



SCRFA Member's report on activities to ICRI

Presented by Martin Russell

Reporting period
May – December 2007

1. General Information

Representation to ICRI (Country / Organization):	Society for the Conservation of Reef Fish Aggregations (SCRFA)
Focal Point 1:	Martin Russell
Focal point 2:	Yvonne Sadovy
Last meeting attended:	Tokyo
How do you circulate ICRI information within your country and/or organization?	Email list, Newsletters.
Budget allocated for coral reef related activities (please mention for year/period):	\$300,000 (2007/2009)

2. Member contribution to the ICRI GM:

A. Questions to inform the break-out discussion groups

Session 1: Economic Valuation of coral reef ecosystems

- a. Do you have examples of economic valuation of coral reefs being applied in practice? (e.g., in consideration of coastal land use, coastal/marine spatial planning, for determining compensation, etc.);
 - Collaboration was recently initiated between SCRFA and the University of British Columbia to develop an evaluation of the coral reef associated fisheries in Fiji. Work will be completed during 2008, including a valuation and also a methodology for the annual assessment of reef fishery value.

Session 2: Designing the ICRI Regional Workshop on Sustainable Tourism (to be held in July 2008 directly following ICRS-11)

- a. With respect to coral reefs, what does sustainable tourism mean to you?
 - One component of such sustainable tourism includes clear economic benefits to local communities, which are also closely involved in management.

B. Summary of IYOR 2008 Activities

- Briefly tell us about your activities for IYOR 2008. Information provided will contribute to the discussion during the IYOR 2008 Session on Friday, January 25, 2008.
 1. SCRFA 2008 calendar, providing a unique selection of fish spawning aggregation photos and associated information on species aggregating behaviour.
 2. NOAA / GBRMPA / SCRFA Secondment Project entitled "*Management and Research of Fish Spawning Aggregations in the US Caribbean, south Florida, and Gulf of Mexico (C-SF-GOM) regions of the USA.*" The objective of this project is to develop a comprehensive, prioritized framework for Fish Spawning Aggregations (FSAs) management and research in the C-SF-GOM regions, drawing from FSA conservation and research efforts from other geographical regions. The secondment is for Martin Russell (GBRMP / SCRFA) to work with NOAA.
 3. SCRFA is focussing on project development in Fiji and Palau to further promote and encourage the management of reef fish aggregations and sustainable use of coral reef fisheries as part of SCRFA's ongoing work.
 4. Yvonne Sadovy is co-organizing an Aliances Workshop at the IUCN WCC in Barcelona on "*Species information for managing marine protected areas; improving access and integration*".

C. Emerging Issues

- Please identify any emerging issues relevant to coral reef ecosystems that you believe ICRI should consider.
 1. Strategic framework for management and science of fish spawning aggregations. There are considerable information gaps throughout the tropics on fish spawning aggregations. A strategic approach to managing aggregations to avoid over exploitation and to increase the resilience of fish stocks to withstand direct and indirect pressures such as over fishing and climate change.
 2. There is a need for management of coral reef fisheries focusing on food security as the major driver rather than commercial use.

D. ICRI and Other Meetings

Are your ICRI Focal Points considering attending any of the following meetings in 2008?

- IUCN World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, 5-16 October
- Other (please specify):
 - World Fisheries Congress, 20-24 October, Yokohama, Japan.