Title: Protect and restore mangroves, seagrass beds, oyster reefs and other estuarine habitats.

Objective: The intended outcome of this action is to establish a connection between estuarine health and coral reef health at higher levels including regionally specific instructions/materials for estuarine habitat protection/restoration on private property.

Background: This recommended management action is being put forth because environmental impacts result in loss of these key habitats and degraded water quality. This recommended management action relates to all counties in the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative region and includes seagrass, watershed, mangroves, oyster reefs, inshore reefs, wetlands, and marsh habitats.

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Title: Designate the entire Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative region as a Particularly Sensitive Areas (PSA) and/or an Area To Be Avoided (ATBA).

Objective: The intended outcome of this action is to create the boundary lines of the reef area which should be protected as a sensitive area from Key Biscayne to St. Lucie Inlet. This action plan has the potential to reduce direct impacts to benthic habitats in Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative region from shipping activity and eliminate direct impacts from tug/barge cable drags and vessel groundings on the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative reef tract.

Background: This recommended management action is being put forth so that physical impacts to the reef framework and organisms can be minimized. A Particularly Sensitive Sea Area is an area that needs special protection through action by the International Maritime Organization because of its ecological, socio-economic or scientific significance.

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