



2025 Final Restoration Blueprint: Tortugas Region Maps





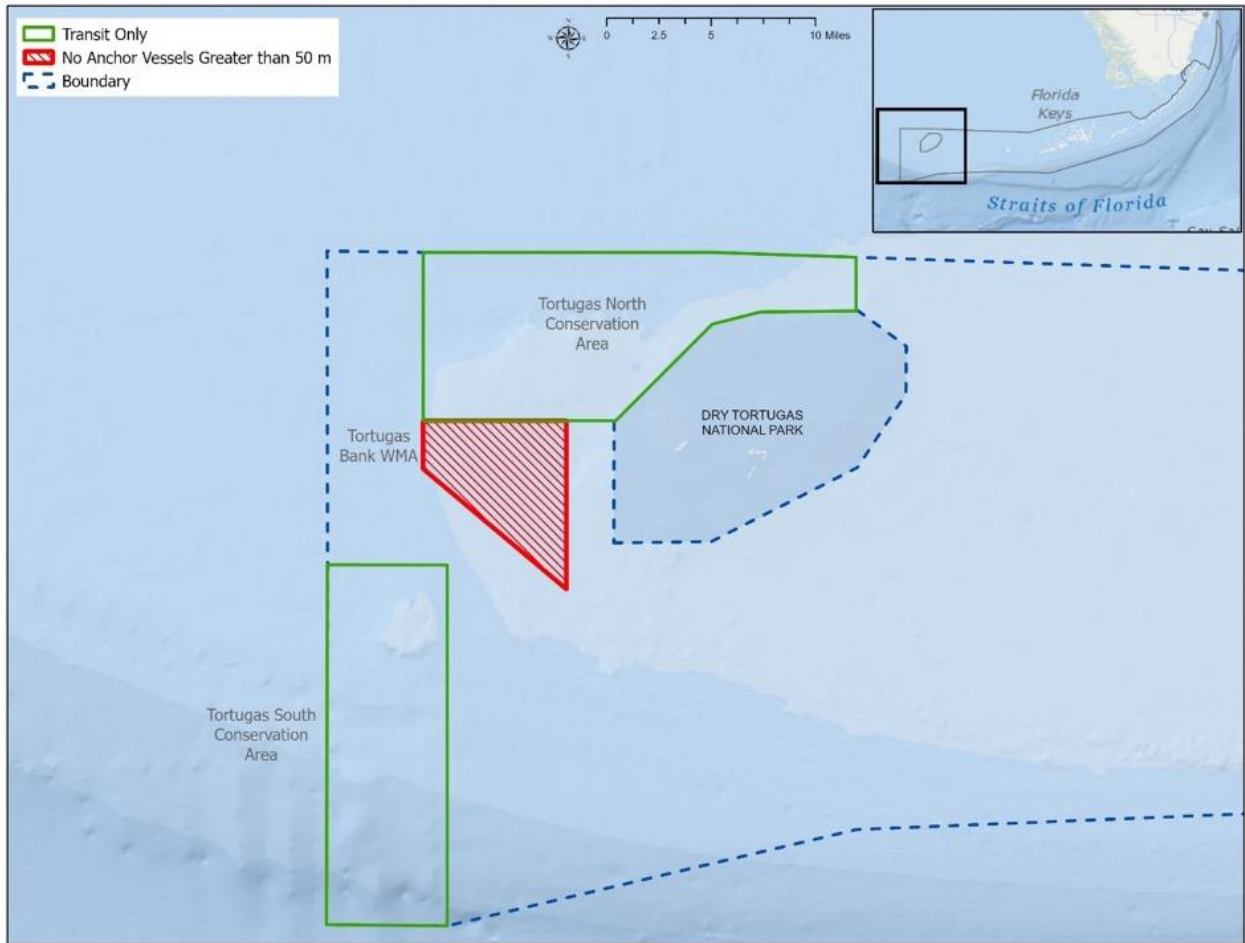
Tortugas Region: Marine Zones

Tortugas Regional Map 2

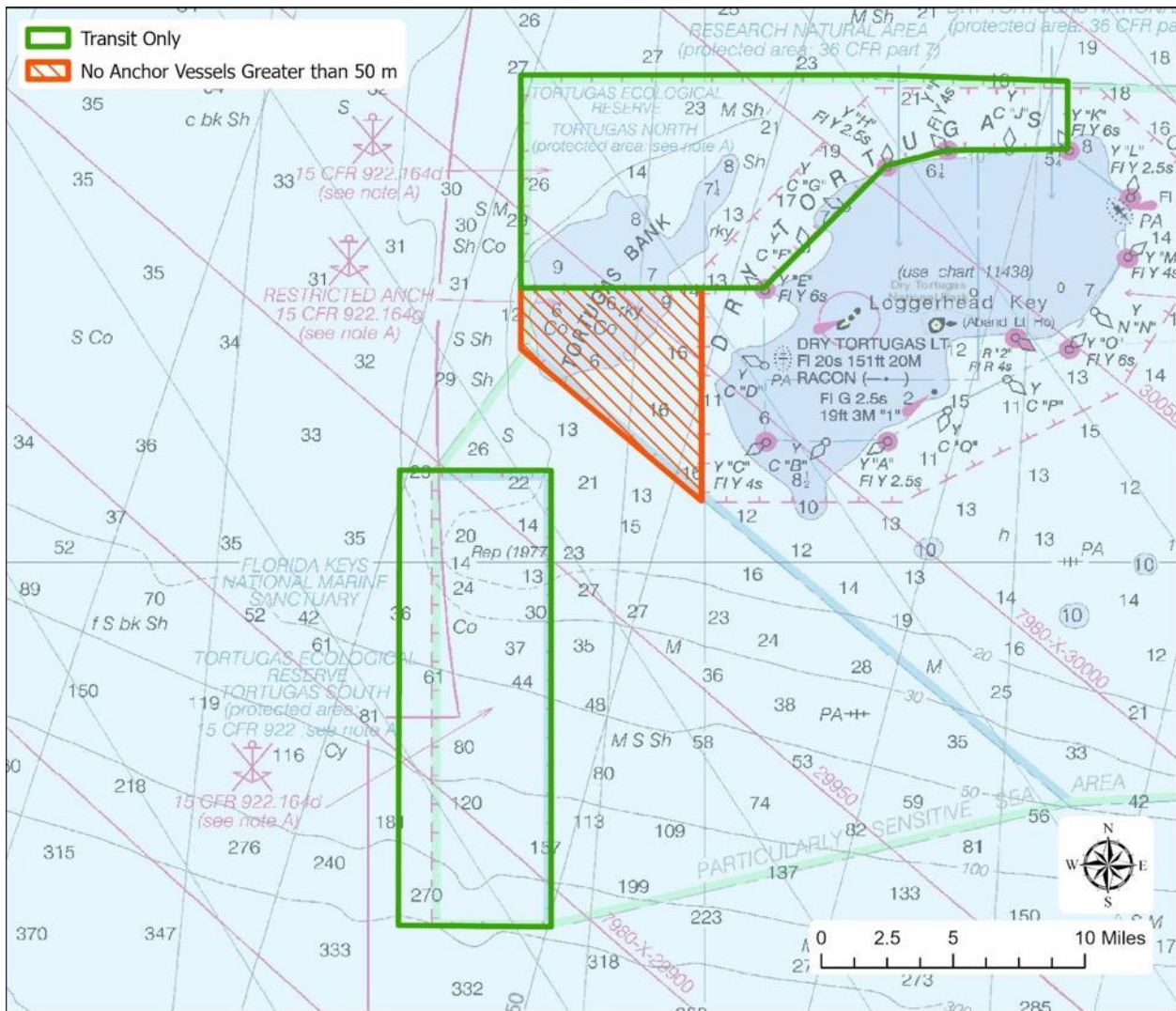
Tortugas North and Tortugas South Conservation Areas and Tortugas Bank Wildlife Management Area 3

Cover photo: Spectacular marine life, minimally affected by disease and human impacts, inhabits the Tortugas Ecological Reserve North. Photo: Greg McFall/NOAA

Tortugas Regional Map




Tortugas North and Tortugas South Conservation Areas and Tortugas Bank Wildlife Management Area



Tortugas North Conservation Area: This site, with the Dry Tortugas National Park Research Natural Area, protects an ecologically-diverse seascape that contains seagrass beds, shallow coral reef habitats, hardbottom areas, deep reef areas, and pinnacles that connect inshore juvenile fish habitats to offshore adult spawning areas. The Dry Tortugas region supports the largest remaining thickets of ESA-listed elkhorn coral and staghorn coral as well as high cover of deep-water star corals. Tortugas North, approximately 109 square miles (69,789 acres) has been a marine zone since 2000. The 2025 updated regulations make no change to this zones area or regulations.

Tortugas South Conservation Area: Tortugas South Conservation Area is expanded to protect fish and coral life. This area protects high species and habitat diversity and abundance, and a known multi-fish spawning aggregation site. It also protects unique deep water pinnacles, ledges, and ridges including Riley's Hump and deep reef habitats and supports deep water



snapper and grouper populations, including high numbers of snowy groupers. Tortugas South has been a sanctuary marine zone since 2000. The 2025 updated regulations expand this zone by approximately 18.1 square miles (11,568 acres) for a total area of 90.4 square miles (57,846 acres), however make no change to the regulations.

Tortugas Bank Wildlife Management Area: To protect this area from damaging boat anchors, this existing area has a no anchoring for vessels larger than 50-meter regulation in effect. Tortugas Bank (approximately 32 square miles; 20,626 acres) has been a sanctuary marine zone since 1997.



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