

The Villages Scuba Club



# Scuba Diving in Jupiter, FL

WARREN GROSS, 06 JANUARY 2021

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# Why dive in Jupiter?

- Large aquatic life year-round:
    - Turtle mating season in Spring
    - Goliath aggregation in Summer
    - Shark migrations in Winter
    - Occasional rays
  - Reefs are aquarium-like with schools of fish of many varieties.
    - Snappers, Grunts, Angelfish, Trumpet Fish, Spotted Drums etc.
    - Moray Eels, Lobsters and Barracuda are common.
  - Water temperature ranges of 75 in early Spring to 86 in Summer.
  - Visibility dependent of weather, generally 75 feet or more, but as low as 25 feet.
  - Drift diving in moderate currents at 70-85 feet.
  - TVSC dives with two great outfits - Jupiter Dive Center and Kyalami Charters.
  - Trip leader coordinates rides from Eisenhower Recreational Center.
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# Aquatic Life

- Groupers on MG-111 by M. Blatti



- Lemon Shark Fest by M. Blatti



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# Aquatic Life

- Loggerhead Turtle on Spadefish Point by M. Blatti



- Hawksbill Turtle on Spadefish Point by M. Blatti



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# Aquatic Life

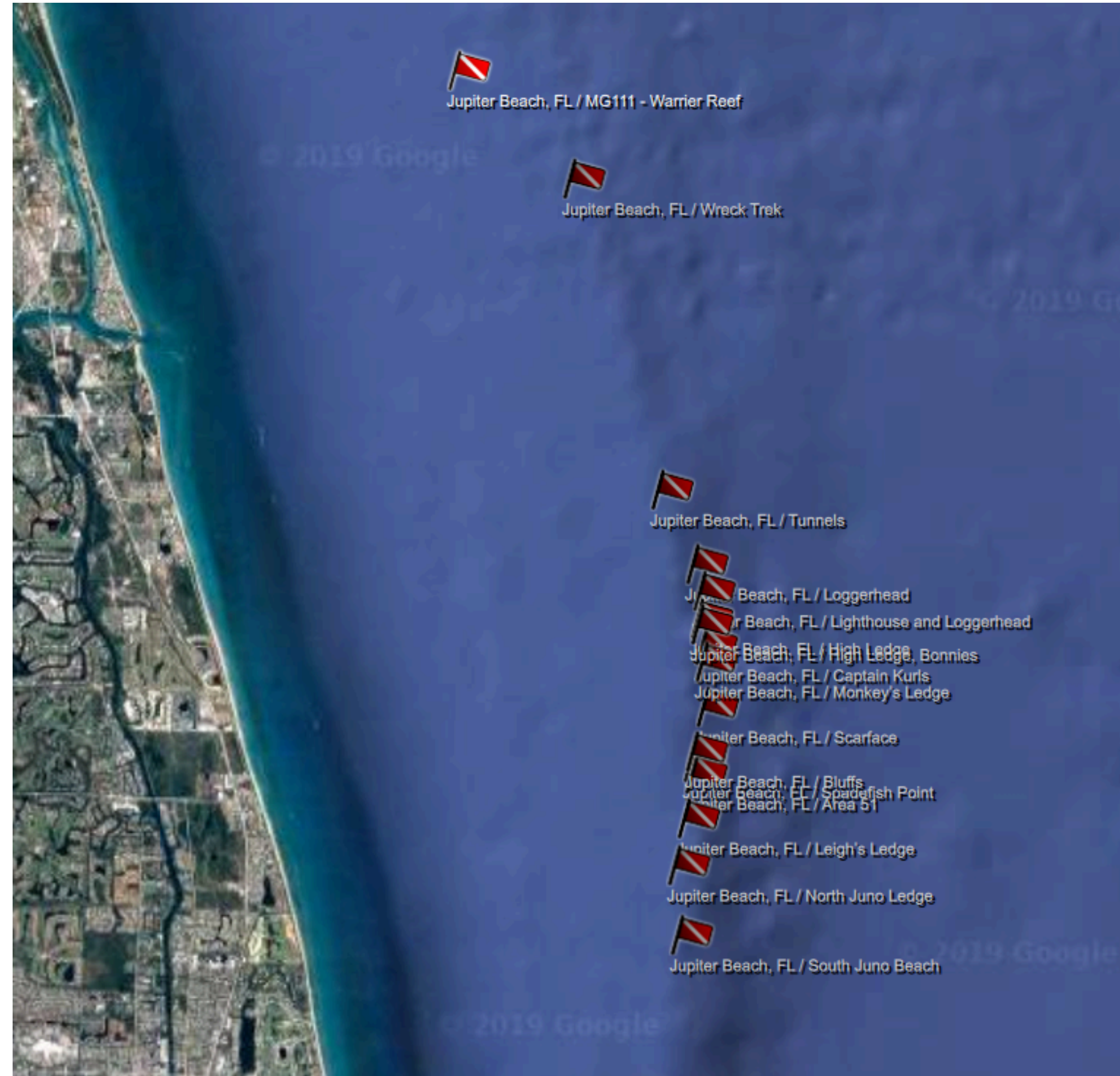
- Reef Sharks on Spadefish Point by M. Blatti



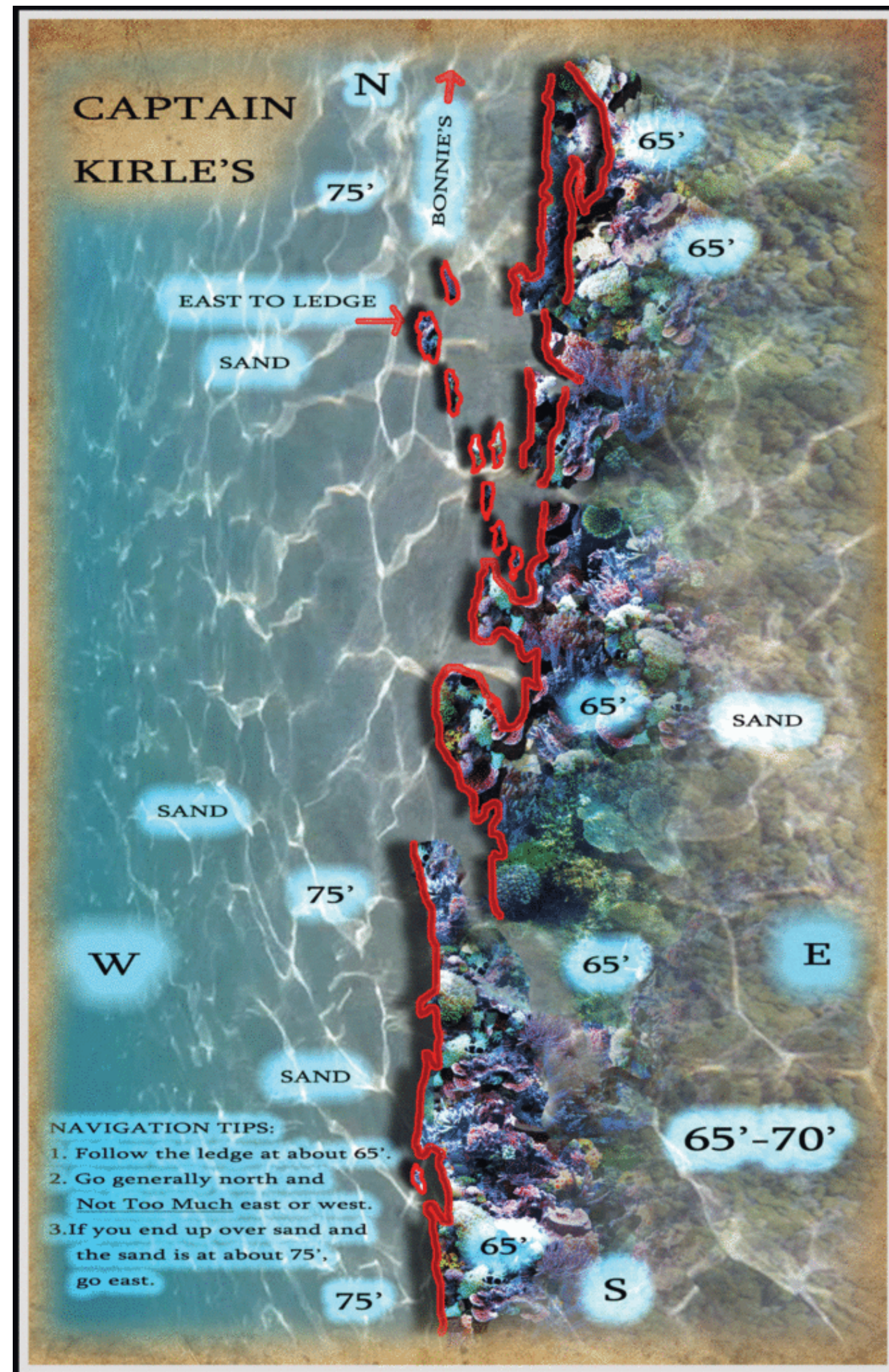
- Groupers on Wreck Trek by W. Gross



# Dive Sites

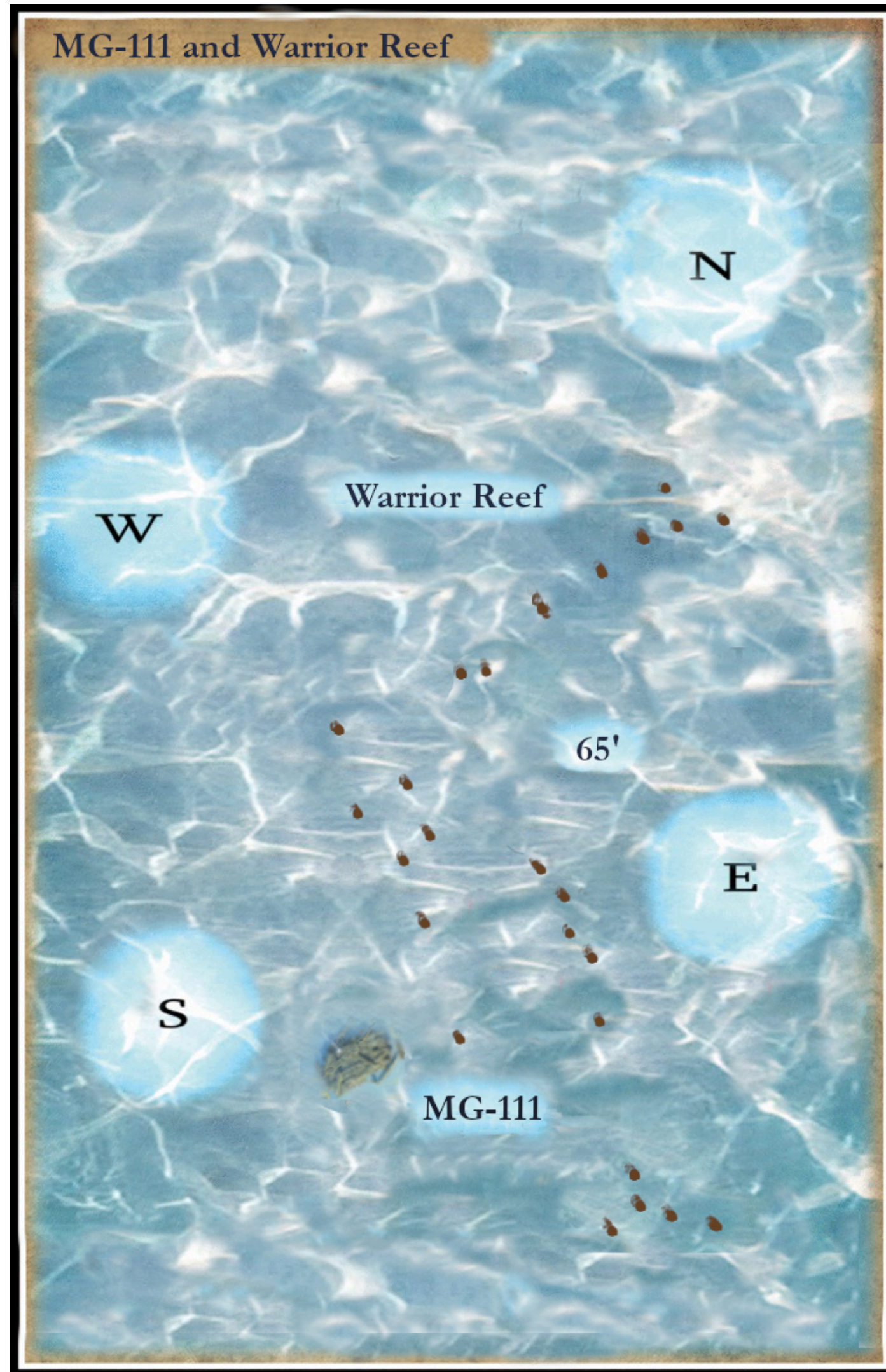


- Area 51
- Bluffs
- Bonnies/ High Ledge
- Captain Kirle's
- Dean's Pocket
- Fin's Den
- Leigh's Ledge
- Lighthouse
- Loggerhead
- Monkey's Ledge
- MG-111 and Warrior's Reef
- North Juno Beach
- South Juno Beach
- Scarface
- Spadefish Point
- Tunnels
- Wreck Trek



## Captain Kirle's

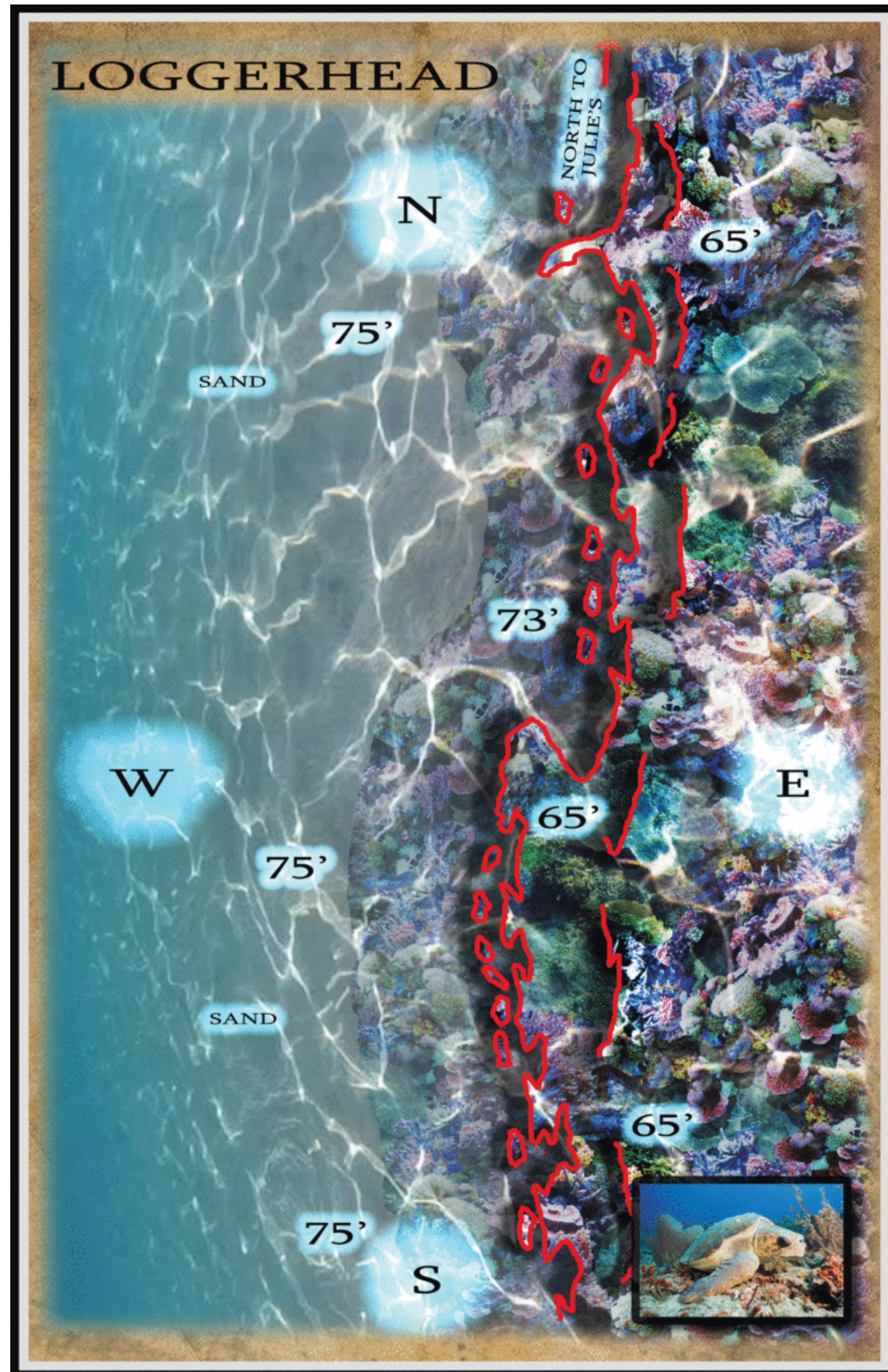
- One of the shallower reef dives, almost always dove as second dive of the day.
- Loggerhead and Hawksbill turtles are seen year round, as well as an occasional Green turtle.
- Green morays are common.
- Expect one or two Nurse sharks as a minimum with occasional reef sharks.
- Multitude of smaller fish - like an aquarium!



## MG-111 and Warrior's Reef

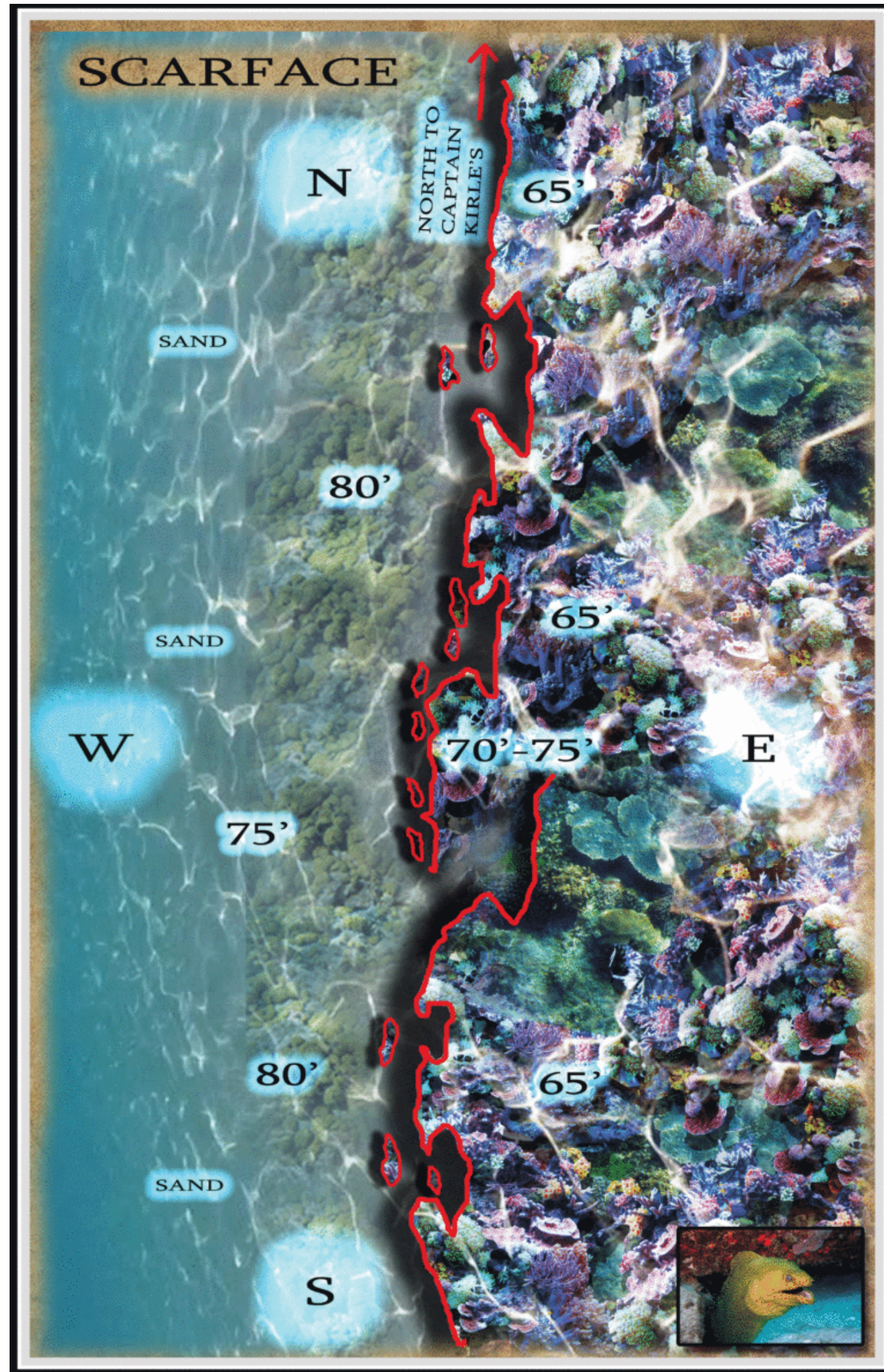
- MG-111 was a 195' Mississippi river hopper barge sunk in September 1995 in the sand at a depth of 65'. Not much of the wreck is left.
- Warrior's Reef is a collection of upright concrete columns approximately 30' tall, NNE of MG-111.
- Large Goliath Grouper aggregations in August/September.
- Tends to have higher current, but not a drift dive.





# Loggerhead

- One of the shallower reef dives, with less of a ledge. Almost always dove as second dive of the day.
- Loggerhead and Hawksbill turtles are seen year round. Large numbers of Loggerhead are seen May through July.
- Expect one or two Nurse sharks.
- A great, relaxing dive.



# Scarface

- Named for a legendary scarred Green Moray eel. This has a pronounced ledge with lots of nooks and crannies.
- Loggerhead and Hawksbill turtles are seen year round, as well as an occasional Green turtle.
- Green morays are very common.
- Expect one or two Nurse sharks as a minimum with occasional reef sharks.
- Lots of smaller fish.

# Wreck Trek



- Zion Train was a 164' freighter known for smuggling up to 900 lbs per month into US until its Captain and 4 crew members were murdered while moored on the Miami River in July 1997. She was sunk in June 2003. The bow was broken off and moved ~ 1 mile by Hurricane Frances in 2005 and the stern now rests on its port side.
- Miss Jenny is an upside-down 55' dredge barge sunk in December 1990.
- Esso Bonaire is a 147' harbor tanker seized by US Customs in with 50,000 lbs of Marijuana. She was sunk in July 1989 and has open holds for overhead-free penetration.
- Lemon Sharks are known to gather in January/February
- Incredible Goliath Grouper aggregations in August/September
- Tends to have higher current



# Jupiter Dive Center

[jupiterdivecenter.com](http://jupiterdivecenter.com)

- Two 40-Foot Dive Boats - 14 divers
- Guided dives, private guide available
- Morning two-tank dives daily at 9 AM, afternoon two-tank dives on Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 PM
- Three-tank dives on (most) Fridays and Sundays
- Equipment rentals
- Air and Nitrox Tank Fills
- Full service Scubapro Platinum Dealer
- SDI 5 Star Learning Center



# Kyalami Charters

[jupiterscubadiving.com](http://jupiterscubadiving.com)

- 40-Foot Dive Boat - 20 divers
- Guided dives, private guide available
- Morning two-tank dives daily at 10 AM, except Tuesdays
- Equipment and tank rentals - must be arranged ahead
- Heated rinse water!
- PADI instruction available
- Intracoastal Water tours at 4 PM

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# Tips for a good day on the boat

- Nitrox is a must. JDC limits bottom time to 25 minutes on Air, 45 minutes on Nitrox, Kyalami 30 minutes/ 50 minutes. Most of the regular TVSC divers use 36-37% as it provides optimum bottom time with MODs exceeding all dive sites.
  - Both charters require a Nitrox-capable dive computer.
  - With 45-50 minutes of bottom time, 80 cu ft tanks don't cut it for most divers. 100 cu ft tanks allow divers to dive NDL while also providing an additional safety margin.
  - A Delayed Surface Marker Buoy (DSMB) is required of all divers. DSMBs can be deployed at your safety stop or once arriving at the surfaces.
  - Most TVSC divers wear a full wetsuit; 3MM should be fine for late Spring to Fall, a 5MM will keep you warm in the late Fall to early Spring.
  - These are great dives for a camera. Most dives will require a light for quality photos. Make sure you fully charge your batteries. Neither boat has a camera table and the camera tanks leave a bit to be desired. Consider a wet bag.
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# More tips for a good day on the boat

- Don't forget:
    - Cert card and Nitrox card, if renting tanks
    - Cash for tips - \$10 per dive suggested
    - Cash for ride share - \$20 per rider suggested
    - Sunglasses and hat
    - Reef-safe sunscreen
    - Jacket for boat for the ride out and back
  - Pack your dive gear in a collapsible boat bag, roll-boards and hard cases take up lots of room. Don't be that diver!
  - A small dry bag is great for keeping your non-waterproof valuables safe while diving.
  - Both dive charters have places ashore to change clothes.
  - Hydrate!
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# What does it cost?

	<b>Kyalami</b>	<b>JDC</b>
<b>Charter Fee (w/ Club discount)</b>	\$85	\$90
<b>Tanks (2 Tanks - Nitrox)</b>	\$30	\$30
<b>Equipment Rental</b>	-	-
<b>Tips (\$10 per dive suggested)</b>	\$20	\$20
<b>Ride Share</b>	\$20	\$20
<b>Lunch</b>	\$20	\$20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$175</b>	<b>\$180</b>



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# Upcoming TVSC dive trips to Jupiter

- January 11 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- January 25 - 2 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center
- February 5 - 3 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center
- February 8 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- February 22 - 2 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center
- March 8 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- March 22 - 2 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center

To reserve your spot at TVSC pricing:

- Jupiter Dive Center - call (561) 745-7807
- Kyalami Charters - call (561) 814-3483 or use date-specific link posted on Facebook

**Come Join Us!**

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