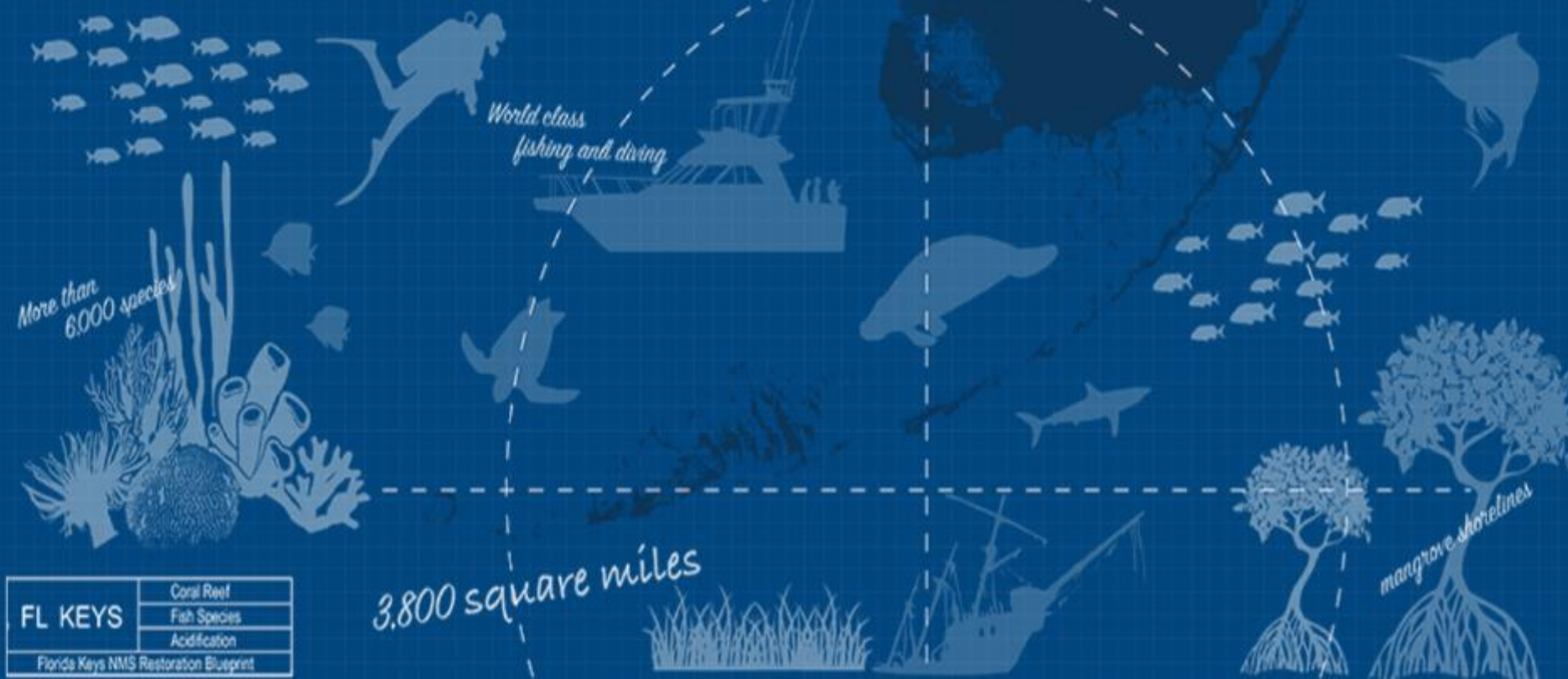




FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY RESTORATION BLUEPRINT





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Presentation Outline

- Restoration Blueprint Status & Timeline
- Proposed Rule highlights specific to Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council comment letter and authorities
 - Sanctuary boundary
 - Sanctuary-wide regulations
 - Marine zones & associated regulations
- Socio-Economic Analysis
- Management Plan
- Public outreach products and tools



Photo Credit: Catlin Seaview Survey

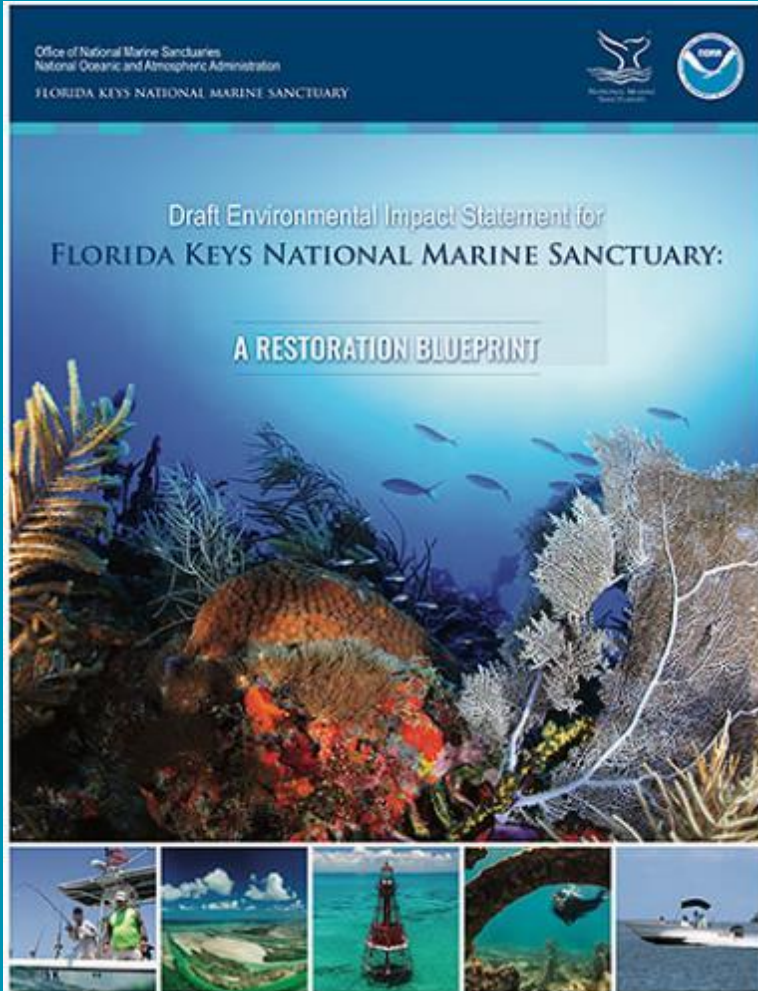
Restoration Blueprint Timeline and Status





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Notice of Proposed Rulemaking



Proposed regulations for:

- Sanctuary boundary
- Sanctuary-wide regulations
- Marine zones & zone-specific regulations

Proposed Rule is informed by:

- Public and agency comment
- Updated socio-economic and environmental data

Pulls from all four alternatives included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

*Management Plan is a separate document

GMFMC comment letter topics & FKNMS proposed rule content

Topics in 2020 GMFMC comment letter	Included in the proposed rule
<i>Tortugas Corridor marine zone</i>	<i>Not included</i>
<i>Idle speed no wake in all SPAs</i>	<i>Not included</i>
<i>FKNMS Live Rock Aquaculture permit</i>	<i>Not included</i>
Boundary expansion at Pulley Ridge	Included
Temporary Regulation for Emergency & Adaptive Management	Included
Traditional Fishing definition and process for coordination	Included
Baitfishing permits in Sanctuary Preservation Areas	Included
Water Quality and FKNMS role	Included in draft management plan



Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Restoration Blueprint: Revised Draft Management Plan



floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint/

Management Plan

Focuses on understanding and improving the condition of sanctuary resources through reducing threats and addressing emerging issues

Proposed actions focus on:

- targeted research
- updated and adaptive management efforts
- regulatory compliance
- community involvement
- stewardship



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Management Plan: Priority Themes

- Management Effectiveness and Adaptive Management
- Water Quality
- Restoration
- Visitor Use Management
- Enforcement
- Stewardship and Engagement





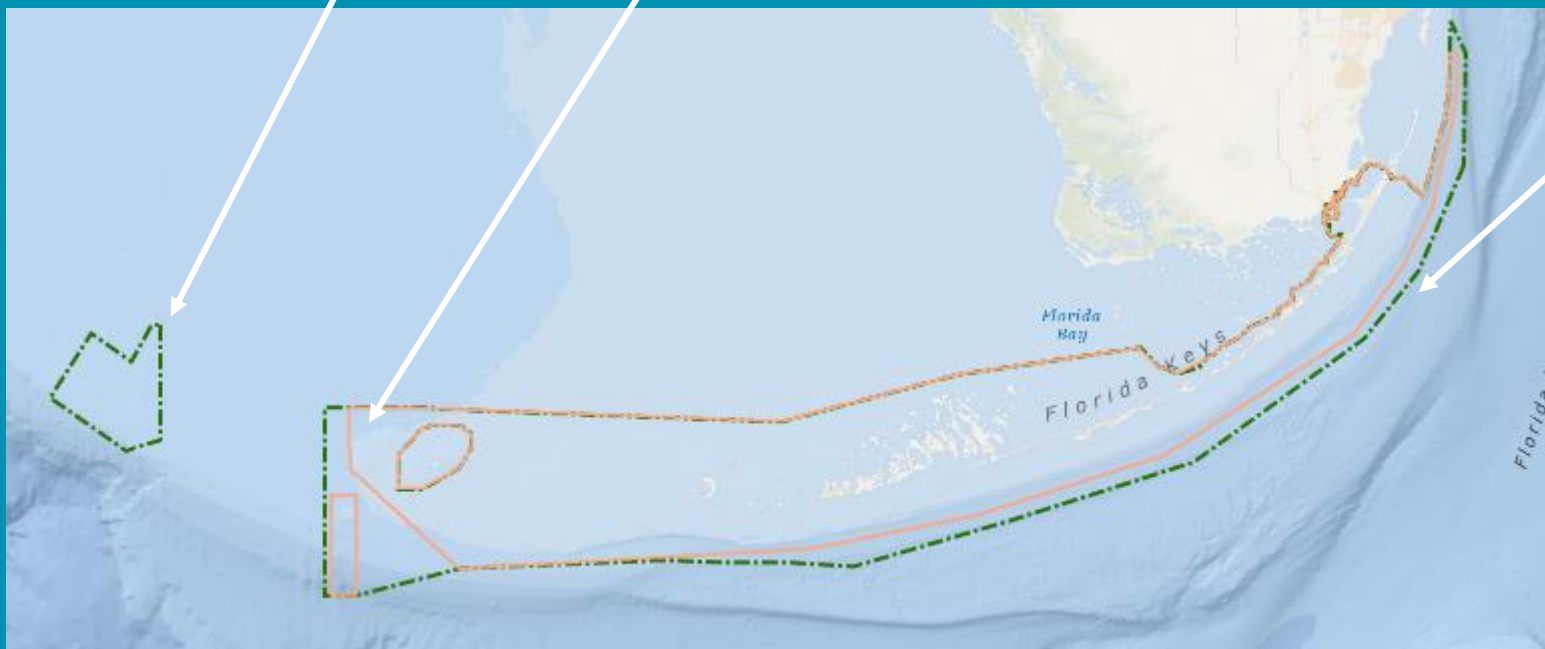
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Sanctuary Boundary: Proposed Expansion

Nationally Significant - Pulley Ridge

Connectivity - Tortugas Region

Connect & Preserve Special Habitats



Consistent regulation - Expand boundary to include areas already closed to large vessel traffic



Existing: 3,800 sq miles



Proposed: 4,800 sq miles



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TEMPORARY REGULATION EMERGENCY & ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Act Quickly to Respond & Protect

Proposed regulation:

180-day action + optional 186-day extension

3 Categories:

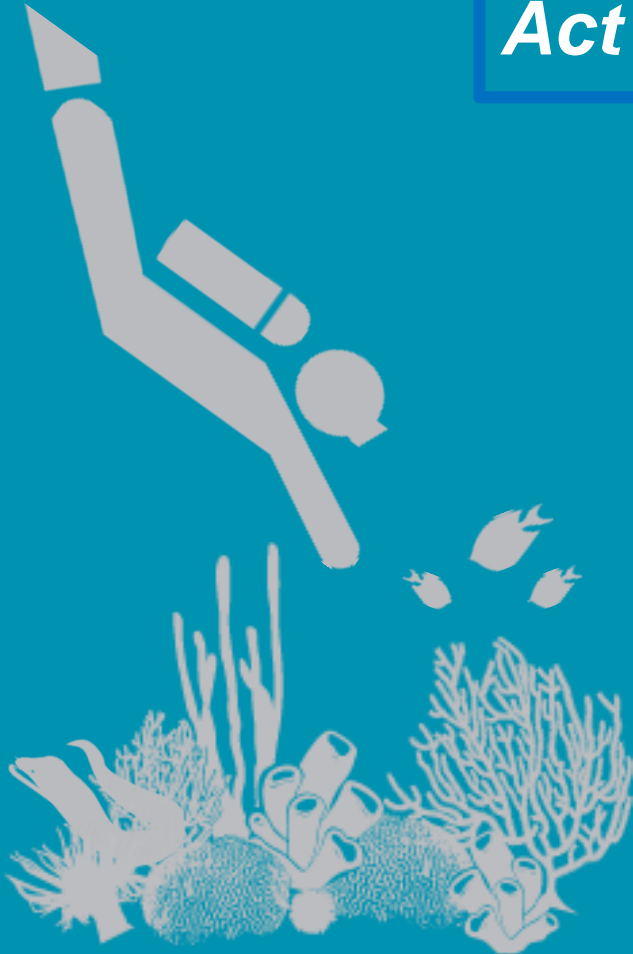
Minimize
resources
impacts

Initiate
restoration

Facilitate
timely
research



Sets process for implementation





Traditional Fishing

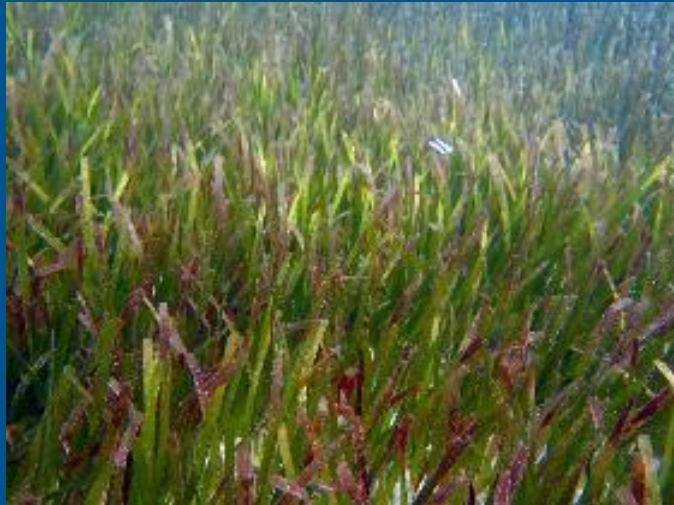
Traditional fishing means those commercial or recreational fishing activities that were customarily conducted within the sanctuary prior to its designation as identified in the 1996 Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan for this sanctuary.

Next Steps and Implementation:

- Work with NMFS, FWC, and the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic FMCs on an updated Protocol for Cooperative Fisheries Management to:
 - clarify traditional fishing activities, and
 - develop a transparent process to evaluate new or modified fishing activities and other relevant changes to fisheries management.

Marine Zones & Associated Regulations: Proposal Goals

- Protect sensitive habitats and ecological functions
- Facilitate ecosystem restoration
- Simplify and create consistent regulations



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Photo Credit: Shawn
Verne



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SANCTUARY PRESERVATION AREAS

Separate Conflicting Uses, Protect Habitats, Create Consistency

17 SPAs:

- 2 new
- Combine 2 existing
- Eliminate 2 existing



Prohibit:

- Discharge
- Fishing or taking marine life
- Anchoring





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SANCTUARY PRESERVATION AREAS

Proposed Rule



Sanctuary Preservation Area



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CONSERVATION AREAS

Protect Contiguous, Diverse Habitats & Facilitate Research

6 Conservation Areas:

- All existing
- Eliminate Looe Key Special Use Area



Prohibit:

- Discharge
- Fishing or taking marine life
- Anchoring, *except* in Western Sambo shoreward of reef line
- Entering except for continuous transit; stopping in Western Sambo is *allowed*








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CONSERVATION AREAS

Proposed Rule



-  No Anchor
-  Western Sambo Conservation Area
-  Conservation Area



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RESTORATION AREAS

Protect Nurseries & Facilitate Restoration

Proposed new zone type

Create a restoration permit category



4 Habitat Restoration Areas

- Same as SPAs - no discharge, no take, no anchor



9 Nursery Restoration Areas

- Same as SPAs + transit only

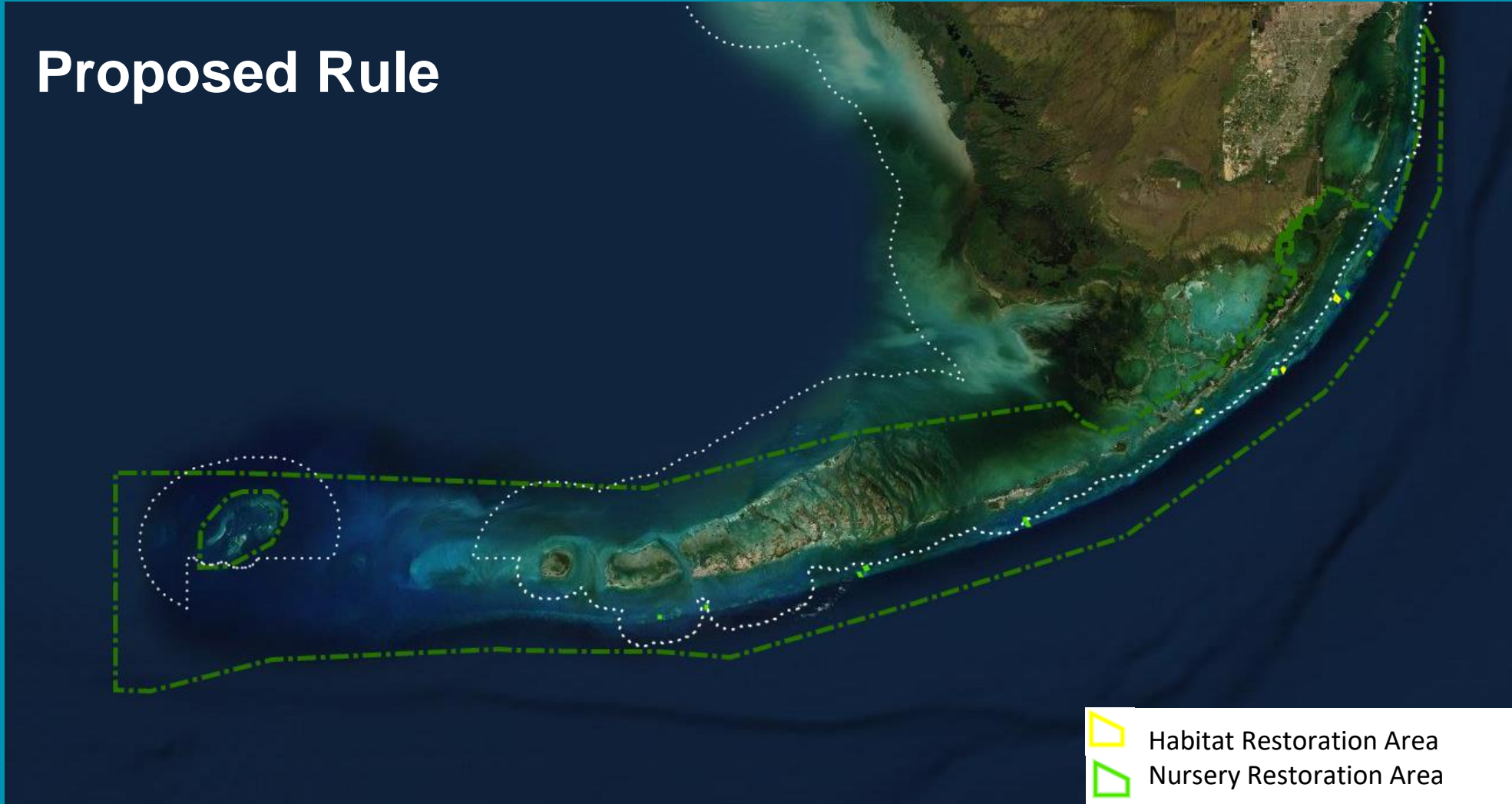




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RESTORATION AREAS

Proposed Rule





WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Protect & Minimize Wildlife Disturbance

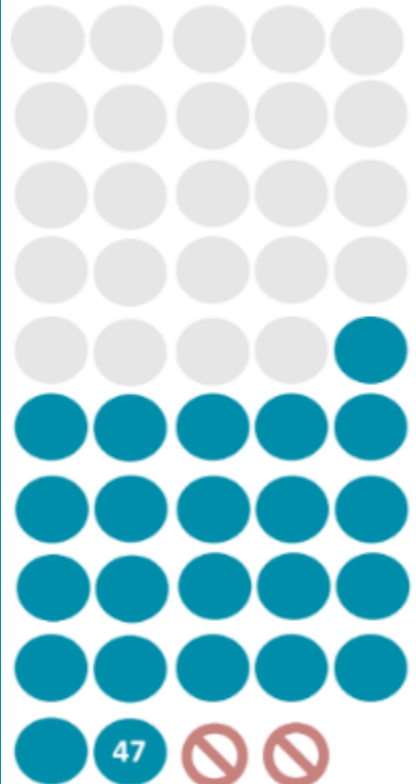
Wildlife Management Areas

47 Wildlife Management Areas

- 23 proposed new
- 2 existing combined into one
- 2 existing proposed eliminated

Regulations vary:

- Access and use restrictions address location-specific resource goals
 - Idle speed no wake
 - No motor
 - No anchor
 - No entry





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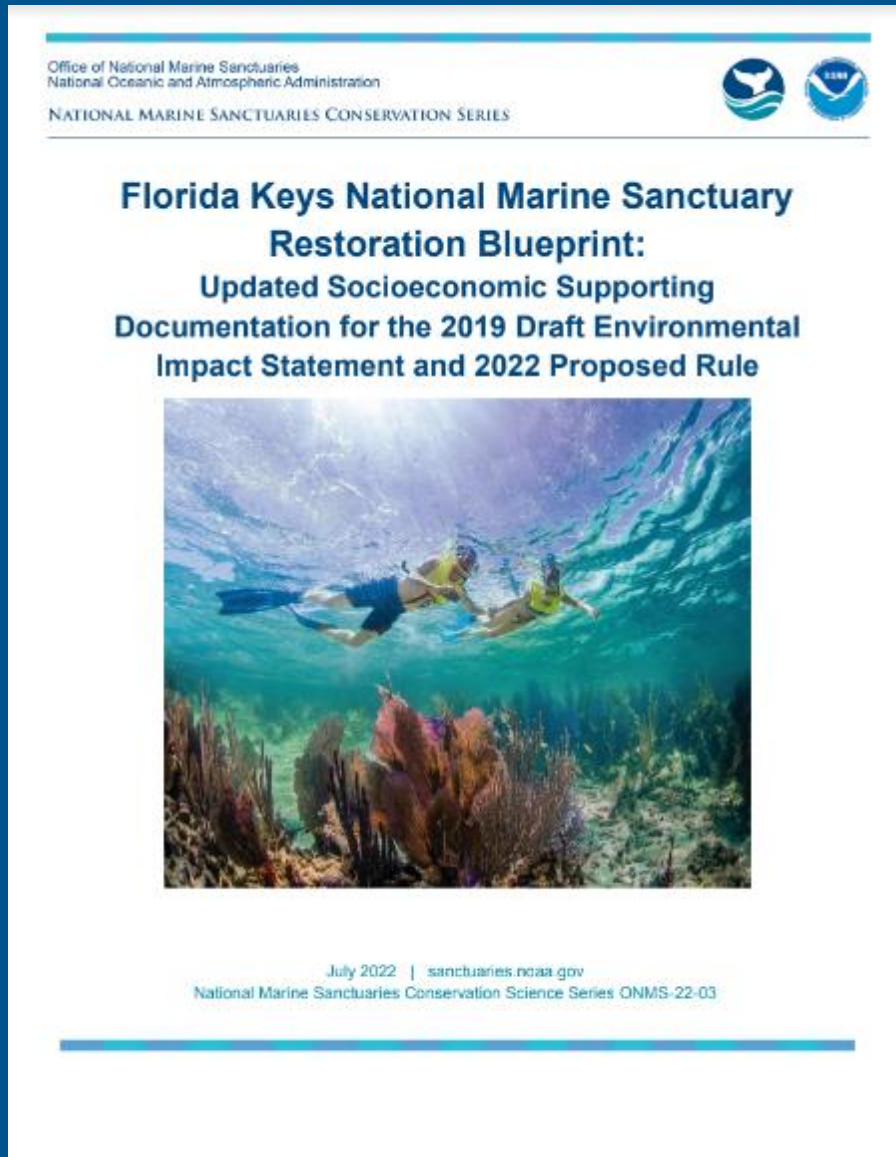
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Proposed Rule



- No Entry
- No Anchor
- Idle Speed
- No Anchor Vessels Greater than 50 m
- No Motor
- Transit Only and No Anchor April 1 to July 31
- No Motor and No Anchor

Socio-Economic Analysis



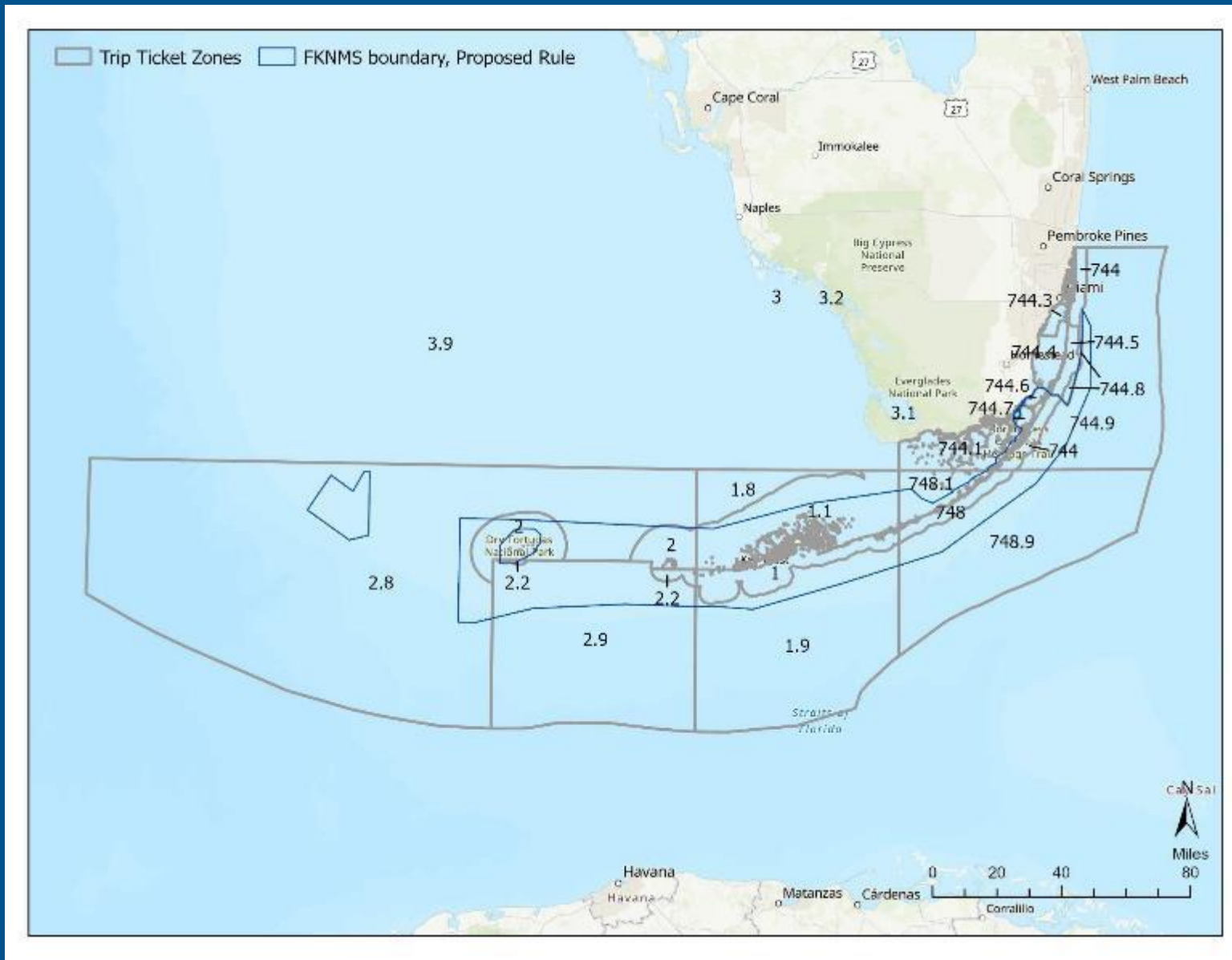
Updated Data

- Commercial Fishing: 2015-2019
 - *source: FWC*
- Recreational Fishing: 2014-2018
 - *source: MRIP (NMFS)*
- *the latest date available at the time of analysis

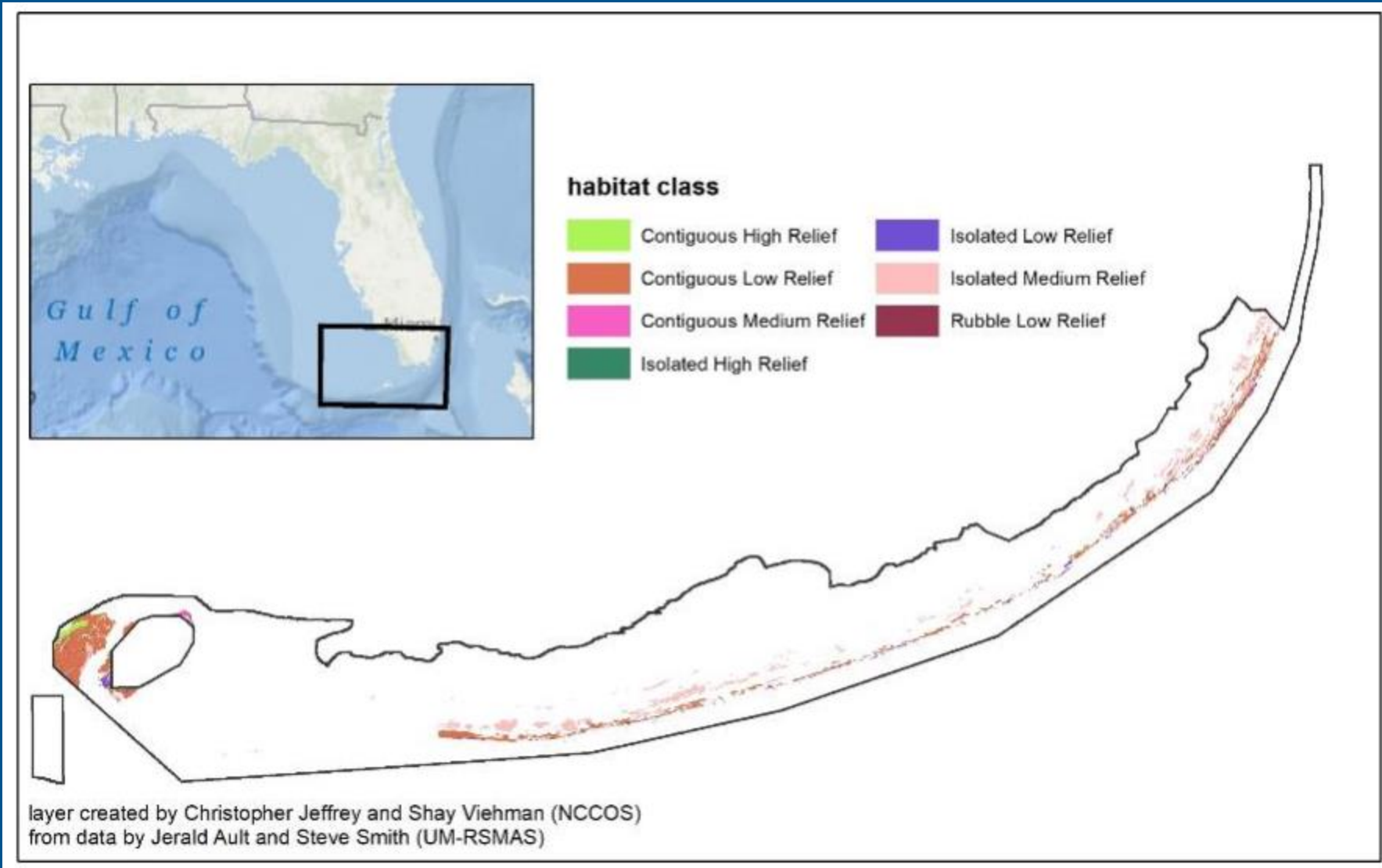
Updated Methodology

- Align with NMFS methods to analyze economic effects of regulatory changes

Socio-Economic Analysis - Statistical Areas



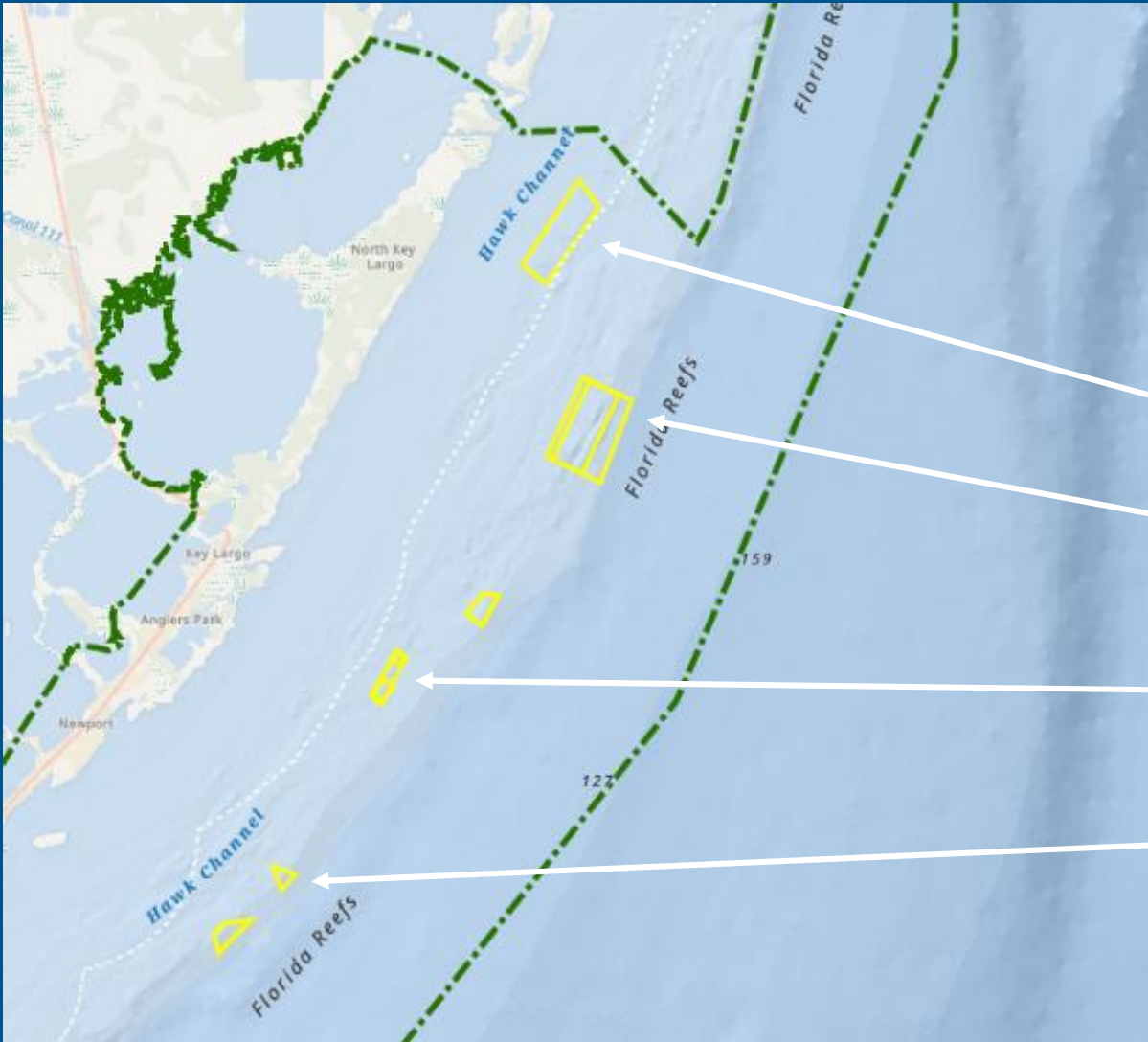
Socio-Economic Analysis - Habitat Map



Socio-Economic Analysis - Fish & Invertebrate Habitat Utilization



Socio-Economic Analysis - Change in Fishing Access

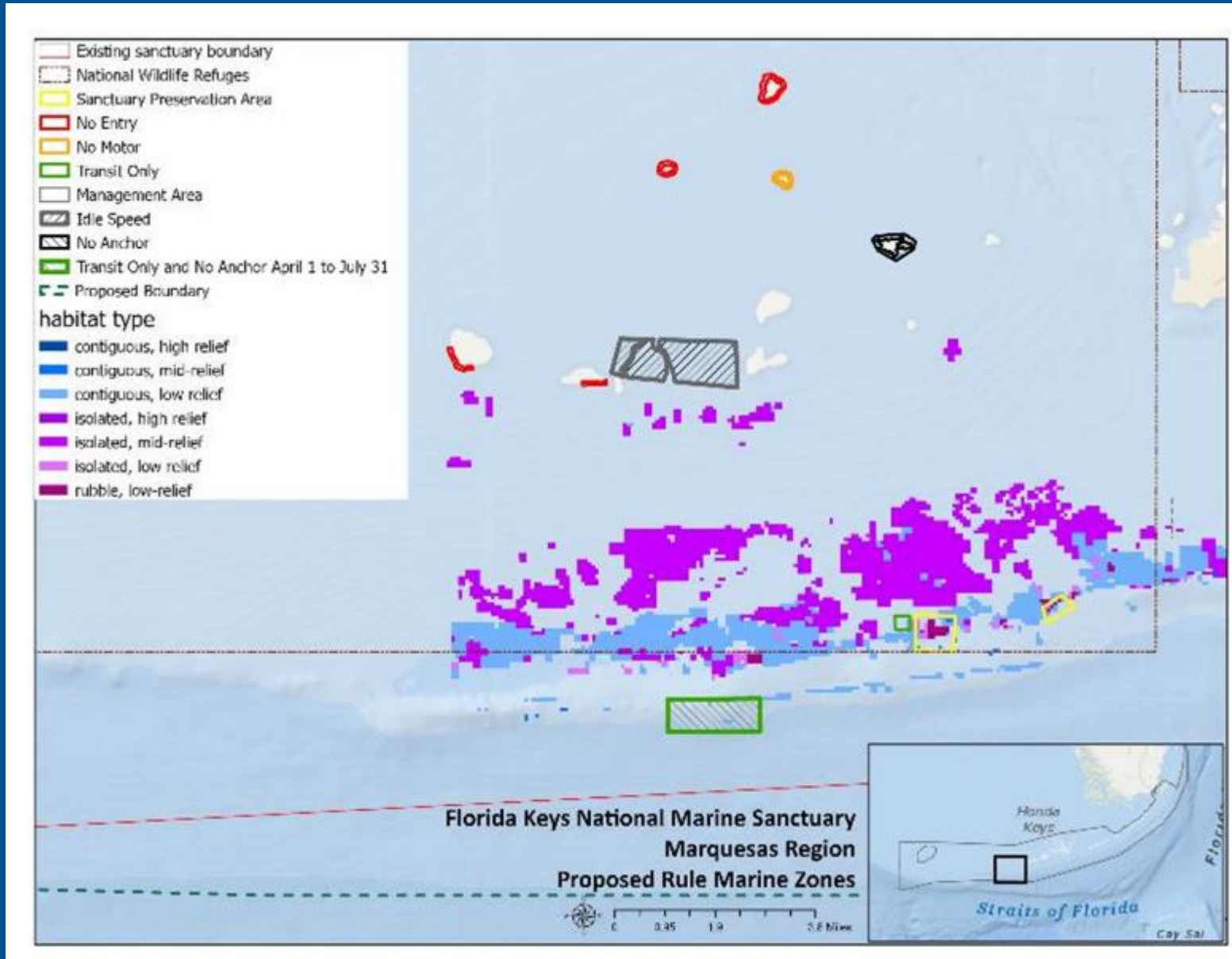


This map shows existing and proposed Sanctuary Preservation Areas.

Highlights:

- Turtle Rocks - proposed new zone
- Carysfort Reef - proposed expansion
- Grecian Rocks & Key Largo Dry Rocks - proposed expansion
- French Reef - proposed elimination

Habitat Map and Proposed Rule Sanctuary Marine Zones



Existing and Proposed No Take Marine Zones: comparison of number and area of zones

Zone Type	Status Quo	Proposed Rule
Sanctuary Preservation Areas	18 (6.4 sq miles)	17 (12.1 sq miles)
Conservation Areas	7 (193.9 sq miles)	6 (213.1 sq miles)
Restoration Areas (Habitat and Nursery)	0	13 (1.4 sq miles)
Wildlife Management Areas	15 (1.14 sq miles)*	24 (2.8 sq miles)**

*Includes closed or no-access buffer wildlife management areas, or those that have a portion that is closed or no access buffer

**Includes proposed no entry and transit only wildlife management areas, or those that have a portion that is no entry



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Existing and Proposed No Take Marine Zones: comparison of area and percentage of area within state vs. federal waters

	Status Quo	Proposed Rule	Change
Total area	201.4 sq miles 5.3%	229.5 sq miles 4.78%	+ 28.1 sq miles
Federal waters	94 sq miles 2.47%	115.7 sq miles 2.41%	+ 21.7 sq miles
State waters	107.4 sq miles 2.82%	113.8 sq miles 2.37%	+ 6.4 sq miles

Note: The overall sanctuary boundary is expanded by 1,000 square miles so percentages are not directly comparable.



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Socio-Economic Analysis - Summary Steps

Data Used:

1. Fishery statistical area maps and relevant fisheries data
2. Biogeographic habitat maps
3. Species distribution per habitat type
4. Habitat distribution within existing and proposed modified/new marine zones (only considered those that prohibit fishing or change the fishing status)

Analysis Conducted:

1. Estimate potential catch per habitat within each statistical area
2. Estimate potential change in fishing harvest and revenue for habitat in modified/new marine zones

Socio-Economic Analysis

Benefits

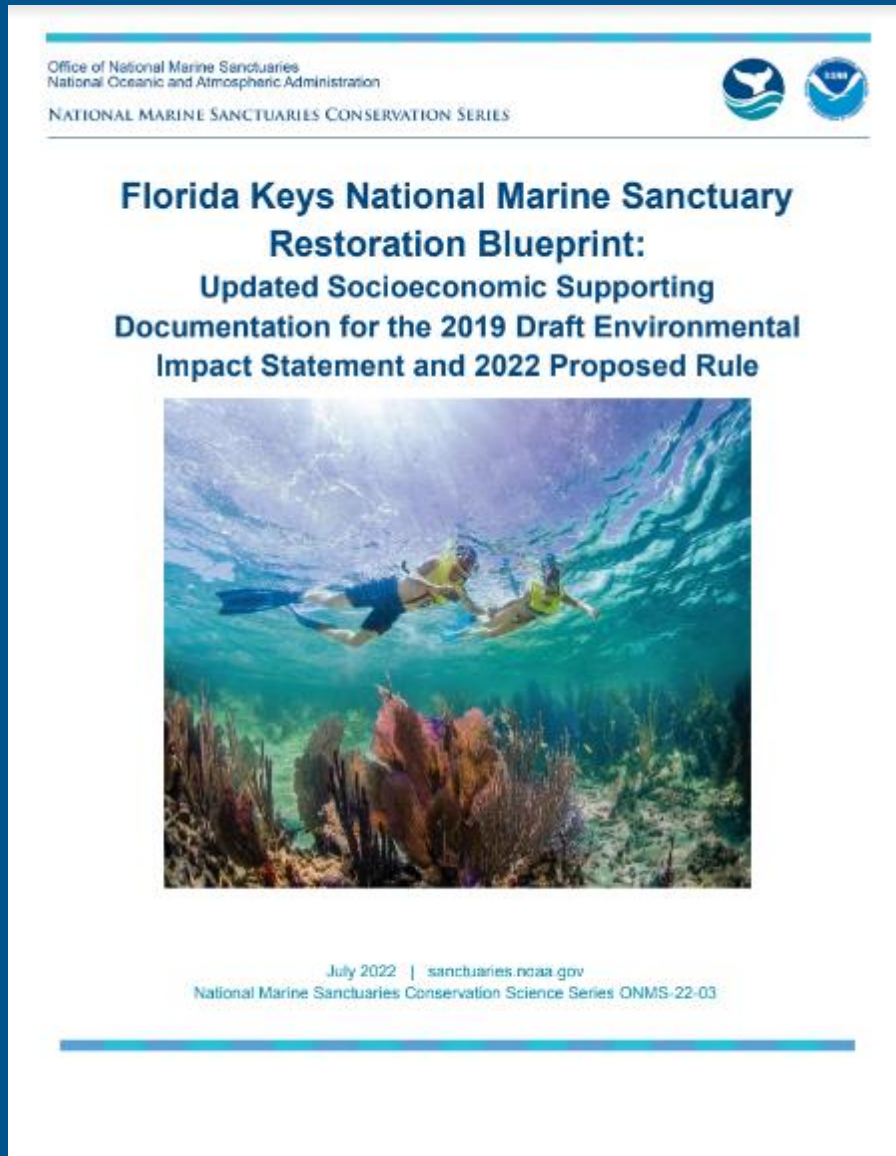
Maintaining the flow of services afforded by healthy marine ecosystems:

- productive fisheries
- tourism
- recreational opportunities
- non-market value

Costs

Maximum potential loss (assuming no replacement):

- less than 1% of annual revenue for all affected fisheries (commercial and recreational)
 - Excepting lobster fishery (~2% annual loss)





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FloridaKeys.noaa.gov/blueprint