



Congratulations and thank you to everyone who participated in the inaugural **Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census**, 8 December 2013, and made the event a huge success. We hope you will be available to participate in future events and build the database further. The census is a great example of how interested **divers and science** can **work together** to further marine species knowledge in our **local area**.

Summary of Results

- **25 participants** - 24 Divers & 1 Snorkeler
- 7 distinct dive sites
- 144 images submitted
- **53 different species identified**
- 3 'new' species for this area i.e. not listed in available records for Nelson Bay
- **8 buddy pairs found one or more species no other team recorded**

Most species (1st prize 2 x 10 air fill vouchers)

Placing	Number of Species	Buddy pair	Dive Site/s
1st	35	David Harasti / Paul Rudder	Seahorse gardens, Fly Point
2nd	26	Nicola Davis / Tom Davis	Seahorse gardens, Little Beach
3rd	16	Jacqui Ashby / Margo Smith	Fly Point drift, Little Beach

Most unusual (1st prize N. Coleman's *Underwater Naturalist*)

Hypselodoris maculosa, not found in available records for Port Stephens and not sighted by any other divers Jacqui Ashby / **Margo Smith**

Best Photo 1st prize Baine M & Harasti D *The Marine Life of Bootless Bay Papua New Guinea*

1st Place *Goniobranchus aureopurpureus* **David Atkinson** / Rob Wallis

2nd Place *Godiva quadricolor* Bernie Gillies / **Trevor Howard**



Images (L to R) *Hypselodoris maculosa* M Smith, *Goniobranchus aureopurpureus* D Atkinson, *Godiva quadricolor*, T Howard.

The Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census was a joint partnership between Southern Cross University (SCU) and Combined Hunter Underwater Group Inc (CHUG).
<http://combinedhunterunderwatergroup.weebly.com>