# U.S. EPA Diver Training

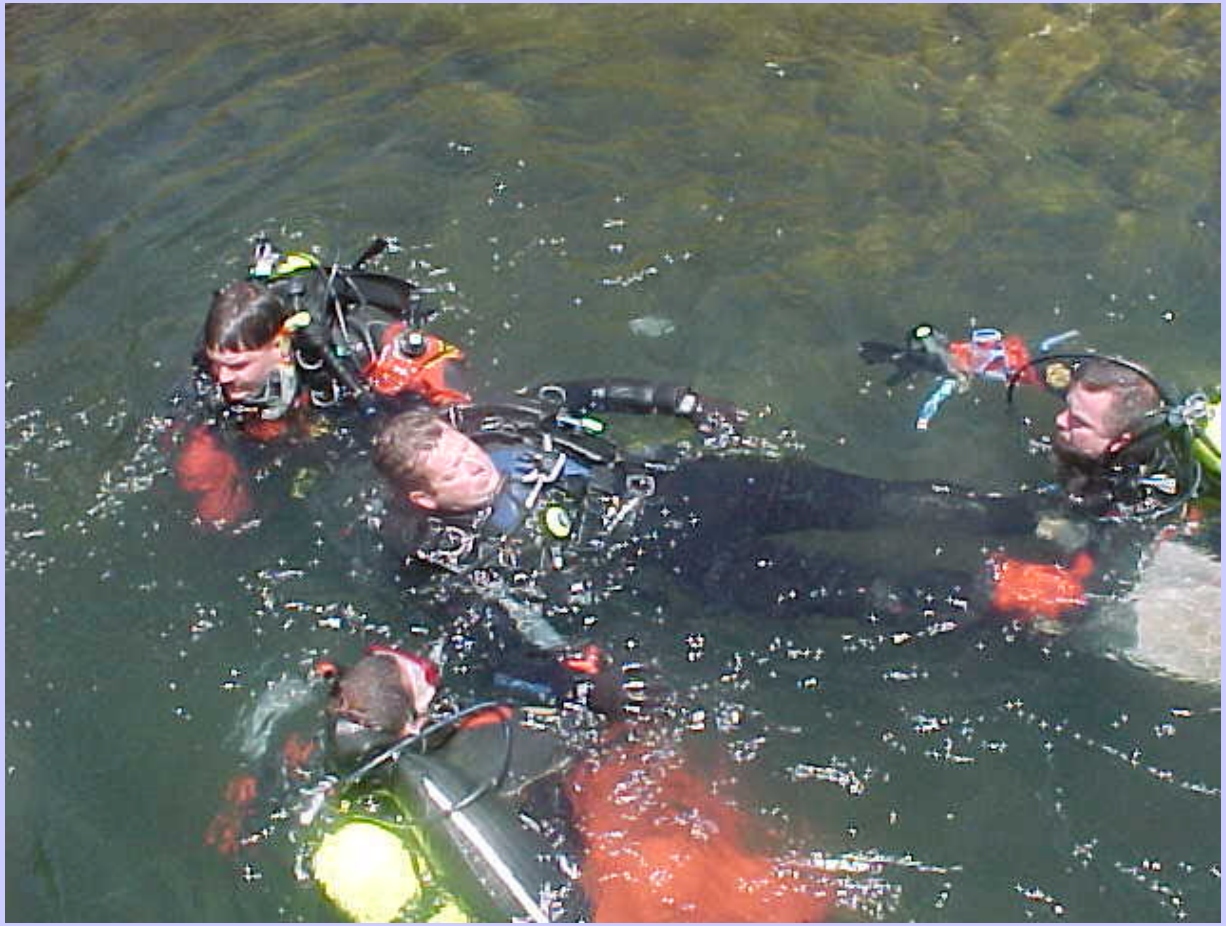
## Gulf Breeze, Florida

# U.S. EPA Diver Training

For almost 20 years, EPA has played a significant role in the development and support of scientific diving. Averaging over 2000 dives annually, its exemplary safety record is attributed to thorough training, adherence to established standards and procedures, and the use of quality, well maintained equipment. Over 400 divers from EPA, other federal agencies, and state and local governmental organizations have been trained and certified at the EPA National Diver Training Center in Gulf Breeze.

# EPA National Diver Training Center in Gulf Breeze, FL

- 1984-2001- Over 400 divers have been trained and certified.
- Diving accident management such as in-water diver rescue techniques are practiced.



# Class of 2001

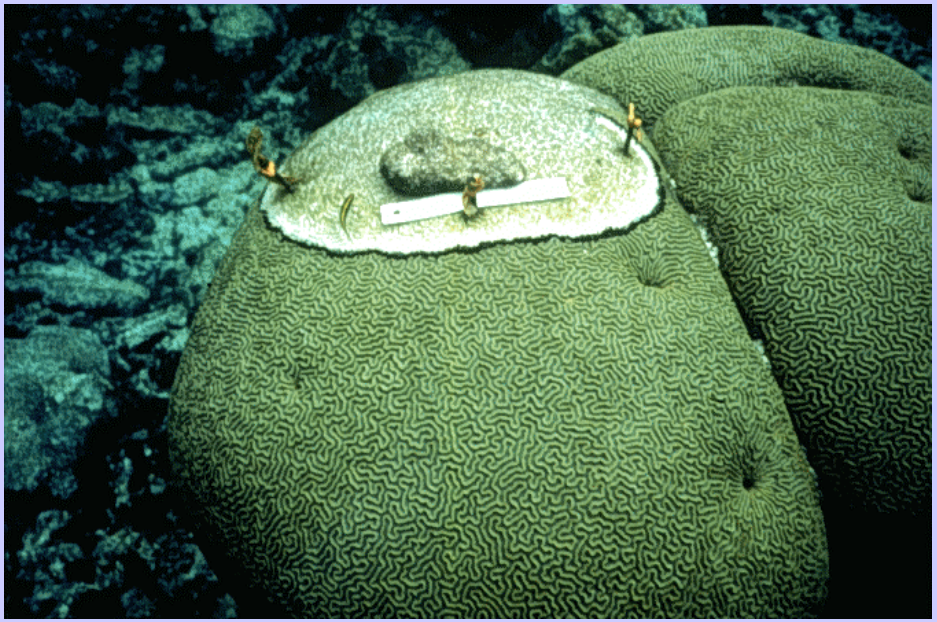
35 Divers participated in this year’s training

# Advanced Candidate Training

- Diving Accident Management
- Oxygen Enriched Air Diving
- Surface Supply Diving
- Polluted Water Diving
- Divemaster
- Principals in Scientific Diving

# EPA Diving Units Performed or Supported a Wide Variety of Projects

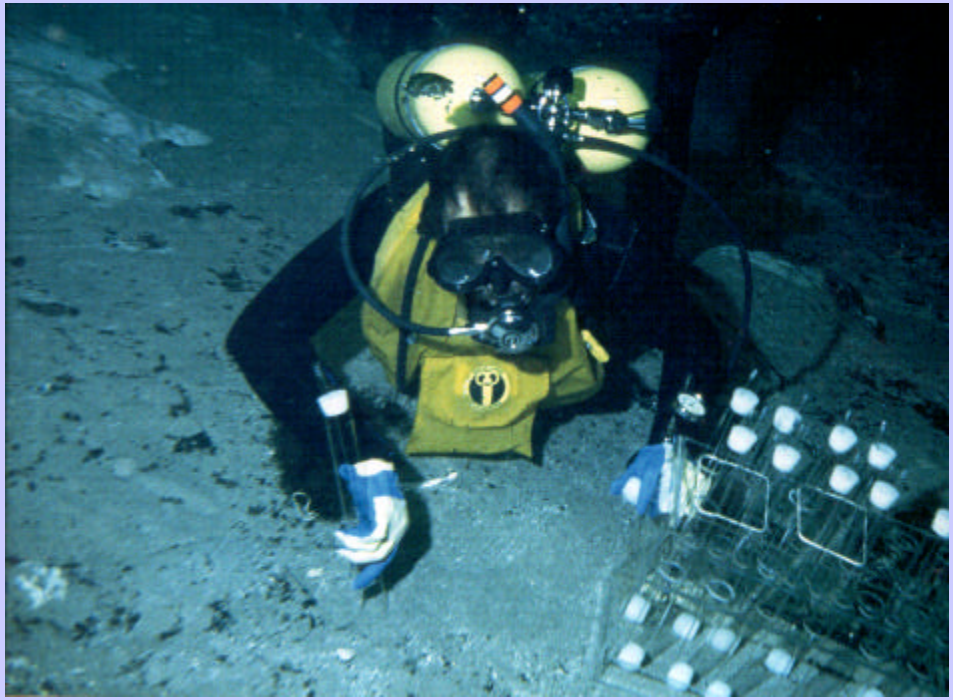
- Conducted over 2000 dives in 1999.
- Conduct coral disease surveys.
- Assisted the U.S. Coast Guard in locating lost drums of arsenic.



- Conducted bottom studies at ocean dump and dredged materials sites in the offshore waters of FL, GA, and NC.

# EPA Diving Units Sample and Conduct Research

- Sampled around drums at a Superfund site in Torch Lake, Mi.
- Conducted sediment oxygen demand and nutrient transfer studies.
- Conducted in-situ benthic recolonization experiments.



# Cold-water Environmental Compliance Diving

- EPA divers inspect fish processor's illegal dump site in Alaska under harsh, cold water diving conditions.

# EPA Divers are Trained in Contaminated-water Diving

- Divers are trained in polluted water diving techniques.
- Over 1200 drums of hazardous waste were located by EPA Divers in an abandoned rock quarry in Kokomo, Indiana.

# FUTURE PLANS

- Continue Diver Training
- Develop a Diver Tracking System
- Improve the Diver Training Facility
- Training with State-of-the-Art Equipment

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