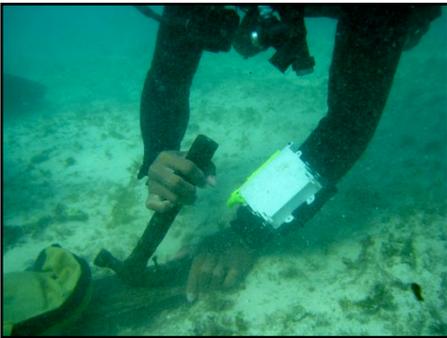


SCIENTIFIC DIVE TRAINING

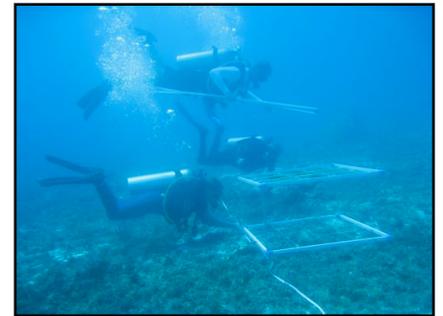
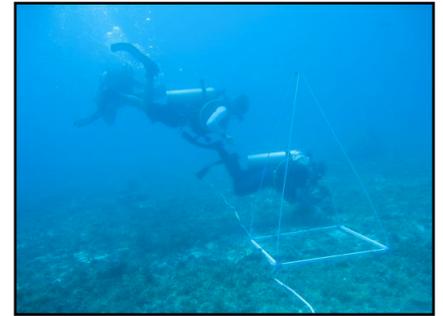


Top: Doing the limbo with a floatation device.

Bottom: Driving a nail into a wooden block without touching the substratum - much more difficult than it looks!

This year, TSRCP have introduced new rigorous training exercises to better enable its volunteer research assistants to conduct scientific sampling tasks in the field. Training takes place in the Bantigue “pool” during the first days of each expedition and has become a requisite for all RAs to gain access to the work site on Monad Shoal.

Based upon techniques developed and established by GUE, training focuses on perfecting peak performance buoyancy and awareness skills while laying line intercept transects to conduct high resolution tropical marine resource surveys. The new program has been extremely well received and has quickly gained a reputation for changing people’s perspective on their own diving abilities.



Putting training to good practice. TSRCP volunteer RAs survey tropical marine resources at depth in high resolution on Monad Shoal. Data acquired will help characterise the site and help quantify the extent to which it is being impacted by people.

NEW TSRCP GUEST HOUSE OPENS

On 23 September, TSRCP hosted it’s first volunteer research assistant in the new guest house. Located just behind BB’s Lodging House, the facility is community based, with three private bedrooms, two bathrooms, a large living room and a kitchen with dining area. The guest house boasts two wall murals, both painted by a local artist who goes by the name ‘Kulot’ and includes the largest shark on the island . “I wasn’t expecting to be so comfortable” said Ryan Booker, TSRCP’s latest volunteer RA.



Living room and door to kitchen



Entrance and doors to bedrooms



Standard accommodation



Main entrance and bathroom doorway



Dining/social area

NEW DIVEMASTERS

In keeping with our principle to pursue TSRCP as a legacy project, we are currently training 5 of our staff to become divemasters. Medel and Felimar will be certified by the end of November with Zaldie, Crispin and JR expected to follow shortly thereafter.