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For Immediate Release

**ROYAL CARIBBEAN'S OCEAN FUND GIVES \$600,000 IN NEW GRANTS
TO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY FOUNDATION, 10 OTHER GROUPS**

MIAMI – January 26, 2004 – Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. has awarded \$600,000 from its Ocean Fund to 11 marine conservation organizations, including a \$200,000 gift to the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation for the new Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center in Key West, Chairman and CEO Richard D. Fain announced today.

In 7½ years since the launch of the Ocean Fund, the global vacation company has donated \$6.6 million on behalf of Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises to 40 different organizations working to protect the marine environment.

The other 10 new grants, ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 annually, will support a variety of projects, such as protecting wild salmon in Alaska and the red spiny lobster in the Galapagos Islands, certifying sustainable fisheries, feeding stranded seals, conducting a biodiversity analysis of the Caribbean Basin, and aiding doctoral students in their research.

“The Ocean Fund is fortunate to be able to share in the important work of marine conservation by our grant winners,” Fain said. “We appreciate all their efforts in the protection of endangered fish populations and the education of the public about the importance of preserving ocean habitats.”

Visitors to Key West can learn about the Florida Keys ecosystem at a 6,000-square-foot environmental center planned at Harbor Walk, near the cruise-ship pier. The free-admission facility will feature interactive exhibits, including a mockup of the Aquarius undersea research lab and a “bicentennial coral head” depicting the slow growth of coral against a backdrop of the passage of history.

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In the 75-seat theater, a video presentation will explore tropical hammocks, mangroves, coral reefs, shipwrecks and open ocean, and there will be live-feed broadcasts from the marine sanctuary. Collaborating on the project are the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, launched in 2000, is one of three first-time grant winners. The Marine Animal Lifeline, which rescues stranded seals along Maine's coast, received \$25,000 to feed nursing pups and other seals undergoing rehabilitation. The Charles Darwin Foundation, based in Quito, Ecuador, also received \$25,000 for a study of the early-life history of the red spiny lobster at its research station in the Galapagos Islands.

The complete list of Ocean Fund grant recipients is as follows:

- Alaska SeaLife Center: \$50,000 to develop a behind-the-scenes, interactive video program, teaching visitors and satellite-linked groups about ongoing research and marine wildlife rehabilitation.
- The Conservation Fund: \$50,000 for the Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Initiative, helping purchase strategic tracts from Natives to protect fisheries of wild salmon.
- Conservation International: \$60,000 over two years for the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science, which will develop and analyze data on threats to marine species in the Caribbean Basin and create a network of marine-protected areas.
- Charles Darwin Foundation: \$25,000 to the Charles Darwin Research Station in the Galapagos Islands to study the post-larval and juvenile phases of the red spiny lobster's life cycle in an effort to sustain an important fishery.
- The Florida Aquarium: \$25,000 to upgrade the Beaches and Bays exhibit, focusing on the role of Tampa Bay coastal waters in supporting industry, recreation, and wildlife.
- Island Dolphin Care: \$25,000 to create marine-science exhibits for aquarium learning stations at the new Island Dolphin Care Center in Key Largo, Florida.

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Ocean Fund Awards Another \$600,000

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- Marine Animal Lifeline: \$25,000 to supply the nutritional needs of stranded seals being treated at the rescue and rehabilitation facility in Westbrook, Maine.
- Marine Stewardship Council: \$50,000 over two years for the fisheries certification program in North America, encouraging food-service operators to obtain seafood from sustainable sources.
- National Marine Sanctuary Foundation: \$200,000 for construction of a multi-purpose theater at the new Dr. Nancy Foster Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center in Key West, educating visitors about the entire Florida Keys and South Florida ecosystem.
- Tampa BayWatch: \$50,000 over two years for construction of the Discovery Docks at the new Tampa Bay Marine and Education Center near Fort DeSoto Park.
- University of Miami: \$40,000 for a graduate fellowship, supporting a doctoral student in research at UM's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. is a global cruise vacation company that operates Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises, with a combined total of 27 ships in service and two under construction or on firm order. The company also offers unique cruisetour vacations in Alaska, Canada and Europe. Additional information can be found on www.royalcaribbean.com, www.celebrity.com or www.rclinvestor.com.

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