

DEP CORAL REEF CONSERVATION PROGRAM (CRCP)

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN

FY 21-22

Below are the projects that CRCP has planned to accomplish during the current FY, organized by tiers/priorities. The CRCP Strategic Plan Tracker links to projects listed below to their respective Goals/Objectives/Strategies.

TIER 1: GRANT/CONTRACT/FUNDING OBLIGATIONS, STATUTORY RULES

C5014

- FDOU 52 – Fisheries Stakeholder Committee

C5015

- CRCP 1A – Operational Expenses
- CRCP 1C – Coral Reef Management Fellow
- CRCP 4 – SECREMP Benthic Monitoring
- CRCP 2 – Southeast Florida Action Network (SEAFAN)
- CRCP 7/FDOU 53 – Marine Planner Hosting and Maintenance
- CRCP 14 – Florida’s Coral Reef Communications Campaign
- CRCP 15 – Support Land-Based Coral Nurseries and Propagation
- AA 5 – SEFCRI Website
- AA 35 – Traveling Trunks (3D Coral Polyp Printing)
- FDOU 51 – Meta-Analysis of Fish, WQ, and Benthic Data
- LBSP 4 – TAC Support
- MICCI 28 – Support Agency Efforts to Refine WQ Standards (Turbidity)
- RIPR 3 – Mooring Buoy Support

WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE TRUST FUND

- Coral Reef Protection Act (CRPA)
 - Reef Injury Prevention and Response (RIPR) Cases
 - Coordinate with South and Southeast Districts to pursue cases
 - AIS-tracking service to monitor vessel traffic
- Spar Orion/Clipper Lasco Restoration Monitoring Summary (Phase 2: Biological restoration or experimental study site)
- Kristin Jacobs Coral ECA Signage

PERMIT REVIEW

- JCP/ERP Coordination – coral relocation/artificial reefs
- Port Everglades/Port of Miami/UMAM Coordination
- USACE Lake Okeechobee System Operating Model – LOSOM

CORAL PROTECTION AND RESTORATION PROGRAM (RESILIENCE, WASTE, GRANT, AND OEA T FUNDING)

- FAU SCTL D Intervention
- NSU SCTL D Intervention (Large-coral tracking)
- FWC Data Management (Task 3 - Decision support tool; Task 4 – SEAFAN/BleachWatch dashboards)
- ECA Water Quality Assessment (WQA) Monitoring (NSU + Broward Labs)
- NSU Land-based Nurseries/Coral Propagation (*see CRCP 15 above in C5015*)
- FWC Replicated Outplanting Study (SCTL D Restoration Trials)
- SCTL D Restoration Working Group Combined Project – in progress
- NSU SCTL D Resistance Research Consortium
- UM/NSU Restoration Hub for Southeast Florida

OTHER STATE-FUNDED EFFORTS

- Florida’s Coral Reef (*with TapRoot*) – website, branding, community events, displays, and awareness

TIER 2: DATA SETS/EFFORTS NEEDED TO MAKE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS; PLANNING/RESOURCE ADVISING

MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY – LBR SUBMITTED FOR AQUATIC PRESERVE DESIGNATION

- FDOU 55 – Development of a Management Plan for the Coral ECA

BENTHIC/FISH/WATER QUALITY DATA WITHIN CORAL ECA

- Florida Reef Resilience Program’s (FRRP) Disturbance Response Monitoring (DRM)
- SE Coral Reef Evaluation and Monitoring Program (SECREMP; *see C5015 in Tier 1*)
- National Coral Reef Monitoring Program (NCRMP) fisheries-independent data (Reef Visual Census – RVC)
- Water Quality Assessment – *See CPR Program in Tier 1*

STONY CORAL TISSUE LOSS DISEASE (SCTL D) DATA

- *See CPR Program in Tier 1*

NOAA-FUNDED RESEARCH/PROJECTS

- TSS and contaminants related to dredging activities as related to Turbidity Criterion development for Florida
- Dose-Response studies to determine a protective turbidity criterion for coral
- Adaptive management planning for large-scale port dredging in Florida
- Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for Government Cut
- Calibrating and Validating watershed models for Government Cut
- Florida Coral Reef Mapping Prioritization effort
- Socioeconomic Project (Valuing Coral Reef Ecosystem Services)

OTHER EXTERNAL LED EFFORTS

- Restoration Planning – FCR/Coral ECA

- FRRP Resilience Action Plan

TIER 3: EDUCATION & OUTREACH, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, FIELD WORK, ETC.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH PROGRAM (*NOT TIED TO TIER 1 GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS*):

- Kristin Jacobs Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area (Coral ECA)
 - Creation of new products (1-pagers, press releases, PPTs, etc.)
- LID/GI Manual / Best Management Practices – awareness and distribution
- Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD)
- Outreach and Community Events
- Quarterly Newsletter: SE FL Reef Review
- DEP Website Updates
- Marine Debris/Beach Cleanup Coordination

INTERNAL COORDINATION

- Communications, Marketing, Press Office
- Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration (DEAR) – Water Quality Standards, Quality Assurance, TMDL Program
- Regulatory – Beaches, Inlets and Ports Program, Southeast District
- Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection – Statewide Ecosystem Assessment of Coastal Aquatic Resources (SEACAR), Aquatic Preserves, Clean Boating and Clean Vessel Programs
 - Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserves (BBAP) Support – fieldwork & permit review

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CORAL REEF INITIATIVE (SEFCRI)

- 1 meeting/year (virtual and/or in-person)
- Vice-Chairs: 12 meetings/year
- Onboard new members
- Project Team Coordination (*if not tied to C5015 funding in Tier 1*)
- TAC (*See LBSP 4 in Tier 1*)
 - 2 meetings/year
 - Onboard new members

FRIENDS OF OUR FLORIDA REEFS (FOFR)/CSO COORDINATION

- 6 meetings/year (virtual and/or in-person)

EXTERNAL COORDINATION

- FRRP Steering Committee + Communications Sub-Committee
- USCRF Working Groups
- Regional Planning Councils
- County Support/Coordination – Artificial Reefs, Education and Outreach/Communication consistencies
- EPA Water Quality Action Plan
- Other Agency-led Working Groups

- USCG Meetings + Coordination: Harbor Safety Meetings, Commercial Salvage Assistance, Area Committee Planning, and Oil Spill Exercises
 - Planning Assistance for Large-Scale Beach and Marine Events – spectator vessels
 - Electronic Navigational Charts – coordination with FWRI and NOAA
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SCTLD RESPONSE COMMUNITY

- 8 Response Teams
 - Annual Technical Workshop & Annual Leadership Workshop
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REEF INJURY PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM

- Annual Coral Reef Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Training for Resource Trustees (RT)
 - Build agency partnerships to strengthen CRPA enforcement efforts (USCG, FWC, and NOAA)
 - Expanded RIPR outreach to target individual stakeholder groups about anchor damage prevention
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MARINE DEBRIS REPORTING AND REMOVAL PROGRAM

- FDOU 29, 30 & 32
- Coordination for shore-based beach/waterway cleanups
- Florida Marine Debris Reduction Guidance Plan Coordination
 - Rapid Response Program – SE Regional Lead