



Top Stories

By: James Whittaker | james.whittaker@cfp.ky
11 September, 2013

- Public pensions in \$178M hole
- Woman arrested in Nation Building Fund probe
- Bank employee jailed for theft
- Conservation law moves closer
- When governments break pension promises

A- A+ Like 0 Tweet 0 Share

> Be the first person to share your comment



Marine Research Officer Bradley Johnson, from the Department of Environment, checks out the new hydrophones.

Top 12 Metal Detectors

www.kellycodetecto...
Big Sale 35-72% off +
Free Shipping Great
Specials - Free
Accessories!



Scuba diving pioneer Jacques Cousteau famously described life beneath the ocean's surface as "the silent world." But it turns out life beneath the waves may not be so quiet after all.

International researchers have discovered that different fish use grunts, chirps and pops to communicate.

Now the Cayman Islands Department of Environment is listening in on fish sounds to help build data on the number and variety of species at various sites.

Using specialized underwater devices called hydrophones, the Department of Environment, the Reef Environmental Education Foundation and the Darwin Initiative are identifying fish species that visit designated spawning sites.

The hydrophones act like microphones that pick up sounds that fish make and convert them into audio signals and measurable data. The scientists use the data to determine which species, such as Nassau grouper, and the number of fish that frequent the sites.

Department of Environment Marine Research Officer Bradley Johnson said the hydrophones provide stronger data than the methods used previously.

"We have been tracking fish species via in-water monitoring and acoustic tagging for many years now," he said. "However, this allowed us to only track fish that we tagged while they passed by the monitoring stations. With these hydrophones, we can now record underwater sounds at the spawning sites every five minutes. The data is more comprehensive and, ultimately, they provide greater understanding of which species use the sites, and their abundance."

Three hydrophones, which were funded by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, are deployed in Little Cayman. A fourth, in Grand Cayman, was purchased through the Darwin Initiative grant, funded through the U.K. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

A fifth hydrophone will be installed in Cayman Brac within the next few months. All of the hydrophones will be deployed for six months at a time.

Share your Comment

dreamfinders.com



The Face of Real Estate in the Cayman Islands

RE/MAX Cayman Islands

What is your dream?

Most Read Stories

- 'Nightmare' roller-coaster ride for scholarship recipient
- Gov't still seeking PR-status board
- The vote landowners will never forget
- Complaints office cites 'immigration success story'
- Police arrest 20 in road safety campaign

12th Annual
OffshoreAlert Conference MIAMI
AN EVENT TAILORED FOR THE OFFSHORE WORLD



MAY 4-6 2014 | THE RITZ-CARLTON, SOUTH BEACH

Compass
Public pensions in \$178M hole

VIEW TODAY'S PRINT EDITION FRONT PAGE

Ristorante Pappagallo

Lobster Season!
Fresh Local Lobster

A Powerful Business Opportunity

Seeking Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) for the development and construction of 36 MW of new power generation on Grand Cayman.

Deadline for SOQs is December 20, 2013

CLICK HERE

ERA Electricity Regulatory Authority Cayman Islands

We welcome your comments on our stories. Comments are submitted for possible publication on the condition that they may be edited and that your full name will be published with your comment.

IMPORTANT IDENTITY INFORMATION: Whilst we collect login information from you, this information will be kept confidential and only used to contact you directly, if required. We require a working email address - not for publication, but for verification. Your full name will be published with your comment. [Read our ethics policy](#)

Please login to comment on our stories. [LOGIN](#) | [REGISTER](#)

Site Map

[Search](#)
[Disclaimer](#)
[TV Guide](#)
[Contact us](#)
[Letters to the Editor](#)
[Read our Ethics Policy](#)

Stay informed

[Our Digital Newspaper](#)
[Email - Breaking News & Alerts](#)
[RSS - Sign up today](#)
[E-Version](#)
[Video reports](#)
[Subscribe to our newspaper](#)

 [Find us on Facebook](#)

 [Follow us on Twitter](#)

 [Find us on Google+](#)

Advertise with us

[Terms & Conditions](#)
[Place your advertisement](#)
[Advertise with us](#)
[Jobs at Cayman Free Press](#)

Publications

[Caymanian Compass](#)
[The Journal](#)
[Cayman Financial Review](#)
[Flava Cayman](#)
[This is Cayman](#)
[Key To Cayman](#)
[What's Hot](#)
[InsideOut](#)
[Precision Print](#)
[The Map](#)
[Hurricane Supplement](#)

Copyright © 2013 Cayman Free Press Ltd. All Rights Reserved.