



Experiment going to Ki

Staff report

Experimental concrete fish attractors will be sunk on a South Carolina reef as part of a national program to evaluate the effectiveness of the units.

Reef Ball Development Group of Doraville, Ga., recently launched a program called Reef Balls Around the Nation to place 100 or more "reef balls" in every reef-building program in the nation.

Reef balls are hollow concrete structures three to six feet in diameter that are molded around a reusable, inflated bladder. About 12 reef balls of three different sizes will be sunk on the Kiawah Reef (4KI) southeast of Charleston.

South Carolina is the second state to participate in the program. More than 300 reef balls recently were added to artificial reefs off the Florida coast.

"The company has provided us with the use of the molds for 60 days so our only cost is the concrete and the transportation to the reef," said Mel Bell, artificial reef manager for the Marine Resource

SCDNR Photo by Pete Lauria

ayd Stubbs of DNR removes a concrete reef ball from its fiberglass mold.

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