

City of Key West

Water Quality Monitoring / Water Quality Improvement Plan



Alison Higgins
Resiliency Manager
ahiggins@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

KEY WEST FORWARD

The Strategic Plan for the City of Key West
2021-2024



Restoration Blueprint

In an effort to protect and restore critical marine habitats in the Florida Keys, the sanctuary is proposing a Restoration Blueprint that embodies what we have learned through more than 20 years of cutting-edge science, technical experience, and local community involvement.

World class fishing and diving

More than 6,000 species

3,800 square miles

FL KEYS	Coral Reef
	Fish Species
	Acidification
	Florida Keys NMS Restoration Blueprint

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES
FLORIDA KEYS

The residents spoke:
Water Quality is Important

Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan

DRAFT



Karen Bohnsack, NOAA



Dr Nick Parr, FDEP



Dr Patrick Rice, CFK



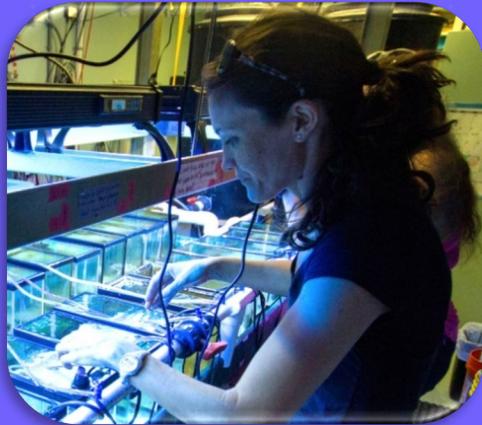
Shelly Krueger, UF/Monroe



Mil McCleary, Reef Relief



Dr. Emily Hall, Mote



Brittany Burtner, Monroe



Erin Nugent, Jacobs



Key West Water Quality Advisors

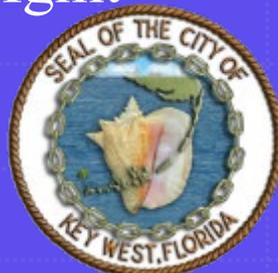


11 Goals:

- 1) Increase Partnerships to address Marine Debris and Derelict Vessels
- 2) Ensure Adequate Staffing and Support to Effectively Manage/Advance the WQIP
- 3) Data Management
- 4) Maintain Adherence to Best Management Practices/Technology for Stormwater Mgmt
- 5) Evaluate Existing Water Quality Improvement Program
- 6) Incorporate Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC) into Monitoring Programs
- 7) Strengthen Regulations to Reduce Marine and Boater Pollution
- 8) Advocate for Upstream Water Quality Improvements
- 9) Determine WQ Risks and Mitigation Actions Derived from Climate Change
- 10) Participate in Targeted, Shared Educational Campaigns
- 11) Maintain Adherence to Best Management Practices/Technology for Wastewater Mgmt

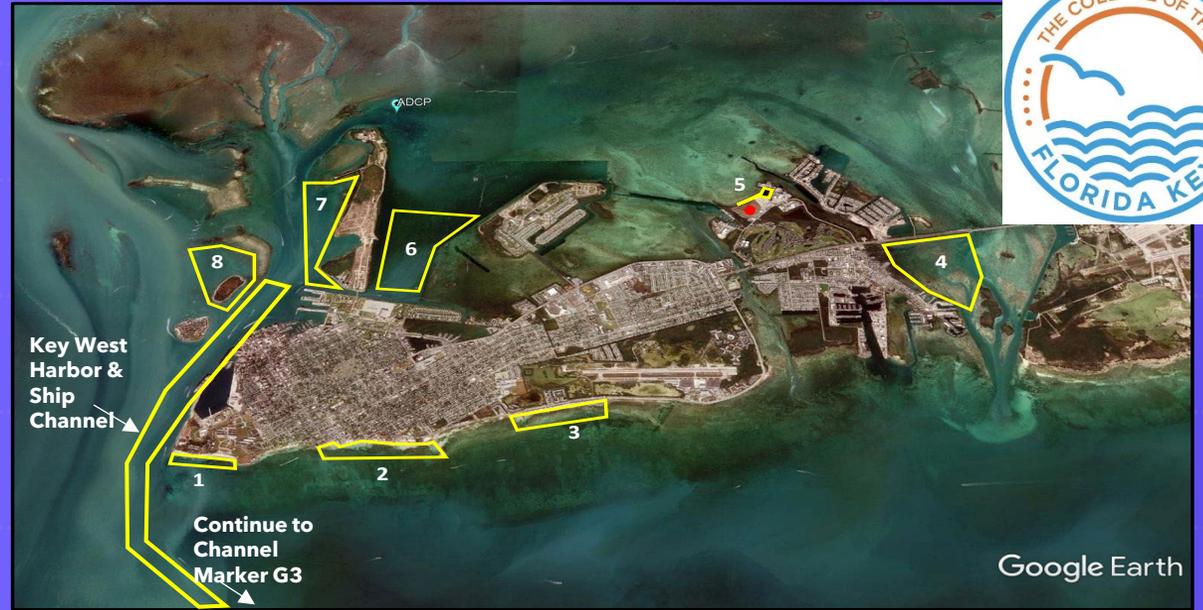
DRAFT

Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan



FY25 Operational Plan: Water Quality Monitoring

CFK EPA Grant #2:
Contaminants of Emerging Concern



FDOH Partnership:
Increase Monitoring of Swimming areas

Beach Samples for: Monroe County				(for <i>Enterococcus</i>)	
1226	SMATHERS BEACH	1/14/2025	Good ?	No	View Samples

SCAN HERE FOR
WATER QUALITY UPDATE
at Smathers Beach






Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan

FY25 Operational Plan: Water Quality Monitoring

Entities: 10+

Sites: 46+

Parameters: 50+

● Short term / Past Monitoring

● Long term / Ongoing Monitoring



Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan



FY25 Operational Plan

Goal: Maintain Adherence to Best Management Practices/Technology for Wastewater Mgmt

Action: Obtain funding for Wastewater Pipe Infrastructure (#1)

Support Stock Island shallow injection well study (#2)

Goal: Maintain Adherence to Best Management Practices/Technology for Stormwater Mgmt

Action: Support Utilities in upgrading Stormwater Fee Tiers (#3)

Identify other potential WQ Policy languages (#14)

Tweak Pump Out language (#15)

Goal: Strengthen Regulations to Reduce Marine and Boater Pollution

Action: Better trash cans near ocean (#4)

Increase Clean Marina Certifications (#7)

Increase Marine Pump Out services (#17)

Annual Keyswide Debris workshop (#18)



Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan

FY25 Operational Plan

Goal: Improve Data Management

Action: Upload marina/landfill data to public database (#5)

Ensure all new data can be utilized in WIN public database (#9)

Create reports from marina/outfall/landfill data (#12)

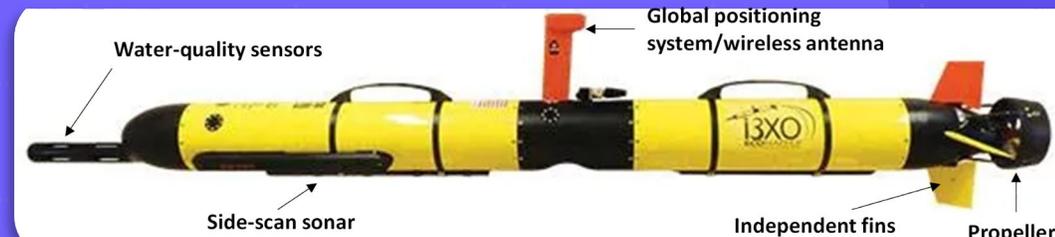


Goal: Incorporate Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC) into Monitoring Programs

Action: Create Keyswide team to create CEC gameplan (#8)

Partner with CFK on CEC monitoring (in motion)

Partner with Monroe County on monitoring new mooring field (new)



Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan

FY25 Operational Plan

Goal: Participate in Targeted, Shared Educational Campaigns

Action: Outreach Plan (#11)

Fertilizer Campaign (#6)

Rainbarrel Campaign (#10)

Collaborate with WQPP Educational Committee (#13)

Publicize Conch Republic Marine Army (#16)

Encourage reporting of dumping (#19)

Share current research (#20)

Partnership with Reef Relief for Plastic Free Keys (in motion)



Key West Water Quality Improvement Plan

City of Key West

Water Quality Monitoring / Water Quality Improvement Plan

Questions?

Alison Higgins
Resiliency Manager
ahiggins@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

