

Environmental Officer's Report – January 27.08

Environmental issues & projects for our marine waters continue in the slow mode giving participants the opportunity to get over the Holiday Season along with whipping down south for some 'fun in the sun'!

I continue to be dismayed at the 'negative attitude' of some squadron members who consider looking after the marine environment a joke. And put forward the attitude that the position of Environmental Officer is a position that holds little work and anything done in this area is of no significance. Therefore, making it very difficult to find environmentally conscience members to take on such an insignificant position – very sad indeed when some of us are working so hard to improve the enjoyment of the cruising season with healthier marine waters, that (we hope) will once again see abundant finfish stocks, along with all other wildlife that use these ecosystems to survive & flourish.

No update available for this DCM with regards to the National Marine Conservation Area and we still have hopes for the Pumpty Dumpty II to be in operation this coming cruising season.

On a lighter note, I wish to put forward our congratulations to Georgia Strait Alliance.

Georgia Strait Alliance's innovative Green Boating programme was honoured with the Canadian Safe Boating Council "Safeguarding the Environment" Award at the recent Canadian Safe Boating Award ceremony held on January 13, 2008 in Toronto. Through this programme, GSA helps the B.C.'s boating community reconnect with the waters and help to keep these waters clean for generations to come. Georgia Strait Alliance has been supporting boaters with the Green Boating programme since 2000 when it launched its popular "Guide to Green Boating" and since its inception generously supplies these guides to CPS VISD for all new boating students. We applaud their deserved recognition!

I have acquired 90 (as requested by TO Marti) Guide to Green Boating brochures for the VISD spring Boating Students. And also received a sufficient number to provide to our PRO Dave Gay, along with other educational material, for the Victoria Boat Show. Have all supplies with me today.

At this time I would like to put forward a motion to **'donate \$75 to Georgia Strait Alliance for their generous donation of another shipment of the Guide to Green Boating brochures'**.

Respectively submitted

Sara J. Steil
Environment Officer