

ACOUSTICS2008/134
Discovery of Sound in the Sea website: Educational and media resources

Kathleen Vigness Raposa^a and Gail Scowcroft^b

^aMarine Acoustics, Inc., 809 Aquidneck Ave., Middletown, RI 02842, USA

^bUniversity of Rhode Island, Graduate School of Oceanography, Narragansett, RI 02882, USA

The scientific community and the public have become increasingly aware of, and concerned about, underwater sound. There is growing interest in learning about sources and uses of underwater sound, and potential effects of sound on the marine environment. Underlying this interest, however, is a need to provide scientific information at a level appropriate for the general public and for educational and media professionals that communicate with the public. The "Discovery of Sound in the Sea" website (<http://www.dosits.org>) provides scientific content introducing the physical science of underwater sound and how people and animals use sound to accomplish various tasks. In addition, it has recently been expanded to include three major resource sections: (1) Media Resources, (2) Teacher Resources, and (3) Student Resources. The Media Resources include a Facts & Myths quiz, Frequently Asked Questions, and PDF reprints of a tri-fold pamphlet and a 12-page educational brochure highlighting the content of the website. The Teacher and Student Resources include structured tutorials, educational games, and PowerPoint presentations. These resource sections provide easy, efficient access to timely information on the science of underwater sound and the current state of knowledge of the effects of underwater sound on marine mammals and fishes.