

## **Scott Smith**



### **Open Water Scuba Instructor (OWSI)**

Scott Smith has been a certified diver since 1996. His first dives were with his father in Kauai, Hawaii, at age 13. He was certified very soon after, while on vacation in Cancun, Mexico. "This was something that my dad and I could do together, as father and son. He wasn't going to come snowboarding with me, but SCUBA allowed us to spend good times with each other. My mom would have loved it, but she couldn't get herself to breath out of the regulator."

Growing up in Davis, a small college town in Northern California, Scott learned to swim at the age of three, began competitively swimming by age four, and has remained in the water ever since. He and his family have traveled all around the world (28 states, around 30 different countries, and 4 continents) eating the foods, diving with his father, and valuing the cultural experiences that come along with traveling to so many places.

Hawaii, however, was his home away from home. This was where he learned to surf, bodysurf, snorkel, free dive, and most importantly, learned the ocean and her ways. He gathered first hand knowledge at a young age about currents, waves big and small, weather, marine life, hazards and pleasures, and the respect the ocean commands. Between this and his competitive swimming and water polo including 4 years of NCAA Division One Water Polo at Loyola Marymount University, Scott has become a dependable and experienced waterman.

### **Scott's Diving Experience**

**California** (LA county, Palos Verdes, La Jolla, Laguna Beach, Catalina Island, Santa Cruz Island, Anacapa Island), **Hawaii** (Big Island, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Kauai), **Florida** (Key West, Key Largo), **Mexico** (Cancun, Puerto Vallarta), **Honduras** (Roatan Island), **Caribbean** (Aruba, Curacao, Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, U.S. Virgin Islands, St. Martin, Guadeloupe, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada).

### **Teaching Experience**

Discover Scuba Diving, Scuba Review, Open Water, Advanced, Rescue, Divemaster

- \* Peak Performance Buoyancy
- \* Project Aware
- \* AWARE Coral Reef Conservation

## **Special Achievements**

Scott was an integral part of winning two WWPA Conference Championships and competing in two NCAA Final Four Tournaments with his LMU Water Polo team.

## **Diving Philosophy**

“The ocean always has something amazing to offer us. When the surf is up, I surf. When it’s flat, I dive.”

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