



Restoration Blueprint

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

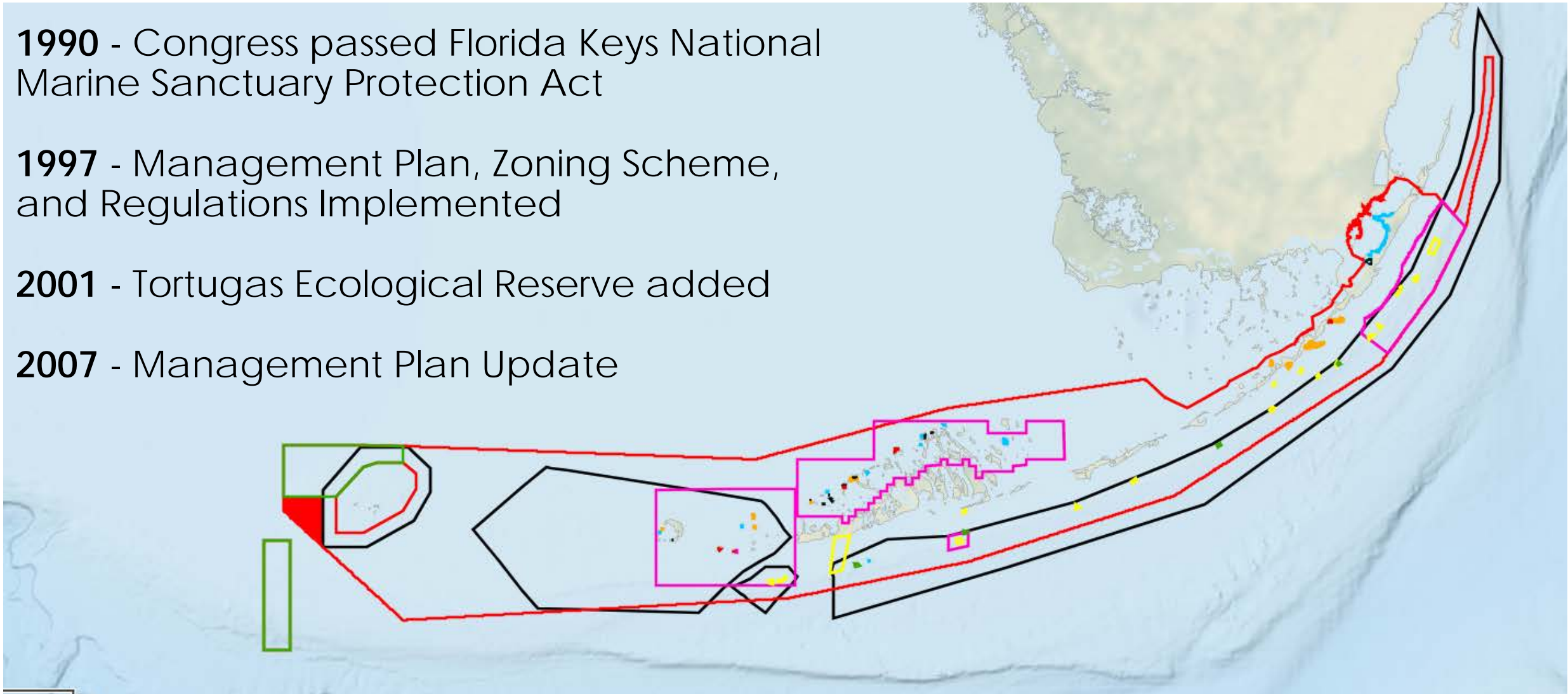
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

1990 - Congress passed Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Protection Act

1997 - Management Plan, Zoning Scheme, and Regulations Implemented

2001 - Tortugas Ecological Reserve added

2007 - Management Plan Update



Why Create a Blueprint?



Healthy Florida Keys

A healthy Florida Keys marine ecosystem is the foundation for a strong economy.

Natural Resources

Numerous stressors are putting the future of the Florida Keys marine environment at risk.

Planning for the Future

We need a plan that addresses the threats to our marine environment and helps us maintain the natural resources that are key to our economy.

Blue Economy of Florida Keys NMS

Tourism

5.5 million visitors in 2018

Boating

4.5 million boaters per annum

Diving and Snorkeling

1.62 million divers and snorkelers per annum

Commercial Fishing

79% of the catch from the sanctuary is processed in Monroe County

Recreational Fishing

2.4 million people fish in FKNMS each year



Economic Impact of Residents and Visitors



A Healthy Florida Keys Ecosystem Provides:

\$4.7 Billion

Monroe County
economy

5.5 million

Visitors

60%

of Monroe County
economy

Natural Resources in the Florida Keys

The Future of the Florida Keys Marine Environment is at Risk



Resource Report Card



Brought attention to natural resource declines

Good Good/Fair Fair Fair/Poor Poor Undet.

Trends:

- ▲ Conditions appear to be improving.
- Conditions do not appear to be changing.
- ▼ Conditions appear to be declining.
- ? Undetermined trend.
- N/A Question not applicable.



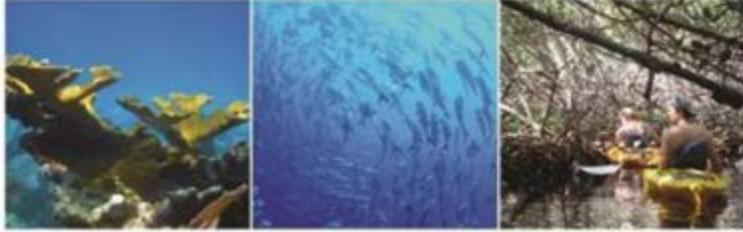
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Florida Keys

National Marine Sanctuary

CONDITION REPORT 2011



September 2011

Declines in Coral Reefs

The Florida Reef Tract is under pressure

Threats to coral reefs include:

- Coral disease and bleaching
- Poor water quality
- Changing ocean conditions
- Marine debris
- Habitat destruction: groundings, weather, human behavior

Coral cover: 6.22%





Damage to Seagrasses

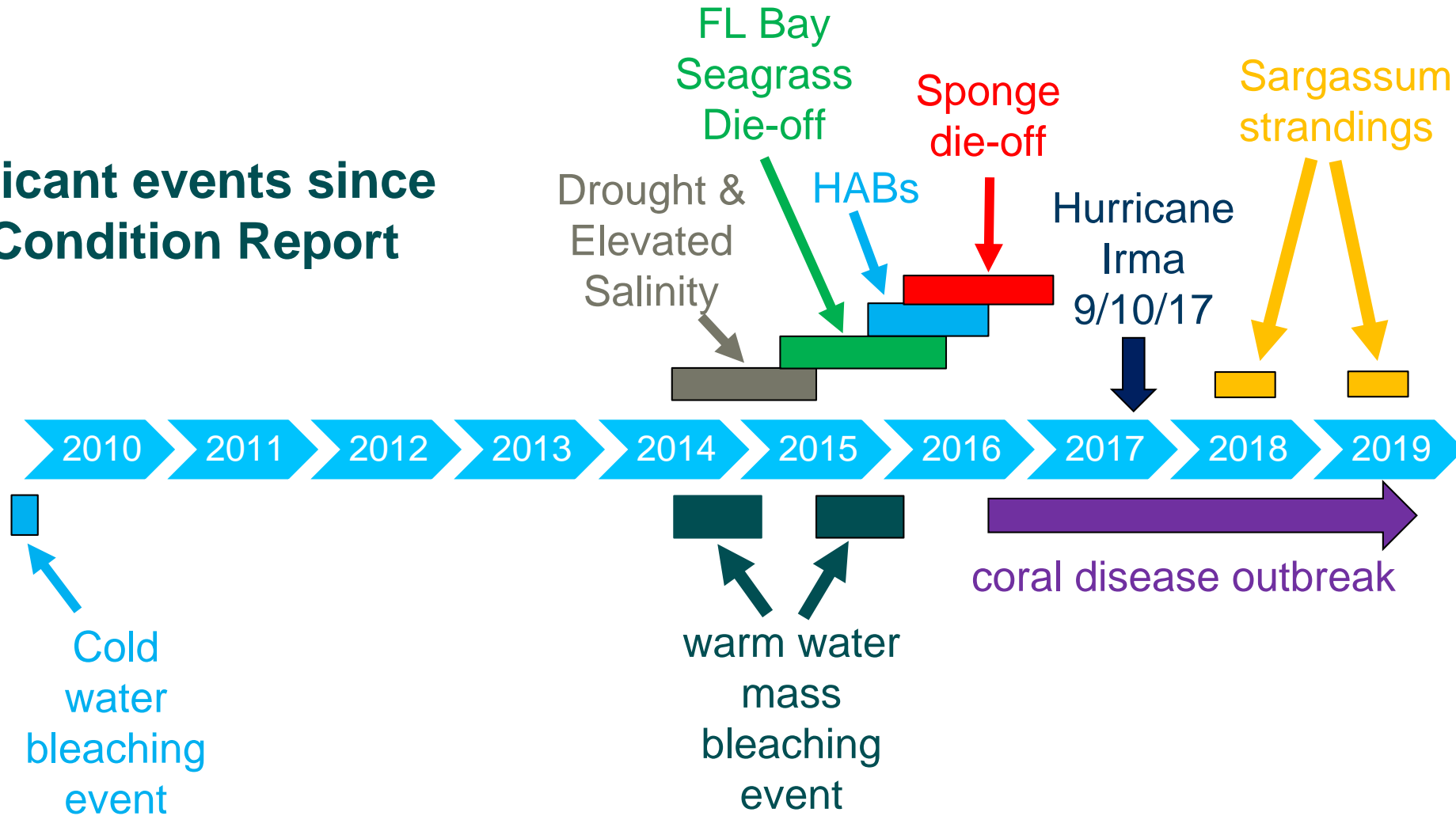
Seagrass covers 50+% of the Sanctuary

What happens when seagrass is damaged?

- Injury to the habitat
- Loss of fisheries
- Damage to the vessel
- Costly fines and repairs
- Damage assessment and restoration

More than 56,000 acres of seagrass have scarring damage

Significant events since 2011 Condition Report



Other issues

Population growth

Increased use of resources

Invasive Species (e.g., lionfish)

Fishing pressure

Coastal Development

Marine Debris

Climate change/Ocean acidification



Community-led Effort

Sanctuary Advisory Council



50 Council Members +
35 Community Members



70 Public Meetings +
> 1,500 Public Comments



200 Recommendations
to Superintendent



Agency Coordination

Florida State Agencies

- DEP
- FWC Commissioners
- SHPO
- Governor and Cabinet

NOAA Fisheries

Fishery Management Councils

- South Atlantic FMC
- Gulf of Mexico FMC

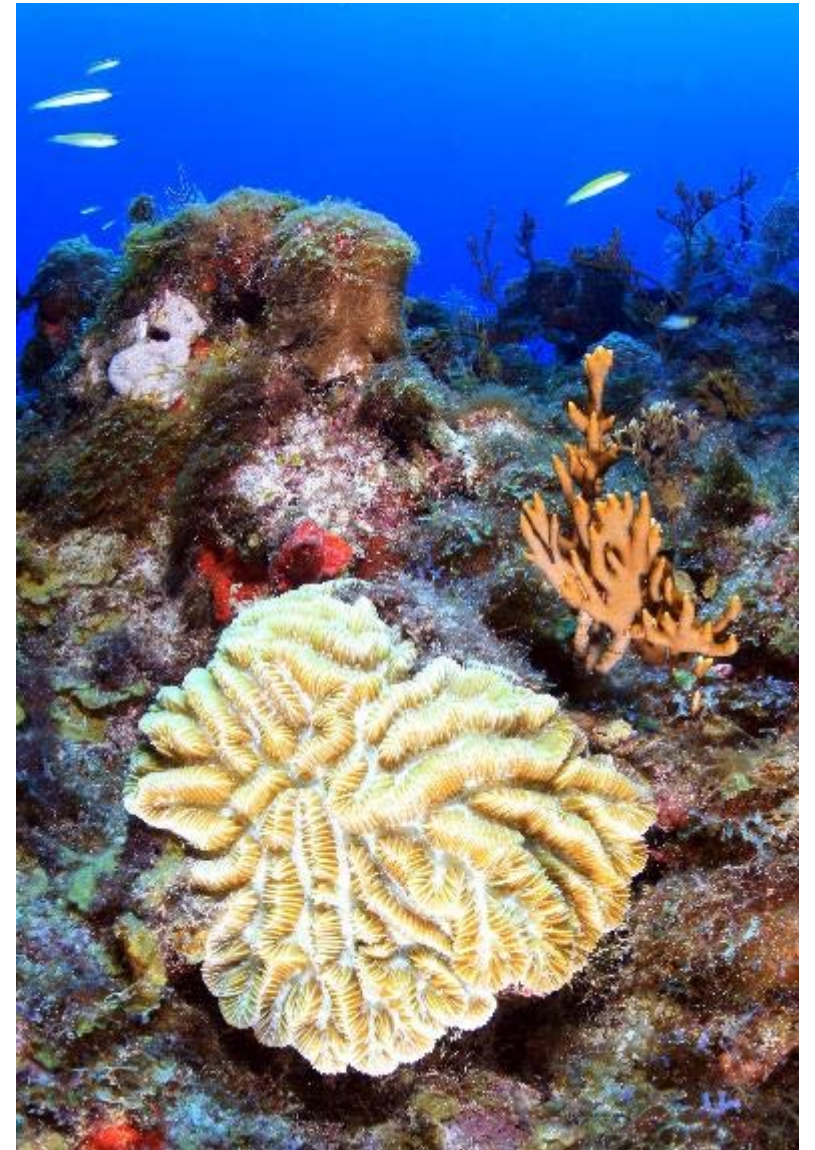
Agency Partners

- DOI (USFWS, BOEM, NPS)
- Navy
- USCG



Plan for Today

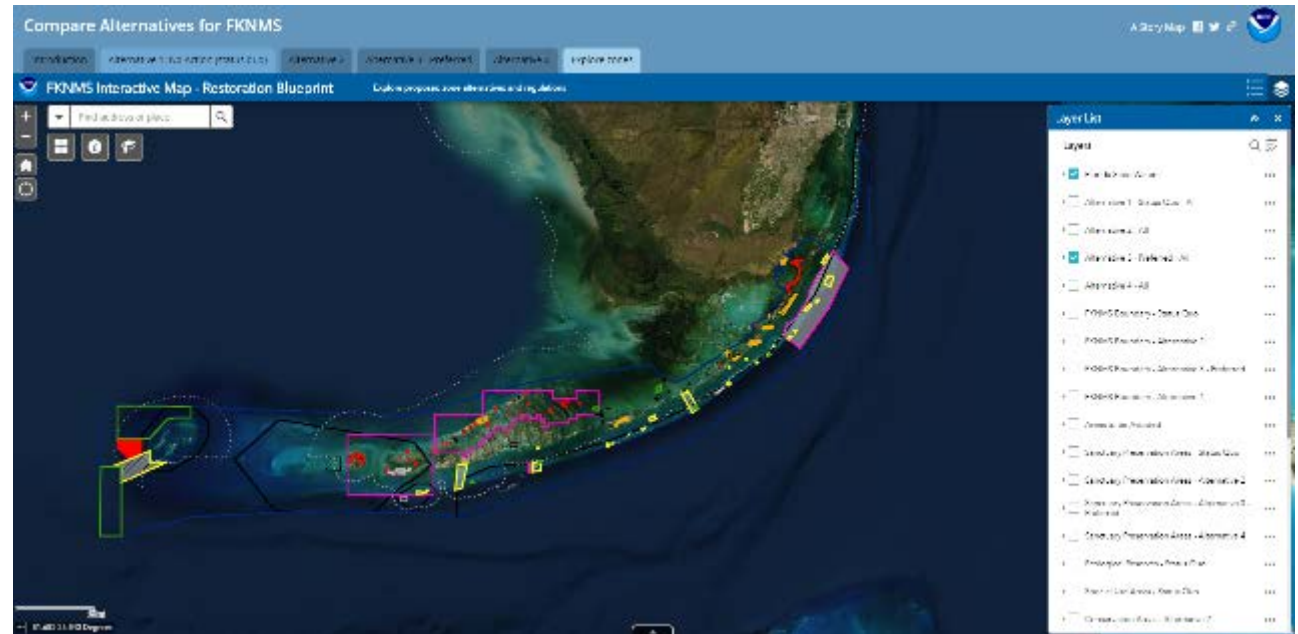
- Presentation of Alternatives
- Consequences & Impacts Analysis:
 - Biological and Physical Resources
 - Historical Resources
 - Socioeconomic and Human Uses
- Next Steps: Restoration Blueprint Tools & How to Stay Engaged
- Public Session with Sanctuary Advisory Council Members
- Advisory Council Discussion and Q&A



Restoration Blueprint Information Tools

Dedicated webpage at floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint

[Interactive Map](#) will be available to explore alternatives



Advisory Council and Public Information Sessions

Date	Meeting Type	Public engagement opportunity	Location
August 20	Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting	Listening Session	Marathon
September 23	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Written Comment	Key West
September 30	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Written Comment	Marathon
October 7	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Written Comment	Tavernier
October 15	Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting	Written and Oral Public Comment	Marathon (likely)
October 28	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Oral Public Comment	Miami
November 4	Public Information Session	Written Q&A; Oral Public Comment	Ft. Myers
December 10	Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting	Written and Oral Public Comment	Marathon (likely)

Public Comment Period:
2020

August 20, 2019 through January 31,

Submit public comments:

www.regulations.gov



THANK YOU

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