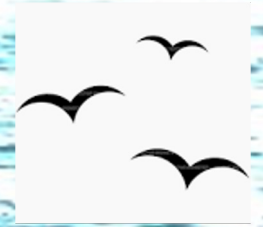


PaddleSports Diving – the Ultimate Aquatic Cross-Sport



Paddle Above

The Best of Both Worlds

Dive Below



AWSA@AmericanWaterSports.org
Originators of Kayak & Paddleboard Diving

Today's Topics

- Intro & history
- Why PaddleSports diving??
- What the science says
- Essential dive craft features
- Essential knowledge and responsibilities
- Training & certification
- Travel & destinations

BIRTH OF A CROSS-SPORT

**DEMA show
Las Vegas, 1990**

Clark and Jean stopped
in their tracks.

One revolutionary kayak...

One manufacturer's Rep...

Alone in a booth



EUREKA!!

As river guides and SCUBA
Instructor Trainers, they
immediately realized the
potential of this unique new
sit-on-top, self-bailing craft
for expanding diving
adventures.

Clark

- ✓ Created the Kayak Diving Division of Ocean Kayak; served as Director.
- ✓ Designed the first purpose-built dive kayak
- ✓ integrated features for safely utilizing the open-deck kayak to transport and provide surface support for a diver.



Jean

- ✓ Recognized need for cross-competence
- ✓ Merged/integrated skills of paddling and diving
- ✓ Developed the first Kayak Diving training and certification materials for the diving industry





PADDLESPORTS DIVING

- ❖ a **cross** between **paddling & diving**
- ❖ a new sport with **components of both**
- ❖ **requires equal knowledge and competency** in individual and intersecting skills of both



SO...



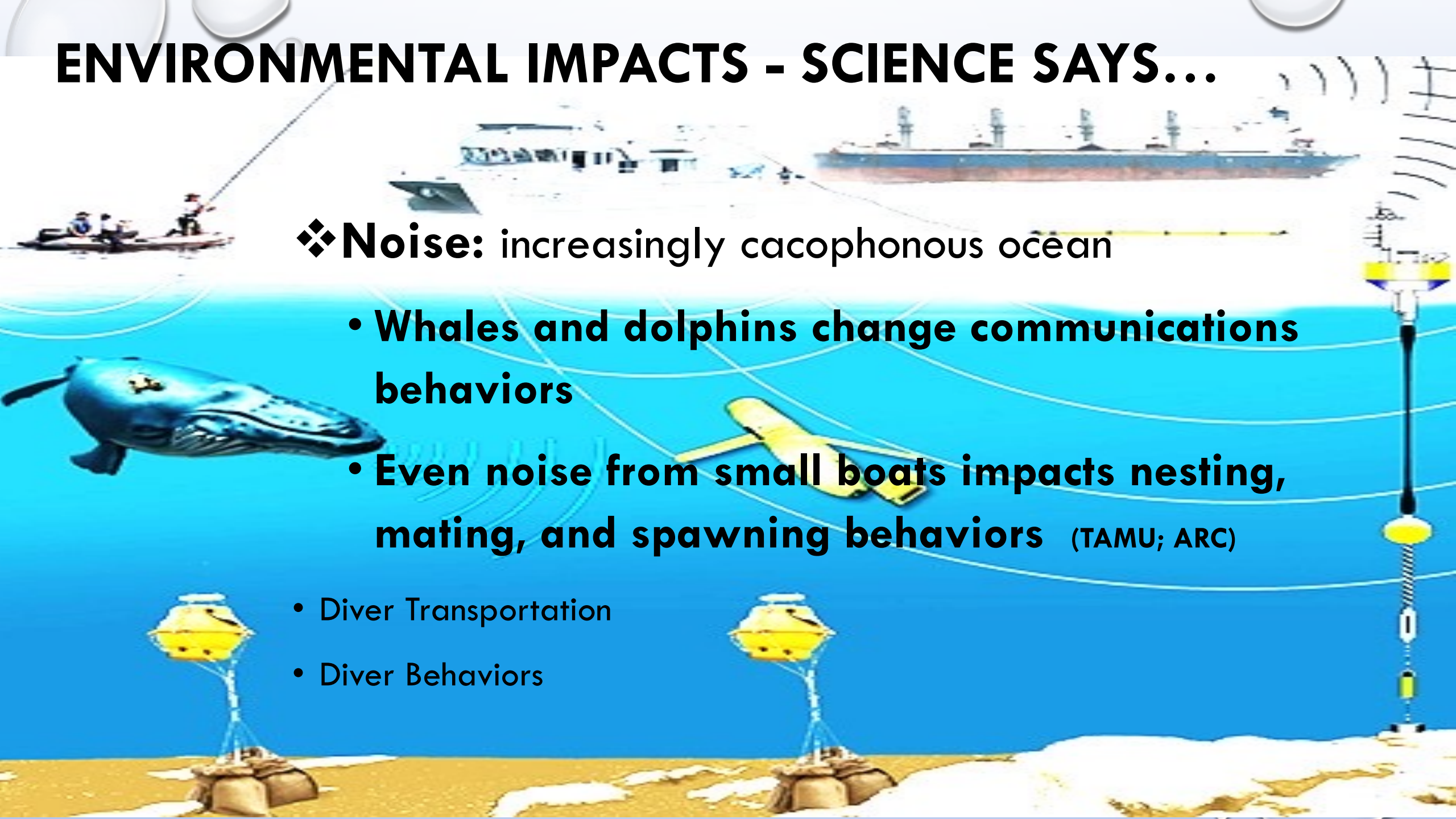
Why do it?????

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS - SCIENCE SAYS...

❖ **Noise:** increasingly cacophonous ocean

- **Whales and dolphins change communications behaviors**
- **Even noise from small boats impacts nesting, mating, and spawning behaviors** (TAMU; ARC)

- Diver Transportation
- Diver Behaviors



ENV IMPACT...

- Noise

❖ Diver transportation – Size matters!!

- Localized threats
 - release of pollutants
 - high speed impact with marine vegetation, animals, habitat
 - destruction from anchoring
- Larger boats vs. small craft
- Motorized craft vs. human powered craft
- Diver Behaviors

ENV IMPACT...

- Noise
- Diver transportation

❖ **Diver behaviors** - Knowledge and skills are key!

- **Contact with the seabed** – damages corals and organisms, creates excessive silting
- **Interactions with marine wildlife** – disturbs normal foraging, mating, spawning, or nesting behaviors.
- **Impact with surface aquatic vegetation**

INHERENT ECO-FRIENDLY CHARACTERISTICS OF PSD

- ✓ **Smaller groups** don't exceed optimal carrying capacity
- ✓ Requires **additional training**
- ✓ **Slower pace travel** eliminates high-speed impact
- ✓ Paddlecraft **leave no contaminants**
- ✓ Paddlecraft enable **unobtrusive approach** to dive sites

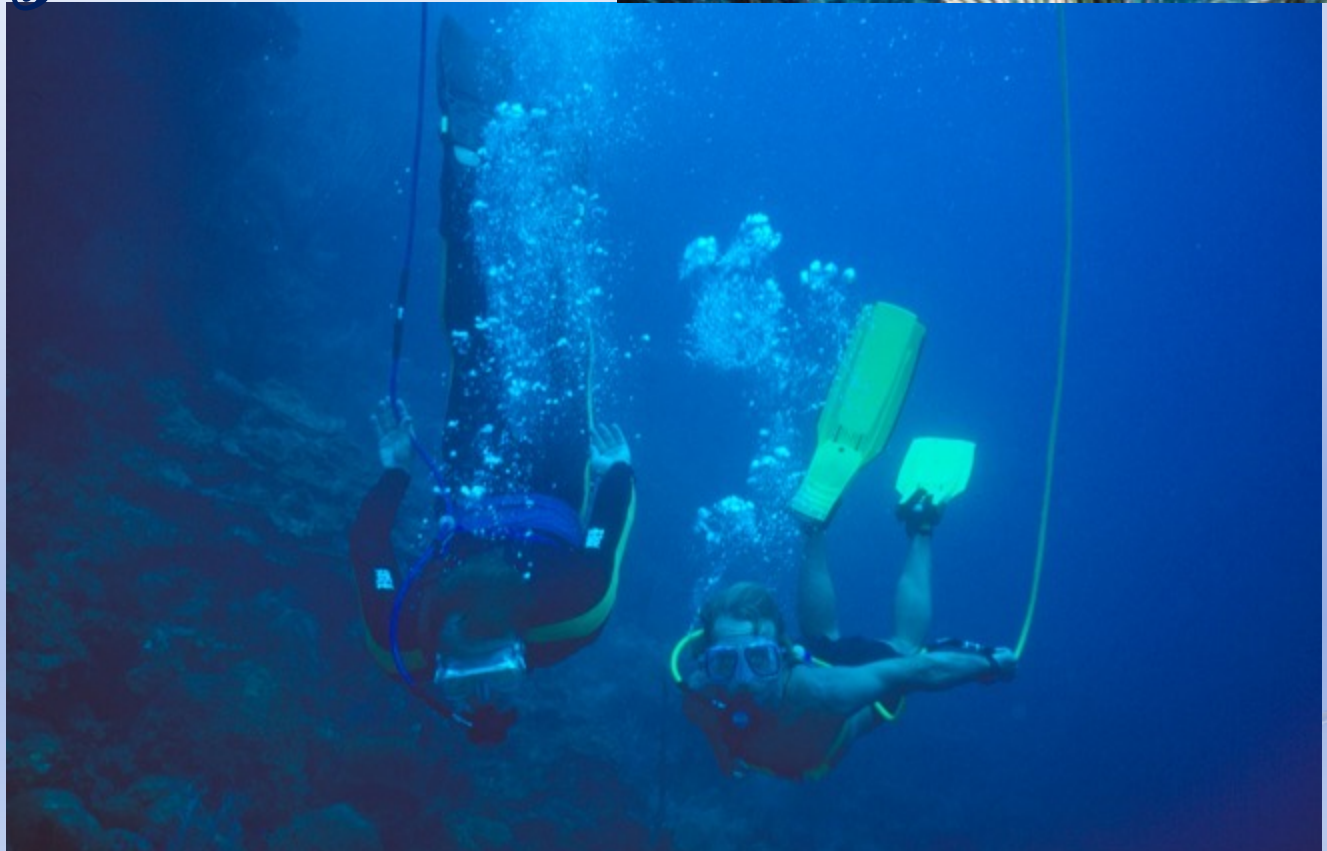


Eco-Friendly





FREEDOM
INDEPENDENCE
SELF-PACED!!



Access



The First Inflatable Paddleboard



UTILITY



Surface support
Safety craft
Drift diving
Surface Supplied Air
Dive site selection

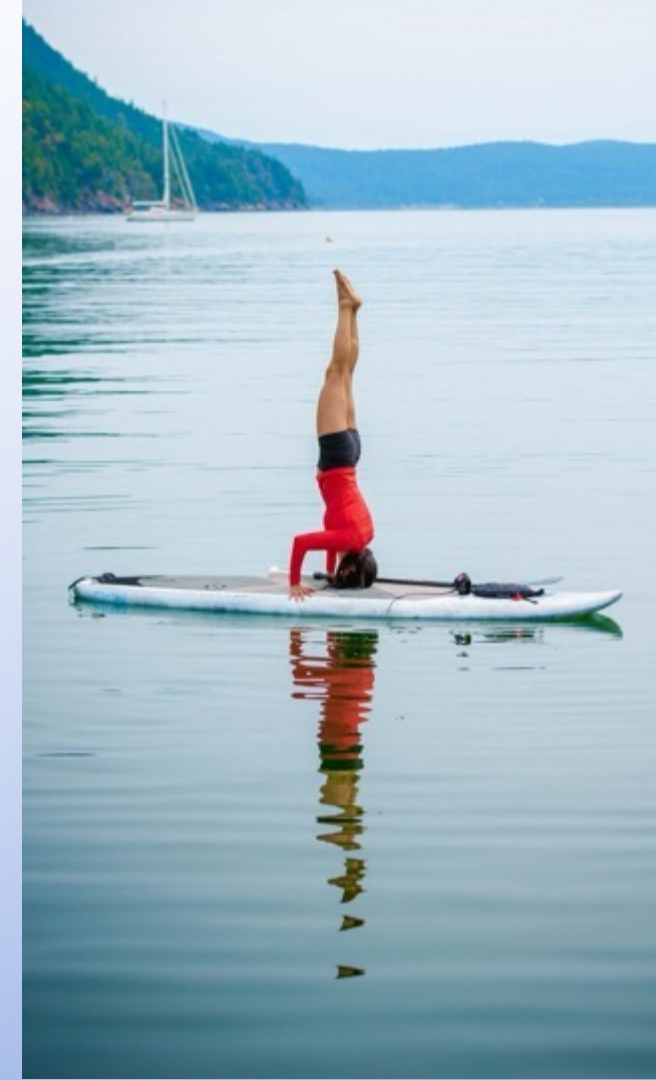




Brownie's Third Lung Staff



Health – Physical, Mental, & Social



LEADERSHIP ECONOMICS & OPPORTUNITIES

- # OF DIVERS VS # OF PADDLERS
- SIMILAR INTEREST IN AQUATIC SPORTS
- SIMILAR ECONOMIC DEMOGRAPHIC
- EXPANDED GEAR SALES

AN APPROPRIATE DIVE CRAFT HAS/IS...

- **Self-bailing** vessel / scuppers
- **On-deck storage** for skin/scuba gear
- **Stable**
- Sufficient **load capacity**
- **Low freeboard** – easy-off/on
- **Able to secure gear** & accessories



Also need USCG required gear

WHAT IS A PADDLESPORTS DIVER?

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ...

- Cross-sport competent — trained in essentials of both paddling and diving
 - ***Advanced scuba diver*** w/kayak diving specialty training
 - ***Competent open-water paddler***

RESPONSIBILITIES ASSUMED

- DIVE MASTER
- SAFETY OFFICER/FIRST RESPONDER
- BOAT CAPTAIN
- RIGGER

A COMPETENT PADDLER...

Handling the craft



Safety & rescue



PADDLESPORTS DIVER... *RESPONSIBILITY:*

DIVE MASTER

- Plan & safely implement the trip
- Complete & submit float & dive plans
- Check-in when trip completed

Float Planning: Route Selection...



*Float
planning...*



*Dive
Planning:*

*Site
selection*





PADDLESPORTS DIVER... *RESPONSIBILITY:*

SAFETY OFFICER/FIRST RESPONDER

- All aspects of safe paddling, safe diving, and safe trip execution
- 

SAFETY OFFICER ... KAYAK DIVER GEAR

USCG required:

- Dive flag
- PFD – waist or traditional
- Emergency signaling device day and/or night
- Night dive: dive light and USCG nav lights (360° visible – e.g. sailboat mast light)

Recommended:

- Knife
- Compass
- Additional rope/line
- Phone/2-way radio
- Throw bag (rescue)
- 1st aid kit (if no support boat)
- If SSA, carry a safety second (e.g. Spareair)



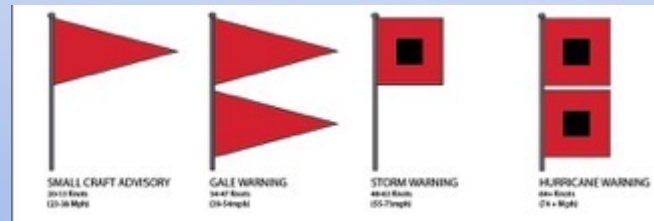
PADDLESPORTS DIVER... RESPONSIBILITY:

DIVE CRAFT CAPTAIN

- Master of your vessel and its movement

Symbol	Meaning	Examples
	Danger A diamond shape alerts boaters to hazards	 
	Restricted Operations Marks with a circle indicate areas with regulated operations	 
	Exclusion A diamond shape with a cross means boats are prohibited from the area	 
	Information Marks with a square provide helpful information such as directions, distances, and locations	 

Image of Water Movement



RIGGER

- Ropes and knots



A PADDLESPORTS DIVER IS **NOT**...

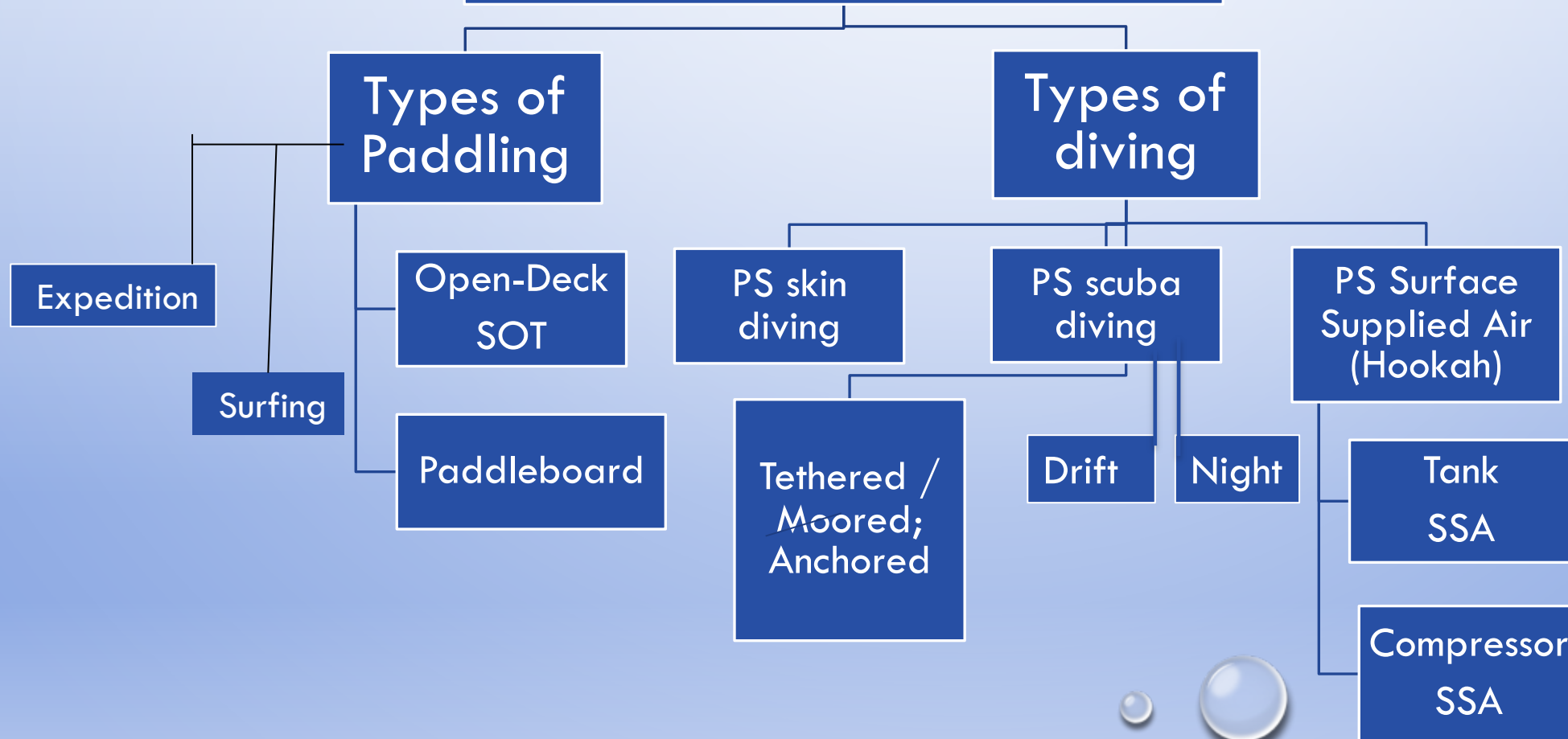
...a decompression diver

...a tethered diver with overhead obstruction (e.g. cave, wreck, kelp forest, etc.)

...a night diver without proper USCG night lights & signaling device

...simply a diver with a paddle craft!

PaddleSports Diving Kayak / Paddleboard Areas of Training





PaddleSports Diving Training

Classroom

Confined Water



Open Water

**Kayak Diving
Certification!!**





WHY PaddleSports Diving??

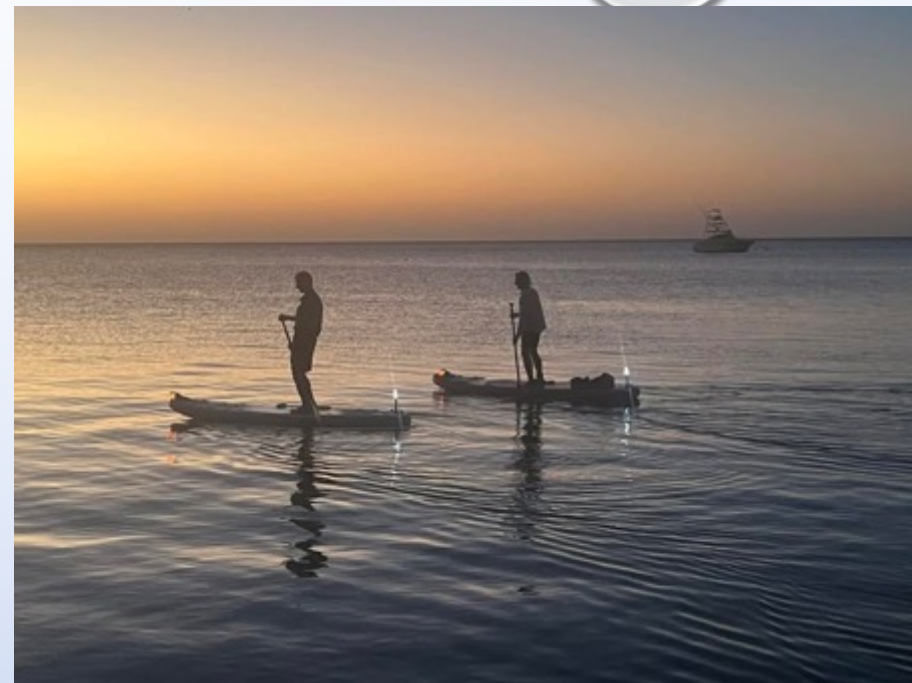
The best of both worlds...

Opens New adventures!!





*Touring...
or just putzing about*



HUNTING / GATHERING



Kayak Fishing



Kiteyaking



KAYAK SURFING



DESTINATIONS

PLAY WITH A PURPOSE!!!!
EXPERIENCE NEW ADVENTURES
ADD NEW SKILLS
MAKE NEW MEMORIES

- BOAT DIVE
- KAYAK
- PADDLEBOARD
- HIKE
- EXPLORE A CAVE/WATERFALL
- BEACH DIVE – SKIN & SCUBA



*It's a
Multi-Sport Adventure
Resort Charter!*



American WaterSports Association

Is Exclusively Booking

Clearwater Paradise Resort

Guanaja, Bay Islands, Honduras



Moonlight Paddles



Resort Boat Diving



Kayak & Paddleboard
Mangrove Lagoon and Coves

7-Night All-Inclusive

Boat Diving & PaddleSports Package:

Saturday – Saturday **March 13-20, 2027**

🚩 11 Boat Dives (includes 1 night dive)

Kayak & Paddleboard paddling orientation & cruises

Includes all meals, snacks, drinks (includes open bar)

Does NOT include: airfare, airport transfer & ferry package (Roatan to Guanaja), Honduran tourist & gov. tax, staff gratuities

MULTISPORT PACKAGE HIGHLIGHTS: ♦Free Kayak Diving Orientation, private instruction (\$150 Value) ♦Welcome Party ♦Boat Diving ♦Paddling Mangrove Lagoons & Coves ♦Beach party & skin dive at Michael's Rock ♦Pirate Fest ♦Jungle Waterfall or Cave Hike ♦Moonlight Paddling ♦Farewell Feast

Standard Diving Package price: \$1,995

LIMITED SPACE @ : \$1,895 [Deposit: \$250]

(per person double occupancy)

Email AWSA for availability: AWSA@AmericanWaterSports.ORG

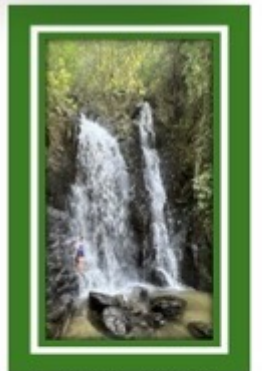
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Jungle Waterfall Hikes

Add-Ons / Supplement Options:

- Nitrox & Gear Rental
- 1 night Roatan hotel Pre-Package
- Open Water SCUBA Refresher Course
- Private Panga Dives (Tue. or Thu.)
- Fishing Charter (Tue or Thu).

SUMMARY

As a cross-sport,
knowledge and skill
competency in both
sports is critical



High quality training is
the most efficient,
effective, and safe way
to gain competency



Regular participation
ensures continued
competency ... take
advantage of the
destinations, shops,
agencies, & networks that
support paddlesports diving



No water???



No problem!!!





American Water Sports

AWSA

Association



AWSA@AmericanWaterSports.org

PLAY WITH A PURPOSE!!!!

EXPERIENCE NEW ADVENTURES

ADD NEW SKILLS

MAKE NEW MEMORIES

- BOAT DIVE
- KAYAK
- PADDLEBOARD
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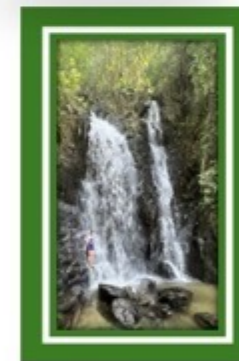
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GEAR & TOYS



WHAT THE SCIENCE SAYS

- **Noise** – An increasingly cacophonous ocean is impacting its inhabitants.
- **Diver transportation** – Size and propulsion make a difference
- **Diver behaviors** – Knowledge and skills are key

