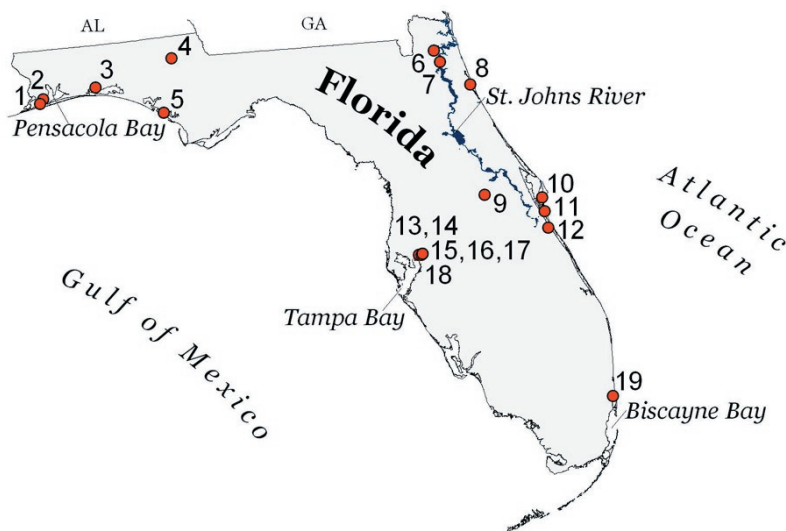




Florida

NOAA Works to Improve Florida's Coastal and Marine Areas

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) acts for the Secretary of Commerce as a federal trustee under the Superfund Act to protect and restore natural resources in coastal and marine areas. NOAA trust resources in Florida include economically important, estuarine-dependent fish such as red and black drum, spotted seatrout, snook, sheepshead, southern flounder, Florida pompano, striped mullet, bay anchovy, and gulf menhaden. The common snook, an important game fish, is protected by the State of Florida. Of special concern in Florida are federally threatened and endangered coral, sturgeon, whales, and sea turtles. The northern right whale and marine turtles are also protected by the State of Florida. Other NOAA trust resources include blue crab, stone crab, eastern oyster, spiny lobster; pink, brown, rock, and white shrimp, hard clams, and dozens of other species and their supporting habitats (e.g., tidal wetlands). NOAA's stewardship also safeguards our nation's waterways and coastal activities, ranging from safe navigation and marine transportation to recreational activities along navigable waters.



Waste Sites

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| 1. Pensacola Naval Air Station | 11. USAF Patrick AFB |
| 2. American Creosote Works (Pensacola Plant) | 12. Harris Corp. (Palm Bay Plant) |
| 3. USAF Eglin AFB Armament Division | 13. Kassauf-Kimerling Battery Disposal |
| 4. Sapp Battery Salvage | 14. Helena Chemical Co. (Tampa Plant) |
| 5. USAF Tyndall Air Force Base | 15. Bay Drum |
| 6. Whitehouse Oil Pits | 16. Peak Oil Co./Bay Drum Co |
| 7. USN NAS Jacksonville | 17. Reeves SE Corp Southeastern Wire Div |
| 8. St. Augustine Gas Company | 18. MRI Corporation |
| 9. US NASA Kennedy Space Center | 19. Munisport Landfill |
| 10. USAF Cape Canaveral AFB | |

Protecting and Restoring Coastal and Marine Resources

NOAA's Coastal Protection and Restoration Division (CPRD) protects and restores natural resources in marine and coastal environments that are affected by hazardous waste sites. NOAA Coastal Resource Coordinators (CRCs) work with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the State of Florida, and other trustee agencies to identify risks to natural resources, recommend site cleanups that protect habitat and wildlife, and design projects to restore injured resources and habitats.

Cleaning up and Restoring Sites in Florida

The Office of Response and Restoration's Coastal Protection and Restoration Division (OR&R/CPRD) partners with other agencies and responsible parties to ensure that waste site cleanups not only reduce risk but also restore natural resources and improve the quality of the environment. NOAA Coastal Resource Coordinators (CRCs) get involved early in site cleanups to:

- ensure that ecological assessments and the entire cleanup process evaluate and mitigate any risk to sensitive species and habitats;
- incorporate environmental restoration into cleanup actions;
- monitor the successful recovery of trust resources and habitats; and
- reduce the need for expensive re-evaluations.

Our goal: healthy, productive coastal ecosystems, fisheries, and marine mammals in Florida and the U.S.

Because CRCs help make site-cleanup and restoration decisions in coastal regions, everyone saves time and money by avoiding litigation and duplication of effort. Responsible parties benefit from an early resolution of liability for damage to natural resources. Best of all, we can address environmental threats sooner, increasing the chances for effective protection, recovery, and restoration of coastal and marine resources and their habitats.

Areas of Special Concern in Florida

Mangroves, estuaries, coastal rivers, and wetlands are of special concern because they provide nursery and adult habitat for NOAA trust resources, as well as federally threatened and endangered species. NOAA played a major role in assessing the potential impact to the bordering mangrove preserve from releases from the Munisport Landfill site on **Biscayne Bay**. NOAA's contribution to site cleanup resulted in a remedy to restore the tidal flow to the mangrove stands. The NOAA Coastal Resource Coordinator is working with state agencies to develop a long-term monitoring strategy for the mangrove preserve.

Threats to NOAA trust resources have also been identified in the **Tampa Bay** area at Stauffer Chemical and Helena Chemical, and along the **St. Johns River** in Jacksonville. The NOAA CPRD program is working with other federal agencies and the State of Florida to address hazardous waste issues and potential impacts to aquatic resources from contaminant releases at these sites and others around the state.

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