Molasses Reef Sanctuary Preservation Area

Protects a well-developed, spur-and-groove system and a deep reef wall with a historic presence of ESA-listed staghorn and elkhorn corals, as well as a population of large ESA-listed star corals. Contains several famous shipwreck sites and is an important research site with long-term temperature data and coral monitoring stations, and ongoing ESA-listed staghorn and elkhorn coral restoration activities. This is the most heavily-used site for recreational scuba diving in the Upper Keys. The historic Molasses Reef light is included in this SPA. This zone was originally designed to limit consumptive activities and separate users engaged in different activities.

Alternative 3 is the same as Alternative 2

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This map contains proposed marine zone alternatives for public comment. Proposed marine zone alternatives do not reflect agency decision at this time. For more details about the proposed alternatives and zone descriptions, including associated regulations, see Section 3.3 and 3.4 of this DEIS.