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Divernet News, dateline 10 March 2006

NZ artificial reef breaks in two

An artificial reef that has been sunk for only four months has broken in two.

The F69 HMNZS Wellington was sunk in Island Bay close to Wellington in New Zealand on 13 November last year, but now a 200m exclusion zone has been set up around the vessel while police divers assess the damage.

The wreck was buffeted by massive surges during a one -in-50-year storm that ravaged the Wellington coastline this week. After the storm debris was washed up on the beach of Island Bay, divers found that the wreck had broken its back just behind its twin-gun turret, with the stern section pushed around from a southerly to a north-westerly direction.

"There is no navigational risk but a large number of divers explore the wreck and we need to be sure that the F69 is still a safe place to dive," said Captain Mike Pryce, Regional Harbourmaster.

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... straight down the line

Latest News

New Zealand moves to protect great whites New Zealand is gearing up to protect the great white shark, its Conservation Minister has confirmed. Chris Carter has released a discussion document that asks for opinions on protecting New Zealand's great white sharks protection. *14 March 2006*

Acid threat to South-west Phosphoric acid could leak from the sunken Turkish-owned tanker mv Ece and disrupt the eco-system around the south-west of the UK, according to the National Oceanography Centre. *10 March 2006*

NZ artificial reef breaks in two An artificial reef that has been sunk for only four months has broken in two. *10 March 2006*

Underwater UK talks Five speakers are lined up to address a Marine Conservation Society conference on recent underwater projects called Beneath the Waves: UK Style. *10 March 2006*

Disaster warning for ships Ship captains plying British waters are being asked to take extra care in areas particularly vulnerable to maritime spillage disasters. *9 March 2006*

Eastern grey nurses in trouble Eastern Australia's endangered grey nurse sharks are an isolated population and, therefore, very vulnerable to environmental pressures, researchers have reported. *9 March 2006*

Ancient Greek shipwreck surveyed Archaeologists are reported to have examined a 4th century BC wooden merchantman in the eastern Aegean. *9 March 2006*

IMAX film gets up close to marine life A new underwater IMAX film, Deep Sea 3D, has opened in London. *8 March 2006*

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