

**Preserving the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary's Maritime History: Digitizing and Disseminating Archival Source Material of Cultural Importance \$12,100 (partial funding - additional information to be requested, additional funding may be awarded)**

*Collect and compile scattered archival materials depicting the maritime history of the Florida Keys. Products will include exhibits, educational programs, reference bibliographies, and web-based archives.*

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In partnership with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO), a thorough search was undertaken to review and compile historical sources from which biological indicators on the marine ecosystems of the Florida Keys can be derived. Over 500 sources, including natural history descriptions, maps and charts, family and personal papers, and state and colonial records, were reviewed from 18 archives in the U.S., U.K, Spain, and the Bahamas, using funding from NOAA Preserve America, other NOAA sources (NCCOS, NMFS, Coral Reef) and non-government grants. An annotated bibliography describes these sources and their use to historical ecology. Products also include (i) a historical narrative describing the ecological and human setting in the Florida Keys ecoregion, as well as broader economic links in the Atlantic basin driving exploitation of marine animals, (ii) a timeline of events influencing the ecological history of the Florida Keys and surrounding coral reef ecosystems and (iii) a series of CDs with examples of digitized data sources.

The historical sources formed the basis for an extensive research by scientists from SIO on the history of marine resources in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Results of the research were published in scientific journals and as book chapters, including:

- McLenachan, L. 2009. Documenting Loss of Large Trophy Fish from the Florida Keys with Historical Photographs. *Conservation Biology*, Volume 23, No. 3, 636–643.  
<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/121638029/PDFSTART>
- McClenachan L, 2009. Historical declines of goliath grouper populations in South Florida, USA. *Endangered Species Research*, Vol. 7: 175–181, 2009.  
<http://www.int-res.com/articles/esr2009/7/n007p175.pdf>
- McClenachan L. and A.B. Cooper, 2007. Extinction rate, historical population structure and ecological role of the Caribbean monk seal. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. June 22, 2008 275:1351-1358.

~Catherine Marzin



Fish catch 1950s, From Charles Anderson Photo Collection

1906.  
Nov. 29. Clear. Breezy.  
Ran to Boggy. (Creek).  
Remarkable fishing  
for mangrove snappers.  
Mr. Gregg & Henry caught  
30 snappers and three  
black groupers in about  
two hours. Capt. Pine  
& I (Bartbean) caught 41  
snappers and 2 groupers.  
We were out about 2 hrs. &  
40 minutes.

Excerpts from the journal of Barton A. Bean