

Press Release

Contact: DOMINIQUE BLAIN
Phone: (561) 741-0192 *113

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, JULY 23, 2007

ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL, CELEBRITY CRUISES AWARD GRANT TO THE PERRY INSTITUTE FOR MARINE SCIENCE

JUPITER, FL: July 23, 2007 – The Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises Ocean Fund awarded \$30,000 earlier this year to support the Perry Institute’s work on marine protected area research. This is one of 15 new grants awarded this year, all grants totaling \$796,000 were awarded to marine conservation and environmental organizations.

“We have enjoyed a great relationship with the Ocean Fund and they have been very supportive of our work to improve strategies available for marine resource management in protecting species of importance to Florida and the wider Caribbean region,” said Dr. John Marr, executive director for the Perry Institute. The research on Marine Protected Areas has been led by one of the Perry Institute’s esteemed senior research scientists, Dr. Craig Dahlgren. Over the past 15 years, the Perry Institute has been a leader in research on the fisheries ecology of key species in the Caribbean and the use of Marine Protected Areas for supporting healthy marine ecosystems and the fisheries that depend on them. During this time, the Perry Institute has continued to strengthen its partnership with marine resource management agencies, in the US, Bahamas and throughout the Caribbean.

Research at the Perry Institute into Marine Protected Areas has led to significant breakthroughs in discovering the way that these areas can support important commercial fisheries, protect threatened and endangered marine species, and how Marine Protected Areas may be used to improve the health of marine ecosystems. The Perry Institute’s research into these topics has also provided critical information into how networks of Marine Protected Areas can be created to best provide these benefits. The studies

supported by The Ocean Fund and conducted by scientists at the Perry Institute have contributed to the creation of Marine Protected Areas throughout the Caribbean.

The support from The Ocean Fund has been critically important to continuing this work at the Perry Institute. “There are so many fascinating and vital marine conservation efforts under way by our grant applicants,” said Richard Fain, chairman and CEO of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. “We applaud our 2007 Ocean Fund grant recipients for their efforts in research, education and developing innovative technologies that help preserve the world’s oceans.”

About The Perry Institute for Marine Science:

The Perry Institute for Marine Science, a public non-profit organization based in Florida since 1970, is dedicated to conducting and supporting innovative research and education that advances stewardship of the oceans and coastal ecosystems. Recognized globally for its efforts, the Perry Institute for Marine Science works to empower members of an informed society to take responsibility for the future well being of the world’s oceans. Visit www.perryinstitute.org for additional information.

-END-