HERNANDO COUNTY WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2021

Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: Hernando Beach Marine Group Inc. Training Center
4340 Calienta Street, Hernando Beach, FL 34607

Advertised: Friday, October 8, 2021, The Hernando Sun (CLK21-203)

The meeting agenda and back-up material are available online at:
https://www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-n-z/public-works/aquatic-services/waterways-advisory-committee/agendas-and-minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chuck Morton called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Attendance
Chuck Morton	Chairman	Present
Kathryn Birren	Vice Chairman	Present
Michael Senker	Member	Absent
Mike Fulford	Member	Present
Sarah Hill	Member	Present
Wayne Dukes	Commissioner / Liaison	Absent
Scott Herring	Department of Public Works Director / County Engineer	Present
Keith Kolasa	Aquatic / Waterways Services Manager	Present
Steve Kelly	Corporal / Marine Patrol Officer	Absent
Tina Duenninger	Co. Administration / DPW Executive Office Manager	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL / MODIFICATION OF AGENDA (Limited to Staff and Committee Only)

There were no changes made to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 21, 2021

MOTION: Mr. Mike Fulford motioned to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2021 Waterways Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Sarah Hill seconded. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

MARINE PATROL REPORT

Corporal Steve Kelly was not present at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **HB Channel Marker Status – Request to Add Additional Markers**
   Mr. Keith Kolasa stated that a few Committee members at the last meeting held had requested staff look at the status of channel markers, mainly in Hernando Beach. There were three (3) channel markers identified as indicated in attachment item #1 in the agenda packet. Upon query by Mr. Mike Fulford, Mr. Kolasa responded funding was currently budgeted.

   Mr. Dylan Kramer suggested red and green composite glow in the dark markers which require no maintenance. Mr. Kolasa agreed it was worth looking into. He noted the county's cost for one marker was approximately $1,800. Upon query by Vice Chairman Kathryn Birren, Mr. Kolasa responded the permits needed to specify what type of structure and he would have to determine pole or buoy prior to permitting.

   MOTION: Mr. Mike Fulford motioned to move forward with the three (3) channel markers identified. Vice Chairman Kathryn Birren seconded. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

2. **Boundary of Aquatic Preserve and OFW Regulations Related to Docks**
   Mr. Keith Kolasa provided a brief update on the Aquatic Preserve Boundary. He advised new OFW dock regulations went into effect on July 1st as clarified via email by Ms. Carla Burrmann, Environmental Manager with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), a copy of which was available in the agenda packet. Upon query, Mr. Kolasa responded he had not done a boundary map for Pine Island but would follow-up.

   Ms. Bea Shafer inquired on how to access the agenda packet on the website. Vice Chairman Kathryn Birren provided information regarding the agenda packet. Ms. Tina Duenninger clarified the link and invited the public to provide her with an email address to be added to the agenda distribution list following the meeting.

3. **Update on Artificial Reef Program 14-1**
   Mr. Keith Kolasa stated the consultant contract was approved by the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners on August 24, 2021, and a kickoff meeting had been held two weeks prior to the Waterways Advisory Committee meeting. The project will consist of site surveys and assessments for 15 new reef sites, rankings, public meetings, design and permitting process, and monitoring aspects leading up to construction. It will be a three-year process leading up to construction. Mr. Kolasa indicated he would keep the Committee apprised on the progress and public meetings held.

   Mr. Kolasa shared that 28 pallet reef balls were deployed August 22-26, 2021, at the Bendickson Reef to create a trail between two large areas of culverts from previous deployments. He also shared the economic impact of artificial reefs by the University of Florida/IFAS Extension, pointing out Dr. Michael Allen's example provided via email which indicated the value associated with artificial reefs in Hernando County would not only improve Tourism but take away impact from natural reefs. Mr. Kolasa noted the information referenced was included the agenda packet.

4. **Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Management Plan Meetings**
   Chairman Chuck Morton stated both he and Mr. Keith Kolasa were representatives on the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve (NCAP) Management Advisory Committee and brought up the Sunshine Law. He shared that he had inquired on how the NCAP would affect Hernando County's reef program and was advised that if it was already in the planning, it was exempt. Chairman Morton stated some of the preliminary work done by the Waterways Advisory Committee in designating sites gave Hernando County exemption.

Mr. Kolasa noted there was a list of meeting dates and presentations attached in the agenda packet. Upon query, Mr. Kolasa responded the purpose of the NCAP was to develop the details of the Aquatic Preserve Management Plan. It was noted the next public meeting was scheduled to be held on May 19 and May 24, 2022. Mr. Kolasa temporarily left the meeting at this time.

Chairman Morton provided a brief overview of the goals and objectives of the NCAP and the type of discussions to be held at the advisory committee meetings.

Mr. Kolasa returned to the meeting at this time.

5. **Proposed Revisions to Marine Construction Code – Dock Size, Marginal Dock Size**
Mr. Keith Kolasa stated one of the questions brought up at the last Committee meeting was the definition and clarification of a marginal dock and square footage of marginal docks. It was noted that the Marine Construction Code relative to the marginal dock size section would be emailed to the Committee following the meeting. Mr. Kolasa indicated the marginal docks should not exceed 500 sf. related to the Riverine Protection Ordinance; it did not apply to marginal docks in Hernando Beach, as clarified with the county's Planning and Building departments.

Mr. Alan Green stated he was told he needed a variance and questioned what a marginal dock was. Mr. Dylan Kramer stated he cannot get any permits as a dock builder due to marginal docks exceeding 500 sf. and suggested following the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and Army Corps of Engineers' guidelines. Mr. David Strong also stated he cannot get permits as a dock builder due to marginal docks exceeding 500 sf.

Discussion ensued regarding the Building Department's interpretation of marginal docks relative to location and size as outlined in the Marine Construction Code.

Mr. Mike Fulford suggested Chairman Chuck Morton write a letter to the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, with a copy to the County Administrator, advising that the residents of Hernando County are not getting their docks built due to bottlenecks in the Building Department and want it fixed.

Further discussion ensued. Mr. Kolasa noted a meeting could be scheduled with Planning and Building staff to discuss the waterbodies and clarify the rule interpretation.

Mr. Paul Thompson stated he thought discussion was to take place regarding increasing the dock inclusion into the canal by 10-15%. Mr. Mike Fulford clarified he understood the question at the last meeting was looking into going to 1,000 sf. total for dock sizes, not changing the percentage out at the canal.

Mr. Steve Barton stated he was involved in the process of drafting the Marine Construction Code and that nobody really considered what would be interpreted, indicating that they were only thinking for those areas currently outlined in the Code and it didn't reflect for Hernando Beach.

Ms. Sheila Barr commented there should be no changes and expressed support for a five-year plan incorporation of Hernando Beach.

MOTION: Mr. Mike Fulford motioned to have staff coordinate a meeting with Building staff to seek education and clarification of the plans reviewer interpretation to stop bottlenecks. The motion did not move forward.

Mr. Scott Herring stated this was not Mr. Kolasa's problem to spearhead and advised he had taken notes to discuss up the level of command with his boss, who also oversees the Building

and Planning departments. He recommended the Committee send a letter to the Board's Chairman or the County Administrator. The Committee concurred with Chairman Chuck Morton writing a letter to the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, with a copy to the County Administrator.

Ms. Sarah Hill distributed a copy of FDEP's Dock Permitting in Florida. Mr. Kolasa stated FDEP's exemption for residential docks is 1,000 sf. The Committee concurred to move forward with the agenda until clarification is made on the Building Department's clarification.

Mr. Steve Barton distributed a handout expressing opposition to change the county's current existing percentages to FDEP's blanket percentage of 25%. Discussion ensued. The Committee concurred there would be no further discussion on the subject.

6. **Pine Island Canal Restoration**
   Mr. Keith Kolasa stated the legal opinion from the County Attorney's Office was included in the agenda packet, noting Attorney Jon Jouben had determined that the ownership did meet the use as a public waterway. Upon query by Vice Chairman Kathryn Birren, Mr. Kolasa responded the Restore Act applications were lengthy and would be taken on by the Project Manager once hired and onboard.

7. **Red Tide**
   Mr. Keith Kolasa indicated this item would be reserved until the December meeting as Brittany Hall-Scharf with IFAS/Florida Sea Grant will provide a presentation at that time. Mr. Kolasa expressed Ms. Hall-Scharf did an amazing job on red tide monitoring. Latest samples showed low to medium concentrations and hopefully a one-time event.

8. **Future Member Replacement for Chairman Chuck Morton**
   Chairman Chuck Morton advised he was termed out as a member on the Waterways Advisory Committee and encouraged applicants to apply, indicating applications were available online. Upon query, Ms. Tina Duenninger provided information regarding the news release deadline for acceptance of applications and the application process.

9. **Proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule**
   The proposed 2022 meeting schedule of the Waterways Advisory Committee was reviewed. Mr. Fulford noted he would prefer not to have a meeting in July. Vice Chairman Kathryn Birren noted she would not be able to attend the January meeting. Ms. Sarah Hill proposed to table the meeting schedule until the first meeting in 2022.

   MOTION: Vice Chairman Kathryn Birren motioned to schedule the first meeting in 2022 to be held on February 16, 2022. Mr. Mike Fulford seconded. The motion carried and was approved unanimously.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments at this time.

WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE / STAFF COMMENTS

1. Chuck Morton, Chairman
2. Kathryn Birren, Vice Chairman
3. Mike Senker, Member
4. Mike Fulford, Member
5. Sarah Hill, Member
6. Keith Kolasa, Aquatic/Waterways Services Manager
7. Scott Herring, Department of Public Works Director/County Engineer

OTHER – Waterways Advisory Committee Agenda Requests for Future Meetings

There was no other business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting(s):

The next regular meeting of the Waterways Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 7:00 P.M., in the Hernando Beach Marine Group Inc. Training Center, 4340 Calienta Street, Hernando Beach, FL 34607.

HB Channel Markers

10/12/2021

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From: kathryn birren
To: Keith Kolasa
Subject: Re: Red Tide Status
Date: Thursday, July 29, 2021 12:11:49 PM

My husband and I are going to try to run some of that today . I will let you know . Also I went down the hernando beach channel over the weekend and marked down all the missing markers . The red are really the problem .

Markers

16-red
24-red
32- red
41green
47 green
52 red

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

On Thursday, July 29, 2021, 10:35 AM, Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us> wrote:

> FWC has documented some in the 12 to 17 mile range off s southern Hernando.
>
> Will you be able to attend the meeting tomorrow?
>
> Thank you
> Keith
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Jul 29, 2021, at 8:47 AM, kathryn birren <kathrynbirren@yahoo.com> wrote:
>
> >
> >
> > I have had people come in the store and tell us they see some . I will do some calling today
> >
> > Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

On Tuesday, July 27, 2021, 9:18 AM, Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us> wrote:

> Good Morning Kathryn,
>
> Have you heard of any reports of fish kills in our waters with the positive offshore sample?
>
> Keith Kolasa
> Aquatic Services and Waterways Manager
> Hernando County Dept. of Public Works
> 1525 East Jefferson Street
> Brooksville, Florida 34601
>
> Office: 352-754-5884
> Cell: 352-667-1348
>
> KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us
>
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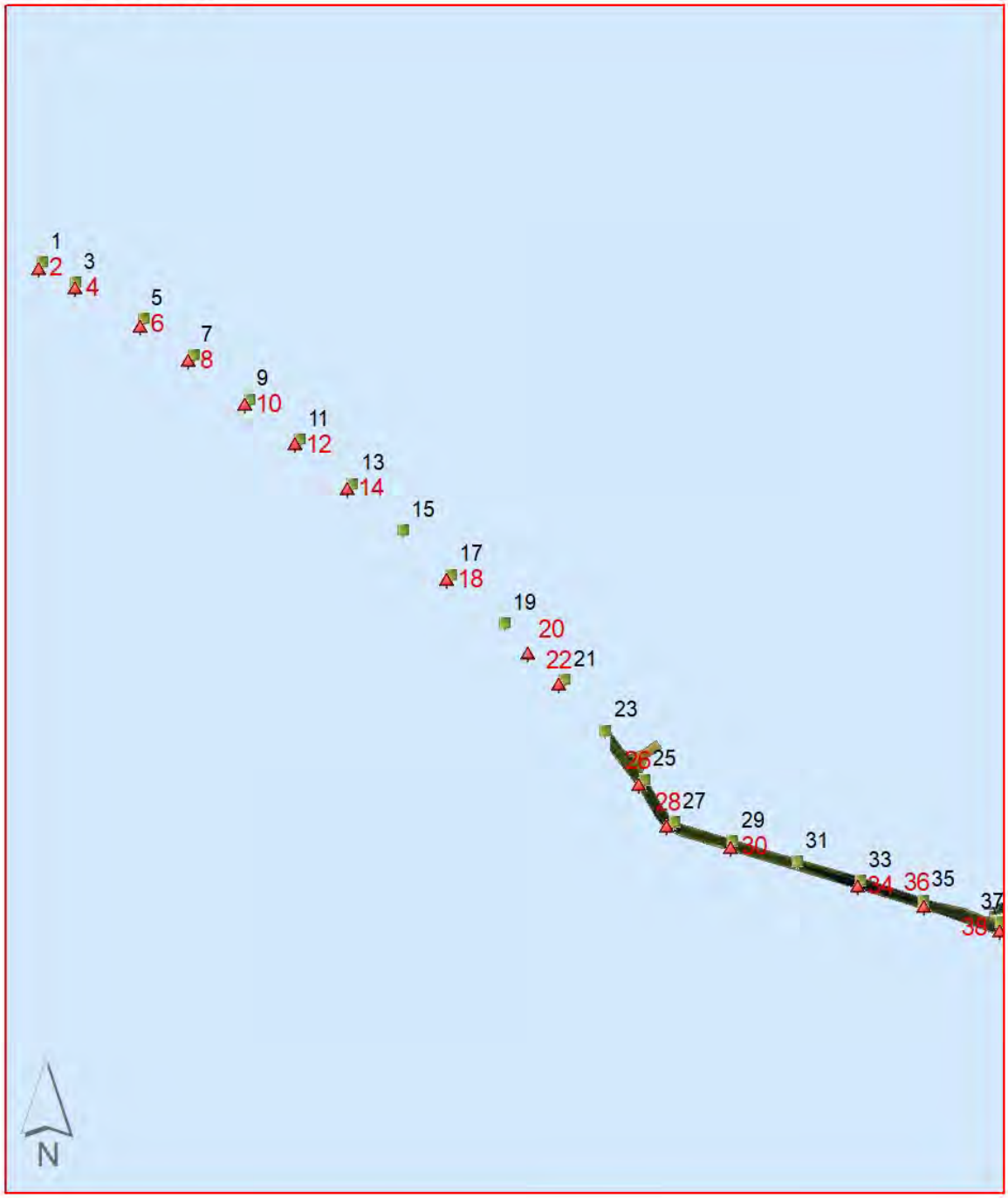
(1) No.	(2) Name and Location	(3) Position	(4) Characteristic	(5) Height	(6) Range	(7) Structure	(8) Remarks
			FLORIDA - Seventh District				
	ANCLOTE KEYS TO CRYSTAL RIVER (Chart 11409)						
	Aripeka						
27475	BILLY STEELE OBSTRUCTION LIGHT	28-30-18.988N 082-46-47.376W	Oc W 4s	14		NW on dolphin worded BILLY STEELE DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
27480	CUTTER ROCK OBSTRUCTION LIGHT	28-30-54.000N 082-50-00.000W	Fl W 6s	12		NW on pile worded CUTTER SUBMERGED ROCKS DANGER.	Private aid.
27485	Tull Rock Daybeacon	28-31-12.985N 082-42-26.369W				NW on pile worded TULL ROCK DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
	Hernando Beach Channel						
27490	- SOUTH APPROACH LIGHT HB	28-30-24.988N 082-44-05.371W	Fl W 3s	16		NR on pile.	Private aid.
27495	- ENTRANCE LIGHT	28-31-12.985N 082-42-29.369W	Fl W 2s	22		NL on tripod worded BILL WATTS.	Private aid.
27500	Sigrist Rock Obstruction Daybeacon	28-31-03.000N 082-42-37.000W				NW on pile worded DANGER SIGRIST ROCK.	Private aid.
27505	- Daybeacon 1	28-31-07.440N 082-42-24.480W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27510	- Daybeacon 2	28-31-06.840N 082-42-24.840W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27515	- Daybeacon 3	28-31-05.580N 082-42-20.700W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27520	- Daybeacon 4	28-31-05.220N 082-42-20.700W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27525	- Daybeacon 5	28-31-01.800N 082-42-12.900W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27530	- Daybeacon 6	28-31-01.140N 082-42-13.200W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27535	- Daybeacon 7	28-30-58.020N 082-42-07.140W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27540	- Daybeacon 8	28-30-57.540N 082-42-07.620W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27545	- Daybeacon 9	28-30-53.700N 082-42-00.690W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27550	- Daybeacon 10	28-30-53.100N 082-42-01.080W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27555	- Daybeacon 11	28-30-49.620N 082-41-54.990W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27560	- Daybeacon 12	28-30-48.840N 082-41-55.440W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27565	- Daybeacon 13	28-30-45.060N 082-41-48.840W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27570	- Daybeacon 14	28-30-40.520N 082-41-49.320W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27575	- Daybeacon 15	28-30-40.260N 082-41-43.020W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27585	- Daybeacon 17	28-30-35.680N 082-41-37.400W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27590	- Daybeacon 18	28-30-35.300N 082-41-38.040W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27595	- Daybeacon 19	28-30-30.840N 082-41-31.380W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27600	- Daybeacon 20	28-30-27.840N 082-41-28.620W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27605	- Daybeacon 21	28-30-25.140N 082-41-24.300W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27610	- Daybeacon 22	28-30-24.600N 082-41-24.960W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27615	- Daybeacon 23	28-30-19.920N 082-41-19.770W				SG on pile.	Private aid.

(1) No.	(2) Name and Location	(3) Position	(4) Characteristic	(5) Height	(6) Range	(7) Structure	(8) Remarks
			FLORIDA - Seventh District				
	ANCLOTE KEYS TO CRYSTAL RIVER (Chart 11409)						
	Hernando Beach Channel						
27625	- Daybeacon 25	28-30-14.940N 082-41-15.180W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27630	- Daybeacon 26	28-30-14.400N 082-41-15.720W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27630.5	- Daybeacon 27	28-30-10.680N 082-41-11.700W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27635	- LIGHT 28	28-30-10.230N 082-41-12.560W	Q R			TR on pile.	Private aid.
27640	- Daybeacon 29	28-30-08.750N 082-41-04.930W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27645	- Daybeacon 30	28-30-07.980N 082-41-05.160W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27648	- Daybeacon 31	28-30-06.720N 082-40-57.600W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27655	- Daybeacon 33	28-30-04.730N 082-40-50.360W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27660	- Daybeacon 34	28-30-04.100N 082-40-50.680W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27663	- Daybeacon 35	28-30-02.690N 082-40-43.430W				SG on Pile.	Private aid.
27665	- Daybeacon 36	28-30-02.160N 082-40-43.620W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27670	- Daybeacon 37	28-30-00.540N 082-40-34.200W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27675	- LIGHT 38	28-29-59.520N 082-40-34.080W	Q R			TR on pile.	Private aid.
27680	- Daybeacon 38A	28-30-00.660N 082-40-30.840W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27685	- Daybeacon 40	28-30-01.680N 082-40-28.740W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27695	- Daybeacon 42	28-30-03.420N 082-40-23.280W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27700	- Daybeacon 43	28-30-04.620N 082-40-21.120W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27705	- Daybeacon 44	28-30-03.720N 082-40-19.140W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27710	- Daybeacon 45	28-30-03.720N 082-40-14.520W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27715	- Daybeacon 46	28-30-02.760N 082-40-15.360W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27725	- Daybeacon 48	28-29-59.740N 082-40-11.150W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27725.5	- Daybeacon 49	28-29-56.760N 082-40-05.700W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27730	- Daybeacon 50	28-29-55.800N 082-40-06.240W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27732	- Daybeacon 51	28-29-55.380N 082-40-01.620W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27737	- LIGHT 53	28-29-54.750N 082-39-58.320W	Q G			SG on pile.	Private aid.
27740	- LIGHT 54	28-29-53.330N 082-39-58.700W	Q R				Private aid.
27742	- Obstruction Daybeacon A	28-29-49.620N 082-39-58.260W				NW on pile worded DANGER ROCK.	Private aid.
27743	- Daybeacon 55	28-29-51.480N 082-39-57.840W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27745	- Daybeacon 56	28-29-48.570N 082-39-59.210W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27747	- Daybeacon 57	28-29-46.800N 082-39-57.960W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27750	- Daybeacon 58	28-29-43.360N 082-39-57.800W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27751	- Daybeacon 59	28-29-44.040N 082-39-57.360W				SG on pile.	Private aid.

(1) No.	(2) Name and Location	(3) Position	(4) Characteristic	(5) Height	(6) Range	(7) Structure	(8) Remarks
			FLORIDA - Seventh District				
	ANCLOTE KEYS TO CRYSTAL RIVER (Chart 11409)						
	Hernando Beach Channel						
27755	- Daybeacon 60	28-29-36.060N 082-40-00.360W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27760	- Daybeacon 62	28-29-40.140N 082-40-01.620W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27770	- Daybeacon 64	28-29-42.560N 082-40-04.160W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27780	- Daybeacon 66	28-29-41.880N 082-40-06.470W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27785	- Daybeacon 67	28-29-41.160N 082-40-05.820W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27790	- Daybeacon 68	28-29-37.230N 082-40-06.920W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27800	- Daybeacon 70	28-29-35.700N 082-40-06.660W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27805	- Daybeacon 72	28-29-33.490N 082-40-06.660W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27805.5	- Daybeacon 73	28-29-32.470N 082-40-05.890W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27810	- Daybeacon 74	28-29-31.020N 082-40-05.700W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27820	- Daybeacon 76	28-29-27.200N 082-40-01.970W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27823	- Daybeacon 77	28-29-26.400N 082-39-59.700W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27825	- Daybeacon 78	28-29-25.970N 082-39-59.930W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27835	- Daybeacon 80	28-29-27.240N 082-39-56.000W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27930	Johnson Rock Obstruction Daybeacon	28-33-54.000N 082-47-18.000W				NW on pile worded JOHNSON ROCK DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
27935	Middle Rock Obstruction Daybeacon	28-31-43.200N 082-46-34.200W				NW on pile worded MIDDLE ROCK DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
	Bayport Channel						
27940	BAYPORT NORTH RACK LIGHT	28-33-54.976N 082-46-53.375W	Iso W 6s	14		NW on dolphin worded NORTH RACK DANGER BAYPORT.	Private aid.
27945	- APPROACH LIGHT BP	28-32-48.980N 082-42-15.368W	Fl W 5s			NB on tripod.	Private aid.
27950	O'Connell Rock Obstruction Daybeacon	28-32-24.982N 082-42-41.369W				NW on pile worded O`CONNELL ROCK DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
27955	South Rock Obstruction Daybeacon On rock awash.	28-32-30.981N 082-42-29.368W				NW on pile worded SOUTH ROCK DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
27960	Beacon Rock Obstruction Daybeacon On rock awash.	28-32-54.980N 082-42-23.368W				NW on pile worded BEACON ROCK DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.
27965	- Daybeacon 1	28-32-41.000N 082-42-18.000W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27970	- Daybeacon 1A	28-32-38.781N 082-41-57.367W				SG on pile.	Private aid.
27975	- Daybeacon 2	28-32-33.681N 082-42-00.867W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27980	- Daybeacon 2A	28-32-30.981N 082-41-50.367W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27985	- Daybeacon 2B	28-32-30.981N 082-41-50.367W				TR on pile.	Private aid.
27987	Bayport Entrance South Danger Daybeacon	28-32-19.560N 082-41-39.240W				NW on pile worded DANGER ROCK AREA.	Private aid.

HB Channel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HB Channel Green

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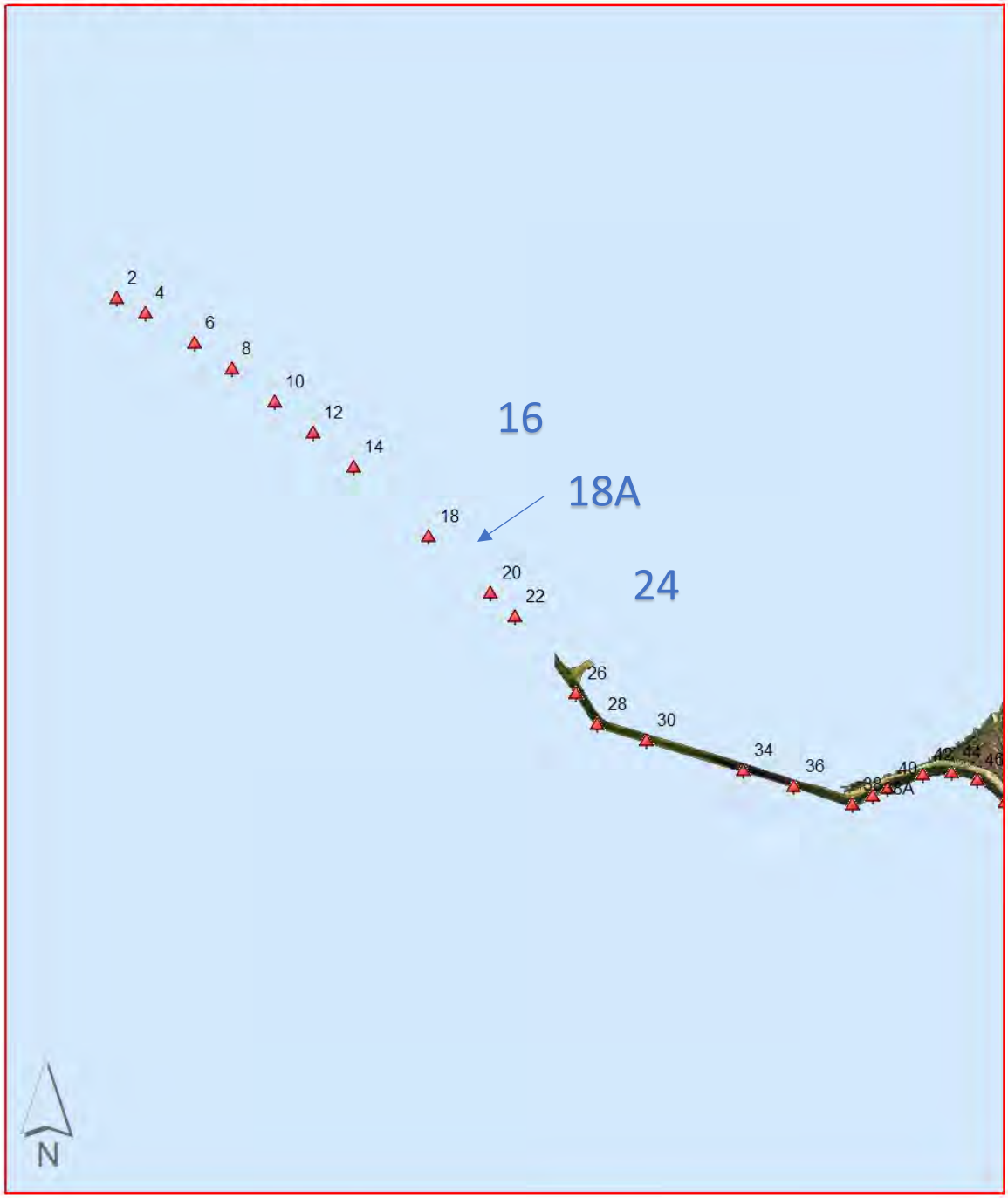
HB Channel Red



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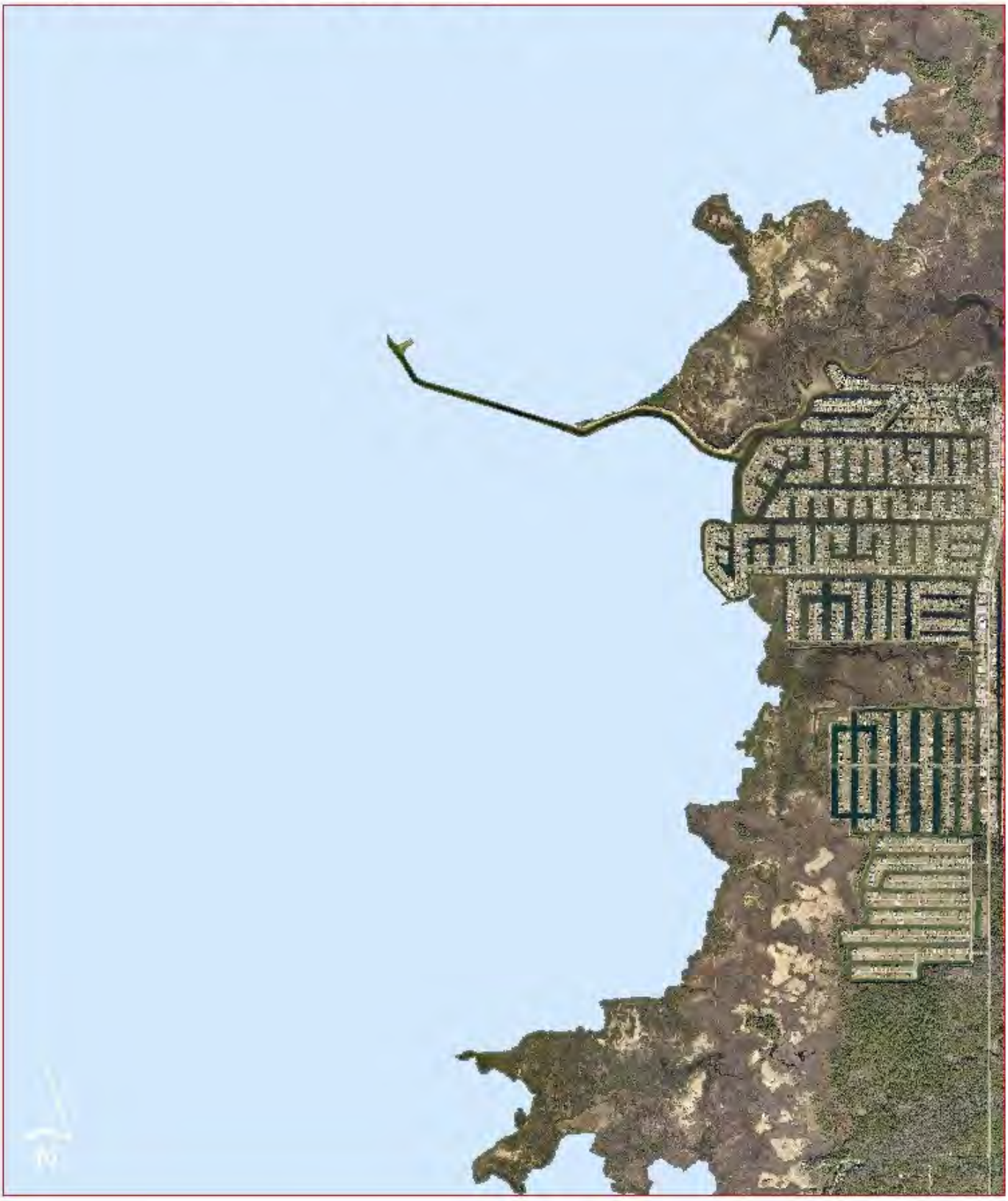
Aquatic Preserve Boundary



0 1,650 3,300 6,600 Feet

Tina R Duenninger

From: Tina R Duenninger
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:15 AM
To: Tina R Duenninger
Subject: FW: Question about regulations for the new Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve

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From: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 8:02 AM
To: Burrmann, Carla <Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov>
Subject: Re: Question about regulations for the new Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve

Thanks Carla for the clarification.
Greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

Keith

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 3, 2021, at 7:16 AM, Burrmann, Carla <Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov> wrote:

Yes; if a new dock or dock modifications are proposed within the Nature Coast AP, to be exempt it could not exceed 500 sq.ft. however it would also need to meet the AP criteria (see below).

> ***18-20.004 Management Policies, Standards and Criteria.***
> *(5) STANDARDS AND CRITERIA FOR DOCKING FACILITIES.*
> *(a) All docking facilities, whether for private residential single-family docks, private residential multi-slip docks, or commercial, industrial, or other revenue generating/income related docks or public docks or piers, shall be subject to all of the following standards and criteria.*
> *1. No dock shall extend waterward of the mean or ordinary high water line more than 500 feet or 20 percent of the width of the waterbody at that particular location, whichever is less.*
> *2. Certain docks fall within areas of significant biological, scientific, historic or aesthetic value and require special management considerations. The Board shall require design modifications based on site specific conditions to minimize adverse impacts to these resources, such as relocating docks to avoid vegetation or altering configurations to minimize shading.*
> *3. Docking facilities shall be designed to ensure that vessel use will not cause harm to site specific resources. The design shall consider the number, lengths, drafts and types of vessels allowed to use the facility.*
> *4. In a Resource Protection Area 1 or 2, any wood planking used to construct the walkway surface of a facility shall be no more than eight inches wide and spaced no less than one-half inch apart after shrinkage. Walkway surfaces constructed of material other than wood shall be designed to provide light penetration which meets or exceeds the light penetration provided by wood construction.*
> *5. In a Resource Protection Area 1 or 2, the main access dock shall be elevated a minimum of five (5) feet above mean or ordinary high water.*

6. Existing docking facilities constructed in conformance with previously applicable rules of the Board and in conformance with applicable rules of the Department are authorized to be maintained for continued use subject to the current requirements of chapter 18-21, F.A.C. Should more than 50 percent of a nonconforming structure fall into a state of disrepair or be destroyed as a result of any natural or manmade force, the entire structure shall be brought into full compliance with the current rules of the Board. This shall not be construed to prevent routine repair.

(b) Private residential single-family docks shall conform to all of the following specific design standards and criteria.

1. Any main access dock shall be limited to a maximum width of four (4) feet.

2. The dock decking design and construction will ensure maximum light penetration, with full consideration of safety and practicality.

3. The dock will extend out from the shoreline no further than to a maximum depth of minus four (-4) feet (mean low water).

4. When the water depth is minus four (-4) feet (mean low water) at an existing bulkhead the maximum dock length from the bulkhead shall be 25 feet, subject to modifications accommodating shoreline vegetation overhang.

5. Wave break devices, when requested by the applicant, shall be designed to allow for maximum water circulation and shall be built in such a manner as to be part of the dock structure.

6. Terminal platform size shall be no more than 160 square feet.

7. If a terminal platform terminates in a Resource Protection Area 1 or 2, the platform shall be elevated to a minimum height of five (5) feet above mean or ordinary high water. Up to 25 percent of the surface area of the terminal platform shall be authorized at a lower elevation to facilitate access between the terminal platform and the waters of the preserve or a vessel.

8. Docking facilities in a Resource Protection Area 1 or 2 shall only be authorized in locations having adequate existing water depths in the boat mooring, turning basin, access channels, and other such areas which will accommodate the proposed boat use in order to ensure that a minimum of one foot clearance is provided between the deepest draft of a vessel and the top of any submerged resources at mean or ordinary low water; and,

9. Dredging to obtain navigable water depths in conjunction with private residential, single-family dock applications is strongly discouraged.

If you have any questions, let me know.

-Carla.

<image002.jpg>

Carla S. Burrmann, M.S., C.W.E.
Environmental Manager
ERP and State 404
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Southwest Division
13051 N. Telecom Parkway, Suite #101
Temple Terrace, FL 33637
Email: Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov
Direct: 813-470-5763
Office: 813-470-5700

From: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2021 11:19 AM
To: Burrmann, Carla <Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov>
Subject: Question about regulations for the new Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve

Hi Carla,

Hope all is well.

We had a question come up at our Port Authority meeting last night regarding the effective date of regulations associated with the new Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve.
Do you know if dock constructed within the boundaries of the new aquatic preserve would be limited to 500 sq ft since its considered an OFW.
There are obviously land owners that have water front on the preserve and they are inquiring on whether new restrictions will apply for future docks.

I know the management plan is currently under development for the new preserve, but was wondering when the OFW regulations become effective.

Thanks for your help in advance.

Keith Kolasa
Aquatic Services and Waterways Manager
Hernando County Dept. of Public Works
1525 East Jefferson Street
Brooksville, Florida 34601

Office: 352-754-5884
Cell: 352-667-1348

KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us

<image004.png>

Artificial Reef Program Update

28 Pallet Reef Balls deployed at the Bendickson Reef to create a trail between two large areas of culverts from previous deployments. August 22 – 26, 2021. Contractor Reef Innovations

ABC Action News Channel 28

https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/full-circle/10-years-later-scientists-learn-long-term-impact-of-deepwater-horizon-spill

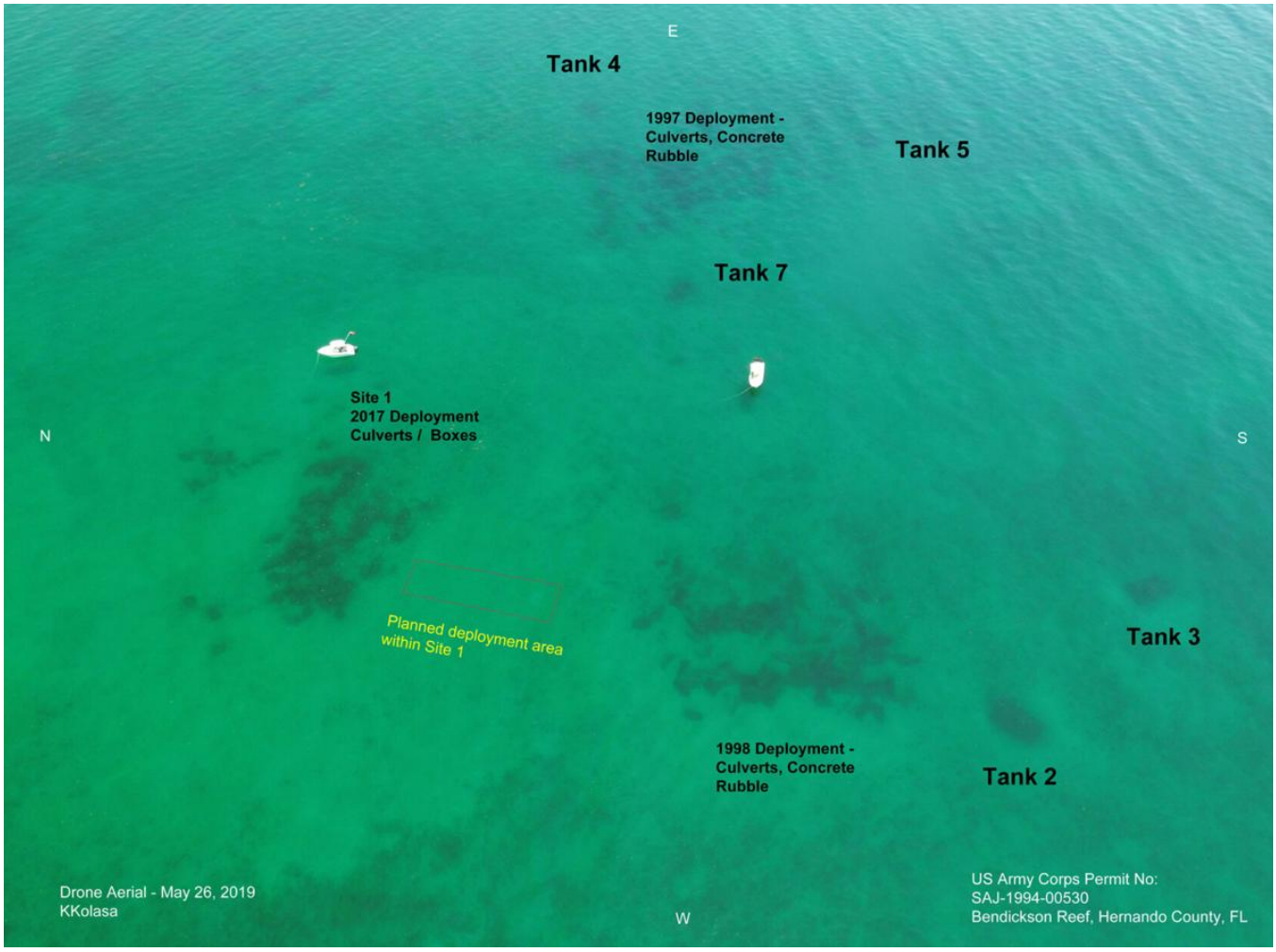
The Suncoast News

https://www.suncoastnews.com/news/study-phase-of-ambitious-artificial-reef-program-approved-by-county/article_1a3feac4-0a77-11ec-a31d-477751d1f79b.html

https://www.suncoastnews.com/news/study-phase-of-ambitious-artificial-reef-program-approved-by-county/article_1a3feac4-0a77-11ec-a31d-477751d1f79b.html

Study phase of ambitious artificial reef program approved by county

By NICK STUBBS, Hernando Today Correspondent
Aug 31, 2021



This photo taken from a drone shows several sections of the Bendickson Artificial Reef 20 miles west of Hernando Beach. V was unusually good this day, but Hernando County's Aquatics Services Department currently is engaged in building a concre reef ball trail between sections of the reef that divers can follow when visibility is not so good.

Photo courtesy of KEITH KOLASA

“Very pleased,” was the response from Keith Kolasa, Hernando County Aquatic Services and Waterways manager, after county commissioners on Aug. 24 approved funding for an environmental survey needed to build multiple new artificial reefs off the county’s coast.

The survey will assess 30 prospective reef sites between 12 and 35 feet of water for new reefs using federal RESTORE Act funds, a pool of money from fines collected from BP for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010.

Kolasa said $2.5 million from the fund was approved by state and federal agencies several years ago for the reef projects, but county commissioners had to approve the study and design phase, an expenditure of $590,000. They voted unanimously and without discussion to fund the study.

“After five years of work, I’m glad we can move forward,” said Kolasa, adding the study, which also includes reef design work and permitting, will begin next month.

The plan is to create several new reefs, including a veteran’s memorial reef with submerged statues honoring U.S. veterans similar to what Pinellas County has done, Kolasa said. Some of the planned reefs will be tailored for divers, while others would be geared toward anglers.

Kolasa said the permitting process can be lengthy, and he doesn’t expect work on reef building to begin any sooner than 2023 or 2024. Once the reefs are completed, Hernando County will finally have the caliber of fishing and diving to help it compete with other Florida fishing and diving destinations, said Kolasa.

The Gulf bottom off Hernando is fairly featureless, with the exception of some natural limestone areas. While the rocks attract a number of fish species and offer quality fishing, they aren't much to look at for divers, said Kolasa.

"With the planned reefs we'll be able to attract divers for return dives, not just once," he said, adding long-range, he would like to see a deep-water diving reef in 65 feet of water with its central structure being a 100- to 150-foot steel ship divers could explore. Such a reef would be a major draw for divers and anglers, and would boost county tourism.

Meanwhile, improving existing county reefs on a smaller scale continues. Using donated materials and county funds, Kolasa said contractor Reef Innovations deployed 12 more concrete reef balls at the Bendickson Reef 20 miles west of Hernando Beach last week as part of an ongoing project to create a trail between two portions of the reef divers can follow.

Typically, visibility at the reef site might be no more than 30 feet, said Kolasa, and the trail will help divers find their way between sections of the reef, which is spread out over about 10 acres of bottom. It's made up of concrete culverts, other rubble, a large sailboat known as the "Ghost Ship," and a number of scrapped M60 battle tanks.

Some 20 years after construction of the reef commenced, it's become a fish magnet, attracting gag and red grouper, mangrove and gray snapper, cobia, barracuda, kingfish, Spanish mackerel and hogfish. Bendickson is on the hotspot list of many local and visiting anglers and spear-fishers.

FE649

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

The Economic Benefits Associated with Florida's Artificial Reefs[1]

Chuck Adams, Bill Lindberg, and John Stevely[2]

Introduction

Florida reportedly has the most permitted artificial reefs in the nation. Approximately 2,300 artificial reef deployments are located off 33 coastal counties in Florida (Table 1). Although permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, artificial reefs are deployed under a set of guidelines established by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. These guidelines are specified within the State of Florida Artificial Reef Strategic Plan (FWC, 2003). Artificial reefs are utilized by recreational anglers, divers, and other user groups. The existence and use of artificial reefs sets in motion a variety of economic activities that result in significant economic benefit to the coastal communities in close proximity to the reefs. This paper will provide an overview of these economic benefits and briefly discuss some recent studies that have attempted to measure them.

Benefits of Artificial Reefs

Artificial reefs may be constructed for a variety of purposes, each with a set of potential benefits associated with that intended purpose or goal. One purpose of artificial reefs might be to provide a source of biological replenishment to local populations of marine vertebrates and invertebrates. In that case, the benefit would be that a net biomass increase would result from deploying the reef. Artificial reefs may also be used as a means of mitigating local habitat loss. Another purpose might be to simply provide a location where anglers and divers can utilize aggregated populations of marine species, either in a take (fishing) or no-take (viewing) fashion. The benefits in that case would be the increased economic activity (i.e., expenditures, incomes, jobs) associated with these activities. Each of these purposes may also generate non-market benefits (such as existence values), particularly to non-users of reefs. Such benefits reflect how individuals who may not directly utilize artificial reefs nonetheless value reef existence as being beneficial to the biological habitat of the region.

1. This is EDIS document FE649, a publication of the Food and Resource Economics Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL. Published August 2006. Please visit the EDIS website at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu.

2. Chuck Adams, Professor, Food and Resource Economics Department; Bill Lindberg, Associate Professor, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Department; and John Stevely, Florida Sea Grant Marine Extension Agent, Florida Sea Grant Program, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Aside from the purely biological benefits that might accrue from artificial reefs, many would argue that reefs are deployed to provide benefits to *human* users, whether commercial fishermen, recreational anglers, sport divers, or others. Milon, Holland, and Whitmarsh (2000) suggest that "a reef that is not useful to people is not a successful reef." If this is an acceptable tenet, then assessments of the economic benefits accruing from artificial reefs to surrounding communities are necessary. Such information provides insight into the degree to which the public benefit is being served by reef deployment and the economic consequences associated with reef use. The actual or potential economic impact of reef development to the county or state can be measured, as well as determine to what extent artificial reef deployment is an efficient public investment. In turn, this information may help justify future public expenditures on artificial reefs and assist in developing adaptive strategies associated with reef deployment as a resource management tool. Of course, there are costs associated with artificial reef program implementation. These costs must be measured as well.

How Are the Economic Costs and Benefits Measured?

The economic costs, activities, and benefits derived from artificial reef programs can be measured several ways. These are briefly reviewed below.

Economic Impact Analysis

This method can provide insight into how market-related activities associated with resident and non-resident expenditures change after reef deployment. An economic impact analysis will describe changes in economic activity within a given geographic region, such as expenditures, incomes, jobs, and business taxes.

Cost Effectiveness Analysis

This method can determine to what extent the estimated cost of deployment was realized in the actual reef deployment process. With limited local and state funds for reef development, ensuring that cost efficiency is maintained is vital to a sustainable county reef program. A cost effectiveness analysis will help ensure that reef programs are completed with a minimum of cost.

Benefit/Cost Analysis

This method takes into consideration the costs associated with the artificial reef site selection, permitting, deployment, monitoring, and other activities, and compares those costs to the suite of benefits that would be generated by the reef program. The benefits would include the total economic values associated with the overall public demand for the reef program. In this case, those benefit/cost analysis estimates would include values reflected in the market, as well as those values associated with user and non-user demand for reefs over and above that reflected by reef-related expenditures in local markets. These benefits are often referred to as consumer surplus. Foregone benefits of utilizing reef-related funds in the next best use within the region may be included as an opportunity cost. A benefit-to-cost ratio of greater than 1.0 suggests that the benefits associated with the program exceed the costs. This would be more desirable than a ratio less than 1.0, which would suggest that the costs derived from the reef program exceed the benefits. In the former case, the program would yield positive overall (net) economic benefits.

The methods listed above are the primary means of determining the net economic benefits associated with artificial reefs. Several such studies have been completed regarding Florida's artificial reefs. These studies have addressed artificial reef-related changes in boater and angler use patterns and expenditures. They have examined the community/social impacts of artificial reef placement and the cost efficiency of reef projects, including the opportunity costs of utilizing scarce public funds for reef placement. Some studies have attempted to address the overall economic values associated with artificial reefs, such as existence values and consumer surplus. And some studies have attempted to utilize the information to determine if the costs associated with artificial reef programs are exceeded by the benefits. Not all studies address each of these issues. Some of the studies are dated and the results reflect the characteristics of the local economy and community structure at the time of the study. The key findings from these studies are briefly summarized below.

Florida Artificial Reef Study Summaries

Pinellas County

In one of the first such studies in Florida, Hanni and Mathews (1977) examined the costs associated with building an artificial reef system near Clearwater Beach. The intent of the study was to measure the potential economic benefits to anglers and divers who might utilize the reef. The study focused on the benefit-to-cost ratio of the reef program. The benefit-to-cost ratio for anglers was found to be greater than 1.0, while the benefit to cost ratio for divers was found to be less than 1.0.

In an attempt to examine the overall economic consequences of the artificial reef program in Pinellas County (which currently has the greatest number of permitted artificial reefs in Florida), Schug (1978) surveyed the users of the Pinellas County artificial reef system. The study found that the artificial reefs were not being utilized at the maximum use capacity. In fact, only 11 to 36% of the reef capacity was being utilized. In addition, 80% of the users were local. Thus, the majority of users were contributing little economic impact to the region but enhancing the total economic activity due to their reef-related activities. Total annual expenditures by reef users were estimated to be $181,000 to $253,000. The benefit-to-cost ratio of the artificial reef program in Pinellas County was estimated to be greater than 1.0.

Dade County

Dade County currently has the third largest complement of artificial reef deployments in Florida (Table 1). Milon (1988) attempted to measure the economic benefits associated with the artificial reef program by users and non-users. The technique utilized was a mail-out survey to local boaters and divers. Respondents were asked to provide their willingness to pay for an artificial reef program. Of the respondents, 29% were anglers who frequented artificial reefs and 13% were divers who frequented artificial reefs.

Both users and non-users expressed positive benefits associated with the artificial reefs of Dade County. The annual benefits associated with artificial reefs in Dade County were estimated to be as high as $707,000. Interestingly, the largest component of that amount was associated with non-users. Thus, artificial reefs have high values associated with those individuals who simply value the existence of such reefs but may never directly utilize them. The present value associated with artificial reefs in Dade County ranged from $18 million to $128 million, based on estimation method.

Northwest Florida

The economic benefits associated with artificial reefs in northwest Florida were measured by Bell, Bonn, and Leeworthy (1998). The purpose of the study was to assess the economic impact, user valuation, and benefit-to-cost ratio associated with artificial reefs located in the waters adjacent to Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, and Bay Counties, Florida. At the time, this was the most in-depth study conducted in Florida on the economic values associated with artificial reefs.

A total of $414 million in expenditures were associated with artificial reef use. And those expenditures supported 8,136 jobs and $84 million in wages and salaries. Of the total expenditures, $359 million and $56 million were attributed to visitors and residents, respectively. And of the counties studied, the total expenditures were distributed as follows: Bay (36%), Okaloosa (30%), Escambia (22%), Santa Rosa (7%), and Walton (5%). The willingness to pay for an artificial reef program was also measured for the region. The annual recreational use value was estimated to be $19.7 million, with a discounted asset value of $656 million for the reef program. The benefit-to-cost ratio of the artificial reefs within the northwest Florida region was estimated to be 131, a value indicating an extremely high, positive return to the cost of developing and implementing the artificial reef programs within the five-county, northwest Florida region.

Southeast Florida

The economic values associated with artificial and natural reef systems in southeast Florida were recently measured. Johns, Leeworthy, Bell, and Bonn (2001) examined the economic impact and use values associated with both types of reef systems. The

methodology utilized was similar to that used in the study of the artificial reefs of northwest Florida. In addition, values associated with both the existing and potential new reef sites were assessed. The counties included in the study were Palm Beach, Broward, Dade, and Monroe.

The study found that non-residents and visitors annually spent $1.7 billion on fishing and diving activities associated with artificial reefs. Of the total expenditures, Broward, Dade, Palm Beach, and Monroe Counties contributed 53%, 25%, 11% and 11% of the total, respectively. These expenditures generated approximately 27,000 jobs in the region and created $782 million in wages and salaries. Interestingly, the expenditures associated with natural reef systems, in contrast to artificial reefs, generated $2.7 billion in annual expenditures.

The annual recreational use value associated with existing artificial reefs in the region was estimated to be $84.6 million. This annual value discounted into the future produced a discounted value of $2.8 billion. The annual use value associated with any new artificial reefs was estimated to be $27 million, with a discounted value of $888 million. The annual willingness to pay for new artificial reefs was $4 million. Interestingly, the annual recreational value associated with natural reefs was $228 million, considerably more than that for artificial reefs.

Martin County

A study similar in methodology to the Palm Beach–Monroe Counties region was conducted for Martin County, Florida. The study examined the values associated with artificial and natural reef systems. Johns (2004) examined annual expenditures, jobs, and incomes, as well as annual use values. The annual expenditures associated with artificial reef use were $7.2 million. The contribution associated with resident and non-resident expenditures were approximately equal. The incomes associated with artificial reefs were estimated to be $3.2 million, with approximately 100 jobs created within Martin County. The values associated with natural reefs were slightly smaller in magnitude.

The annual use values associated with existing artificial reefs (by residents and non-residents) was estimated to be $3.6 million. This value discounted into the future was estimated to be $120 million. The annual value associated with any new artificial reefs was estimated to be $1.1 million, which when discounted into the future yielded a value of $37.5 million.

USS Spiegel Grove

The USS Spiegel Grove was a retired navy ship that was sunk off Key Largo, Florida in 2002. The primary purpose of the Spiegel Grove deployment as an artificial reef was to determine if introducing an artificial reef in close proximity to a natural reef environment would reduce usage of surrounding natural reefs. Thus, the primary objective was from a resource management perspective. However, economic implications were in question as well. A key question was whether the local economy would benefit from deploying artificial reefs whose primary purpose would be redirecting diver use away from natural reefs. A study was conducted on use patterns and local economic activity before and after the Spiegel Grove deployment (Leeworthy, Maher, and Stone, 2005). The study provided insight into how the Spiegel Grove performed as a substitute by divers and snorkelers for local natural reefs, as well as what benefits to the local economy occurred.

Regarding the resource management objective, the Spiegel Grove artificial reef was deemed a success. Following the deployment, the diver and snorkeler use of natural reefs within the study area declined by 13.7%. In addition, the number of dive charters specifically for natural reefs within the region declined by 16.7%. However, the total number of dive charters and other related dive/snorkel activity increased substantially. The net change in expenditures on diving and snorkeling activities increased $2.6 million during the study period, with approximately 80% of that increase being attributed to non-residents. Incomes within the local economy increased by $960,000, and an additional 68 jobs were created. Thus, the deployment of the Spiegel Grove was considered a win-win situation for both the natural reef environment and the local economy.

Summary

Florida reportedly has the largest complement of permitted artificial reefs in the nation. These reefs have been shown to be beneficial to the local economies. The studies reviewed above show that artificial reefs do increase economic activity in surrounding communities. Artificial reefs are valued by users and non-users alike. Artificial reefs provide benefits that exceed costs. Artificial reefs may be an effective tool for redirecting use away from natural reefs if such an management objective is required. Overall, artificial reefs are a source of economic value that may justify additional deployments, even after taking into account the opportunity costs associated with scarce public funds.

References

Bell, F.W., M.A. Bonn, and V.R. Leeworthy. 1998. Economic Impact and Importance of Artificial Reefs in Northwest Florida. Office of Fisheries Management and Assistance Service, Florida Department of Environmental Administration, Tallahassee, FL.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. 2006. Artificial Reef Deployment Data. Division of Marine Fisheries Management, Tallahassee, FL. Data found on the following website: http://myfwc.com/marine/ar/index.asp.

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Leeworthy, V.R., T. Maher, and E.A. Stone. 2005. Can Artificial Reefs Reduce or Alter User Pressure on Adjacent Natural Reefs? Coastal and Ocean Resource Economics Program, Special Projects Office, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, MD.

Milon, J.W. 1988. The Economic Benefits of Artificial Reefs: An Analysis of the Dade County, Florida Reef System. SGR-90. Florida Sea Grant College Program, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Milon, J.W., S. Holland, and D. Whitmarsh. 2000. Social and Economic Evaluation Methods. *Evaluating Artificial Reefs and Related Aquatic Habitats*, edited by W. Seaman. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.

Schug, D. M. 1978. Political and Economic Aspects of Artificial Reefs in Pinellas County, Florida. Thesis submitted to the Department of Marine Science, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

Table 1. Number of artificial reef deployments, by Florida county.

County	# of Reefs	County	# of Reefs
Bay	198	Manatee	79
Brevard	62	Martin	67
Broward	108	Monroe	61
Charlotte	34	Nassau	15
Citrus	29	Okaloosa	105
Collier	73	Palm Beach	63
Dade	173	Pasco	34
Duval	96	Pinellas	351
Escambia	97	Santa Rosa	13
Flagler	9	Sarasota	126
Franklin	46	St. Johns	36
Gulf	21	St. Lucie	25
Hernando	22	Taylor	12
Hillsborough	69	Volusia	82
Indian River	8	Wakulla	35
Lee	83	Walton	4
Levy	31	**TOTAL**	**2267**

Source: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 2006. http://myfwc.com/marine/ar/index.asp.

Tina R Duenninger

From: Keith Kolasa
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 8:42 AM
To: Tina R Duenninger; Jeannie Austin
Cc: Scott Herring
Subject: RE: The VALUE of Artificial Reefs They return over $60 for each dollar invested.

Categories: Committees

From: Chuck Morton <swampdad@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 12:08 PM
To: John Allocco <JAllocco@co.hernando.fl.us>; Elizabeth Narverud <ENarverud@co.hernando.fl.us>; Steve Champion <SChampion@co.hernando.fl.us>; Jeff Holcomb <JHolcomb@hernandocounty.us>; Wayne Dukes <WDukes@hernandocounty.us>
Cc: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>; Scott Herring <SHerring@co.hernando.fl.us>; Brittany Hall-Scharf <bhallscharf@ufl.edu>
Subject: The VALUE of Artificial Reefs They return over $60 for each dollar invested.

Commissioners I have COVID and it is extremely difficult to compost this

Please do not abandon our Artificial Reef program at this point in the game. I have 17 years of time, my money, HELP'S Money. The Groundwork is enormous, and the Deep-water Oil Spill Money has been allocated.

Yes, the WAC needs to look at other projects such as a shoreline habitat project I just paid for 3 weeks ago at Linda Pederson Park

I know the POA at
Pine Island wants their PRIVATE channel dredged, but that will not return a profit to the County

I wish I could come address you next week, but if I was physically
able, I would.

Chuck Morton WATERWAYS ADVISORY CPMMITTEEE CHAIR

From: Allen,Micheal S
To: Keith Kolasa
Subject: Re: Economic Value of Artificial Reefs
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:49:40 AM
Attachments: image002.png
artificial reef EDIS.pdf

Keith,

There are a few examples out there that are very relevant to this. The attached paper does a nice summary for Florida examples. One point I would highlight that I think is very relevant to Hernando County. The quote from the Adams et al. article is from an artificial reef deployment in Key Largo.

"Following the (artificial reef) deployment, the diver and snorkeler use of natural reefs within the study area declined by 13.7%. In addition, the number of dive charters specifically for natural reefs within the region declined by 16.7%. However, the total number of dive charters and other related dive/snorkel activity increased substantially. The net change in expenditures on diving and snorkeling activities increased $2.6 million during the study period, with approximately 80% of that increase being attributed to non-residents. Incomes within the local economy increased by $960,000, and an additional 68 jobs were created."

The idea that artificial reefs could attract tourism and also reduce pressure on natural reefs, with benefits for the local economy. This seems to be very relevant to the Hernando County region and a nice example. I hope this helps!

Mike

Micheal S. Allen
Director- UF/IFAS Nature Coast Biological Station
Professor/School of Forest, Fisheries and Geomatics Sciences
University of Florida/IFAS
(352) 325-6077 Office
(352) 258-3454 Cell

http://ncbs.ifas.ufl.edu

From: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>
Date: Friday, August 20, 2021 at 1:36 PM
To: Allen,Micheal S <msal@ufl.edu>
Subject: Economic Value of Artificial Reefs

[External Email]
Hi Mike,

The Consultant Contract for the Artificial Reef Program is scheduled to go to our BOCC next Tuesday.

One of the questions that often common up is the economic value of artificial reefs and the return to the local economy.

Do you happen to know how many studies have been conducted to evaluate the economic impact of artificial reefs?

What is the average return for each dollar invested?

Do creel surveys show a trend of return visits to artificial reefs?

Best Regards,

Keith Kolasa
Aquatic Services and Waterways Manager
Hernando County Dept. of Public Works
1525 East Jefferson Street
Brooksville, Florida 34601

Office: 352-754-5884
Cell: 352-667-1348

RESTORE Funded Artificial Reef Program

Consultant Contract with Water and Air Research, Inc. was approved by the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on August 24, 2021 in the amount of $593,000.

This project will complete the following:

1. Site Screenings and Rankings
2. Site Evaluations and Preliminary Designs
3. Permitting Pre-Application Meetings
4. Public Workshop
5. Final Site Ranking
6. 60% and 90% Designs
7. Permitting Schedule and Permitting
8. Final Design
9. Construction Bid Specifications
10. Baseline Monitoring
11. Post Deployment Monitoring Plan

* Project duration is 4 years with monitoring included.

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Management Plan Development Meetings

Meeting	Date
Public Meeting (Online 6-8 pm)	9/28/21
AC Meeting 1 (Online 1-5 pm)	9/30/21
AC Meeting 2	11/30/21
AC Meeting 3	1/19/22
AC Meeting 4	3/31/22
Public Meeting	5/19/22
Public Meeting	5/24/22
AC Meeting 5	5/26/22

Advisory Committee Members from Hernando County

- **Commissioner Wayne Dukes**
- **Alternate – Keith Kolasa, Waterways Manager**

Other Advisory Committee Members from Hernando County – Non-Profits

- **Chuck Morton, representing HELP and REACH**

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Public Meeting

September 28, 2021
6 pm – 8 pm

FLORIDA NATURAL RESOURCES LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

SCHOOL OF FOREST, FISHERIES, AND GEOMATICS SCIENCES

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WELCOME!

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Zoom Meeting ID: 990-7563-8595
Speaker View
Joy Hazell
Jocelyn Peskin
Jonathan Dain
Wendy-Lin Bart...
Penny Justin
Rob
Lisa
Kent
Kremer_L
Kim Wren
Ronni Moore
Megan Mills
Jessica McIntosh
Teresa
Leo Garcia
Pamala
Manny Perez
Puja Jasrotia
Katie Bernier
Heather
Kevin
Gabby
Hastings
Denise
Emily
Brad Richardson
Hastings Read
Unmute
Stop Video
Invite
Manage Participants
28
Polls
Share Screen
Chat
Record
Breakout Rooms
Reactions
End Meeting

WHO IS IN THE ROOM?

PROCESS TEAM

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- University of Florida, IFAS/Extension
- PEW

MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- State Government
- County Government
- Fishermen
- Landowners
- Non-governmental Organizations
- UF/IFAS Extension
- Citizens

UF|IFAS
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

MEETING OBJECTIVE

- Introduce participants to the Aquatic Preserve program
- Present an overview of the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve and the Management Plan development process
- Brainstorm a list of key opportunities and topics that may be included in the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Management Plan

HOUSEKEEPING

Meeting

We want to hear from everyone

- Please be respectful of everyone's time
- The process team will stay as long as needed

Zoom

- Please stay muted to avoid background noise
- Camera on if possible
- Three ways to comment
  - Small groups
  - Chat box
  - Survey

AGENDA

6:00 pm **Welcome and Introductions**
Joy Hazell, University of Florida/IFAS/Extension

6:10 pm **Opening Remarks**
Leslie Reed, Chief of Staff, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

6:15 pm **Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve (NCAP) & the Management Plan Development Process**
Mike Shirley and Earl Pearson, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

6:50 pm **Public Input on NCAP Management Plan – Opportunities and Topics**
All Participants

7:45 pm **Next Steps**
Joy Hazell

8:00 pm **Adjourn**

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SMALL GROUP WORK

What do you hope to see in the NCAP management plan?

NEXT STEPS

- Meeting Report – 2 Weeks
- To provide more input
  - Survey Link
  - Email Joy, jhazell@ufl.edu
- Future meeting schedule
- Future communications

https://floridadep.gov/rcp/aquatic-preserve/locations/nature-coast-aquatic-preserve

Task	Date
Public Meeting	9/28/21
AC Meeting 1	9/30/21
AC Meeting 2	11/30/21
AC Meeting 3	1/19/22
AC Meeting 4	3/31/22
Public Meeting	5/19/22
Public Meeting	5/24/22
AC Meeting 5	5/26/22

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Management Advisory Committee (MAC) Meeting
September 30, 2021
1 pm – 5 pm
Zoom Registration:

https://ufl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcrduqqrD4oH9Zfzqo8QpdxodAgPc72RSK0

Objectives:

- Build community and trust among group members.
- Create shared understanding of AP designation and the SH engagement process and the role of the group.
- Brainstorm opportunities to include in management plan.
- Begin prioritization of opportunities for the management plan.

Agenda

1:00 pm **Welcome, Introductions and Setting the Stage**

2:00 pm **Presentations**

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve (NCAP) & the Management Plan Development Process

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Draft Management Plan

Ongoing Research and Monitoring of the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve

3:00 pm **Break**

3:15 pm **Chapter 4 Topic/Opportunity Generation, Grouping and Prioritization**

4:30 pm **Public Comment**

4:45 pm **Closure and Next Steps – Future Meeting Dates**

5:00 pm **Adjourn**

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve
Designated in 2020

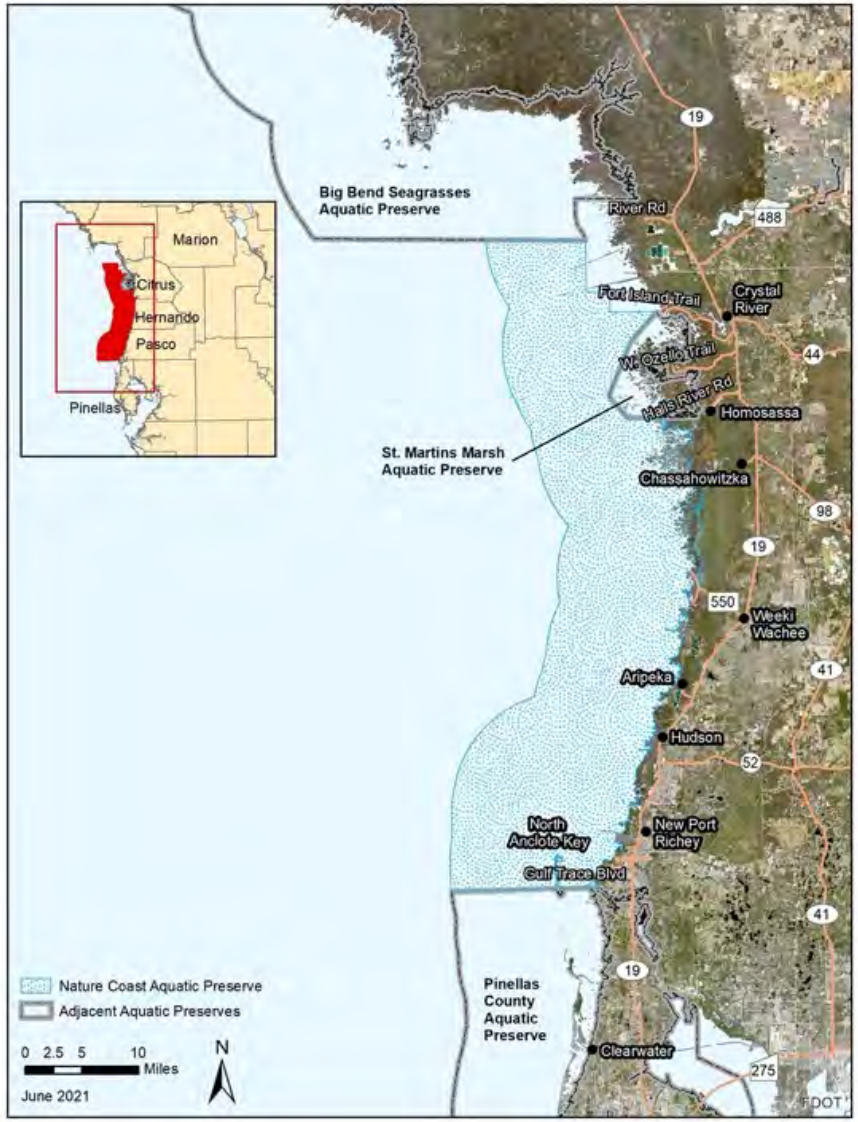
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection

Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection

- 42 Aquatic Preserves.
- 1 State Buffer Preserve.
- 3 NERRs.
- Co-Manage Florida Keys NMS.
- Coral Reef Conservation Program.
- Florida Coastal Management.
- Offshore/Outer Continental Shelf.
- Florida Resilient Coastlines.
- Clean Boating and Clean Vessel Act .
- Beach and Inlet Management.
- Coral Protection and Restoration.

Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve Map

- Designated Date: July 1, 2020.
- Size: 455,000 acres.
- Aquatic Preserve and Outstanding Florida Waters.

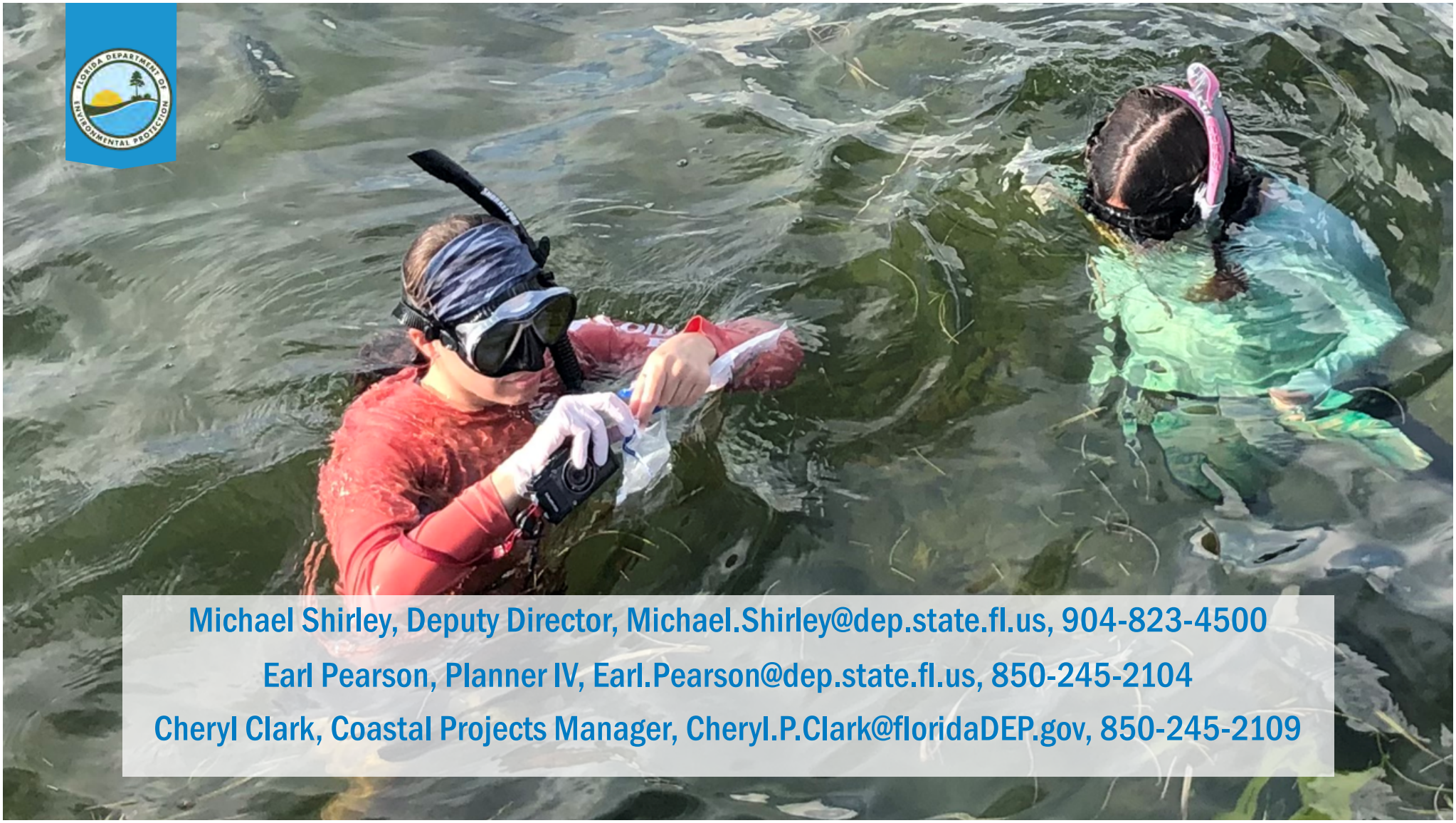


Aquatic Preserve Management Overview

- 10-Year Management Plan.
- Adaptive Management .
- Science-Based:
  - Monitor, maintain and improve water quality.
  - Monitor, protect and restore submerged communities.
  - Monitor, protect, restore and increase the resiliency of adjacent shorelines.
  - Assist with listed species and keystone species monitoring.
  - Protect cultural resources within the aquatic preserve.
  - Reduce the amount of marine debris in the aquatic preserve.
  - Monitor and manage invasive species in the aquatic preserve.
  - Enhance low impact recreational use and access.

Aquatic Preserve Management Plan Development

- Public Scoping Meeting – September 28, 2021.
- Management Plan Development:
  - Advisory Committee Meeting 1 – September 30, 2021.
  - Advisory Committee Meeting 2 – November 30, 2021.
  - Advisory Committee Meeting 3 – January 19, 2022.
  - Advisory Committee Meeting 4 – March 31, 2022.
- Draft Plan Published.
- Formal Public Meetings – May 19 & May 24, 2022.
- Final Advisory Committee Meeting – May 26, 2022.
- Presented to the Acquisition and Restoration Council.
- Presented to the Board of Trustees.



Michael Shirley, Deputy Director, Michael.Shirley@dep.state.fl.us, 904-823-4500

Earl Pearson, Planner IV, Earl.Pearson@dep.state.fl.us, 850-245-2104

Cheryl Clark, Coastal Projects Manager, Cheryl.P.Clark@floridaDEP.gov, 850-245-2109

Statewide Ecosystem Assessment of Coastal and Aquatic Resources (SEACAR)

Cheryl P. Clark, Coastal Projects Manager

Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Tallahassee, Florida

850-901-4579, Cheryl.P.Clark@FloridaDEP.gov

floridadep.gov/SEACAR

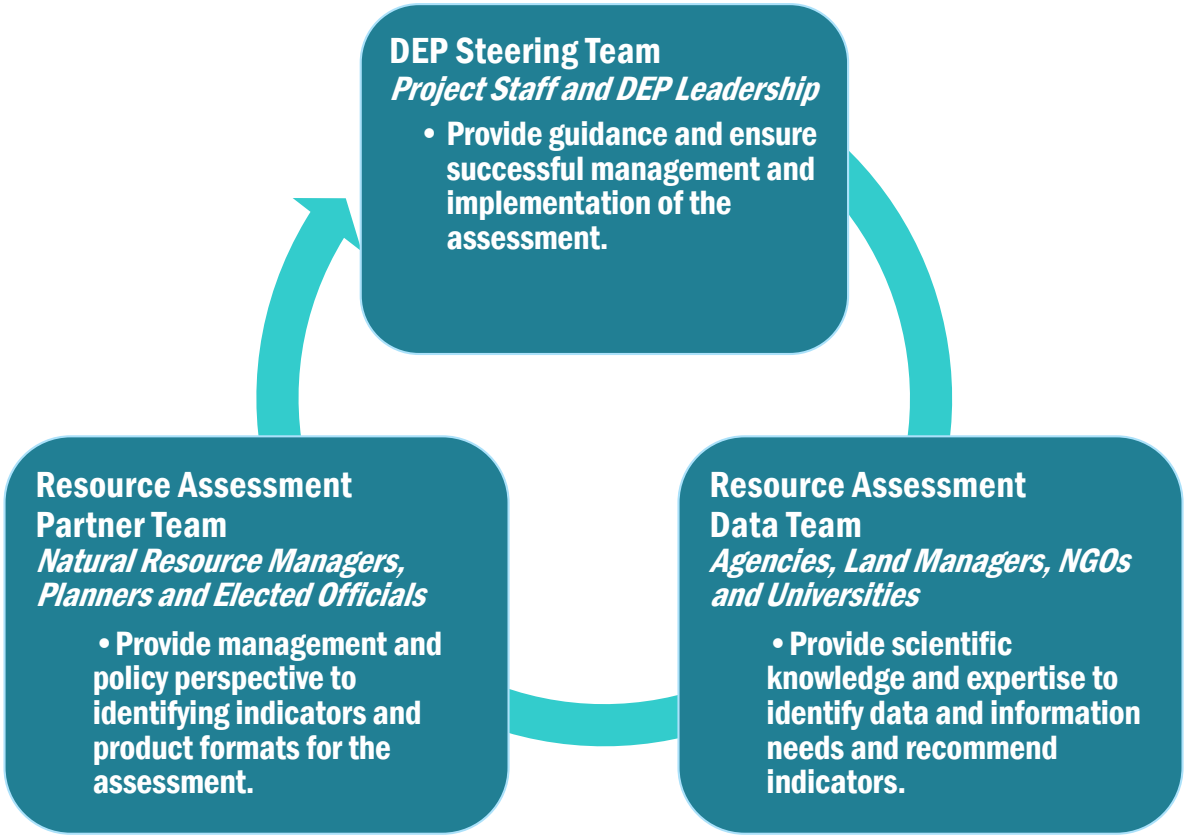
SEACAR Strategy

SEACAR is a collaborative process using current knowledge of coastal processes and scientific data obtained from inventory and monitoring programs around the state to identify ecological indicators which will help determine coastal and aquatic habitat status and trends.

Policy and Management

- Provide consistent data for multiple habitats in one location.
- Translate valuable data into publicly available documents capable of informing Florida's diverse population of coastal stakeholders.
- Inform management planning.
- Increase awareness and improve environmental literacy.

Bringing Stakeholders Together



Resource Assessment Teams.

- Over 75 organizations:
  - Academic institutions.
  - Non-governmental Organizations.
  - Local, state and federal partners.

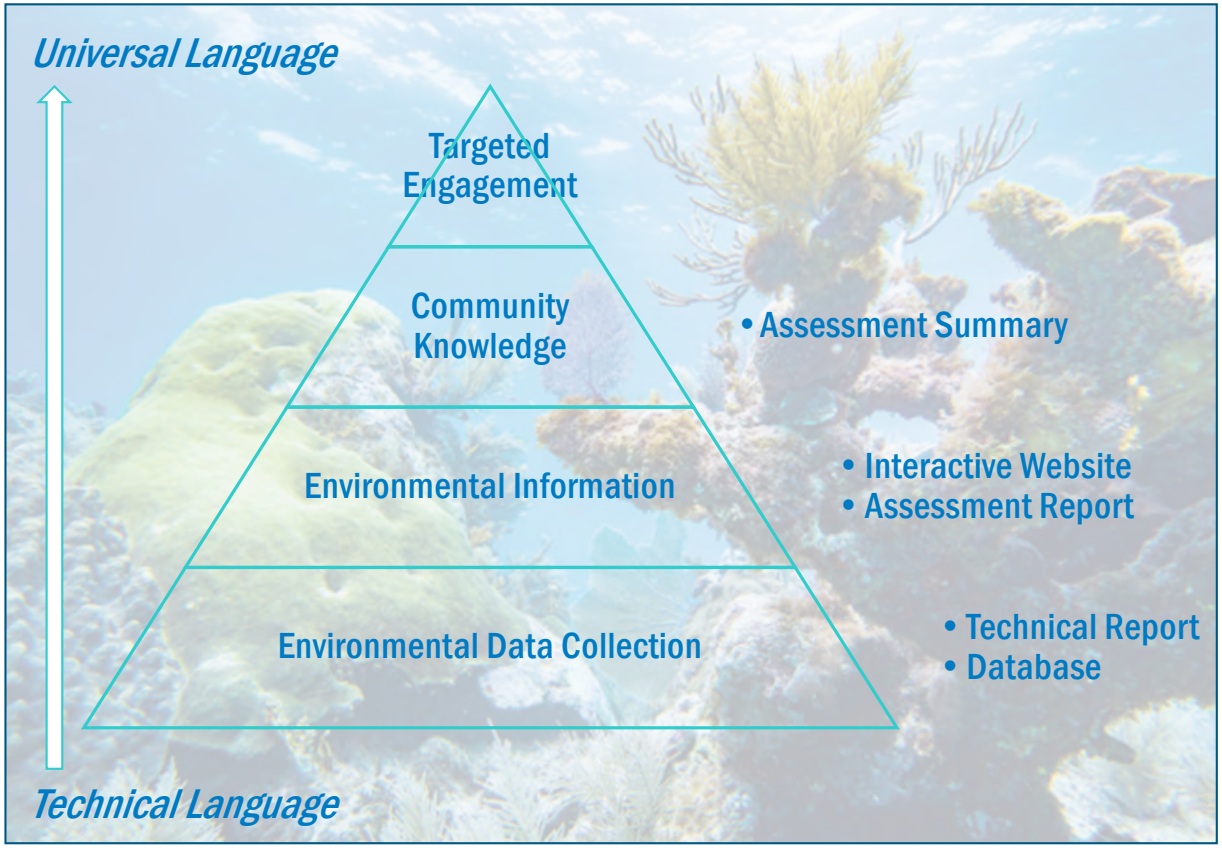
Resource Assessment Teams

- Apalachee Regional Planning Council
- Apalachicola Riverkeeper
- Audubon
- Brevard County
- Brevard Zoo
- Broward County
- Centralized Data Management Office
- Charlotte County
- Charlotte Harbor NEP
- City of Miami-Beach
- City of Naples
- City of Palm Coast
- City of Punta Gorda
- City of Sanibel
- Collier County
- Dauphin Island Sea Lab
- Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Escambia County
- Flagler College
- Flagler County
- Florida A&M University
- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Florida International University
- Florida Oceanographic Society
- Florida State University
- Gulf Coast State College
- Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution
- Hillsborough County
- Indian River Land Trust
- Inwater Research Group Inc.
- Jacksonville University
- Keep America Beautiful
- Lee County
- Leon County
- Manatee County
- Martin County
- Miami-Dade County
- Mote Marine Laboratory
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Park Service
- NatureServe
- Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council
- Northwest Florida Water Management District
- Nova Southeastern University
- Ocean Conservancy
- Ocean Research and Conservation Association
- Paleontological Research Institution
- Peninsular Florida Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Pinellas County
- Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation
- Sarasota County
- Sea Grant
- Smithsonian Marine Station
- South Florida Water Management District
- Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
- Southwest Florida Water Management District
- St. Johns County
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- St. Lucie County
- Tampa Bay National Estuary Program
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Town of Fort Myers Beach
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- University of Florida
- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
- University of Miami
- University of South Florida
- University of Tampa
- University of West Florida
- Washington High School Marine Science Academy
- West Coast Inland Navigation District

Habitats and Indicators

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation	• Percent Cover (*by species and including algae*). • Acreage. • Water Clarity (*chlorophyll a, turbidity, secchi and light attenuation).*
Water Column	• Nutrients. • Water Quality (*Dissolved oxygen, salinity, temperature and pH).* • Water Clarity (*chlorophyll a, turbidity, secchi and light attenuation).* • Nekton (*fisheries data and species composition).*
Coral Reef	• Community Composition (*percent cover and density of gorgonians and corals).* • Grazers and Reef Dependent Species. • Percent Cover.
Oyster Reef	• Density. • Acreage. • Percent Live. • Size Class.
Coastal Wetlands	• Acreage (*mangrove and salt marsh*). • Species Composition.

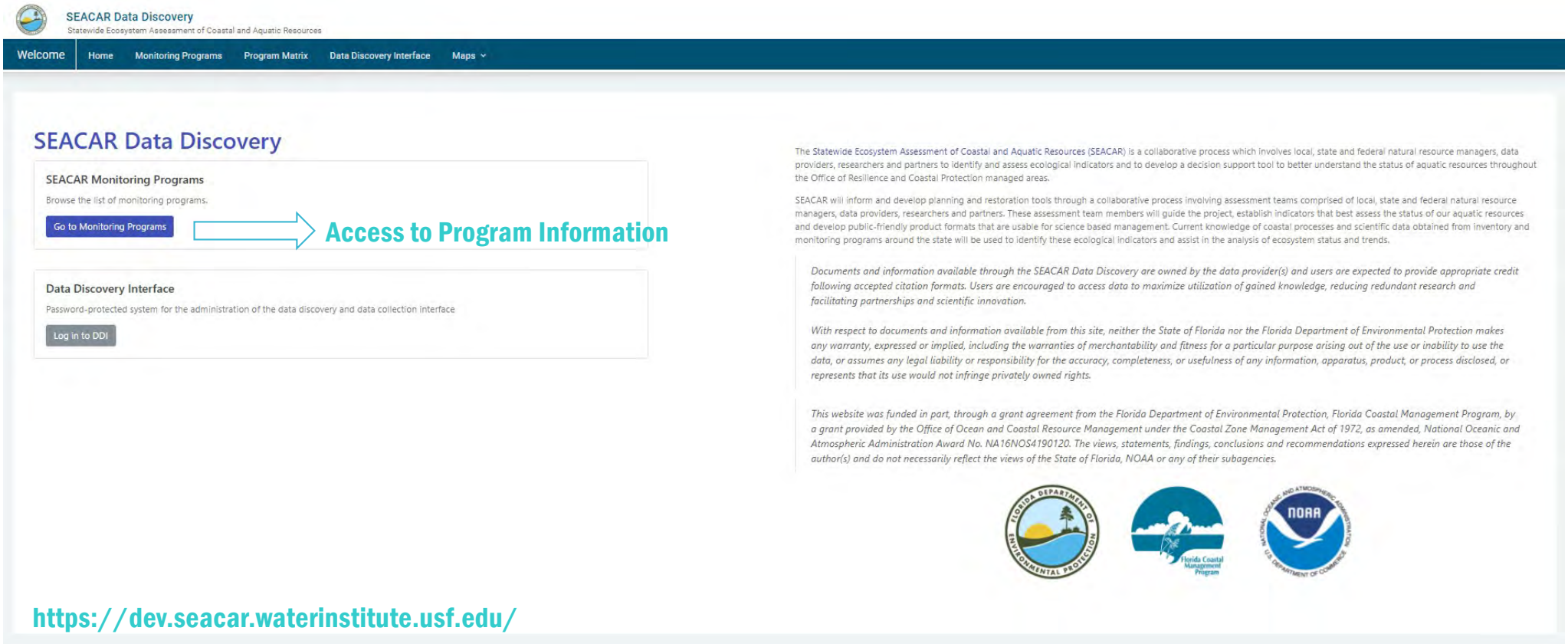
Products for Coastal Managers



Tiered product format:

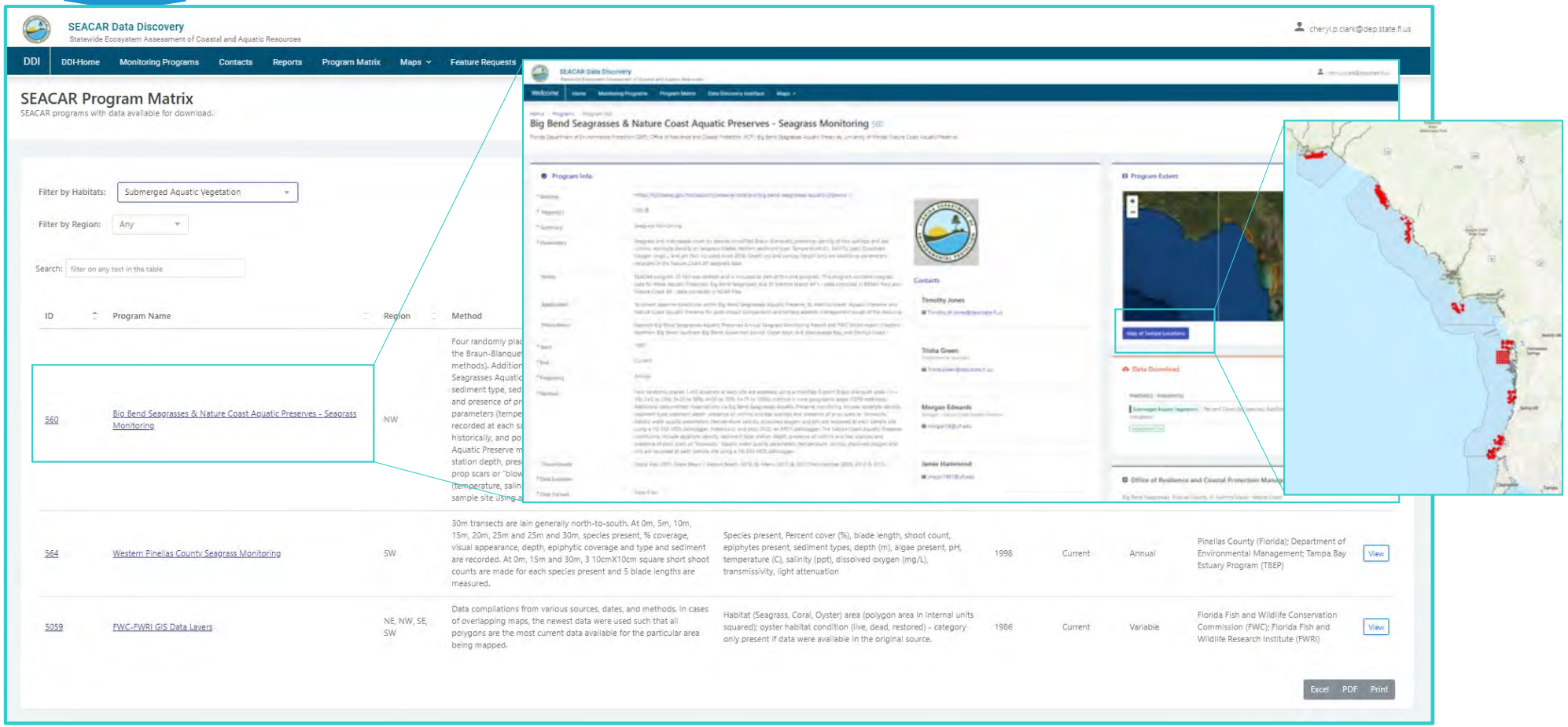
- Designed for wide variety of stakeholders.
- Provides the best available science.
- Support policy, management and restoration efforts.
- Educate the public.

SEACAR Data Discovery Interface (DDI)



https://dev.seacar.waterinstitute.usf.edu/

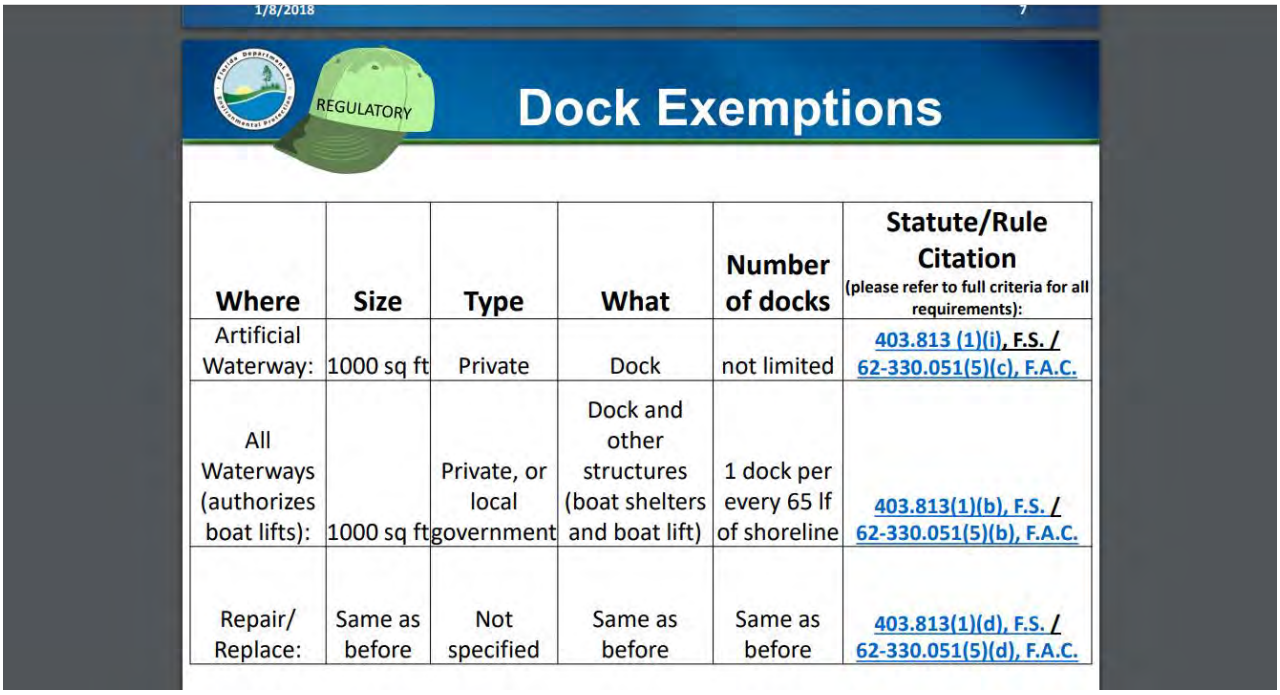
SEACAR Data Discovery Interface (DDI)



Thank you!

Michael Shirley, Deputy Director, Michael.Shirley@dep.state.fl.us, 904-823-4500
Earl Pearson, Planner IV, Earl.Pearson@dep.state.fl.us, 850-245-2104
Cheryl Clark, Coastal Projects Manager, Cheryl.P.Clark@floridaDEP.gov, 850-245-2109

FDEP Exemptions for Residential Docks



1/8/2018

Dock Exemptions

Where	Size	Type	What	Number of docks	Statute/Rule Citation (please refer to full criteria for all requirements):
Artificial Waterway:	1000 sq ft	Private	Dock	not limited	403.813 (1)(i), F.S. / 62-330.051(5)(c), F.A.C.
All Waterways (authorizes boat lifts):	1000 sq ft	Private, or local government	Dock and other structures (boat shelters and boat lift)	1 dock per every 65 lf of shoreline	403.813(1)(b), F.S. / 62-330.051(5)(b), F.A.C.
Repair/ Replace:	Same as before	Not specified	Same as before	Same as before	403.813(1)(d), F.S. / 62-330.051(5)(d), F.A.C.

Tina R Duenninger

From: Tina R Duenninger
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:02 AM
To: Tina R Duenninger
Subject: FW: Residential Dock Size Calculation

From: Burrmann, Carla <Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 12:42 PM
To: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>
Subject: RE: Residential Dock Size Calculation

Please see my responses below in **BLUE**.

Thank you,

-Carla.

Carla S. Burrmann, M.S., C.W.E.
Environmental Manager
ERP and State 404
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Southwest Division
13051 N. Telecom Parkway, Suite #101
Temple Terrace, FL 33637
Email: Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov
Direct: 813-470-5763
Office: 813-470-5700

DEP Home Page *DEP Business Portal* *ERP Online Help* *Information Portal*

Please visit the **NEW** FDEP website for **404 Assumption** updates and mapping. You can also submit related questions or inquiries to **State_404@florida.dep.gov**.

From: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 11:07 AM
To: Burrmann, Carla <Carla.Burrmann@FloridaDEP.gov>
Subject: Residential Dock Size Calculation

Hi Carla,

When FDEP review dock permits, do you calculate the total area of all of the components of the dock system beyond the shoreline or do you specify size limitations for each component.

The total square footage of all components of the structure in/on/over wetlands and surface waters is included. If you have roof that overhangs a dock, we do not count the area twice.

For example, a typical dock system would include the following:
Shoreline deck,
Gangway,
Floating Dock (Terminal Platform),
Boat lift and associated walkway or deck around the boat lift

Does FDEP calculate the entire footprint of the gangway since a boat would typically be parked in the boatlift?

This is part of the structure, thus counted towards the total square footage.

Also, does the 25% distance limit include a boat moored to the dock?

The further extent of the dock including mooring areas, is used to determine if the structure and/or vessel will exceed the 25% width of the waterbody criteria.

We are looking at potentially revising our Marine Construction Code again, and may be looking at ways to be more consistent between the agencies.

Thank you for your help.

Keith Kolasa
Aquatic Services and Waterways Manager
Hernando County Dept. of Public Works
1525 East Jefferson Street
Brooksville, Florida 34601

Office: 352-754-5884
Cell: 352-667-1348

KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us

(3) No dock structure with a boat lift shall extend more than twenty (20) percent of the width of the waterway into a waterbody, or no more than seventeen (17) percent for a floating or fixed dock.

(4) Marginal docks may be allowed. A marginal dock is a platform that runs parallel to the shoreline and does not contain an accessway. A marginal dock shall not exceed six (6) feet in width within one (1) mile of either side of the edge of the Weeki Wachee, Mud, Withlacoochee, and Little Withlacoochee Rivers. No marginal dock shall exceed more than five hundred (500) square feet in area.

(5) A residential dock shall not accommodate more than two (2) boats for permanent mooring.

(6) Main access ramps shall be limited to a maximum width of six (6) feet.

(7) For a waterbody measuring sixty (60) feet or less in width, docks shall be alternated from one (1) side of waterbody to the dock on opposite side.

(8) Side yard setbacks shall be a minimum of five (5) feet to the nearest point of the structure.

(9) In waterbodies where property lines exceed mean low water line, the mean low water line will govern seawalls and docks. Where mean low water lines exceed property lines, the property lines shall govern seawalls and docks. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any permit to construct a seawall may require that the seawall be constructed in such a manner as to be consistent with the location of any adjacent or nearby seawall or seawalls on the same side of the affected waterbody, unless the applicant demonstrates the existence of hardship, including, but not limited to, water depths in the relevant portion of the waterbody, the location of property lines, or clearly excessive construction costs; provided, however, that consistency may be required where hardship approval would result in a hazard to navigation or would be likely to cause water quality degradation.

(10) No docks or moored vessel shall hinder navigation upon the waterways or be constructed to block a neighbor's waterway access to their property.

(11) Single pilings (mooring) shall not extend beyond the side setback or beyond the maximum distance into a waterbody twenty (20) percent, or thirty (30) feet, whichever is less. Single pilings (mooring) shall be installed and maintained with reflective material visible from all directions.

(12) Terminal platforms, floating or fixed, shall be no more than one hundred thirty (130) square feet and the maximum dimension shall not exceed sixteen (16) feet for marine construction within one (1) mile either side of the edge of the Weeki Wachee, Mud, Withlacoochee, and Little Withlacoochee Rivers.

(13) Stakes at mean low water line may be installed to assist permitting authorities in verifying setbacks. If a precise determination of either the mean low or mean high water line becomes necessary in measuring or verifying setbacks for purposes of this article or any other provision of the Code, it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to provide a current survey meeting all statutory and rule standards for such determination.

(14) Common ownership docks may be permitted, and may be centered along a common property line without meeting the side yard setback provided appropriate reciprocal easements, restrictions and covenants are filed in the public records of the county.

(15) Seawalls can only be located along non-vegetated shorelines unless permitted by all state and federal agencies with jurisdiction. Where permitted, the footer of all seawalls shall be faced with riprap as defined by FDEP.

(16) The administrative official may vary these standards provided that a navigational hazard is not created, and a sworn affidavit of no objection is obtained from the adjacent property owners. If the required sworn affidavit of no objection from adjacent property owners is not obtained, or the administrative official chooses not to vary these standards, the applicant may request a public hearing before the

Dock Permitting in Florida

Permit Application Fee Schedule:

Use of Online Self-Certification of Exemption = FREE
(Not available in Aquatic Preserve)

Exemption Verification = $100

General Permit = $250

Individual ERP Permit = $420

- 10-29 slips $1,500
- 30-49 slips $5,000-$9,000
- > 50 slips $14,000

($100 fee reduction for Individual ERP Permits if submitted using DEP's E-Application System)

Rule 62-4.050(4), F.A.C.

How to Apply:

Business Portal: www.fldepportal.com

- Online Self Certification
- E-Application System

Forms: **http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/erp/forms.htm**

Submit via Email:
DEP_CD@dep.state.fl.us

CENTRAL DISTRICT
CLICK TO SCHEDULE YOUR PRE-APP MEETING

» Exempt Docks - In OFW (Outstanding Florida Waters)

[403.813(1)(b), F.S.]

Up to 500 square feet of over-water surface area
One private dock (non-commercial)
May be subject to Aquatic Preserve design criteria [18-20, F.A.C.]

» Exempt Docks - In Canals and Outside OFW

[403.813(1)(b) and (i), F.S.]

Up to 1,000 square feet of over-water surface area
One private dock (non-commercial)

» General Permits - Docks

[62-330.427, F.A.C.]

Up to 2,000 square feet of over-water surface area
One private dock (non-commercial)
Designed for mooring of no more than 2 vessels* 62-330.427(1)(a)(1), F.A.
Access walkway elevated and handrailed over resources
Terminal platform cannot be located over resources
May be subject to Aquatic Preserve design criteria [18-20, F.A.C.]

» Individual ERP (Environmental Resource Permit) Permits - Docks

[62-330, F.A.C. and the Applicant's Handbook]

No specific limits to over-water surface area
Multiple docks, Private or Commercial
No specific limits to number of slips
Permit will specify design criteria (based on location and resources present) and include state lands authorization

» Note: Over-water area calculation includes roofs, boat cover canopies, elevated platforms, decking, etc.

MapDirect: https://ca.dep.state.fl.us/mapdirect/?focus=erp
Mapping Application for ERP data:
Permits, Compliance, OFWs, Aquatic Preserves, etc.

Several years ago, the Port Authority was asked to write a new marine construction code because there were 20-30 variances being requested on a regular basis which was consuming a lot of Waterways time and manpower.

After a couple of years of writing, holding public hearings, and revising, the Port Authority produced a marine construction code that was adopted by the BOCC. Since then, there have been almost no problems requiring the variance. The current code is working.

This proposal is to change the maximum intrusion into our canals from 17% for docks and 20% for boat lifts to a blanket 25%, which is the percentage used by the DEP.

This change will result in a 10% decrease in the navigable area of our canals. On a 150 ft. canal, this would result in a loss of 15ft. (7-1/2 ft on each side) of navigable waterway. Boat lifts would go out another 5%, or 7-1/2 ft on the 150 ft foot canal example. The situation in the narrower canals, many of which are already very tight, would be even worse.

DEP's 25% limit factors in the dock, any boat lift, an includes the mooring field (footprint of the boat you put on the dock). Our current construction leaves room for boats of many different sizes.

In conclusion, I, for one, do not want our canals to look like Hudson, where boats have to weave their way through the passage. Additionally, we have a commercial fleet which has to navigate this in all types of weather conditions. This would degrade the property values of Hernando Beach, and potentially increase the number of boating accidents.

Stan Barton

Pamela Hare

From: Keith Kolasa
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2019 4:52 PM
To: Jon Jouben
Cc: Sue Bishop; Pamela Hare
Subject: RE: Pine Island Canal

Thank you Mr. Jouben for researching this.

I'm sure the Port Authority members and Pine Island residents will be very happy to hear the good news.

One of the catalysts for this question was the recent Hernando Beach mitigation proposal, which proposes to eliminate boat traffic within the natural tidal areas north of Minnow Creek. There are no canals or channels within the applicant's property so that's the big difference between these two property ownerships.
FFWCC staff attending a recent meeting this week on the mitigation proposal did note enforcing a no boat zone would be difficult since the tidal waters are considered navigable. It's a different issue and parcel, but the timing of the mitigation proposal definitely sparked more concern about the Pine Island canal ownership and public usage.

Thanks again for researching this issue.
Hope you have a great weekend.

Keith Kolasa
Aquatic Services and Waterways Manager
Hernando County Dept. of Public Works
1525 East Jefferson Street
Brooksville, Florida 34601

Office: 352-754-5884
Cell: 352-667-1348

KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us

From: Jon Jouben
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2019 4:39 PM
To: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>
Cc: Sue Bishop <SueB@hernandocounty.us>; Pamela Hare <PHare@hernandocounty.us>
Subject: Pine Island Canal

Keith:

Although the Property Appraiser's GIS map shows the Pine Island Canal as traversing several parcels of private property, I am of the opinion that the County will not need to obtain any easements for dredging it.

As an initial matter, the Canal connects to the Gulf of Mexico at both ends. "[M]an-made channels connecting with tidal waters become navigable waters of the United States notwithstanding that they are on private property." *United States v. Sexton Cove Estates, Inc.*, 389 F. Supp. 602, 607 (S.D. Fla. 1975), judgment rev'd in part, vacated in part, 526 F.2d 1293 (5th Cir. 1976). While a landowner can hold title to submerged lands under navigable waters, such title is servient to the federal government's navigation servitude which permits the federal government to refuse to compensate littoral and riparian owners injured by the protection of public rights. The Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments guarantee of just compensation do not apply because no property rights in navigable waters exist. See *Lewis Blue Point Oyster Cultivation Co. v. Briggs*, 229 U.S. 82, 87-88 (1913).

Florida law reflects the federal law. "A canal . . . is a navigable public highway, for the transportation of persons and property." State v. Fla. Coast Line Canal & Transportation Co., 75 So. 582, 588 (Fla. 1917).

Jon Jouben, Esq.
Deputy County Attorney
Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law
Hernando County Attorney's Office
20 North Main Street, Suite 462
Brooksville, Florida 34601
(352) 754-4122
(352)754-4001 - Fax
jjouben@co.hernando.fl.us

Pamela Hare 19-126

From: Jon Jouben
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2019 4:39 PM
To: Keith Kolasa
Cc: Sue Bishop; Pamela Hare
Subject: Pine Island Canal

Keith:

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Brooksville, Florida 34601
(352) 754-4122
(352)754-4001 - Fax
jjouben@co.hernando.fl.us

Pamela Hare

From: Jon Jouben
Sent: Thursday, March 7, 2019 10:05 AM
To: Keith Kolasa
Cc: Scott Herring; Wayne Dukes; Pamela Hare; Sue Bishop
Subject: Pine Island Channel/Canal (LR.# Pending)

Keith:

I have been researching the title to the parcels that you previously identified vis-a-vis the maintenance dredging of the Pine Island Channel.

All of the evidence that I can locate indicates that the dredge & fill operations took place sometime between 1957 and 1960. Under the laws that were in effect at that time, a party that dredged a channel or canal automatically obtained the title to the dry land that the depositing of fill created. Correspondingly, the party then also had a continuing legal obligation to maintain the channel or canal, and it was legally liable for any monetary damages that resulted from an obstruction of the channel or canal. Also, the party also became responsible for constructing and maintaining any bridges traversing the man-made/improved watercourses.

For that reason, developers that created land by dredging channels and finger canals almost universally dedicated the resulting watercourses to the public. (For example, Charles Sasser dedicated all of the "finger" canals in Hernando Beach to the County at the time of platting.)

Thus, there is a strong likelihood that the either the County or the State already has an easement to performing maintenance dredging. One indicator is that the ROW plat for the westernmost section of Pine Island Drive (former State Road 595) shows the DOT as being responsible for maintaining the bridge over the canal.

I have not yet located such a dedication or easement, but the search continues.

Jon Jouben, Esq.
Deputy County Attorney
Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law
Hernando County Attorney's Office
20 North Main Street, Suite 462
Brooksville, Florida 34601
(352) 754-4122
(352)754-4001 - Fax
jjouben@co.hernando.fl.us

Pamela Hare

From: Keith Kolasa
Sent: Wednesday, March 6, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Jon Jouben; Wayne Dukes; Scott Herring; Wayne Dukes
Cc: Pamela Hare; Sue Bishop
Subject: RE: Pine Island Canal Ownership
Attachments: 12053_1951_4H_160.pdf; 12053_1969_1LL_241.pdf

From what we know it was dredged by the developer of Pine Island.
Yes, the canal was the source of the fill to build pine island.
The attached aerials show pine island before and after the dredge.

Thanks,
Keith

From: Jon Jouben
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 9:48 AM
To: Keith Kolasa <KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us>; Wayne Dukes <waynedfl@yahoo.com>; Scott Herring <SHerring@co.hernando.fl.us>; Wayne Dukes <WDukes@hernandocounty.us>
Cc: Pamela Hare <PHare@hernandocounty.us>; Sue Bishop <SueB@hernandocounty.us>
Subject: RE: Pine Island Canal Ownership

Keith:

Do we have any idea who actually dredged the canal? I have found where the dredge and fill was used to double the size of Pine Island in 1958. I presume that the canal was the source of the fill material.

From: Keith Kolasa
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 3:56 PM
To: Jon Jouben <JJouben@hernandocounty.us>; Wayne Dukes <waynedfl@yahoo.com>; Scott Herring <SHerring@co.hernando.fl.us>; Wayne Dukes <WDukes@hernandocounty.us>
Subject: RE: Pine Island Canal Ownership

Just in case you can't read the small font, here's the owner info again for us old guys.
Hope this helps Mr. Dukes ☺.

Keith

Key Number	Parcel Number	Owner Name	Address
339299	R13 422 16 0000 0080 0000	Thomas Faust	17209 Gunn Hwy, Odessa FL 33556-1925

1323428	R13 422 16 0000 0020 0030	Sunshine Grove Rd LLC	5091 Gold Club Ln, Brooksville FL 34609-0314
339226	R13 422 16 0000 0020 0000	Est of Agnes Plummer, Butch and Carol King	10504 Pine Island Drive, Weeki Wachee FL 34607-1000
339253	R13 422 16 0000 0050 0000	Hernando Shores LLC, Sarah Bronson	PO Box 68, Brooksville FL 34605-0068

From: Keith Kolasa
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 3:28 PM
To: Jon Jouben <JJouben@hernandocounty.us>; 'Wayne Dukes' <waynedfl@yahoo.com>; Scott Herring <SHerring@co.hernando.fl.us>; Wayne Dukes <WDukes@hernandocounty.us>
Subject: Pine Island Canal Ownership

Here's the four owners listed in GIS.
The primary owner is Hernando Shores, Sarah A Bronson.
Hernando County owns the area directly surrounding Pine Island beach.

One thought would be to ask Hernando Shores LLC id they would considering providing an easement for a small public boat ramp if the channel is dredged and maintained in the future by the County. This would be provide access for shallow draft boats.

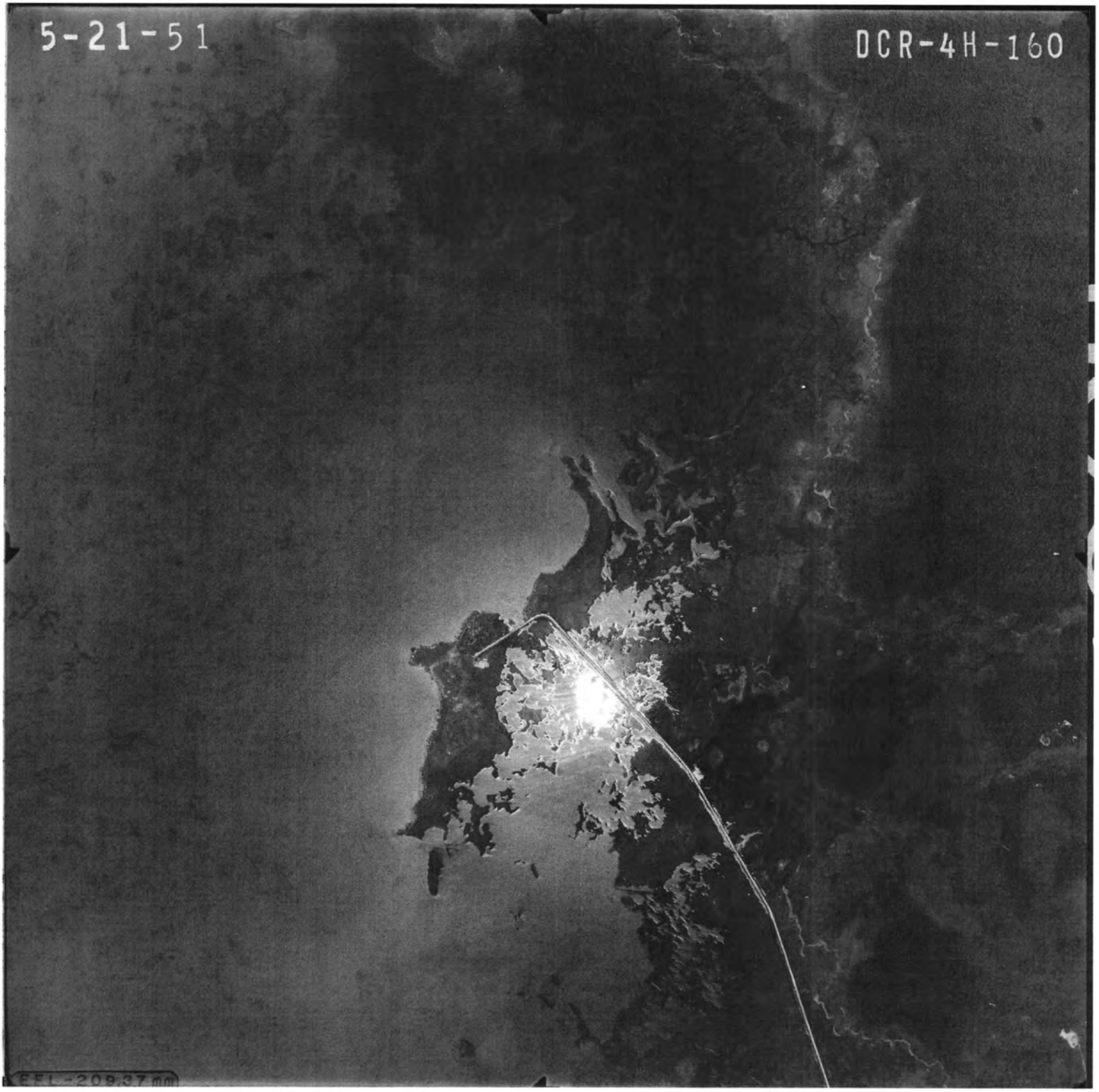
KEY_NUMBER	PARCEL_NUMBER	OWNER_NAME	OWNER_NAME2	MAIL_ADDR1	M
339299	R13 422 16 0000 0080 0000	FAUST THOMAS		17209 GUNN HWY	ODESSA FL 3
1323428	R13 422 16 0000 0020 0030	SUNSHINE GROVE ROAD LLC		5091 GOLF CLUB LN	BROOKSVILLE
339226	R13 422 16 0000 0020 0000	PLUMMER AGNES EST OF	C/O ROBERT & CAROL KING	10504 PINE ISLAND DR	WEEKI WACHE
339253	R13 422 16 0000 0050 0000	HERNANDO SHORES INC	C/O SARAH A BRONSON	PO BOX 68	BROOKSVILLE

Thanks,

Keith Kolasa
Aquatic Services and Waterways Manager
Hernando County Dept. of Public Works
1525 East Jefferson Street
Brooksville, Florida 34601

Office: 352-754-5884
Cell: 352-667-1348

KKolasa@co.hernando.fl.us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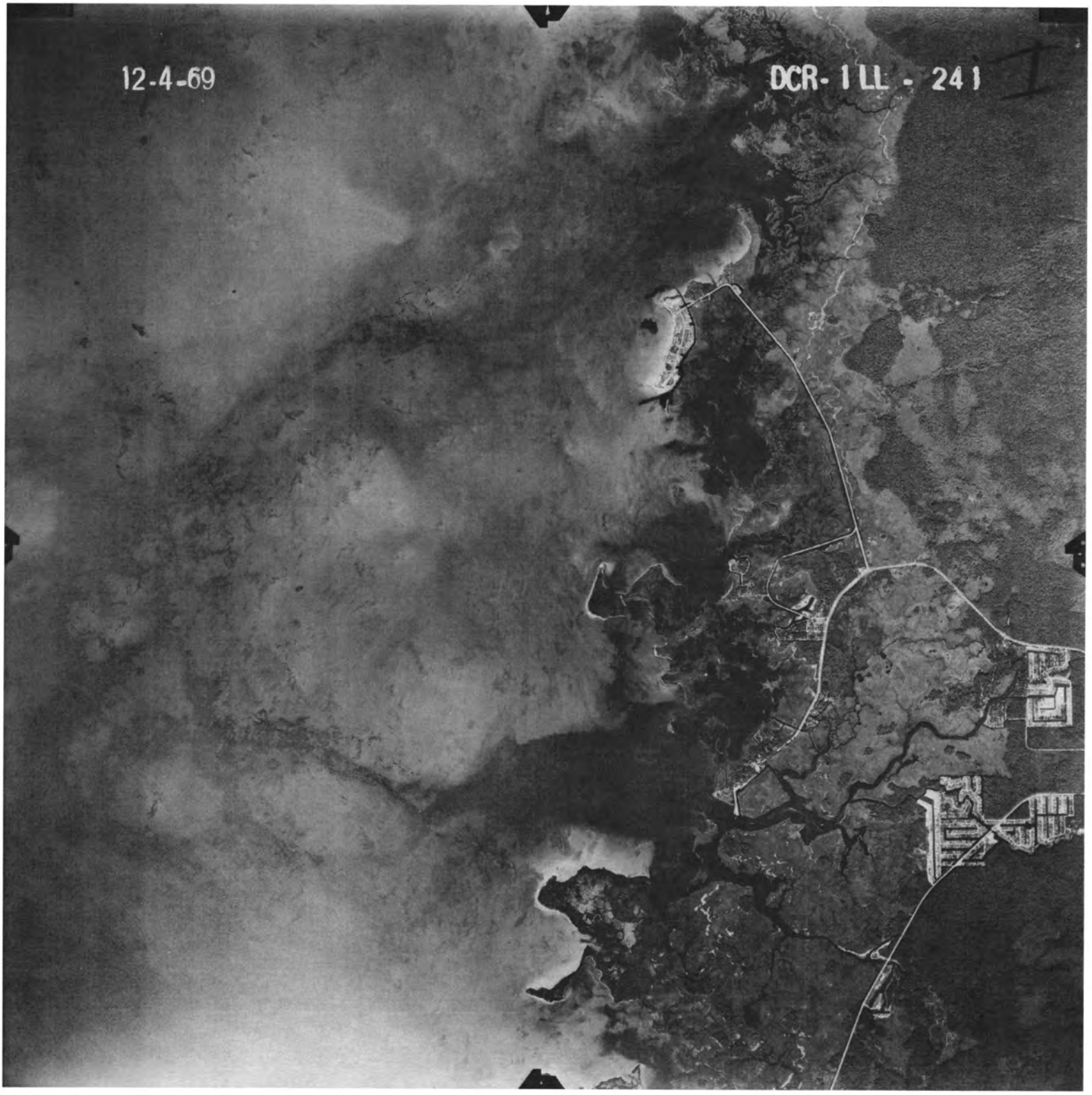
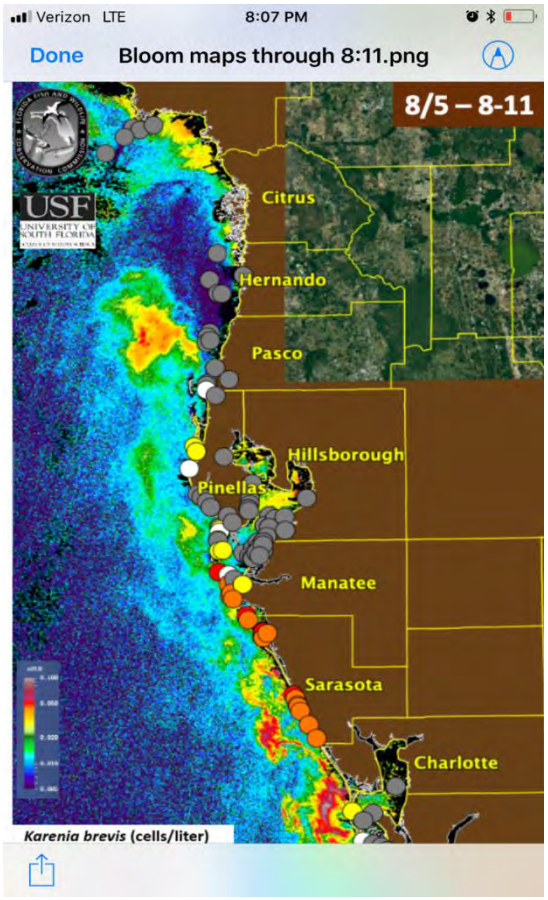
DCR-4H-160
EFL-209.37mm


12-4-69
DCR-1LL-241

RED TIDE BLOOM EVENT 2021

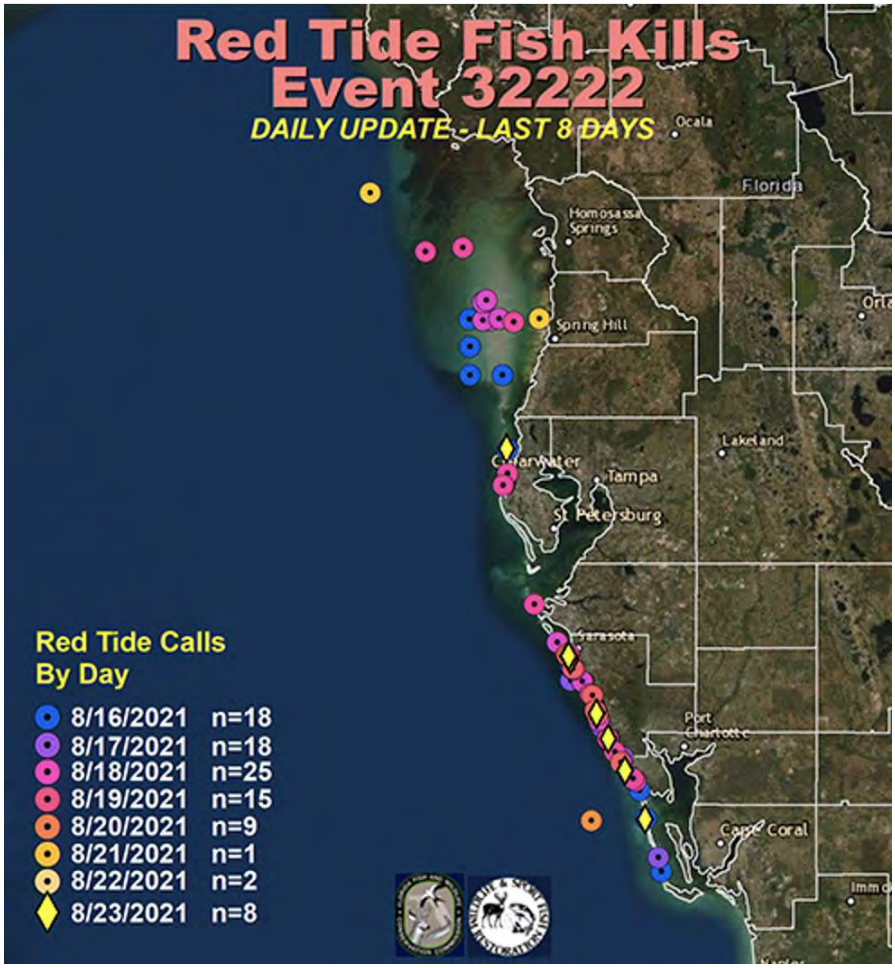
- Red Tide monitoring is being completed in Hernando County by IFAS/FL Sea Grant and FFWCC
- Red Tide bloom appeared to migrate northward from the Tampa Bay Region entering the offshore waters of Hernando County in early August
- By late August, the area of dead fish covered approximately 100 to 150 square miles starting approximately 12 miles offshore extending out to 25 miles offshore and north to Citrus County
- Low to medium concentrations are now found north in both Dixie and Levy Counties with low density fish kills occurring
- Recent satellite imagery (Oct. 5, 2021) shows a possible bloom 34 miles offshore Hernando County
- Crustacean samples collected by FWC on Sept. 30, 2021 found medium concentrations in crustaceans 18 miles offshore
- Brittany Hall-Scharf with Florida Sea Grant is tentatively scheduled to provide a presentation on red tide at the December WAC meeting

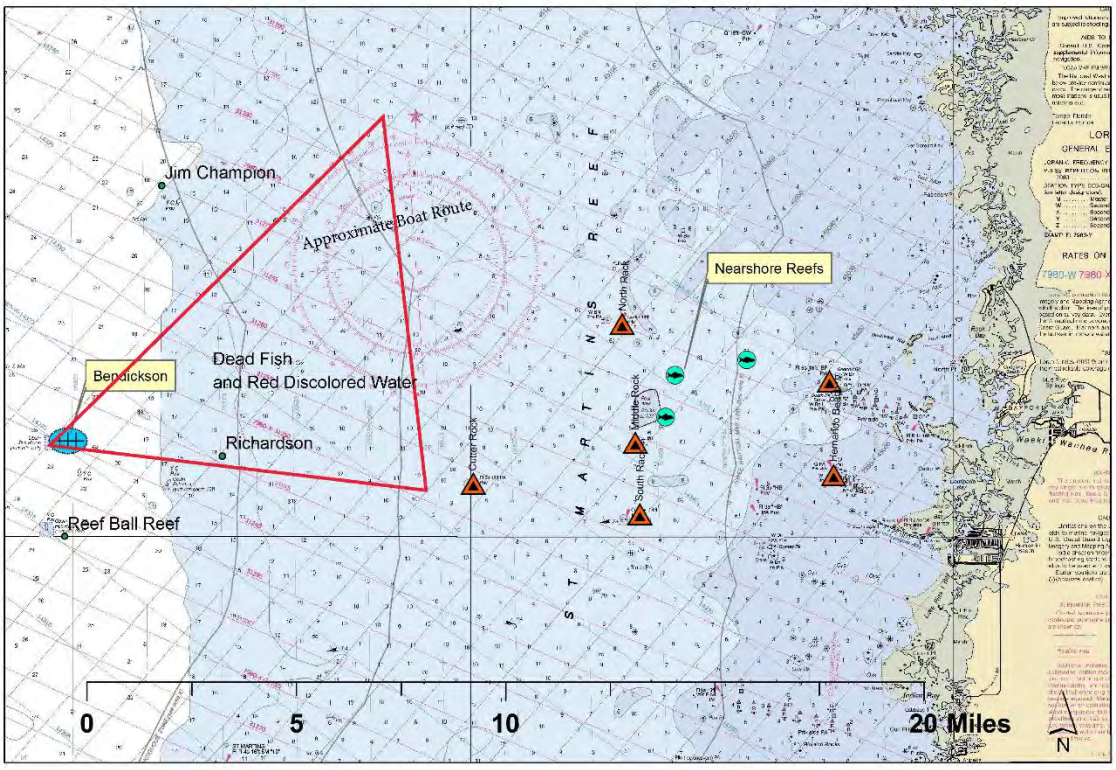
August 5, 2021 – August 30, 2021



Islands of Dead Seagrass – 12 to 20 miles offshore

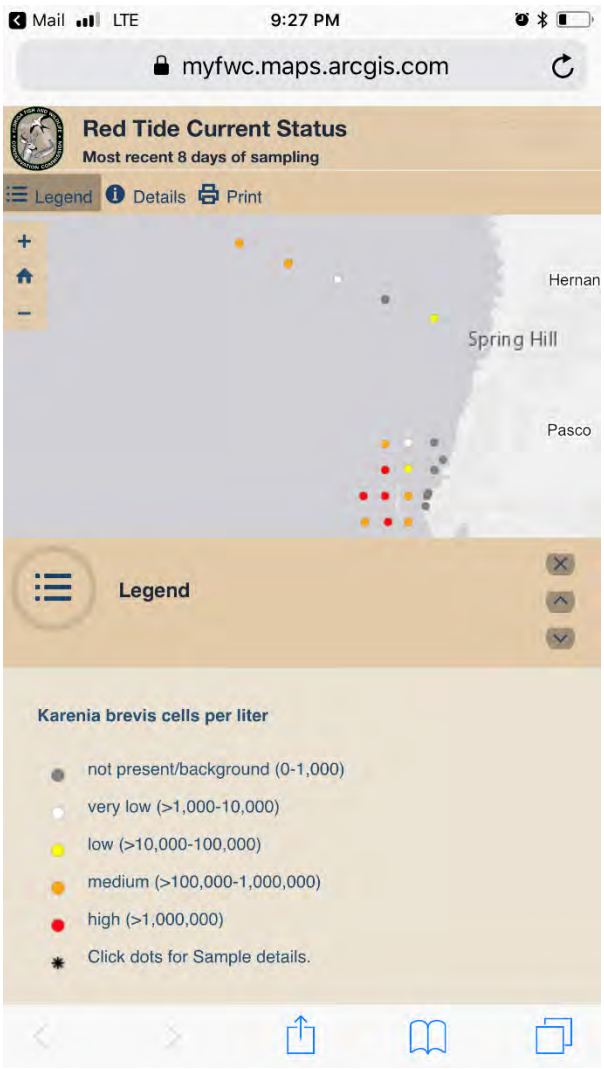
Spotted Spoon-nose Eel (Echiophis intertinctus)

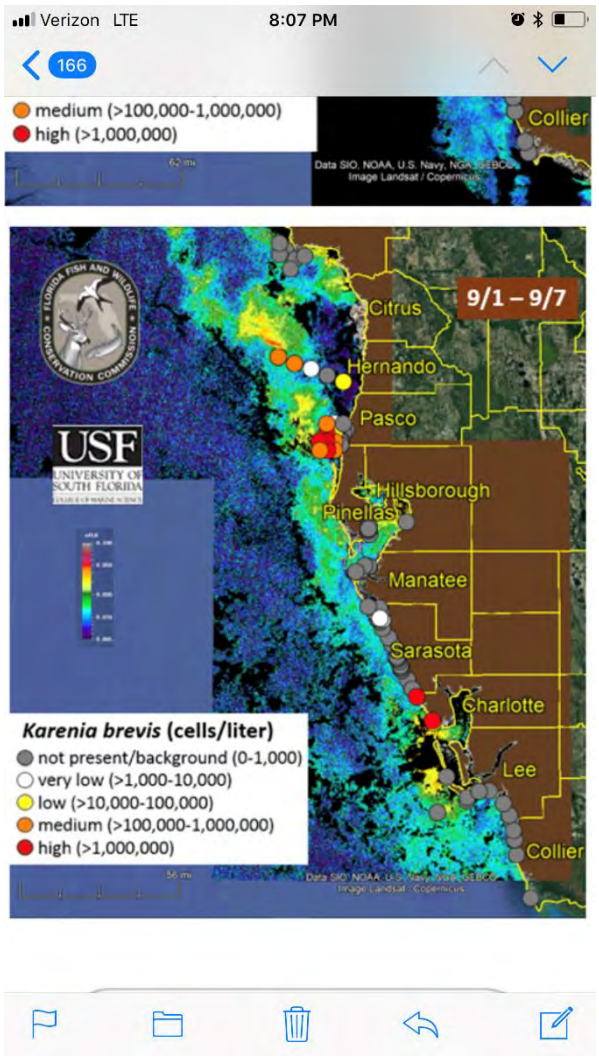

Red Tide Fish Kills
Event 32222
DAILY UPDATE - LAST 8 DAYS
Ocala
Florida
Homosassa Springs
Spring Hill
Lakeland
Clearwater
Tampa
St Petersburg
Sarasota
Port Charlotte
Cape Coral
Red Tide Calls
By Day
8/16/2021 n=18
8/17/2021 n=18
8/18/2021 n=25
8/19/2021 n=15
8/20/2021 n=9
8/21/2021 n=1
8/22/2021 n=2
8/23/2021 n=8



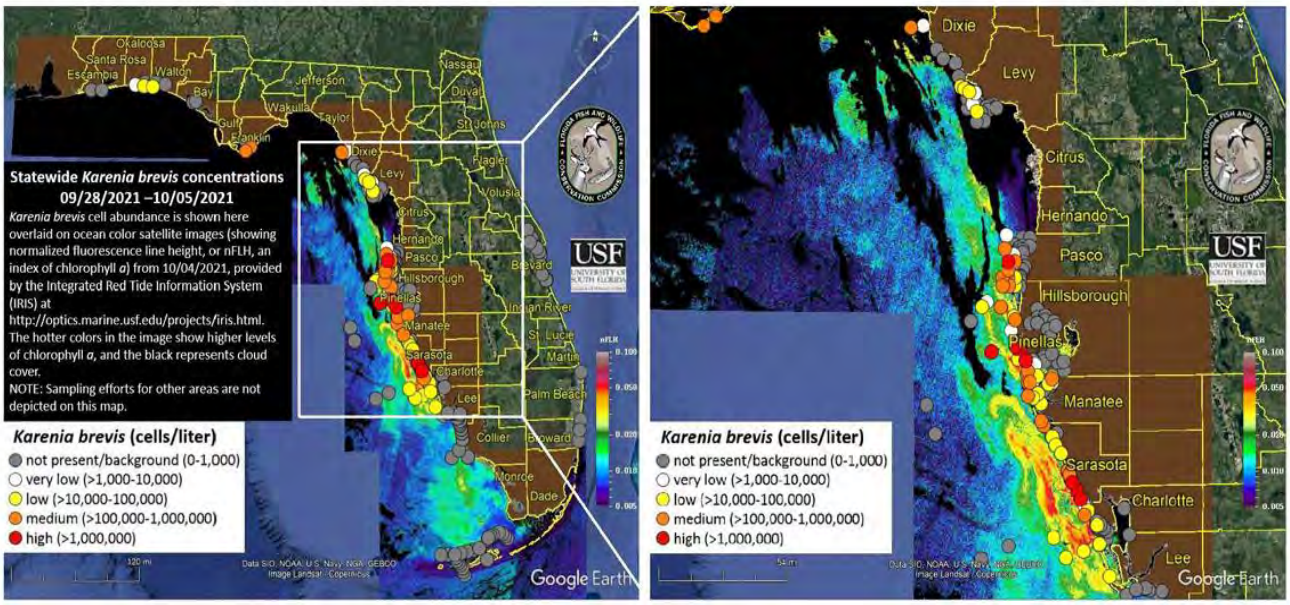
Approximate boundary of area containing numerous dead fish. August 27, 2021

Sept. 1 – Sept. 27, 2021





Sept. 28 – Oct. 5, 2021



HERNANDO COUNTY WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings are held the third (3rd) Wednesday of the specified month at 7:00 P.M.

Location: Hernando Beach Marine Group Inc. Training Center
4340 Calienta Street, Hernando Beach, FL 34607

January 19, 2022

March 16, 2022

May 18, 2022

July 20, 2022

September 21, 2022

November 16, 2022