

## **Coral Reef Task Force Awards-- October 2002 Meeting**

### **Award #1:**

Presented to: Governor Tauese Sunia

*for outstanding leadership and management to protect the valuable coral reef resources of American Samoa by banning harmful scuba-assisted fishing and the harvest of live rock, and for outstanding commitment to the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force.*

### **Award #2:**

Presented to: Surfrider Foundation

*for outstanding leadership and commitment to protecting Puerto Rico's valuable coral reefs by promoting designation of a Natural Reserve in Rincon.*

### **Award #3:**

Presented to: Robert Johannes

*for outstanding scientific achievement by pioneering an approach to the conservation of marine biodiversity that integrates specialized ecological knowledge and traditional marine resource management systems of community-based tropical fishing peoples with Western-based scientific management.*

### **Award #4:**

Presented to: Dr. Edwin Hernandez Delgado

*for outstanding advancement of science and conservation by publishing data integral to the designation and future management of the Luis Pena Channel Natural Reserve on the island of Culebra, Puerto Rico, the first community-based "no take" coral reef protected area designated in Puerto Rico.*

### **Award #5:**

Presented to: Sir Nicholas Nuttall and the Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Foundation

*for outstanding leadership and commitment to increasing awareness of the citizens and government of the Bahamas on the value and importance of their reef ecosystems.*

### **Award #6:**

Presented to: CORALations

*for outstanding leadership and creativity to raise public awareness, promote coral reef education, and foster community participation in the protection of Puerto Rico's coral reef ecosystems.*

### **Award #7:**

Presented to: La Asociacion de Pescadores de Culebra/The Culebra Fishermen's Association

*for outstanding community-level participation through its leadership and commitment in supporting and helping implement the Canal Luis Pena Natural Reserve, the first "no take" coral reef protected area in Puerto Rico.*

**Award #8:**

Presented to: Donna Turgeon

*for outstanding leadership and determination to produce the first nation-wide report on the condition of U.S. coral reefs entitled, "The State of Coral Reef Ecosystems of the United States and Pacific Freely Associated States." The report is a significant milestone towards building an integrated system to track the effectiveness of management efforts and the condition of the nation's valuable coral reefs.*