FKNMS ZONING & REGULATORY REVIEW

Summary of Boundary Adjustment Options from the Scoping Process & Study Areas Recommendation

Presentation to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council December 2012

Ramifications of Identifying Study Areas

 Locations within the study area but outside present FKNMS boundaries also can be considered in the zoning and review process by the SAC working groups

 Present Sanctuary-wide regulations would otherwise apply to the study area should those new boundaries be adopted

Evaluate economic and environmental impacts

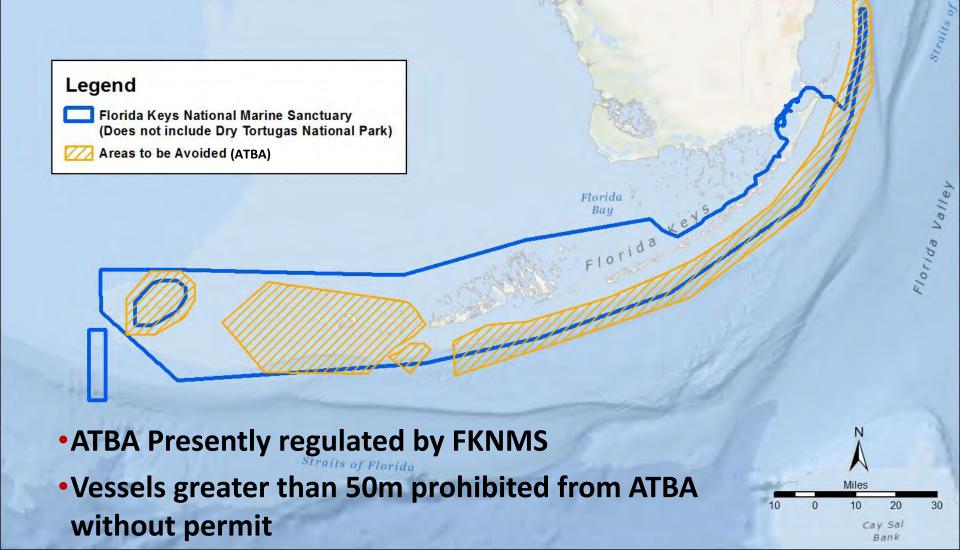
Notable Sanctuary-wide Regulations

- Operating a vessel in such a manner as to strike or otherwise injure coral, seagrass, or other immobile organisms attached to the seabed, or cause prop scarring
- Moving, removing, taking, injuring, touching, breaking, cutting or possessing coral or live rock
- Discharging or depositing treated or untreated sewage from marine sanitation devices, trash, and other materials
- Dredging, drilling, prop dredging or otherwise altering the seabed; placing or abandoning any structure on seabed.
- No mineral or hydrocarbon exploration
- Releasing exotic species

Summary of Scoping Comments Regarding FKNMS Boundary and Expanded Protections

Areas to be Avoided

Ten Thousand Islands



Particularly Sensitive Sea Area

Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) -- Areas established by the IMO recognized as needing special protection for ecological, socio-economic, or scientific reasons and vulnerable to damage by international maritime activities

Straits of Florida

Florida Ke

Legend



Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (Does not include Dry Tortugas National Park)

Miles

Miami

Biscayne National

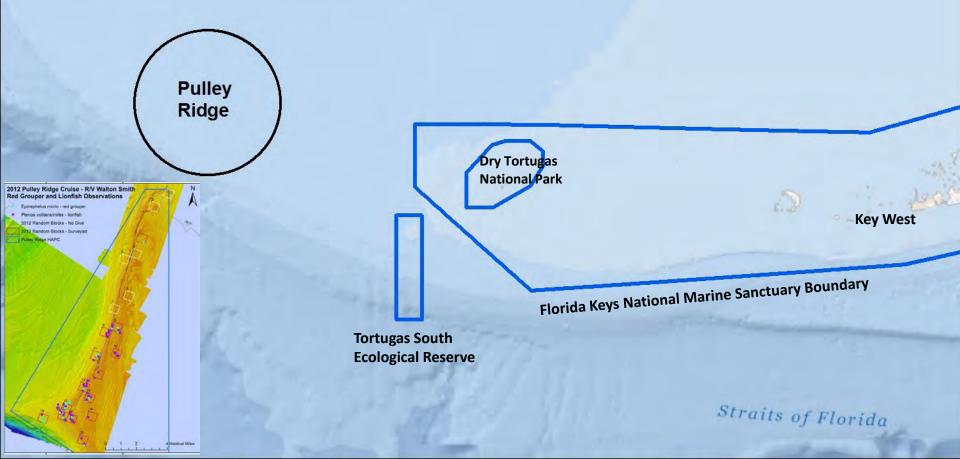
Park

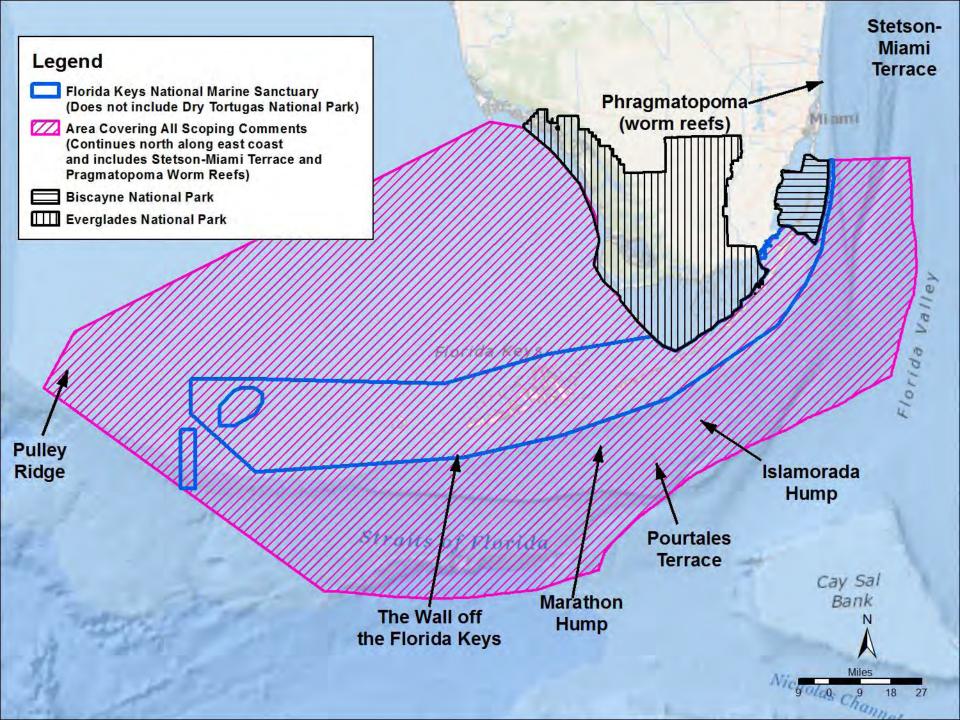
Areas to be Avoided

Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas

Pulley Ridge

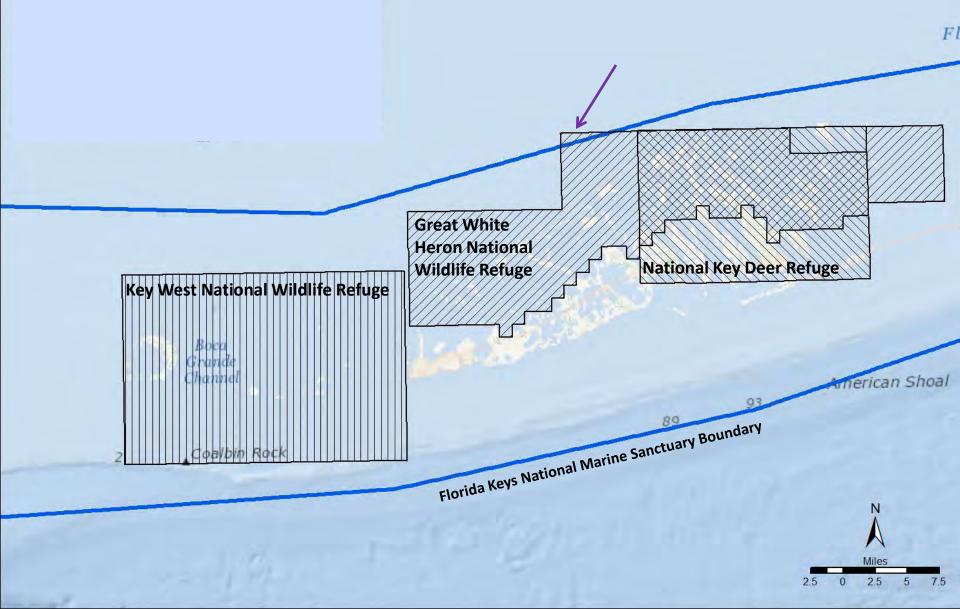
- Portion of Pulley Ridge presently a Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC)
- Strong ecological connectivity to the Florida Keys





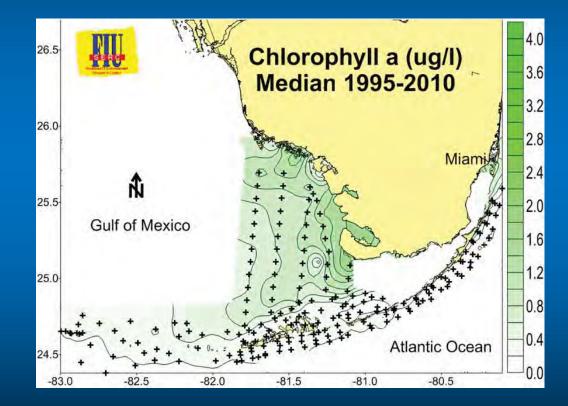
Proposed Study Areas Development: Considerations

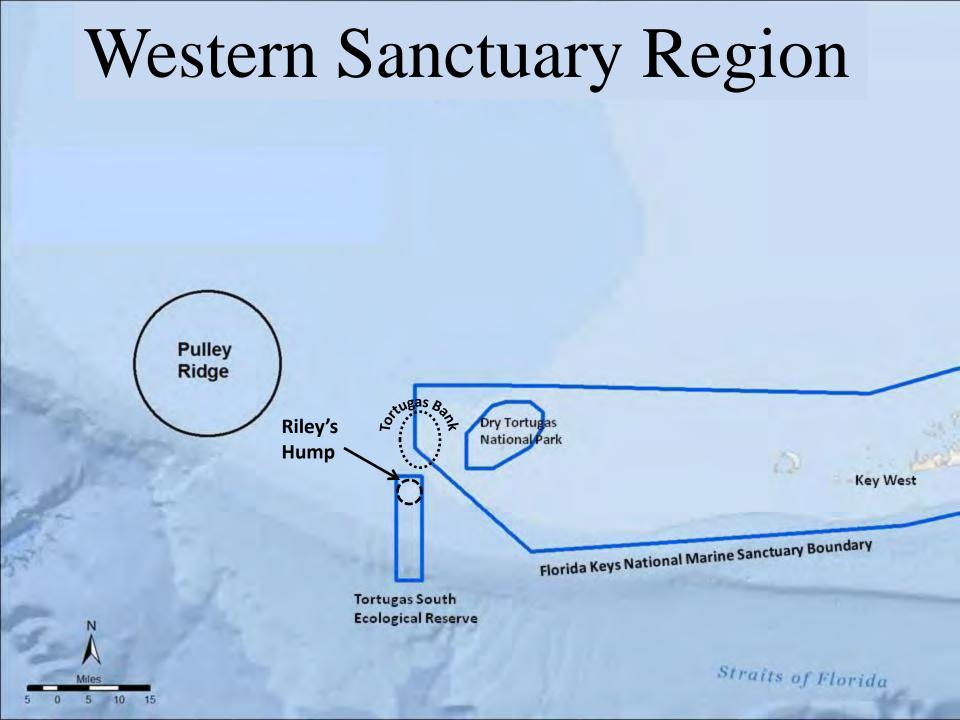
Wildlife Refuge Boundaries

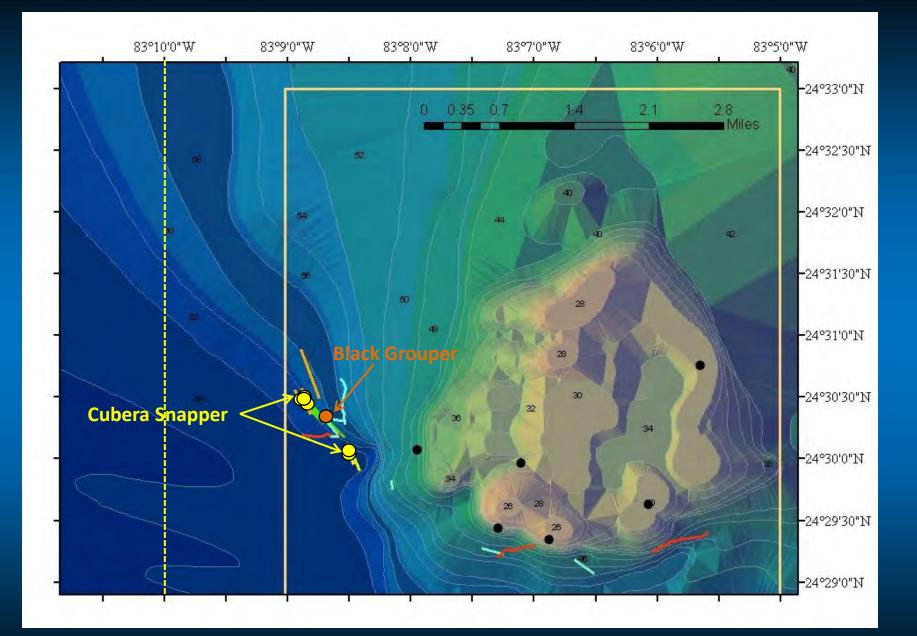


FKNMS Ecological Connectivity

Sanctuary has strong ecological connectivity to Everglades ecosystem







Western Sanctuary Region

Far western extent of Tortugas Bank not presently within FKNMS

Potential Study Area Boundary

