

Main Identity

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Sent: Friday, October 26, 2007 4:03 PM
Subject: Manta Alert Newsletter

M A N T A A L E R T

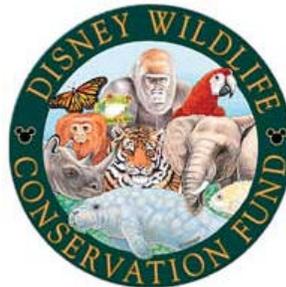
**The Official Newsletter of The Manta Network
 Issue No. 15, October 2007**



NEWS

Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund Grant Awarded

The Manta Network has been chosen to receive a Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund award for 2007. We were selected from over 260 applications. The \$1.5 million dollar fund supports several important research projects and is made possible by donations from guests visiting Walt Disney World Resort, Disney Vacation Club and Disney Cruise Line.



▶ www.disneywildlifefund.com

TMN's Indonesia Manta Migration study will investigate the movements of mantas as they leave the Alor Islands in Indonesia which is located near the Komodo National Reserve. This grant will make possible the tagging of manta rays in an area of the world where they are most threatened.

TMN Conducts Research in the Maldives

Tim Clark, member of the Manta Science Advisory Board, concluded our first acoustic tracking studies in the Maldives. Working together with our manta affiliate, Guy Stevens, they actively tracked a manta ray named Doris as she snaked around the atolls of Duravandu and Madu. In addition, several VR2 acoustic bottom monitors were positioned to allow six other mantas to be monitored on an ongoing basis. ▶ See map of Doris's track

JOIN US AT DEMA IN

Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2007

Orange County Convention Center

Visit Booth #170

TMN will be on hand at the 31st International Equipment & Marketing Association for scuba diving, ocean sports and adventure/dive travel industries of only a small handful of environmentalists to exhibit. Visit us in Booth #170 about our efforts to protect the lives of manta and mobula rays. In addition, MantaCam will be on display.

▶ Download our new manta alert newsletter

STATE OF THE OCEANS ECOLOGICAL DEMA

The Ocean Realm Society is hosting the first environmentally-oriented conference ever to be held at DEMA. This one-day summit will showcase the work of a variety of non-profit, eco-oriented organizations. Manta Network's Director, Robert Aston, will join other speakers at the summit to be held in **1st in meeting room S320B**. For schedule visit: ▶ State of the Oceans Summit

FIRST INTERNATIONAL MANTA SYMPOSIUM ANNOUNCED

July 23-28, 2008: Le Centre

Tim's preliminary report will be available in November. His findings will be presented at the International Manta and Mobula Symposium next July. See announcement ►



Anne-Marie Kitchen-Wheeler Copyright ©2007

Meanwhile, a team of Manta Network field research assistants participated in the identification of mantas while aboard the Sea Spirit in the Maldives. Under the direction of Anne-Marie Kitchen-Wheeler, research assistants documented numerous sightings over a 10-day period. These observations will be added to the ongoing research conducted by Anne-Marie and will be included in the Manta Network's Global Manta Database.

**ASSISTANT MANTA RESEARCHERS
NEEDED FOR 2008
MANTA FIELD WORK**

Sign up now to learn more about 2008 Manta Expeditions.

► Register Now

Please do not send me further announcements.
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Sheraton, Montreal, Canada

The Manta Network will co-sponsor a groundbreaking event held in conjunction with the annual AES meeting. For information on how to attend and/or participate, contact Heidi Dewar ► heidi.dewar@no

**Sponsors Sought
MANTA CLEANING STATIONS**



We are seeking sponsors to help fund the deployment of underwater IP camera cleaning stations around the world. MantaCam is manufactured by OceanPresence Technologies and allows for real-time monitoring of manta ray behavior. This live camera can be accessed by researchers from anywhere in the world, making possible live educational broadcasts over the Internet. If you would like to help with this important conservation work, please contact Robert Aston ► robert@mantas

For information on IP camera cleaning stations, visit
www.OceanPresence.com
or request a Brochure ► JOIN the Telepresence