Field checklist for retrieval

1. Fill out the RETRIEVAL/REDEPLOYMENT DATA SHEET for each dock where you have plates. Measure water temperature and salinity and turbidity if you have the equipment to do so.

2. Pull plates out of the water slowly and gently. Cut the plate off the brick and place the plate, facing up, into a tub of water.

3. Fill out a PLATE DATA SHEET for each plate. If you see Botryllid tunicates, describe how they look and how much of the plate (what percent) each colony covers. You may also describe other animals and algae on your plate if you want to and record how much of the plate they cover.

4. Fill out a PLATE PHOTO CARD. Photograph the entire plate along with the plate photo card. It may take a few shots to make sure the plate photo and the plate are in focus. Hold the plate photo card down with paper clips or other weights if it floats.

5. If you find Botryllid tunicates, take a close-up or macro shot of each colony. Make sure to place one of the SMALL, NUMBERED PHOTO CARDS and the size bar next to the colony for inclusion in the photo. Use one number per colony. On your plate data sheet note that you have taken a photo and write down the photo card number.

6. Collect Botryllid tunicates into the vials. Each vial should have a piece of paper with a number written in pencil inside. All Botryllid tunicates from Plate 1 go into the vial with the number 1, all from Plate 2 into the vial with the number 2, etc. Preserve them with ethanol or Everclear. Close the lids and seal them by stretching the parafilm tightly over them, like you would with plastic wrap.

7. Deploy the next set of plates.

8. Retrieve the ibuttons and deploy the new ones we have sent you.