



May 13, 2009

Media only: John Gibbons (202) 633-5187
Kelly Carnes (202) 633-2950

WHAT: A Smithsonian science symposium:
“Beyond the Obituaries: Success Stories in Ocean Conservation”

WHEN: Wednesday, May 20
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History, Baird Auditorium
10th Street and Constitution Avenue N.W.

Sometimes the threats to the planet’s ocean seem overwhelming. Amid headlines about pollution, climate change, over-fishing and other problems, it is easy to forget that there is good news, too. Everyday, scientists and citizens the world over are working to protect marine wildlife, restore the ocean's natural balance and safeguard its resources.

To hear many of these inspiring stories from around the globe, join the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History and the International Marine Conservation Congress for "Beyond the Obituaries: Success Stories in Ocean Conservation." This symposium is free and open to the public.

From sea turtle populations rebounding in the Caribbean to water quality improvements in the Black Sea, find out what can happen when citizens, leaders and scientists set out to make a difference.

TO ATTEND: Members of the media should RSVP to the contact staff above.
The symposium will be Webcast live at http://ocean.si.edu/sant_chair/webcast/

For more information about the symposium, including a full list of presenters, please visit:
http://ocean.si.edu/ocean_hall/success_stories.html

Planning to share information about the symposium on Twitter? Please include the hash tag #oceansuccess in your tweets.

Schedule

8:30 – 8:35 Welcome from the Organizers

Nancy Knowlton, Sant Chair for Marine Science, Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History
Jeremy Jackson, Director, Scripps Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation

8:35 – 10:00 Session 1: Restoration – Reviving Ocean Ecosystems

10:05 – 10:40 Session 2: Fisheries – Protecting Stocks from Coasts to the High Seas

10:40 – 11:00 *Break*

11:00 – 12:00 Session 3: Whales and Turtles – Ocean Giants on the Rebound

12:00 – 2:00 Poster Session in the Executive Conference Room

More than twenty marine scientists and professionals will gather to display posters and discuss a broad spectrum of exciting ocean conservation successes they have worked on.

(lunch is not provided)

2:00 – 3:25 Session 4: Coral Reefs and Reef Fisheries – Saving the Rainforests of the Sea

3:25 – 3:45 *Break*

3:45 – 4:57 Session 5: Marine Protected Areas – Safe Harbors for Ocean Treasures

5:00 – 5:05 Closing Remarks

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