



Dive Logs

The main purpose of an archaeological dive log is to get a record of any work done underwater on a wreck site. The form is similar to a log for sports diving but is different as the emphasis is on writing down what was achieved and what was seen. The aim is to write down everything that was done or was seen as often you don't know what details are important until later on.

The dive log is part of the primary record of the work done on the site and should be kept as part of the archive. The log form can be scanned and kept as an electronic file.

A single form should be used for each dive but only one form is needed for a buddy pair of divers.

Each of the blank boxes needs to be filled in on the form. An explanation of each of the boxes is given below:

Dive Log Record			
Dive Reference		Site Code	
Diver Name(s)			
Location		Position	
Date		Water / Platform	
Max. Depth		Current / Visibility	
Time		Weather	
Gas mix		Sealed Type	
Task			
Results			
Notes / Sketch			

Dive reference

This is the name or number of the dive, made up from the date and a number allocated to each pair of divers on that day. The dive reference is in the form

'DIVyymmdd_x'

- DIV is always the start of the reference
- yy is the year as two digits, so 2012 is just '12'
- mm is the number of the month as two digits, so April is '04'
- dd is the day of the month as two digits, so the 3rd is '03'
- x is the number given to each pair of divers.

Example: the Dive Reference for third pair of divers on 8th July 2013 would be:

DIV130708_3

Site code

The site code is the unique code name given to a site. Commonly used site codes include :

- PLYCOR Coronation wreck
- PLYCAT Cattewater wreck
- PLYMWL Mewstone Ledge wreck

Diver names

The names of the divers on the dive being recorded. Do not include the divers on other dives as they will have their own dive log forms.

Location

The name of the place the dive was done, such as Tinker Shoal.

Position

The position of the start of the dive as a latitude and longitude. If the dive was on a known wreck or the position was not known then leave this blank.

Date

The date of the dive, given in the form *23 August 2012*

Vessel/Platform

The name of the boat used for the dive, or the name of the organisation or dive club if the name is not known

Max. Depth

The maximum depth achieved on the dive

Time

The time spent underwater

Current / Visibility

Select an estimate of the current from: Nil, <0.5 kt, <1 kt, > 1 kt

Estimate the underwater visibility in metres at the seabed

Weather

Add a note on the weather, such as fine, rainy, windy, cold, snowing

Gas mix

The breathing gas mix used, such as Air or Nitrox 32

Seabed type

Describe the seabed starting with the most common first, such as reef with sand gullies, sand and reef, flat sand, silt and seagrass.

Aims

Describe the aims of the dive, such as target search, area search, gun recording

Results

write down what you achieved on the dives, if the aims were completed and what else you did

Notes / Sketch

Use this area for sketches of things found, small maps or any additional notes or comments. Its better to write down everything as something you have seen may not have been seen by anyone else.