

FROM THE ARCHIVES by Robin Rudderow



Fort Ross Cove

The Sonoma Coast Historical & Undersea Nautical Research Society, SCHUNRS for short.

SCHUNRS is the creation of John Harreld, a volunteer scientific scuba diver for the Bodega Marine Lab, Jason Herum, Dive Safety Officer for BML, and Denise Jaffke, a State Parks archaeologist from Lake Tahoe. Their goals are to: discover “lost” maritime cultural resources, document, protect, and interpret existing and newly discovered maritime cultural resources, contribute to the training of scientifically certified SCUBA divers in underwater archaeology methods, public education and outreach. SCHUNRS (pronounced “schooners”) will be documenting the remains of infrastructure and shipwrecks at several sites on the coast, including Bodega Bay.

SCHUNRS is an outgrowth of the “Doghole Project” conducted during the summers of 2016-17 as a collaboration between NOAA and California State Parks to explore and document the remnants of Doghole Ports and the maritime culture of Sonoma County’s Redwood Coast. For more information about the Doghole Project:

<https://farallones.noaa.gov/heritage/doghole.html>

For an insightful and detailed report about the history of Sonoma County’s Redwood Coast and its many shipwrecks, see this article by James Delgado: https://nmsfarallones.blob.core.windows.net/farallones-prod/media/archive/heritage/pdf/The_Redwood_Coast_MCL_of_Northern_California_January7_2013.pdf

If you have information to share about local shipwrecks or would like more information about SCHUNRS, contact John Harreld at harreldj@gmail.com. ■