

# SCUBA News

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Welcome to SCUBA News. I hope you find it useful. Any questions or comments email [news@scubatravel.co.uk](mailto:news@scubatravel.co.uk).

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## What's New at SCUBA Travel?



### Back in Time to Nicaragua

Quiet diving in the Caribbean, in the Pacific and in volcanic lakes. Lots to choose from in Nicaragua.

[Read More...](#)



### Diving the Greek Islands

Great visibility and plenty of wrecks - try Greek island diving in the Med.

[Read More...](#)



### Seychelles Scuba

The Seychelles are protecting 210,000 square kilometres of ocean and welcoming scuba divers.

[Learn More...](#)

## Liveboard Deals

### [Save \\$1100 on Galapagos Liveboard](#)



With features specially for photographers, save on liveboard visiting Galapagos Central Archipelago, Darwin And Wolf Islands.

[Learn More...](#)

## Divers' help needed mapping seagrass with app

New research shows that a fifth of the world's biggest fisheries depend upon healthy seagrass meadows. The meadows are also extremely important for small-scale fisheries.

Seagrasses are marine flowering plants that form extensive meadows in shallow seas on all continents except Antarctica. A new study, by scientists at Cardiff and Stockholm Universities, concludes that seagrasses should be recognised and managed to maintain and maximise their role in global fisheries production.

In the Mediterranean, for example, seagrass covers less than 2% of the sea floor, but seagrass-associated fish and invertebrate species comprise 30%-40% of the total value of commercial fisheries landings.

One of the author's of the study, Dr Leanne Cullen-Unsworth, says: "*Seagrass meadows support global fisheries productivity by providing nursery habitat for commercial fish stocks such as tiger prawns, conch, Atlantic cod and white spotted spinefoot*".

Seagrass meadows provide large foraging grounds for predatory fauna creating an abundance of fauna for human exploitation such as this Reef fish in Wales



Picture: Frogfish Photography



Seagrass meadows are currently experiencing rapid decline with loss estimated at around 7% of their global distribution annually

## How you can help

There is now an app for mapping Seagrass. You can become a citizen scientist and contribute to marine conservation with just a few taps of your phone. Get along to [Seagrass Spotter](#) and make your contribution.

## Further Reading

[Posidonia in Peril: Save the Seagrass Meadows](#), Gaye Rosier, [SCUBA News](#).

[Seagrass meadows support global fisheries production](#), Richard K.F. Unsworth Lina Mtwana Nordlund Leanne C. Cullen-Unsworth. Conservation Letters, 21 May 2018

Photos [CC BY 4.0](#)

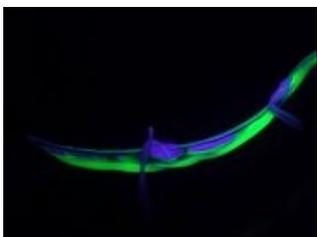
## Diving News From Around the World

Our round up of the best underwater news stories of the past month. For breaking news see our [Twitter page](#) or [RSS feed](#)



### [Red Sea Coral can Survive Climate Change, but not Sewage and Excess Nutrients](#)

Coral reefs in the north Red Sea are resilient to climate change and acidification, but excess nutrients from sewage, fish farms and flash floods can finish them off.



### [Transparent Eel-like Robot Swims Silently Underwater](#)

The bot is an important step toward a future when soft robots can swim in the ocean alongside fish and invertebrates without disturbing or harming them.



### [Oldest diver in the world is 94!](#)

Navy veteran Ray Woolley has been awarded the record of the world's oldest diver. Last year, at the age of 93, Ray did 51 dives. To mark his 94th birthday he made a 38-metre dive to a sunken ferry.

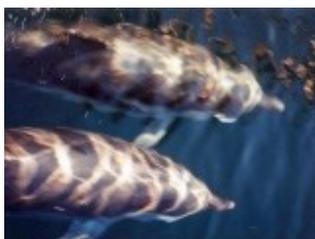


### [The animal that lives forever](#)

In the warm seas of the Mediterranean lives a jellyfish with an extraordinarily rare ability - it can



rewind its life cycle.



### **Shark fisheries hunting dolphins and other marine mammals as bait**

Scientists in Indonesia have found nine stunning new reef fish species in the protected waters off the country's largely untouched province of West Papua.



### **Deep-Sea Corals Win Protection in Gulf of Mexico**

Gulf of Mexico deep-sea corals have won protections today in a first-of-its-kind plan to safeguard some of the region's coral hot spots and restrict damaging fishing gear in most of those areas.



### **Third of Arabian Gulf's marine life could be extinct by 2090**

Rising water temperature, changing salinity and oxygen levels, and human activity, are all adding to the strain on sea life, with the report claiming that 35 per cent of the fauna found in the Arabian Gulf in 2010 will become extinct over the next 62 years.



### **How ocean pollution affects marine wildlife**

Around 1.4 billion pounds of garbage is dumped into the ocean every year, which along with other sources of pollution, including sewage, industrial waste, and oil spills, kills over a million seabirds and 100,000 sea mammals every year.

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#### CONTACTING THE EDITOR

Please send your letters or press releases to:

[Jill Studholme](#)

SCUBA News

The Cliff

Upper Mayfield

DE6 2HR

UK

[news@scubatravel.co.uk](mailto:news@scubatravel.co.uk)

PUBLISHER

[SCUBA Travel](#) Ltd, 5 Loxford Court, Hulme, Manchester, M15 6AF, UK