

## May 2010 Expedition Plan

The week of May 3rd, 2010, staff from the North Carolina Underwater Archaeology Branch, will be conducting a limited expedition to the *Queen Anne's Revenge* shipwreck site. This will be the first inspection of the site December 2009 to assess the effects of the winter storms. In addition to site reconnaissance, divers will set moorings and reference lines for the upcoming 2010 Dive Down education/outreach program, sponsored by the Friends of *Queen Anne's Revenge*.

The primary goal for the expedition is to expand the process of *in situ* conservation for the large anchors and cannons on site. While the end goal is to fully recover all the artifacts from the shipwreck, removing them harm's way and preventing their inevitable loss, it will be a minimum of three to four years before the remaining cannons and ship's anchors will be recovered.

A study conducted on the north anchor (A3), from September 2008 to December 2009, shows that continued corrosion of large iron objects on the site can be slowed, stopped, even potentially reversed. Researchers initiated the process on anchor A1 (in the main pile) and cannon C12 (in the south holding area) during the brief October 2009 expedition. Treatment will be set up on anchor A2 and as many as six cannons during the week.

This treatment process of cathodic protection will ideally stabilize the cannons and anchors, beginning conservation while still *in situ*. The shortening of time necessary in the conservation lab will free up valuable lab space, save considerable conservation time, and have the objects ready for exhibit sooner.

Grand Angle Production, a French production company, will also join the *QAR* team during the expedition. They will be working on a documentary to be aired on French TV.

Field work supported by: Friends of the *Queen Anne's Revenge* and National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.