

DeSSC report  
Sept 14, 2017  
UNOLS Council Meeting

– Updates on NDSF vehicles

– Other DeSSC activities



# DeSSC membership

## Current members

Craig Dawe (*MBARI*)

Amanda Demopoulos (*USGS*)

Dave Emerson (*Bigelow*)

Brian Glazer (*Univ. Hawaii*)

Nick Hayman (*UTIG*)

Laura Lapham (*Univ. Maryland*)

Anna-Louise Reysenbach, Chair (*Portland State U*)

Cindy Van Dover (*Duke*)

Scott White (*Univ, SC*)

Peter Girguis, (*ex-officio, Harvard*)

Rob Munier (*ex-officio, WHOI*)

Tim Shank (*ex-officio, WHOI*)

Adam Soule (*ex-officio, WHOI*)

# Alvin

- New Expedition Leader, Todd Litke, embedded during the Eric Cordes expedition
- Users ☺ . Eric Cordes expedition off Costa Rica
- 22 dives, only one shortened due to weather
- *"PIs actually asked me to stop taking samples because they didn't have anything to put them in"*
- Other complementing activities on his cruise.. Very successful
- but... still challenges regarding utilization rates, *no scheduled work for the next 8 months.*
- Flexibility between vehicle requests



# Sentry

- Continues to be an excellent tool especially in conjunction with other vehicles
- successful with Eric Cordes Alvin cruise
- -**Nitizinki** “deepwater canyons and slope habitats off the coast of North Carolina”
  - Operations improved 100% over last year.
  - Contributing factors:
    - mounting the USBL transducer assembly on the centerboard
    - improved Sentry navigation;
    - allowed for operations in high current (USBL pole vibrated against ship last year)
    - increased the weather window for launch and recovery of Sentry
  - Completed seven dives in five canyons
  - Documented (70 000 photos) deep-sea corals in southern canyons
  - Geology of canyons much different than northern canyons

# Jason

- Not much to report
- Jason was busy this summer with OOI
- Heavy lift capability still positive investment... some winch problems reported.



# Other activities:

- Telepresence white paper
- >4500 Alvin upgrade white paper
- Recommendations ---Environmental monitoring for SEABED mining... workshop ideas
- AGU, New users call and prep
- Thanks!

