

**“Home Front Hawai`i: a Naval Legacy beneath the Sea,”**

**Webinar Reflection Paper**

**For**

**Life and Marine Science: Tracking Live Marine Animals**

**By**

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On February 5th, 2019 I attended an online webinar of which I found to be very informative and helpful for my students. The following ideas are what I found to be useful for the students and myself. I plan on showing the archived webinar to my students this week because we are currently working on an Ocean Unit and some of the students have already brought up the idea that planes crashing or ships sinking might affect the Ocean environment in some way, when we did our Google VR expedition to the Florida Keys and Galapagos islands last week.

Some of the key ideas I learned from Dr. Hans Van Tilberg Ph.D. were amazing. First, I didn't realize there were 14 National Marine Sanctuaries. Dr. Tilberg is a Maritime Archaeologist. He studies 1960's Maritime heritage, specifically, shipwrecks, military, and historical. He spoke about different technology that allows Maritime Archeologists to be able to study this items under the water. The Okeanos Explorer ROV can go to shipwrecks and the bottom of the ocean floor. Any information they acquire goes directly to the lab. It is remotely operated so they can investigate the parts of the crash site they want to see.

Dr. Tilberg goes on to speak about the positive and negative effects that these crashes have on the ecosystem. Some of the good things mentioned were, The debris left behind become part of the ecosystem and marine animals use them as a habitat. Also, they provide fishing sites. Some of the negative impacts mentioned were damage to the Coral Reefs, storms push around

debris again, and Ivon in the water can change the composition of the water.

He also spoke about technology and how far it has come when it comes to investigating the Ocean. It started with hold your breath, to bubbles and beyond. He mentioned Jacques Cousteau got us down to 200 ft. Then came the rebreathers (scuba divers) which could go down to 300-500ft.

Finally, he spoke about the history of the Hawaiian islands and how it was during the war years. He mentioned that many naval aircraft were lost in the Hawaiian waters were from military training exercises. From 1932-1945 they began to use Amphibian vessels and tactics instead of hugh ships. These specialized vessels were specially designed and took equipment and supplies to troops from land. He ended by saying there are 2,127 shipwrecks that have still not been located. I feel like the students would learn a lot from the positive and negatives effects on the ecosystem along with the technology advancements that were mentioned.