

**Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP)**

**Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative (SEFCRI)
Our Florida Reefs (OFR)**

**Community Working Groups
May North/South Meeting Comparison**

*Note: Similar action items and decisions are **highlighted***

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Action Items

North

CRCP will add a link for Brian’s reef tract flyover on the OFR website

CRCP will send working group members the NOAA tech report on commercial fishing trips in the SEFCRI region over the past ten years

Action Items

South

SEFCRI team needs to define the term “health” if we are going to use it as a descriptor of coral reef condition*

*8/1/14 Update – the term “health” was replaced by “condition” in OFR guidance and planning documents

Decisions

North

**North and South Project Legitimization
Committee groups will be merged**

The NCWG voted to keep the Decision Support Tool workshop as a half-day optional meeting that only focuses on the DST, and will not include any management presentations that would extend it into a whole-day meeting

Approval of last meeting’s minutes: APPROVED

Decisions

South

**North and South Project Legitimization
Committee groups will be merged**

Key Points

North

Mitigation will not restore systems to their natural state, it only seeks to compensate for it

Artificial structure will always inadvertently select for certain species and never recreate natural habitats

You cannot replace a coral reef once it is gone – i.e. mitigation is not the solution

Management should focus on threats that CAN be abated by people, so that at least this makes corals better able to resist or recover from natural threats (hurricanes, temperature fluctuations, etc.)

The cumulative effects from anthropogenic impacts exacerbate the deleterious impacts of natural threats to coral reefs

Key Points

South

None