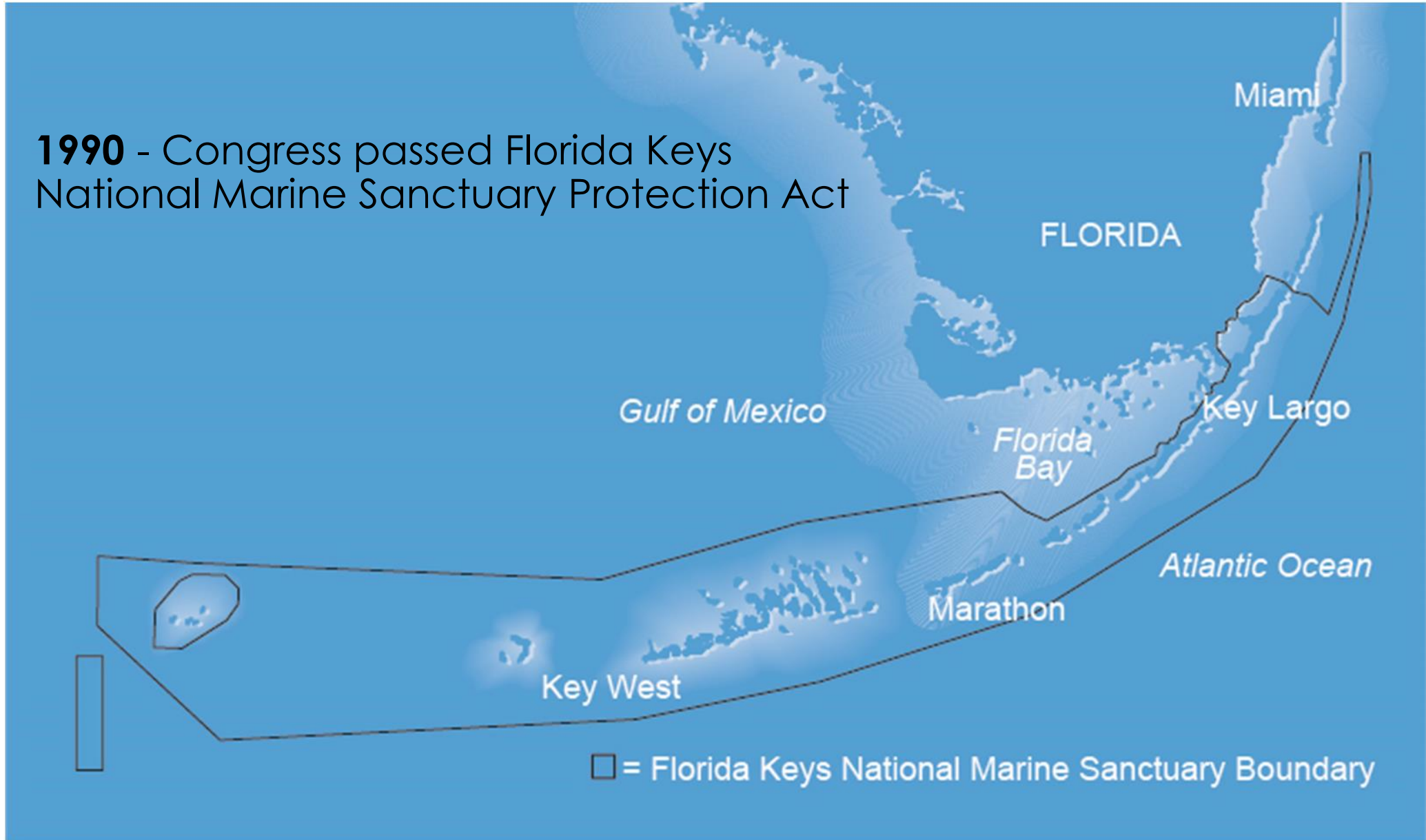


Restoration Blueprint

An Effort to Restore Critical Marine Habitats in the Florida Keys

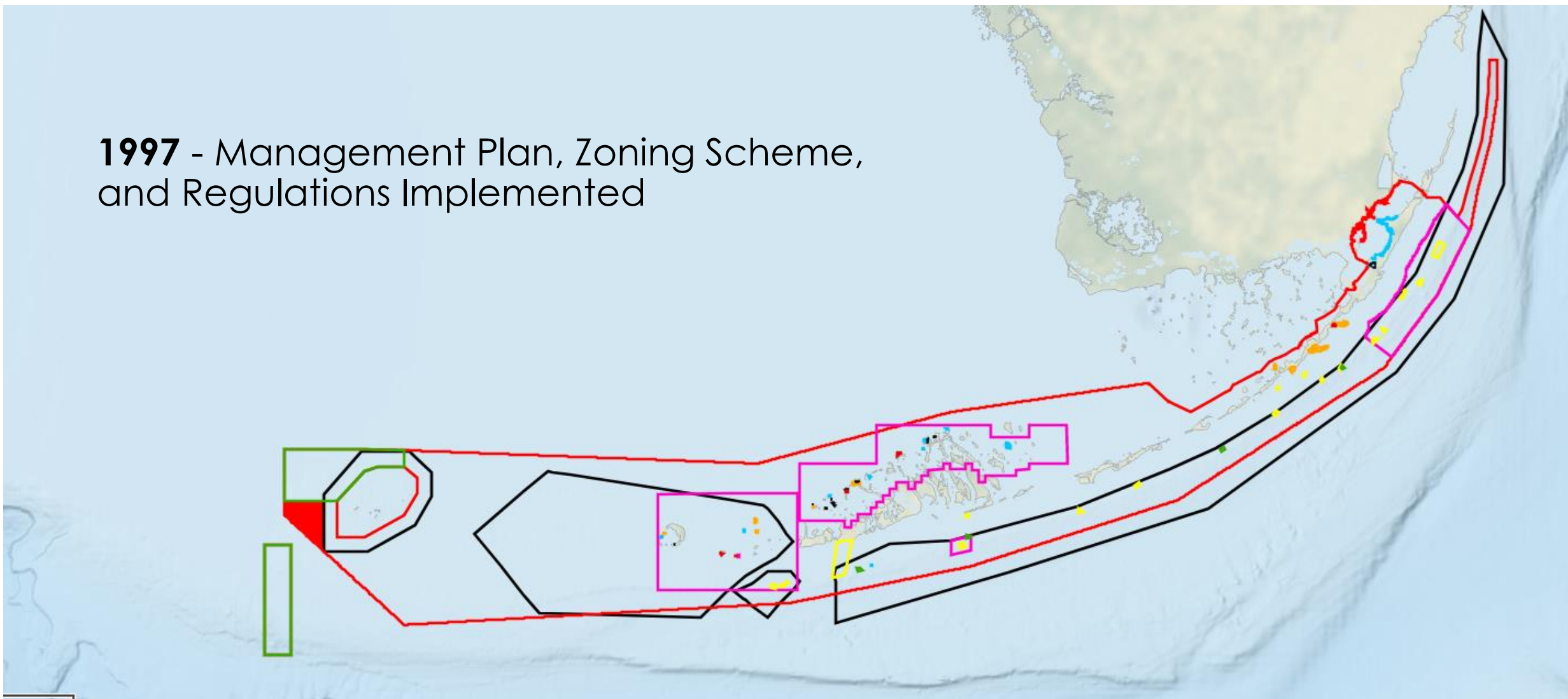
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

1990 - Congress passed Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Protection Act



Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

1997 - Management Plan, Zoning Scheme, and Regulations Implemented



Why Create a Blueprint?



Healthy Florida Keys

A healthy Florida Keys marine ecosystem is the foundation for a strong economy.

Natural Resources

Numerous stressors are putting the future of the Florida Keys marine environment at risk.

Planning for the Future

We need a plan that addresses the threats to our marine environment and helps us maintain the natural resources that are key to our economy.

Blue Economy of Florida Keys NMS

Tourism

>5 million visitors

Boating

4.5 million boaters per annum

Diving and Snorkeling

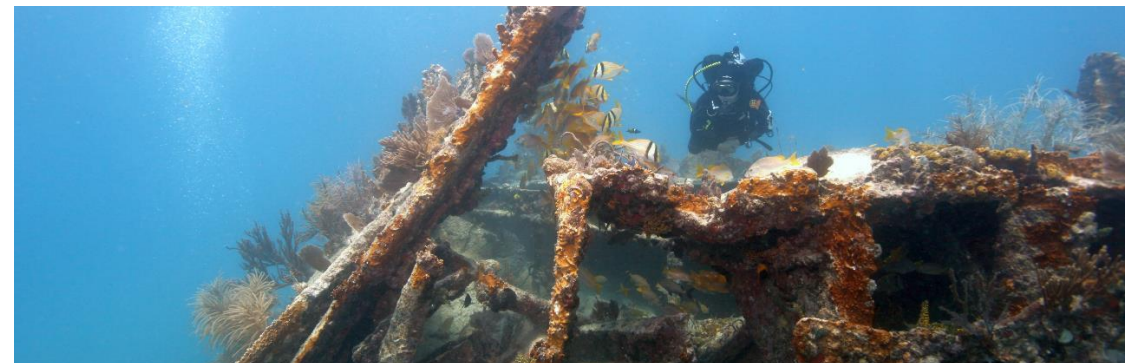
1.62 million divers and snorkelers per annum

Commercial Fishing

79% of the catch from the sanctuary is processed in Monroe County

Recreational Fishing

2.4 million people fish in FKNMS each year



Economic Impact of Residents and Visitors



A Healthy Florida Keys Ecosystem Provides:

\$4.7 Billion

Monroe County economy

5.5 Million

Visitors

60%

of Monroe County
economy

Natural Resources in the Florida Keys

The Future of the Florida Keys Marine Environment is at Risk



Resource Report Card



Brought attention to natural resource declines

Good	Good/Fair	Fair	Fair/Poor	Poor	Undet.
------	-----------	------	-----------	------	--------

Trends:




▲ Conditions appear to be improving.	? Undetermined trend.
— Conditions do not appear to be changing.	N/A Question not applicable.
▼ Conditions appear to be declining.	

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



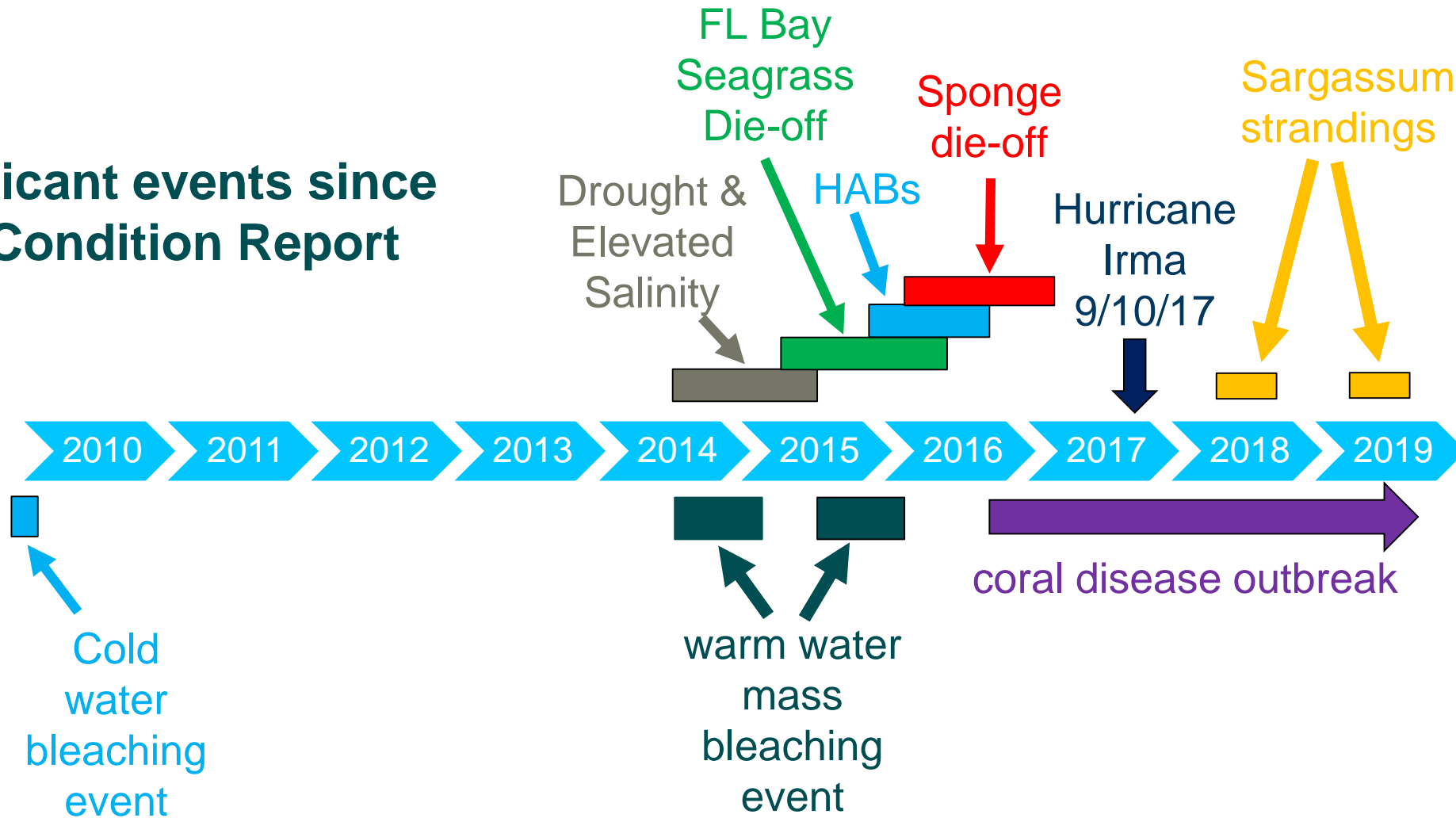
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

CONDITION REPORT 2011



September 2011

Significant events since 2011 Condition Report



Community-led Effort

Sanctuary Advisory Council



50 Council Members +
35 Community Members



70 Public Meetings +
> 1,500 Public Comments



200 Recommendations
to Superintendent



Proposed Action

Alternatives

No Action

Range of Reasonable Alternatives (3)

Alternative 3 is agency preferred

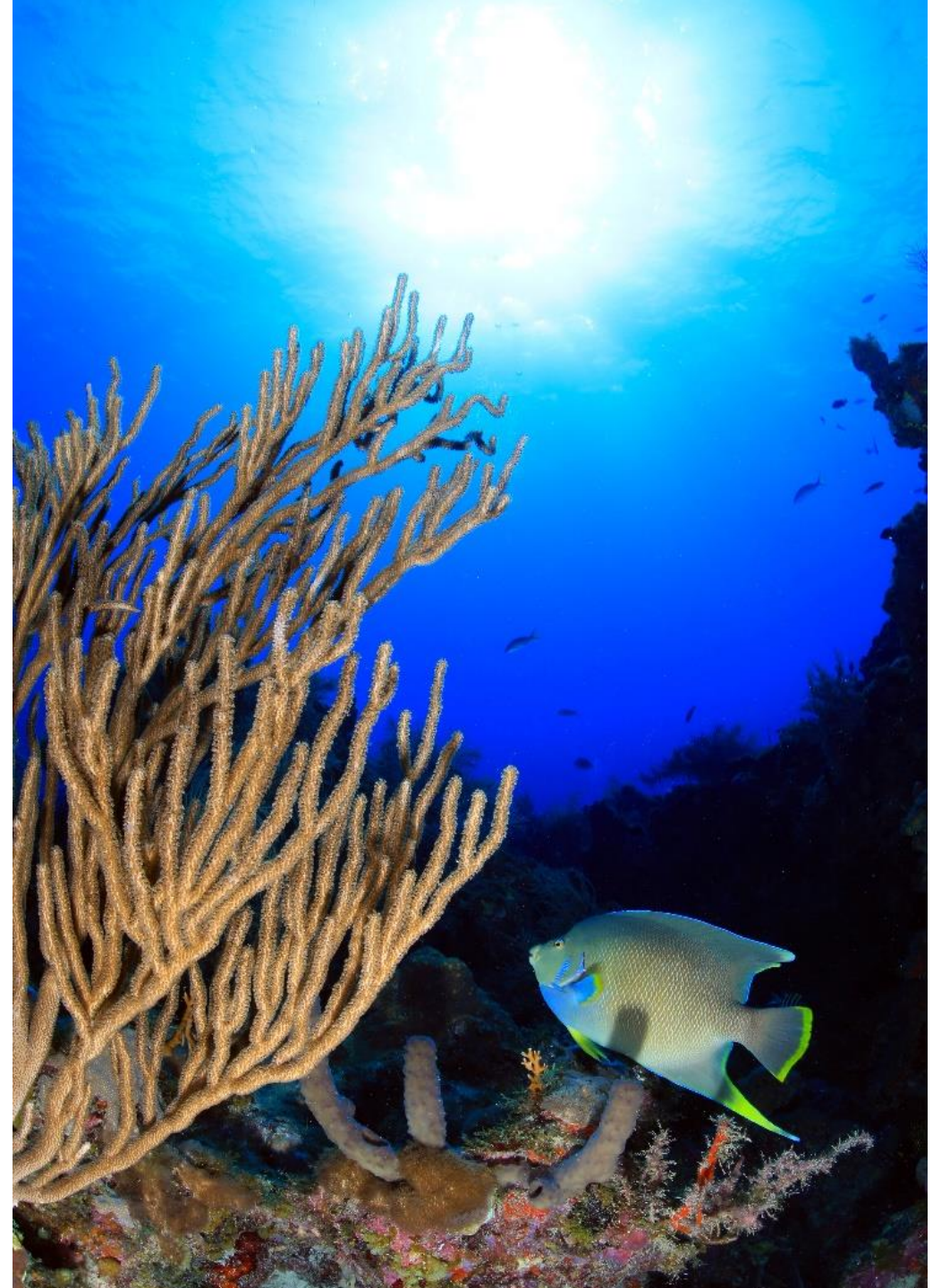
Alternative Components

Boundary expansion

Sanctuary-wide regulations

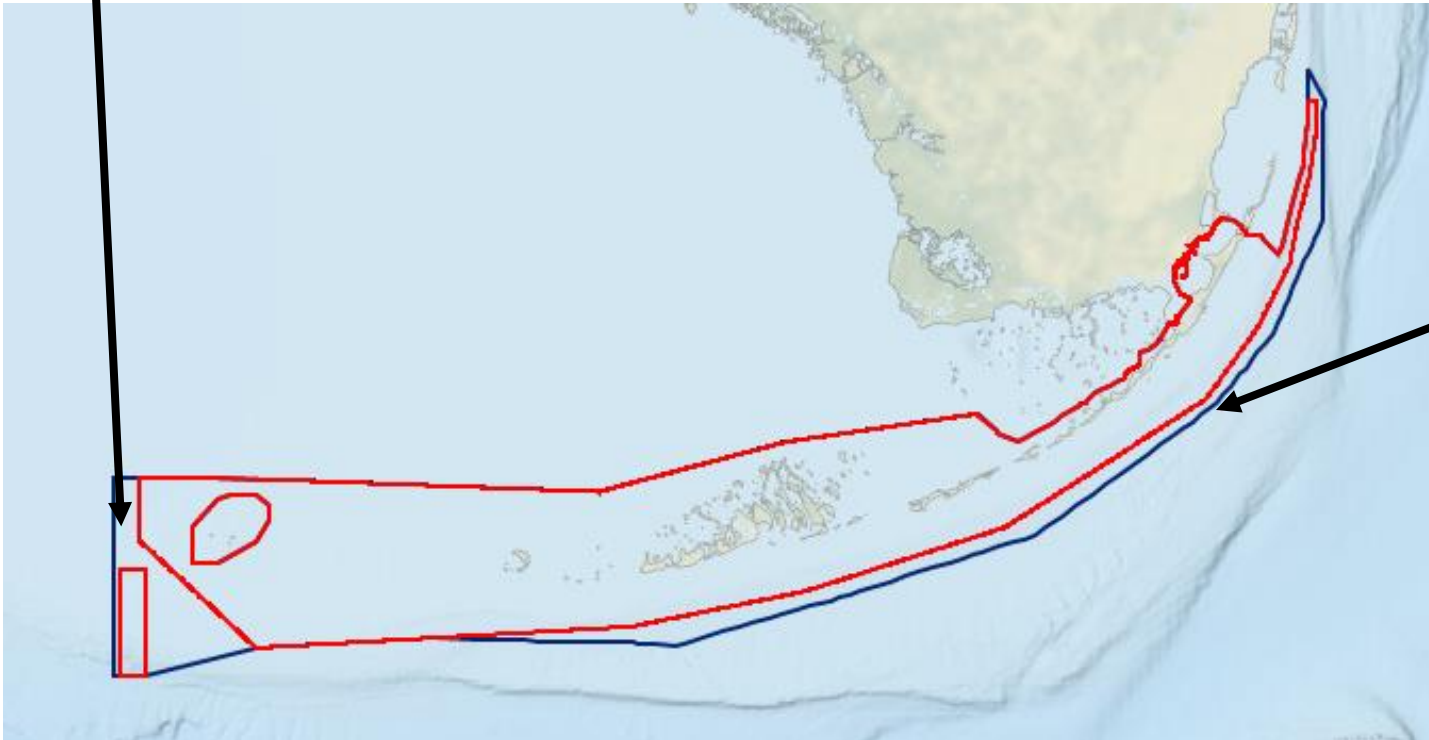
Marine zones & zone specific regulations

Management Plan activities



Sanctuary Boundary Expansion: Preferred Alternative

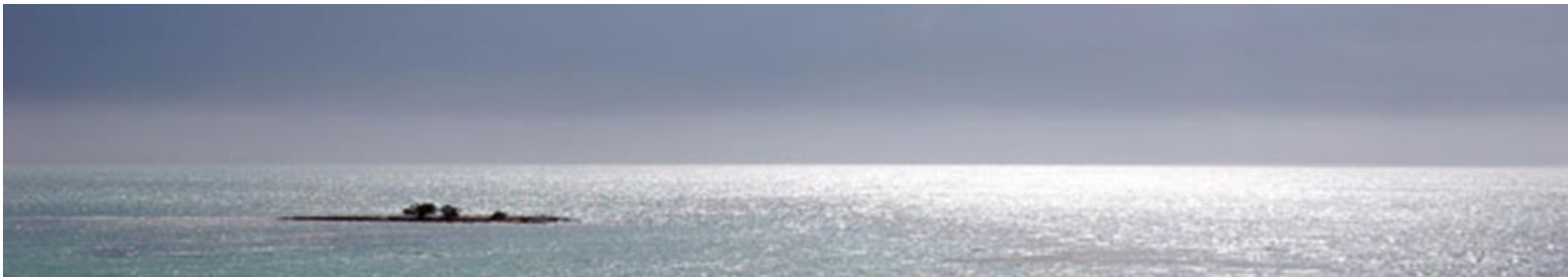
Connectivity- Tortugas



Consistent regulation- Expand boundary to include areas already closed to large vessel traffic

Sanctuary-wide Regulations: Preferred Alternative

- Limit discharge from cruise ships
- Ability to address impact from derelict and abandoned vessels



Marine Zone Boundaries & Regulations

Marine Zones

- Individual zone types provide different levels of protection
- New zones proposed to address threats, protect a range of habitat types, and facilitate restoration



Marine Zones: Wildlife Management Area

Restrict vessel operations to protect seagrass and hardbottom habitat and protect wildlife

Small and targeted and comprise the majority of existing and proposed new zones



Regulation Options: No Anchor, Idle Speed/No Wake, No Motor, No Entry

Marine Zones: Wildlife Management Area

General approach across alternatives: ex. Snipe Keys

-  No Entry
-  No Anchor
-  Idle Speed
-  Trolling Only
-  No Motor



Alternative 1



Alternative 2



Alternative 3

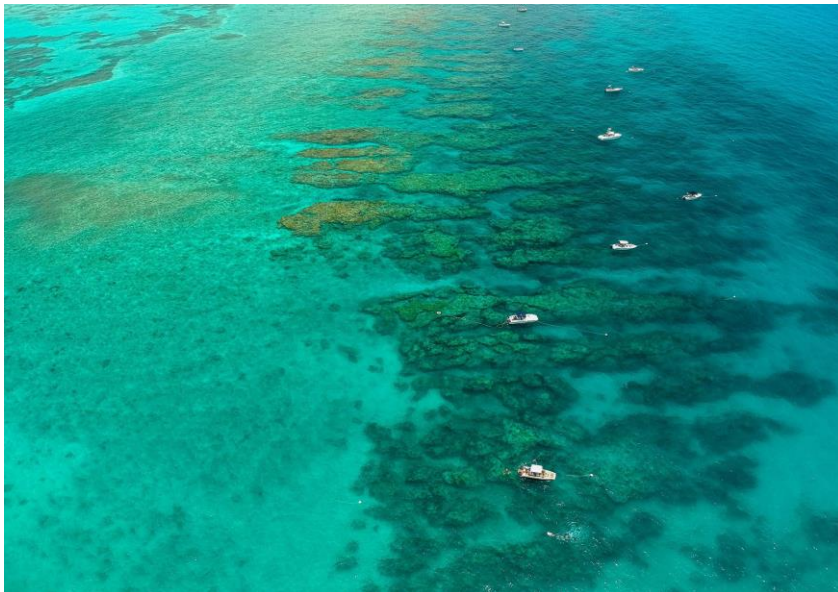


Alternative 4

Marine Zones: Sanctuary Preservation Area

Manage activities to separate conflicting uses and protect habitats




Regulations: prohibit discharge, fishing, touching or anchoring on coral



Marine Zones: Sanctuary Preservation Area

(images show preferred alternative)

Protect additional habitat types

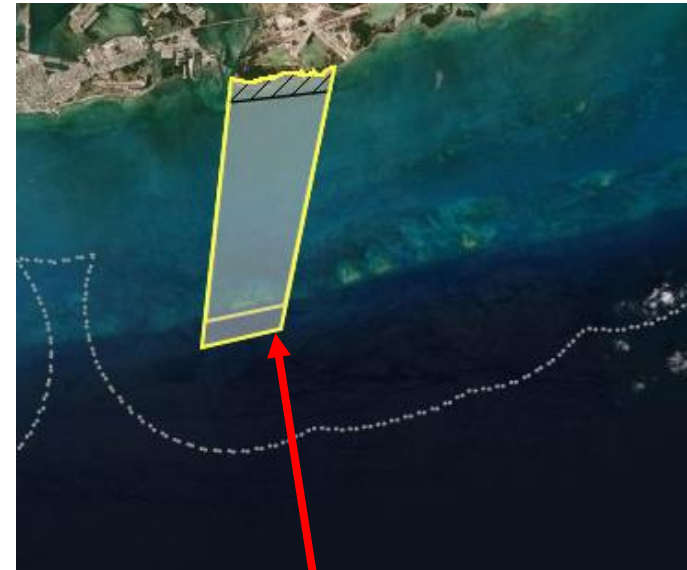
-  No Anchor
-  Idle Speed
-  Sanctuary Preservation Area

Patch Reefs



Turtle Shoal (1.4 sq mi)

Deep Reefs



Western Sambo (adds 2 sq mi)

Marine Zones: Sanctuary Preservation Area

(images show preferred alternative)

Test application of limited use zones in the sanctuary



Marine Zones: Conservation Area

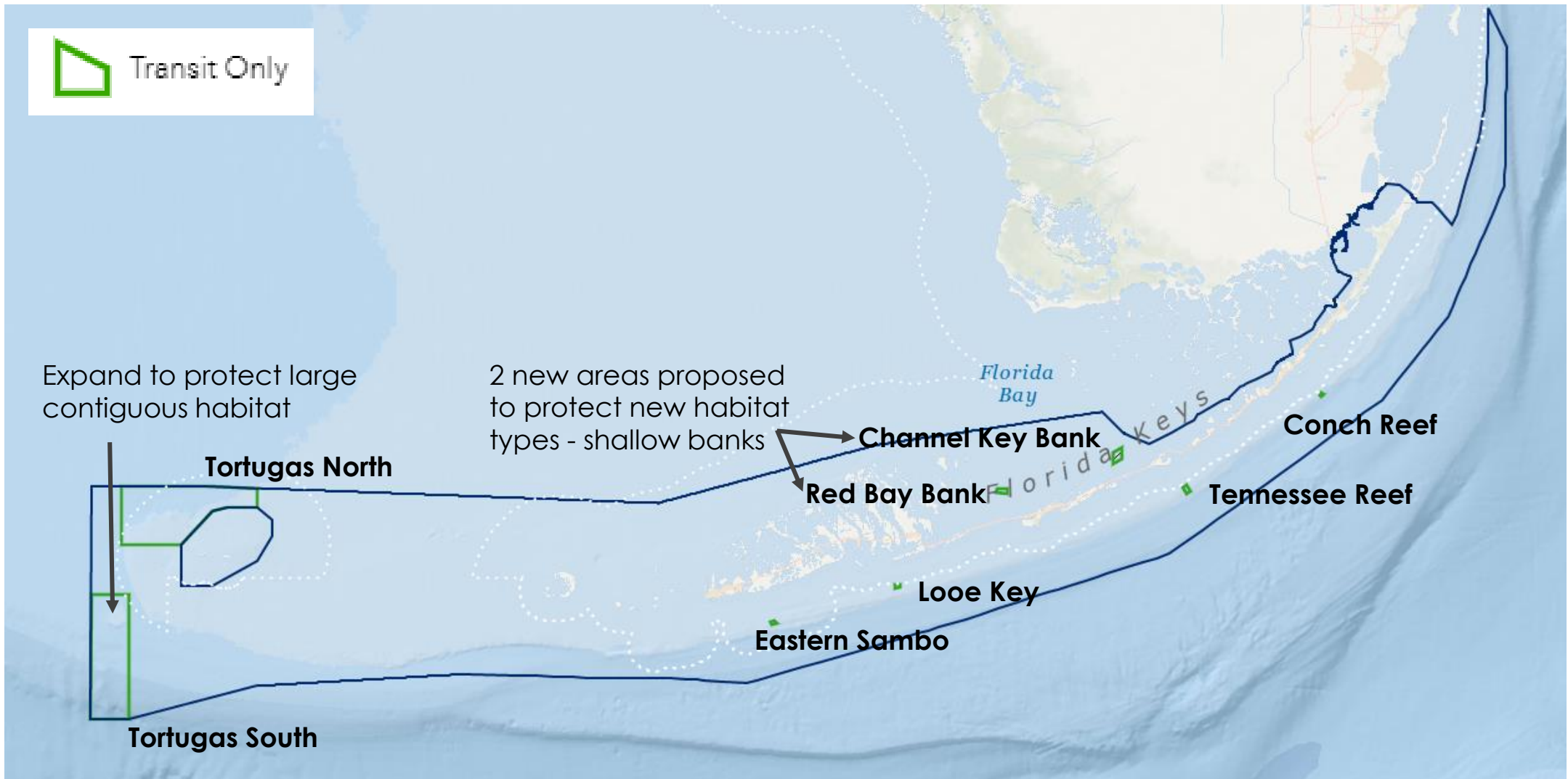
Most protective zone type; Combines existing Ecological Reserve and Special Use zones

Regulations: transit only (unless with a valid sanctuary permit)



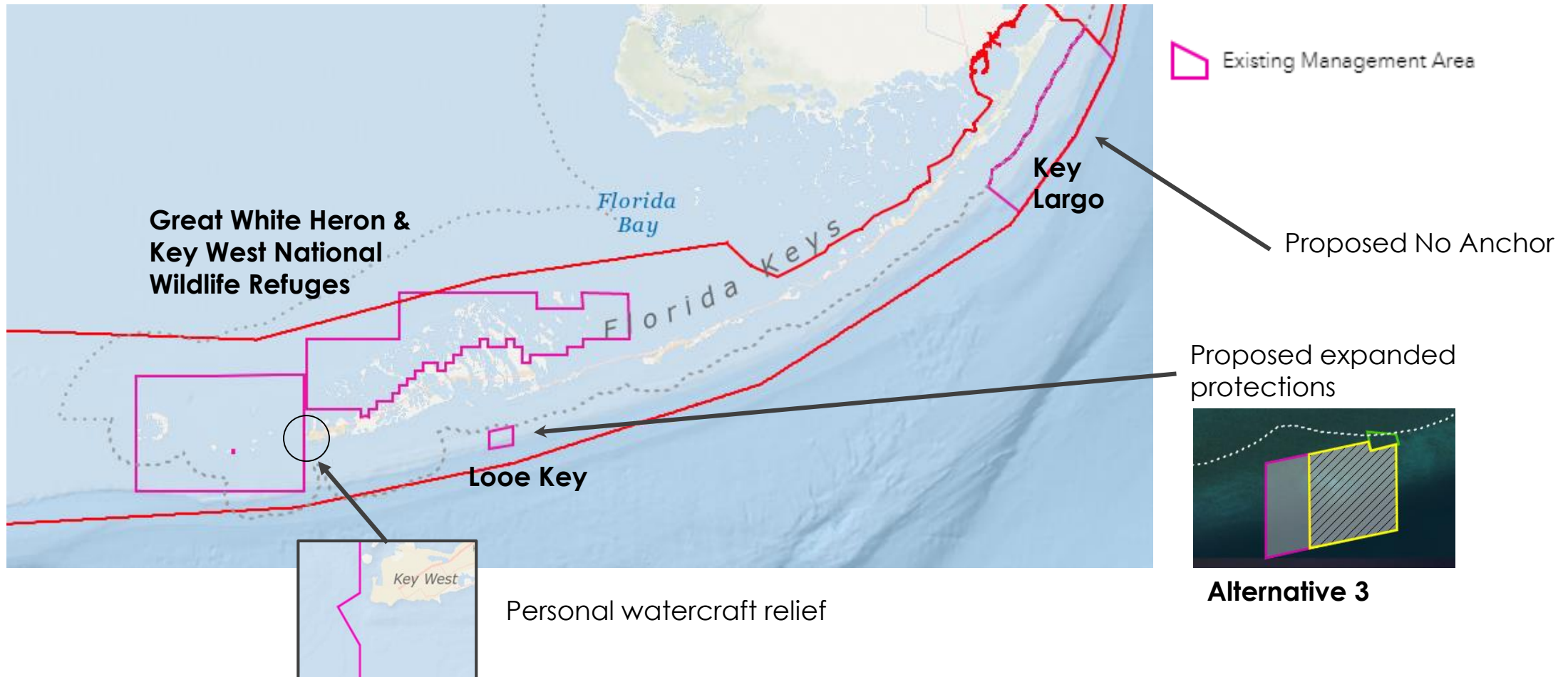
Marine Zones: Conservation Area

Preferred alternative



Marine Zones: Management Areas

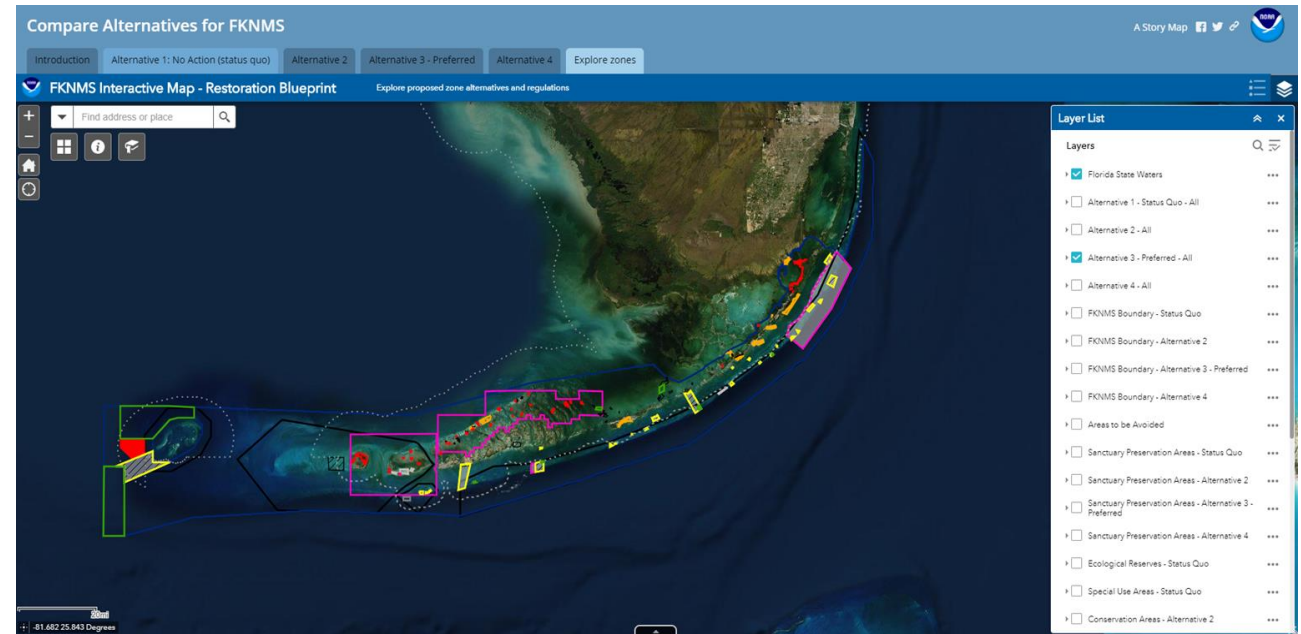
Areas that were already established when FKNMS was designated in 1990
(Proposed name update from “Existing Management Areas”)



Restoration Blueprint Information Tools

Dedicated webpage at floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint

[Interactive Map](#) to explore alternatives

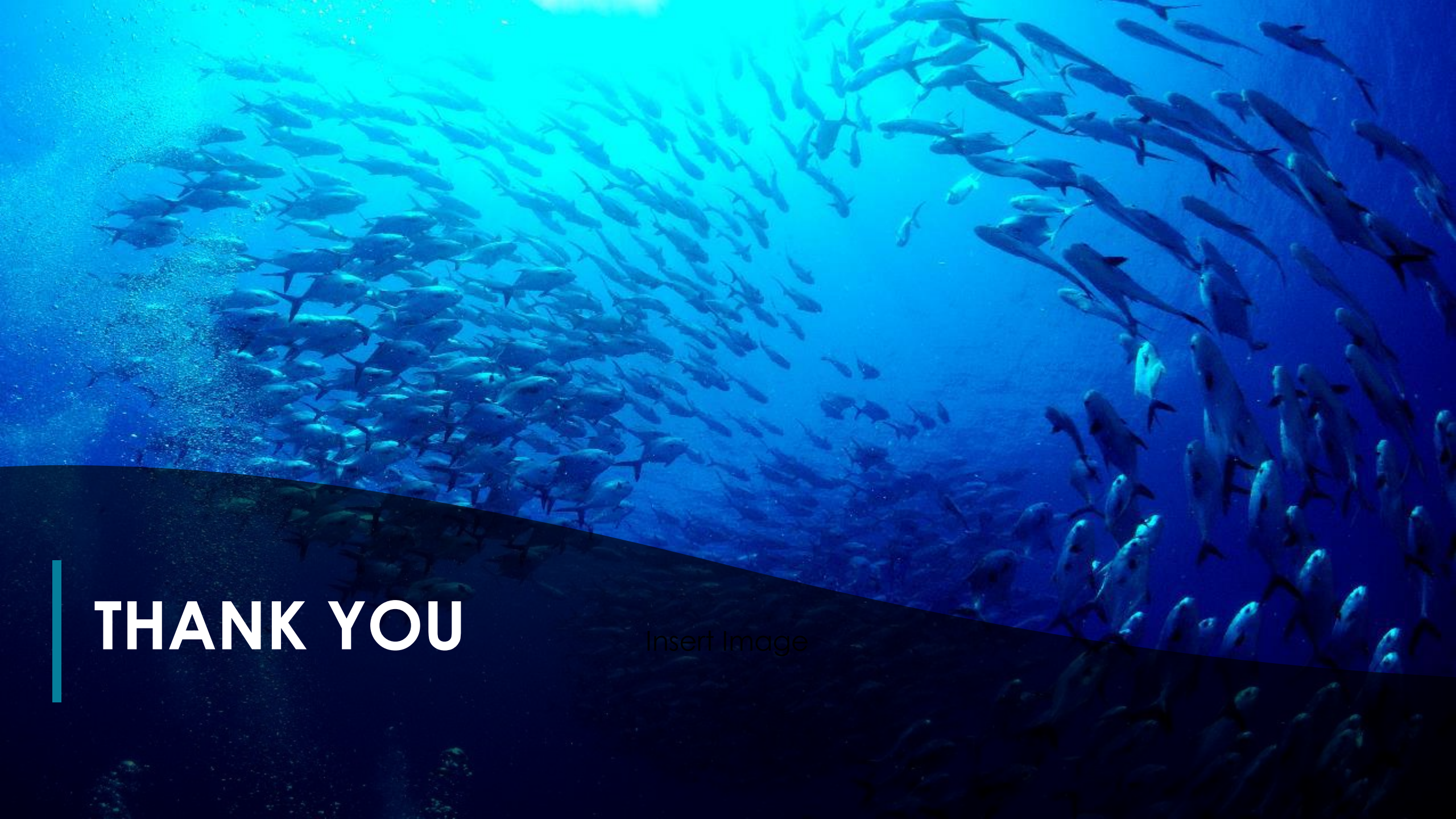


Advisory Council and Public Information Sessions

Date	Meeting Type	Public engagement opportunity	Location
August 20	Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting	Listening Session	Marathon
September 23	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Written Comment	Key West
September 30	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Written Comment	Marathon
October 7	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Written Comment	Tavernier
October 15	Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting	Written and Oral Public Comment	TBD
October 28	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Oral Public Comment	Miami
November 4	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Oral Public Comment	Ft. Myers
December 10	Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting	Written and Oral Public Comment	TBD

Public Comment Period:
Submit public comments:

August 20, 2019 - January 31, 2020
www.regulations.gov



THANK YOU

Insert Image