

June Public Comments

Updated 06/30/2015

Submitted	County	Your Identity	Reef-related problems or concerns you would like to share	Suggestions to Improve the Our Florida Reefs Process	Best Way to Engage, Inform, and Work with Your Community	Additional Comments/Suggestions
06.04.2015	Saint Lucie	Boater, Fisher, Camper	N/A	I truly admire the work that all of you do. I was reared in Fort Lauderdale, and now teach middle school in Saint Lucie County. As a teacher, I have concern about one of your public service announcements that airs on MeTV. A lady marine biologist states that the Florida reef system is located in the Caribbean Sea. Unless I am mistaken, the Caribbean Sea starts south of Cuba. The south Florida peninsula, is bordered by the Florida straits which run north to Palm Beach. Or of course, the Atlantic Ocean. But to my knowledge, we are nowhere close to the Caribbean Sea. Once again, I apologize, if I am wrong. But, if I am correct, please fix your announcement. Children pick up on everything, and I just want to be sure that they are getting the correct information.	N/A	N/A
06.17.2015	N/A	Sierra Club	Spoke to someone from Australia who did commercial fishing; they saw the benefits of the MPA; especially the large fish. Also, read a book called "War on the Whales" and met the author and recommends reading the book. About the deep trench in the water near the Bahamas. Focuses on the issue of noise and it is a story about a secret navy program that blasts noise within the water. It negatively impacts the marine life. Need to look at cruise ship pollution; there is little restriction because some ships can have as much as 6,000 people. Sea walls should be eliminated especially in the intracoastal area. They are extremely damaging especially near the nurseries. Seagrass is important to the reefs as well. Loxahatchee restoration in West Palm Beach. Water quality is important for these habitats and the connectivity of the reefs.	Impressed with overall work being done by the community working groups. Wants to educate the public to increase the amount of fish to benefit the public.	N/A	N/A
06.17.2015	N/A	Healthy Oceans	N/A	N/A	N/A	There was the first meeting last week at Diver's Direct for the Friends of Our Florida Reefs. There are five board directors who covered lots of governance issues during the first meeting. Currently, the organization is trying to file for 501c3 to allow for tax deductible donations across the state. Anyone interested in becoming an advisor is welcome to apply. Go to www.floridareef.org to learn more. Another thing is the teen anti-littering campaign in Hallandale Beach from June 15th - August 6th. There will be a cleanup and education component involved at both the beach and parks in Hallandale. Also, thanked those involved with the Happy Birthday National Ocean Policy celebration last month. Furthermore, the American Littoral Society will hopefully show edits made for the interviews and uploaded selfies on how the oceans are important to them. Additional interviews can still be uploaded.
06.17.2015	Broward	Concerned Citizen	Concerned citizen with photos from a beach walk in Pompano Beach. Concerned with the proximity of fishing boats along the beach. Bait fishing boats going over the first reef in Pompano Beach during calm weather between the hours of 5:30-7:30 a.m. The next concern is on Facebook with regards to a Hog fish photo from a spear fisherman. The bag limit is only five per bag per day, and there were a significant amount exceeded by one fisherman who speared them near Hillsborough Inlet and Atlantic Blvd.	N/A		