

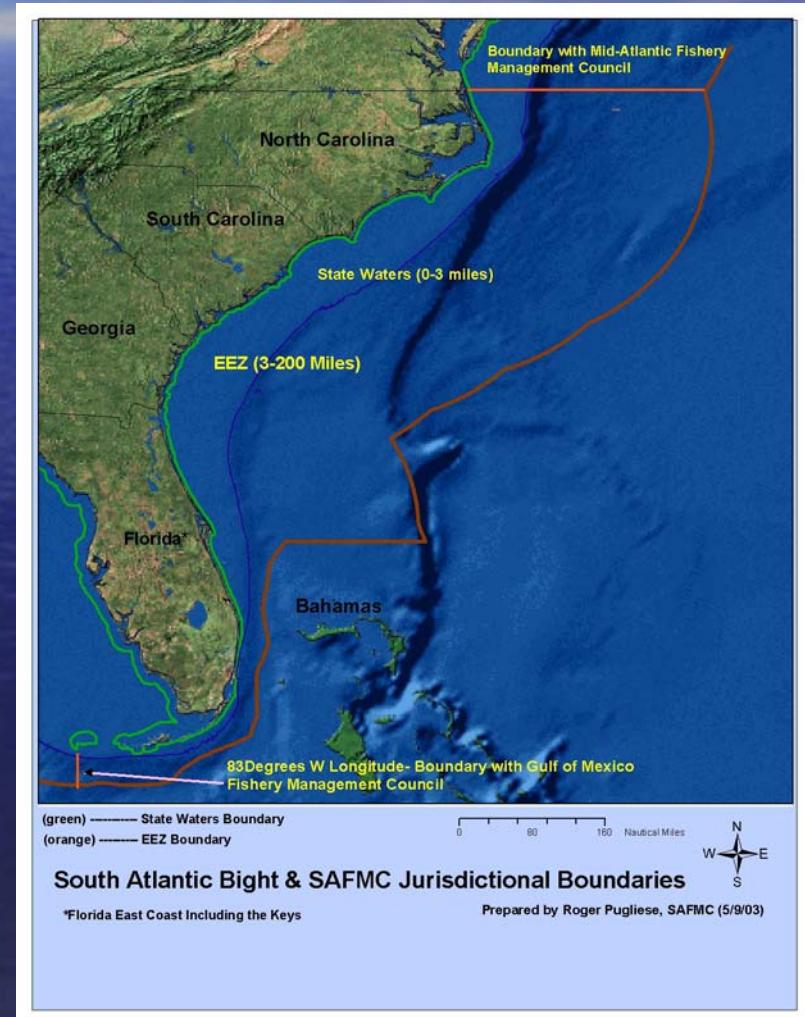


Exploring the Use of Marine Protected Areas as a Fishery Management Tool

The Experience of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

- One of 8 regional FMCs
- Created in 1976 through the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- The Council's jurisdiction is from 3-200 miles offshore (EEZ)



Who makes up the SAFMC?

- Council members are citizens from each state who are knowledgeable of or participate in some aspect of fisheries.
- Appointed by the Secretary of Commerce from a list provided by the Governors.
- SAFMC has 13 voting members and 4 non-voting members

Advisory Panels

- The Council has 15 advisory panels
- 207 advisors
- Recreational and commercial fishermen, headboat and charter operators, seafood buyers and sellers, conservationists, consumers, and agency representatives.

Time to dig into the toolbox...MPAs designed to protect reef fish



SAFMC's MPA Definition:

Marine protected areas are specific areas of marine environments managed for the primary purpose of aiding in the recovery of overfished stocks and to insure the persistence of healthy fish stocks, fisheries and habitat.

Types of MPAs in the toolbox:

- Permanent closure/ no-take
- Permanent closure/ some take allowed
- Limited duration closure/ no-take
 - Spawning area closure/ no-take
- Limited duration closure/ some take allowed
 - Spawning area closure/ some take allowed

Development of MPAs to protect deep-water snapper grouper species

- What are the deepwater species?
 - Speckled hind, snowy grouper, warsaw grouper, misty grouper, yellowedge grouper, golden tilefish and blueline tilefish

Why MPAs for this fishery?

- Lack of information
- Bycatch
- Life history of reef fish
- Large reductions of fishing mortality needed
- Demand and technology
- Targeting of spawning aggregations

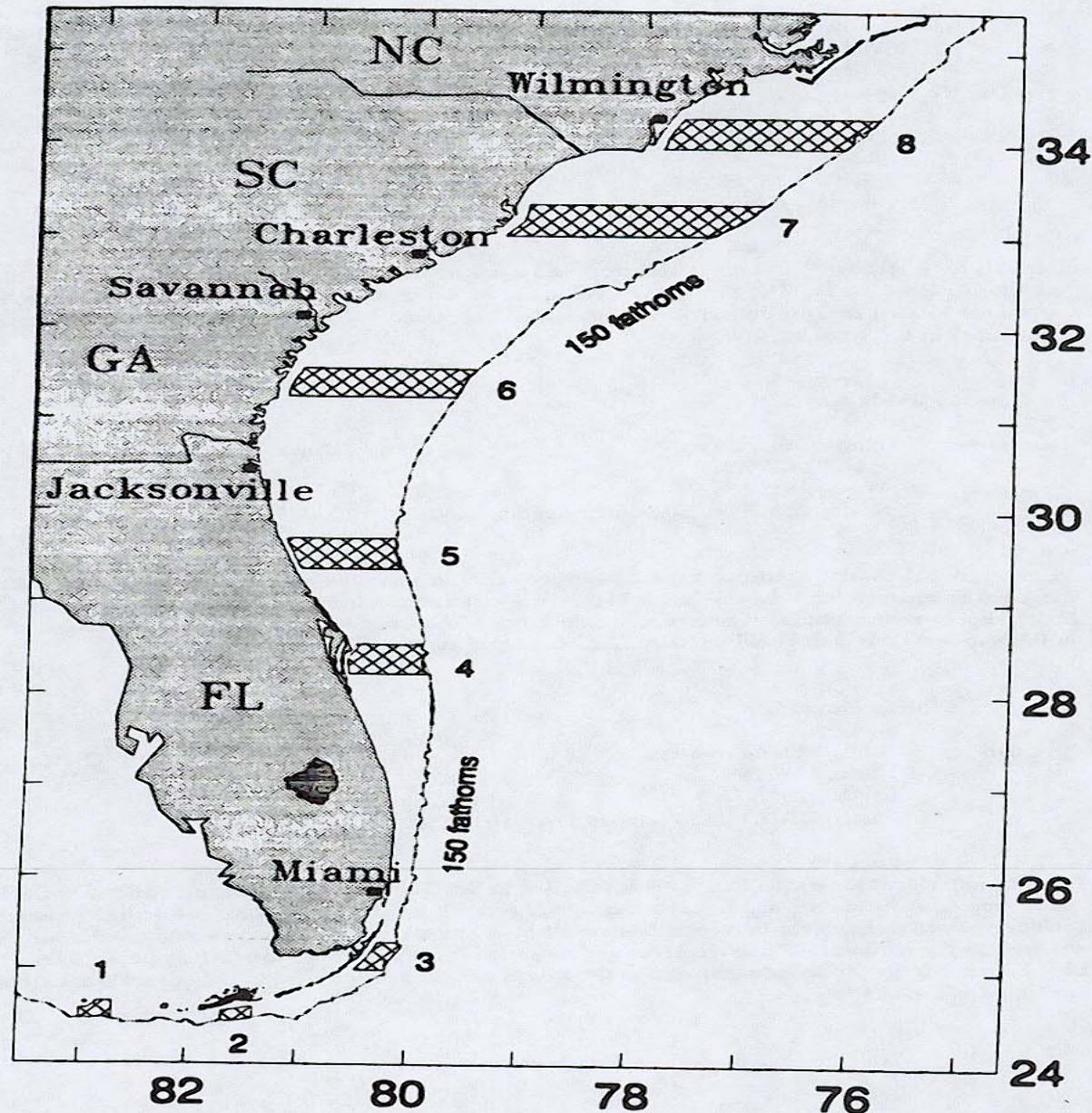


Starting from the top down...

- Council needed another way to manage the snapper grouper fishery
- Reef fish scientists reported “no-take” marine reserves were only viable option to maintain population
- Scientist attached a proposed map of suggested sites
- Council went out to scoping with sites that came from scientists



Figure A1. Possible marine fishery reserve sites along the southeastern U.S.



The Results...



- No support from local stakeholders
- Council unsure of science behind MPAs asks NMFS to study concept
- Council puts MPAs on back burner and continues with traditional management tools

The Second Time Around

- The Council developed a slow and deliberative process to find out if MPAs would work - focused on species complex in the most need
- Council created MPA Advisory Panel with members from all stakeholder groups including all fishing sectors, environmental groups, Gray's Reef NMS and scientists.
- Intent that MPA process belonged with the Councils

Before Areas Were Even Discussed

- Informal meetings
- First round of scoping - what should we do to re-build ?



... And Then Stakeholders Chose Potential Sites

Second round of scoping meetings - where should we put MPAs?

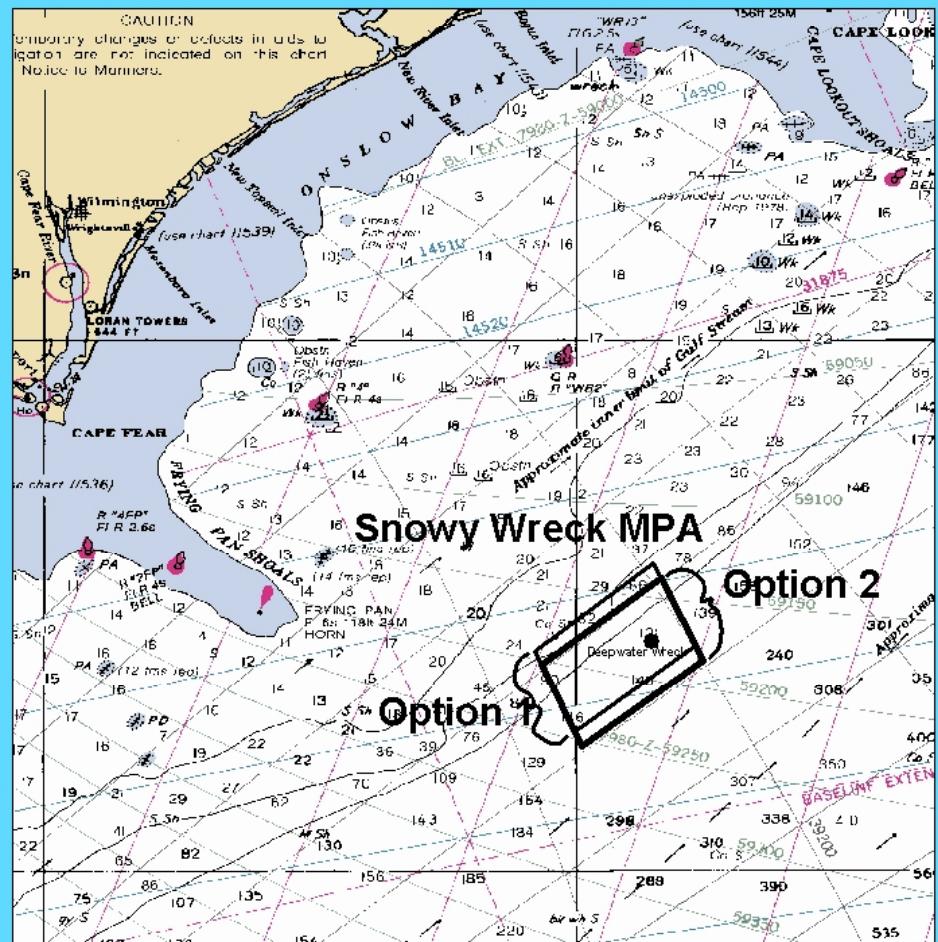


The Results...



- Fishermen felt the process belonged to them
- All groups worked together
- Initially 32 sites were suggested, now 9 are on the table.

Proposed Snowy Wreck MPA Option 1 and Option 2

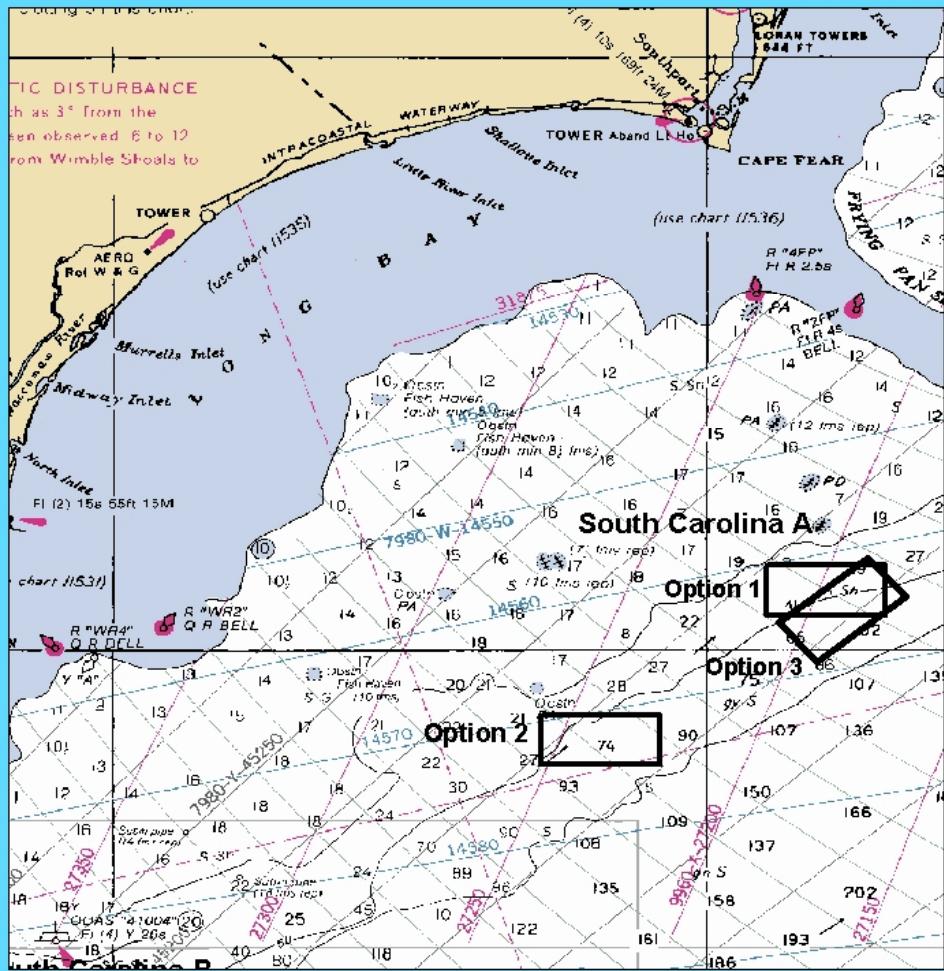


Option 1	NW 33Deg 25'N 77Deg 4.75'W SW 33Deg 15.75'N 77Deg 0'W	NE 33Deg 34.75'N 76Deg 51.3'W SE 33Deg 25.5'N 76Deg 46.5'W	Approx. 55nm SE of Southport
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Option 2	NW 33Deg 23.35'N 77Deg 4'W SW 33Deg 14.1'N 76Deg 59.35'W	NE 33Deg 33.25'N 76Deg 50.5'W SE 33Deg 24'N 76Deg 45.75'W	Approx. 57nm SE of Southport
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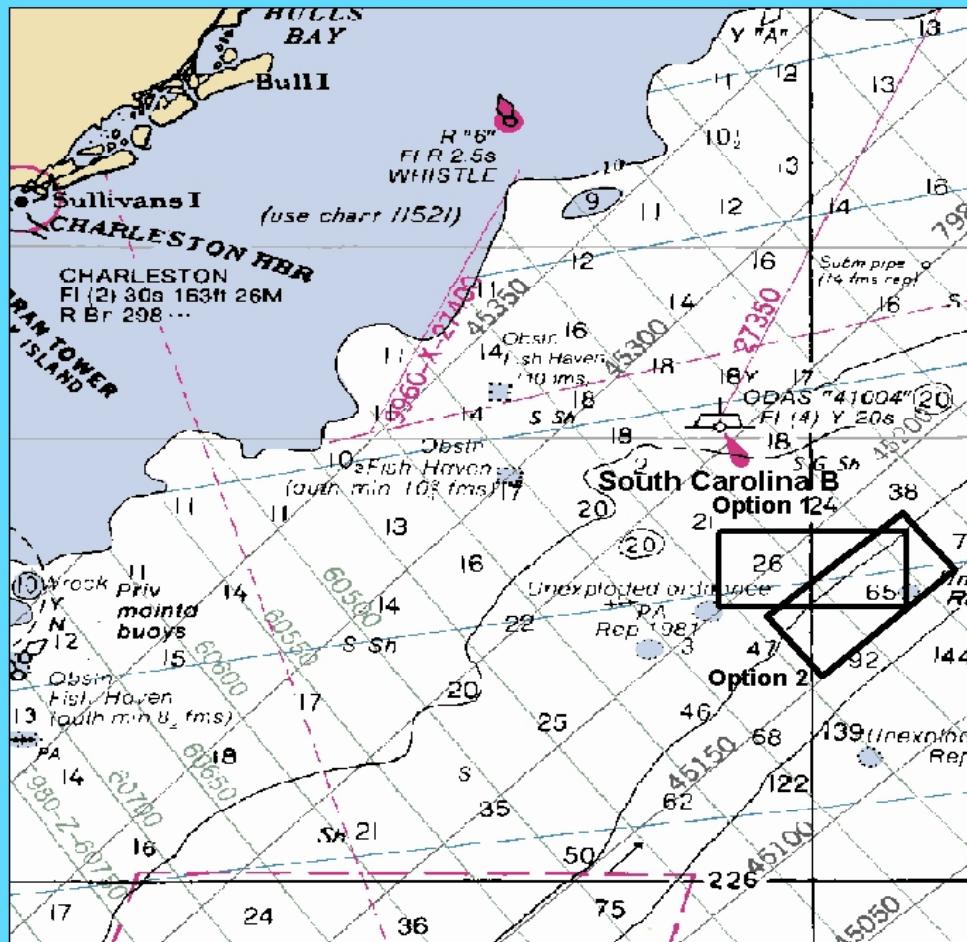


Proposed South Carolina A MPA Option 1, Option 2 and Option 3



Prepared by Roger Pugliese, SAFMC (5/14/02)

Proposed South Carolina B MPA Option 1 and Option 2



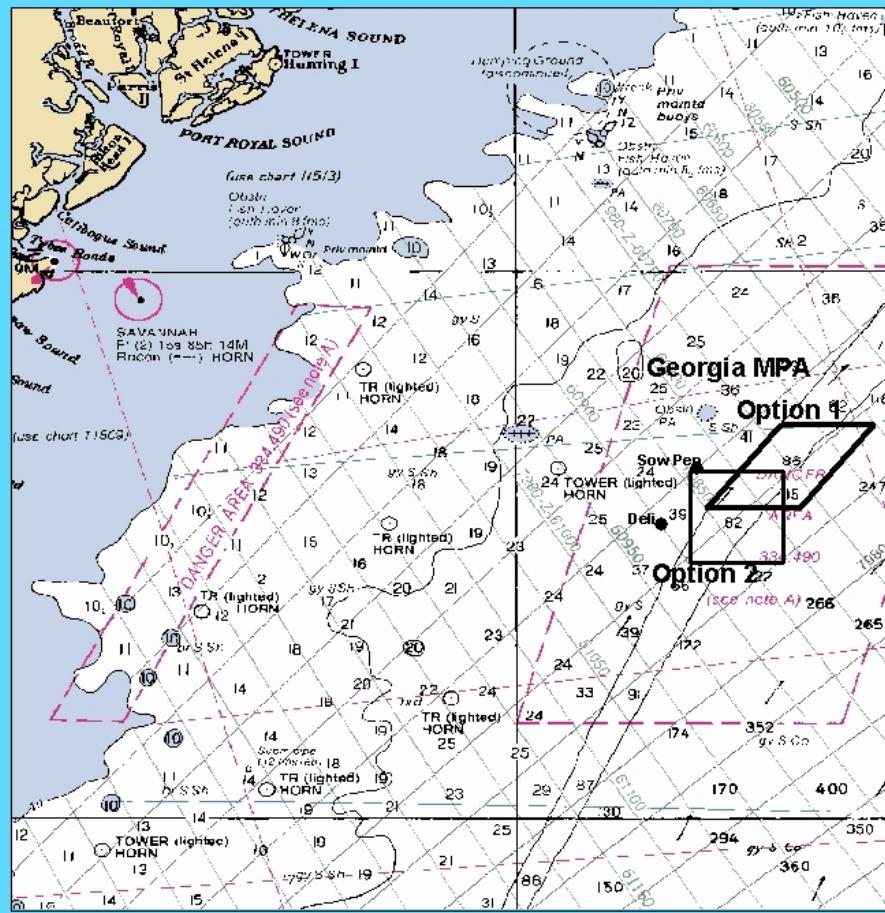
Approximate Corner Points

	NW 32Deg 24'N 79Deg 6'W	NE 32Deg 24'N 78Deg 54'W	Depth in Fathoms
Option 1	SW 32Deg 18.5'N 79Deg 6'W	SE 32Deg 18.5'N 78Deg 54'W	Approx. 45nm SE of Charleston Harbor
Option 2	NW 32Deg 17'N 79Deg 3'W	NE 32Deg 24.75'N 78Deg 54.2'W	
	SW 32Deg 13.5'N 78Deg 59.5'W	SE 32Deg 21'N 78Deg 50.83'W	Approx. 50nm SE of Charleston Harbor



Prepared by Roger Pugliese, SAFMC (5/14/02)

Proposed Georgia MPA Option 1 and Option 2



Approximate Corner Points

Option 1 NW 31Deg 43'N
79Deg 31'W NE 31Deg 43'N
79Deg 21'W

SW 31Deg 34'N
79Deg 39'W SE 31Deg 34'N
79Deg 29'W Approx. 69nm SE of the Mouth of Wassaw Sound

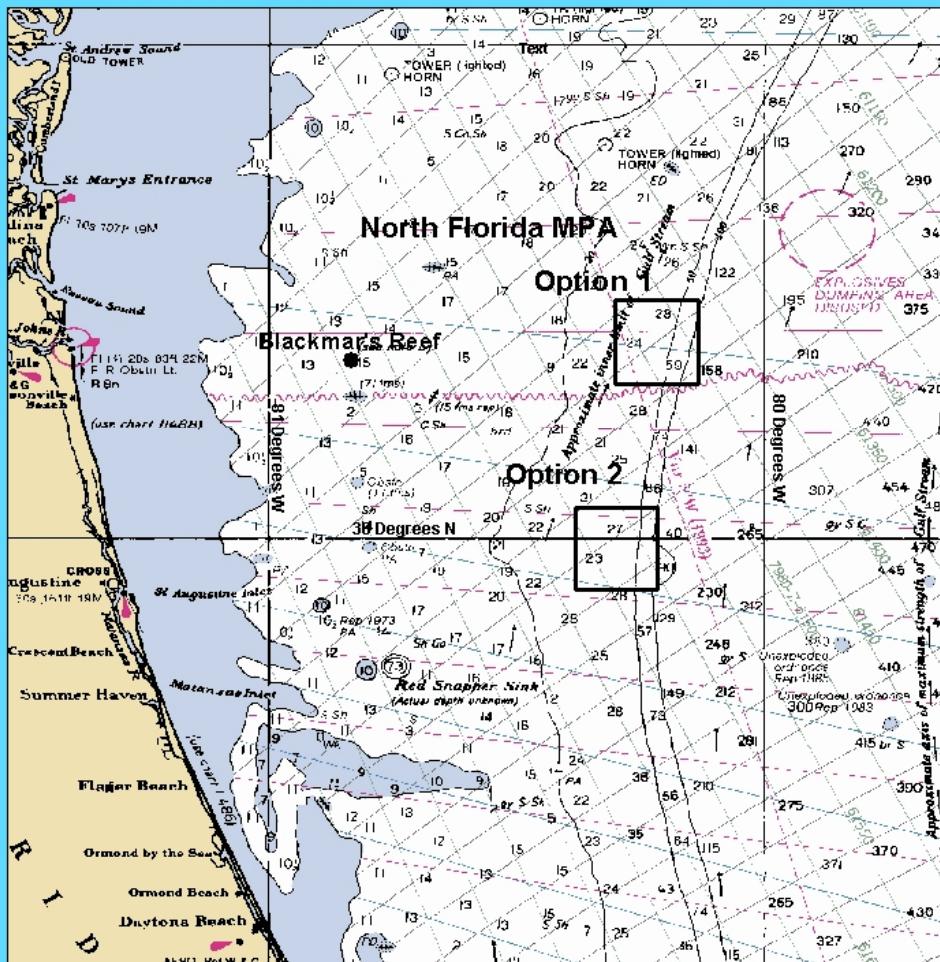
Option 2 NW 31Deg 38'N
79Deg 41'W NE 31Deg 38'N
79Deg 31'W

SW 31Deg 28'N
79Deg 41'W SE 31Deg 28'N
79Deg 31'W Approx. 65nm SE of the Mouth of Wassaw Sound



Prepared by Roger Pugliese, SAFMC (5/14/02)

Proposed North Florida MPA Option 1 and Option 2



Option 1 NW 300deg 29'N
800deg 18'W

SW 300deg 19'N
800deg 18'W

NE 300deg 29'N
800deg 8'W

SE 300deg 19'N
800deg 8'W

Approx. 57nm E of Mouth of St. Johns River

Option 2 NW 300deg 4'N
800deg 23'W

SW 290deg 54'N
800deg 23'W

NE 300deg 4'N
800deg 13'W

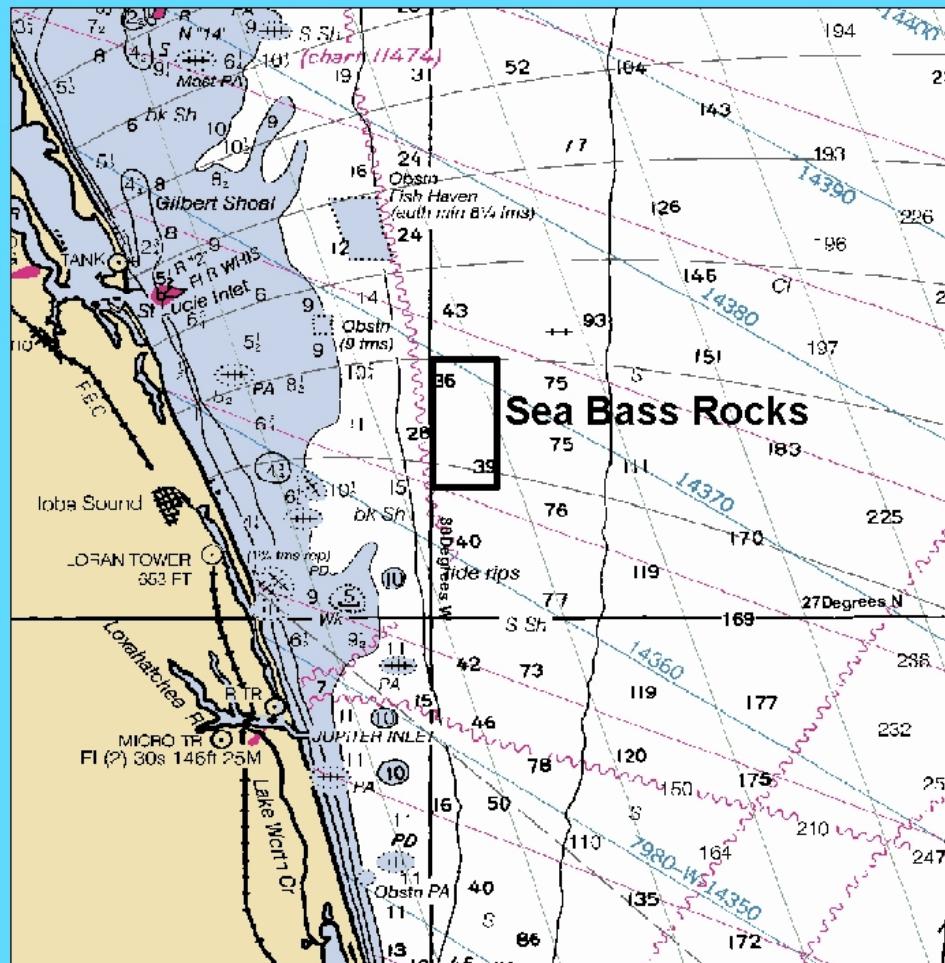
SE 290deg 54'N
800deg 13'W

Approx. 57nm E of St. Augustine Inlet



Prepared by Roger Pugliese, SAFMC (5/14/02)

Proposed MPA Option: Sea Bass Rocks



Approximate Corner Points

Sea Bass Rocks NW 270 deg 8'N
80Deg 0'W

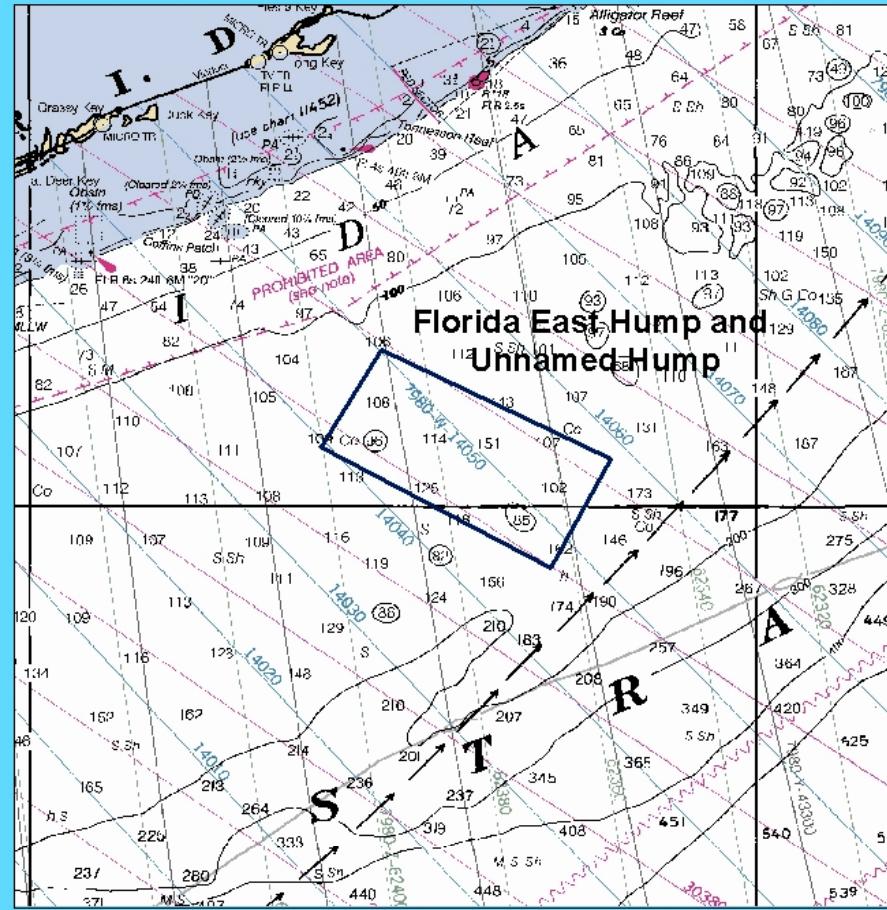
NE 270 deg 8'N
79Deg 58'W

SW 27Deg 4'N
80Deg 0'W

SE 27Deg 4'N
79Deg 58'W Approx. 9nm SE of St. Lucie Inlet



Proposed MPA Option: Florida East Hump and Unnamed Hump



Approximate Corner Points

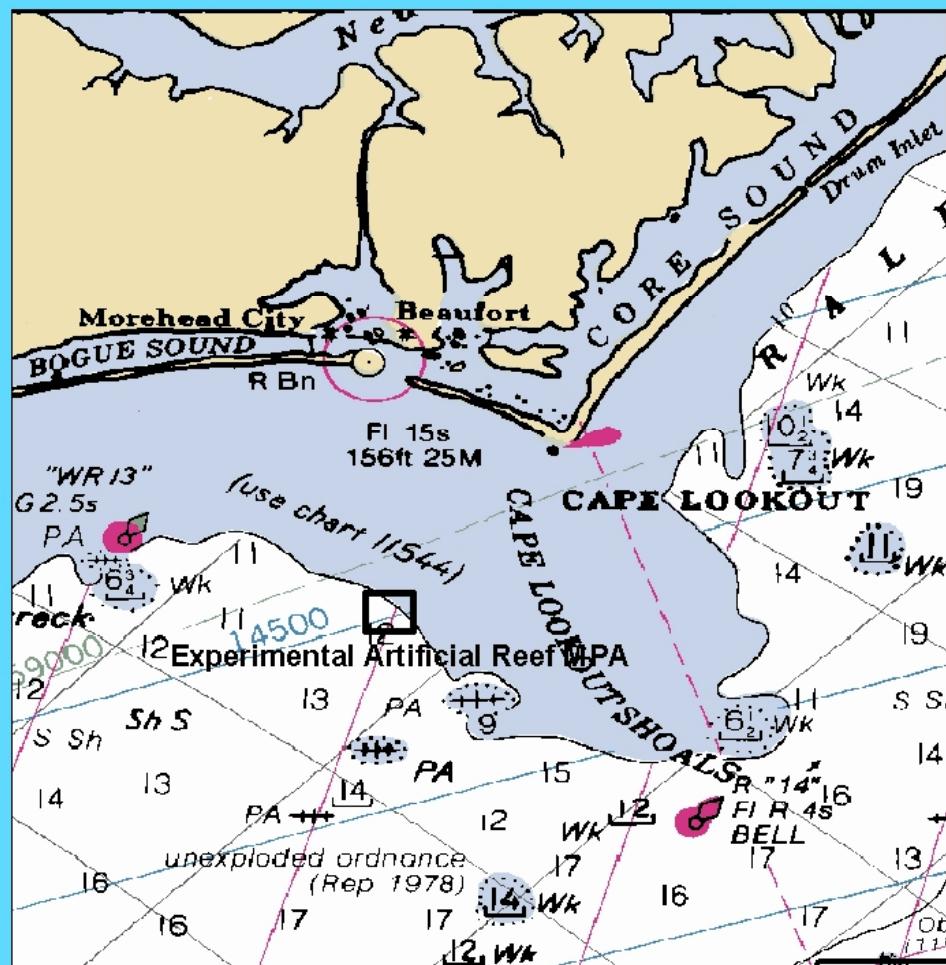
Florida East Hump and
Unnamed Hump NW 24Deg 36.50'N NE 24Deg 32.00' N
220E - 15.50'W 220E - 20.00'W

SW 24deg 32.50'N SE 24deg 27.50'N
800deg 48'W 800deg 38.50'W Approx. 13nm SE of Long Key

Depth in Fathoms



Experimental Artificial Reef MPA



Approximate Corner Points

Experimental
Artificial Reef MPA

NW 34Deg 30'N
76Deg 42'W

NE 34Deg 30'N
76Deg 38.75'W

SW 34Deg 28'N
76Deg 42'W

SE 34Deg 28'N
76Deg 38.75'W

Approx. 12nm from Beaufort Inlet

0 3 6 Nautical Miles (nm)

Depth in Fathoms



Now:

- The MPAs designed to protect deepwater snapper grouper species will be considered under the Council's upcoming Fishery Ecosystem Plan which is under development.