

Fisheries and Conservation in the Coral ECA: A Stakeholder Process

What is it?

A stakeholder process to develop recommendations for potential fisheries and environmental management actions to enhance coral reef ecosystem conservation and fishing quality in the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area (ECA).

The process is driven by a Fisheries Stakeholder Committee and involves review of scientific information, and wider community engagement through public meetings and surveys.

Who is involved?

The process engages diverse fisheries stakeholders from southeast Florida, including recreational anglers and spearfishers, headboat and charter operators, commercial fishers targeting reef-associated species, marine life collectors, marine industry (bait and tackle shops, marinas) and their respective organizations.

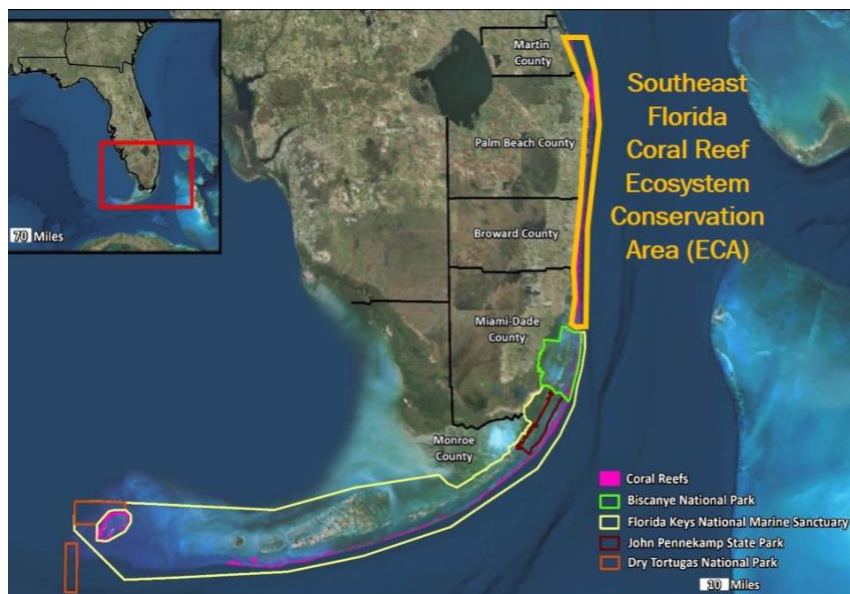
The process is facilitated by the University of Florida (UF) and supported by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Coral Reef Conservation Program. Other partners include the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the NOAA Coral Reef Program.

Why is it happening?

Coral reefs ecosystems and fisheries in the Coral ECA have suffered long-term decline. Fishing stakeholders are interested in working together towards enhancing conservation of these ecosystems and resources.

How will the recommendations be used?

The recommendations will be made for consideration by agencies and will be subject to further deliberation through the respective agencies' rule making processes.



Get involved

To find recent updates, meeting dates, registration details and minutes, visit <https://bit.ly/CoralECA>.

For questions or additional information, please contact Susana Hervas at shervas@ufl.edu.

