

# International Year of the Reef 2008



**Christine Dawson (State) and Alissa Barron (NOAA)**

International and Education/Outreach Working Groups

U.S. Coral Reef Task Force

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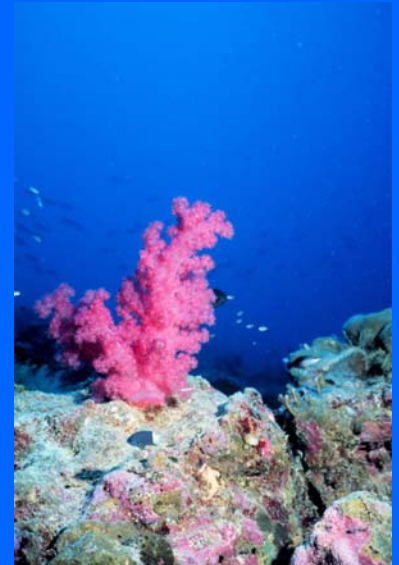
## Momentum for a 10-yr Anniversary of IYOR

- Original IYOR in 1997
- Global conversations about need for continued improvements in conservation and global to local awareness
- Major entities pass **resolutions** to move forward in November 2005:
  - International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI)
  - U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF):  
Resolution 14-8 tasks Education/Outreach and International Working Groups with “**developing options and recommendations** (in collaboration with the International Coral Reef Initiative) on a possible 2007 Year of the Reef”



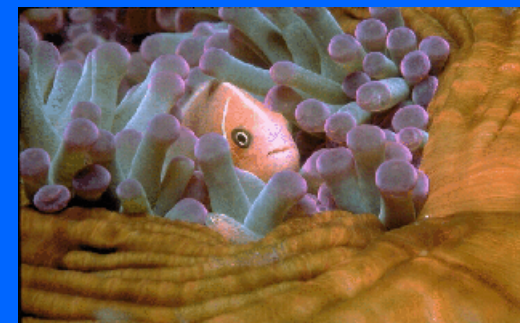
## Scoping Process: Nov 2005 – March 2006

- Created **scoping paper** with pros and cons for range of options (day vs. year, which year, etc)
- **In-depth discussions with:**
  - Key CRTF constituents
  - International partners
  - Others: e.g. National Coral Reef Institute (planning leads for ICRS)
- Gathered **“lessons learned”** from IYOR 1997 and other international years



## Recommended Option: IYOR 2008

- Scoping result: Strong domestic and international support for an IYOR, with 2008 as lead option.
- IYOR 2008 would:
  - Consist of a **year-long campaign** of events and initiatives hosted by governments and non-governmental organizations **around the world**.
  - Be modeled after IYOR 1997 and other successful international years:
    - **International and regional coordination**
    - **Centralized website** with customizable information, tools and actions for international dissemination
    - International **calendar of events**
    - **“Ownership” for IYOR should be global** – all welcome to participate, from communities upward



# Recommended Option: IYOR 2008

- *IYOR 2008 would:*
  - Center around a series of “high-visibility” events already planned for 2008:
    - U.S. to host International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS)
    - Release of the *World status report* on coral reefs
    - Release of *U.S. status report* on coral reefs
    - 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CRTF
    - U.S. will serve as *Co-Chair of the ICRI Secretariat*
    - Others?
  - *Magnify impact and facilitate linkages* across these otherwise unrelated/uncoordinated events



## Next Steps?

- Endorsement by ICRI members at October 2006 meeting
- U.S. participation in international, national and regional planning and execution with ICRI, other partners
- Active U.S. leadership will require some combination of:
  - Financial support
  - Staff time
  - Content for events, announcements and products



## **Decision for CRTF:**

“The CRTF endorses the proposal for a 2008 International Year of the Reef and encourages CRTF members to work with the International Coral Reef Initiative and other partners to plan, support and implement the proposal.”