



Our Florida Reefs
Community Planning Process
2016 Community Meetings Final Report

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September 21, 2016

Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative

Fishing, Diving, and Other Uses Focus Area

Local Action Strategy Project 26A/B Part 2

Funding provided by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Coral Reef Conservation Program, as administered by the Office for Coastal Management.



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Executive Summary

Our Florida Reefs (OFR) was an inclusive, transparent community planning process for southeast Florida's coral reef ecosystem. The process was hosted and facilitated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Coral Reef Conservation Program (FDEP CRCP). The effort brought together community groups including local residents, reef users, government and non-government agencies, business owners, scientists, visitors, and the broader public in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties to discuss the future of corals reefs in this region. The northernmost section of the Florida Reef Tract, stretching 105 miles through the four-county Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative Region, lacked a comprehensive management plan. The goal of the OFR process was to create and prioritize recommendations for future management efforts in order to balance resource use and protection.

The stakeholders driving this process were officially termed Community Working Group (CWG) members. These citizens gathered for more than two years, first receiving education about the local coral reef ecosystems and threats to their survival. Following the educational phase, the members then began compiling ideas to lessen or eliminate these threats. The ideas, or draft Recommended Management Actions (RMAs), were combined and edited where applicable in response to feedback received during two rounds of technical review by subject area experts.

Following the review process was the dissemination of the draft RMAs to the public at large. The CWG recognized the need to actively engage the public and offer an in-person opportunity for members of the community to learn more about the process and the draft recommendations. A series of Community Meetings gave attendees an opportunity to discuss the ideas, interact with CWG members, and most significantly, offer feedback about the recommendations. An online comment form linked to each of the recommendations opened in December of 2015 to complement the public comment forms available at these meetings.

FDEP CRCP organized the community meetings in January and February of 2016 throughout the four-county region: one meeting in Martin County, two in Palm Beach, one in Broward, and two in Miami-Dade. Each location featured two identical sessions, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, to allow for the greatest attendance possible. The meetings were advertised in print and electronically in three major metropolitan newspapers, regional, local, and national publications, as well as via television radio, and the internet.

In total, 517 people attended the 12 meetings. Participants included students, teachers, divers, fishermen, boaters, and others.

At the close of the public comment period on March 1, 2016, a total of 1,942 comments as well as 12 letters and petitions had been collected. Interest from the public was so great that one more letter and another 150 comments were received following the close of the original comment

period. The Community Working Group members reviewed all of these comments during the spring and early summer of 2016 and made decisions whether or not to modify their recommendations based upon the feedback. The modified recommendations were finalized, prioritized, and will be compiled into a final report to present to applicable agencies for consideration during the first quarter of 2017.

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I. Introduction

a. *Our Florida Reefs* process-SEFCRI FDOU project 26

Following almost ten years of research, baseline data collection, mapping, case studies, and evaluation of coral reef resources in southeast Florida, the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative team officially launched the *Our Florida Reefs* process. *Our Florida Reefs* was an inclusive, transparent community planning process for southeast Florida's coral reefs. Before its' rebranding as *Our Florida Reefs*, the process was referred to as "Management Options Identification Process," or Fishing, Diving & Other Uses (FDOU) Local Action Strategy project 26. The project was put forth by the original SEFCRI Team as part of the 2004 Local Action Strategy document, which identified projects to eliminate or reduce threats to the local reefs in southeast Florida. FDOU objective six called for "develop an effective, balanced, and comprehensive strategy for improved resources protection. This objective was to be achieved by completion of FDOU project 26: "organize and hold public workshops to obtain input on the condition and usage trends, resource goals, and the potential (i.e. rationale, effectiveness, alternative approaches, etc.) of traditional fishery management and special management zones to achieve targets." The effort brought together the community of local residents, reef users, business owners, visitors, and the broader public in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, and Martin counties to discuss the future of corals reefs in this region.

Although the reefs of Florida are one connected system, they have not been managed that way. The northern one-third of Florida's reef tract, stretching across a four-county region, has no comprehensive protection or management. The southern two-thirds of Florida's reefs are managed within Dry Tortugas National Park, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, and Biscayne National Park. The reefs north of Biscayne National Park in Miami-Dade County continue along the coastline for 105 miles to the St. Lucie Inlet in Martin County. Even though many more people live in close proximity to this section of reef, the northern reef region has not received the same kind of attention as the southern region, and no management plan covers these 105 miles of reef. Southeast Florida's population and popularity keeps growing, so planning is essential to ensure future enjoyment of our reefs by all people.

The primary goal of this process was to bring together the southeast Florida community to develop recommendations that can become part of a comprehensive management strategy that balances uses and protection of coral reefs. With such recommendations, the strategy can reflect the diverse interests of all communities and ocean users in the region, while ensuring healthy coral reefs now and into the future.

Our Florida Reefs was funded by a state and federal partnership through a cooperative agreement between the Coral Reef Conservation Programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP CRCP). Additional support was provided by a FDEP Coastal Zone Management Grant and in-kind support from partners of the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative (SEFCRI). The SEFCRI and the *Our Florida Reefs* process was coordinated by FDEP CRCP.

b. OFR process launch: 2013

In June of 2013, FDEP CRCP and the SEFCRI hosted a series of meetings to officially commence the *Our Florida Reefs* process. The meetings took place in Miami-Dade County (two), Broward County (one), Palm Beach County (two), and Martin County (one). Two identical sessions were offered at each location (totaling 12 meetings) to maximize attendance. The purpose of these meetings were two-fold: first, to inform and engage the community at large as to reef importance, threats, and the OFR process, and second, to solicit applications for the Community Working Groups. Six kiosks featured focus topics including: Water & Fish, Ecosystem, People & Management, Coral & Habitat, OFR Process, and the Decision-Support Tool. Activities were available at each kiosk with the goal of engaging the attendees and increasing their knowledge. Refreshments were provided.

c. The Community Working Group: 2014-2016

Driving the OFR process were the Community Working Group members. These stakeholders were selected by the SEFCRI team and representative the full range of reef interest groups: fishers, divers, watersports, government agencies, non-government organizations, non-profit organizations, research, academia, private business, and citizens-at-large.

Given the large geographic area that these members would serve, they were initially organized into two Community Working Groups: North (representing Martin and Palm Beach counties) and South (representing Broward and Miami-Dade counties). These individuals lived and worked in their respective areas.

The Community Working Groups began their process with an education phase. During this time, the members received information about the status of and threats to the reefs, and examples of various management strategies from around the world. These presentations were based upon the best available science, and provided a solid foundation for the CWGs to move forward with their task: to draft management recommendations for the northernmost section of the reef tract. These management actions aim to balance use and protection of the reefs, and address multiple threats. For ease of organization, the Recommended Management Actions (RMAs) were classified into focus areas: Education & Outreach, Land-Based Sources of Pollution, Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction, Enforcement, Fishing, Diving, Boating, and Other Uses, and Place-based Management. Between the two groups, close to 300

RMAs were initially proposed. After the first year and a half of meeting, brainstorming, and RMA formation, the North and South groups joined together to become one large Community Working Group. Following two rounds of review from the SEFCRI Team and Technical Advisory Committee, and further revisions from the combined CWG, the final list contains 68 RMAs.

d. Public Rollout/2016 Community Meetings

Step three in the *Our Florida Reefs* process involved the public rollout of the RMAs, to solicit feedback from the greater southeast Florida community. The meetings were scheduled to take place in January and February of 2016. Through much planning and preparation internally and with the OFR Process Planning Team, 12 meetings were scheduled again throughout the four-county region. To facilitate the collection of feedback and make data most useful for the CWG, CRCP staff created a Richert Scale-like comment form along with open-ended questions, which was approved by the CWG.

Figure 1: RMA Comment Card

RMA #: _____ **Name (optional):** _____ **Email (optional):** _____

What best describes your interest in the reef (circle all that apply): **FISHING** **DIVING** **BOATING** **PROTECTION** **OTHER**

1. This draft Recommended Management Action (RMA) will result in an improvement to the coral reef ecosystem in southeast Florida (Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade Counties).

Definitely So Likely Not Sure Likely Not Definitely Not

2. This draft Recommended Management Action (RMA) will result in an improvement to your life or livelihood in southeast Florida (Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties).

Definitely So Likely Not Sure Likely Not Definitely Not

3. Do you support this draft Recommended Management Action (RMA)?

Definitely So Likely Not Sure Likely Not Definitely Not

4. What do you support, or how could this RMA be changed to an action you could support?

5. Other comments or input:

All draft RMAs were posted online and available for review through the www.ourfloridareefs.org website. Each RMA linked directly to an electronic version of the approved online comment form that the public could use to provide feedback on each individual RMA. This website went live in December of 2015, stayed open for comment until March 1, 2016, however comments were accepted through March 4, 2016.

New venues were added to the lineup and planned for coastal locations. Free parking and proximity to major highways were factored into the decisions for the locations. Distance between all venues was approximately 25 miles apart. Meeting process planning mimicked the same format from the 2013 meetings: two Miami-Dade locations, one in Broward, two in Palm Beach, and one in Martin County, with two identical sessions hosted at each location. Refreshments were provided by CRCP's citizen support organization, *Friends of Our Florida Reefs* at all but one of the meeting locations, where food and beverages were not permitted. Dates were dictated by the availability of the NOAA facilitators' schedules. The PPT and CRCP staff felt it was of upmost importance to preserve the continuity established by these facilitators, who had been part of the process since fall of 2014.

To ensure that residents and visitors in all four counties were notified of the community meetings, advertisements were placed in:

- January/February issue of Scuba Diving magazine (print)
- January-July 2016 FWC Fishing regulations (print & online)
- January/February Florida Sport Fishing magazine (print)
- January and February editions of the Coastal Star magazine (print & online)
- January and February editions of the Coastal Angler magazine (print & online)
- January and February editions of the Waterfront Times (print & online)
- January 8, 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12 editions of The Pelican newspaper (print & online)
- Print and online ads in the Palm Beach Post
- Print and online ads in the Miami Herald
- Print and online ads in the Sun-Sentinel
- Print ad in special edition of FWC-themed Guy Harvey magazine
- Wrote and recorded two radio PSAs for the community meetings: one in English, one in Spanish
- English radio PSAs on WLRN
- English and Spanish radio PSAs on Iheart Media stations
- English and Spanish radio PSAs on Pirate Radio
- Increased exposure on existing English & Spanish TV PSA campaign

Meeting format began with a welcome by a Community Working Group member host, a 30-minute introductory presentation delivered by CRCP staff, and ground rules and process explanation by the NOAA facilitator. Following the opening presentation, participants were free to visit focus area kiosks in an open-house style. The kiosks were organized into groups reflecting the focus areas of RMAs: Education & Outreach (E&O), Enforcement (LE), Fishing, Diving and Other Uses (FDOU), Land-Based Sources of Pollution (LBSP), Maritime Industry & Coastal Construction (MICCI), and Areas of Interest (Spatial). Two identical, specialized presentations detailing the Areas of Interest focus area followed the opening presentation. After the first day of meetings, this format

was adjusted to only offer a singular presentation for Areas of Interest. CRCP staff served as facilitators at each of the focus area kiosks, and engaged attendees by providing responses to inquiries about the RMAs, directing them to CWG members for more information, and engaging them in the kiosk activities. The first activity (referred to as the “dot activity”) consisted of the participants reviewing the short titles of the RMAs, and using dot stickers, placed a dot next to however many of the RMAs they felt that they could most support. Participants could place a single dot next to any or all of the RMAS, and understood that they were not permitted to “power vote,” that is, place all of their dots on any individual RMA.

The second activity (referred to as the “post-it” activity) involved reviewing the list of RMAs and using post-its to write down any ideas or suggestions that they felt had not been addressed within each focus area. The objectives of these two activities were to gauge support (or lack thereof) of particular RMAs, and to address any potential information gaps to be later reviewed by the CWG.

With input from the NOAA facilitators, CRCP staff designed the meeting process and created all corresponding handouts and activities. The opening presentation was created to tell an entire story, starting with background on corals and coral reefs, threats to the reefs, background of the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Initiative, leading up to the OFR process and its current step. CRCP staff wrote talking points for each focus area kiosk that detailed the information on display at each kiosk and instructions on how to participate in the activities. The objectives for the 2016 meetings differed from those of 2013: this time, the main objective was to obtain feedback on the 68 RMAs as opposed to general awareness and education. The aforementioned objective, coupled with an extremely tight agenda and the desire to not create misunderstanding or confusion, led to the decision not to distribute a meeting evaluation to the participants.

II. Summarized Results:

Table 1: 2016 *Our Florida Reefs* Community Meeting attendance:

Date	Venue	12-2pm meeting	6-8pm meeting	Total
Tuesday, January 26, 2016	Martin County: Indian River State College Chastain Campus	36	37	73
Wednesday, January 27, 2016	North Palm Beach County: Amara Shriners Temple	31	46	77
Friday, January 29, 2016	South Palm Beach County: Delray Beach Public Library	33	32	65
Tuesday, February 16, 2016	Broward County: Holiday Park Social Center	45	138	183
Wednesday, February 17, 2016	South Miami-Dade County: University of Miami Newman Alumni Center	26	36	62
Thursday, February 18, 2016	North Miami-Dade County: Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus Kovens Conference Center	13	44	57
Total	-	184	333	517

Grand total: 517

Martin County Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2016

Location: Indian River State College, Chastain Campus
2400 SE Salerno road, Stuart, FL 34997

Total Number of Attendees: 12-2pm Session: 36
6-8pm Session: 37
Total: 73

Participant Self-Identified Affiliation from Sign-In:

When community members arrived at the *Our Florida Reefs* community meetings they were asked to sign-in and circle their affiliation. The table below provides an overview of the attendees from all twelve meetings.

Table 2: Summarized Results of Martin County Affiliation from Sign-In

Session	Boating	Diving	Fishing	Protection	Other	Total*
12-2pm	15	15	16	18	2	66
6-8pm	15	19	17	16	1	68
Total*	30	34	33	34	3	134

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 3: Summarized Results of how Martin County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Session	Flyer	Email	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Facebook	Other	No response	Total*
12-2pm	4	12	5	2	2	2	4	15	46
6-8pm	0	12	5	0	0	8	3	13	41
Total*	4	24	10	2	2	10	7	28	87

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 4: Summarized results of Martin County Post-It activity by RMA focus area:

Focus Area	Comment*
Education & Outreach	Strengthen permitting and enforcement.
Education & Outreach	create program for commercial fisherman to educate about fishery stock, techniques and greater impacts
Education & Outreach	is there financial analysis to help with prioritization of projects? Paul Laura - 772-203-6378
Enforcement	Is there economic analyses to help prioritize projects?
Enforcement	Please work to clarify laws so they ARE enforceable-then make the penalty hurt-so people learn quickly and don't want to repeat it & FUND the staff to do it.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Have more artificial reefs dropped in sandy areas like what the Gulf is already doing, this will increase more area for fishing without the harm of living reefs with anchors, etc...
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Is there economic analyses to help prioritize projects?
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Goliath eat everything. Need open season!
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	To support implementation, I strongly support fee-bates as advocated by Hawken/Lovins etc
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	Abandon acute turbidity-as-a-stressor except for seagrass help the state find a relevant alternative to the 29 NTU lunacy.
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	Create ROMA for Broward tire reef
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	Is there any financial analysis on those projects to help prioritize by value?
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	Put some real "meat" into enforcement of best management practices - give reward for following it, penalty for not (or make the reward so good all will want to practice that way)

*Note: comments were transcribed exactly as written

North Palm Beach County Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Location: Amara Shrine Center
3650 RCA Blvd, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Total Number of Attendees: 12-2pm Session: 31
6-8pm Session: 46
Total: 77

Participant Self-Identified Affiliation from Sign-In:

When community members arrived at the *Our Florida Reefs* community meetings they were asked to sign-in and circle their affiliation. The table below provides an overview of the attendees from all twelve meetings.

Table 5: Summarized Results of North Palm Beach County Affiliation from Sign-In

Session	Boating	Diving	Fishing	Protection	Other	Total*
12-2pm	18	25	19	11	5	78
6-8pm	21	28	20	15	0	84
Total*	39	53	39	26	5	162

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 6: Summarized Results of how North Palm Beach County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Session	Flyer	Email	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Facebook	Other	No response	Total*
12-2pm	0	15	3	3	1	4	5	4	35
6-8pm	2	8	1	1	2	8	8	20	50
Total*	2	23	4	4	3	12	13	24	85

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 7: Summarized results of North Palm Beach County Post-It activity by RMA focus area:

Focus Area	Comment*
Education & Outreach	Sunscreen Education: use "coral safe" sunscreen if there is such a thing
Education & Outreach	Our marine animals alive on reefs make more than fishing them. Educate people on this to help prevent NOAA from decimating shark populations. The seesaw on catch #s needs to stop.
Enforcement	Enforcement of existing laws is virtually nil- I see violations in no motor zones etc- no one responds to calls.
Enforcement	FWC can't enforce laws already in place. They need more funding- can't stop poaching if they only have limited coverage.
Enforcement	California lifeguards have the ability to write tickets for those who litter at the beach. Florida needs this as one way to eliminate beach trash left.
Enforcement	Create and enforce more no wake zones at inlets to further protect manatees from injury.
Enforcement	FWC is more interested in manatee no wake areas and life jacket issues than fish harvest.
Enforcement	Raises for FWC officers will increase quality and longevity of officers and will increase retention.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Goliath grouper eat lionfish.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Regulating commercial fishing is missed. Biggest offenders.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Increase hogfish size limit to 16" in addition to existing season closures.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Ban on shore shark fishing.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	What about commercial regulation? Commercial fishing tends to have large bycatch and harvest the most fish.
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Plant Rip Rap areas along intracoastal waterway and Lake Worth Lagoon with mangroves
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	There are many potential projects but wonder if there are any economical analyses to justify or establish value of each project to help prioritize them.
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Put some power behind enforcement of even current laws-close up loop holes-Be serious about enforcement (make it hurt not to comply) or do away with the law.

Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Our governor just signed a water bill. Best practices basically allowing polluters to police themselves Lako O discharges will continue to be a problem.
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Big Sugar need to make Big Storm Water Treatment Areas! Pay! Baby!
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	NONE

*Note: comments were transcribed exactly as written

South Palm Beach County Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Friday, January 29, 2016

Location: Delray Beach Public Library
100 West Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444

Total Number of Attendees: 12-2pm Session: 33
6-8pm Session: 32
Total: 65

Participant Self-Identified Affiliation from Sign-In:

When community members arrived at the *Our Florida Reefs* community meetings they were asked to sign-in and circle their affiliation. The table below provides an overview of the attendees from all twelve meetings.

Table 8: Summarized Results of South Palm Beach County Affiliation from Sign-In

Session	Boating	Diving	Fishing	Protection	Other	Total*
12-2pm	13	17	13	9	0	52
6-8pm	11	22	12	10	3	58
Total*	24	39	25	19	3	110

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 9: Summarized Results of how South Palm Beach County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Session	Flyer	Email	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Facebook	Other	No response	Total*
12-2pm	3	30	11	4	4	13	18	36	119
6-8pm	0	2	6	1	1	4	0	19	33
Total*	3	32	17	5	5	17	18	55	152

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 10: Summarized results of South Palm Beach County Post-It activity by RMA focus area:

Focus Area	Comment*
Education & Outreach	Reach low income children and families through school and community center programs educating and promoting the "no cost" availability of this amazing recreational resource.
Education & Outreach	Increased education (discount on fishing license?) on catch & release technique. Tell people that many catch & release fish die.
Education & Outreach	Partner with/tie in with the local sports teams -Marlins & Dolphins-. Maybe they can have "coral reef" awareness day and/or partner with them for school coral reef programs.
Education & Outreach	Financial support and create programs (together with collegages, Sierra Club, Fishing Clubs) to get low income children, families, and timid adults SNORKELING! Most people have never had the opportunity to empathize with fish, as you would with cats or birds. You can't love what you have never seen!
Enforcement	Better management and enforcement of state and federal regs of certain species (i.e. cobia, snapper). Make them the same or better enforce state regs.
Enforcement	Need more penalties for lost fishing gear. Too many crab traps are being lost. Need to be identified. Once a year all traps need to be removed.
Enforcement	All new boaters should be required to pass a boating licensing program in order to drive/captain a boat.
Enforcement	Open goliath season.
Enforcement	Regulate/investigate the feeding of sharks for diver safety purposes.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Our lobster babies don't come from Florida. Cutting the limit will do nothing.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	More protected reefs like Pennekamp
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	Ban the annual blacktip shark tournament held in February each year.
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Microplastics
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Tarriff water according to usage. From the first gallon a much higher rate. Water in Florida is too cheap!
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	What about cruise ships pollution- especially plastic being washed up on Florida beaches (or are they untouchable?)

Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	Focus on boater pollution and better educate public about boater dangers to coral reefs and such
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	Mitigating effects of climate change

*Note: comments were transcribed exactly as written

Broward County Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Location: Holiday Park Social Center
1150 G. Harold Martin Drive, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304

Total Number of Attendees: 12-2pm Session: 45
6-8pm Session: 138
Total: 183

Participant Self-Identified Affiliation from Sign-In:

When community members arrived at the *Our Florida Reefs* community meetings they were asked to sign-in and circle their affiliation. The table below provides an overview of the attendees from all twelve meetings.

Table 11: Summarized Results of Broward County Affiliation from Sign-In

Session	Boating	Diving	Fishing	Protection	Other	Total*
12-2pm	17	28	12	20	0	77
6-8pm	36	52	47	39	5	179
Total*	53	80	59	59	5	256

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 12: Summarized Results of how Broward County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Session	Flyer	Email	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Facebook	Other	No response	Total*
12-2pm	10	5	9	1	2	7	5	17	56
6-8pm	12	6	11	2	0	13	10	90	144
Total*	22	11	20	3	2	20	15	107	200

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 13: Summarized results of Broward County Post-It activity by RMA focus area:

Focus Area	Comment*
Education & Outreach	ban plastic bags!
Education & Outreach	fine people for leaving trash on the beach
Education & Outreach	sea turtle education! Sea turtle habitat education
Education & Outreach	ban plastic straws in beach area bars and restaurants
Education & Outreach	from joanne - implement nautical charts at every boating dock so boater know for sure where coral reefs are
Education & Outreach	nextdoor.com deals with neighborhood news
Education & Outreach	maybe I missed it in the ** materials but be more explicit about work with other non-profits sierra club, nature conservancy, boy and girl scouts etc
Enforcement	decrease production of styrofoam cups/products limits pollution
Enforcement	determine the need for additional regulation/enforcement by supplying the actual numbers of violators vs. users. What percentage of fishermen/divers do not obey the current regulations?
Enforcement	use paper bags and limit plastic because they will dissolve quicker back to the form to the earth.
Enforcement	ban plastic bags!
Enforcement	fine property owners for garbage on their property such as plastic bags that end up in storm drains/sewers
Enforcement	the attention to the threatened /endangered species sea turtles and the reefs they depend on for their survival
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	coral reef gardens will not survive unless you fix/stop the pollution and runoff! 1st!
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	making you subsidies/raising tow crop restoration
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	target managing invasive species on coral reef ecosystems
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	host lionfish spearing events to minimize a very invasive species and promote awareness to tourists and residents
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	make a moritorium on lobster season - maybe do every other year after year 1
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	\$ pollution

Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	educate on the importance of sea turtles in the coral reef. Help establish structured guidelines for sea turtle feeding grounds and interactions with human activities
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	for catch and release fishing techniques try to display these techniques near a majority of legal fishing docks - joanne
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	ban plastic straws at beach area bars/restaurants
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	monitor amount of fertilizer in soil to prevent eutrophication when run-off causes nutrients to enter water
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	eliminate monsanto from our oceans and lives!
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	1) pollution from BIG SUGAR (aka fanjul family control over florida natural resources) 2)eliminate sugar subsidy (we can buy overseas sugar for less!!!) and save our reefs 3)stop emptying lake okeechobee into the ocean!
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	army corps of engineers - big sugar
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	Ban Fracking
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	runoff big sugar lake O etc
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	encourage property owners to clean bags out of storm drains (and garbage too)
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	ban plastic bags!
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	lake okeechobee runoff
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	replace newspaper plastic bags thrown on peoples lawns/driveways with something else or ban altoghether.
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	ban fracking!
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	biodegradable straws, stirrers, and cups along the beach
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	fine owners for garbage on their property
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	convert the trash into useful materials
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	we have the fertilizers runoff problem solved our web site ultimate green products.com craig 954-603-1408 shaun 954-821-9469

Land-Based Sources of Pollution	serious enforcement of lighting laws need to be addressed to mitigate light pollution on the nesting habitat
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	if you don't eliminate pollution nothing else can be effective
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	seaturtles
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	ban plastic bags and straws

*Note: comments were transcribed exactly as written

South Miami-Dade County Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2016

Location: University of Miami Newman Alumni Center
6200 San Amaro Drive, Coral Gables, FL 33146

Total Number of Attendees: 12-2pm Session: 26
6-8pm Session: 36
Total: 62

Participant Self-Identified Affiliation from Sign-In:

When community members arrived at the *Our Florida Reefs* community meetings they were asked to sign-in and circle their affiliation. The table below provides an overview of the attendees from all twelve meetings.

Table14: Summarized Results of South Miami-Dade County Affiliation from Sign-In

Session	Boating	Diving	Fishing	Protection	Other	Total*
12-2pm	7	6	11	3	1	28
6-8pm	11	26	11	17	1	66
Total*	18	32	22	20	2	94

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 15: Summarized Results of how South Miami-Dade County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Session	Flyer	Email	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Facebook	Other	No response	Total*
12-2pm	3	8	0	1	0	4	3	8	27
6-8pm	2	11	3	0	1	0	2	20	39
Total*	5	19	3	1	1	4	5	28	66

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 16: Summarized results of South Miami-Dade County Post-It activity by RMA focus area:

Focus Area	Comment*
Education & Outreach	I think bringing millentials and educating them about the current situation is the best way to go. Using websites, apps, and other online resources in addition to getting in contact with local schools would be the most efficient way to implement positive changes
Education & Outreach	provide students with volunteer opportunities make them more accessible (searchable) recruit volunteers from local schools and colleges/universities
Education & Outreach	education programs pertaining to hazards and impacts of marine debris /garbage/advantages of recycling etc.
Education & Outreach	educate FL residents (new and existing) and tourists about the economic benefits a healthy reef brins to region
Education & Outreach	create a statewide "adopt-a-beach" and "adopt-a-reef" programs
Enforcement	better enforcement during construction activities - need ability to shut down projects if not compliant
Enforcement	enhanced state authority to report on/ monitor federal law violations such as ESA
Enforcement	more laws for poaching - repeat offenses
Enforcement	improved coordination with federal partners
Enforcement	2/17/16 NY times mag: palau vs the poachers. Look into the enforcement efforts
Enforcement	allow development of fish traps on modified lobster/crab traps to target lionfish through a special license. Allow shipments out of florida of live lionfish > asian market hobby aquarium
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	encourage citizin science monitoring of certain reef areas frequently visited by engaging dive shops
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	support coral restoration (growing corals in nurseries and outplanting in specified reef areas) bob murray rwmurray536@gmail.com
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	diver awareness programs to reduce SCUBA pressure on reef habitat. Make it mandatory for divers to get certified.
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	create and enforce MPAS
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	disallow stone crabbing and shriming in south biscayne bay
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	allow the development of fish traps or modified lobster /crab traps that target lionfish through a special

	activities license. Develop a marketing plan to sell lionfish both live (asian market and aquarium hobby) and to restaurants/ wholesale/retail
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	create MPAS and enforce them! They should be no take zones. They should be big and support connectivity
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	revisit the use of casitas for commercial lobster harvest creates habitat allow freedom of travel no coral damage - ray@missbritt.com
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	remove commercial harvest in MPA area as a first step
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	restrict use of lobster traps in certain areas study the effects over several years
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	end big sugar's influence on our ecosystem penalties for fish kills
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	water treatment from lake okeechobee
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	better monitoring and control of by-pass-pumping at sewage treatment plants
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	monitor sediment levels and coral reef health ahead of the port everglades dredging project
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	emphasis on carbon emissions. Promote public transit and cleaner energy services
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	better consider "partial mortality" in permits / biological opinions/mitigation success criteria
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	eliminate port everglades expansion project
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	eliminate conflict of interest between environmental compliance contractors hired by dredging / construction companies
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	improve coral mitigation success criteria
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	third party oversight of environmental compliance data
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	establish a turbidity measurement/mortality system that WORKS and would hold up in court

*Note: comments were transcribed exactly as written

North Miami-Dade County Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 18, 2016

Location: Florida International University Biscayne Bay Campus
 Cal Kovens Conference Center
 3000 NE 151st Street, North Miami, FL 33181

Total Number of Attendees: 12-2pm Session: 13
 6-8pm Session: 44
 Total: 57

Participant Self-Identified Affiliation from Sign-In:

When community members arrived at the *Our Florida Reefs* community meetings they were asked to sign-in and circle their affiliation. The table below provides an overview of the attendees from all twelve meetings.

Table 17: Summarized Results of North Miami-Dade County Affiliation from Sign-In

Session	Boating	Diving	Fishing	Protection	Other	Total*
12-2pm	2	3	4	6	1	16
6-8pm	10	10	12	6	0	38
Total*	12	13	16	12	1	54

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Table 18: Summarized Results of how North Miami-Dade County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Session	Flyer	Email	Newspaper	Radio	TV	Facebook	Other	No response	Total*
12-2pm	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	6	13
6-8pm	1	5	0	1	0	1	1	37	46
Total*	5	7	0	2	0	1	1	43	59

*Note: more than one answer was chosen by some attendees

Figure 19: Summarized results of North Miami-Dade County Post-It activity by RMA focus area:

Focus Area	Comment*
Education & Outreach	utilize miamis celebrity population to promote reef conservation and state of ocean awareness
Education & Outreach	develop citizen science opportunities for the public to get involved
Education & Outreach	implement in summer science program or camp
Education & Outreach	host awareness meetings/events on the beach eg - hollywood stage to inform locals and non-locals about our reefs
Education & Outreach	community / school hands on reef experiences - beauty of reefs can make and impact!
Education & Outreach	reef education bookley for all new boat registrations and waterfront home dwellers. Don't waste dollars on none boaters, non-coastal
Enforcement	NONE
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	have activities from environmental science to help partners
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	have a course about coral reef/ocean protection before someone earns a boating license
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	increase number of hunting regulations, such as open season for certain species to protect native species and eliminate invasives
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	increase size limits on fish
Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses	stricter regulation on catch - all catch checked by authority (as much as possible) law breakers fined
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	nope, nothing missed. All great ideas
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	implement a suggested bill of business restrictions for pollution and coonsequences
Land-Based Sources of Pollution	ask PETA about joining OFR to spread the word about pollution, and how its not only hurting animals inland. Its destroying one of if not the most important structures in the world
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	create a permitting process that allows for adaptation when impacts exceed expectations
Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction	create a more stringent GIS to err on the side of environmental preservation

*Note: comments were transcribed exactly as written

Dot activity results by RMA focus area

To facilitate compilation and understanding, the following tables have been organized differently and reflect summarized results of dot activity by Recommended Management Action focus area and meeting location:

Table 20: **Education & Outreach**

	Martin County	North Palm Beach County	South Palm Beach County	Broward County	South Miami-Dade County	North Miami-Dade County	Total
N-5	13	12	14	37	16	24	116
N-14	8	9	6	13	5	6	47
N-15	4	4	3	4	5	6	26
N-18	4	3	5	5	6	8	31
N-19	8	4	1	12	13	6	44
N-21	8	4	7	28	13	12	72
N-23	3	4	6	10	2	7	32
N-37	4	8	6	7	2	5	32
N-41	4	3	3	6	3	6	25
N-123	6	7	11	21	10	6	61
S-52	3	4	3	9	3	7	29
S-67	8	9	5	24	13	13	72
S-75	4	3	2	20	4	9	42
S-91	9	8	6	37	4	15	79
Total	86	82	78	233	99	130	708

Table 21: **Enforcement**

	Martin County	North Palm Beach County	South Palm Beach County	Broward County	South Miami-Dade County	North Miami-Dade County	Total
N-7	6	7	4	13	9	14	53
N-25	11	14	8	42	15	21	111
N-27	6	5	5	5	4	3	28
N-35	6	8	5	8	6	4	37
N-36	5	7	7	20	11	3	53
N-44	8	4	3	20	6	12	53
S-92	11	13	9	34	11	13	91
S-95	4	4	5	5	5	5	28
S-98	6	5	6	7	7	3	34
S-99	14	12	10	21	11	13	81
S-125	3	5	3	8	6	6	31
Total	80	84	65	183	91	97	600

Table 22: Fishing, Diving, Boating & Other Uses

	Martin County	North Palm Beach County	South Palm Beach County	Broward County	South Miami-Dade County	North Miami-Dade County	Total
N-59	6	13	11	22	12	6	70
N-64	6	3	0	2	1	2	14
N-70	10	15	12	29	17	17	100
N-137	6	5	4	7	8	6	36
S-8	10	7	15	40	17	22	111
S-54	6	9	6	11	9	4	45
S-65	7	7	7	9	5	4	39
S-86	7	9	10	27	11	22	86
S-87	9	12	9	32	15	11	88
S-97	9	5	6	23	9	8	60
S-2	18	14	17	21	16	7	93
Total	94	99	97	223	120	109	742

Table 23: Land-Based Sources of Pollution

	Martin County	North Palm Beach County	South Palm Beach County	Broward County	South Miami-Dade County	North Miami-Dade County	Total
N-1	11	7	9	32	11	15	85
N-8	7	4	5	19	6	6	47
N-68	10	11	14	36	9	15	95
N-69	23	13	12	19	8	10	85
N-71	8	8	3	20	9	5	53
N-75	5	6	1	14	5	10	41
N-78	9	9	6	20	5	12	61
N-82	5	8	4	13	9	8	47
N-94	4	6	3	6	5	3	27
N-97	2	4	1	9	3	3	22
N-116	7	4	4	15	6	7	43
N-120	7	12	14	20	11	10	74
S-25	8	13	10	23	9	8	71
S-28	21	16	15	43	18	13	126
S-110	5	12	7	19	6	8	57
Total	132	133	108	308	120	133	934

Table 24: Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction

	Martin County	North Palm Beach County	South Palm Beach County	Broward County	South Miami- Dade County	North Miami- Dade County	Total
N-113	2	7	3	6	1	6	25
N-114	8	5	6	16	6	6	47
N-117	2	7	6	7	4	7	33
S-1	4	11	11	16	11	8	61
S-100	3	5	9	22	8	8	55
S-101	5	8	6	11	6	14	50
S-102	3	5	8	8	6	4	34
S-103	9	5	8	9	7	3	41
S-104	8	7	10	11	6	4	46
S-106	2	5	1	13	6	2	29
S-107	8	8	6	16	3	5	46
S-108	2	4	3	6	3	1	19
S-114	5	5	5	6	5	3	29
S-116	3	6	9	16	4	9	47
S-120	5	6	6	8	7	9	41
S-124	7	5	4	7	8	5	36
Total	76	99	101	178	91	94	639

Figure 3: OFR Community Meeting Participant Agenda



Community Meeting 2016 Agenda

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Goals

- ✓ *Share information about the Our Florida Reefs process and draft Recommended Management Actions*
- ✓ *Find out how you can submit feedback on draft Recommended Management Actions*

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Registration
5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

12:15 – 12:45 p.m. Welcome and Overview of the *Our Florida Reefs*
6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Community Planning Process

12:45 – 1:55 p.m. Open House
6:45 – 7:55 p.m. *Ask Questions and Provide Input on Draft Recommended Management Actions at Five Topic Kiosks:*

- Education and Outreach
- Enforcement
- Fishing, Diving, Boating, and Other Uses/Restoration
- Land-Based Sources of Pollution
- Maritime Industry and Coastal Construction Impacts

Areas of Interest Kiosk – *Listen to an Overview and Provide Input on Draft Areas of Interest*

- Session time: 1:05 – 1:30 p.m. / 7:05 – 7:30 p.m.

1:55 – 2:00 p.m. Wrap Up & Depart
7:55 – 8:00 p.m.

To provide your comments online, or for more information please visit:
www.OurFloridaReefs.org/RMAcomment

Figure 4: OFR Community Meeting Process Agenda

OUR FLORIDA REEFS

Community Meetings

Winter 2016

DRAFT PROCESS AGENDA

~ Objectives ~

- Share general information about the *Our Florida Reefs* (OFR) Community Planning Process.
- Share information about the draft Recommended Management Actions (RMAs) and draft Areas of Interest.
- Obtain feedback from the community about the draft RMAs and draft Areas of Interest.
- Gauge public support for the draft RMAs and draft Areas of Interest.

Reference Documents

- Materials list
- Room layout diagram (for each location)
- Staff Assignments sheet
- OFR Talking Points (including FAQs, OFR Facts, general OFR process info, intro talking points at each kiosk, presentation speaking notes, etc.)

~ January 2016 ~

Time,		
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10:15 Staff and CWG members	Set-up Set up refreshments table (2), welcome table (2), kiosks (5 + 1 DST), process table (1), A/V and meeting room	See separate Materials Checklist and Room Layout
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		Diagram for
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	Total: 15 minutes	
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<p>12:15 – 12:45pm/</p> <p>6:15 – 6:45pm</p> <p>DEP Staff</p> <p>Ann/Heidi</p> <p>CWG Host</p> <p>(See Staff Assignment Sheet)</p>	<p>1. Welcome, Introductory Presentation <u>Objective:</u> Share general information about the Our Florida Reefs (OFR) Community Planning Process.</p> <p><u>Activities/Interactions:</u></p> <p>Welcome Table Runner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check with Welcome table to see if there is a line; hold the presentation a minute if so. • Directs stragglers to seats. <p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the presentation, staff should sit among the crowd if seats are available and pay attention to the presentation. If there are very few attendees, staff will be removed from the room to not overwhelm the attendees with blue shirts. • When the Facilitator comes to the front of the room to introduce the kiosk set up, staff should relocate to their assigned kiosks and wave when that kiosk is introduced. <p>Facilitator (5 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome, thanks for coming. • Our Florida Reefs is a project of a group called SEFCRI, which is coordinated by FDEP and funded by a cooperative agreement between FDEP and NOAA CRCP. Other funding for OFR is from FWC. • This is one of 12 community meetings being held to discuss the future of our Florida reefs. • Introduce themselves (Hello, I am the facilitator _____. The role of the facilitator is to keep the meeting running smoothly by making sure we stick to the planned activities and stay on time) • Review meeting objectives and agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Objectives: a) Share information about the Our Florida Reefs Community Planning Process and the series of draft recommended management actions that were developed by community working groups to benefit coral reefs; b) Obtain feedback from YOU about those draft RMAs 	<p>Facilitator slides (housekeeping, thank you to venue and FOFR, objectives slide/agenda)</p> <p>OFR Presentation/script</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agenda: We will begin the meeting today with a formal presentation, and then the duration of the meeting will be an open house format where you can visit various kiosks and learn about the variety of RMAs. We will end promptly at 2:00/6:00pm. ● Review housekeeping items (location of bathrooms, non-smoking facility, thank the venue/FOFR for refreshments). ● Review basic ground rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Please put your phones on silent or vibrate. ○ We'll ask you to hold your questions during the initial presentations today. There will be <i>lots</i> of time for questions as you visit the kiosks and talk with working group members and support staff, and we want to maximize the amount of time you have to learn about the specific actions drafted by the working group. ○ Please respect each other's ideas and opinions. We know we'll have some different ideas on how best to manage our reefs, and we really want to get <i>all</i> of those perspectives. ○ And lastly, please participate! We're so glad you took the time to come today, and hope you'll weigh in on the draft actions by filling out comment cards today -- and after the meeting you can provide additional comments online as well. This feedback will really help the working group as they work to finalize their recommendations this spring. ● In addition to themselves, all people working the event are wearing light blue polo shirts, including CWG members (*CWG members should stand up and wave when announced), as well as DEP staff, SEFCRI team members. Any of these people can help direct people and answer questions ● [CWG members should stand up/wave so the attendees know who they are] ● Introduce the Host. <p>CWG Host (4 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome attendees to the Community meeting and thank them for coming ● Provide a quick self-introduction: Name, explain that they are the host of the meeting, their role in the CWG (including their stakeholder group), and why they are involved in this process/why the reefs are important to them/their experience with OFR. ● Explain that they will be on site throughout the meeting and will welcome the opportunity to further speak with the attendees ● Turn over to the DEP staff for the introductory presentation (I've invited a member of the DEP staff to provide an introductory presentation) 	
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	<p>DEP Staff/CWG Host (15 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide context about SEFL coral reefs, their importance and threats to the ecosystem • Provide an overview of SEFCRI/ background of OFR • Explain the 4-Step Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2013 Community Meetings, OFR kickoff, development of CWGs • [Switch to the CWG Host] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CWGs meeting since 2014 (educational phase, develop RMAs separated into 5 general focus areas, 300 reduced to 68 via review from technical experts, SEFCRI, and CWG revision) ○ Goal of the meeting tonight is to get community input on the draft RMAs, gauge support (Step 3) ○ Next (Step 4): finalize our recommendations and submit them to the appropriate resource management agencies to consider implementing. <p>Facilitator (5 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder of the goals of the meeting. • Explain the kiosk arrangement and a brief summary of the topic areas and types of RMAs at each station, as well as how many are at each kiosk. • Explain how the rest of the meeting will work. You will have ~1.25 hours to visit the different kiosks and learn about the RMAs. If you go to a table and it is very crowded, you may want to go to your second choice first, and return to that table later. For the spatial RMAs, there will be 2 short presentations to further explain the process for developing those areas. These will begin at 12:50 and 1:20 (or 6:50 and 7:30); we will give a 5 minute warning before each presentation starts (the first warning will be at the end of this presentation – 5 minutes before the marine planner kiosk presentation begins). • Explain how the community can participate tonight and how to submit comments and stay engaged in the process following the meeting. (Use the time here today to learn about RMAs, talk to CWG/SEFCRI/DEP staff, ask questions and provide input via written comment cards. You will also be able to submit input electronically for a few more weeks after this meeting – Until March 1). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All comments need to be written down to be considered (so they can be taken back to the CWGs) ○ Comments specific to individual RMAs are preferred. 	
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	<p>CWG Host (1 minute)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank the Facilitator. Remind everyone that the first ‘Areas of Interest’ Kiosk presentation will begin in 5 minutes at 12:45/6:45 p.m. Invite everyone to begin exploring the kiosks <p>Facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be ready in the front of the room to help encourage people to leave the general meeting area and begin visiting the kiosks. <p>Total: 30 minutes</p>	
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<p>12:45 – 2:00pm/</p> <p>6:45 – 8:00pm</p> <p>Staff (minimum of 1 CRCP, 1 SEFCRI, and 1 CWG member per kiosk)</p> <p>(See Staff Assignment Sheet)</p>	<p>2. Focus Area Kiosks (happening concurrently with #3. Areas of Interest Kiosk)</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> Share information about the draft Recommended Management Actions (RMAs), obtain feedback from the community about the RMAs, gauge public support for the RMAs.</p> <p><u>Activities/Interactions:</u></p> <p><i>Introduction (2 minutes)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiosk leaders greet members of the community as they arrive. • Kiosk leaders will deliver a short “elevator speech” for that focus area and the types of RMAs that are there (this will be repeated throughout the meeting as necessary when new community members arrive at the table): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E&O ○ Enforcement ○ FDBOU/Restoration (including S-2 Mooring Buoys) ○ LBSP ○ MICCI <p><i>Information Sharing/Q&A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiosk leaders help share information and answer questions about RMAs; if someone other than the CWG is giving answers, clarify that you are doing your best to answer on behalf of a CWG, based on your understanding of the RMA. 	<p>For more information and guidance on greeting community members to the Kiosk, answering Q&A, and conducting the activity, refer to the OFR Talking Points document</p> <p>For more information on kiosk supplies and set-up instructions, refer to the Materials Checklist</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage members of the community to read the ½ (RMA Brief) and/or 2-page (Report Summary) documents, and fill out RMA comment cards. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comments can be submitted electronically via the tablet, or hand written on the paper comment cards (located on the back of the RMA Briefs) and placed in the ‘Comments Box’ at each kiosk. (NOTE: If the comments box is getting too full, table staff should empty the comment box and place those comment cards in the manila folder provided in the kiosk supplies box) ○ *NOTE: If any attendees need assistance writing out a comment card, please direct them to the registration table. Staff there will write while the attendee dictates their feedback, then read it back to ensure that the thought was accurately captured. ● As applicable, share any new data that is also available relevant to that topic area at each kiosk: ● Remind members of the community that opportunities to comment on these and all other RMAs will continue online until March 1st ● Explain how community input will be incorporated by CWGs during the next step of the process. <p><i>Activity</i></p> <p>(All kiosks will have the same activity to encourage additional feedback)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On the big printed list of RMAs at each kiosk, members of the community will be provided with sticky dots (color coded to each kiosk) to place next to the RMAs that they feel they most support within that focus area. ● If there is something relevant to this topic area that they feel is important and is NOT on the list, they can write it on the big post-its and stick to the dry-erase easel. ● Do not place sticky dots on any write-ins, ask the attendees to focus on the existing list of RMAs for the voting activity. ● Try to track all attendees at the kiosk with the clicker. <p>2.1 OFR Process Kiosk</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> Share information about the Our Florida Reefs Community Planning Process generally, and the purpose of the meeting tonight.</p>	
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	<p><u>Activities/Interactions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiosk leaders greet members of the community and answer questions; especially for people who may have arrived late to the meeting and missed the opening presentation. • Encourage guests to visit the other kiosks and submit feedback on the draft RMAs. <p>Total: 1 hour and 15 min</p>	
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<p>12:50 – 1:20pm and 1:20 to 1:50pm/</p> <p>6:50 – 7:20pm and 7:20 to 7:50pm</p> <p>Staff TBD</p> <p>(See Staff Assignment Sheet)</p> <p>Facilitator</p>	<p>3. Areas of Interest Kiosk (happening concurrently with #2. Kiosks)</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> Share information about the draft Areas of Interest associated with RMA N-146; obtain feedback from the community and gauge public support for the concept of an MPA zoning framework; obtain feedback on the various Areas of Interest.</p> <p><u>Activities/Interactions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiosk leaders greet members of the public and have them take a seat in front of the big screen (fill closer rows first). • A quick introductory presentation about the spatial RMAs will begin at 12:50/1:20 or 6:50/7:20, which will be followed by an opportunity for questions and further exploration of the Areas of Interest. <p><i>Introduction (7 minutes)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kiosk leaders provide an overview of N-146 and the Areas of Interest associated with RMA N-146, how they were selected, and how the members of the community can provide feedback. <p><i>Information Sharing/Q&A (23 minutes)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members will circulate around and view the 6-10 large posters that show the relevant Areas of Interest based on the specific Community Meeting location (Martin & Palm Beach areas, or Broward and Miami-Dade areas). Note: Posters for other counties will also be available at the meeting – rather than in the easels, these will be on the floor leaning against the wall. • Kiosk leaders will be available to help share information and answer questions about the Areas of Interest (1 staff/every 2 posters); if someone other than the CWG is giving answers, 	<p>For more information and guidance on greeting community members to the Kiosk, answering Q&A, and conducting the activity, refer to the OFR Talking Points</p>
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	<p>clarify that you are doing your best to answer on behalf of a CWG, based on your understanding of the RMA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage members of the community to view the maps, read the ½ page RMA Brief and/or 2-page Report Summary document on N-146, and fill out RMA comment cards. Comment cards can be filled out for N-146 generally, or for any specific Area of Interest (to be specified at the top of the comment card). • Comments can be submitted electronically via the laptop, or hand written on the paper comment cards (located at the back of the ½ page N-146 RMA Brief) and placed in the ‘Comments Box’ at the kiosk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ *NOTE: If any attendees need assistance writing out a comment card, please direct them to the registration table. Staff there will write while the attendee dictates their feedback, then read it back to ensure that the thought was accurately captured. • Remind members of the community that opportunities to comment on N-146 (as with all other RMAs) will continue online until March 1st (deadline for the next CWG meeting). The Areas of Interest will also be available online to view and comment. • Explain how community input will be incorporated by CWGs during the next step of the process. • Explain how the end product of the OFR process is a series of recommended areas for increased protection. These are areas the CWGs are interested in considering, and we would like your feedback. No formal designations will come out of this process; these recommendations will go to SEFCRI and agencies affiliated with SEFCRI, who would then need to initiate their own formal processes for any rule changes. <p>Supporting Materials/Documentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3’x4’ large format glossy posters for each Area of Interest/group of related areas (with data used, objectives, important considerations brought up by CWGs, questions specific to that Area of Interest, etc.). In the corner of each poster will also be a regional map for location reference (with area marked as a dot on that map). <p>(1:15/7:15)</p> <p>Facilitator:</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce that the second marine planner presentation will start in 5 minutes. <p>Total: 30 min</p>	
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<p>1:50/ 7:50pm</p> <p>Facilitator</p>	<p>3. Wrap Up Meeting</p> <p><u>Objective:</u></p> <p><u>Activities/Interactions:</u></p> <p>Final Announcements from podium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will be closing the doors in ten minutes Please finish writing your comments on the comment cards and submit them soon Thank you for your time, please continue to review RMAs and submit comments on the website until MARCH 1, 2016. <p>Welcome Table (becomes Farewell Table):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As guests exit, thank them for coming** Collect any final comment cards Hand out posters/outreach items (SEFCRI posters, etc.) <p>**NOTE: Some staff should be prepared to continue to field questions outside of the meeting room after each session.</p>	
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2:00/8:00	End Meeting	
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2:00 – 3:00	Wrap-Up 1st Meeting:	
	Reset meeting supplies for evening session:	

<p>(See Staff Assignment Sheet)</p> <p>3:00 – 5:00</p> <p>5:00 – 5:30</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographer takes pictures of each kiosk before setting up for the next session. • Focus Area Kiosk Leaders cleanup tables and resupply handouts as necessary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reset activity: Remove the ‘Activity Panel’ from the large RMA Titles poster (with sticky dots) and used flipchart pages; ensure both are labeled with meeting date, time, and location; initial it, and file away. If time, tally the votes for each RMA. Set up RMA ‘Activity Panel’ for next session. • Spatial Kiosk Leaders cleanup table and resupply handouts as necessary. • Daron collect comment cards from comment card boxes, paper clip and label with kiosk name and meeting date, time, and location, file away. • Welcome Table: label sign-in sheets with date, time, and location. Tally number of attendees and record at the bottom, file away. Put out new sign-in sheets. Resupply any handouts. • Refreshments Table: refill cups/napkins, etc. Check that coffee, water and snacks are full. If necessary, empty trash. <p>Break/Early dinner</p> <p>Briefing for evening session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap experiences from each kiosk; discuss any issues that arose at the previous meeting and how to troubleshoot. <p>All staff back to assigned locations</p> <p>Total: 4 hours</p>	
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5:45		
8:00 – 9:00	<p>After 2nd Meeting</p> <p>Pack All Meeting Supplies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographer takes pictures of each kiosk before breakdown. • All table leaders pack each table’s supplies into their respective boxes, note missing or damaged items on the inventory sheet (taped to the inside of the lid) • Take down all signs, including exterior directional signs. <p>Close-Up Building (TBD – will be venue-specific)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacuum/empty trash • Turn off a/v and lights • Lock meeting room 	

Table 25: List of Recommended Management Actions by short titles

Focus Area	RMA	Title Before Community Meetings
E&O	N-5	Enhance the SEFCRI Florida reefs and ecosystems curriculum, including educating educators on available resources, and mandate that it be taught once in elementary school, once in middle school and once in high school (every school year) to provide science-based foundation for making future decisions to protect coral reefs.
E&O	N-14	Enhance distribution of materials (continue current activities) highlighting the economic and recreational values of southeast Florida reefs to enhance awareness by residents, elected officials, and visitors.
E&O	N-15	Promote citizen supported organization (CSO) Friends of Our Florida Reefs to enable better community engagement in coral reef efforts and target funding for conservation activities more effectively and efficiently.
E&O	N-18	Augment existing fishery and coral reef education programs to incorporate multi-cultural fishing practices including addressing environmental ethics.
E&O	N-19	Make nautical charts featuring reef benthic natural resource coverage in the SEFCRI region widely available and accessible to boaters.
E&O	N-21	Develop and distribute welcome information, digital video, or image packages for new FL residents that provide information on impacts to reef systems and how they can be addressed to raise awareness and influence behavior change to reduce impacts to reefs.

E&O	N-23	Following the example and spirit of successful “Blue Star” programs in Florida other develop areas of the world, create a voluntary marine industry education/certification program in the SEFCRI region to increase professional and consumer user awareness, responsibility, and personal pride, leading to voluntary reduction of typical user reef damage and negative impacts.
E&O	N-37	Continue to improve existing FWC hotline and significantly increase (at least double existing investment in the) marketing about the hotline and the phone app to more efficiently report emergencies or violations, send pictures, and be able to report a problem to assist agencies to enforce the regulations that protect our coral reefs.
E&O	N-41	Develop a voluntary “Florida Reef Tract Stewardship and Job Creation fund” fee to fund education and conservation programs.
E&O	N-123	Develop and implement a sustainable finance plan to support coral reef conservation efforts in the SEFCRI Region.
E&O	S-52	Create an effective reef protection mascot/logo campaign to increase awareness for protection.
E&O	S-67	Provide incentives to divers and fishermen to eradicate invasive species of marine organisms proliferating the SEFCRI coral reef system to provide a natural ecological balance of marine and plant life for the coral reef system.
E&O	S-75	Initiate voluntary donation program from all reef users via licensed dive boats or fishing boats/charters. This donation would support reef conservation programs or projects.
E&O	S-91	Develop a telephone app to allow the public to photograph violations and document time, boat numbers, GIS coordinates, and violation to state FWC and federal enforcement personnel to improve regulatory compliance and enforcement and improve public involvement, outreach and education concerning coastal protection in Florida.

LE	N-7	Offer an online exam to receive a discount on fishing licenses (create an incentive-based program).
LE	N-25	Strengthen penalties and fines for non-compliance of reef- related regulations, to include civil penalties, to discourage illegal activities, and to express that violations will not be tolerated.
LE	N-27	Establish co-management agreements with capable and responsible local communities and NGOs to address staff capacity gaps at FWC and FDEP.
LE	N-35	Develop and implement a cross-training program for local marine units and beach patrol officers, to improve recognition of conservation regulations, increase law enforcement presence on the water and provide additional enforcement for peak periods to build relationships between agencies and decrease marine-related violations.
LE	N-36	Develop a stakeholder initiative to raise the cost of recreational lobster stamps statewide and dedicate the additional funds for improved species enforcement in the southeast Florida region (including Monroe County).
LE	N-44	Educate relevant judges and prosecuting attorneys on the importance of imposing penalties for environmental violations that are severe enough to prevent future violations.
LE	S-92	Protect reefs from anchor damage during beach and coastal events (i.e. festivals, air shows, etc.).
LE	S-95	Perform comprehensive study to determine how to improve law enforcement management to match assets and personnel to public needs to increase efficiency and improve employee retention.
LE	S-98	Simplify FWC rules and regulations to reduce complexity (fish sizes fork length versus overall - snapper one size, grouper one size, and pelagic) to make rules simpler and standardize catch size limits for important species with similar life histories and appearance to make it easier to enforce regulations and catch within limits.

LE	S-99	Increase number of FWC enforcement officers; funding for enforcement; recruitment and retention of on water officers to improve enforcement for better protection of resources.
LE	S-125	Request FWC to make a rule change in the marine life rule to better define the word “take” (take, touch, anchor on, or damage in any way) to improve enforcement of Coral Reef Protection Act.
FDOU	N-59	Ban the practice of spearfishing on SCUBA to enable sustainable use of our Florida Reefs.
FDOU	N-64	Require registration and tagging of lead line for all cast nets over six feet and traps, as well as reporting the coordinates of any lost nets to FWC for retrieval, for commercial and recreational fisherman, within St. Lucie Inlet Preserve State Park to prevent and track lost gear (ghost nets).
FDOU	N-70	Protect and restore mangroves, seagrass beds, oyster reefs and other estuarine habitats.
FDOU	N-137	Designate the entire SEFCRI region as a particularly sensitive sea areas (PSSA) and/or area to be avoided (ATBA).
FDOU	S-8	Establish coral reef gardens, which are areas for the recovery, restoration, and recruitment of corals and fish, created under strong guidance from scientists and monitored by the community through an educational campaign.
FDOU	S-54	Apply for UNESCO world heritage site status for entire Florida reef tract to increase awareness and protection of Florida coral reefs

FDOU	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.
FDOU	S-86	Ban live mounts of all shark species to reduce shark mortality due to charter fishing practices that ensure mount sales and dockside marketing and promote proper handling and release techniques for shark species to reduce mortality in catch & release scenarios.
FDOU	S-87	Modify or enhance existing regulations to increase protection for parrotfish and other important herbivores for coral ecosystem protection.
FDOU	S-97	Maintain lobster mini season but reduce the bag limit to six lobsters per person per day to be consistent state wide and require the review of educational materials and completion of an educational quiz in order to receive annual license.
LBSP	N-1	Educate the public on the effects of land-based sources of pollution to reduce the amount of pollutants entering storm drains and waterways
LBSP	N-8	Promote public education programs like “be Floridian”, “rain gardens”, “nature scape”, and “Florida Yards and Neighborhoods” to encourage eco-friendly yard and garden maintenance to help reduce the amount of nutrients and other pollutants reaching the reefs through residential run-off.

LBSP	N-68	Reduce and regulate fertilizers, herbicides, fungicides, and pesticides to reduce nutrient and pollutant loading to improve water quality and provide protection to the reefs, and promote the use of Florida friendly herbicides and pesticides to reduce or eliminate toxic chemicals.
LBSP	N-69	Support and provide money incentives and initiatives to restore and preserve wetlands north of Lake Okeechobee to stop discharges to coastal estuaries to protect estuaries and reefs.
LBSP	N-71	Maintain and coordinate a unified monitoring program to detect, identify, and eliminate sources of pollution flowing through inlets to improve water quality and protection to reef.
LBSP	N-75	Promote/offer free pump out stations to better water quality and allow boats a better option than dumping off shore.
LBSP	N-78	Reduce ground water pollution from sources such as septic and storage tank infrastructure to watersheds associated with priority reef areas to improve water quality and reef health.
LBSP	N-82	Support and promote existing and create innovative new initiatives that increase storm water storage, and reduce stormwater runoff, enhance treatment, increase reuse, and reduce nutrients and other contaminants to the watershed, especially from surface water, to restore healthy estuaries.
LBSP	N-94	Develop and implement a "Green" Club certification program for golf courses (similar to Blue Star for dive industry and clean marina programs) to provide an incentive mechanism for golf courses to reduce their impact on marine environment.

LBSP	N-97	Target, prioritize, and implement LBSP reduction activities at identified pollution hotspots within SEFCRI watersheds to improve coastal water quality.
LBSP	N-116	Coordinate and implement regional "living shoreline" objectives to increase the use and protection of natural infrastructure (e.g. coral reefs, native vegetation, mangrove wetlands) to provide natural barriers to storm surge and maintain coastal biodiversity.
LBSP	N-120	Encourage influential entities to lobby for legislation to overturn current legislation restricting bans on plastic bags to protect marine habitats and wildlife.
LBSP	S-25	Discourage public officials from granting or requesting extensions to current ocean outfall legislation to ensure the timely closure (prior to 2025) of all treated wastewater outfall pipes and build/upgrade infrastructure for advanced water treatment and reuse to improve ocean water quality, reduce destructive algal blooms, and increase water reuse in the SEFCRI region.
LBSP	S-28	Support Everglades flow restoration to reduce LBSP and improve water quality in estuaries and inlet contributing areas connected to the coral reef ecosystems of SE Florida.
LBSP	S-110	Eliminate over beach discharge of water to eliminate those sources of beach erosion reducing the amount of beach fill needed which may improve near shore water quality.
MICCI	N-113	Eliminate Lake Worth inlet port Expansion project to reduce siltation on coral reefs and keep coastal communities and habitat in balance.

MICCI	N-114	Reinstate funding for regulatory agencies (reinstate SED FDEP Dive Teams) to provide in water permit compliance monitoring as needed for reef related projects, and assist other agencies with monitoring (fish/coral surveys).
MICCI	N-117	Improve impact minimization and mitigation activities for unavoidable impacts to resources to reduce and offset lost ecosystem function; including the use of non-traditional mitigation strategies.
MICCI	S-1	Remove tires and debris from failed Broward County (Ft. Lauderdale and Deerfield Beach) (a.k.a. Osborne tire reef) artificial tire reef projects and the reef tract to eliminate damage to existing corals.
MICCI	S-100	Support redefining the Port of Miami anchorage zone to remove four areas with reported coral from the existing anchor zone, reduce anchor damage currently being caused by ships anchoring zone which includes some coral reef.
MICCI	S-101	Create a training program based on existing Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be required for coastal construction on-site project contractors to be implemented by January 1, 2020, as required in a coastal construction permit.
MICCI	S-102	Develop and integrate more effective quality control procedures in the regulatory framework, and triggers within permits for corrective action during coastal development projects to ensure protection of marine habitat and species.
MICCI	S-103	Incorporate existing, and adaptively integrate, BMPs into project design and construction practices to avoid and minimize impacts to coral reefs from coastal construction projects.
MICCI	S-104	Set new and appropriate water turbidity standards and support the efforts to improve turbidity monitoring methods for marine construction to limit damage from coastal constructions to reefs and associated habitats.

MICCI	S-106	Establish an educational turbidity monitoring certification program to improve the quality of turbidity data that are used to evaluate project-related threats to resources.
MICCI	S-107	Encourage region-wide biological monitoring (e.g. via BMAs) to document condition of resources that may be impacted by nourishment projects and inform regulatory decisions to ensure ecological functions are maintained.
MICCI	S-108	Revise/create UMAM (Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method) for coral reef environments to improve application of this rule to coastal ecosystems, to provide more consistent/accurate calculations, and to ensure ecological functions are maintained.
MICCI	S-114	Create and implement a mechanism that allows permitting agencies to apply lessons learned from past projects to future projects to minimize impacts to resources and improve success of mitigation activities.
MICCI	S-116	Maintain the ecological function of the wrackline by reducing beach raking practices.
MICCI	S-120	Improve management and maintenance activities of beaches to reduce impacts to coral reefs (including nearshore reefs), make beaches more sustainable, and minimize need for future renourishment projects.
MICCI	S-124	Facilitate the creation of regional (inlet-to-inlet) beach management strategies, such as can be achieved through a beach management agreement (BMA), which take an ecosystem approach to projects such as beach nourishment and storm-water pipe removal to maintain beaches and protect resources.

Spatial	N-146	Establish and implement an MPA zoning framework for the SEFCRI Region that includes but is not limited to no-take reserves, no anchor areas, restoration areas, and seasonal protection for spawning aggregations to enable sustainable use, reduce user conflict, and improve coral reef ecosystem condition.
Spatial	S-2	Create and fund one SEFCRI-wide mooring buoy program as a more coordinated and cost effective way of protecting reefs from anchor damage.

III. Conclusion

Early Process Planning Team sessions decided that the 2016 Community meetings should be scheduled to take place in January and February, prior to Tallahassee's Oceans Day, which was historically recognized during the month of March. The procurement and coordination of the venue spaces began in July 2015 and all had been confirmed by October of 2015.

With the exception of the Broward County meetings, overall attendance was lower than anticipated. Timing and other logistical restraints may have contributed to the low attendance, but cannot be solidified without speculation. Should similar meetings be planned in the future, offering different time slots (i.e. 2-4pm and 7-9pm) might be worth considering as a means to attract more participants. Alternatively, single evening sessions (only one meeting in a day, rather than two, similar to the format utilized by the National Park Service for their public meetings) might be considered. Or finally, the meetings could be held on weekend days to reduce conflicts with participants' traditional work or school schedules.

With respect to advertising efforts, anecdotal reports indicate that the meeting-specific radio PSAs were most wide-reaching means of communication. In the future, additional funding should be budgeted to make this the largest advertising vehicle possible by expanding the airplay on stations in both media markets: Miami-Ft. Lauderdale and Palm Beach.

Despite ongoing outreach efforts throughout the duration of the process and several Community Meeting-specific presentations to the fishing and diving communities held early 2016, at the 2016 Community Meetings it was common to hear, "I've never heard of you before," or "no one told me this was even happening." Due to this disconnect, a more aggressive targeted outreach effort to these communities is also recommended. If physical attendance or presentations at meetings for all affiliated groups in all four counties is logistically impossible, at the very least, hard copy fliers could be mailed to these organizations in addition to email invitations.

Similarly, a list of science teachers at area high schools could be compiled for further engagement. As students are the future generation, engagement with them is of vital importance, so further efforts to engage this group must be made.

The 2016 *Our Florida Reefs* Community Meetings proved successful in stimulating the interest and public comment from all reef stakeholders. Through local mainstream and social media coverage, citizens emerged to become part of the process and offered their comment, which was the original goal for the meetings. A final recommendation is that should similar meetings be held, less hard copy paper products be available, or the paper products can be formatted in a way to be multi-purpose or used for many events as to reduce the carbon footprint left by traditional hard copy material distribution.

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Figure 1: RMA comment card

Figure 2: OFR Community Meeting registration list template

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Figure 4: OFR Community Meeting draft process agenda

Table 1: 2016 *Our Florida Reefs* Community Meeting Attendance

Table 2: Summarized Results of Martin County Affiliation from sign-in

Table 3: Summarized Results of how Martin County meeting attendees learned of the meeting

Table 4: Summarized Results of Martin County Post-It Activity by RMA focus area

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Table 20: Results of Dot Activity by Focus Area: Education & Outreach

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Table 25: List of Recommended Management Actions by short titles