



## 1999 WINTER PRINT: TARPON

Dear REEF Contributor:

Thank you for your most generous contribution to REEF. Without your help REEF could not continue to assemble and disseminate vital information about fish population trends and biodiversity needed by the marine life management and environmental communities to save our seas.

This year's print is a school of Tarpon (I call them the "stainless steel fish"), taken at the original "Tarpon Alley" off the SW tip of Grand Cayman way back in the early winter of 1973. I discovered the dive site quite by accident while operating the Caribbean's first live-aboard dive boat the Cayman Diver. We were running from a winter storm (Nor'wester) and passed over a shallow area of narrow winding canyons. The topography looked so interesting that we returned the next day for an exploratory dive. Much to our surprise we found an "in resident" school of magnificent tarpon that were apparently curious about divers. Rather than fleeing divers, they would often turn and make a close pass before moving to another part of the reef. Eventually the picture was published in Skin Diver as part of its long running "Fish-Of-The-Month" series in December of 1976. Hope you enjoy!

For the photo buffs, check out the old equipment used to take the picture: a Nikonos II with a Secor Seaye 21mm lens (the first quality wide angle lens available for the Nikonos), at a 60th, f8, Subsea Mark 150 strobe on full power, using Kodachrome 64 film.

*Best "Fishes"*  
*Paul Humann*

**Thank you for supporting marine conservation!**