



AUG 20 Posted 4:09pm

Dr. Yanagihara reports on the jellyfish

Monday 2:39pm EDT 46:56 Swim time

Dr. Angel Yanagihara reports on Diana's encounter with Jellyfish

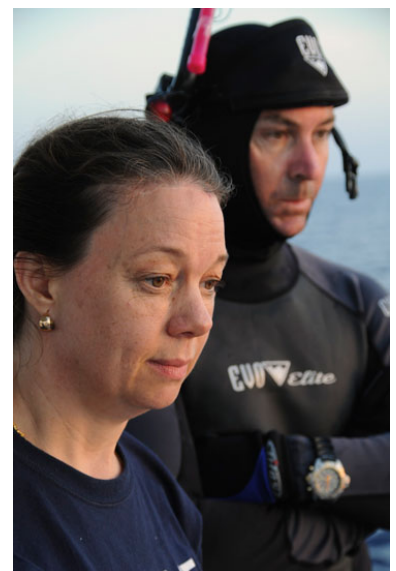


photo Christi Barli

Diana is doing very well. She swimming strong. The first night with complete nightmare. We really has a full plate dealing with multiple species of jelly. And our worst case fear was that she would encounter box jelly's going across the Florida straits and she unfortunately did run across them literally. We had to pull a piece of tentacle off her fingers. I brought with me on board a microscope so I put the tentacle on the microscope to have a look at the stinging cells. We want to be able to have as much information as possible to consider what the best treatment options were going forward.

We responded with some treatments that I have developed at the University of Hawaii at my research lab, and reacted well to the treatment. She got some confidence back and reduced her pain. She went back out, just soldiering on. We went thru that about 8 times over the course of the nighttime hours. It was really exhausting just for us on the boat, but she kept going strong through all that.

When daylight came, we were all relieved. As anticipated, the zooplankton moved deeper in the water column and we had a glorious day. The daytimes have been quite wonderful and not facing this kind of sting hazard, but the night times have been pretty difficult. Having said that, we are swimming strong and looking good. We are all very proud of her and pleased to be part of this expedition. (photo: Christi Barli)



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--Dr. Angel Yanagihara, jellyfish expert

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