



EXPEDITION PROFILE

August 24th – 29th, 2018 aboard DISCOVERY Yacht Shredder

The International SeaKeepers Society partnered with Florida International University's College of Arts, Sciences & Education aboard the DISCOVERY Yacht, Shredder, for a project that consisted of several objectives in locations such as the Marquesas, as well as certain shipwreck locations where sharks and other marine life are known to gather. Scientific objectives for this project included shark tagging and tissue sample collection, deployment of a dorsal fin-mounted camera tag, and testing of a sonar hydrophone that can map a 360-degree view of pelagic habitats. The Personnel on this expedition included Dean Michael Heithaus, Research Analyst Kirk Gastrich, Assistant Professor Yannis Papastamatiou, Ph.D. Candidate Benjamin Binder, Research Intern Monica Castillo, and Ph.D. Candidate Alyssa Andres; assisted by SeaKeepers staff, as well as the captain and crew of D/Y Shredder.

FIU and SeaKeepers personnel were joined by Patrick Greene and John Cullum of Symbio Studios, who documented the expedition while also capturing the personal stories of the research team members. In doing so, the exciting work being done in marine science by the FIU College of Arts, Sciences & Education can be viewed by television audiences on a national level. Additionally, it will be viewed by children and young adults in middle school, not only as an educational outreach program, but more importantly as a way to inspire and inform these young people who may have an interest in pursuing careers in marine science.

As an aside, we'd like to thank the Stock Island Marina and Perry Hotel for being our gracious hosts and base of operations for the duration of the expedition.

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