

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

BY

DIVERS DIRECT AND **THE TARAS OCEANOGRAPHIC FOUNDATION**

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TOPIC: COLLABORATION TO ADVANCE OCEAN
CONSERVATION

Divers Direct, the World's Largest Authorized SCUBA Gear and SCUBA Diving Equipment Retailer, headquartered in Dania Beach, and the Taras Oceanographic Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to advancing marine science and the long-term survival of marine life and the oceans, headquartered in Jupiter, Florida, announce a newly formed collaboration.

The partnership of the two organizations is expected to

1. Aid and advance baseline research, monitoring and conservation of whales, dolphins, sea turtles and coral reefs;
2. Develop strategies, activities and materials to promote public awareness, appreciation and education of and pertaining to the marine environment, its resources and benefits; and
3. Promote the exploration and appreciation of the oceans through snorkeling and/or [SCUBA diving](#).

The Taras organization also seeks to generate an additional, urgently needed funding stream to support its research and conservation programs. For more information, please contact Dr. Stefan Harzen at the Taras Oceanographic Foundation (Phone: 561-762-6473; Email: harzen@taras.org).

Additional Information:



The Taras Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, based in Florida since 1998, dedicated to advancing marine science and the long-term survival of both people and the oceans. The Taras Foundation's mission - *To play a leadership role in preserving the marine environment and implement the principles of sustainability in Florida and the Caribbean through a unique international and multidisciplinary program of collaboration between the science and business communities* – is accomplished through a combination of research and outreach programs. The Taras Foundation operates the Palm Beach Dolphin Project (PBDP) and is a leader in creating highly precise digital maps of coral reefs and other critical habitats. As part of its outreach efforts, the Taras Foundation produces *Dolphin Dialogues*, a weekly radio program (dedicated to science, the environment, conservation and sustainability) and the *Meet the Scientist Lecture Series* aimed at promoting communication between scientists and the people of the communities in which they live and work. For more information please go to www.taras.org and www.coralcartography.org.



[Divers Direct](#) have been serving [SCUBA divers](#) for over 25 years, since 1984. We pride ourselves in providing [SCUBA divers](#) with a terrific shopping experience both on our website and at any of our four [South Florida Dive Shops](#). We also have a state of the art [scuba diving instruction program](#) that will make you a confident and safe SCUBA diver for the rest of your life.