

*Classroom Exploration of the Oceans 2006*  
A NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and National Geographic Oceans for Life  
Virtual Teacher Workshop Series  
October 9 – 20 and November 6 – 17, 2006  
Register for free at: <http://www.coexploration.org/ceo2006>

Few of us realize more of our nation is under water than on land! Come learn about some of the most important areas of the 4.4 million square miles of ocean habitats within the US Exclusive Economic Zone. All registered participants will receive a free copy of the newest National Geographic map, *From Sea to Shining Sea, Exploring America's Ocean Realms*.

The *Classroom Exploration of the Oceans* virtual teacher workshop series is a free professional development program offered to anyone who has access to the world-wide web. Leading and emerging scientists will present their work to you online allowing you to ask them questions directly. The workshop also provides links to educational resources that can extend this exciting research into your classroom. Lastly, the workshop acts as educators network to discuss what works best in the classroom and how to promote ocean literacy everywhere. Graduate credit is also available.

The *Classroom Exploration of the Oceans* virtual teacher workshop series will have four 1-week sessions that include the following:

Week 1: October 9 – 13: **From Sea to Shining Sea: Exploring America's Ocean Realm.** Drs. Elliott Norse, Lance Morgan and Jennifer Palmer from the Marine Conservation Biology Institute, will discuss compelling ecological stories and conservation updates on little-known places in America's seascape, including the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, the Beaufort Sea, the Gulf of Alaska seamounts, Monterey Canyon, Georges Bank and the Gulf of Mexico.

Week 2: October 16 – 20: **Exploring the Lost City Hydrothermal Field: A New Submarine Ecosystem.** Dr. Krsitin Ludwig, Emerging Scientist and Ph.D. Student, University of Washington School of Oceanography will focus on The Lost City Hydrothermal Field discovered in December, 2000, near the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. Spectacular 18-story tall limestone towers are the hallmark of the field, where the geology, chemistry, and biology are unlike any other known hydrothermal system.

Week 3: November 6 – 10: **Exploring Submarine Volcanoes: Taking the Pulse of the Earth.** Dr. Robert W. Embley, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, NOAA, will present his research on hydrothermal systems associated with submarine volcanoes, host of some Earth's most extreme ecosystems.

Week 4: November 13 – 17: **Life at the Edge, Real Animals in Extreme Environments.** Charles Fisher is a Professor of Biology at the Pennsylvania State University will bring to life his research on the very long-lived critters at the hydrocarbon seeps of the Gulf of Mexico.

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