

The Villages Scuba Club



# Scuba Diving in Jupiter, FL

WARREN GROSS, 01 FEBRUARY 2023

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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 72 in early Spring to 86 in Summer.
  - Visibility dependent of weather, generally 50 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

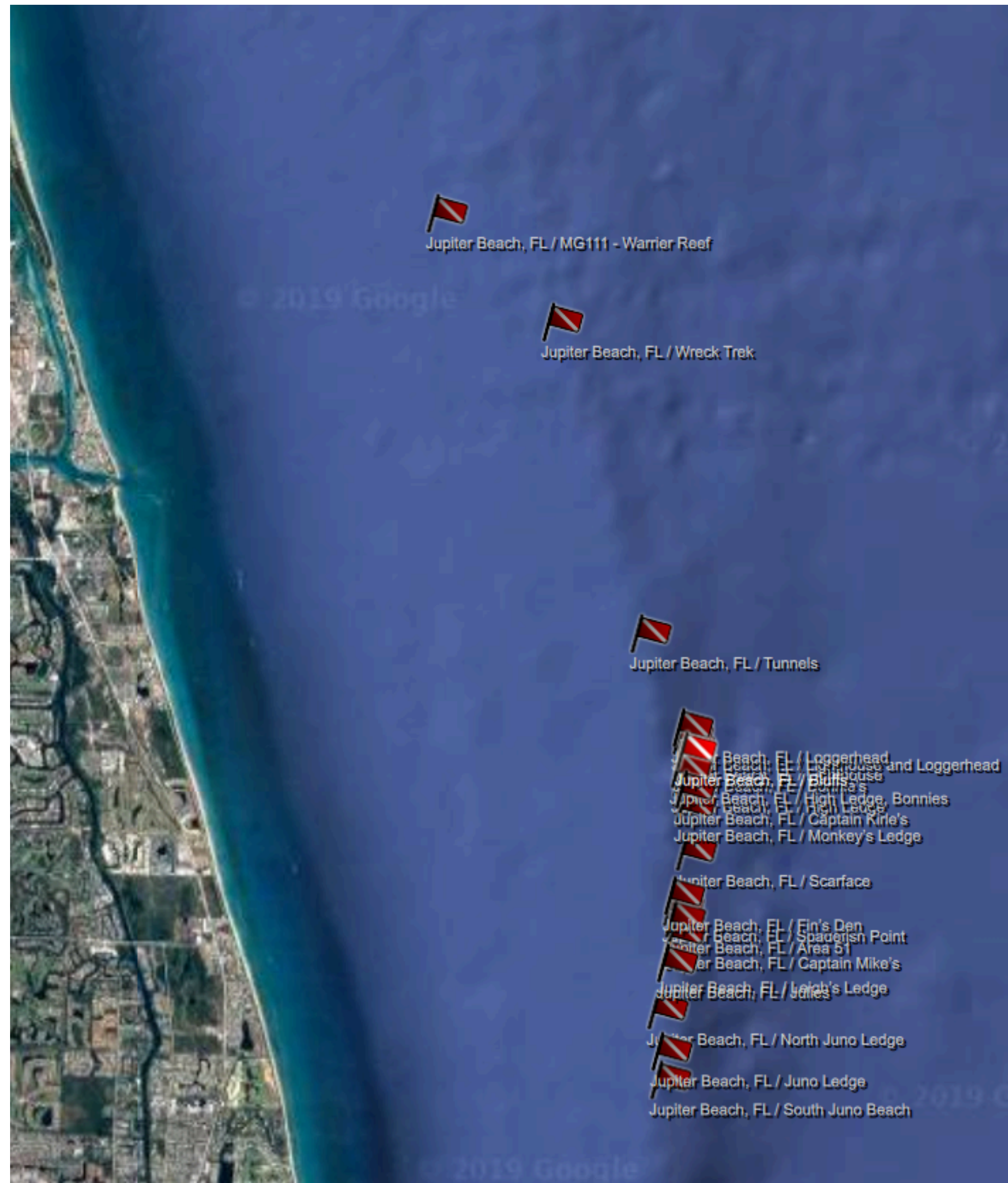


- Groupers on Wreck Trek by W. Gross



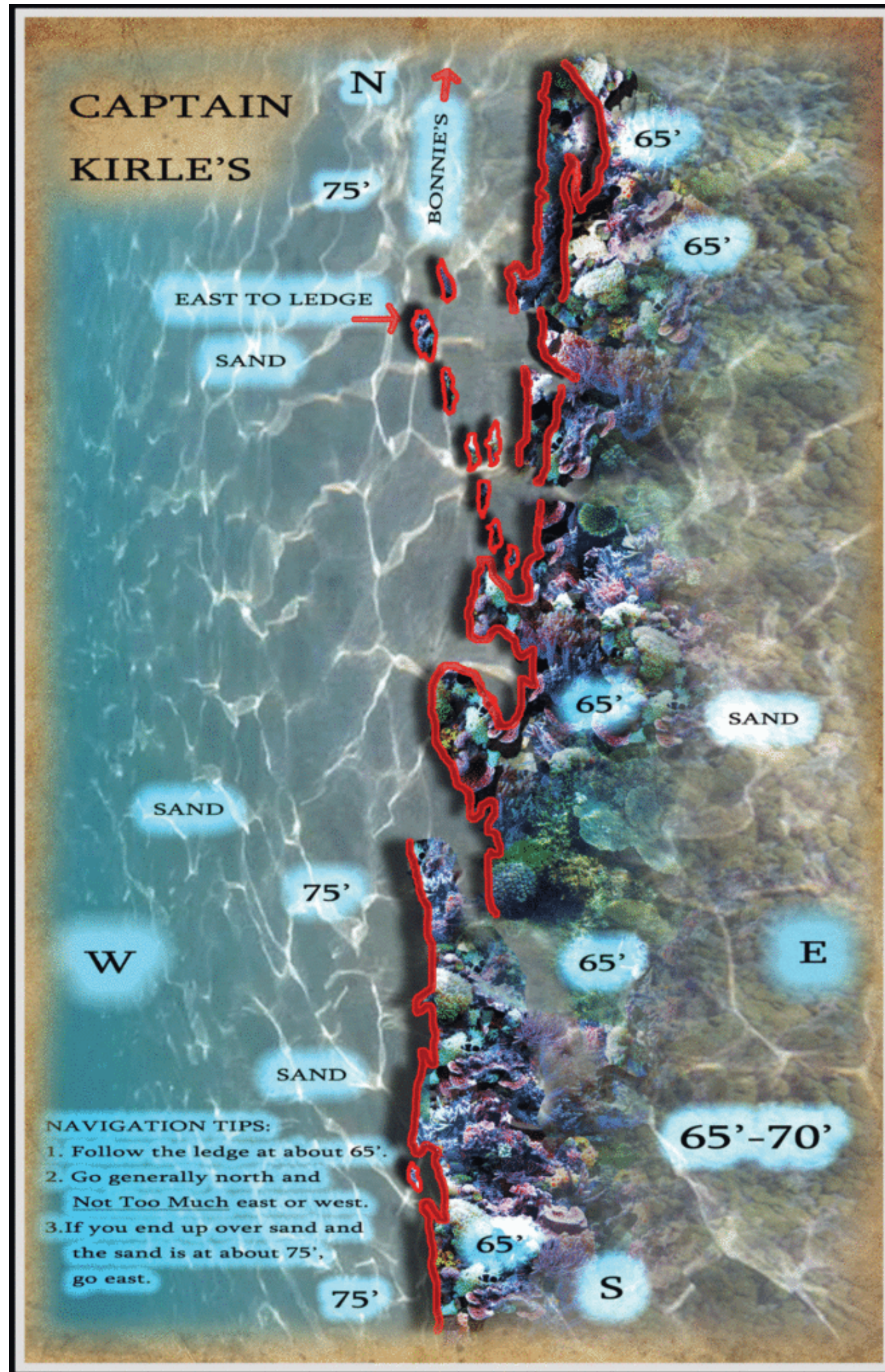
# Dive Sites

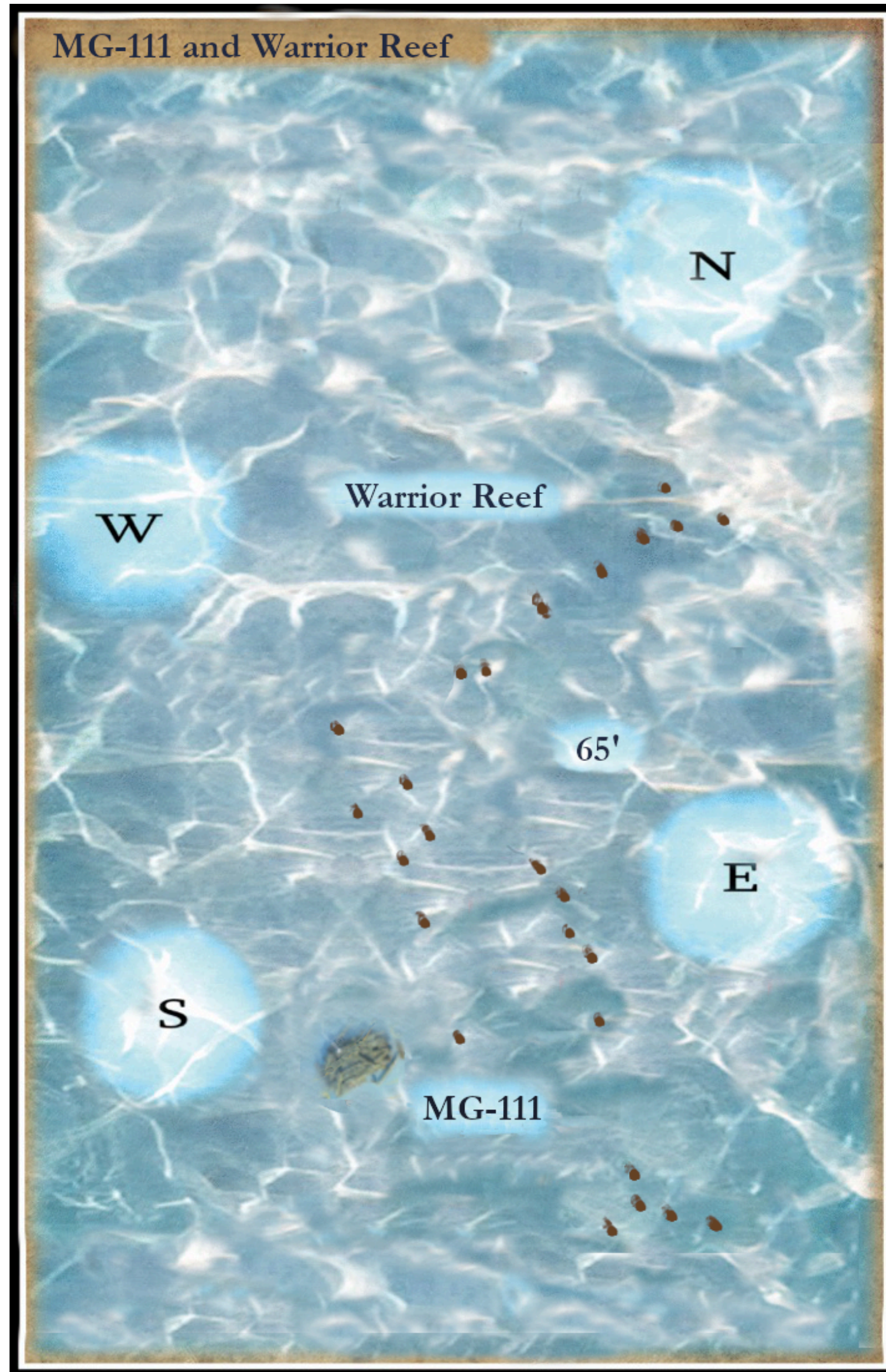
- Area 51
- Bluffs
- Bonnies/ High Ledge
- Captain Kirle's
- Dean's Pocket
- Fin's Den
- Leigh's Ledge
- Lighthouse
- Loggerhead
- Monkey's Ledge
- MG-111 and Warrior's Reef
- North Juno Beach
- South Juno Beach
- Scarface
- Spadefish Point
- Tunnels
- Wreck Trek



# 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!



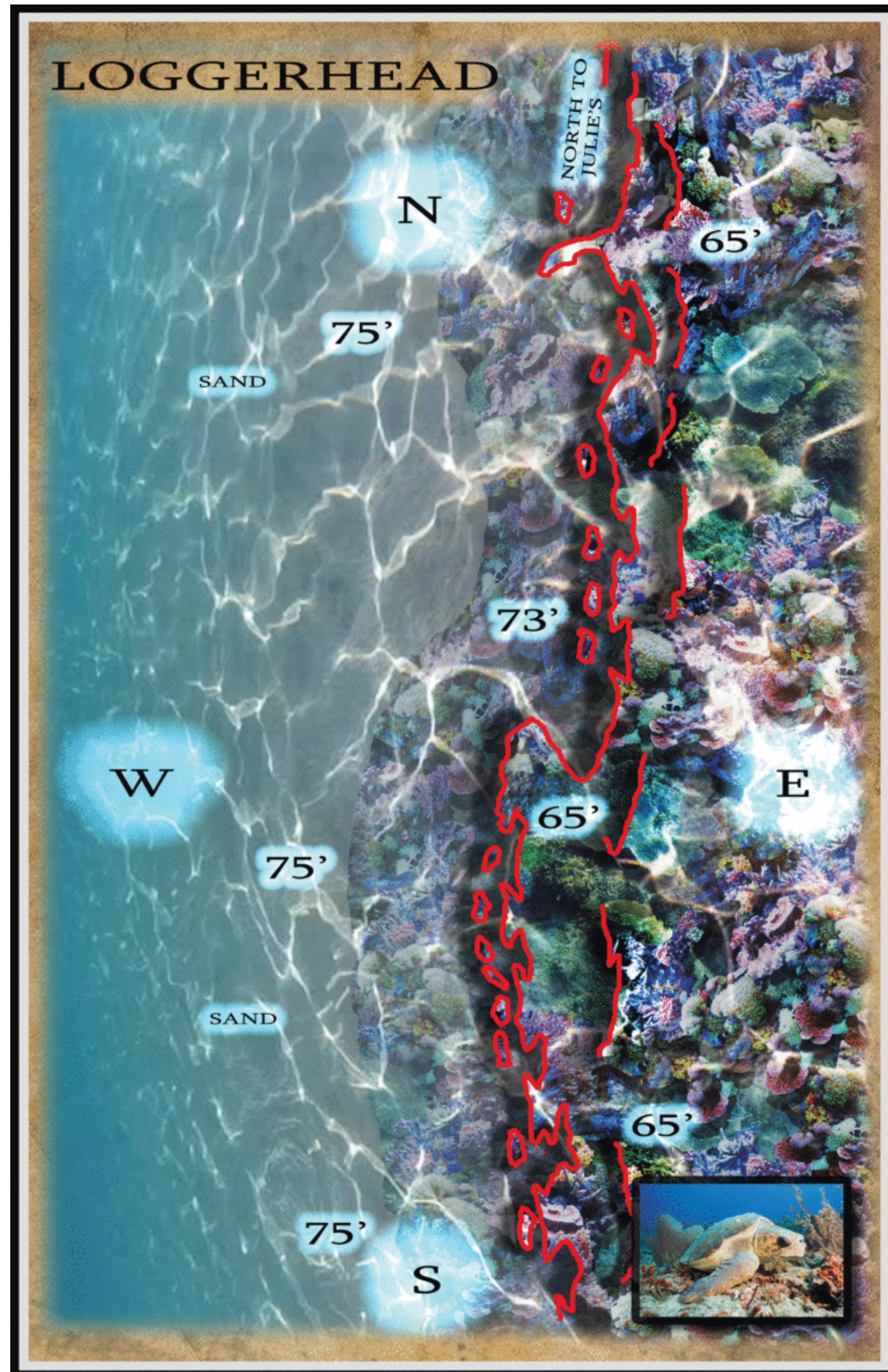


## MG-111 and Warrior's Reef

- 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.



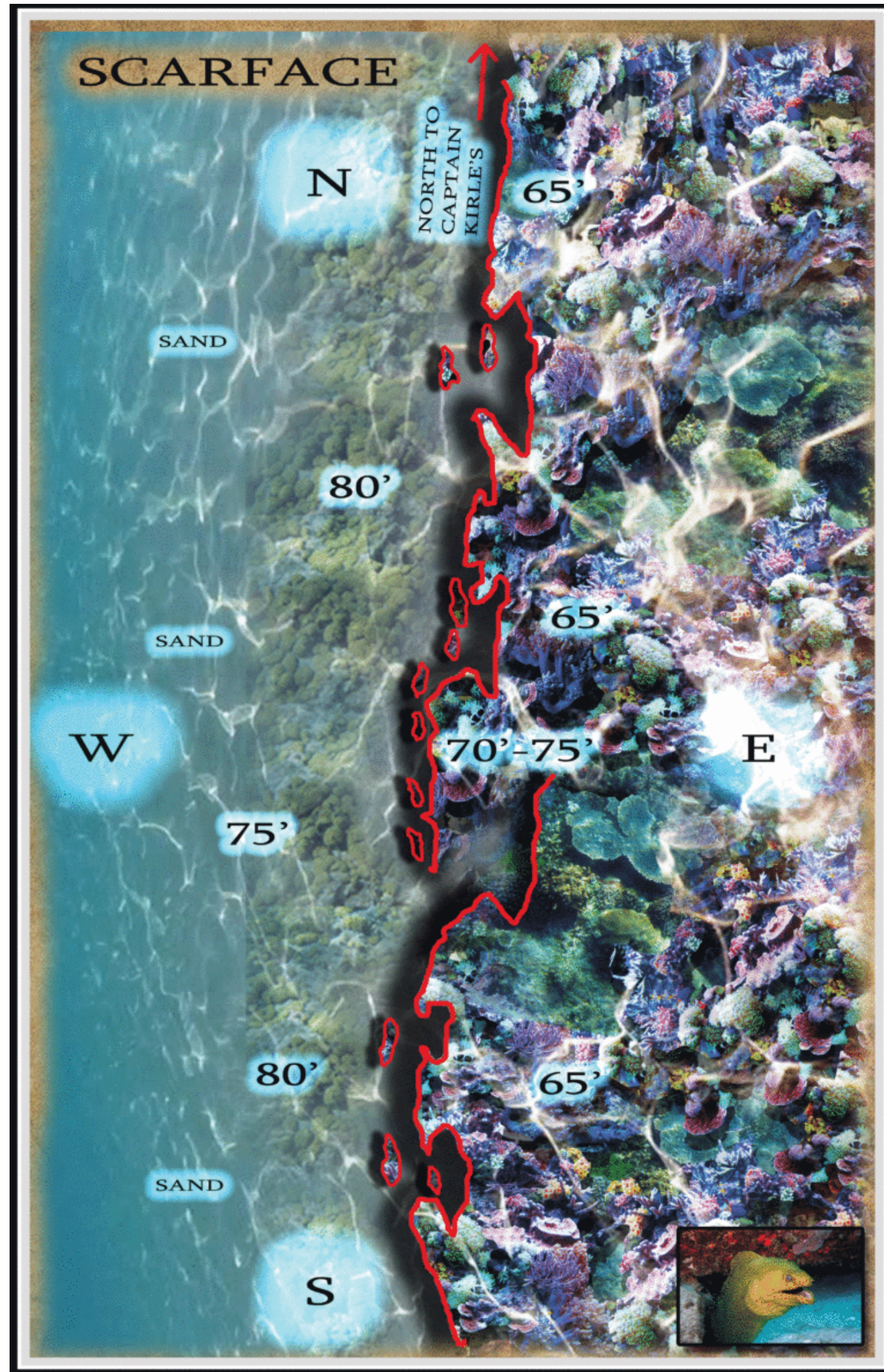




# Loggerhead

- 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 - 18 divers
- Guided dives, private guide available
- Morning and afternoon two-tank dives daily at 9 AM and 1:30 PM
- NITROX required effective April 1st, unless you hire a private guide.
- 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. JDC requires Nitrox as of April 1st. 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 to 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 surface.
  - 3MM wetsuit 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 lot 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 guide/deckhands tips - \$10 per dive suggested
  - Cash for ride share - \$20-30 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. 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!



**Don't be that diver!**

# What does it cost?

	<b>Kyalami</b>	<b>JDC</b>
<b>Charter Fee (w/ Club discount)</b>	\$95	\$100
<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>	\$25	\$25
<b>Lunch</b>	\$20	\$20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$190</b>	<b>\$195</b>



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# Upcoming TVSC dive trips to Jupiter

- February 6 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- February 20 - 2 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center - Lemon Dive!
- March 6 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- March 20 - 2 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center
- April 3 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- April 19 - 2 Tank Dive with Jupiter Dive Center
- May 8 - 2 Tank Dive with Kyalami Charters
- May 17 - 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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