

## **FDOU Project # 52:**

### **Data needs for fisheries management in the SE Florida Reef Tract**

#### **Principal Investigators**

Kai Lorenzen, Joy Hazell, Susana Hervas, Chelsey Crandall

#### **Interim Performance Report**

April 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

#### **Background**

The project aims to strengthen engagement of the fishing community in SEFCRI projects with the aim of harnessing the capacity of this community to promote coral reef ecosystem conservation. This is to be achieved through implementation of a participatory process to engage diverse fisheries stakeholders in developing new fisheries-related Recommended Management Actions (RMAs) and in reviewing water quality and habitat-related RMAs developed during the Our Florida Reefs Community Planning Process, with a view to identifying and promoting RMAs that address concerns considered critical by fisheries stakeholders.

#### **Task Description and Methodology**

##### Goal

To harness the capacity of the fishing community (fishing stakeholders and industry) to advance conservation of the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area (ECA). This capacity includes knowledge/experience, outreach/advocacy, and standing and commitment to achieving conservation outcomes for resources and the coral reef ecosystem.

##### Objectives

1. Strengthen engagement of fishing stakeholders in SEFCRI coral reef ecosystem conservation initiatives
2. Review broad recommendations from the OFR process, progress with implementation and opportunities for fisheries stakeholders to promote uptake of broad recommendations considered critical by fisheries stakeholders
3. Develop a set of fishing-related management recommendations to enhance coral reef ecosystem conservation and fishing quality
4. Consult with the SEFCRI Team, TAC and FDOU Project #52 Team to obtain feedback on project progress and outputs from diverse stakeholder perspectives
5. Inform fishing and other stakeholders about project process and outcomes

**Tasks and Deliverables for the reporting period**

FY	Quarter	Tasks	Deliverables
FY 19-20	Q1  April-June 2020	Project start  Committee formation  <b>Committee Meeting 1: Committee membership, mode of operation</b>  Meeting/call with FDOU Project Team	Provide an interim report by June 15 <sup>th</sup> and consult with project team

**Tasks accomplished during the reporting period**

Project start

The project started as planned on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Throughout the quarter, project activities were moderately impacted by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic in that no in-person meetings, public or otherwise, could be held and travel was severely restricted for much of the period. Nonetheless, all tasks were accomplished through phone calls, webinars and via email.

Committee formation

The formation of a fishing stakeholder committee ('committee') was initiated. The committee is formed of representatives of the recreational private boat, headboat and charter operators, commercial fishers targeting reef-associated species (food fisheries and marine life/aquarium trade species), and marine industry (bait and tackle shops, marinas) and their respective organizations. An initial group of members was selected based on analyses conducted and contacts made during the situation assessment (Project 8) and deliberation among the UF project team and the team to identify a diverse group of highly engaged stakeholders. Criteria for participation included knowledge and passion for the subject, ability to represent and communicate with the wider group of stakeholders in their sector, as well as a willingness to engage in difficult discussions with people with whom they may disagree. A total of 14 stakeholders were initially selected and agreed to join the first meeting (stakeholder details can be found in Appendix 1).

Committee meeting 1

A webinar with the FDOU Project 52 Team was held in advance of the first committee meeting, to review the proposed committee member list, review the draft agenda and presentation. Then, on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> the first Reef Tract Committee meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Project principal investigator Kai Lorenzen, project coordinator Susana Hervas, research scientist Chelsey Crandall,

facilitator Joy Hazell and online producer Jocelyn Peskin attended the meeting. Twelve stakeholders attended: 9 out of the 14 contacted stakeholders who showed interest in being part of the committee plus three other stakeholders who heard from the committee through other means. Three Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff, two Florida Department of Environmental Protection employees, and two NOAA employees also attended the meeting. The meeting objectives were to:

- Build community and trust
- Develop shared understanding of project objectives
- Build committee membership

The meeting began with activities designed to set a positive, collaborative tone. Activities included introductions where they were also asked about their personal stake in the reef, and an explanation and clarification of the meeting agenda and objectives. Preliminary group norms were established, and Sunshine Law requirements discussed.

Dr. Kai Lorenzen gave a presentation to describe the rationale for this new process, its purpose and objectives, clarify the role of the committee, introduce the UF team, and break down the upcoming meeting activities. The presentation was followed by Q&A.

A “future of the SE Florida coral reefs” activity was conducted in small groups of approximately four people to elicit participants’ broad vision for the long-term future of the ECA.

<b>Future of the Reef Activity</b>	
Group	Description of the future reef
Group 1	Clean water, healthy and sustainable ecosystem, diverse, to get it back to where it used to be, especially the habitat component. Improve resiliency through research, manage ocean acidification.
Group 2	Discharges into the ocean is critical to the health of our reefs. Our vision of an ideal reef tract is one that has clear water, healthy coral with vibrant colors, with a great diversity of marine species with no invasive species that is accessible to all user groups.
Group 3	Water quality, stemming sources of pollution, improving health of entire coral system. Climate change might be one of the most difficult but pervasive ones to deal with. Improving fisheries all over our coral reef. Interconnected sources. Attacking all the problems will have political opposition. Developing marine protected areas and benefits of the one in Dry Tortugas. Water pollution, climate change, reef health and fisheries.

The meeting closed with a discussion of committee membership. Several suggestions were made by the meeting participants for additional stakeholders to invite. Of the 12 meeting participants, 8 committed

to joining the committee, one is considering their future participation, two declined but will retain an interest in the process. One other member was absent. Committee membership and operation are likely to evolve and stabilize over the coming months.

A draft meeting summary report is appended to this performance report (Appendix 2).

Meeting/call with FDOU Project Team

A call with the FDOU Project Team will be held before the end of the quarter to review the first committee meeting and interim report, and plan for the second committee meeting.

Kai Lorenzen, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Appendix 1: List of stakeholder contacts and membership**

Name	main sector	Area	means of communication	Those who were contacted	Those who showed interest	Those who registered	Those who attended	Level of commitment
Marty Arostegui	angler	Miami Dade	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Art Sapp	angler/charter	Broward	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	N	not attended / interest in membership
Captain Dan Kipnis	charter	Palm Beach	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Scott Fawcett	charter	Palm Beach	by phone (x1)	Y	no call back	N	N	not attended
Capt Bouncer	charter	Miami Dade	Phone (x2) and email (x1)	Y	no call back, no email reply	N	N	not attended
Bill Taylor	charter	Martin	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Edward "Butch" Olsen Jr.	commercial	Martin	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Tom Twyford	fishing club	Palm Beach	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Chuck Collins	angler/industry/past mngt/spearf	Palm Beach	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Kellie Ralston	ASA	Tallahassee	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	3 - only attend as public
Michael "Mike" Kennedy	CCA	Palm Beach	by phone (x2)	Y	no call back	N	N	not attended
Alyssa Freeman	MIAPBC	Palm Beach	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	N	not attended
Tommy Salleh	marina Director	Miami Dade	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	N	not attended

Bill Parks	marine life collector	Palm Beach	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	2 - I'll think about it
Jim "Chiefy" Mathie	spearfisher	Broward	phone and email	Y	Y	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member
Skip Dana	charter/angler	Broward	phone and email	Y	Y	N	N	not attended
Ben Hartig – suggested by stakeh	commercial		by phone (x2)	Y	no call back	N	N	not attended
Mike – suggested by team member	tackle shop owner		phone and email	Y	Y	N	N	not attended
Bruce Marx - suggested by stakeh	recreational and for hire	south Florida	by email (x1)	Y	no email reply	N	N	not attended
Pepper Uchino	FSBPA	Tallahassee	registered	N	not contacted	Y	Y	3 - only attend as public
Jackie Larson	FSBPA	Tallahassee	registered	N	not contacted	Y	Y	absent
Gary Jennings	ASA	Tallahassee	registered	N	not contacted	Y	Y	1 - want to be a member

## Appendix 2: Summary Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Committee Meeting

# Draft report



## SE Florida Reef Tract Fisheries Stakeholder Committee - Meeting 1

Virtual meeting via Zoom  
6-8 pm, June 4, 2020

### Summary

#### Overview

On Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> the first Reef Tract Committee meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Project principal investigator Kai Lorenzen, project coordinator Susana Hervas, research scientist Chelsey Crandall, facilitator Joy Hazell and online producer Jocelyn Peskin attended the meeting.

Twelve stakeholders, three Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff, two Florida Department of Environmental Protection employees, and two NOAA employees attended the meeting. The meeting objectives were to:

- Build community and trust
- Develop shared understanding of project objectives
- Build committee membership

#### Welcome

The meeting began with activities designed to set a positive, collaborative tone. Activities included introductions, an explanation and clarification of the meeting agenda and objectives (full presentation found in Appendix).

#### Introductions

All participants introduced themselves. Below is a summary of participant introductions by affiliation, location and their perceived stake in the reef.

Stakeholder 1: Represents recreational spearfishing and diving. From Deerfield beach. Accesses the reef through Ft Lauderdale and West Palm Beach (WPB). Cares about the reef for own consumption and social wellness.

Stakeholder 2: Works for American Sportfishing Association (ASA), Keep Florida Fishing. Fished since childhood and has had fisheries related jobs since a young age. Cares about clean water and access.

Stakeholder 3: Angler and diver since a young age and has been involved in conservation activities to teach about marine reserves and their importance.

Stakeholder 4: Drift fishing charter captain in Palm Beach County (PBC) and Jupiter. Has a degree in marine science concerned with river discharge effects.

Stakeholder 5: Third generation Floridian, concerned with water discharge and nutrient loading. Loosely represents marine life collector. Knowledgeable in Palm Beach County (PBC) and Martin reefs.

Stakeholder 6: Works for ASA. Covers Southeast Florida fisheries policy issues for the sportfishing industry. A lot of the work has to do with fisheries habitat, and the Everglades restoration is also a big part of the portfolio. Also observes coral disease response from agencies.

Stakeholder 7: Sportfisherman with changing involvement over the years. Began as a diver, worked as law enforcement with the old Florida Marine Patrol, served as regional director for FWC, and worked as Executive Director of Marine Industries PBC. Is also a member of Coastal Conservation Association (CCA). Located at PBC.

Stakeholder 8: President of the West Palm Beach Fishing Club. Represents over 1,400 members and his personal background is in parks and conservation. Concern with habitat change and a shifting baseline.

Stakeholder 9: Was charter captain in Miami and member of the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative (SEFCRI). Now uses West Palm Beach access. Considers some major problems to be climate change, septic tanks, dredging, and coral disease.

Stakeholder 10: Florida president of Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association (FSBPA). Looks at beach erosion and water quality. Interested in nearshore water environmental health issues.

Stakeholder 11: Executive Director of Port Salerno Commercial Fishing Dock Authority. Also, vice president of marine industry association of Treasure Coast, and several other appointments, including former member of Our Florida Reefs Community Planning Process (OFR), and now member of SEFCRI. Amateur diver. Water quality is important to him and operates on the northern region of the reef.

Stakeholder 12: Works in Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association (FSBPA) in Tallahassee. It's a non-profit association with a lot of members in the Southeast coast. Their members are interested in water quality and conservation, and want to better address their members' needs. Also wants to find out how to build partnerships.



Agency member 1: Works for Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) Marine Fisheries Research section and has been in SEFCRI since 2007. Always interested to get stakeholder input. Sees main goal as to listen to get a good idea of the perspectives and report back.

Agency member 2: Works in the FWC Division of marine fisheries management as regional biologist. Acts as liaison to Tallahassee for a lot of regulation development and also as boots on the ground for Southeast Florida. Wants to get a feel of what stakeholders are feeling about fisheries and get feedback on what they are seeing to elevate that up to Tallahassee.

Agency member 3: Regional director for FWC. The entirety of Florida's coral reef is in his region. Reefs are very important for the agency and for all the stakeholders they represent. Not just fishermen, but for all stakeholders.

Agency member 4: Works for FDEP CRCP and Chair of SEFCRI balancing the protection and use of coral reefs. Oversees coral reef in Martin, PBC, Broward and Miami-Dade County area. This project came about through a recommendation from the SEFCRI team. The previous project did not engage the fisheries stakeholders in a meaningful way, so this new project is a way to rebuild relationships to understand stakeholders and bring recommendations to management agencies.

Agency member 5: Assistant Manager and Reef Resilience Coordinator at DEP. Based in WPB office. Helps manage northern third of the reef.

Agency member 6: Works for NOAA Coral Reef Conservation program. Based in WPB area. Really interested in hearing everyone's perspectives on problems challenging coral reef and knowing what solutions the committee thinks might work to address those. Supports coral management reef efforts. Supports state to conserve coral reef ecosystems.

Agency member 7: Contract employee with NOAA. Gets to do scientific diving and is able to use his experience and contacts with stakeholders to advance management of Southeast Florida's reef ecosystem. Has been a licensed captain, and avid underwater fisher. Wants grandchildren to enjoy the reef too.

### Group Norms

The following group norms were suggested by the project team and discussed:

- Listen carefully
- Consider each idea
- Everyone participates
- No one dominates (If someone has not been speaking, facilitator will ask the group to give space to the silent member.)
- Tough on the issues, not on the people
- Minimize distractions (If you need to be out it's ok. With zoom, things are different than in person. Drop ins from family members are fine. Just make sure to mute yourself.)

### *Zoom Related*

- Keep your camera on (if possible)
- Wave your hand to make a comment (wave it as opposed to just raise it, it is easier to detect in zoom)
- Unmute to speak

In the discussion the following points were made:

- Nobody wanted to remove or add anything from the group norms.
- When the group meets in person, these group norms will be revisited.
- When a question is asked and nobody speaks, silence is not considered an agreement.
- Group norms are evolving. As we move through to making decisions, we will look at what rules we want to use. For example, we will decide on whether we want to use consensus or not once we get there. So, the group norms are a living document.

#### Operating under the Florida Sunshine Law

Since the committee operates under Florida’s Government-in-the-Sunshine-Law, the related requirements were discussed:

- The public can join the meetings.
- We will create spaces for them to comment.
- We need to give reasonable notice of the meetings that will happen and take minutes.
- Also create a website.
- Question asked: How will we deal with having small private group discussions in zoom? Each small group will have to report to the rest of the group about what has been discussed.
- We are not physically recording, but we will have meeting minutes.
- Key point of sunshine law is that if two of you happen to bump into each other in another meeting, you cannot discuss this meeting in the other one. For example, if any two of you happen to see each other, you can’t conduct business / committee meeting even if it’s informal.
- Comment from stakeholder: Someone might serve on other committees that may or may not be directly related to this. If they overlap, we can get in trouble unintentionally.

#### Project overview presentation

Dr. Kai Lorenzen gave a presentation to describe the rationale for this new process, its purpose and objectives, clarify the role of the committee, introduce the UF team, and break down the upcoming meeting activities. Below are the presentation slides and some comments. The presentation was followed by a Q&A.

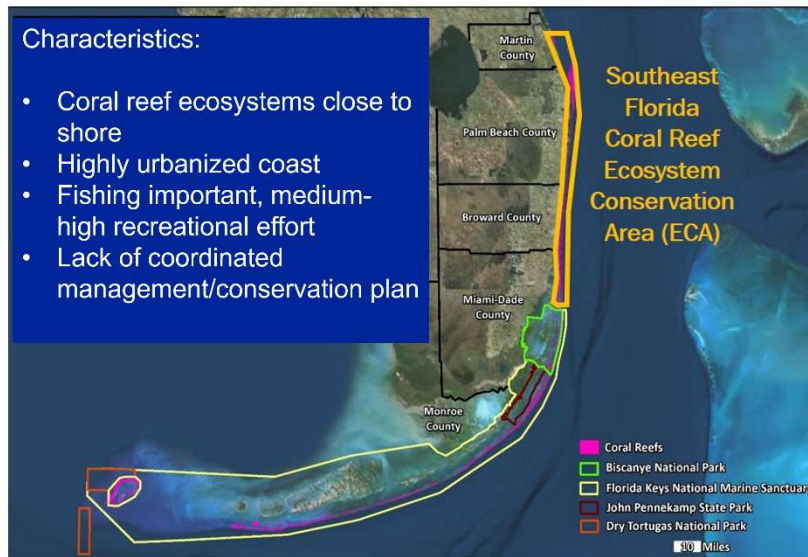
## Fisheries and Conservation in the SE Florida Reef Tract: A New Stakeholder Process



## SE Florida Reef Tract

### Characteristics:

- Coral reef ecosystems close to shore
- Highly urbanized coast
- Fishing important, medium-high recreational effort
- Lack of coordinated management/conservation plan



## Conservation/management initiatives so far

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- U.S. Coral Reef Task Force adopted a National Action Plan to conserve coral reefs (2000).
- Florida DEP and FWC formed Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative (SEFCRI): Team of interagency and non-agency marine resource professionals, scientists, resource users and other stakeholders to improve support for conservation and management of coral reefs in the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area (ECA).
- SEFCRI conducted the Our Florida Reefs (OFR) process, a community planning process that identified and prioritized Recommended Management Actions (RMAs) (<http://ourfloridareefs.org/>).

## What about fishing and the fishing community?

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- Fishing stakeholders were included in the OFR Community Working Groups
- Their participation proved difficult to sustain and they expressed concerns about some of the fisheries-related recommended management actions (RMAs).
- Why? Fishing stakeholders perceived the existence of distinct “angler” and “diver/environmental” networks, and felt that the OFR process was driven by the latter.
- Fishing stakeholders felt marginalized and disempowered. They disengaged from the OFR process but opposed some of its outcomes through political channels.

## SEFCRI, Fishing and the Fishing Community: A New Approach

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- Fishing stakeholders have continued to express interest in promoting conservation of coral reef ecosystems and associated fisheries resources in the ECA
- The current project aims to re-engage the fishing community in SEFCRI to harness its capacity to promote coral reef ecosystem conservation and fisheries resources management in the ECA.
- Process will be driven by the fishing community.

## Purpose

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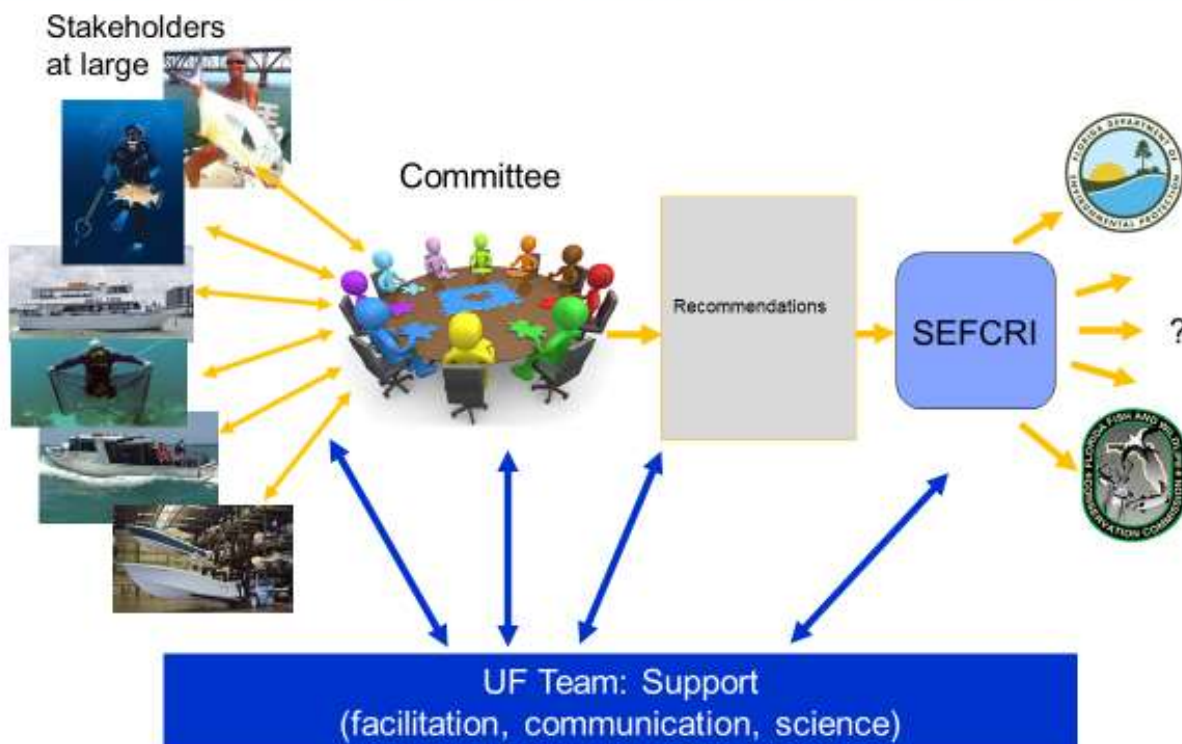
***To harness the capacity of the fishing community (fishing stakeholders and industry) to advance conservation of the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area (ECA).***

(Capacity includes knowledge/experience, outreach/advocacy, and standing and commitment to achieving conservation outcomes for coral reef ecosystems and associated fisheries resources).

# Objectives

- Strengthen engagement of fishing stakeholders in SEFCRI coral reef ecosystem conservation initiatives
- Review broad recommendations from the OFR process, progress with implementation and opportunities for fisheries stakeholders to promote uptake
- Develop a set of fishing-related management recommendations to enhance coral reef ecosystem conservation and fishing quality
- Communicate with wider fishing and other stakeholders about project process and outcomes
- Consult with the SEFCRI Team, Technical Advisory Committee and others to obtain feedback from diverse stakeholder perspectives

## Process and role of the committee



Notes: This committee is meant to fill the gaps that the OFR left from the fishing community. This process is more driven by the fishing community.

The committee develops recommendations that go to SEFCRI Chair and the SEFCRI Chair will then divide these recommendations up and give them to the relevant management agencies. SEFCRI is not a management agency but is an advisory and coordinating body so they would give recommendations. For example, recommendations on fisheries management would go to FWC, recommendations to do with environmental quality, habitat, might go to DEP, etc.

SEFCRI also has the longer-term vision of getting to have a more coordinated initiative for the ECA, so this will be an important contribution from the fishing community for future management plans.

The committee will not work in isolation. It is assembled to represent people from different fishing community stakeholders. From individuals, anglers, spearfishers, commercial, charter sector, marine industries. Looking for broad representation of the different stakeholder groups in the fisheries sector. And all of this will be supported by the UF team. Our role will be to help this along. Joy facilitates the process, and has no stake in the outcome, which is true for all our team. We help the process. We will provide coordination, meeting planning, recording, etc for the committee; help the committee engage with the wider stakeholder groups through public meetings and surveys; help with formulation of recommendations, giving administrative help, providing scientific information as when needed and will invite other providers of scientific information, and provide reports as may be needed. The key idea is that it is you in the committee who will drive the process. We will not tell you what to look at, we will look at the committee to know what you need. And we will work with SEFCRI and have regular communication with SEFCRI and with the overall advisory committee, as well as FDOU working group, under which this overall project falls.

# The UF Team



**Kai Lorenzen**  
*Fisheries Prof.  
PI*

- Overall lead



**Susana Hervas**  
*Project Scientist &  
Coordinator Co-PI*

- Communications
- Coordination
- Research



**Joy Hazell**  
*IFAS Extension,  
Lead Facilitator,  
Co-PI*

- Facilitation



**Chelsey Crandall**  
*Project Scientist,  
Co-PI*

- Research

# Activities: Year 1

**Committee Meeting 1:** Committee membership, mode of operation

**Committee Meeting 2:** Committee member perceptions of reef ecosystem status, management/conservation issues and options

**Public meetings** to inform the wider fishing public about the project and the committee, and to obtain input on perceptions of reef ecosystem status and management/conservation issues and options from the wider public.

**Committee Meeting 3:** Review of scientific information on reef ecosystem and fisheries status & review of broad OFR recommendations

**Committee Meeting 4:** Identify potential fisheries management actions



## Activities: Year 2

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**Committee Meeting 5:** Synthesis of scientific information on effectiveness and consequences of potential fisheries management actions, committee co-development of stakeholder survey

**Stakeholder survey** to obtain representative feedback on potential fisheries management actions from different stakeholder groups

**Committee Meeting 6:** Review of stakeholder survey results, prioritization of fisheries recommended management actions

**Public meetings** to inform the wider fishing public about the project outputs and draft recommendations, and to obtain input on draft recommendations from the wider public.

**Committee Meeting 7:** Finalize recommendations

## What will happen to the recommendations?

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- The committee will provide *recommendations to management agencies* (it will not make management regulations)
- Management agencies will decide what to take forward into their work plans and rule-making processes

## Q&A:

Q: Will we be invited to public meetings?

A: Not only will you be invited, but you will help us design them and potentially run parts of them. You will also help write the stakeholder survey.

Stakeholder comment: I used to run a lot of public meetings when we didn't have social media and needed to go in person. Now, fishing shows on tv and magazines are gates to the public. But nothing would be better than going to the WPB Fishing club and talking to those members or to any other club. And diving clubs, etc. We need to get out. Where we failed last time was not doing this with this user group. We can't make the same mistake again.

Stakeholder comment: In the world we are living in now, we initiated some virtual meetings and we are discovering we are reaching far more people than we ever did gathering them in person. So, no question about it. Social media platforms are the way to connect with all of the folks that use the reef tract. ASA has a network, Bill Taylor too. There is a lot of collaboration that can take place. Social networking can be wonderful when used properly. Let's reach out to everybody.

Stakeholder comment: Include CCA in the process.

UF team comment: As part of the future meetings, we want to think and talk about how you guys do the outreach. Let's not miss the opportunity. We really rely on the committee to go about this, because you are the ones with the connections.

Stakeholder comment: We want fishing communities' input on coral reefs. If there is more of a fisheries management focus, then FWC should be involved in this process.

UF team comment: The committee will look at the things that concern the fishing community. There is habitat and water quality, but the impact of fishing itself is also an issue. We are trying to cover all the things that are of concern to the fishing stakeholders. In terms of involvement, FWC is here and are part of the setup. Our initial thinking was to assemble a committee primarily of stakeholders other than agencies, but this is one of the things you might want to discuss when you talk about committee composition. Who are we missing? It's open for debate. What we didn't want is something dominated by management agencies. We are trying to separate that a little bit to give the stakeholders a little space to breathe and really take the lead of that process.

Stakeholder comment: The role of FWC and DEP is more on the information sharing part of scientific presentations.

UF team comment: Agencies are here to observe and learn.

## The Future of the SE Florida Coral Reef Tract

In this activity, participants separated into small groups to brainstorm their big picture, long-term vision for the reefs. Stakeholders were divided into groups of 3 or 4 and given seven minutes to discuss. One

spokesperson reported back to the group with a sentence describing their ideal SE Florida Coral Reef. Beyond 10 years, thinking about their children or grandchildren.

Future of the Reef Activity	
Group	Description of the future reef
Group 1	Clean water, healthy and sustainable ecosystem, diverse, to get it back to where it used to be, especially the habitat component. Improve resiliency through research, manage ocean acidification.
Group 2	Discharges into the ocean is critical to the health of our reefs. Our vision of an ideal reef tract is one that has clear water, healthy coral with vibrant colors, with a great diversity of marine species with no invasive species that is accessible to all user groups.
Group 3	Water quality, stemming sources of pollution, improving health of entire coral system. Climate change might be one of the most difficult but pervasive ones to deal with. Improving fisheries all over our coral reef. Interconnected sources. Attacking all the problems will have political opposition. Developing marine protected areas and benefits of the one in Dry Tortugas. Water pollution, climate change, reef health and fisheries.

Comments from the exercise:

- Water quality continues to degrade, stressing all organisms and making reefs more susceptible. Will have to go to Feds to clean nutrient load but there are no cheap solutions.
- A problem is that recommendations can be very political. Saw it three years ago. So let's focus on getting more specific and fine tune it. Think smart.
- Pollution also from plastic
- There was a very interesting presentation on May 13<sup>th</sup> about water quality by Dave Whitall from NOAA - "A Water Quality Assessment of the South Florida Reef Tract", by Dave Whitall, PhD, Senior Scientist, NOAA/NOS National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS), Stressors, Impacts and Mitigation Division, Monitoring and Assessment Branch

Committee Formation

Stakeholders discussed who is missing from this group to have a better representation of the Southeast Florida fishing community. These were the suggestions:

- Who is missing?
  - Representative from CCA
  - Art Sapp will want to attend

- More marine industries and commercial for the south region
- Don De Maria – currently at the keys but with long career on the reef tract
- People that represent tackle shops
- Some stakeholders offered to be a liaison for new members.

A show of hands revealed the interest of stakeholders to be a part of the committee:

1: Yes, I'm in.	8
2: I'm interested but I have to think about it.	1
3: I might join public meetings but won't be part of the committee.	2
4: n/a	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>

#### Final comments

- Zoom has its opportunities and worked well
- 6pm-8pm is a good time for next meeting but will play it by ear
- Since zoom meetings should be kept at 2 hours maximum, we might have to consider doing more than quarterly meetings
- For any questions or communication, let Susana know. From experience we know it's best to have one person as a main point of contact.
- Committee membership might be changing. It will not be forever adding or taking out people, but finding a balance where we find the right people.

Stakeholders were asked if they had more ideas for what they wanted in the next meeting. Nobody had anything to add.

UF will provide a draft agenda and objectives for the committee's review for the next group meeting.

This then closed the meeting.

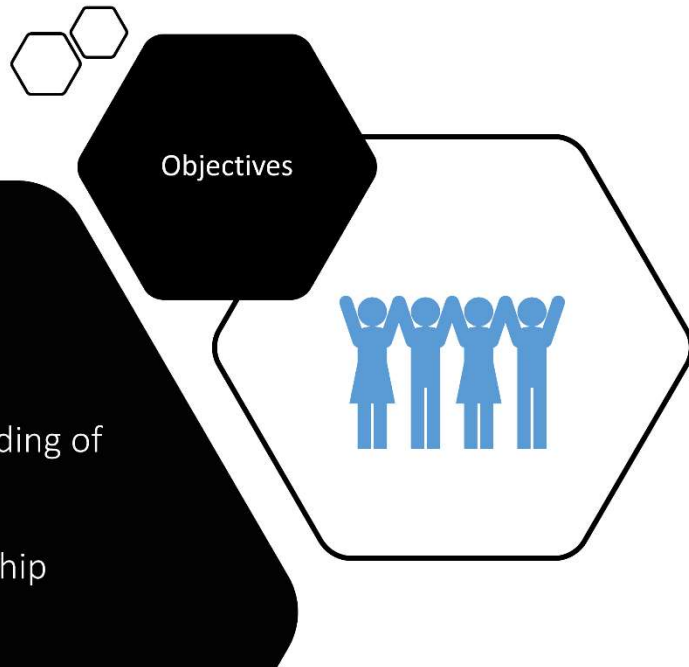
## **Appendix**

Introductory presentation (agenda on slide #3)

Fisheries and  
Conservation in the SE  
Florida Reef Tract: A  
New Stakeholder  
Process



**UF** | **IFAS Extension**  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA





## Agenda

- 6:00** Welcome and Introductions
- 6:45** Project Overview and Q&A
- 7:15** The Future of the Florida Southeast Coral Reef
- 7:35** Committee Formation and Additions
- 7:50** Wrap up
- 8:00 pm** Adjourn

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## Introductions

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- Name
- Affiliation
- Why you care about the Southeast Florida Coral Reef



## Group Norms

Customs, habits and expectations for how things will be done



- Listen carefully
- Consider each idea
- Everyone participates
- No one dominates
- Tough on the issues, not on the people
- Minimize distractions

### *Zoom Related*

- Keep your camera on
- Wave your hand to make a comment
- Unmute to speak

## Sunshine Laws

- Public can attend the meeting
  - Reasonable notice of meetings
  - Minutes recorded and open to public
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- The law, in essence, is applicable to any gathering, whether formal or casual, of two or more members of the same board or commission to discuss some matter on which foreseeable action will be taken by the public board or commission.

<https://myfloridalegal.com/pages.nsf/Main/DC0B20B7DC22B7418525791B006A54E4>

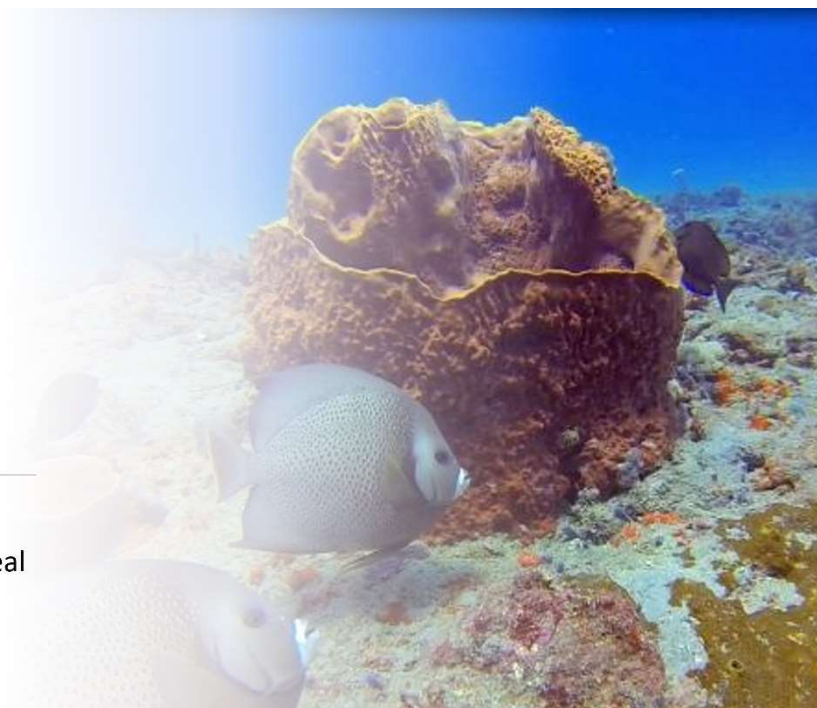


# FLORIDA



## The Future of Southeast Florida's Coral Reef

Each group develops a sentence describing their ideal Southeast Florida Coral Reef



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## Committee Formation and Additions

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- Poll
- Reservations
- Who is missing?



Committee member perceptions of reef ecosystem status, management/conservation issues and options

Next Meeting

Where and how?