



Dear Colleagues and Friends

Happy New Year! It's been a great year for the MarineGEO program and Tennenbaum Marine Observatories Network, and that's because of the hard work of our team throughout the Smithsonian, our invaluable partners, and support from each of you. *Thank you!*

During 2016, we conducted successful field research at eight MarineGEO sites, with our partners at San Francisco Bay, Friday Harbor, British Columbia, and Hawaii — along with the Smithsonian's stations in Florida, Chesapeake Bay, Belize, and Caribbean Panama. Highlights included initiating our drone habitat mapping program, engaging >40 partners in a coordinated experiment measuring predation intensity throughout the world's nearshore waters, and working with our Reef Life Survey partners to train TMON staff as the first certified diver trainers in that program. We completed a collection of ten educational videos posted to the MarineGEO Youtube channel (<http://bit.ly/1h09eZT>) with support from the Smithsonian Women's Committee. And we supported a total of five Postdoctoral Scholars and three undergraduate interns during the year.

We look forward to another year at the frontiers in 2017, building on our growing time series, inaugurating research at new sites in Texas and Tasmania, and launching a global experiment to evaluate human and natural drivers of coastal biodiversity and vulnerability to invasive species. A landmark (seamark?) will be hiring a Data Manager in the new year to lead ongoing plans to complete a central data system for MarineGEO.

We look forward to working with you all and wish you the best for a healthy and productive New Year.

Emmett and the MarineGEO team

P.S. Despite the voluminous distribution list I've undoubtedly forgotten some deserving parties—apologies! Please feel free to forward.