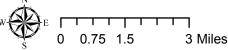


Carysfort Reef Sanctuary Preservation Area



Protects the best developed spur-and-groove reef system in the Upper Florida Keys that formerly supported extensive thickets of ESA-listed elkhorn and staghorn corals and also hosted extensive and diverse deepwater reef habitats. Currently is the largest demonstration site for the restoration of ESA-listed elkhorn and staghorn coral in the Florida Keys. An important candidate site for resilience because of its close proximity to the Florida Current and its interconnectedness to the wider Caribbean. Expanded seaward to include a historic fish spawning aggregation site. The historic Carysfort Lighthouse is included in this SPA. This zone was originally designed to limit consumptive activities and separate users engaged in different activities.

In Alternative 4, extended to the shoreline to protect large, contiguous interconnected seagrass, shallow hardbottom, aggregate patch reef, and deep, drowned spur-and-groove reef habitats, and provides a corridor for migration of different life stages of fishes. This area is proposed to meet the Advisory Council goal to protect large, contiguous, diverse, and interconnected habitats, including for fish moving inshore to offshore through their life cycle.

This map contains proposed marine zone alternatives for public comment. Proposed marine zone alternatives do not reflect agency decision at this time.

For more details about the proposed alternatives and zone descriptions, including associated regulations, see Section 3.3 and 3.4 of this DEIS.

Upper Keys Region

