

NOAA and the National Deep Submergence Facility

DEep Submergence Science Committee

December 12, 2004

Barbara Moore

Director

NOAA's Undersea Research Program

NOAA Programs and Deep Submergence Science



NOAA's
Undersea
Research
Program

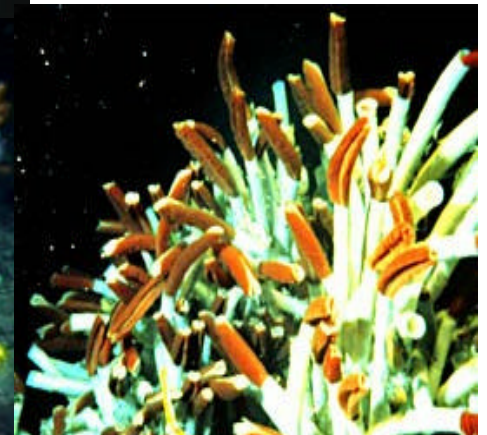
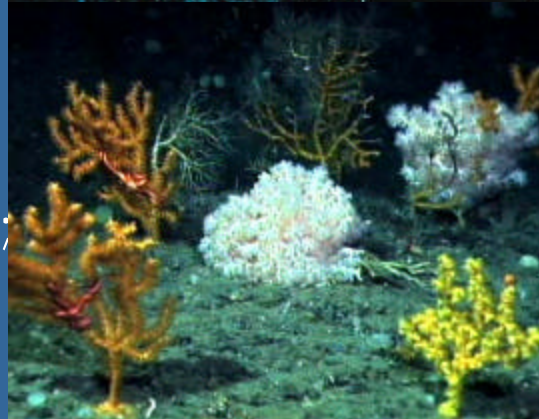
NOAA's
Office of
Ocean
Exploration

EXPLORE

NOAA's Undersea Research Program

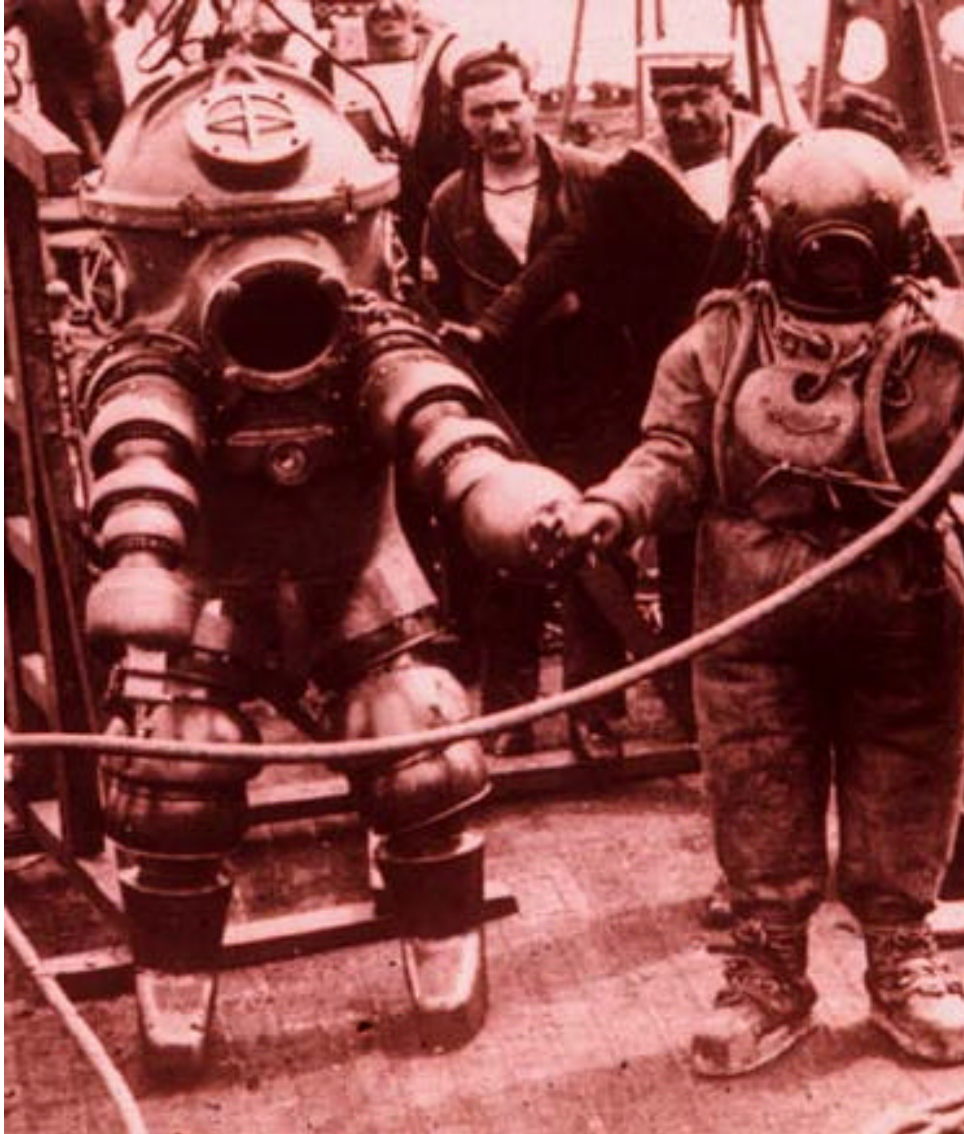
NURP –

- **Consists of** 6 regional NURP Centers and the National Institute of Undersea Science and Technology;
- **Extramural Program**
- **Funds** peer-reviewed, research targeted at the research needs of NOAA's resource managers;
- **Provides** scientists with advanced underwater technologies (HOVs, ROVs, AUVs, mixed gas diving and technical diving) and the required operational support;



Ocean Exploration

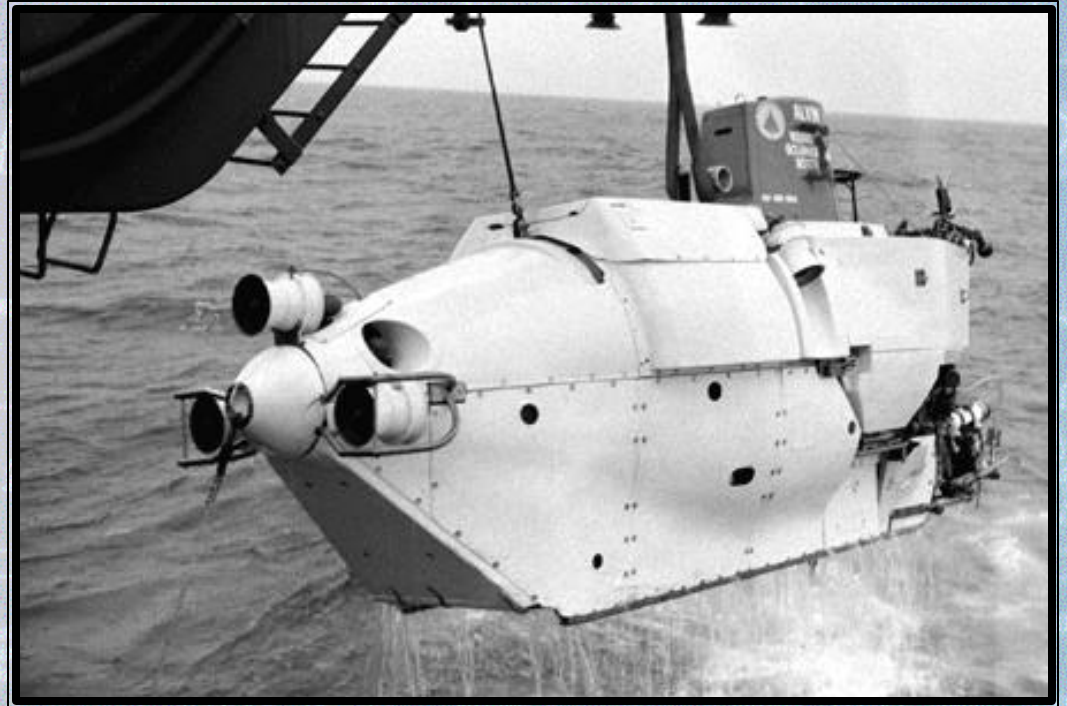
EXPL  RE



OE --

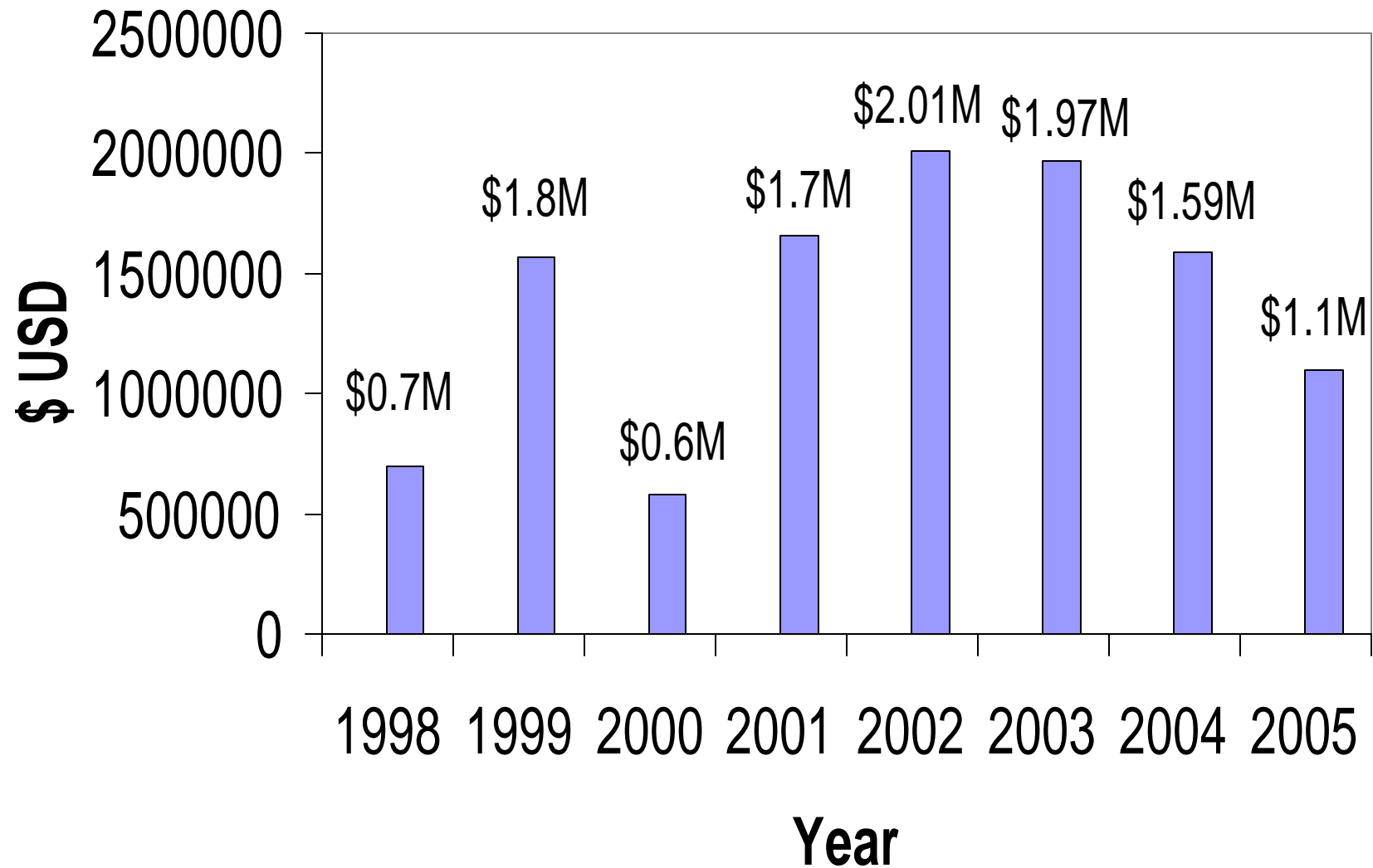
- **Defines** exploration as discovery through disciplined diverse observations and the recording of findings, as opposed to observations to test a specific hypothesis;
- **Funds** internal and external projects focused on gaining a broad perspective of the Nation's underwater resources by conducting experiments & expeditions to unknown or poorly known areas;
- **Advances** and disseminates knowledge about the ocean through outreach and education activities.

NOAA and the National Deep Submergence Facility



- NOAA, Navy, and NSF fund the NDSF through an MOU.

NOAA funding levels for Alvin



NOAA projects w/ NDSF

FY2004

Location: Gulf of Alaska
Dates: Jul – Aug 04
Alvin Dives: 17
Objective: Seamount Communities

* * * * *

Location: Aleutian Islands/W. Gulf of Alaska
Dates: Jul – Aug 04
Jason Days: 43
Objectives: Origin and Evolution of Seamounts
Deep-Sea Coral Ecosystem Distributions
Deep Submarine Canyons and Plutonism
Biological Effects of Catastrophic Disturbances

NOAA proposed projects w/ NDSF

FY2005

Location: Galapagos

Dates: May 05

Alvin Dives: 10

Objective: Vents

* * * * *

Location: East Coast of U.S.

Dates: Oct 05

Alvin Dives: 5

Objective: Deep-sea Coral Ecosystems

Other NOAA Deep Submergence Projects

2005

Location: American Samoa, New Zealand
Dates: March – July 05
Pisces Dives: 50
Objective: Vents, deep corals,

Location: Gulf of Mexico to NW Atlantic
Dates: June-Sept 05
Hercules dives: 50
Objective: deep coral ecosystems

Other NOAA Issues

New NOAA Ocean Exploration Ship

- **Priority Capabilities**

- Mapping
- Science class ROV
- Broad-Band transmission optical data

- **Timing**

- Transferred from Navy on 9/11/04
- Currently developing requirements document
- Plan to enter shipyard in 9/05 with
- Operations to begin 9/07

OE 2005 proposals – decisions in late December/early January