured body. The colour is usually orange dorsally with darker spines and white underneath but brown, sandy and purple morphs are occasionally found. It has numerous sharp spines on the carapace, over much of the abdomen and on the larger appendages. It has long antennae but small hook-like claws. Crawfish are found on open exposed rock faces and on the rocky seabed in the low inter-tidal zone and to depths of 70m, and are distributed within the north and western Mediterranean shores, being largely absent



from the eastern basin.

The only other large crustacean with a similar shape is the common or European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*). It is unmistakable with its massive claws and deep blue carapace. It is found on rocky substrata, living in holes and excavated tunnels from the lower shore to depths of 60m. It is a large lobster that can grow up to one metre in length, but 50 cm is more common. It is blue-coloured above with coalescing spots and yellowish below. The first pair of walking legs carries massive (but slightly unequal – one crushes, one cuts) pincers that can be formidable and dangerous. The body lacks the strong spines or ridges of the crawfish and is only slightly granular.



Red Gorgonia (*Paramuricea clavata*)

### 3.3 Large Seafans (*Eunicella* spp., *Paramuricea clavata*)

There are few more stunning marine fauna than the beautiful large seafans or gorgonia. They look like plants; in fact they are soft corals, colonial marine animals forming erect, flattened, branching colonies in mainly tropical and subtropical waters. The colonies may be up to 1m high and are often colourful, with purples, reds, and yellows predominating. The individuals, or polyps have eight feathery tentacles (hence their description as octocorals) and are passive suspension feeders of plankton organisms. Colonies branch profusely and the branches are usually oriented in one plane and at right angles to the prevailing moderately strong currents. This helps maximise the plankton 'harvest'.

Unlike the hard corals that have individual stomachs, gorgonians share a common digestive system and any food caught by an individual helps feeds the entire colony.

Sea fans are classified in the phylum Cnidaria, class Anthozoa, order Gorgonacea. (Check out the **earthdive** Help pages for some useful information on the classification of marine flora and fauna)

During the late summer of 1999, the populations of gorgonia on the north west coast of the Mediterranean fell victim to a strange disease characterised by the partial or total destruction of the living tissue.

Three of the gorgonia species that are generally found along this coast were affected; white gorgonia (*Eunicella singularis*), yellow gorgonia (*Eunicella cavolinii*), and the superb red gorgonia (*Paramuricea clavata*). In some cases a 90% die-off was recorded.

**The white gorgonia** is found on rocky or other hard substrates at depths of 10 – 30m. The sites are always exposed to light with moderate to strong currents. White in colour, it can sometimes take on a greenish hue due to the presence of symbiotic algae. It can grow up to 70cm.

**The yellow gorgonia** is the most common member of the seafan family to be found in the Mediterranean. The elegantly shaped branches are a luminous yellow/orange colour, with relatively small white/yellow polyps. Found on rock floors or walls, at depths of 10-20m. It can grow up to 50cm and unlike the white gorgonia, prefers a degree of shade.

**The red gorgonia** can reach heights and spreads of 100cm under ideal conditions, with the colour varying from red to an intense violet (and sometimes yellow), It can grow up to 1cm per year. The polyps are quite large, reaching an individual size up to 10mm. Found on shaded rocky substrates at depths from 20-100m in areas where a moderate but constant current flows.

**The pink sea fan** (*Eunicella verrucosa*) is also to found in the Mediterranean in upward facing bedrock where the current is moderately strong. It may be white to deep pink in colour. Colonies branch profusely and the branches are covered in wart-





like projections from which the small anemone-like polyps emerge. Colonies may be up to 50 cm high.

**Recreational divers should be aware of the potentially long life and slow growth rate of sea fans and other corals, and the ease with which a careless fin-kick can destroy them.**

### 3.4 Red Coral (*Corallium rubrum*)

Red coral (*Corallium rubrum*) is another soft octocoral and is endemic to the Mediterranean. The beautiful deep red colour is retained even after the animal is removed from the water and dried. It is much valued in the manufacture of jewellery, and the resulting unsustainable levels of harvesting have depleted this species in many areas. The powdered endoskeleton is also used by some practitioners of alternative medicine.

It tends to be found at depths in excess of 20m, to perhaps as deep as 300m and grows on hard substrates, with a preference for dark environments with minimal sedimentation. At shallower depths it is often found in caves, overhangs and crevices. In common with the indicator sea fans in section 3.3 above, it suffered a mass die-off in parts of the region, during 1999. Thought to be generally absent from the eastern Mediterranean, a number of colonies were discovered in some areas in the North Aegean Sea.



Red Coral (*Corallium rubrum*)

Red coral forms tree-style colonies with irregularly shaped branches. The calcium carbonate endoskeleton may reach a length of 60cm, but normally falls short of that. White polyps form the branches, each one with the characteristic 8 tiny tentacles or rays of the octocoral. The branches are covered with a bright red tissue, though occasionally these are white or even yellow. The inner limestone skeleton also contains carotene, resulting in the various shades of red that jewelers find so valuable.

### 3.5 Drums (*Scianidae*)



Brown Meagre (*Sciaena umbra*)

The sciaenids are a large family of primarily bottom associated, carnivorous fishes distributed throughout the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans, in tropical and temperate inshore waters. The majority occur on open sand and mud bottoms and some are found only in brackish waters. The exact number of species is uncertain, but there are probably about 270, of which there is a limited number in the Mediterranean Sea.

Drums are also commonly called croakers, and for good reason. They have modified muscular swim bladders that they use to produce a drumming or croaking sound when they are excited. Drums are luminescent and appear pink when first removed from the water. A drum's tail is slightly pointed, and it has faint stripes across its back and small chin barbels.

Drums or croakers are distributed mostly in temperate and tropical waters. They are principally bottom dwelling carnivores, feeding on benthic invertebrates and small fishes

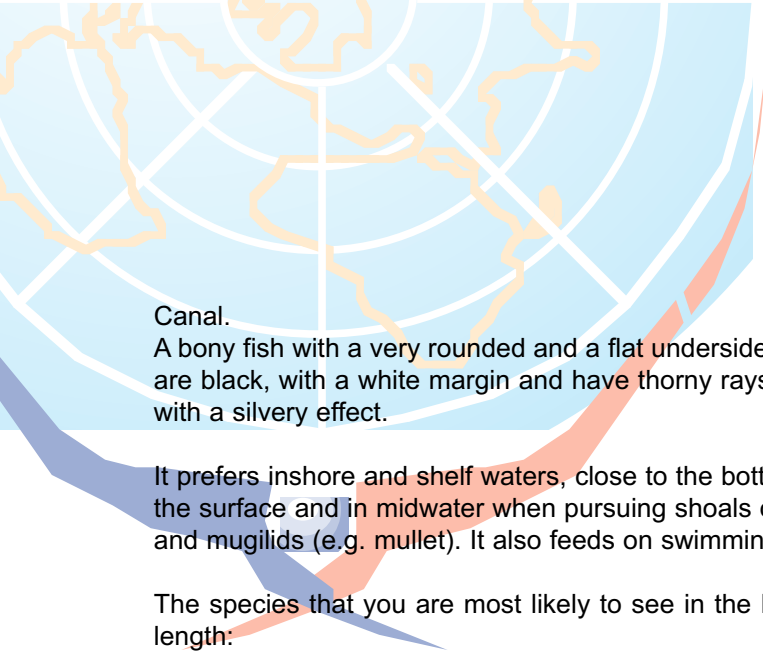
The largest drum in the region is the Meagre (*Argyrosomus regius*) which has a maximum recorded length 230cm and weight in the region of 100 kg. However, expect only to see somewhat smaller examples. It is distributed in the eastern Atlantic from Norway to South of Gibraltar and the Congo, as well as the Mediterranean and Black Seas. It has also migrated to the Red Sea via the Suez



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Canal.

A bony fish with a very rounded and a flat underside, the ventral and anal fins are black, with a white margin and have thorny rays. The body is dark brown with a silvery effect.

It prefers inshore and shelf waters, close to the bottom but will be found near the surface and in midwater when pursuing shoals of clupeids (e.g. sardines) and mugilids (e.g. mullet). It also feeds on swimming crustaceans.



*Umbrina cirrosa*

The species that you are most likely to see in the Mediterranean are listed below, with the maximum adult length:

●	Brown Meagre	<i>Sciaena umbra</i>	70 cm
●	Canary Drum	<i>Umbrina canariensis</i>	80 cm
●	Fusca Drum	<i>Umbrina ronchus</i>	100 cm
●	Meagre	<i>Argyrosomus regius</i>	230 cm
●	Shi drum	<i>Umbrina cirrosa</i>	73 cm

#### 4.0 Anthropogenic Pressures

**EARTHDIVE** is recording five different types of anthropogenic pressures (effects resulting from the actions of humans). Collection of this data enables us to establish an ever-evolving **Global Snapshot** of our oceans.

The types of anthropogenic pressures are the same for each region and are:

- Surface Pressures      paper, wood, plastic and any other man-made debris
- Boat Activity            pleasure, fishing, commercial
- Subsurface Pressures    litter, sediment, physical damage
- Evidence of Fishing      pots, traps, discarded nets, blast damage, cyanide damage, other etc.
- Coastal Development    resorts, villages, towns, distance from the dive sites etc.

Please note any information you feel is relevant and then record the data in the notes section for each impact in the Global Log.

**Thank you.**

#### 5.0 eCORD

**EARTHDIVE** asks all divers to subscribe to the principles of **eCORD** - the **EARTHDIVE** Code of Responsible Diving - and to encourage others to practice them. **eCORD** is a straightforward 7 Point Plan which will help divers to limit the anthropogenic impact of recreational diving - while at the same time making their diving experiences more rewarding and enjoyable. Be sure to incorporate the 7 points in your dive planning!

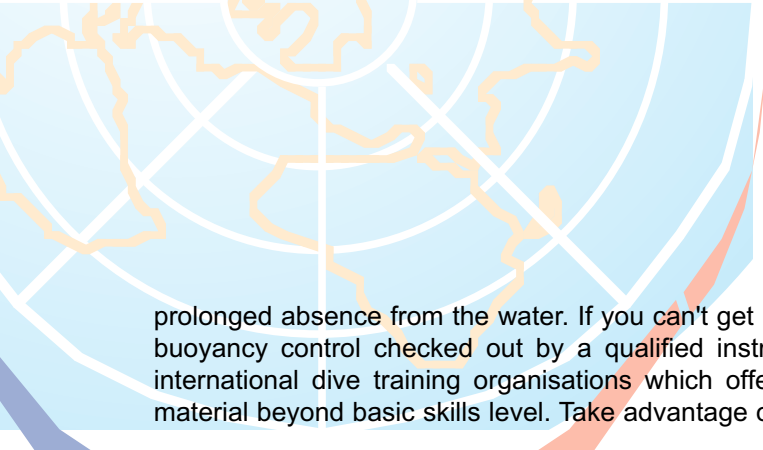
##### 1. Know your limits.

Every dive is different and every diver is different. Always ensure that you dive within the limits of your training and experience, whilst taking due account of the prevailing conditions. Take the opportunity to advance and extend your skills whenever that opportunity arises. In particular, buoyancy skills can become a little rusty after any



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prolonged absence from the water. If you can't get pool or confined water practice before your trip, get your buoyancy control checked out by a qualified instructor on your first dive! There are many national and international dive training organisations which offer a comprehensive range of courses and instructional material beyond basic skills level. Take advantage of them!

## **2. Be aware of the marine environment and dive with care.**

Not surprisingly, many dive sites are located where the reefs and walls play host to the most beautiful corals, sponges and fish - fragile aquatic ecosystems! Starting with your point of entry, be aware of your surroundings: never enter the water where there are living corals, water plants or reeds. Once underwater, it only takes one unguarded moment - a careless kick with a fin, an outstretched hand, a dragging gauge or octopus - to destroy part of this fragile ecosystem. Even fin kicks too close to the reef or sand can have an adverse effect - so dive with the utmost care. Photographers in particular need to take greater care as they strive for that best-yet shot! Don't let your dive become an adverse anthropogenic impact! And remember that these rules apply just as much to 'hard' dive sites - such as wrecks, which have become the home of diverse marine life - as well as fresh-water and other sites.

## **3. Understand and respect marine flora and fauna.**

A large part of the joy of diving is in learning more about the plants and animals who live in this unique underwater environment. In order to survive and thrive, many living creatures disguise themselves to look like plants and inanimate objects, or develop defence mechanisms such as stings. Some even do both! (Have you seen a stonefish lately?) The **EARTHDIVE** briefing packs (available by download only) provide information about indicator species for the region in which you are planning to dive. In addition, dive training organisations run marine naturalist and identification courses. The more that you learn, the more that you will see, the more that you will derive pleasure from your underwater experience - and the safer you will be for yourself, other divers and the marine environment!

## **4. Don't interfere.**

First and foremost, be an observer in the underwater environment. As a general rule, look don't touch. Remember that polyps can be destroyed by even the gentlest contact. Never stand on coral even if it looks solid and robust.

Always resist the temptation to feed fish and discourage others from doing so. You may interfere with their normal feeding habits, damage their health and encourage aggressive behaviour. Leave only your bubbles!

## **5. Take only what you need.**

The marine environment is a valuable source of food for mankind and it is important that it remains so into the future. If you are among those divers who enjoy taking food from the sea, observe some simple rules:

- Obtain any necessary permits or licenses.
- Comply with all relevant fish and game regulations. These are designed to protect and preserve fish stocks, the environment and other users.
- Only take what you can eat. If you catch it and can't eat it, put it back.
- Never kill for the sake of 'sport'.
- Avoid spear fishing in areas populated by other divers or visitors to the area, or where you might cause collateral damage.

Don't be tempted to collect shells, corals or other mementos of your dive. If you want a souvenir, take a photograph!

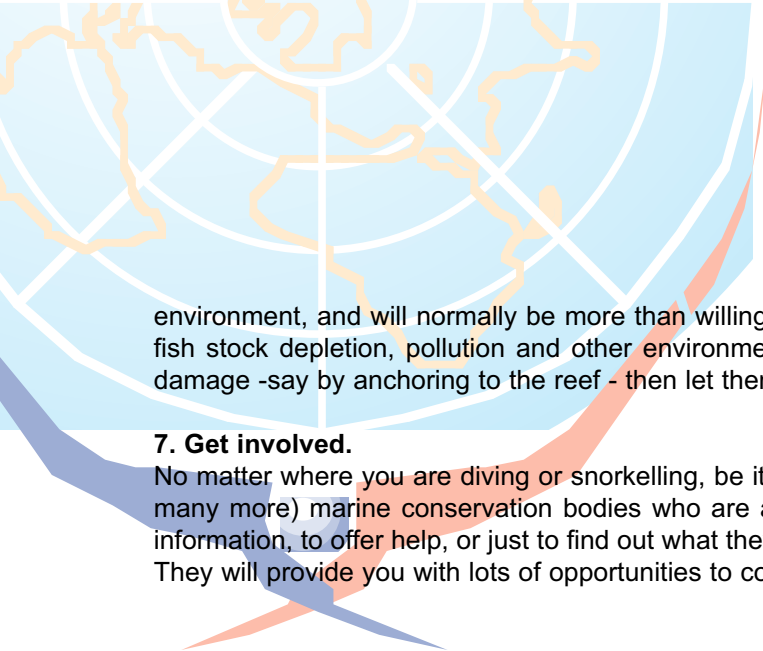
## **6. Observe and report.**

As a diver, you are in a unique position to monitor and report on the health, biodiversity and any obvious damage to dive sites using the **EARTHDIVE** Global Dive Log. In addition, we would encourage you to report anything unusual to the appropriate local marine and environmental authorities, or if this is difficult, get your dive centre to do it for you. They have a vested interest in a healthy marine



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environment, and will normally be more than willing to help. Always be on the lookout for physical damage, fish stock depletion, pollution and other environmental disturbances. If the dive operation itself is causing damage -say by anchoring to the reef - then let them know how you feel in no uncertain terms!

### **7. Get involved.**

No matter where you are diving or snorkelling, be it at home or abroad, there will be at least one (and often many more) marine conservation bodies who are active in the area. Don't be afraid to approach them for information, to offer help, or just to find out what they have to offer. You will receive an enthusiastic welcome! They will provide you with lots of opportunities to contribute to marine conservation.



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## 6.0 Appendices

Post Dive Recording Sheet - **General Data** (complete/add/delete/tick as applicable)

**Dive No:**  **Dive Site Name:**

**GPS: N/S:** . **E/W:** . (Decimal Degrees up to 7 decimal points)

**Date:** / **Boat**  **Shore**  **Water Type:** Salt /Brackish/Fresh

**Dive Type:** Recreational  Technical  Training  Drift  Search  Wreck  Drift  Night  Other

**Time In:** : **Time Out:** : (24 hour clock) **Dive Time:** : (hr:mins)

**Air/Nitrox Start:**  **End:**  (psi or bar) **Max Depth**  (ft/m)

**Visibility:**  ft/m **Temperatures: water:** °C/°F **air:** °C/°F

**Current:** None  Light  Medium  Strong  (tick)

**Surface Conditions:** Cloudy  Sunny  Partly Cloudy  Rain  Variable  other

**IF DIVING WITH A CLUB/DIVE CENTRE/LIVEBOARD OR RESORT, WERE YOU GIVEN AN ENVIRONMENTAL BRIEFING: YES**  **NO**

Please record any other information you normally record immediately following a dive. Add this data to the **earthdive** website via the Global Dive Log as soon as possible. **Thank you**

Post Dive Recording Sheet - **Indicator Species**

**Important Note:** If you allocated some time to looking for one of the indicator species, but didn't find any, please make sure that you record a **0 (zero)** count in the appropriate box, and record how much time you spent looking for the indicator.



### **Groupers (*Epinephelus spp.*)**

How many Groupers did you see? (tick box and/or record actual number)

0  1 - 5  6 - 20  20 - 50  51 - 250  >250

Actual Number  (write actual number)

How long were you looking for this indicator?  (minutes)

Add your additional information here. In what type of habitat did you see this indicator? Can you record its species? What was it doing? At what depth did you see it/them?

**Additional Information:**





### Lobsters/Crayfish

How many Lobsters or Crayfish did you see? (tick box and/or record actual number)

0  1 - 5  6 - 20  20 - 50  51 - 250  >250

Actual Number  (write actual number)

How long were you looking for this indicator?  (minutes)

Add your additional information here. In what type of habitat did you see this indicator? Can you record its species? What was it doing? At what depth did you see it/them?

#### Additional Information:



### Large Seafans

How many large Seafans did you see? (tick box and/or record actual number)

0  1 - 5  6 - 20  20 - 50  51 - 250  >250

Actual Number  (write actual number)

How long were you looking for this indicator?  (minutes)

Add your additional information here. In what type of habitat did you see this indicator? Can you record its species? What was it doing? At what depth did you see it/them?

#### Additional Information:





**Red Coral (*Corallium rubrum*)**

How many individual colonies of Red Coral did you see? (tick box and/or record actual number)

0  1 - 5  6 - 20  20 - 50  51 - 250  >250

Actual Number  (write actual number)

How long were you looking for this indicator?  (minutes)

Add your additional information here. In what type of habitat did you see this indicator? What was it doing? At what depth did you see it/them?

**Additional Information:**



**Drums (*Scianidae*)**

How many Drums did you see? (tick box and/or record actual number)

0  1 - 5  6 - 20  20 - 50  51 - 250  >250

Actual Number  (write actual number)

How long were you looking for this indicator?  (minutes)

Add your additional information here. In what type of habitat did you see this indicator? Can you record its species? What was it doing? At what depth did you see it/them?

**Additional Information:**



Post Dive Recording Sheet - **Anthropogenic Pressures**



**Surface Pressures**

Did you see any Surface Litter? (tick box)

Yes  No  Dont Know

If yes please record any details (plastic, wood, paper, other etc.) Please record quantity and any other relevant information.



**Boat Activity**

Did you see any Boat Activity? (tick box)

Yes  No  Dont Know

If yes please record any details (i.e fishing boats, pleasure boats, commercial vessels any other etc)



**Subsurface Pressures**

Did you see any Surface Litter? (tick box)

Yes  No  Dont Know

If yes please record any details (litter, sediment, physical damage, coral bleaching other etc).



**Evidence of Fishing**

Did you see any Surface Litter? (tick box)

Yes  No  Dont Know

If yes please record any details (pots, traps, discarded nets, blast damage, cyanide damage, other etc).



**Evidence of Coastal Development**

Did you see any evidence of Coastal Development? (tick box)

Yes  No  Dont Know

If yes please record any details (resorts, villages, towns, distance form the dives site etc).

**Evidence of the illegal trade in endangered species**

Any observations you make and record below here will be passed onto **TRAFFIC**, the world's wildlife trade monitoring network.

**TRAFFIC** works to ensure that the trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature. It has offices covering most parts of the world and works in close co-operation with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). **TRAFFIC** is a joint programme of WWF and IUCN-The World Conservation Union.

**Evidence of the illegal trade in endangered species**

Did you find any evidence at any time during your holiday/dive trip of the illegal trade of endangered species. (tick box)

Yes  No  Dont Know

© Elizabeth Fleming  
Turtle shell ornaments on display

If yes please record any details (the species, sale location, and any other available information). Please refer to the **TRAFFIC** Guide for more information concerning species identification, local laws, and contact information of **TRAFFIC** to report offences.

**TRAFFIC**

