

# Habitat Program Evaluation and Blueprint

Prepared for the Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel April 2021



Photos: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary





#### **Council Guidance**



The Habitat and Ecosystem
Committee discussed development
of a Blueprint to describe and
evaluate the Council's activities
related to habitat in the region.

The Council directed staff to establish a Habitat Blueprint Development Team/Workgroup to develop the scope of the project and the process to develop a Blueprint document.



### **Workgroup Purpose**

- a. Develop evaluation plan and strategy (Blueprint)
- Assist in preparing and reviewing materials for Council discussion and decision-making.
  - Facilitate Council discussion and ensure efficient use of Council discussion time
  - All decisions will be made by the Council through official Council meetings noticed in the Federal Register
- Assist in reviewing the Blueprint prior to Council approval



## Membership - Council



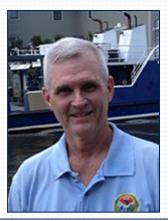
Steve Poland Habitat & Ecosystem Committee Chair Workgroup Lead



Carolyn Belcher Habitat & Ecosystem Committee Vice Chair



Kerry Marhefka Snapper Grouper Committee Vice Chair



Mel Bell Council Chair

### **Membership -Staff**



John Carmichael Executive Director



Myra Brouwer Deputy Director for Management Lead



Roger Pugliese Habitat & Ecosystem Scientist



# **Meetings & Timing**

In-between Council meetings during 2021 (April-May, July-August, October-November)

Council/Committee will receive updates in June and September and approve in December 2021





#### **Progress To Date**

- Two workgroup meetings (January and April 2021).
- Draft scope of work
- Council wants to bring habitat program more to the forefront and be more focused on deliverables that inform management decisions.
- Blueprint to focus on habitat program apart from ecosystem and climate activities.
- Draft goals and objectives



Photo: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary



#### **Next Steps**

- Review and approve goals and objectives
- Clarify EFH review process and Council/NMFS roles
- Propose a process for prioritizing review of EFH policies
- Obtain information to begin evaluation of tools and services to determine how they meet habitat program's goals and objectives