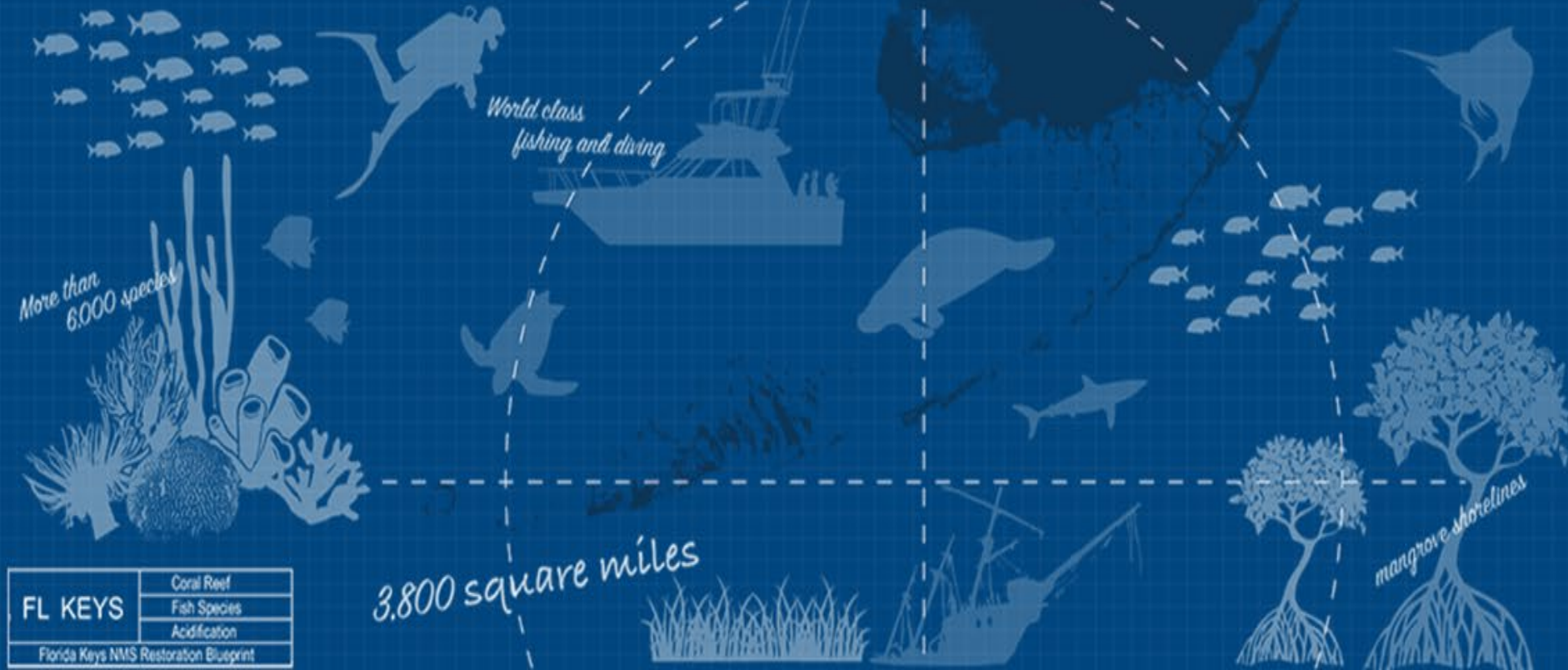




FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY RESTORATION BLUEPRINT



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

Economic Impact of Visitors

A Healthy Florida Keys Ecosystem Provides:

\$2.9 Billion

in tourism spending*

44%

of Jobs
(Highest percentage in FL)**

60%

of Monroe County economy**



*Gazal, Andrew & Burns/2021

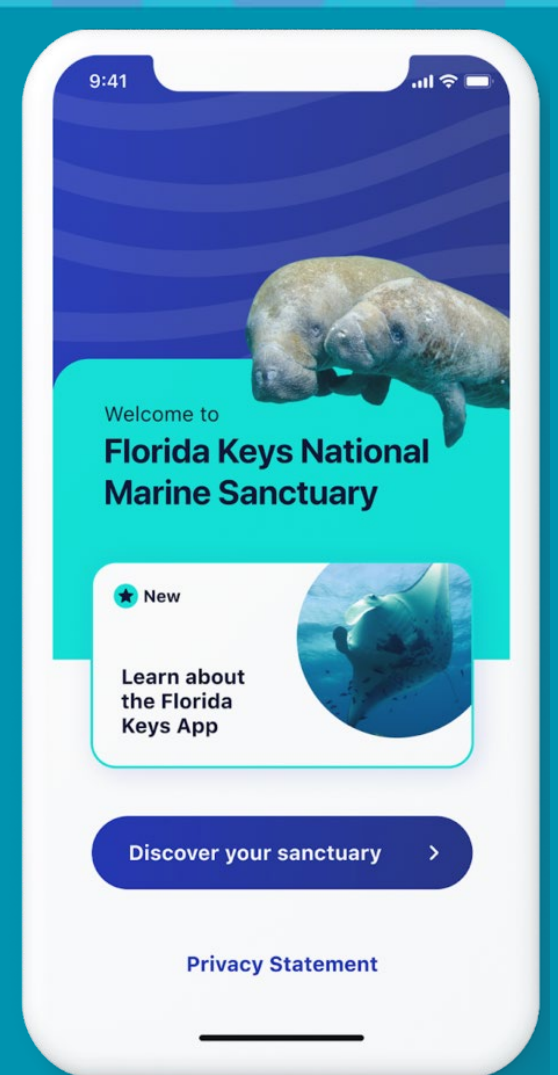
**TBD Economics/2019



NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE FLORIDA KEYS

The Future of the Keys Marine Environment is at Risk

Local Action to Enhance Resilience



Community-Led Effort



**50 Advisory Council Members +
35 Community Members**

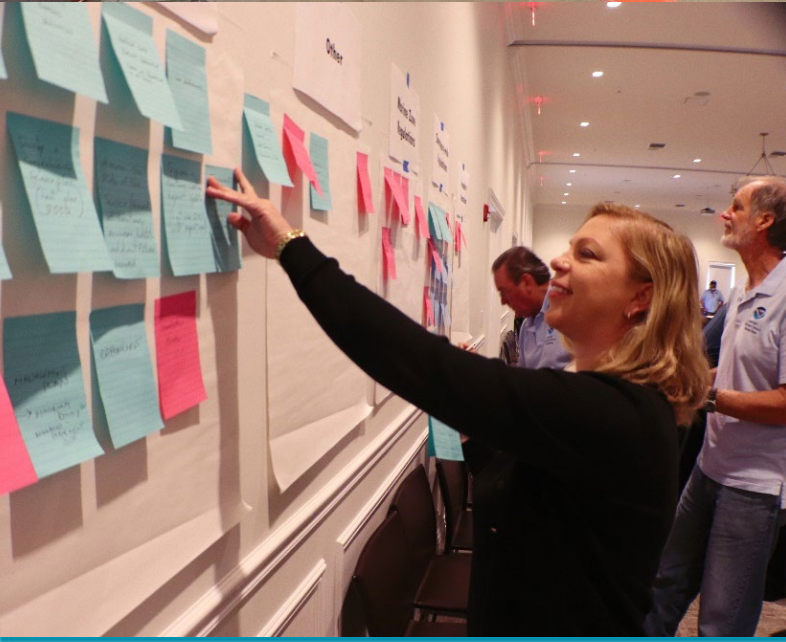
70 Public Meetings

**200 Recommendations
to Superintendent**

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement
4 Alternatives**

8 Public Meetings

Over 35,000 Public comments



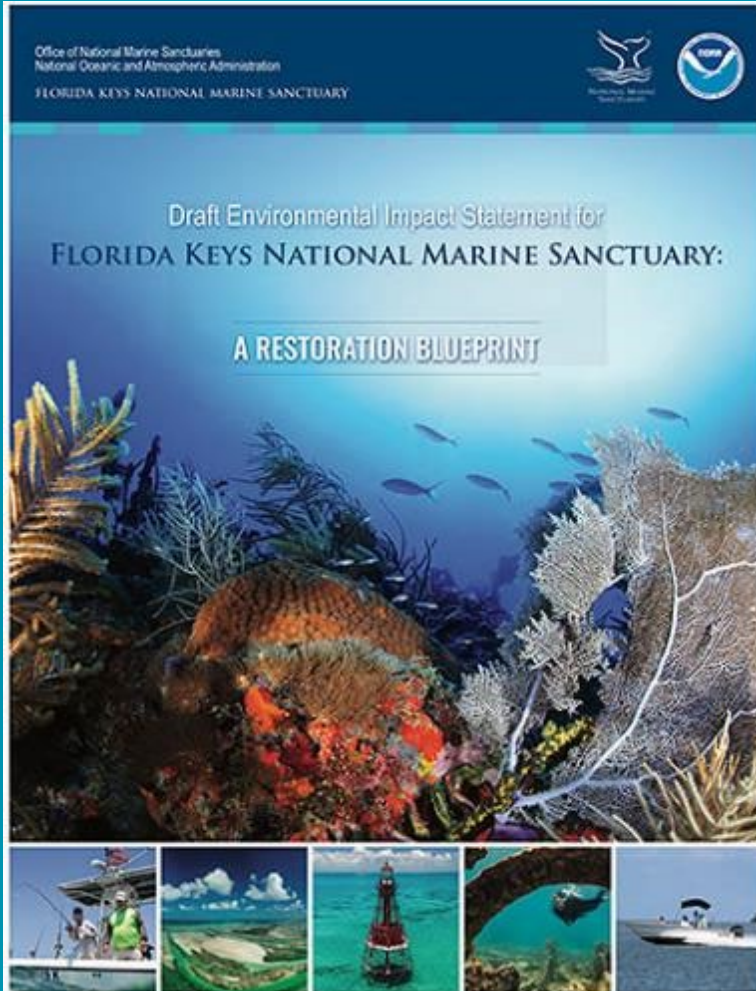
Turning Comments into Compromise





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SANCTUARY

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking



Proposed regulations for:

- Sanctuary boundary
- Sanctuary-wide regulations
- Marine zones & zone-specific regulations

Proposed Rule is informed by:

- Public and agency comment
- Updated socio-economic and environmental data

Pulls from all four alternatives included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement



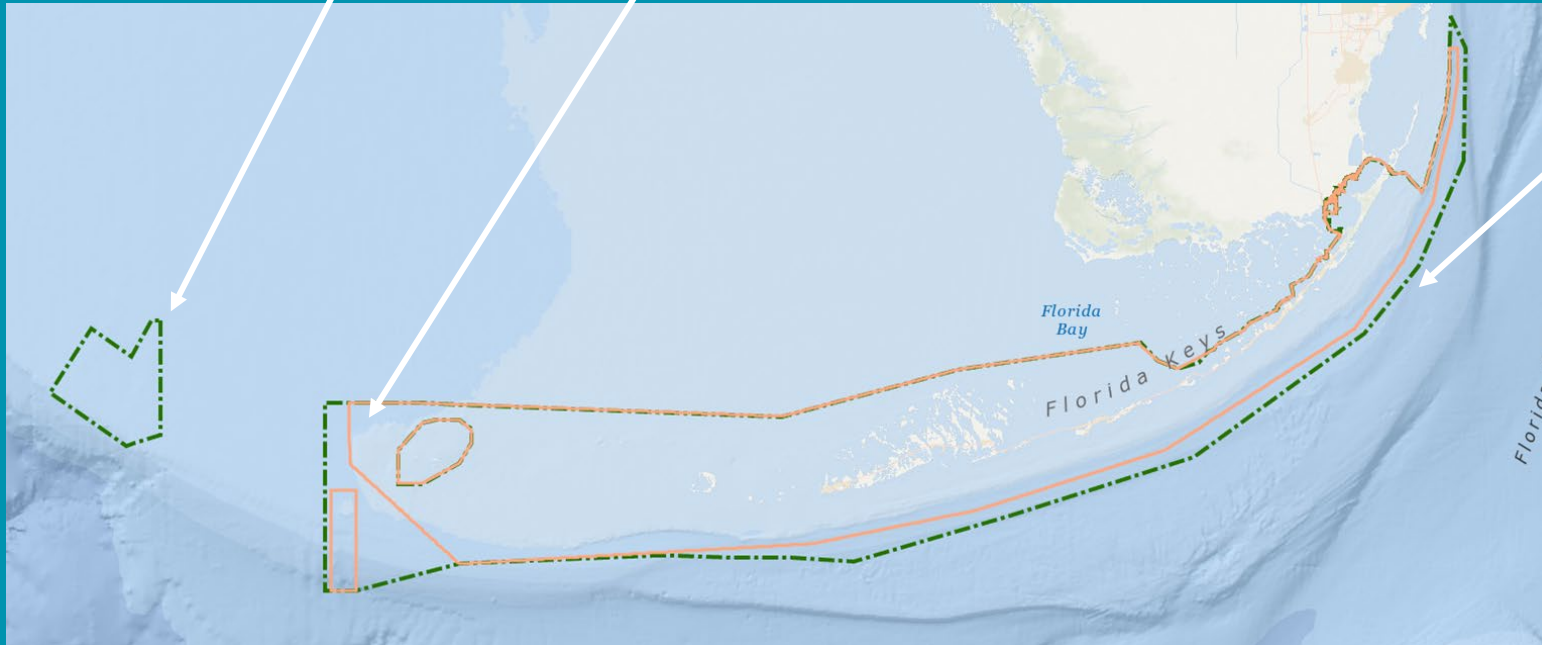
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Sanctuary Boundary: Proposed Expansion



Nationally Significant - Pulley Ridge

Connect & Preserve Special Habitats

Connectivity - Tortugas Region

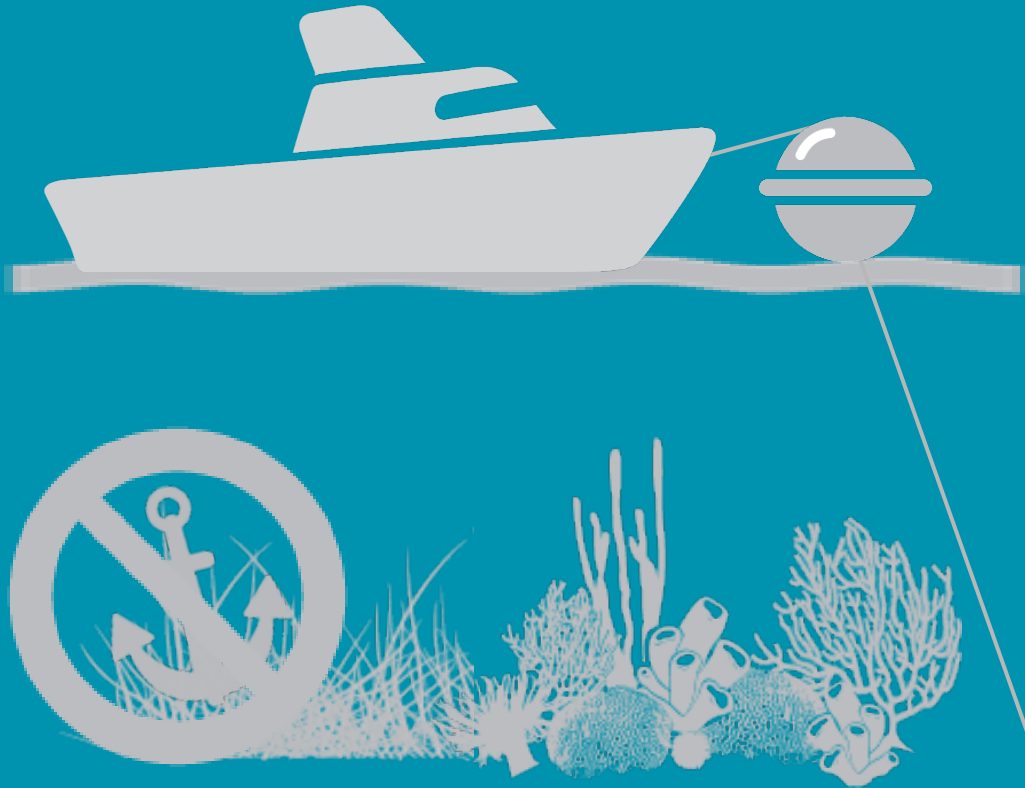


Consistent regulation - Expand boundary to include areas already closed to large vessel traffic

-  Existing: 3,800 sq miles
-  Proposed: 4,800 sq miles



Maintain Buoys & Protect Habitat



Proposed regulation:

- Require use of mooring buoys in all SPAs, Restoration Areas & Conservation Areas
- Require vessels over 65' to use large vessel mooring buoys

Marine Zones & Associated Regulations: Proposal Goals

- Protect sensitive habitats and ecological functions
- Facilitate ecosystem restoration
- Simplify and create consistent regulations

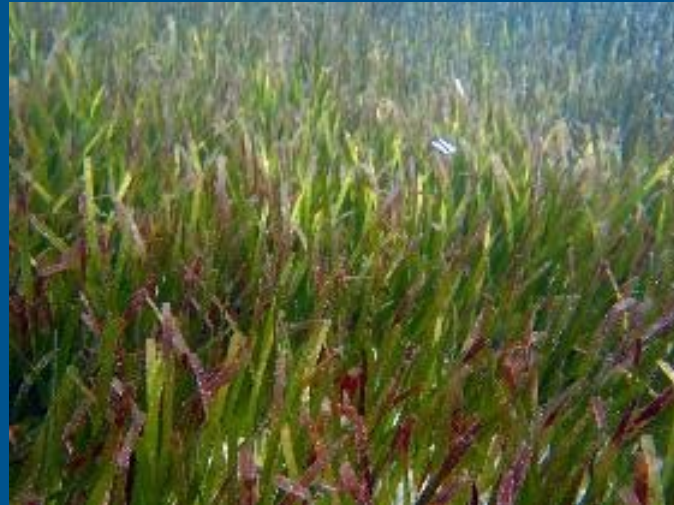


Photo Credit: Shawn Verne



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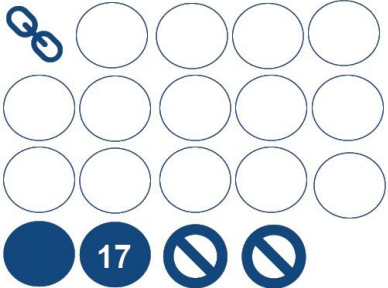
SANCTUARY PRESERVATION AREAS

Separate Conflicting Uses, Protect Habitats, Create Consistency

Sanctuary Preservation Areas

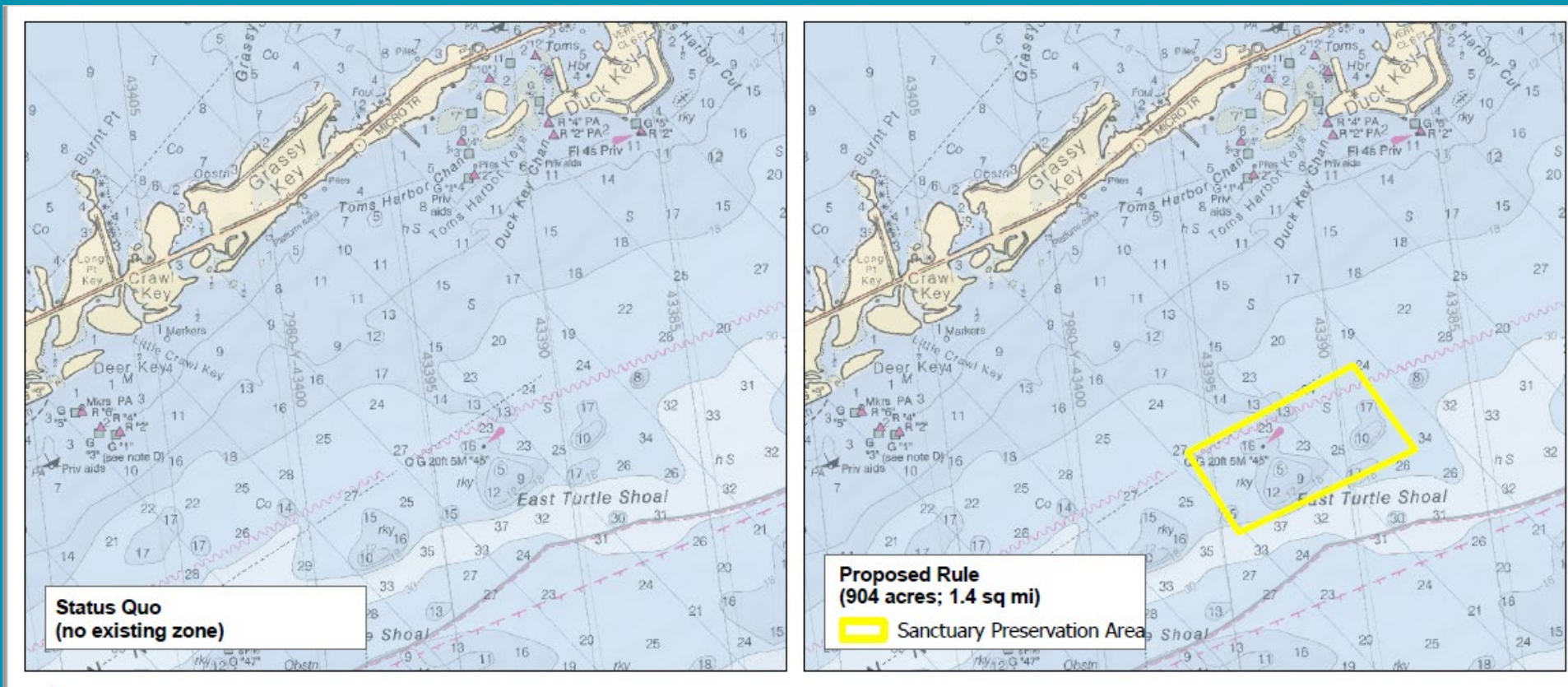
6.4

12.1





Separate Conflicting Uses, Protect Habitats, Create Consistency





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CONSERVATION AREAS

Protect Contiguous, Diverse Habitats & Facilitate Research

Conservation Areas

194

213



6





Tennessee Reef Conservation Area

Facilitate Research, Protect Habitats

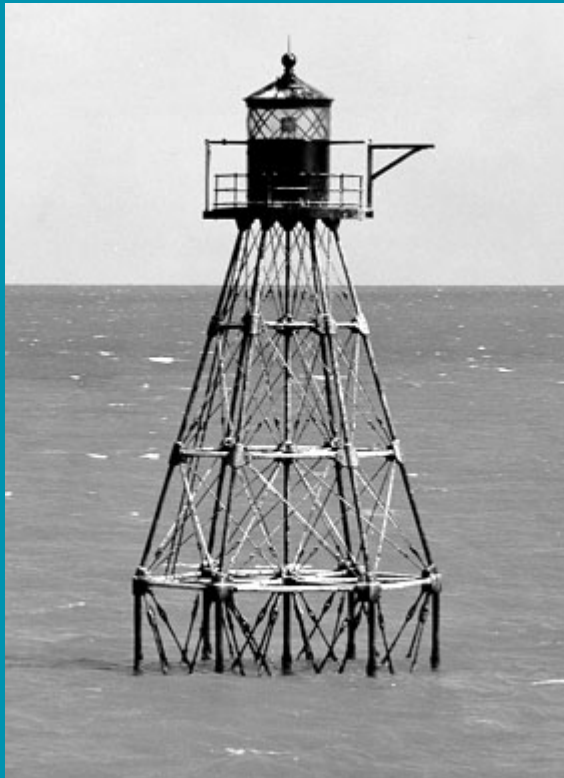
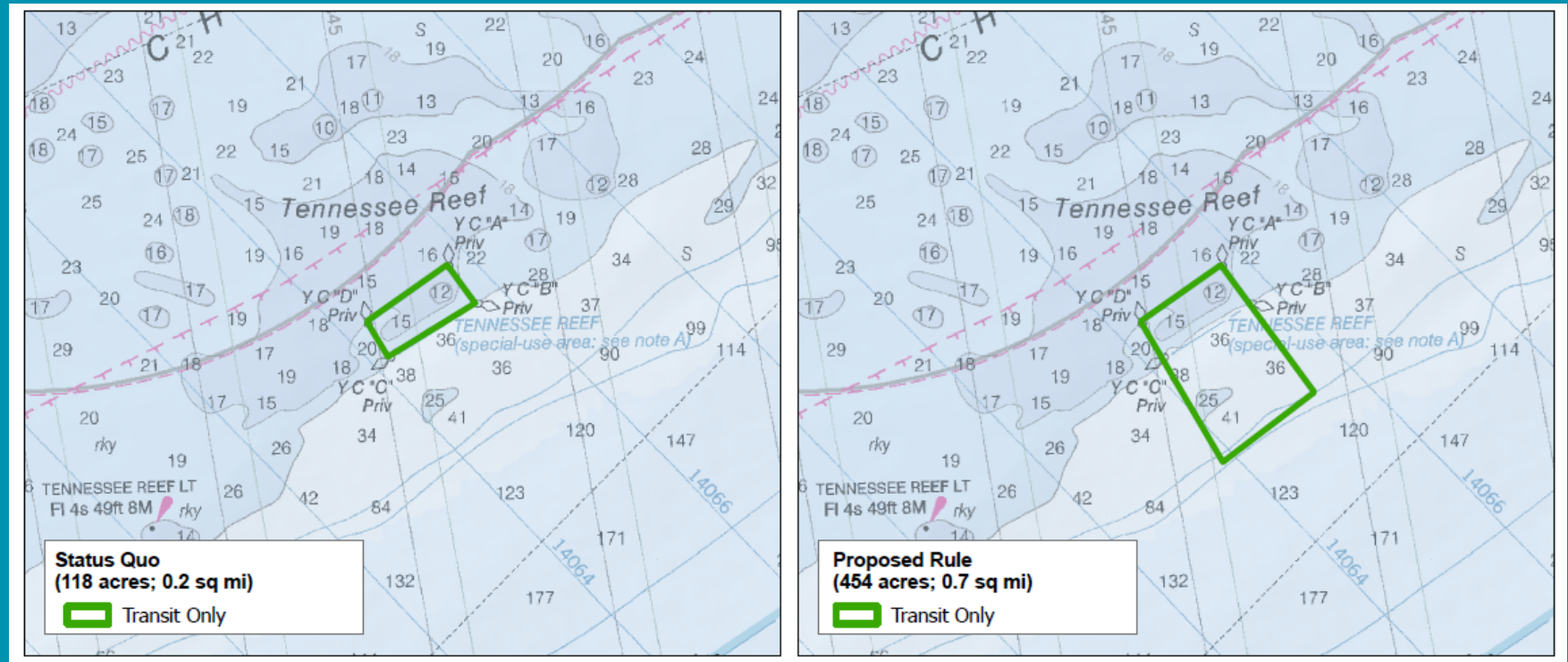


Photo Credit: USCG





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RESTORATION AREAS

Protect Nurseries & Facilitate Restoration

Restoration
Areas

0

1.4





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RESTORATION AREAS

Marathon and Middle Keys Restoration Areas (0.27 sq miles)



 Nursery Restoration Area



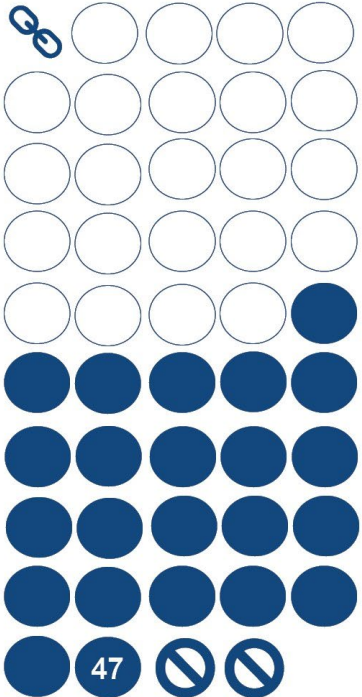
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WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

Protect & Minimize Wildlife Disturbance

Wildlife Management Areas

37.5 322.6

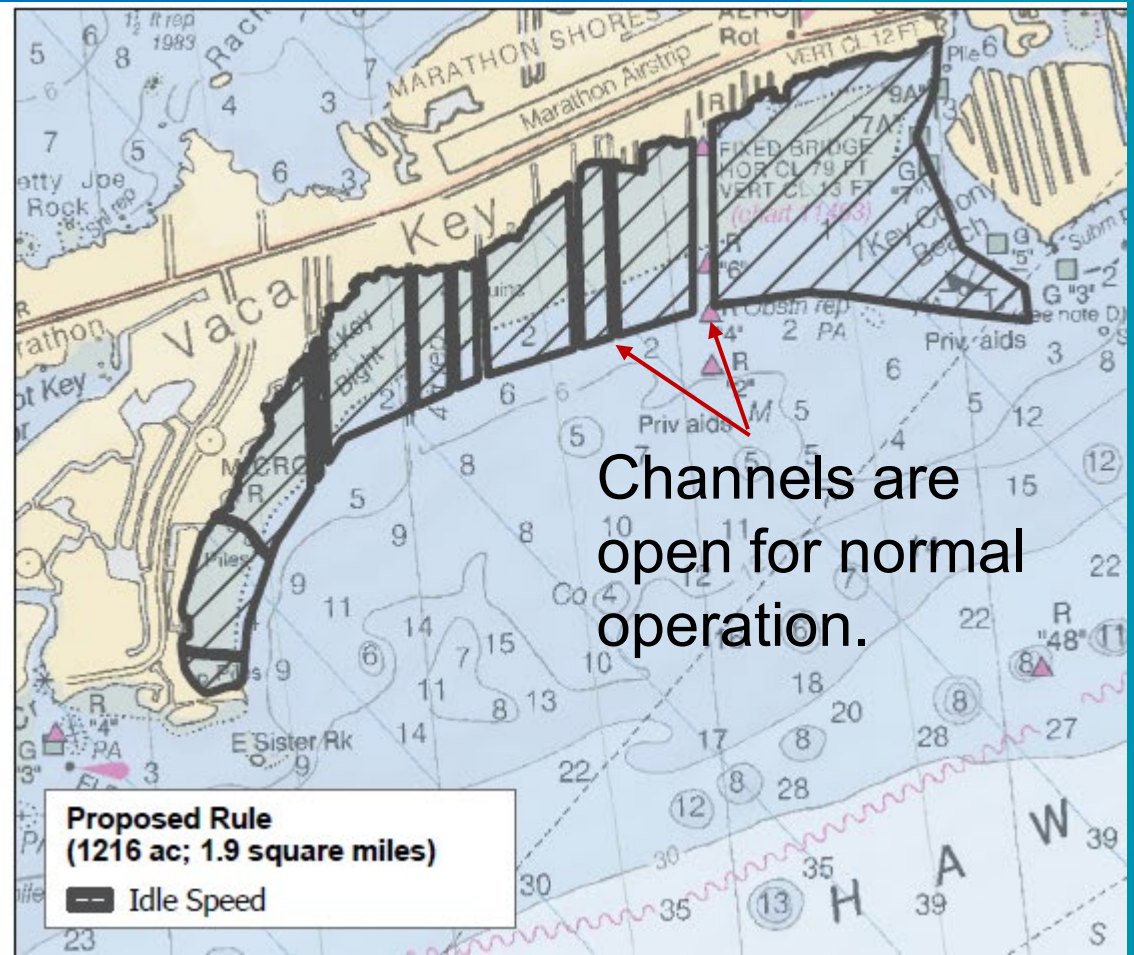
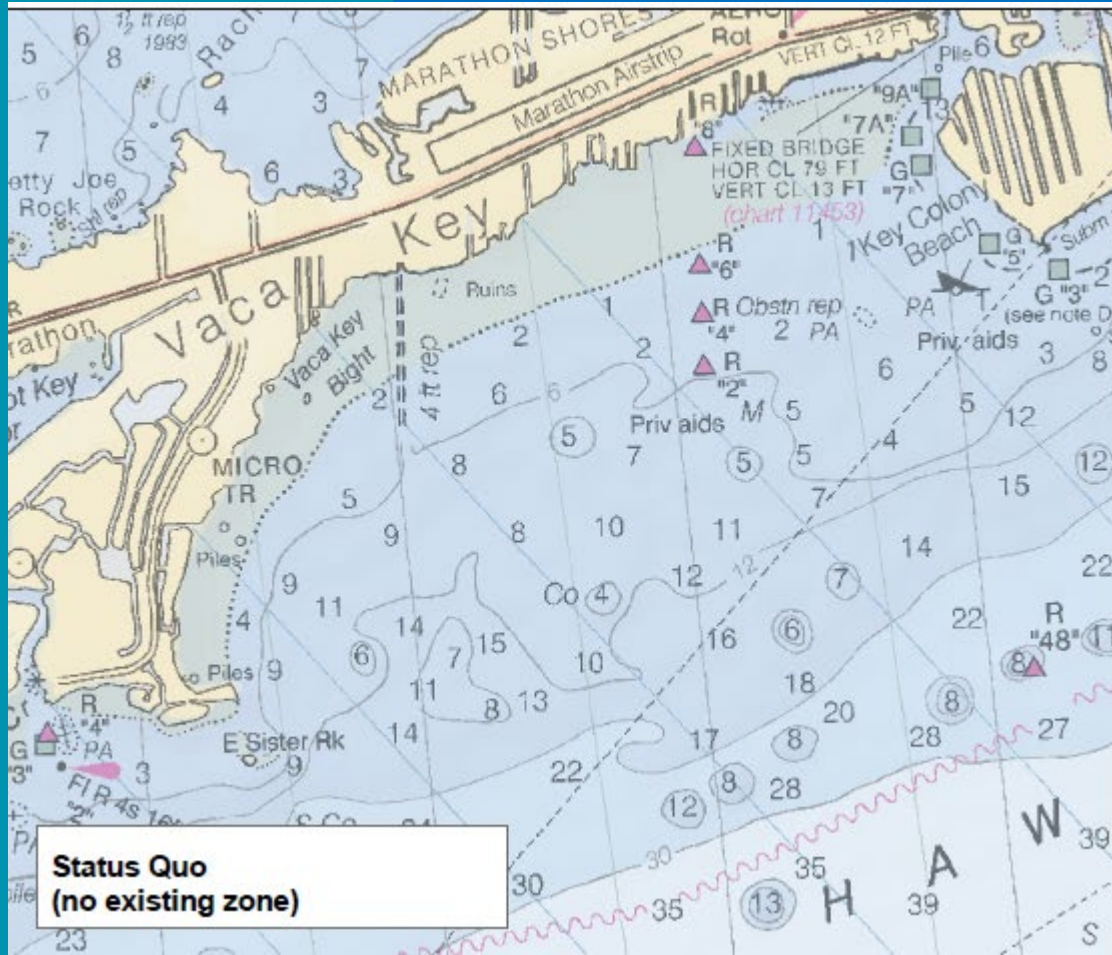


Regulations Vary





Protect & Minimize Wildlife Disturbance

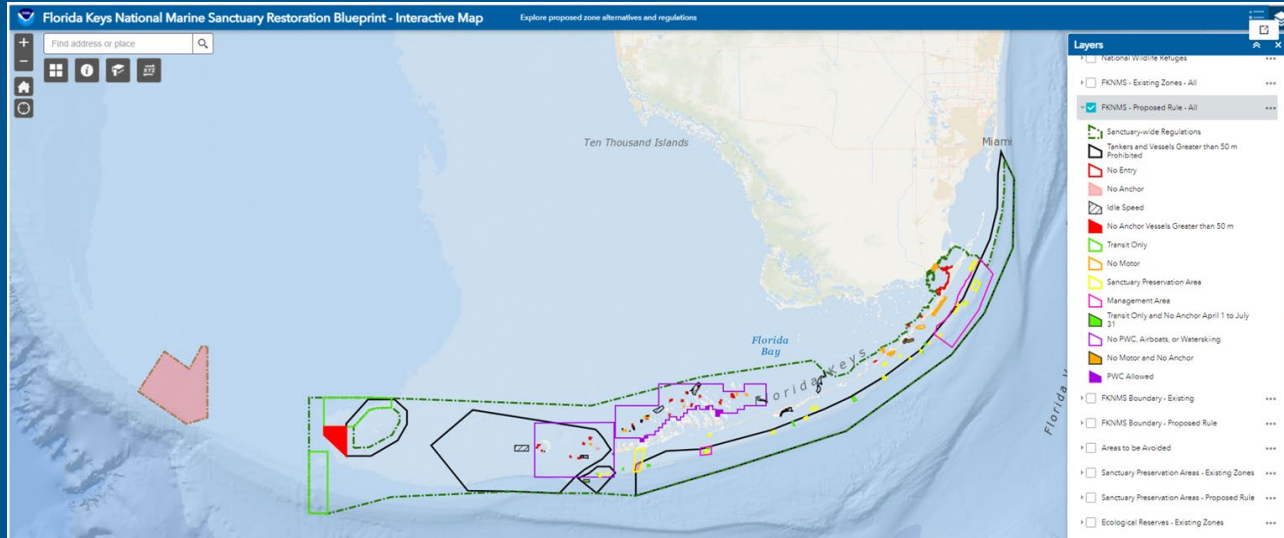


Channels are open for normal operation.

Proposed Rule
(1216 ac; 1.9 square miles)

Idle Speed

Blueprint Website



Sanctuary Preservation Areas	Proposed spatial and/or regulatory changes			Purpose of proposed spatial and/or regulatory change
	New zone	Spatial change	Regulatory change	
Turtle Rocks (Upper Keys)	Yes	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed new zone overlaps with the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park No Lobster Trap Zone, and expand slightly to include additional historical resources Addition of no anchor regulation to reduce potential anchor damage to sensitive habitats All other existing SPA regulations apply

VIDEOS

Watch these videos to learn more about the purpose of different marine zones and proposed changes under the Restoration Blueprint for Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS



SANCTUARY PRESERVATION AREAS

floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint



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Public Comment Opportunities

Q&A

- August 16 - Virtual ✓

Public Comment →

- August 30 - Virtual ✓
- September 20 – Coral Shores H.S.
- September 21 – Marathon H.S.
- September 22 – Key West H.S.
- October 18 – Marathon - Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting
- Oct. 26 – COMMENT CLOSES



Learn more and make your comments
by scanning the QR code or visit:
floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint/

The graphic features a central QR code inside a dark blue circle, set against a white grid background. Surrounding the QR code are silhouettes of marine life: a school of fish in the top left, a manatee in the top right, a sea turtle in the bottom left, and a shark in the bottom right.



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