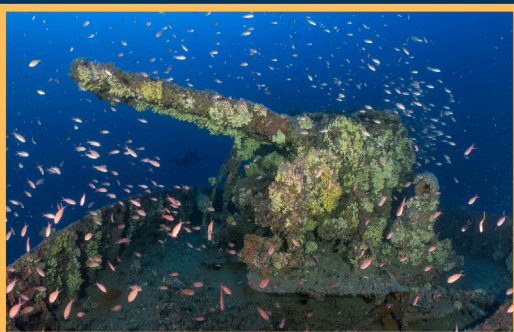


BRETT ELDRIDGE

Presenting "Exploring & Photographing Deep Wrecks"

July 23, 2026, 7:15 pm
at Sumner Auditorium
Scripps Campus



Locating a deep wreck is hard enough — identifying it can be harder still, and photographing it pushes everything to the limit. This presentation dives into the real challenges of finding, identifying, and photographing deep wrecks — ships and planes alike — drawn from actual discoveries made off Southern California within the past five years.

We'll break down what makes deep wreck photography so unforgiving: near-total darkness, brutal time limits imposed by depth, and the physical challenge of capturing wide-angle images that push dive and camera equipment to their limits. Techniques and real photographs from wrecks as deep as 400 feet (120m) will illustrate how these obstacles are overcome — and what it actually takes to bring images like these back from the deep.

Brett grew up in San Pedro and has lived in California most of his life, spending 20+ years in the Bay Area cybersecurity industry before moving back to the Laguna Beach area 10 years ago to dive deeper — literally — into his passion for wrecks.

A technical rebreather (Revo) diver, Brett has spent the past 6 years working with a close group of friends to find and identify new wrecks in Southern California, with roughly 20 identified to date. His wreck diving has taken him around the world — including Antarctica, Bikini Atoll, Croatia, the Solomon Islands, and a 400-foot dive on the Britannic in the Aegean — and in 2024 he was part of the first dive team to visit the USCGC McCulloch, a 300-foot wreck off Point Conception undived since its loss in 1917. Brett won the 2023 Underwater Photographer of the Year for the Wreck Category for his photogrammetry image of a local F8F Bearcat wreck that he helped find and identify, and his work has been featured on Discovery's Expedition Unknown and in the San Diego Union-Tribune. He joined The Explorers Club in 2021 as a Member National.

He is currently working on a book, "Echoes of Wings Forgotten", about aviation wrecks in Southern California from WWII to the Cold War, and writes about his wreck dives and explorations at wreckedinmyrevo.com.

