

### **2014 Aquarius Reef Base Day Rates**

#### **Aquarius Undersea Laboratory**

##### **Per Mission Setup: \$16,380**

This fee covers:

- Habitat and support equipment preparations.
- Training for up to five (5) aquanauts (4 prime and 1 standby).
- Dive equipment (except personal equipment).<sup>1</sup>
- The use of a single research vessel<sup>2</sup> with a captain/supervisor during training week for diving operations<sup>3</sup> (five offshore days). Fee includes fuel.<sup>4</sup>

*Note: This fee covers setup for a typical science mission. A mission that involves more than one decompression but only one training period and no significant gaps between saturation periods (e.g., two back-to-back five-day missions) would only incur one setup fee.*

##### **Saturation Day Rate: \$14,513**

This fee covers:

- Daily operations of the Aquarius habitat including shore activities and offshore work as required for basic habitat support.
- Material transfers ('potting') to and from the habitat as available based on the Aquarius support vessel schedule. Potting may not be available every day.
- Shore watch standing, including facilitation of video and other conferencing events from Aquarius.
- Surface support from an ARB chamber support vessel during SCUBA excursions.
- Dive equipment (except personal equipment).<sup>1</sup>
- The use of a single research vessel<sup>2</sup> with a captain/supervisor for diving operations.<sup>3</sup> Fee includes fuel.<sup>4</sup>

*Note: A typical 10-day Aquarius saturation project will be quoted at \$161,510.*

##### **1-ATA Aquarius Operations Rate: \$2,256 per standard eight-hour day**

Description: In one-atmosphere mode (1-ATA), divers enter the habitat, hatches are secured and the internal pressure is returned to surface. Divers are sequestered inside Aquarius and cannot leave until the end of the operation, however, they can communicate with divers on the reef, conduct live videoconferences and experience an extended stay not possible on a single no-decompression dive from the surface. This mode of operation doesn't involve saturation diving and requires only a short training session beforehand. 1-ATA operations are especially useful for conducting live education events (e.g., giving a course lecture or hosting multiple outreach events), real-time testing of sensors and equipment where direct interaction and observation is preferred and stable power and Internet connectivity are required, and for project development prior to launching a full saturation mission.

This fee covers:

- Daily costs of operating the Aquarius habitat in 1-ATA mode including shore activities and offshore work as required for basic habitat support.
- Material transfers ('potting') to and from the habitat prior to and immediately after dive.
- Facilitation of video and other conferencing events from Aquarius.
- Dive equipment (except personal equipment).<sup>1</sup>
- The use of a single research vessel<sup>2</sup> with a captain/supervisor for diving operations.<sup>3</sup> Fee does not include fuel.<sup>5</sup>

## **Day Boat and Support Operations**

### **Day Rate: \$998**

This fee covers:

- Dive equipment (except personal equipment).<sup>1</sup>
- The use of a single research vessel<sup>2</sup> with a captain/supervisor for diving operations.<sup>3</sup> Fee does not include fuel.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Personal dive equipment not provided by ARB – thermal protection, mask and fins.

<sup>2</sup> Research vessel capacities vary from 6-10 passengers/divers.

<sup>3</sup> Scuba diving conducted under the Scientific Exemption to OSHA Commercial Diving Regulations. For participant diving activities that do not fall under the Scientific Exemption, an additional of \$350 per day could be added to cover the required staff standby diver.

<sup>4</sup> Fuel is included for diving activities conducted within a 10 nm radius of the Islamorada shore base (area bounded approximately by Rodriguez Key to the northeast, Conch Reef to the east and Alligator Reef to the southeast).

<sup>5</sup> Fuel will be billed at cost and added to final invoice. For planning purposes, fuel cost for boating activities conducted within a 10 nm radius of the Islamorada shore base (area bounded approximately by Rodriguez Key to the northeast, Conch Reef to the east and Alligator Reef to the southeast) are approximated at \$125 per round trip.