

UNDERWATER HUNTER SPECIALTY COURSE

When we first started TL Sea Diving back in 1996, many of our Divemasters were avid hunters; they went after deer, elk, ducks – basically anything legal that moved on land! However, none of them had ever spearfished or hunted underwater! TL Sea’s owner Trux Terkla came up with an idea to fill this need and created HuntFest – a 2-day event where divers could learn from his self-authored (and approved by PADI) Underwater Hunter Specialty Course and also compete for the largest combination of legal fish. Trux’s philosophy was to teach underwater hunting enthusiasts how to **safely** spearfish underwater while having them compete for the largest fish. This really caught on and TL Sea was (and still is) one of the only operations in the Northwest that taught spearfishing.



This is one of the most exciting and challenging ways to fish – no naps or laying around on the boat here – everyone is actively seeking out where the fish are hiding and then “shopping” for just the right one! While some may view this type of fishing as an environment-robbing activity - we actually teach conservative fishing practices and monitor each of our participants so they can learn how to safely spearfish underwater.



We normally schedule this event toward the **beginning** of the 3-week Lingcod season which **improves the chances** of everyone coming home with some fish (no one ever goes home empty-handed as we always share).

We began offering the Underwater Hunter Specialty as way to teach people **how** to hunt underwater **safely and responsibly**. Because there was such interest, we decided to

make it an event at the beginning of Lingcod season where we could have the **best environment** for learning (lots of big fish!)

We teach all students the value of preserving our precious resource of fish as well as the **proper techniques** for speargun, pole-spear and knife handling. In addition to discussing **environmental awareness**, local laws & legal limits, we concentrate on the **task-loading** issues of carrying both a light and speargun underwater while maintaining proper buoyancy control.



We also teach everyone the proper **safety techniques** associated with underwater hunting / collecting and even show them how to clean their catch!

Like everything TL Sea does, we always make this course a **huge event**, and one that involves incredible diving and adventure. While we don't do HuntFest anymore, we still love to teach & participate in underwater hunting. It has proven to be **so much fun** that we have continued this tradition since our inception.



Once we have finished hunting for the day, we weigh the fish, take tons of pictures, and teach participants how to clean their fish. We also discuss a variety of cooking methods to prepare our catch, as there is nothing better than freshly caught fish!

This course is one of our most popular specialties, as well as an **unforgettable experience** for anyone 15 years or older who holds an Advanced Open Water certification or better. Our Underwater Hunting Course has a habit of filling up early, so be sure to contact us soon to register!

Our Underwater Hunter Specialty Course Includes:

- **Academic / Kick-off Session**
- **One Full Day of Boat Diving**
- **Three Hunting Dives at "Secret" Locations**
- **Specialty Certification**
- **Tanks**
- **Incredible Fun!**

This specialty course also counts toward your [Master Scuba Diver Certification](#).

So, take a shot at it and join us!!

Please contact the Dive Center Today to Register!

