

# The Aquarium at the Albuquerque Biological Park

Albuquerque, New Mexico



## Project Statistics

Area: 45,000 SF  
Construction Cost: \$14 Million

## Major Program Spaces

- Eel exhibit with underwater walk-through viewing tunnel
- Large fish display (groupers)
- Coral reef display
- School fish display
- Shark display
- Tide pool with an actual tide surge and 500 gallon tide change tank
- Diving bird display
- "Touch Pool" display
- Bat and ray display
- Multiple small specialty displays

## An award winning project . . .

1997 President's Award  
National Association of Industrial and Office Properties, New Mexico chapter

1998 Engineering Excellence Grand Award  
American Consulting Engineers Council,  
Nebraska Chapter (ACEC/N)

The Albuquerque Aquarium encompasses seven interior aquatic displays and one 1/2-acre exterior exhibit for a total of over 400,000 gallons of water in six major exhibits. The facility contains a variety of exhibits, including a 276,000-gallon shark tank, a coral reef display of 34,500 gallons, and the 31,000-gallon eel exhibit. The eel tank has an underwater walk-through tunnel that gives the visitor a view through crystal clear water. The aquarium starts with a "touch pool" for close encounters and viewing of various species, and then has a ray display among other specialty exhibits.

Alvine Aquatics' professionals provided a life support systems design that treats the water by sand filtration, foam fractionation for reduction of micro-particulates, and disinfection through ozone injection systems. Wastewater from the exhibits is conserved through a collection system, cleaned and recycled into the exhibits or sent to the exterior lagoon.

## Water Treatment Systems

- Piping and pumping systems
- Sand filtration
- Water temperature control
- Ozone injection systems for disinfection
- Foam fractionation for reduction of micro-particulates
- Waste water from the exhibits is conserved through a collection system, cleaned and recycled into the exhibits

