



## University of Hawai'i Diving Safety Program

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF ESSENTIAL DIVING UNDER UH AUSPICES DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC**

While The UH Diving Control Board's COVID Pandemic stand-down orders are in effect, no dive plan will be considered for approval by the DCB excepting under following conditions:

- Verification and Approval must be obtained at the Dean or Director Level, after consultation with the appropriate senior campus administrator (e.g., Vice-Chancellor for Research, UH-Manoa) that the specific diving activity is highly time-critical, absolutely essential to the University's research mission, and meets the following criteria:
- The diving activity proposed is of a small scale and short duration intended to:
  - Wind down ongoing research infrastructure to a point of stasis, after which a non-diving period can be sustained; or
  - Recover previously deployed equipment or instruments which would be damaged or data lost by a lengthy delay in recovery (deployment of additional equipment is not approved); or
  - Prevent serious injury or significant environmental damage.
- The dive team must consist of no more than one buddy pair, one standby diver/support staff and one vessel operator.
- The dive plan for the specific task must include measures approved by the DCB for prevention of COVID transmission between any participants or support personnel during diving, and during ancillary activities such as vehicular and boating transits and operations.

All approvals by the DCB will be contingent on the logistic feasibility of the proposed activity under current conditions and are subject to change as events dictate.

Rev. 1 APPROVED BY UH DCB 3/23/2020