

Volunteer Diver Statement of Understanding
Complete if volunteering to participate in scientific diving (skin or scuba) activities

I, _____, an Independent Volunteer Service Provider, do hereby affirm and
(please write full name)

acknowledge that I am fully aware of the inherent hazards and risks associated with all forms of diving. I understand that these risks can lead to severe injury and even loss of life and that diving operations may be conducted at a site that is remote from a recompression chamber and competent medical assistance. With this knowledge, I choose to proceed even in the absence of a recompression chamber and competent medical assistance. Additionally, I understand that there are also risks associated with dive travel, including, but not limited to the possible injury or loss of life as a result of a dive boat accident, as well as travel to and from dive sites. Despite the potential hazards and dangers associated with the activity of diving, I wish to proceed and I freely accept and expressly assume all risk, dangers and hazards, whether foreseen or unforeseen, that may arise from diving activities which could result in personal injury, loss of life and property damage to me.

Additionally, I have read, understand, and agree to the following:

1. As an Independent Volunteer Contractor, I will be solely responsible for the conduct of all personal diving activities performed under this agreement.
2. That I have been trained and certified by a nationally recognized scuba training agency and that I will observe and practice all safe diving procedures and guidelines outlined by my training agency for my level of certification.
3. That skin and SCUBA diving are physical activities involving heavy exertion and total immersion in water, and that even momentary impairment of consciousness underwater may be fatal. I further understand that there is a risk of drowning while engaged in aquatic activities.
4. That divers are subject to a variety of pressure-related injuries and influences, which may have serious consequences, and that some of these injuries and influences may include, but are not limited to ruptured eardrums, burst lungs, arterial gas embolism, decompression sickness, and nitrogen narcosis.
5. That diving with compressed air involves certain risks, and injuries can occur, which require treatment in a hyperbaric chamber. I further understand that the diving operations will be conducted at a site that is remote, by time and distance from a hyperbaric chamber, and nonetheless agree to proceed with such dives. I still wish to proceed with said diving activities in spite of the possible absence of a hyperbaric chamber in proximity to the dive site.
6. In the performance of this contract, I may be diving during periods of reduced visibility, rough water, exposure to extremes of temperature, and when there is risk of entanglement from lines, buoys, or aquatic vegetation.
7. It is my responsibility to refuse to dive if in my judgment I am not qualified for the diving depth, environmental conditions, equipment, or procedures designated for the operation, or if I am not in proper physical or mental condition for diving.

Signature

Date