

# Fantasea FS 1 Housing

## For Nikon® Coolpix® S-1 and S-3 Digital Cameras

### General Information:

#### ● **The FS 1 housing:**

Fantasea now introduces specifically designed housing for the Nikon Coolpix S1 and S3 digital cameras. The housings, dedicated to these two cameras insure a compact design for easy handling and accurate access to camera functions through the critical placement of push-button controls.

These two Coolpix cameras manage to pack a powerful 35-105mm 3x Zoom-Nikkor ED lens (35mm equivalent) while retaining a surprisingly slim depth of just 19.7mm. The lens also makes use of Nikon's "right-angled" optics system, which enables the lens to function throughout its focal range without ever protruding from the camera body.

Other similarities include the same control layout, a 2.5-inch LCD, SD memory slot with 12MB internal memory.

The S1 is unique in that it does not have an eyepiece to look out of, only through the LCD screen is the image viewed.

The FS 1 housing provides a built in Flash Diffuser and an anti-glare hood over the LCD screen. Additional Features:

- On/Off Power Switch
- Shutter Release
- Zoom/Wide Angle
- Flash on/off
- Macro / Confirm Control
- Review

This housing is ideal for outdoor and underwater photographers who prefer to use the camera's automatic exposure features for capturing fast action pictures easily and creatively.

#### ● **FS 1 Uses:**

The FS 1 housing is designed as an underwater/outdoor camera housing. It has a working depth of 130 feet/40 meters. Underwater photographers can dive or snorkel and capture all the excitement of this fascinating world, while outdoor photographers also have the option of capturing the action of such activities as white water and paddle sports, sailing and boating, surfing, fishing and hunting, backpacking and camping, and for family activities around the swimming pool or at the beach. The FS 1 will protect those Coolpix cameras from water, sand, dust, and other damaging elements.

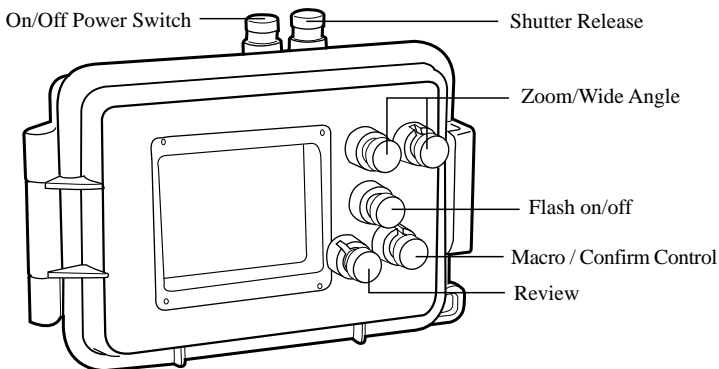
## ● General Camera Description:

The Coolpix S1 and S3 are five to six mega pixels respectively. With this resolution and the outstanding quality of other Nikon features, such as optical performance, you will be able to produce high quality images of the thrilling outdoor activities in which you participate. These cameras were selected as the basis for the housing design due to the combination of image quality and consumer value. There is no lens port with the S1 or built in diffuser: Fantasea provides this diffuser on the housing. The FS-1 does not have ability to attach conversion lenses

For specific features of each camera you should reference your camera s instruction manual or obtain product technical information from Nikon or their dealers.

## ● FS 1 Camera Housing

*For Nikon Coolpix S1 and S3 Digital Cameras*



Maximum operating depth to 40meters/130 ft.

### Explanation of Button Features:

#### Operating Notes:

1. To change the Flash set-up while underwater: press Flash button and then press the Macro Control button to scroll to the correct flash setting. Press the white balance/confirm control on the right part of the multi function control using the bottom right swivel control to confirm the flash mode change.
2. To change Macro to Normal [or vice versa]—simply reverse above order: click Macro button, then Flash button to scroll to

<b>Operating Notes:</b>	<p>your selection. Press the white balance/confirm control on the right part of the multi function control using the bottom right swivel control to confirm the macro mode change.</p> <p>3. Review Control: one click brings last shot to screen. Two clicks sets normal function—ready for shooting. Camera will "go to sleep" if not used. You can turn it back on by pressing and <b>holding</b> the Review /Restore button for about 5 seconds. This is the Restore function.</p>
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## **Using the FS 1 Housing:**

### **● Opening The Housing:**

Hold the housing in one hand and with the other hand slide the small tab on the buckle to the side and then lift the rounded edge with your finger and pull it up. The latch is hinged to the front of the housing, once it is pulled up and free of the latch you can open the housing. Open the housing carefully when there is a camera inside so it does not fall out accidentally.

### **● Inserting Camera:**

Since the **FS 1** was specifically designed for the Coolpix S1 and S3 digital cameras, insertion is a simple matter of placing the camera in the housing. Make sure the camera lens is properly aligned and that the camera sits perfectly flat. There are no screws or mounts to worry about or any other alignments once the camera is properly inserted.

<b>Notes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. It is necessary to make some camera settings prior to inserting into the housing. Please refer to the Coolpix owner's manual for menu options and personal preferences to choose from which are not accessible through the housing push-button controls.</b></li><li><b>2. Turn the camera "on" and to Flash Everytime setting before inserting into housing.</b></li></ol>
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Underwater photographers will probably want to set the flash mode to the “*Everytime*” setting to insure they always have a flash with every exposure. It is also wise to set the focus in the macro mode for capturing great images of the tiny and exotic subjects that you can find underwater.

### **● Checking the Gasket:**

Each time the housing is opened, the gasket seal should be visually inspected. If there is any debris present, including dirt, sand, dust, grease or other matter, it must be cleaned to insure a proper watertight seal. Cleaning the gasket is a simple matter of wiping it with a damp, soft cloth to remove any foreign matter. Be careful the cloth you use does not leave any of its own material behind as this can also affect the

effectiveness of the gasket. It is not necessary to remove the gasket for cleaning unless visual inspection determines that there is foreign matter underneath the gasket as well. If this occurs, be sure the surface of the housing is also clean and wiped free of any debris.

**Gasket  
Info:**

Since the gasket in the FS 1 is a face-to-face/compression seal, and is not subject to friction as it is closed, there is no need to lubricate it. Grease or any other form of lubrication does not help seal the housing. It only reduces friction, which is commonly present if the housing has an O-ring seal. Lubricating the gasket before use could cause it to slip out of its groove, and not form a proper seal.

The gasket should also be checked visually for any cracks or perforations. If any part of the gasket shows signs of wear or damage, it is imperative that it be changed before going into the water.

If the gasket is removed from the channel groove it sits in, be sure to get it completely back into place so it is properly seated. Starting at one corner, press the gasket with your finger and feel it seat into its channel groove. Then continue this procedure continuously in one direction, round its perimeter, until the entire gasket has been pressed flat into place. Go over it a second time to be sure it is properly in place. Then you are ready to clean it, give it a final visual inspection, and close the housing.

● **Closing the Housing:**

Make sure the camera is flat and that the back door of the housing closes easily without interference. Take special care not to get the lanyard caught in the closure. Once the door is closed, latch the buckle behind the ridge on the back half of the housing. (If the camera is not flat, the door will not lie closed, and the latching buckle will have a hard time catching the ridge on the back door. In this case, open the back door and reposition the camera until it is flat and the door closes correctly.) With the latch behind the ridge on the back door, push the latch buckle forward until it lies flat against the front half of the housing and the safety release snaps into place. **Never use force when opening or closing the housing. If you feel you need to-- then something is wrong !!!**

**Viewing the Subject:**

Underwater photographers and outdoor photographers will appreciate the large LCD viewing monitor for composing photographs. The LCD monitor will allow you to see your subject in sharp focus and framed properly. Hold the camera housing in your outstretched arm at a position that is both comfortable and also allows you to easily see the LCD monitor, for best compositional options. The anti glare LCD shade will assist your viewing in high ambient light.

### ● **Taking the Picture:**

Once you have composed your scene or subject in the LCD monitor, depress the shutter release button to take the picture. A half depress will activate the live viewing ability of the LCD and allow the camera to focus, once in focus and ready to shoot a green light will appear on the LCD monitor and the camera is ready to take the picture. Press down the shutter all the way to complete image capture. You may notice a pre-flash and slight delay in the shutter release. This is to allow the camera to make its final focus and exposure calculations before taking the picture. With a little practice, you will become used to this and taking pictures of moving subjects will become easier and natural.

### ● **Choosing Image Files:**

There are several image file options to choose from that offer different resolution and file sizes. This determination must be made prior to camera insertion from Menu options. Please refer to the Coolpix instruction manual for details on setting these preferences.

### **Battery Life:**

The Lithium-ion battery that comes with the Coolpix is very efficient and lasts for more than 180 shots--enough for a typical photo dive. However, there are certain things that users can control to help with battery life. The most important is to set the camera to turn the LCD off after a short time, during periods of non-use. It can then be automatically turned back on if you depress the shutter release control half way. Please refer to the Coolpix instruction manual for details on how to make this adjustment setting. It is always wise to have backup batteries in case you do run out of power. The supplied battery can be recharged many times and offer an economical and environmentally friendly alternative to one-use disposable batteries. Check the users manual of the camera for confirmation of compatibility with other batteries.

### **Using The Flash:**

The Coolpix has a built-in flash, which will illuminate nearby underwater subjects. For subjects that are farther away, an accessory slave strobe is recommended. (See Below.) Due to the presence of suspended particles in the water, milky/clear diffuser tape is supplied. It will widen and soften the light, providing more coverage and less likelihood of *backscatter*: the unattractive snowstorm affect of the flash reflecting off

the suspended particles. Further reduction of *backscatter* can be achieved by using an accessory off-camera slave flash. This will be discussed in more detail.

The need for artificial light to maximize color reproduction is necessary in nearly all pictures. Therefore it is strongly recommended that you set the flash mode to *Anytime* flash. This will insure the flash fires on every exposure regardless of the ambient light conditions. (Please refer to the camera's instruction manual for more details.)

Outdoor photographers do not have this same concern. There is no backscatter to be concerned with, and due to the ability of the flash to travel farther and more effectively in air as compared to in water; there is normally not a need for an accessory flash to provide proper illumination for most subjects.

### ● **Accessory Slave Strobes:**

Using the Coolpix built-in flash as the master, you can trigger a second *slave* strobe to provide more artificial light when needed. To do this, you must use an accessory strobe that has a digital *slave* feature built in. The flash from the Coolpix must be aimed or bounced toward the accessory strobe's *slave* sensor, or other fiber optic sensor. This will trigger the slave to fire in sync with the master flash.

<b>Note:</b>	<b>Be sure to use a slave strobe that has the ability to ignore the built-in pre-flash in digital cameras, and synchronizes with the shutter release.</b>
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## Shooting Techniques:

### ● **Exposure Modes: (Pre-set before camera insertion)**

There are several exposure modes for photographers to choose from, depending on the situation. Underwater it is recommended that you shoot in the Auto mode on the camera in which ambient light and artificial light will be automatically controlled by the camera according to the lighting conditions. You can also select different light meters to use, based on the situation and your personal preferences. Additionally, you can choose the Auto White Balance setting for color temperature control, or experiment with some of the other modes to see which will work best underwater. These settings must be made ahead of any dive, as they cannot be accessed through the housing controls. Please reference the Coolpix instruction manual for details on how to set these camera options, and under what conditions the different choices would be used.

### ● **Zoom Control:**

Zoom in for telephoto photos and larger subject size. Zoom out for wide-angle scenes.

### ● **Macro Focus:**

For capturing the tiny and exotic subjects that require close focus. Macro focus is possible when the lens is in the wide-angle position.

### ● **Quick Review:**

Immediate review of most recent image is available that will confirm that you captured the shot you want. However, if you want to scroll through your images, or delete images from the memory card, this must be done when you are topside and the camera is out of the housing.

### ● **Camera Standby Mode:**

You can access the camera's menu to choose how long a period of inactivity before the camera goes into *standby mode*. Options are 30 seconds, one minute, five minutes, and 30 minutes. This feature allows you to conserve battery power by placing the LCD monitor on standby. When you want to resume shooting, pressing any button will re-activate the camera. However, if after the camera goes into standby, a further period of three minutes goes by without any activity, the camera will turn off. You can turn it back on by pressing and **holding** the Review for about five seconds. The Welcome to Nikon Coolpix screen will appear. One additional press of the Quick Review button will then return the camera to active shooting mode.

### **Care & Maintenance:**

The **FS 1** housing requires only a minimum amount of care for reliable performance. The following are tips that will enable you to get the best results.

1. Always soak your housing in fresh water for about 20 minutes after every dive to dissolve the salt water crystals from around the controls and openings of the housing. Manipulate each of the movable controls to assist the removal of salt particles from these tight areas. If possible a firm spray or stream of fresh water on the housing prior to soaking is preferable.  
Allow the housing to dry thoroughly before packing away for the day or for the trip home. You may use a soft towel or cloth to dry the housing. Be sure there is no grease or other debris on the towel.
2. Visually check the condition of the gasket before every dive. If it is dirty, clean it with fresh water and dry it with a soft cloth as described above. If it is damaged in any way, such as cut or perforated, replace it immediately.
3. Do not use grease or any other type of lubricant on the gasket when closing the housing. It does not increase the ability of the gasket to make a proper seal.
4. Be careful not to get greasy fingerprints or dirt on the lens port. This will affect the image quality. Wipe any dirt or grease off with fresh water and a soft cloth.
5. Do not drop the housing on hard surfaces. It is not a shock absorber, and could crack, affecting its watertight integrity. It could also cause damage to the camera inside.
6. Travel with the housing protected in a padded case. It is best to remove the camera from inside the housing when traveling and provide it with its own protective case, or compartment.
7. Never dive with the **FS 1** housing to a depth greater than 130 ft/40 meters.
8. It is recommended to have annual maintenance of all Fantasea housings. This includes visual inspection and possible changing of all seals / gaskets / o-rings.
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It is recommended to use an authorized Fantasea Service Center for this purpose. Please contact Fantasea Line by email: [service@fantasea.com](mailto:service@fantasea.com) or visit the Fantasea Customer Service section on the web site [www.fantasea.com](http://www.fantasea.com).  
10. It is recommended that you select the shortest time option on the menu, for placing the camera into standby during periods of inactivity. This will conserve battery power and reduce the heat given off by the LCD screen, which can contribute to condensation inside the housing and fogging .

### **Flood Insurance:**

Every **Fantasea** housing includes a one-year flood insurance policy. Supplied by the Divers Equipment Protection Program (DEPP), this insurance policy acts as additional protection to the warranty and is good for one year. If your **Fantasea** housing experiences water leakage in this period of time you will be compensated for the loss of the camera. Only a small shipping charge will apply. All insurance policies are automatically activated at the time of purchase. All owners must complete the on-line product registration form, by going to [www.fantasea.com](http://www.fantasea.com) and go to the Customer Support area on the left side and click the banner titled Warranty and Flood insurance, click on the link at the top of the page labeled "Housing Product Registration, you will be taken to this page <http://www.fantasea.com/registration.asp> where you can complete the form and register your housing purchase. Failure to register the product within 30 days of purchase will result in a shorter period of insurance coverage for your housing and may in the end cancel the flood insurance coverage all together. Also, you must keep the original sales receipt of your purchase, which must be submitted in the event of a claim: include it in the box and send it along with a photo copy of the bill of sale to Fantasea Products. **To make a claim** go to the same page and click the banner link: For DEPP anti flood insurance claims please click here :<http://www.fantasea.com/Claims.asp>

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