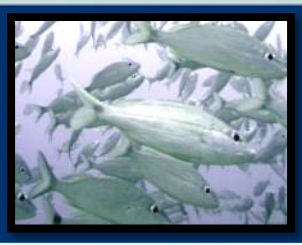
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

What is Decision Support?

Lauren Waters, Assistant Manager FDEP CRCP



Goal

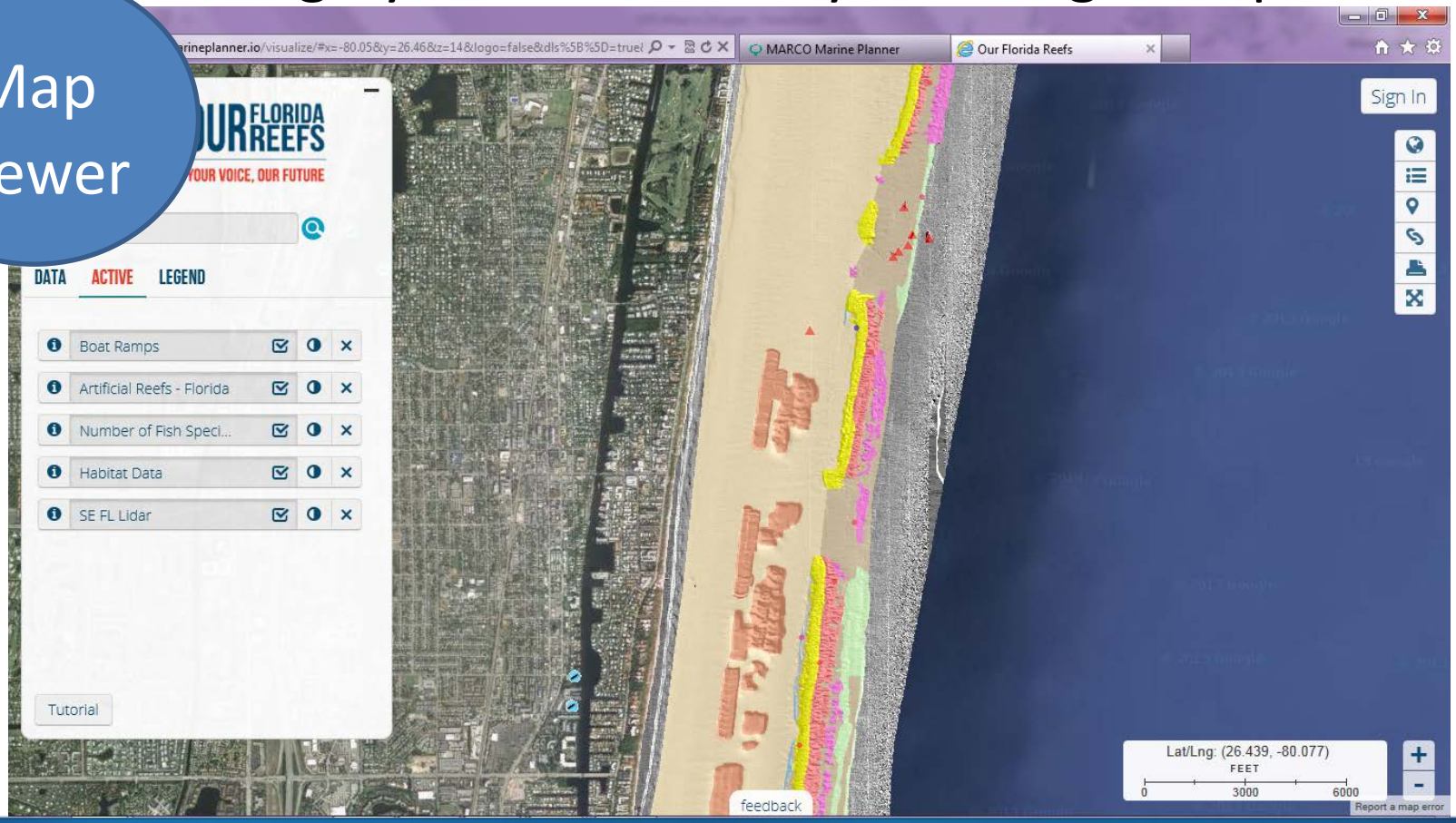
OUR FLORIDA REEFS

YOUR VOICE, OUR FUTURE

What is the OFR Marine Planner?

Online map based tool for visualizing data, obtaining reef use information from the public, and supporting spatial decision making by the Community Working Groups.

Map Viewer



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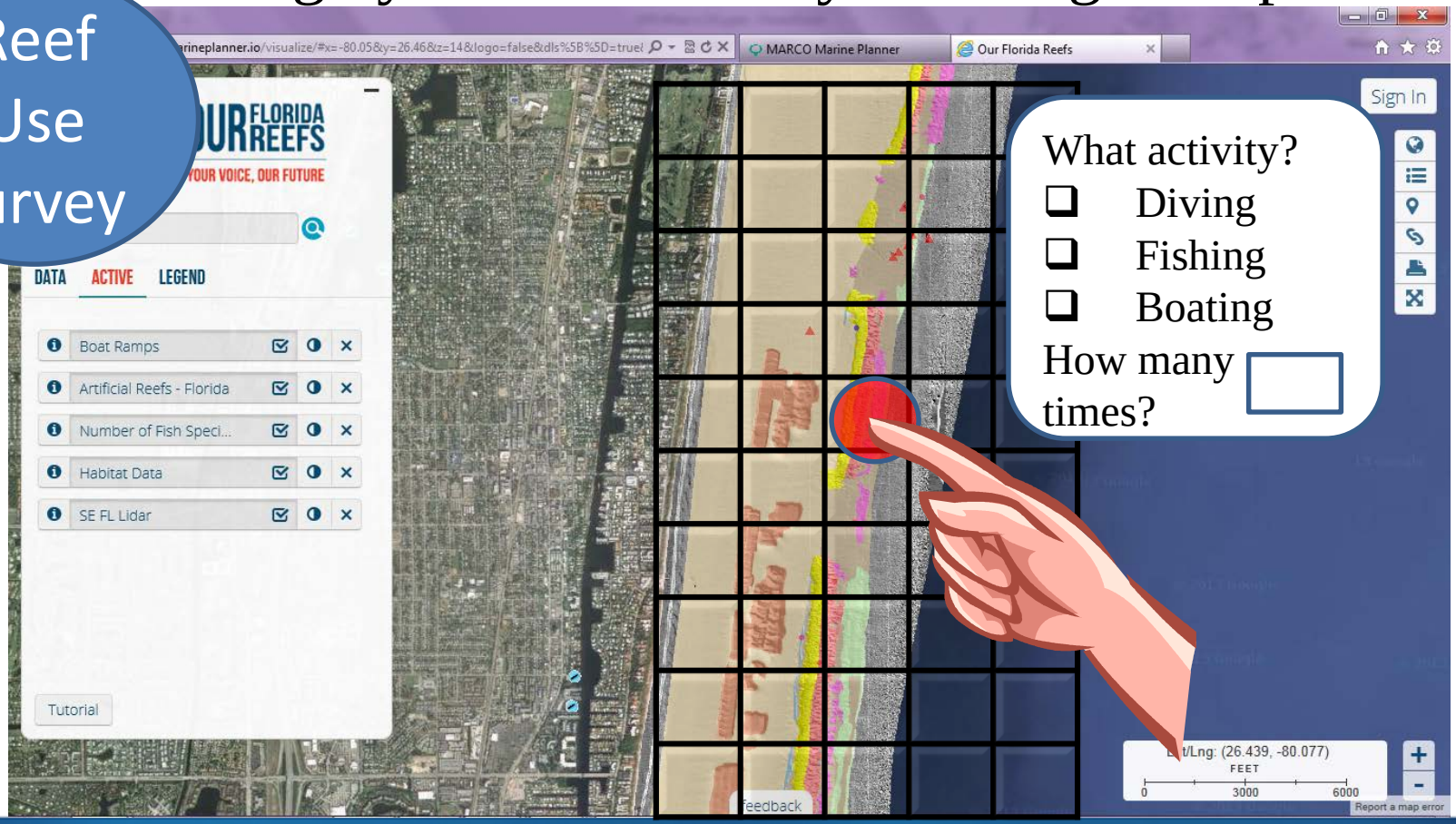
Reef Use Survey



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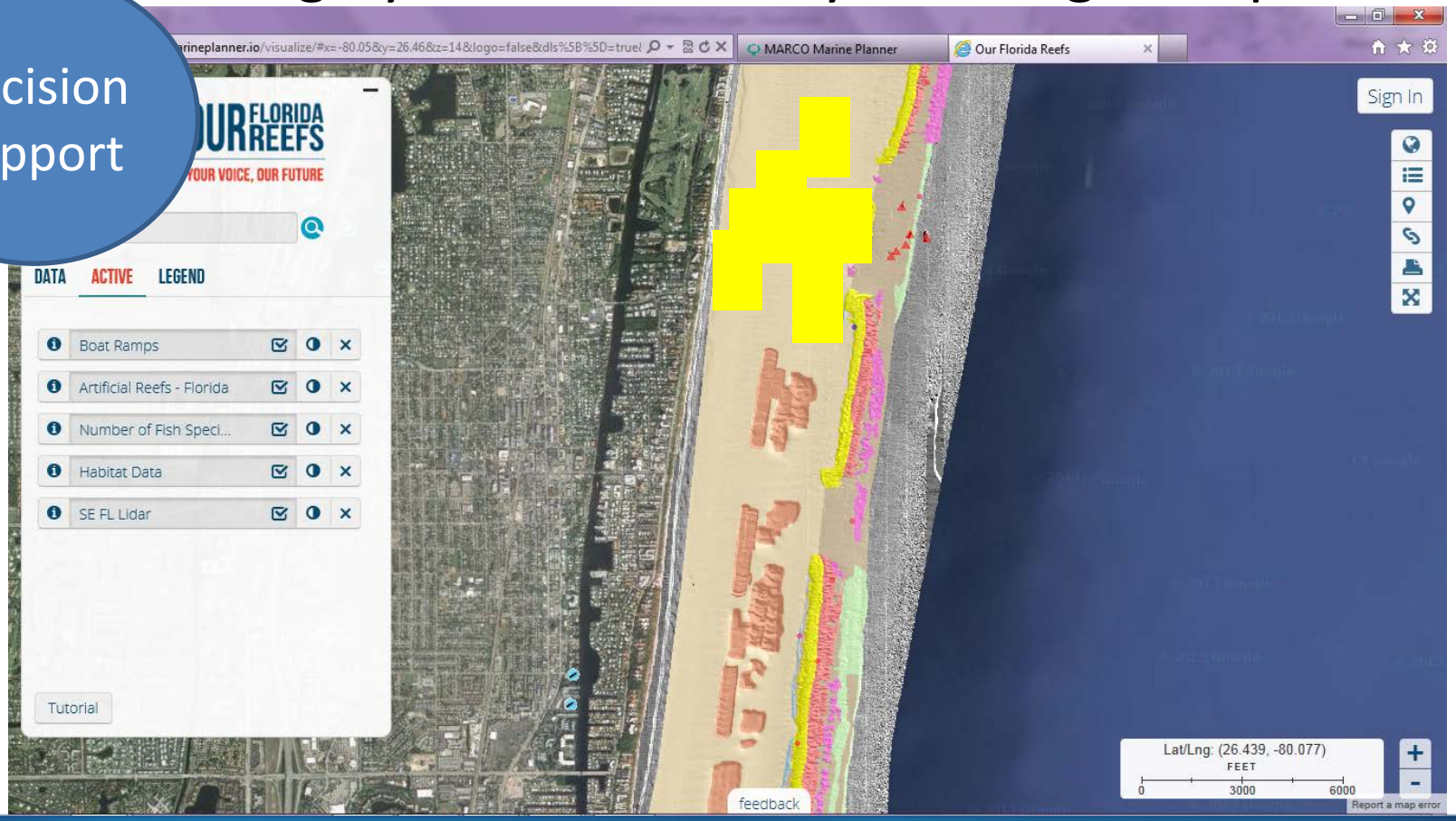
Decision Support



What is Decision Support?

Methods and software to help incorporate best available information (data) into decision making.

Many different tools out there, but they all help:

- Organize the best available information about your system
- Visualize complex data in a meaningful way
- Facilitate stakeholder involvement in planning processes
- Help visualize spatial options based on spatial descriptors

What is Decision Support?

Help you visualize spatial options for your management recommendation that fit the input and values you provide.

Input:

- (**Spatial) Features** provided by the community working group members
- **Values of those (spatial) features** provided by the community work group members and refined by advisors when necessary
- **Consensus** of community working group members to determine the balance of the various features

Completely Imaginary Scenario

Your group is involved in a process to determine how to manage coastal and offshore waters. A threat that was identified was air pollution from coal plants, which causes acid rain that decreases the pH of the ocean.

After listening to months of presentations so you understand the situation, and collecting oodles of data….

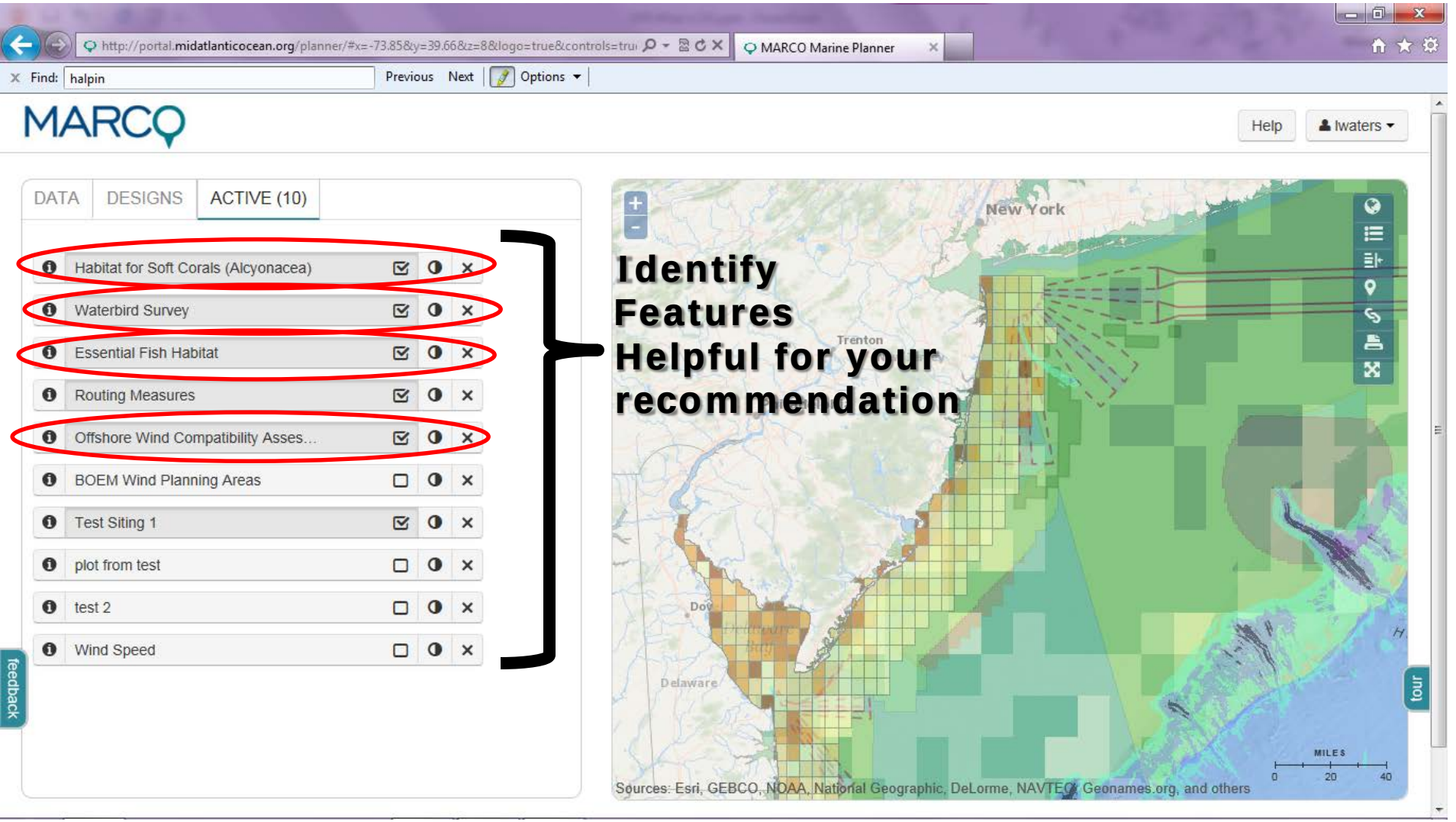
Completely Imaginary Scenario

Group Recommendation: There should be more offshore lease block areas with wind turbines to reduce the need for coal power plants, and thereby reduce acid rain.

Group Recommendation: The Dept.of Energy should build more offshore (at least 10 mi) wind turbines to eliminate the need for 1 coal power plants and thereby reduce acid rain by 25%.

To the marine planner!

Completely Imaginary Scenario



Completely Imaginary Scenario

Group Recommendation: The Dept. of Energy should build more offshore (at least 10 mi) wind turbines to eliminate the need for 1 coal power plants and thereby reduce acid rain by 25%.

Features and Values:

- Distance to shore – >10miles
- Soft coral habitat- 0 acres
- Sufficient wind speeds- ?
- Near a landbased place to “plug-in”-?

To the advisors!

Other Questions

Still don’t know how many turbines that is?
Doesn't tell you how many turbines can be in each lease block?
What is the maximum distance offshore?

Completely Imaginary Scenario

Assistance from Technical Advisors & North East Fisheries Council "NEFCRI" …..

Group Recommendation: The Dept. of Energy should build **20** offshore (at least 10 mi) wind turbines to eliminate the need for 1 coal power plants and thereby reduce acid rain by 25%.

Features and Values:

- Should be at least 10 miles offshore
- Should not be in an area of soft coral habitat- 0 habitat
- Should be in an area with sufficient wind speeds- **7-9.5m/s**
- Should be within **45** miles to "plug-in" and not cost $$$$$$

How many turbines can be in each lease block? **2**

What is the maximum distance offshore??

Will it interrupt shark migration?

Will it interrupt shipping traffic?

To the decision support program!

What CAN it do?

•Help incorporate a wider array of ecosystem & human considerations into decision making.

•Help guide you through processes so you can move from data to decision making more quickly.

•Save you time and help you explore a wider range of alternatives by **automating analyses or processes** that occur repeatedly.

•**Transparency** - Help you document what inputs and parameters were used in analyses and reasons that decisions were made.

•Help build collaboration among project participants by creating a forum where stakeholder groups learn about and need to account for each others' goals and concerns.

•**Provide you options based you your criteria.**

What it CAN'T do?

What tool does NOT do:

•Come with all the data they need. We have the best available information, but it may not be sufficient to answer some questions.

•Eliminate the need to make tradeoffs between competing objectives. However, they may be able to help identify solutions that reduce negative impacts.

•**Prioritize** spatial components or the options. It will not tell you if an option is better. It can show you if it better fits some of your criteria.

•Replace the need for intensive human interaction and collaboration, or eliminate conflict.

•**Make decisions.** They can provide quantitative results and visualization of options to help make decisions.

Process Moving Forward

August

Spatial Descriptor Criteria DRAFT template.docx - Word

FILE HOME INSERT CoSign DESIGN PAGE LAYOUT REFERENCES MAILINGS REVIEW VIEW ADD-INS ACROBAT

Waters, Lauren

Paste Cut Copy Format Painter | Times New Ro 11 | Clipboard Font Paragraph Styles Find Replace Select Editing

AaBbCcDc ¶ Normal | AaBbCcDc ¶ No Spac... | AaBbC Heading 1 | AaBbCcDc Heading 2 | AaBl Title | AaBbCcDc Subtitle | AaBbCcDc Subtle Em... | AaBbCcDc Emphasis

The Decision Support function of the OFR Marine Planner can help guide the placement of management recommendations within the SEFCRI area based on predetermined criteria. If your management option is spatial in nature, and you believe data in the OFR Marine Planner can be used to help guide the placement of your management recommendation, please fill out the following criteria to help us develop the tool to address your needs.

EXAMPLE ONLY

The Dec[illegible] Suppo[illegible] help[illegible] mine [illegible] tha[illegible] t y[illegible] [illegible] ba[illegible] on our [illegible] ent datasets w[illegible] pro[illegible] wi[illegible] eri[illegible] d a[illegible] unts of [illegible] cri[illegible] a.

1. **[illegible]hat Comp[illegible]**. This [illegible] our [illegible] ior[illegible] doc[illegible] t need. I[illegible] w we have pr[illegible] le a co[illegible] e [illegible] ur[illegible] nes[illegible] s to help y[illegible] hink [illegible] ll [illegible] e [illegible] ia[illegible] coul[illegible] on[illegible] er.
2. **Amount of that Spatial Component**, How much? This will be a unit of measure, e.g. #/%/distance/amount. If you are unsure you can state high, medium, low and allow input from adisors on how much *is* high, medium, low for our region. Also you can make a statement like "far enough away to allow for ____", "has enough of x to accomplish y"; again allowing reviewers to help provide necessary input.

What should the area contain or not contain? E.g., artificial reefs, natural reef, sandy bottom	How much? # / % / High, Medium, Low

What should the recommendation be near to or away from? E.g., inlets, shore, State Park etc.	How much? # / % / High, Medium, Low

PAGE 1 OF 1 249 WORDS 100%

What if we use the tool, but the option isn't "feasible"?

The options from the tool will be more objective and have data supporting them…

The tool will let you know what you are starting with and you can scale your expectations…