STATEWIDE ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT OF COASTAL AND AQUATIC RESOURCES: ASSESSING STATUS AND TRENDS OF FLORIDA'S SUBMERGED ESTUARINE HABITATS

Second Subject Matter Expert Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, April 29 – Thursday, April 30, 2020

Background

The Statewide Ecosystem Assessment of Coastal and Aquatic Resources (SEACAR) is a collaborative process being led by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (RCP) and involving local, state, and federal natural resource managers, data providers, researchers, and partners to identify and assess ecological indicators and to create a comprehensive assessment of the statuses and trends of RCP's submerged coastal resources statewide. In year one of the project, priority submerged habitats and indicators were selected based the best available science to assess the status of our aquatic resources. Current knowledge of coastal processes and scientific data obtained from inventory and monitoring programs around the state have been compiled in the SEACAR Data Discovery Interface (DDI), which will serve as the data source for the analyses of ecosystem status and trends. SEACAR will inform submerged habitat management, planning and restoration by organizing habitat information collected around the state, developing meta-analyses of these datasets to elucidate status and trends of habitat indicators at multiple spatial and temporal scales, and producing online tools and report products to disseminate these findings widely.

The SEACAR products are the technical report, assessment report, assessment summary and interactive website which will provide directly comparable and scientifically defensible statewide data on the status and trends of Florida's coastal resources and will be used to inform local and state management, planning, and policy decisions. The outcomes of the resulting products are to:

- Provide information on the status and trends of coastal resources at locally relevant scales to support state and local programs, plans, and decision making;
- Improve evaluations of the outcomes of the Florida Coastal Management Program and federal, state, and local management activities and policy decisions, by providing status and trend assessments over time; and
- Provide education materials appropriate for a wide variety of stakeholders, including resource managers, planners, and decision makers.

Call-in Information

Please see emailed instructions or the Google calendar invitation for call-in information!

Meeting Objectives

1. Review preliminary analyses for each RCP priority habitat. Provide edits/suggested changes to analyses.
2. Identify priority cross-habitat analyses and points of contact for each.
3. Review technical report layout and design. Provide key messages for each RCP priority habitat based on preliminary analyses.

Agenda

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

9:00 AM	**Meeting start**
	Zoom orientation
	Welcome and introductions
9:30 AM	SEACAR progress to date
10:15 AM	Data Discovery Interface overview
10:30 AM	*Break*
10:45 AM	Review results from preliminary analyses
12:00 PM	**Lunch**
2:00 PM	Review confidence level ranking practices (Plenary)
2:15 PM	**Breakout** (Objective 1): Review methods for preliminary analyses.
	Outcome: List of edits for preliminary analyses methods.
3:00 PM	*Break*
3:15 PM	Report back from breakout (Plenary)
4:00 PM	**Day 1 recap and Q&A**
	Expectations for Day 2 and adjourn

Thursday, April 30, 2020

8:30 AM	*"Coffee break"*
	Feel free to sign into the meeting early to casually chat with each other
9:00 AM	**Recap day 1, outline for day 2**
9:30 AM	Introduce cross-habitat analyses
10:00 AM	**Breakout** (Objective 2): Prioritize cross-habitat analyses for each of the other habitats. Determine POC for cross-habitat analyses.
	Outcomes: Prioritized list of cross-habitat analyses. List of POCs for analyses.
10:45 AM	*Break*

11:00 AM	Report back from breakout (plenary)
12:00 PM	**Lunch**
2:00 PM	Overview of draft SEACAR Technical Report
2:15 PM	**Breakout** (Objective 3): Review draft technical report chapters. Identify key messages for each habitat based on preliminary analyses.
	Outcomes: List of edits/revisions for draft chapters. List of top 3 messages to include for each habitat chapter.
3:00 PM	*Break*
3:15 PM	Report back from breakout (plenary)
4:00 PM	Next steps for SEACAR
4:30 PM	**Day 2 recap and Q&A**
	Wrap up, action items, evaluation, and adjourn