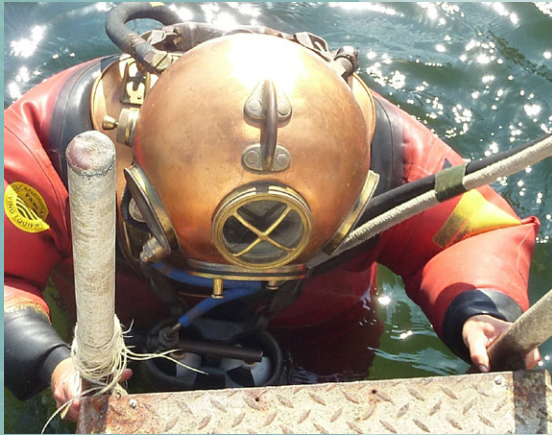


An underwater photograph of a diver in a dark wetsuit and fins, swimming over a coral reef. Bubbles are rising from the diver's regulator. The water is clear and blue. A teal rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the title and author information.

# SNAG MONKEYS DOCUMENTARY PHASE 2 PROPOSAL

prepared by  
Jason Satterlund





**The film opens with a recreation of an actual event:**

A diver ties a rope around his waist, and the other end to the car. Before wading into the ocean, he tells his wife that if he isn't back in 30 minutes, to back up the car. Throughout the film, we revisit this scene and see how the events of this day unfold.

# ACT I THE BEGINNING



The first act of the film will lay out the history of the diving world. Where diving was in the '40s, the technology, and where sport diving took place.

We'll see historical diving footage by the US Navy outlining the dangers of breathing air underwater, as well as footage of the mysteries of the deep.



We then transition to present day shots of the ocean and describe how, with the invention of the wetsuit and aqualung, the world of sport and commercial diving in colder climates forever changed.

**TO BE SHOT: Footage of Oregon waters, both above and below the surface, and Jason's narrative interview.**



# ACT II

## THE TRIBE



We will be introduced to the main players of the story, and the “Tribe” that they formed. **Jerry Hiersche**, the godfather of diving in the Northwest, owner of the first full-service dive shop in Oregon, and a true pioneer.



His wife, **Marion Azorr**, who formed Oregon’s first women’s spearfishing team and won the top prize in her first national event.

Their son, **Kevin Hiersche**, a lifelong diver and one who has logged more time underwater than any other living diver.

**Steve Satterlund**, Kevin’s dive partner, competitive spearfisherman, snag monkey and the first swift water rescue diver in Oregon.



It’ll be a brief introduction to who they were as people, where they came from, and what made them tick, and what drove them to do the things they did. We will see Jerry opening the first full-service dive shop in Oregon and how he trained over 6,000 people how to dive.

Also, we’ll see how they were pushing the edge of what was possible. Setting the underwater endurance record, trying to set depth records, testing the limits of what divers could do.

**TO BE SHOT: a recreation of Jerry’s spear gun accident.**



# ACT III

## SPORT DIVING



Spearfishing. What kind of a life it was, how they trained, and some of their adventures.

We'll see how Marion started her own female team just so they could compete, and then took the national prize.

We'll learn about how difficult diving was in Oregon compared to everywhere else. The sealife involved, the lack of visibility, and a unique paddle board was invented just to deal with the elements.

**TO BE SHOT: Footage of the big ocean waves, underwater footage of murky conditions, bull sea lions, a recreation of Kevin's underwater blackout story.**





# ACT IV TRAINING



The training:

Who were these people and how did they prepare for this environment? Steve would paddle board to work and practice holding his breath while driving. Others would hold their breath as a daily activity.

We'll also learn more about what happens when a person holds their breath and how freeing it can be.

**TO BE SHOT: breath holding, freediving, a recreation of Steve showing off his breath holding skills by sticking his head in a bucket of water and then passing out, and a recreation of Steve paddle boarding to work.**



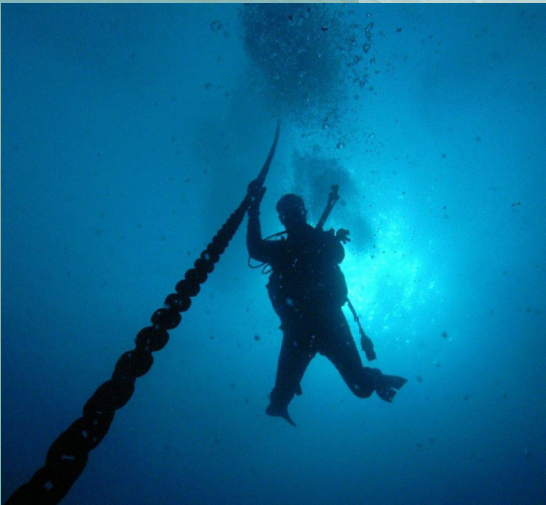


# ACT V COMMERCIAL DIVING



The introduction to commercial diving, focusing on Underwater Services, Jerry's company. He and Kevin did the bulk of the underwater work.

We will explore how their athleticism set them apart and how Jerry lived to do things no one else could do.



At the beginning of this adventure, we learn how breathing pure oxygen on a dive nearly killed Jerry.

Underwater Services grew over the years, and the Hiersches became known as the company who would do what few others were willing to do.

**TO BE SHOT: murky underwater conditions, swimming into pipes and other commercial diving tasks, a recreation of snag diving, a diver descending the line, a body recovery recreation.**





# ACT VI WAKE



Today. Underwater Services ended the day Kevin left and his father was killed on a job. Kevin continued his reckless lifestyle until the day he almost died on the job, shortly after his second son was born. After nearly being taken from his family, he decided to live his life differently.



The film wraps up with the philosophical view of a life of adventure. What it means. What they learned, and if they would do it again.

**TO BE SHOT: Steve and Kevin paddling around in the ocean, playing in the water. Beautiful outdoor shots of Oregon river and ocean.**





# SNAG MONKEYS PHASE II LEVEL 1 OPTION



The Level 1 budget includes:

- recording a voiceover to provide a through-line for the story
- filming location beauty shots to cover narration
- filming underwater footage with a GoPro camera
- transferring stock footage from film to digital
- potentially animating historic still photos

The end product will be a short documentary.





# SNAG MONKEYS PHASE II LEVEL 2 OPTION

The Level 2 budget builds upon the Level 1 option. Additionally, it includes:

- shooting B-roll coverage shots
- shots of the subjects on the water
- underwater footage to introduce viewers to life below sea level
- the creation of an array of animations to illustrate what is happening underwater.

The end product will be a feature-length documentary.







# SNAG MONKEYS PHASE II LEVEL 3 OPTION

The Level 3 budget builds upon the Level 2 and Level 1 options.

Additionally, it includes:

- a custom score
- expanded VFX
- more underwater footage
- additional interviews
- more historical recreations

The end product will be a polished feature-length documentary.

