



NOAA and the National Deep Submergence Facility

DEep Submergence Science Committee Meeting NOAA 2007 Report



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Office of Ocean Exploration and Research
December 9, 2007

Image courtesy of Kevin Raskoff, California State University, Monterey Bay

NOAA and the NDSF

NOAA, Navy, and NSF fund the NDSF through an MOA

Two NOAA programs use NDSF:

1. Office of Ocean Exploration and Research



2. Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory



NDSF Use in FY2007

Project **Expedition to the Deep Slope**

PI Chuck Fisher

Asset (& Ship) Jason II (Ron Brown)

Area Gulf of Mexico

Objectives Systematic exploration of hydrocarbon seep communities deeper than 1000m



Image courtesy of Expedition to the Deep Slope 2007.



Image courtesy of the Expedition to the Deep Slope

Project **NZ – American Submarine
Ring of Fire**

PI Bob Embley

Asset (& Ship) ABE (Sonne)

Area Western Pacific

Objectives Near-bottom surveys of
Brothers volcano

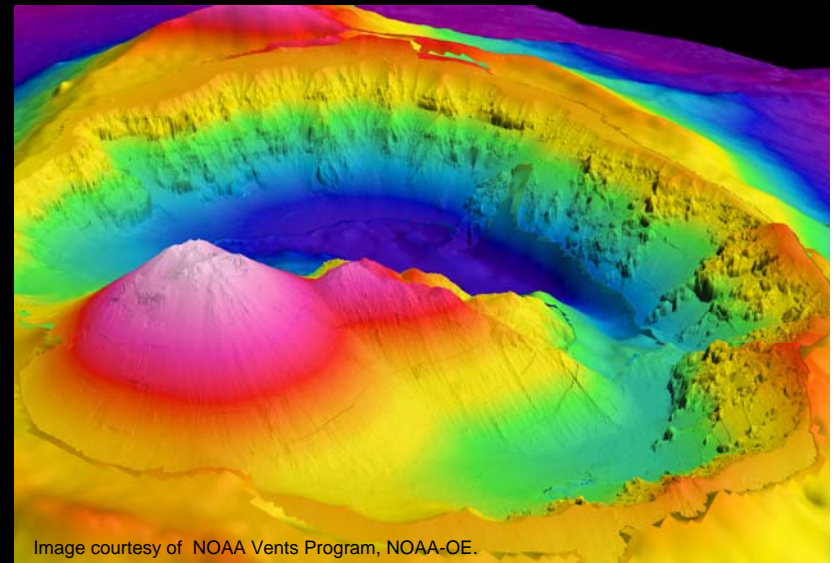


Image courtesy of NOAA Vents Program, NOAA-OE.



Other Deep Assets Used in FY2007

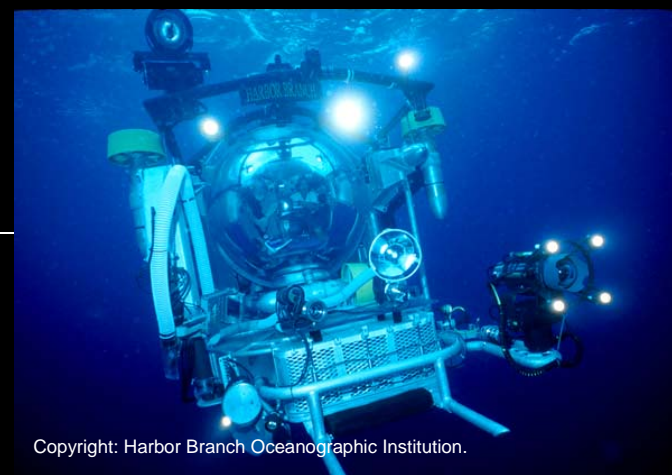
Project **Operation Deep Slope**

PI Sonke Johnsen

Asset (& Ship) Johnson Sea-Link (Seward Johnson)

Area Bahamas

Objective Explore deep-sea coral ecosystems



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Project **Florida Deep-Water Oasis**

PI Charles Messing

Asset (& Ship) Johnson Sea-Link (Seward Johnson)

Area Strait of Florida

Objective Explore deep-sea coral ecosystems



Copyright: Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution.



Other Deep Assets Used in FY2007

Asset **NOAA Pisces IV and V Submersibles**

50 operating days

32 dive days

- Deep-sea coral paleoclimate studies
- Deep hermatypic reef ecosystem studies

Objectives - Deep-sea bottom dwelling fish
and invertebrate communities
near French Frigate Shoals
& Twin Banks

Area **Hawaiian Archipelago**



Other Deep Assets Used in FY2007

NOAA/NIUST

Asset ***Eagle Ray AUV***
2200 m

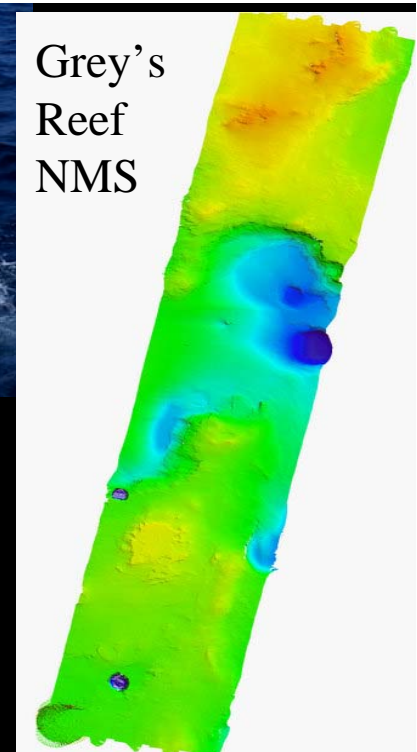
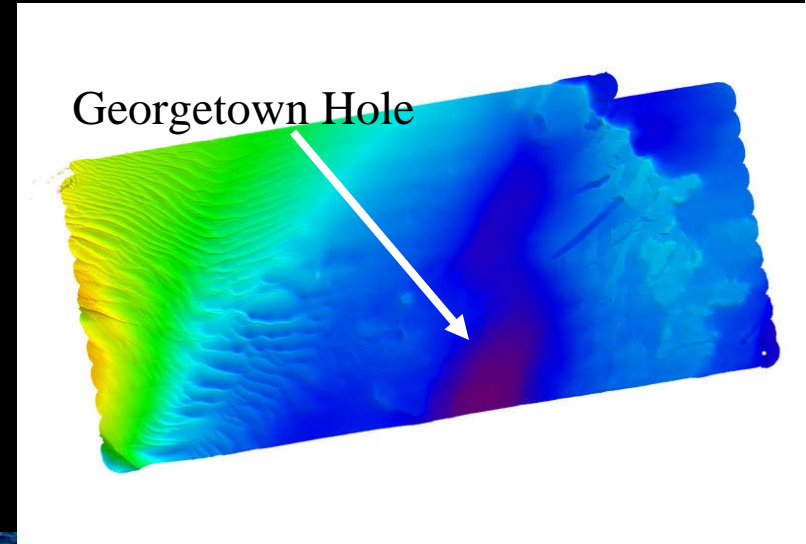
36 operating days

Objective

Test/Evaluate AUV
Habitat characterization

Areas

Georgetown Hole
Oculina Banks
Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary
Hudson Canyon



Images courtesy of NOAA-NURP-NIUST, NOAA-NURP-SEGM.



Ocean Exploration and Research Budgets in FY2007

| | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 ¹ |
|----------|------|------|-------------------|
| NURP | 7.0 | 8.0 | 9.2 |
| OE | 14.3 | 14.8 | 15.1 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Combined | 21.3 | 22.8 | 24.3 |

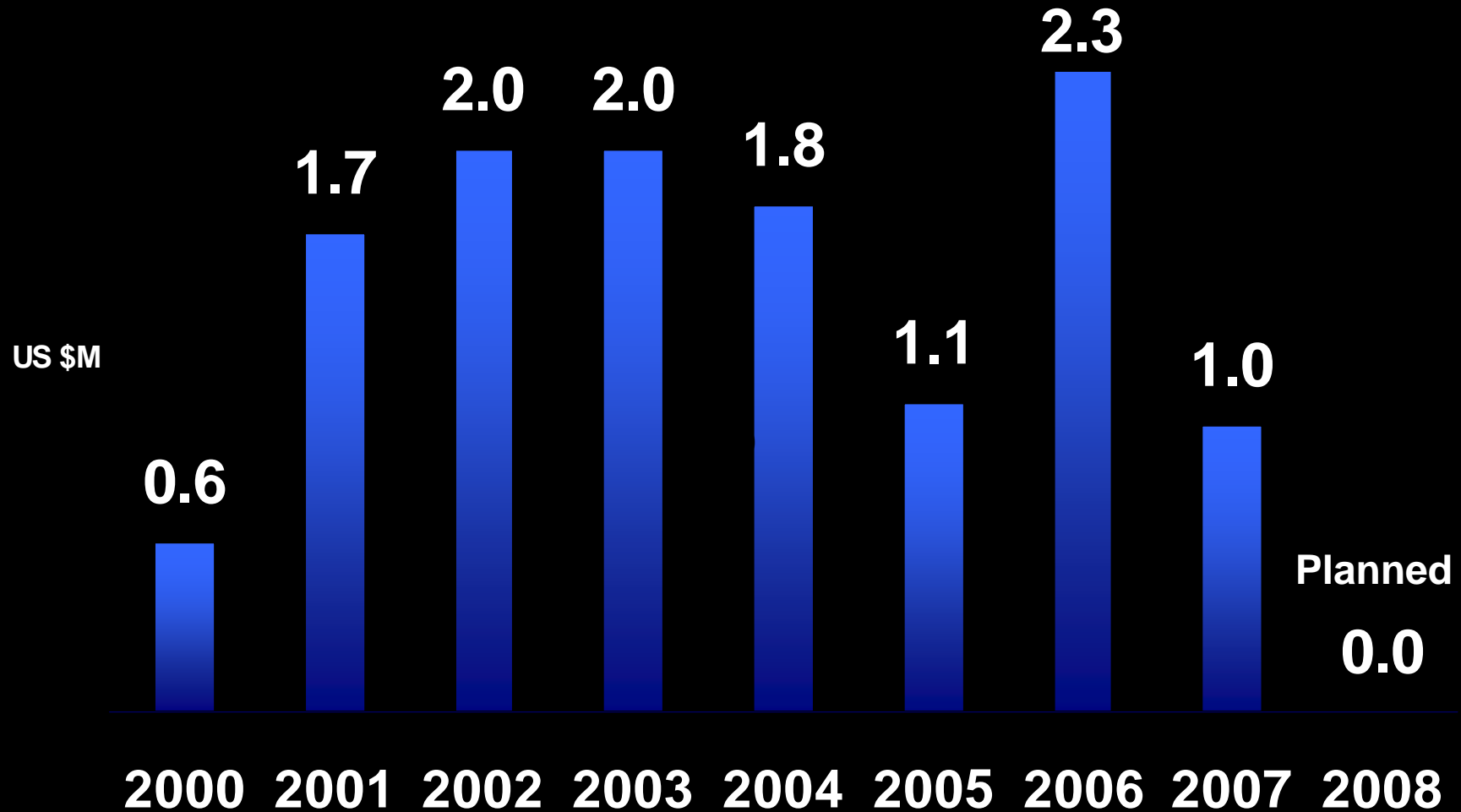
1 – President's Budget Request



EXPLORE
NOAA OFFICE OF OCEAN EXPLORATION



Past NOAA NDSF Funding Levels



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Okeanos Explorer



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