

The Concept

Who Are We? Ocean Ecology carries out community-based, independent, scientific research. Based out of Prince Rupert, we combine in-depth knowledge of the west coast marine environment with scientific expertise in the fields of biology, chemistry, and oceanography. We use low-cost, appropriate technology for oceanographic sampling and data collection, thus providing remote communities with the opportunity to gather detailed information about the marine environment. Using our knowledge of computer mapping and modeling techniques, we can analyze and visualize this data to create a greater understanding of our oceanic world.

The Concept: To be an independent, community-based scientific research organization that:

1) provides affordable and rapid marine monitoring and assessment capabilities.
2) provides honest and objective data for community-based resource management planning.
3) operates in a manner which honors our guiding principles.
4) enhances our community by supporting local resource management, sustainability, resilience, and growth towards localism.

Our Guiding Principles:

- Sustainability
- Conservation
- Right Livelihood
- Open Science
- Localism
- Quality
- Professional Ethics - integrity, competence, and responsibility

How Will We Achieve This?

1) The sale of our current oceanographic research ship will provide sufficient funds to allow us to purchase a smaller, more economical (reducing our engine size from 225 hp to 40-80 hp), and greener (sails for wind-powered travel) research ship. Funds from this sale should also be sufficient to allow us to regear the new ship and convert some of our old equipment (multibeam sonar, sidescan sonar, A-frame and sampling apparatus) for use on the new ship.
2) We will seek a combination of funding, ethical (right livelihood) work, and donations* to purchase new up-to-date equipment that will allow us to better meet the needs of our community. In particular, we are seeking funding, donations*, and employment that will assist us in obtaining:
    a. a waterproof drone capable of carrying sufficient payload such that it can perform high definition intertidal surveys (see the Mariner FPV Kit at http://fpvfactory.com/). Approximate cost with cameras (2 GoPro Hero3+ for top and bottom views) is $2,200 US.
    b. a small and affordable ROV capable of doing subtidal investigations in the shallow nearshore environment (see the Deep Trekker DTG2 Worker at http://www.deeptrekker.com/collections/all/products/dtg2-worker-rov). Approximate cost with additional waterproof dive housing for camera is $10,060 US.

*We will accept donations from people and organizations who feel that the work we are doing is valuable and worth funding, and who can rise to the challenge of giving money without strings attached. However, we are not a non-profit organization, and cannot issue tax deductible receipts to donors. Due to the present government's tendencies to perceive scientific research which does not support their current agendas as political, and the requirement that registered charities cannot be involved in partisan political activities, we have decided not to register as a non-profit in order to ensure our freedom-of-speech with respect to our scientific research. Also, while we are happy to accept donations, we prefer to work from the point of view of fund-earning - that is, we like to believe that the work we are doing is worth being paid for (e.g., to earn a right livelihood)