Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Coral Reef Conservation Program

OFR NCWG

Updates and Moving Forward

April 2015

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Looking Ahead

April:

- Finalize combinations of RMAs
- Review RMAs that need more info/recommended for archiving
- Marine Planner Demo

May & June

- Determine which RMAs will be worked on in the Marine Planner by the group
- Work with the Marine Planner to develop spatial plans for place-based RMAs

Photo By: Joe Marino

Incentive!!!

Today's Meeting

- Review NCWG Decisions for RMA combinations & Report out (Small Groups)
- Large Groups to Review RMAs recommended for archiving
- Small Groups within Focus Area
  - Review RMAs that need more info or clarification
  - Record results on posters to group viewing
- Large Groups for Place-based RMAs
  - Review place-based management combinations
  - Review list of RMAs for spatial planning Tool work
- TAC and Team here to answer questions
- Homework: gather info on RMAs that need more clarification or are recommended for archiving

RMA Organization

Priorities

1) Combined:

- SEFCRI Team/TAC recommends combining RMAs
- Comments are very similar or the same
- Info provided by CWGs is not clear enough to distinguish between RMAs
- Conflicting RMAs that should actually be combined

2) RMAs that need more info and clarification

3) Archived?

- RMA does not benefit reef or will not achieve intended result
- Already being done
- Scientifically or technically unfeasible
- Research/monitoring activity

4) FYI

- Indirect benefit only
- Legislative Action Required

Worksheets

MA Packets- Info for Group Activities

- Handout 1: Synthesis Documents for each Subtopic "synthesis group" with North Working Group Combination Decisions
- Handout 2: RMAs proposed for archiving and WHY
- Handout 3: RMAs that need more info or clarification

For your Reference

- RMAs listed numerically with long titles
- Master Spreadsheet with RMA categories for Small Group Activities (RED and BLUE today)
- Stack of RMAs by Focus Area and Subtopic

Posters

Appreciation and Awareness/Education and Outreach

Enforcement

Fishing, Diving, Boating and Other Uses

Land-based Sources of Pollution

Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction Impacts

Place-based RMAs: South CWG Decision

Specific Place-based: Keep all RMAs separate

General Place-based: Combine all under N-146

- **N-146:** Establish and implement a zoning framework for the SEFCRI Region that includes no-take reserves, no anchor areas, restoration areas, and seasonal protection for spawning aggregations to enable both sustainable use and protection of our Florida reefs.
- **S-16:** Create MPAs within SEFCRI area that amount to ~20% of area and are well defined to protect reefs and minimize user conflict.
- **S-18:** Design and designate county marine parks to enhance and diversify public activities and enjoyment, separate conflicting and incompatible activities, improve public safety, accelerate coral reef recovery, and allow people to enjoy and appreciate reef habitat and fish.
- **N-137:** Designate the entire SEFCRI region as a particularly sensitive sea areas (PSSA) to reduce direct impacts from large vessel grounding and cable drag events on the reef.
- **S-20:** Develop mooring buoys and other systems in heavily used areas to reduce anthropogenic impacts and improve coral protection for local healthy sites.
- **S-38:** Establish replicated marine reserves to determine impacts of water quality versus fishing on resources to increase knowledge of threats, protection, potential for fish populations, and public awareness.
- **S-82:** Create zones to exclude fishing traps and commercial gear in special high density coral areas to reduce storm and current movement that poses damages to the reef ecosystem.
- **S-84:** Create no take zones for sharks and barracuda in aggregate areas to protect overfished predators in areas where most vulnerable.
- **S-123:** Create, establish, and monitor no take areas to comprise at least 20-30% of SEFCRI Region and incorporate evaluation.
- **N-147:** Develop and establish no take zones or areas of restricted activity (include reefs and coral gardens) to protect and reduce pressure on reefs, stop use of tackle and traps that damage reefs, and avoid user conflicts to reduce pressure on juvenile and forage fish.

National Marine Sanctuary: Combine N-148 and S-65

- **S-65:** Nominate SEFCRI region for consideration as a National Marine Sanctuary to engender protection and benefits, a legal forum, discussion, understanding and collaboration, and balance uses towards sustainable resources.
- **N-148:** Nominate SEFCRI area for National Marine Sanctuary (www.nmsfloridakeys.com) to provide broader federal protection for the southeast Florida reef tract.
- **N-100:** Create MPAs within FRT based on current science and data to develop site specific goals for a management plan to protect sensitive species and habitat.
- **N-144:** Implement MPA planning process to set aside areas to enhance population of most prolific reproduction of reef fish and coral.

Place-based RMAs: North CWG Decision

General Place-based: Combine all under N-146

Specific Place-based: Combine all Specific RMAs (except S-18 & N-137) under N-146

- **N-146:** Establish and implement a zoning framework for the SEFCRI Region that includes no-take reserves, no anchor areas, restoration areas, and seasonal protection for spawning aggregations to enable both sustainable use and protection of our Florida reefs.
- **S-22:** Develop marine protected zones in local high density coral areas
- **S-38:** Establish replicated marine reserves
- **S-82:** Create zones to exclude fishing traps and commercial gear
- **S-84:** Create no-take zones at Sombrero Key and Barracuda Keys
- **N-120:** Create MPAs within FRT no-take areas to comprise at least 20-30% of SEFCRI Region
- **N-147:** Develop and establish no-take zones or areas of restricted

Stand-Alone RMAs

- **S-18:** Design and designate county marine parks to enhance and diversify public activities and enjoyment, separate conflicting and incompatible activities, improve public safety, accelerate coral reef recovery, and enhance coral reef resource conservation.
- **N-137:** Designate the entire SEFCRI region as a particularly sensitive sea areas (PSSA) to reduce direct impacts from large vessel grounding sand cable drag events on the reef.

National Marine Sanctuary: Combine N-148 and S-65

- **N-148:** Develop Nominate Southeast Florida reef tract for National Marine Sanctuary designation to accelerate reef recovery, protect reef fish, benefit public education and benefit recreational diving and snorkeling.
- **S-65:** Nominate SEFCRI Region for consideration as a National Marine Sanctuary to engender protection and benefits, a legal forum, discussion, understanding and collaboration, and balance towards sustainable resources.
- **S-20:** Define and prioritize reefs and habitat areas for extra protection to reduce fishing stress, accelerate reef recovery, protect reef fish, benefit public education and benefit recreational diving and snorkeling.
- **N-144:** Implement MPA planning process to set aside areas to enhance population of most prolific reproduction of reef fish and coral.

- **N-146:** Establish and implement a zoning framework for the SEFCRI Region that includes no-take reserves, no anchor areas, restoration areas, and seasonal protection for spawning aggregations to enable both sustainable use and protection of our Florida reefs.
- **S-20:** Define and prioritize reefs and habitat areas for extra protection to reduce fishing stress, accelerate reef recovery, protect reef fish, benefit public education and benefit recreational diving and snorkeling.
- **S-65:** Nominate SEFCRI Region for consideration as a National Marine Sanctuary to engender protection and benefits, a legal forum, discussion, understanding and collaboration, and balance towards sustainable resources.
- **N-144:** Implement MPA planning process to set aside areas to enhance population of most prolific reproduction of reef fish and coral.

Place-based RMAs: Poll for Marine Planner in May

Place-based

- **N-146:** Establish and implement a zoning framework (12 votes)
- **S-18:** Design and designate county marine parks

Mooring Buoys

- **S-2:** Create and fund one SEFCRI-wide mooring buoy program
- **N-143:** Designate temporary and/or permanent no anchor zones (10 votes)

HOMEWORK

1. Posters: Sign up and work on RMAs that are require more info or clarification

- Reach out to North Working Group Members if necessary

2. Work on RMAs you signed up for that are recommended for archiving

- Reach out to North Working Group Members if necessary

3. Log on to the Marine Planner and start thinking about Features and Values you want to include for the RMAs chosen for spatial planning

Place-based RMAs: SEFCRI TAC & Team Recommendation

National Marine Sanctuary

- **S-65:** Nominate SEFCRI region for consideration as a National Marine Sanctuary (S)
- **N-148**: Nominate southeast Florida reef tract for National Marine Sanctuary (N)

Place-based

- **S-20**: Define and prioritize reefs and habitat areas for extra protection (24 votes)
- **N-146:** Establish and implement a zoning framework (12 votes)
- **S-123:** Create no-take areas to comprise at least 20-30% of SEFCRI Region (10 votes)
- **S-16:** Create MPAs in SEFCRI that amount to ~20% of area (8 votes)
- **N-147:** Develop and establish no- take zones or areas of restricted activity (7 votes)
- **S-18:** Design and designate county marine parks
- **N-137:** Designate SEFCRI region as a particularly sensitive sea areas (PSSA)

Mooring Buoys

- **S-2:** Create and fund one SEFCRI-wide mooring buoy program
- **N-143:** Designate no anchor zones and increase number of mooring buoys (10 votes)

LBSP

- **N-97:** Target LBSP reduction activities at identified hotspots (21 votes)