THE INTERNATIONAL
SEAKEEPERS
SOCIETY

EXPEDITION PROFILE

September 7, 2016 on DISCOVERY Yacht from Insetta Boatworks

The International SeaKeepers Society partnered with University of Miami researchers from The Consortium for Advanced Research on Transport of Hydrocarbons in the Environment (CARTHE) to study surface ocean transport. Scientists spent the day aboard the DISCOVERY Yacht from *Insetta Boatworks* testing out multiple deployments. The official release of drifters and drifter cards will occur on September 12th, 2016.

The original idea for this project arose when Vizcaya Museum and Gardens approached researchers at CARTHE with an interest in identifying the origin of the large amount of debris they regularly find in their mangroves and along their shore. CARTHE partnered with Vizcaya and the Patricia and Philip Frost Museum of Science to develop the Biscayne Bay Drift Card Study. CARTHE addresses fundamental questions concerning the role of surface ocean transport and mixing in predicting the fate of oil and other pollutants into the marine environment As part of the study, GPS-equipped, biodegradable drifters and drifter cards were deployed at multiple locations in Biscayne Bay near downtown Miami. CARTHE will use the data collected to add to existing computer models in order to estimate how these currents behave and to better understand how currents are affecting the way debris moves in Biscayne Bay.

This is the first time SeaKeepers has partnered with the D/Y from *Insetta Boatworks*. A special thank you to RMK Merrill-Stevens for providing dock space for the duration of these two expeditions.

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