Mission: Iconic Reefs Update

Overall Process

Sanctuary Advisory Council

February 2021

Megan Fraser, Iconic Reefs Implementation Manager
IR Implementation Manager
➢ Governance
➢ Mission Centralization
➢ Site Segmentation
➢ Site Preparation Testing
➢ Mooring Buoys
➢ Blue Economy
➢ Beyond the Corals
➢ New Collaborations
IR Governance

➢ Resource Trustees & Managers

➢ Steering Committee

➢ Core Team
IR Governance

5 Working Groups

- Communications & Outreach
- Funding & Fundraising
- Implementation & Operations
- Restoration Monitoring & Research
- Stewardship & Community Engagement
Mission Centralization
Mission Centralization

- Project Management
- Internal Communications
- Data Visualization

Comprehensive, Cohesive, Consistent

Information Mirrors
Mission Centralization

➢ 7 Sites

➢ Multiple key partners / practitioners

➢ Differing funding cycles

Core Team &
Implementation & Operations WG
Mission Centralization – Hub

Mission: Iconic Reefs Internal Communications

Mission: Iconic Reefs Internal Communications
Search, Visualize, Stay Informed
Mission Centralization – *Hub*

**Explore IR Site Data**

- Eastern Dry Rocks
- Carysfort
- Cheeca Rocks

**Internal Communications**

**Working Group Folders**

Access to all 5 working group sub-folders within the Mission: Iconic Reefs Shared Drive

*Go there now*
Mission Centralization

Recently added content

FL Keys Community Master Map by francis.fraser_noaa
- Created: Feb 9, 2021
- Updated: Feb 12, 2021
- View Count: 54

Mission: Iconic Reefs Master Map by Christine.Addison_noaa
- Created: Nov 16, 2020
- Updated: Feb 5, 2021
- View Count: 210

FKNMS Restoration Map by Christine.Addison_noaa
- Created: Jul 19, 2019
- Updated: Jan 20, 2021
- View Count: 466

Data Visualization
Mission Centralization

Attribute Tables

Eastern Dry Rocks - Priority Restoration Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Elkhorn - Phase 1</th>
<th>Elkhorn - Phase 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDR_Restor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Reef</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forereef Terrace</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reef Crest</td>
<td>10,779</td>
<td>3,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shallow Reef Crest</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spur and Groove - sides</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spur and Groove - top</td>
<td>4,179</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mission Centralization

- Project Management
- Internal Communications
- Data Visualization

Comprehensive, Cohesive, Consistent

Mirror the Information
Mission Centralization

Jan 2021
Solidify Components

Feb 2021
Build Out

Mar 2021
Introduce / Implement & Evolve
Site Segmentation
Site Segmentation

➢ Manageability of implementing restoration plans

➢ Monitoring & Controls
Site Preparation Testing
Site Preparation Testing

Eastern Dry Rocks

NFWF Coastal Resilience Fund
Site Preparation

➢ Clearing of invasive & nuisance spp. prior to outplanting
  ○ Fleshy algae; turf algae
  ○ Gorgonians
  ○ Palythoa
  ○ Encrusting fire coral
  ○ Encrusting sponges / tunicates

➢ Reef site-wide
Site Preparation Testing

End of Feb. 2021 + 6 months of monitoring
Site Preparation Testing
Site Preparation *Testing*

2 Habitat Zones

- **SPUR AND GROOVE**
- **FOREREEF TERRACE**
Site Preparation Testing

Clear all experimental plots

Outplanting - immediate & delayed

Monitor & make future plans
Mooring Buoys

- Installation of priority buoys at Eastern Dry Rocks
- Recognized need for additional installations
Blue Economy
Blue Economy

United Way of Collier and the Keys

➢ Reef Revitalization RFP
➢ Education & Scholarships
➢ Community Programs & Initiatives
➢ Looking for partnerships!
Blue Economy

Blue Star Dive Operator Restoration Program

- Dedicated tourism dive opportunities - restoration focus with partnerships from key IR partners & practitioners

- Active engagement resulting in active contributions to IR restoration work
Beyond the Corals
Beyond the Corals – Herbivory

Grazers Research & Outplanting

➢ Caribbean King Crab R&D projects kick off March 2021
  ○ Jason Spadaro, CFK
  ○ Mark Butler, FIU
Beyond the Corals – Rescue

Coral Rescue Project

➢ Many partners - NOAA Fisheries; FWC; AZA (holding facilities); Southeast Florida Coral Reef Conservation Hub

➢ Rescue of healthy corals, ahead of SCTLD boundary

➢ Eventual Rescue Reef outplanting event onto an IR Site
New Collaborations
New Collaborations

➢ 20 Year Mission!

➢ New Research & Development

➢ New Methodologies & Technologies
Moving from the immediately feasible to the progressively possible
Questions / comments / partnership collaboration ideas?

megan.fraser@noaa.gov