

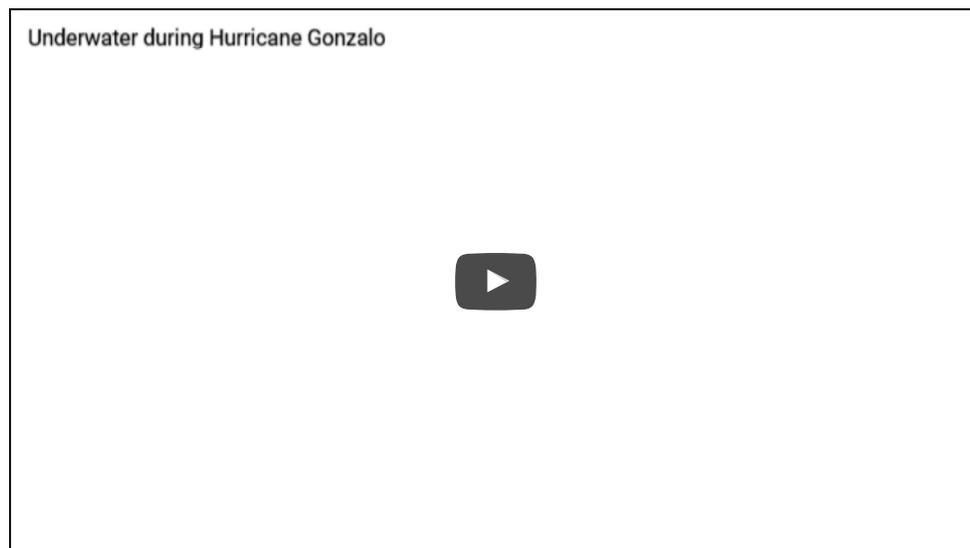


LOCAL

Talk of the Town: Underwater Hurricane Conditions, and Can We Feed Dolphins?

By Lisa Fleming Oct 21, 2016

f G+ t p in



EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER, 2016

M	T	W	T	F	S
.	1
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29
31					

Q. When we talk about weather and winds during a storm or hurricane it's always about above the water. What happens to our sea and marine life and how are they affected? Do hurricanes damage coral rock and artificial reefs? How much disturbance is actually happening under the water as opposed to above?

Jack, Marco Island

A. Dr. Bonnie Ponwith, the director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations (NOAA) Southeast Fisheries Science Center in Miami, Florida said, "Hurricanes effect our oceans but they are no stranger to hurricanes and they've found a way to persist in spite of the fact that they've existed throughout recorded history. But they can also do some good things for the ecosystem. Their high winds mix ocean water, bringing nutrients to the surface at a time when warm summer waters are often nutrient-depleted.



In a category 3 hurricane, the amount of wave action can be destructive to coral rock but can also create new coral colonies. For instance, boulder coral is typically found in deeper water and is more resilient to high energy, but the staghorn and elkhorn coral look like fingers and can be very vulnerable to wave action. However, if a piece is broken off it can move to a brand new area and establish itself.

Dolphins and other sea life can swim to where the ocean is 400 feet deep and may not feel a thing. It all depends on the configuration of the ocean floor and the amount of agitation above. While the winds grow stronger above, currents are changing below.

Every animal behaves differently. Take the larval fish for instance. It can be less than a centimeter long and its



ability to outswim a hurricane is impossible. But instead of trying to outswim one, they will swim down and dramatically influence its chances of surviving."

LATEST



US stocks close mostly lower; eke out the week



Joe Weatherby, president of Artificial Reefs International, with offices in Miami and Key West, said, "Our team has been part of sinking two artificial reefs in Florida: The Vandenberg, in Key West, a former military troop transport and former missile-tracking ship and the USS Mohawk off the coast of Sanibel Island. Neither has suffered any damage from a hurricane however, Dennis a category 3, in 2005 turned the 'Spiegel Grove,' a 510-foot retired Navy ship in Key Largo upright from its previous position on its starboard side in 130 feet of water!

During hurricane Gordon in 1994, a category 1, literally had the sunken Boeing 727, named the 'Spirit of Miami' off of Key Biscayne crack in half and sent it flying under the ocean. Part of the tail section and a piece of the wing were found and years later a piece of the fuselage showed up inside the cargo hold of a sunken freighter.



Image via 'diverdude'

There doesn't need to be a hurricane, over the years mother nature will cause deterioration to artificial reefs, whether that's 100 years or 1000 years. The ocean will dissolve anything over time, except for gold coins. If you ever find any gold in the ocean, be it a coin or earring, there is never any growth on it. It doesn't interact with saltwater."

You can see the USS Mohawk and more on their Website.

Bobby Cofield, director of marketing for View Into The Blue, located in Boulder, Colorado said, "People don't typically care about things they can't see. They see the surface; it's underneath that we all need to be concerned with and that's why we are in this business. We want to show people around the world how fragile yet how strong our ecosystem can be and the need to protect it.

In the video, we provided your readers to view, this camera was there originally to help attract divers to the British Virgin Islands especially to the dive charter featured in the top left-hand corner. Other partners were brought in to help cover the financial costs of the project. This turned the project into an educational installment as well. When Teens4Oceans.org got involved, they used the opportunity to educate kids with the first-hand experience about corals and the marine ecosystem, as well as the technology of the underwater camera and installing it. We also encourage our clients to remove the cameras ahead of a storm; how lucky for viewers and the equipment it all survived the storm and you have a rare glimpse of what is happening below."

Check out their other underwater live streaming videos here.

Q. We always see boaters feeding the dolphins and luring them to their boats. Isn't this illegal? Who do we report to?
Karla, Naples

A. "It is illegal and against the law to feed or harass wild dolphins," said Kim Amendola, Communications Director for NOAA Fisheries in St. Petersburg, Florida. "Violating the Marine Mammal Protection Act may result in civil penalties up to \$11,000 or criminal penalties up to \$100,000 plus one-year imprisonment. If you see anyone feeding dolphins take photos and video of the activity along with the boat registration number and immediately contact our hotline to report."

NOAA Hotline 1-800-853-1964

NOAA created this Public Service Announcement to educate all about the dangers of feeding dolphin.

TIDBIT ~ In the Atlantic and Northeast Pacific, we use the term 'hurricane' to describe severe storms with high-velocity winds that rotate around a central, low-pressure core. The same type of disturbance in the Northwest Pacific is called a 'typhoon' and 'cyclones' occur in the South Pacific and the Indian Ocean.

History of how the word Hurricane was named: Carib or Island Carib is the name of a people of the Lesser Antilles islands, it was noted that the Carib god 'Hurican' was derived from the Mayan god 'Hurakan', one of their creator gods, who blew his breath across the chaotic water and brought forth dry land and later destroyed the men of wood with a great storm and flood. Yikes! *Provided by NOAA*



Image via NOAA

© 2016 Naples Herald. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.



Early voting: Democrats show strength battlegrounds



Ex-California state senator gets prize taking bribes



Hacked emails: Clinton pushed for meeting in Morocco



THIS IS HOME.
COLDWELL BANKER
PREFERRED
Click Here to Start Your Search.
Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC



Get great content delivered straight to your inbox every morning Monday-Friday at 8:00am, just a click away, Sign Up Now.

First Name
Last Name
Email address
Join Us

NaplesHerald.com - FREE. NEWS. ALWAYS.



This Week's Circulars

Grid of promotional circulars for Grocery Outlet, Pop Days (Instore Savings, Shocktober), and Ride Safe Year Round.

Powered by fliip

Tags: dolphin feeding, hurricane, NOAA, talk of the town



PREVIOUS ARTICLE
HercRentals Celebrates Growth, Independence With Gov. Scott

NEXT ARTICLE
Final debate is third most-watched presidential match ever



You may also like



More sick sea lion pups washing up on California beaches



Agency proposes lifting protections for most humpback whales



Amount of carbon dioxide in air keeps rising, hits milestone

COMMENTS





Naples Herald is committed to bringing its readers trusted news and premium content, free of charge. Its mission is to support local businesses and people who are making a difference in the community. Naples Herald also offers an up-to-date business directory, classifieds website, and job board, with more premium features on the way.

9128 Strada Place #10115,
Naples, Florida 34108
(877) 498-4400
Contact us: contact@naplesherald.com

Popular Tags

- Featured (1468)
- Donald Trump (1273)
- Hillary Clinton (613)
- fgcu (458)
- Donald Trump presidential campaign (430)
- collier arrests (401)
- Barack Obama (314)
- Bernie Sanders (287)
- Islamic state (281)
- President Barack Obama (228)
- Marco Rubio (226)
- Hillary Rodham Clinton (220)

Recent Comments

-  1 day ago Walleye
And Hillary is ok with open border
-  1 day ago Walleye
The solution is simple. DO NOT M
IN TO BEAR TERRITOR ...
-  3 days ago Joey Fatone #EBK
WOW R.I.P
-  3 days ago Nattering Naybob
How much did it cost, parts and
installation? And when ...

