

Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research

Mesophotic Coral Ecosystems Highlighted in Special Issue of Journal *Coral Reefs*

In June 2010, the peer-reviewed journal *Coral Reefs* published its first theme section (volume 29, issue 2) dedicated to mesophotic coral ecosystems. This is a huge step forward in increasing the visibility amongst the coral science community of these little known and poorly understood ecosystems, found in tropical and sub-tropical regions in depths ranging from 30-40 m to over 150 m in depth. This special issue contains three review articles that identify the state of knowledge regarding mesophotic coral ecosystems and their community structure, geomorphology, and the 'refugia' hypothesis, as well as seven research articles. The special issue is a direct result of the [2008 Mesophotic Coral Ecosystems Workshop](#) hosted by the Perry Institute for Marine Science and organized by NOAA (Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research and NOAA's Undersea Research Program) and the U.S. Geological Survey. The theme section is available direct from the publisher [SpringerLink](#).

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Theme section on "Mesophotic Coral Ecosystems: Characterization, Ecology, and Management." L.M. Hinderstein, J.C.A. Marr, F.A. Martinez, M.J. Dowgiallo, K.A. Puglise, R.L. Pyle, D.G. Zawada and R. Appeldoorn	247-251
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