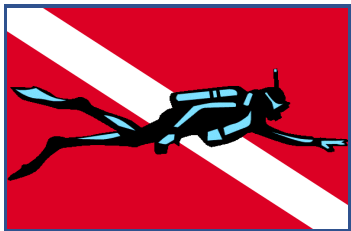


**Buddy?**

**Who's Your ~~Daddy~~?**



**Do YOU Need a BUDDY??**

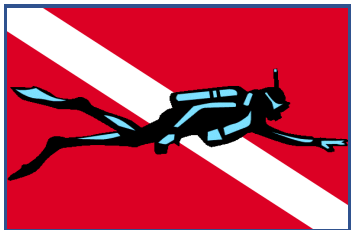
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**YES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Never Solo Dive unless you have:**

- **Extra Appropriate Training.**
- **Equipment.**



# Just Got an “Insta-Buddy?”



## Paired Up with a New Buddy? - 5 Questions to Ask--

- **How Much Do You Dive?**

*(Frequency, Number, Cert Level, Etc)*

- **Where Have You Been Diving?**

*(Shallow, Hot/Cold Water, Wreck, Drift, Etc)*

- **What Are You Looking For On This Dive?**

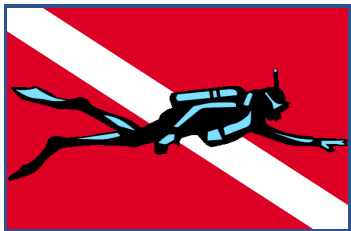
*(Goals, Fishlife Interests, Photog (Macro/Micro?))*

- **What Do You Expect From Your Buddy?**

*(Signals, Speed, Positioning, Etc)*

- **Anything I need to Know About You, Your Condition, or Your Gear?**

*(Equalization Issues, Tend to Cramp?, Dive Depth Limits, NITROX, Tank Size, Air Consumption, Pony/Spare Air, Etc)*

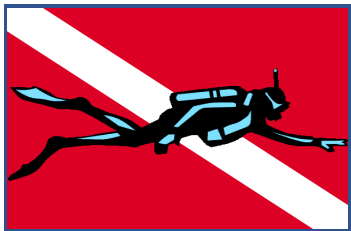


# Key Buddy Factors

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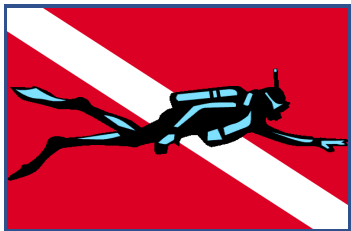
- **Situational Awareness**
- **Communication**
- **Trust**



# Other Considerations



- Differences in Experience Level  
(Respect the Differences – Assist Without Frustrating)
- Compatibility of Skills / Conditioning.  
(Pace, Endurance, Consumption, Complexity)
- Decision to Surface Separately??  
(School Solution is NO! However unfortunately – people do this.....)
- Just Say NO!!  
(Stay within Your Capabilities / Comfort Level – Don't Allow Pride / Pressure to Push Limits)
- Bring Something to the Table.  
(Current on First Aid, AED Qual / Oxygen Qual – Know Dangerous Fish / Corals and how to Treat)



# How Close is Close Enough?

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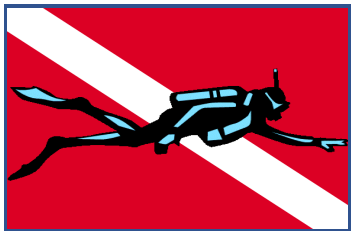


- **Diving in the Same Ocean is NOT Close Enough!!**

- **Book Says.... Within Two Fin Kicks!!**

## Depends On:

- Experience Level
- **Comfort Level**
- Diving with a Group or Alone
- **Diving Conditions (Current / Viz, .....**)
- Any Health Issues



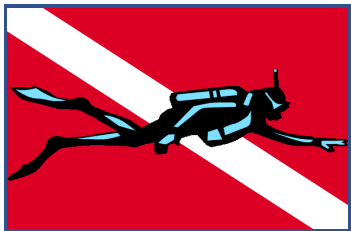
# Photographers as Buddies?

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**TVSC**

## Considerations:

- Two Photographers May, or May Not, be the best Buddy Team.
- **May not maintain close proximity.**
- Requires patience for one or both divers.
- **Hope both Photogs have similar preferences.**
- Good mix can be a Non-Photog and a Photographer.



# How to Find a Buddy

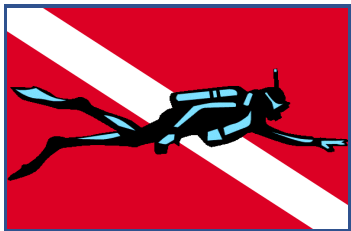
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## Just Got Certified?, OR New to Area?

- If your Significant Other, or Friend just Got Certified Too.  
**(Don't Go Alone!)**
- **Join a Club.. And Attend Meetings**
- Go on Club Trips – Local and Distant.
- **Frequent Diver Haunts – Shops /Sites.**
- Go on Monthly Spring Dives.
- **Take Additional Training, If Appropriate.**





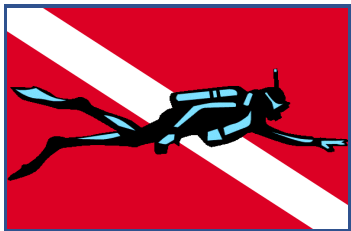
# Lost Buddy??



**Probably One of the Most Ignored Recommendations in Scuba.....**

- 1. Look for ONE Minute- During That Minute, Look For Bubbles.**
  - 2. Go To The Surface... Careful of Passing Boats.**
- 1. Rejoin on Surface.**
  - 2. Continue Dive.**

**If a Threesome – Don't Split  
Up to Search!**



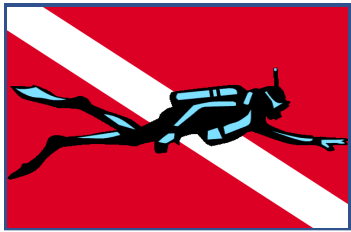
# A True Buddy



- Gets Familiar with Your Equipment.
- Compares Dive Goals
- Stays with You at the Surface.
- Stays Close During the Dive.
- Periodically Asks if you are OK.
- Compares Air/Gas Levels with You.
- Ascends with You.
- Does 3- Minute Stop With You.
- Stays With You at the Surface.
- Asks How You Are Once Out of the Water.
- Someone You Trust!



**Are You A Good Buddy???**



# Other Thoughts?

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