

# Cooperative Institute for Ocean Exploration, Research and Technology

## Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

CIOERT serves the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), Office of Ocean Exploration and Research priorities in four theme areas:

**Development of advanced underwater technologies** – expanding the scope and efficiency of exploration and research by developing, testing, and applying new technologies and innovative uses of existing technologies;

**Exploration and research of frontier regions of the eastern U.S. continental shelf and beyond** – exploration and research of ecosystems and habitats of economic, hazardous, scientific or cultural importance;

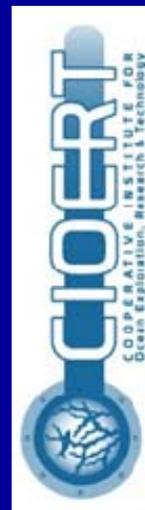
**Improved understanding of deep and shallow coral ecosystems** - using advanced underwater technologies and techniques to improve the understanding of coral and sponge ecosystems;

**Outreach and education** – expanding ocean literacy and building NOAA's technical and scientific workforce through hands-on, at-sea experiences.

The Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER) is CIOERT's primary NOAA partner. CIOERT's academic and research partners are Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute-Florida Atlantic University, the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, the University of Miami, and SRI International, St. Petersburg, Florida.



Galatheid crab *Eumunida picta* in *Lophelia* deepwater coral. Image by HBOI's Johnson-Sea-Link manned submersible during 2010 Gulf of Mexico expedition.



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