Resolution of the Gray's Reef NMS Ocean Acidification Resolution

January 28, 2010

WHEREAS the Gray's Reef NMS Advisory Council recognizes that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that uptake of anthropogenic carbon has led to the ocean becoming more acidic, and that increasing atmospheric CO₂ concentrations are likely to lead to further acidification, and

WHEREAS the IPCC reported that the resilience of many ecosystems is likely to be exceeded in this century with severe localized impacts because of global warming, ocean acidification and other human disturbancesⁱ, and

WHEREAS National Marine Sanctuaries and Gray's Reef NMS have long-term monitoring programs and data sets, and can be used as sentinel sites for monitoring ocean acidification and climate change, and

WHEREAS the Gray's Reef NMS Advisory Council recognizes ocean acidification as a significant threat to the long-term conservation and health of the resources of Gray's Reef NMS, warranting additional National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research, monitoring, education and outreach, and management action to reduce and mitigate its impacts,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gray's Reef NMS Advisory Council recommends that NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries support coordinated national and regional approaches to addressing ocean acidification throughout the National Marine Sanctuary System, and that the approaches be coordinated with the sanctuaries' research and community partners.

¹ IPCC, 2007: Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, Pachauri, R.K and Reisinger, A. (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 104 pgs.