

Parting shots

I have done alot of East Coast Wreck Diving [NJ, DE, MD] and I have photographed alot of different animals. But have never really taken an interest in any specific species until recently. After a trip to British Columbia, I fell in love with photographing Wolf Eels. But after returning to my native PA, there of course were none to photograph. Soon after I was diving off the coast of Delaware on the wreck Northern Pacific, a 500ft ocean liner lying inverted at 140fsw. I noticed these “eels” hiding everywhere. I started to approach and photograph them and they were not shy nor did they retreat into their holes. They actually seemed to enjoy the attention and were very curious about the bubble-blowing diver in front of them. “FLASH” and they were still curious, it was amazing. I could shoot them all I wanted and they just stared at me. Needless to say I shot about 50 pics that dive and 50 more pics on the 2nd dive of the day. After showing some of the other divers on the dive boat my pics [digital is wonderful in this way] I was informed this specie was the Ocean Pout.

I returned home to start my investigation between Ocean Pout and



Wolf Eels. I searched the internet and low and behold the ocean pout and wolf eel are from the same family - zoarcidae! This was great news to me, I now have a favorite specie to photograph. I am now fully involved in photographing Ocean Pout and I am building quite a collection of shots of this playful eel.

I hope all avid photographers have the same experience and develop a love for a particuluar subject, it injects new fun into underwater photography. My next goal: sunken German U-Boats!!!!

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Do you have a nice shot with a short story behind it?

If so e mail me and yours could be the next “Parting shot”.

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