



PUBLIC HEARING GUIDE

1/3/12



Spiny Lobster Amendment 11



Provisions in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require regional fishery management councils to develop management measures to prevent overfishing while achieving, on a continuing basis, the optimum yield from each fishery for the United States fishing industry

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What is a Public Hearing?

A public hearing is held at the end of the fishery management plan process and provides the public with an opportunity to comment on a fishery management plan or amendment that the Council is developing. Public hearings are typically conducted after the Council has selected a preferred alternative for each proposed action in the plan or amendment. Public comments should focus on the alternatives contained in each action. Suggestions, issues, and concerns expressed during the public hearing are then presented to the Council for review and consideration before final action is taken.

How does a public hearing affect fisheries management?

Comments provided during the public hearing process are usually witnessed by at least one Council member and are reported to the full Council prior to final action. Your input is considered as the Council deliberates and chooses the most appropriate management measures to address the issue(s) at hand.

How else can I get involved?

There are many ways you can help the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils identify fishery management needs and develop reasonable management alternatives. There are a range of options for participation in fisheries management, each dependent on how actively involved you want to become. The first step to becoming involved is to educate yourself about the management process by visiting our website at www.gulfcouncil.org, signing up to receive our communications, and contacting Council members and staff to discuss management. You can attend meetings, serve on panels and committees that advise the Council on fisheries, and even apply to become a Council member.

Introduction to Spiny Lobster Amendment 11

The Endangered Species Act requires that fishing activities authorized by NOAA Fisheries Service do as little harm as possible to threatened or endangered species. A recent Biological Opinion of the Spiny Lobster fishery concluded that spiny lobster trap fishing activities put sea turtles, smalltooth sawfish, and staghorn and elkhorn corals at risk. The Biological Opinion specified ways to minimize the impact of the spiny lobster trap fishery on these protected species and set requirements for the terms and conditions under which action must be taken.

As a result, the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils are considering two actions: 1) Creating new closed areas to reduce the impacts of lobster traps on protected coral species and 2) Requiring markings for spiny lobster trap lines to allow identification of trap lines entangling protected species.

These two actions were originally part of Amendment 10, which was completed in June 2011, but were moved to Amendment 11. The spiny lobster fishing industry asked for more opportunity to work with managers to identify effective closed areas and reasonable gear marking options that would meet the requirements of the Biological Opinion.

Action 1: Limit Spiny Lobster Fishing in Certain Areas in Federal Waters off the Florida Keys to Protect Threatened Staghorn (*Acropora cervicornis*) and Elkhorn (*Acropora palmata*) Corals

The Endangered Species Act requires NOAA Fisheries Service and the Councils to work together to protect staghorn and elkhorn coral colonies by expanding existing or creating new closed areas. Movement of lobster traps during storms poses the biggest threat to coral colonies, so the Councils are considering creating closed areas to protect coral colonies. A sub-option in this action considers whether closed areas should prohibit all spiny lobster fishing or only spiny lobster trapping. Currently, the Councils have selected to close these proposed areas to lobster trap fishing based primarily on the determination in the Biological Opinion.

The alternatives in this action were developed jointly with NOAA Fisheries Service, members of the spiny lobster industry, Florida Fish and Wildlife Institute, and Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to aid in conservation and recovery of threatened and endangered sea turtles, smalltooth sawfish, and coral colonies while minimizing the impacts to spiny lobster fishermen.

Alternative 1: No Action – do not limit spiny lobster fishing in the federal waters off the Florida Keys in areas where threatened staghorn and elkhorn corals (*Acropora* spp.) occur.

Alternative 2: Close all known hardbottom in the federal waters off the Florida Keys where *Acropora* spp. occur and in water depths less than 30 meters (98 feet).

Option a. In the closed areas, spiny lobster trapping would be prohibited.

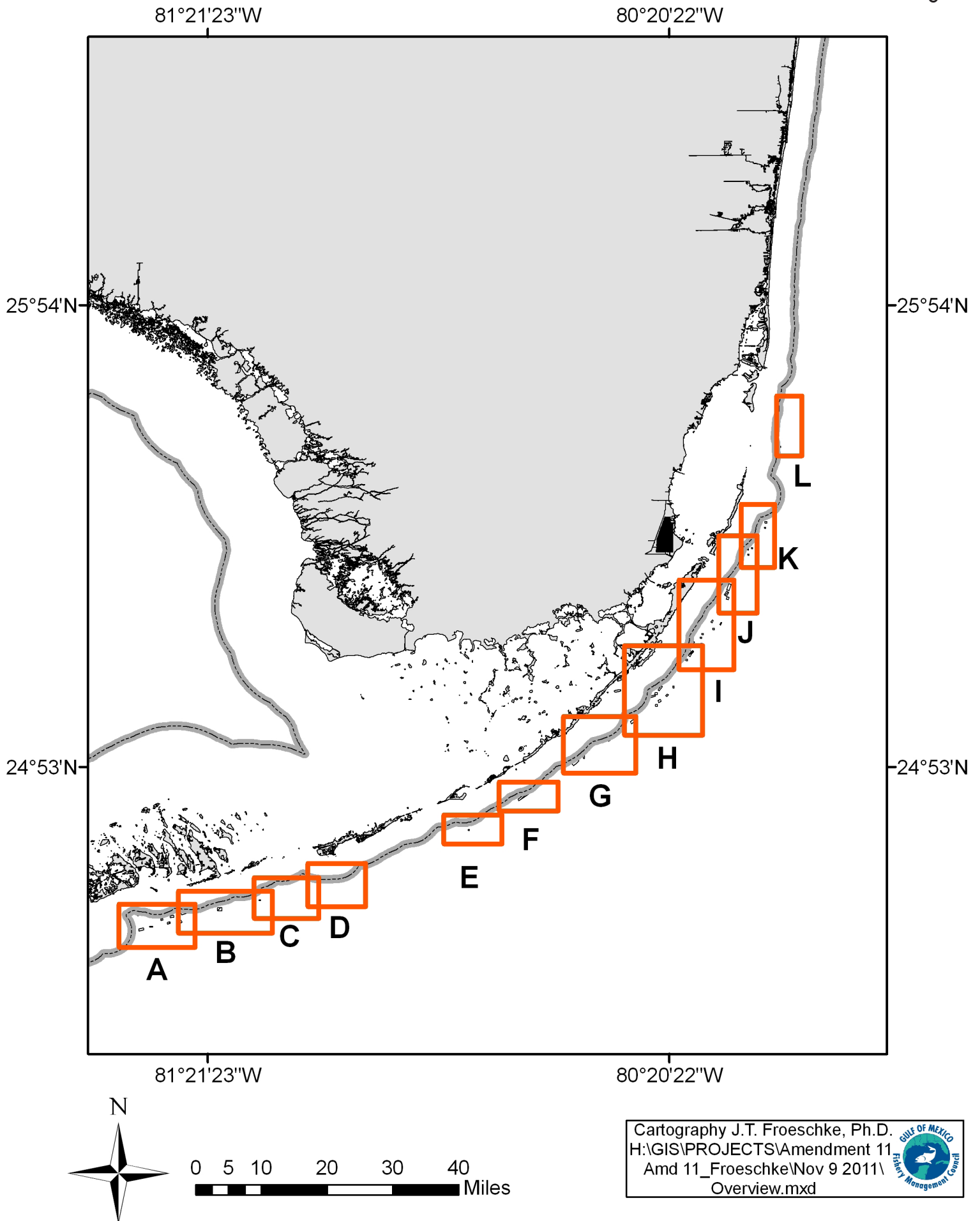
Option b. In the closed areas, all spiny lobster fishing would be prohibited.

Preferred Alternative 3: Create new closed areas in the federal waters off the Florida Keys with identified staghorn and elkhorn coral colonies inside straight-line boundaries.

Preferred Option a. In the closed areas, spiny lobster trapping would be prohibited.

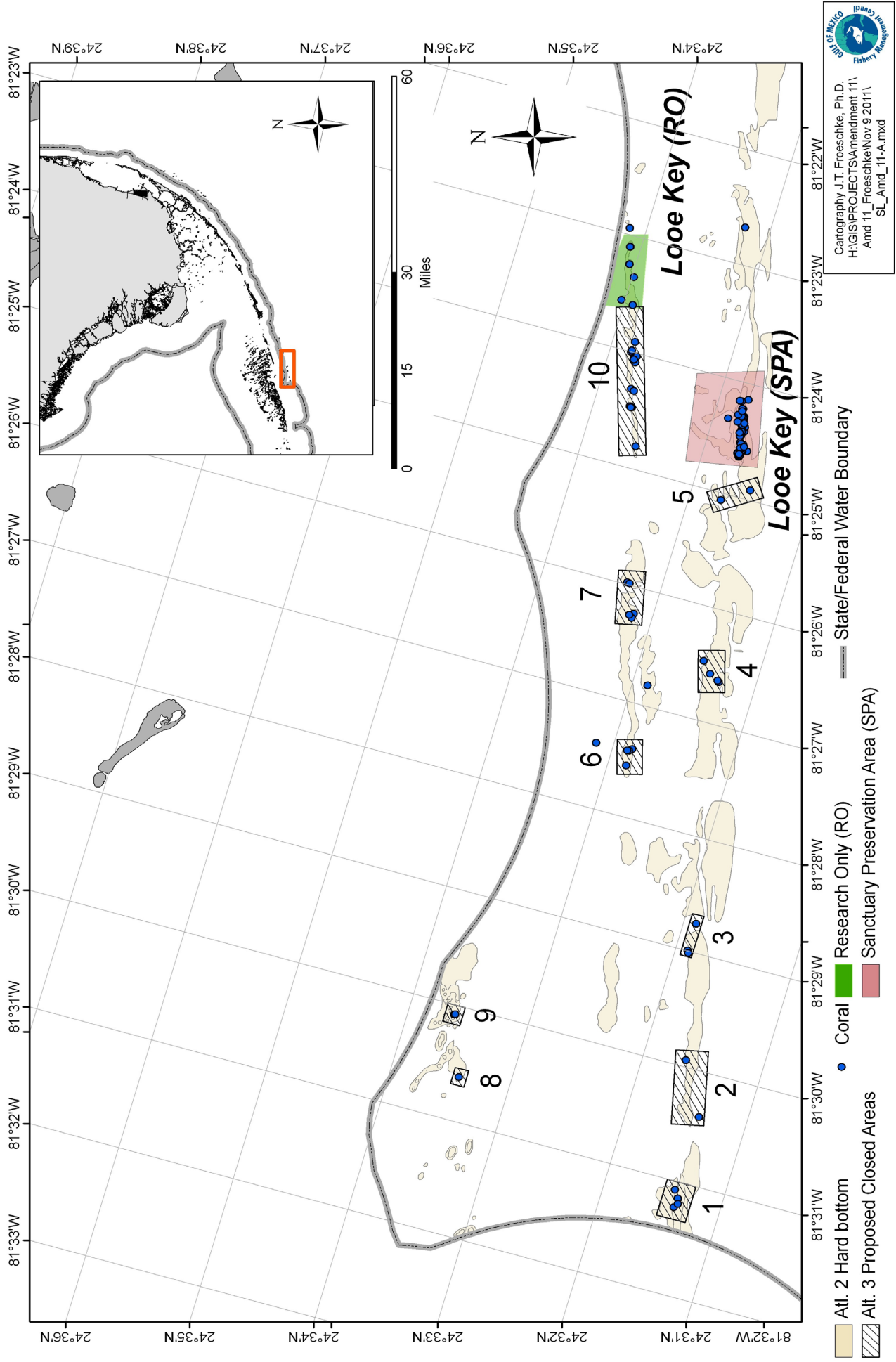
Option b. In the closed areas, all spiny lobster fishing would be prohibited.

Note: Areas under Alternatives 2 and 3 are all south of US 1, between Key Biscayne and Key West. See Overview Map on Page 3 and Region Maps A through L on Pages 4 through 27 for locations of proposed and existing closed areas. Preferred Alternative 3 boundary coordinates are provided next to each map. Transit would be allowed for vessels traveling through a closed area. The term “transit” is defined as on a direct and continuous course through a closed area.



Region A Coordinates:

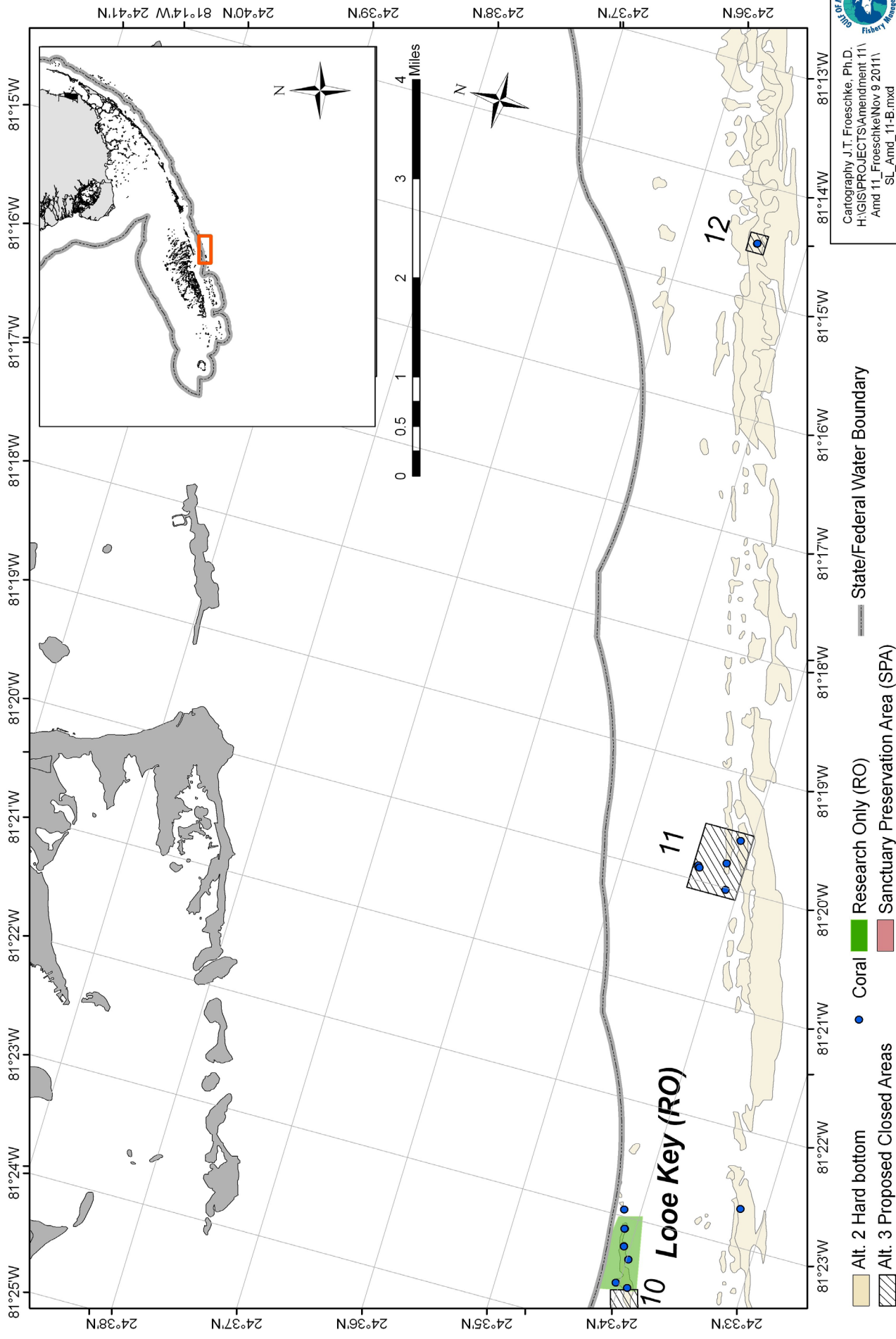
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
1	24° 31' 15.002" N	81° 31' 0.000" W
	24° 31' 15.002" N	81° 31' 19.994" W
	24° 31' 29.999" N	81° 31' 19.994" W
	24° 31' 29.999" N	81° 31' 0.000" W
2	24° 31' 28.914" N	81° 29' 48.869" W
	24° 31' 20.303" N	81° 30' 27.624" W
	24° 31' 36.302" N	81° 30' 31.174" W
	24° 31' 44.913" N	81° 29' 52.419" W
3	24° 31' 50.996" N	81° 28' 39.999" W
	24° 31' 50.996" N	81° 29' 3.002" W
	24° 31' 56.998" N	81° 29' 3.002" W
	24° 31' 56.998" N	81° 28' 39.999" W
4	24° 32' 20.014" N	81° 26' 20.390" W
	24° 32' 13.999" N	81° 26' 41.999" W
	24° 32' 27.004" N	81° 26' 45.611" W
	24° 32' 33.005" N	81° 26' 23.995" W
5	24° 32' 30.011" N	81° 24' 47.000" W
	24° 32' 23.790" N	81° 24' 56.558" W
	24° 32' 45.997" N	81° 25' 10.998" W
	24° 32' 52.218" N	81° 25' 1.433" W
6	24° 32' 46.834" N	81° 27' 17.615" W
	24° 32' 41.835" N	81° 27' 35.619" W
	24° 32' 54.003" N	81° 27' 38.997" W
	24° 32' 59.002" N	81° 27' 21.000" W
7	24° 33' 10.002" N	81° 25' 50.995" W
	24° 33' 4.000" N	81° 26' 18.996" W
	24° 33' 17.253" N	81° 26' 21.839" W
	24° 33' 23.254" N	81° 25' 53.838" W
8	24° 33' 22.004" N	81° 30' 31.998" W
	24° 33' 22.004" N	81° 30' 41.000" W
	24° 33' 29.008" N	81° 30' 41.000" W
	24° 33' 29.008" N	81° 30' 31.998" W
9	24° 33' 33.004" N	81° 30' 0.000" W
	24° 33' 33.004" N	81° 30' 9.998" W
	24° 33' 41.999" N	81° 30' 9.998" W
	24° 33' 41.999" N	81° 30' 0.000" W
10	24° 33' 50.376" N	81° 23' 35.039" W
	24° 33' 27.003" N	81° 24' 51.003" W
	24° 33' 40.008" N	81° 24' 54.999" W
	24° 34' 3.382" N	81° 23' 39.035" W



REGION A

Region B Coordinates:

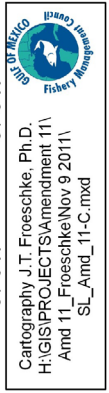
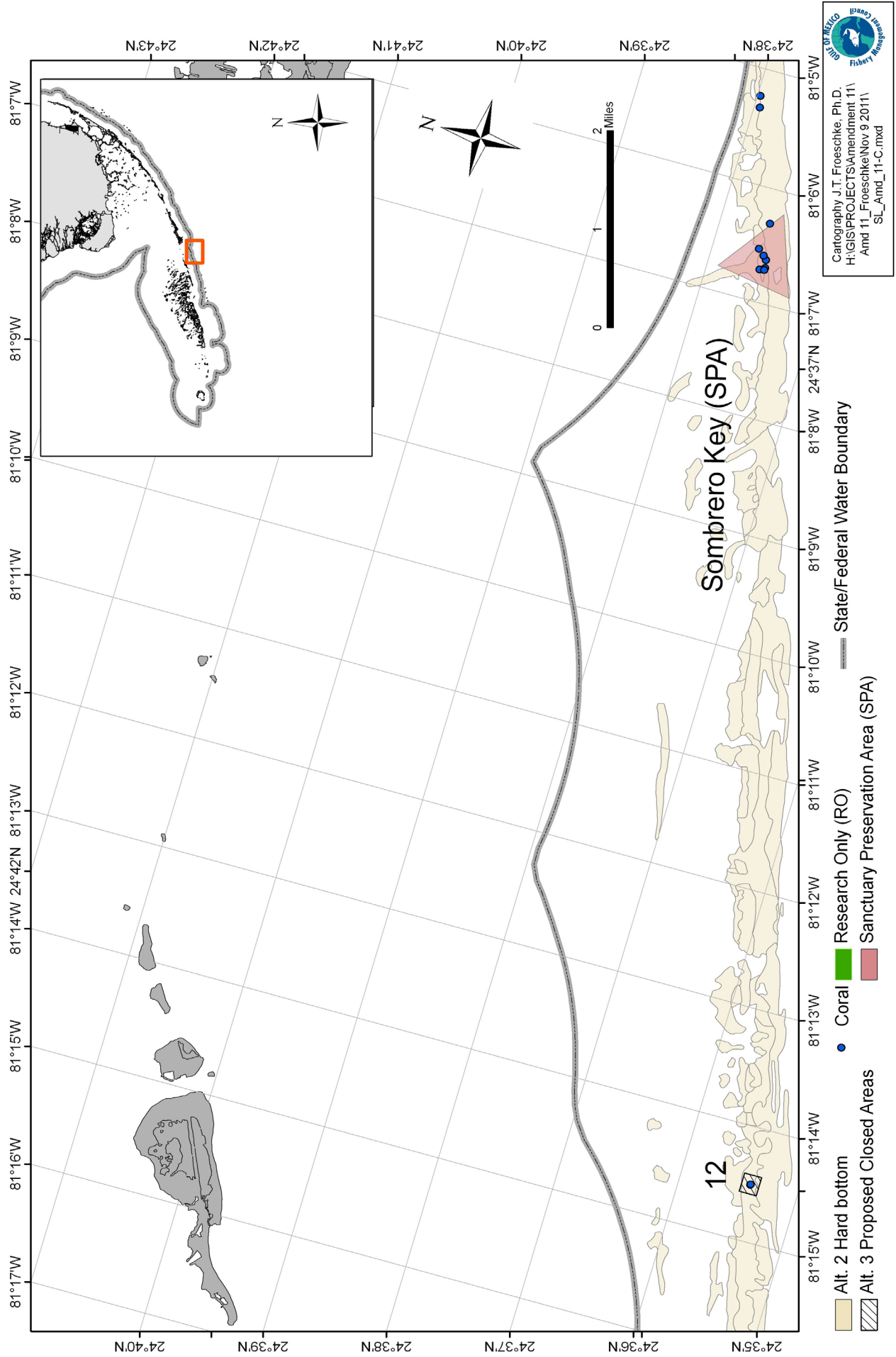
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
10	24° 33' 50.376" N	81° 23' 35.039" W
	24° 33' 27.003" N	81° 24' 51.003" W
	24° 33' 40.008" N	81° 24' 54.999" W
	24° 34' 3.382" N	81° 23' 39.035" W
11	24° 34' 0.003" N	81° 19' 29.996" W
	24° 34' 0.003" N	81° 20' 4.994" W
	24° 34' 24.997" N	81° 20' 4.994" W
	24° 34' 24.997" N	81° 19' 29.996" W
12	24° 35' 19.997" N	81° 14' 25.002" W
	24° 35' 19.997" N	81° 14' 34.999" W
	24° 35' 29.006" N	81° 14' 34.999" W
	24° 35' 29.006" N	81° 14' 25.002" W



REGION B

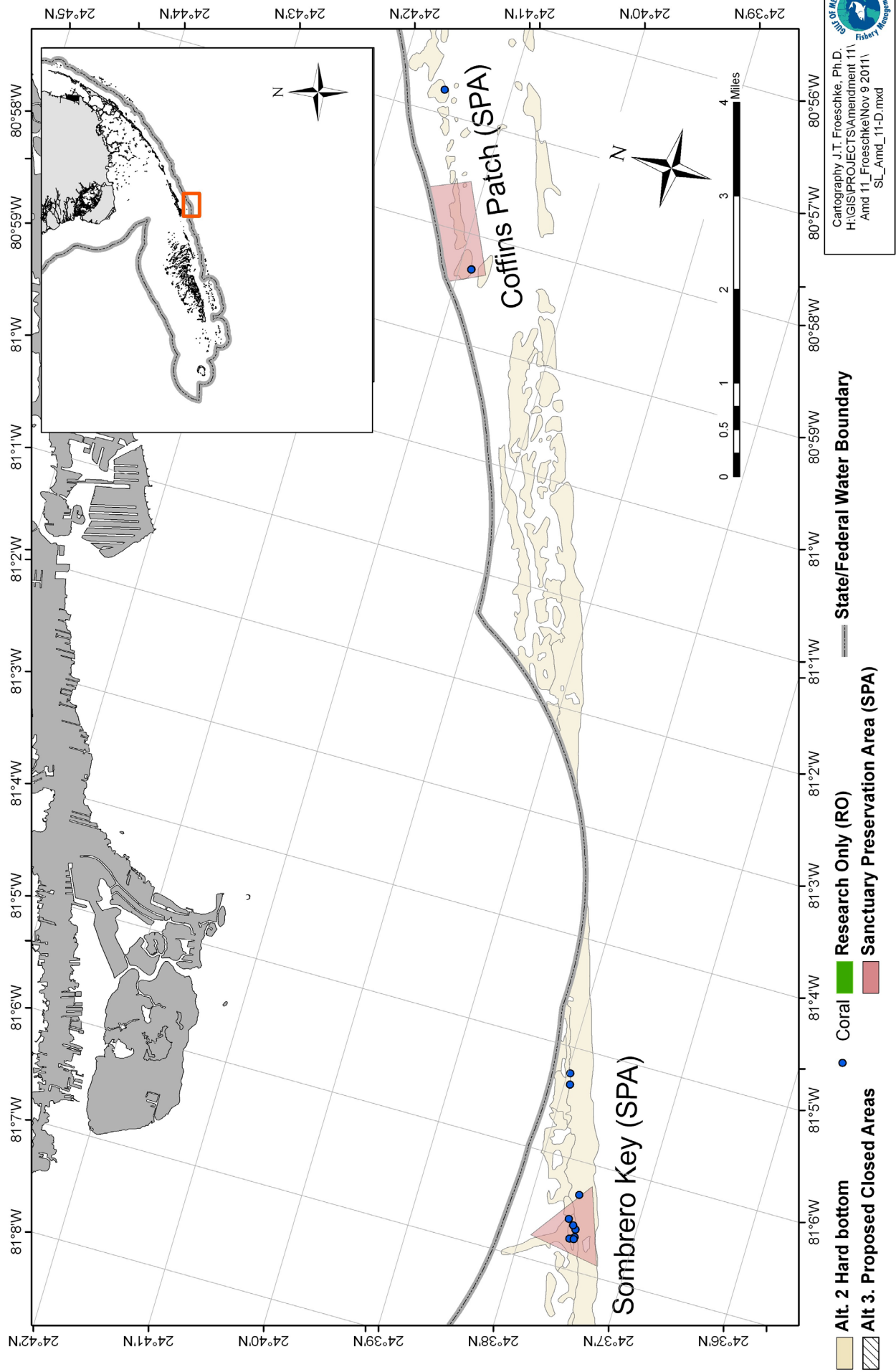
Region C Coordinates:

Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
12	24° 35' 19.997" N	81° 14' 25.002" W
	24° 35' 19.997" N	81° 14' 34.999" W
	24° 35' 29.006" N	81° 14' 34.999" W
	24° 35' 29.006" N	81° 14' 25.002" W



Region D Coordinates:

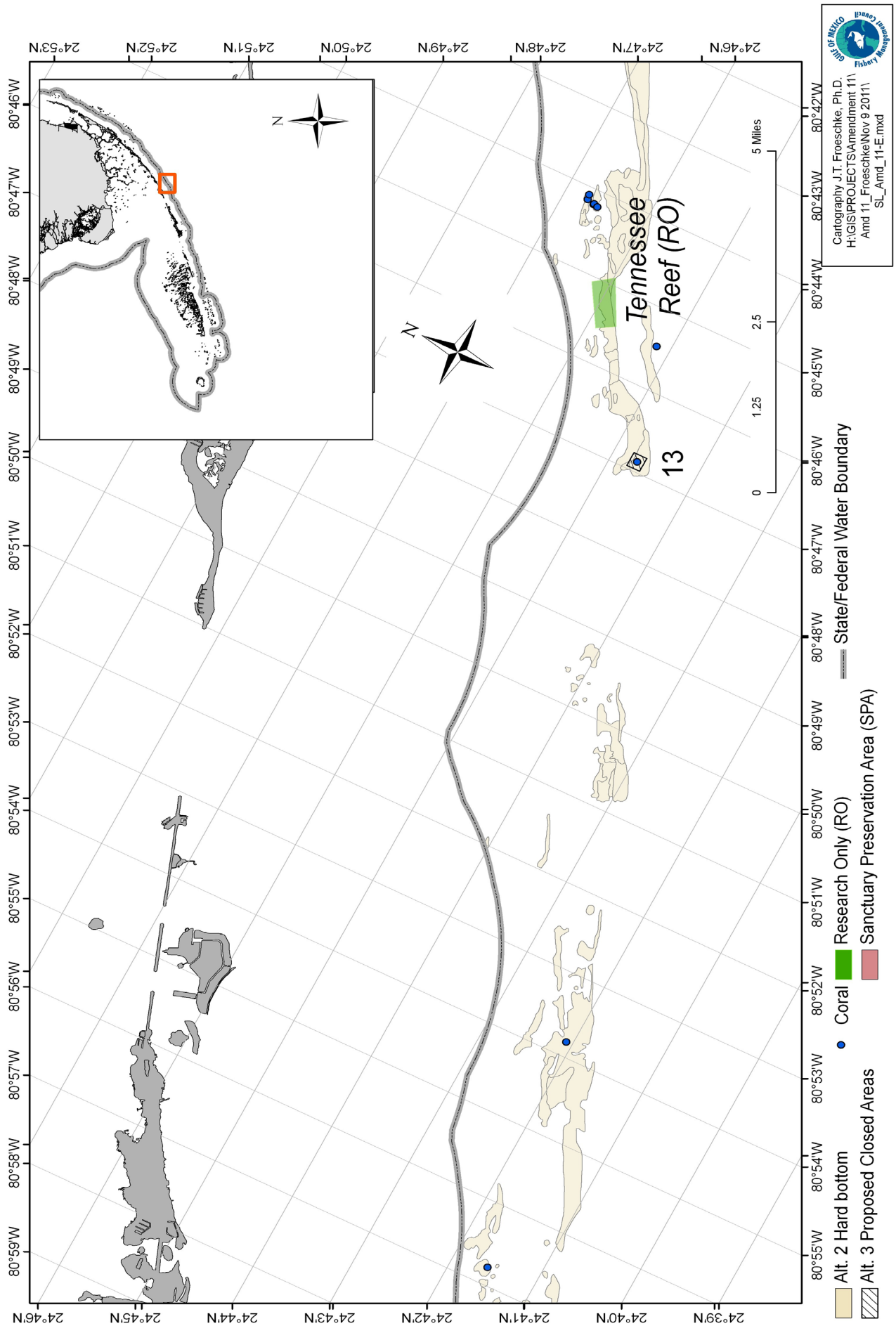
NONE



REGION D

Region E Coordinates:

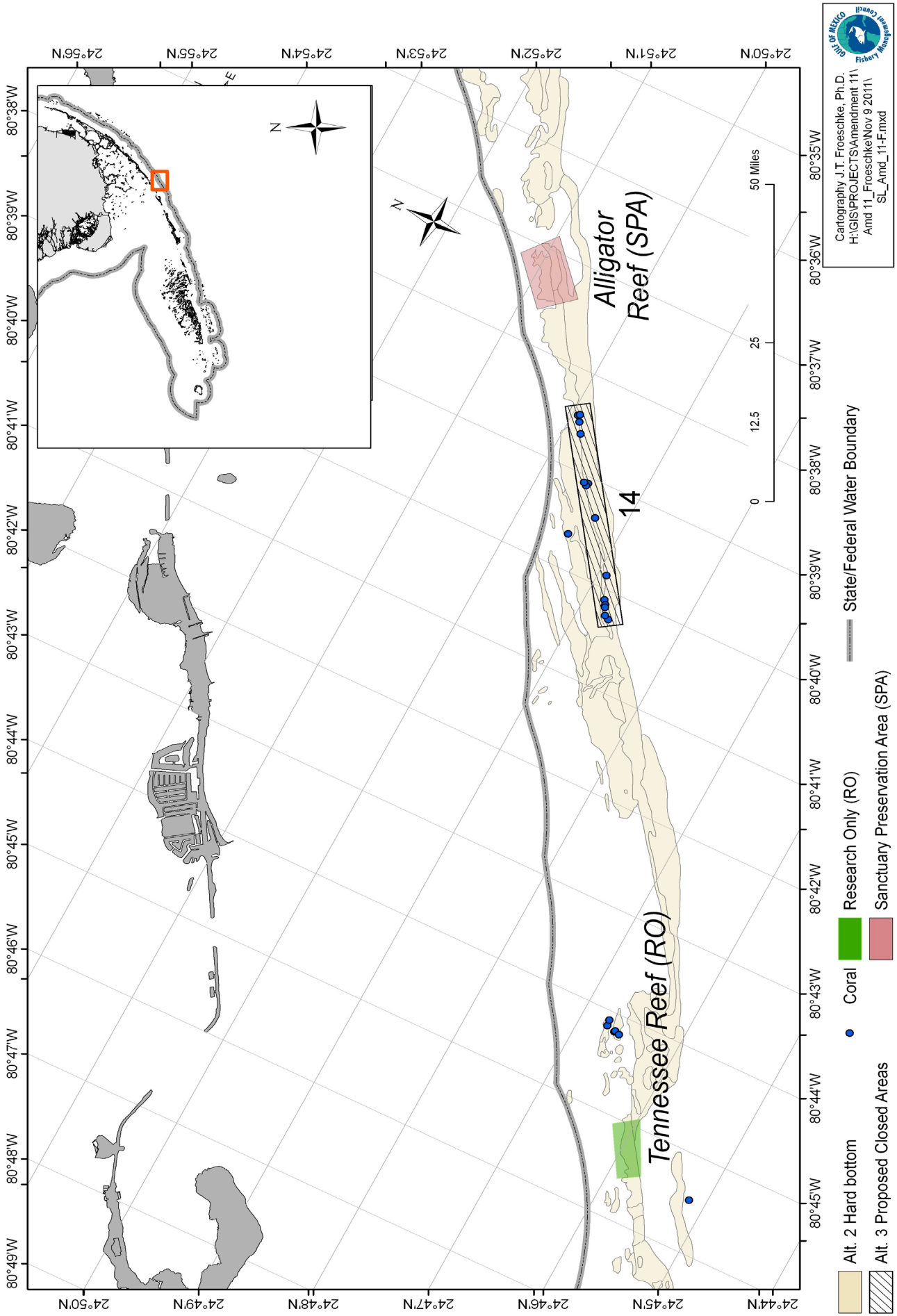
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
13	24° 44' 37.004" N	80° 46' 47.000" W
	24° 44' 37.004" N	80° 46' 58.000" W
	24° 44' 47.002" N	80° 46' 58.000" W
	24° 44' 47.002" N	80° 46' 47.000" W



Region F Coordinates:

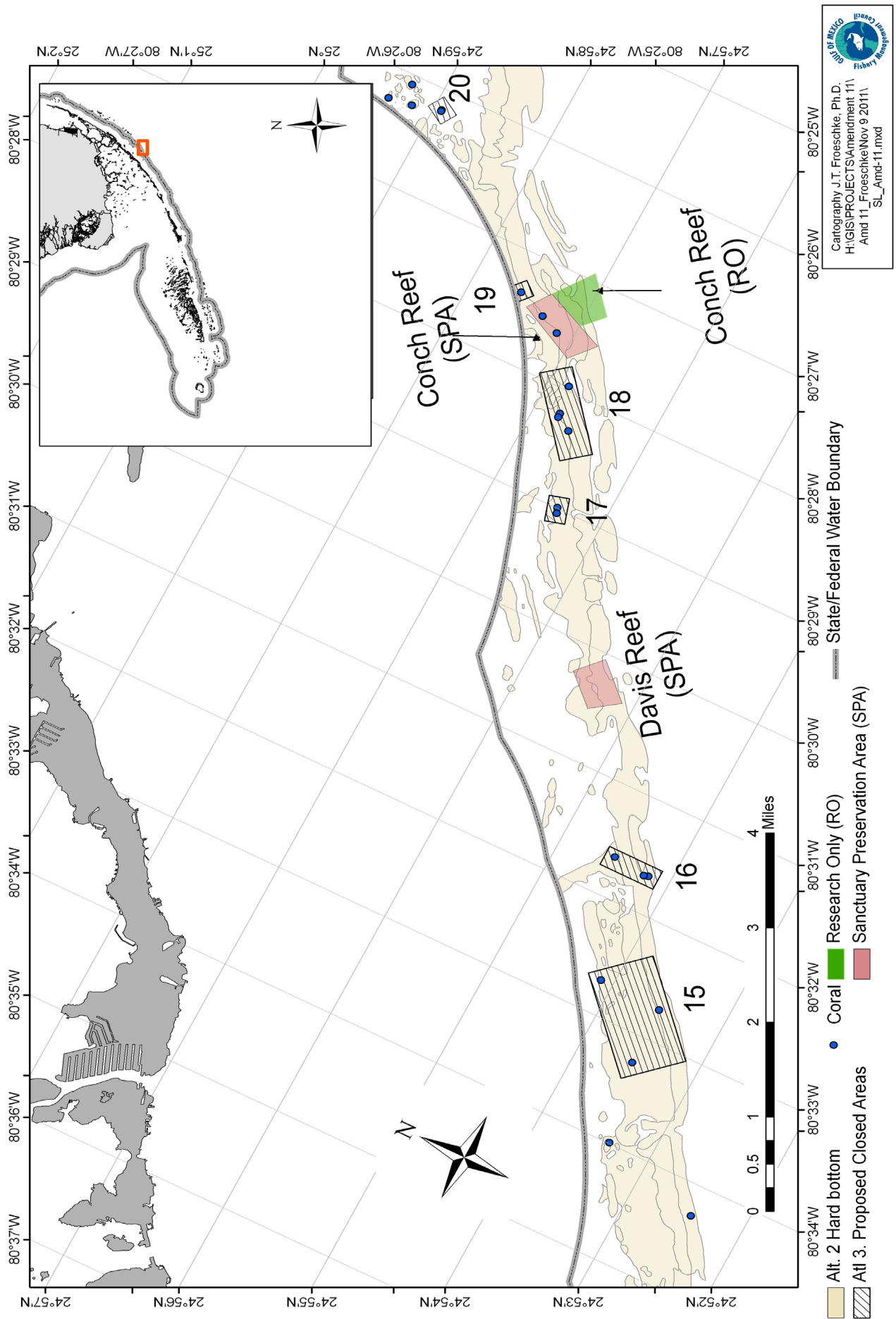
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
14	24° 49' 53.946" N	80° 38' 17.646" W
	24° 48' 32.331" N	80° 40' 15.530" W
	24° 48' 44.389" N	80° 40' 23.879" W
	24° 50' 6.004" N	80° 38' 26.003" W

REGION F



Region G Coordinates:

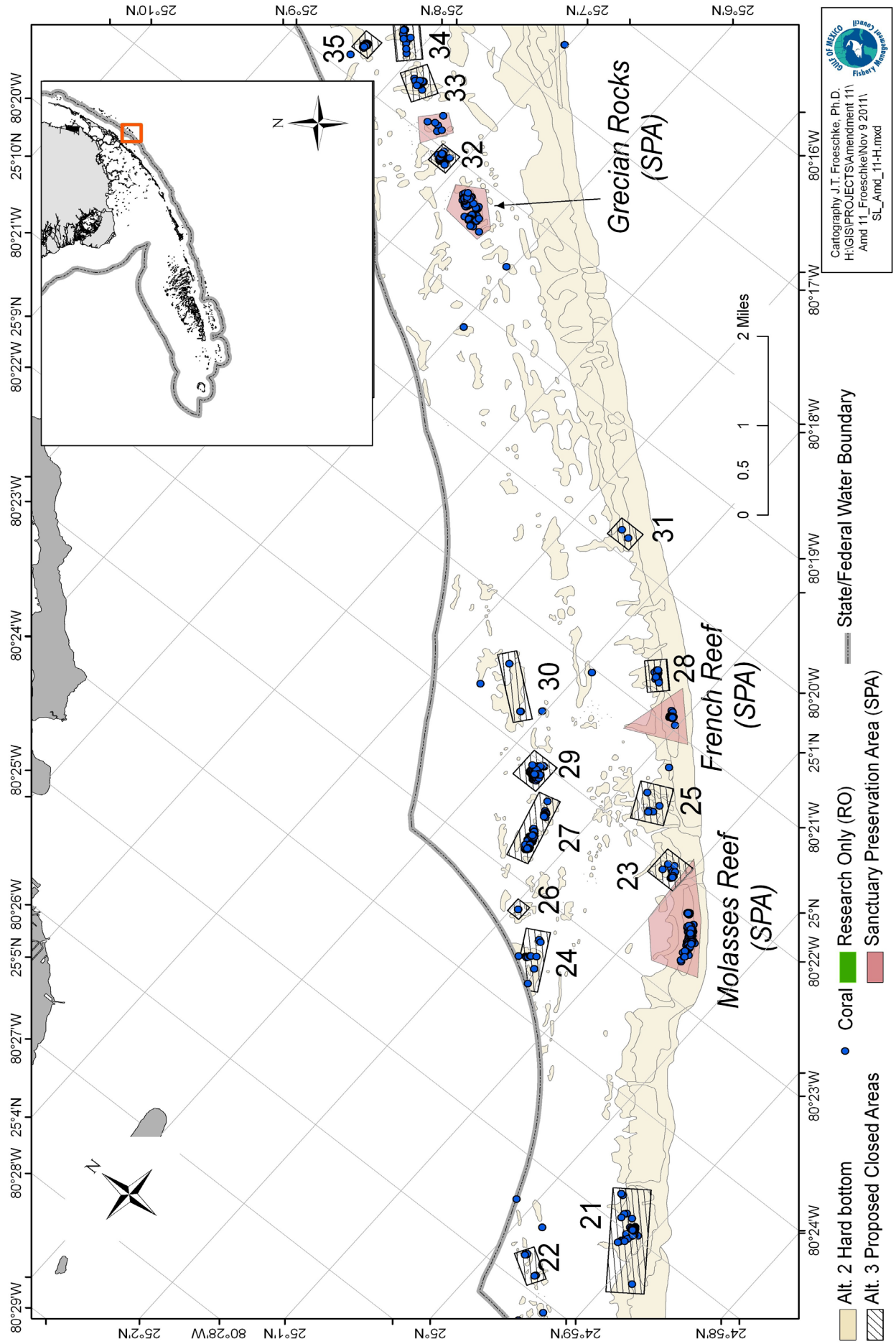
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
15	24° 53' 49.040" N	80° 32' 17.817" W
	24° 53' 8.006" N	80° 33' 2.002" W
	24° 53' 32.972" N	80° 33' 25.183" W
	24° 54' 14.006" N	80° 32' 40.998" W
16	24° 54' 6.000" N	80° 31' 33.995" W
	24° 54' 6.000" N	80° 31' 45.002" W
	24° 54' 36.006" N	80° 31' 45.002" W
	24° 54' 36.006" N	80° 31' 33.995" W
17	24° 56' 21.104" N	80° 28' 52.331" W
	24° 56' 17.012" N	80° 29' 5.995" W
	24° 56' 26.996" N	80° 29' 8.996" W
	24° 56' 31.102" N	80° 28' 55.325" W
18	24° 56' 53.006" N	80° 27' 46.997" W
	24° 56' 21.887" N	80° 28' 25.367" W
	24° 56' 35.002" N	80° 28' 36.003" W
	24° 57' 6.107" N	80° 27' 57.626" W
19	24° 57' 35.001" N	80° 27' 14.999" W
	24° 57' 28.011" N	80° 27' 21.000" W
	24° 57' 33.999" N	80° 27' 27.997" W
	24° 57' 40.200" N	80° 27' 21.106" W
20	24° 58' 58.154" N	80° 26' 3.911" W
	24° 58' 48.005" N	80° 26' 10.001" W
	24° 58' 52.853" N	80° 26' 18.090" W
	24° 59' 3.002" N	80° 26' 11.999" W



Region H Coordinates:

Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
21	24° 59' 17.009" N	80° 24' 32.999" W
	24° 58' 41.001" N	80° 25' 21.998" W
	24° 58' 57.591" N	80° 25' 34.186" W
	24° 59' 33.598" N	80° 24' 45.187" W
22	24° 59' 44.008" N	80° 25' 38.999" W
	24° 59' 27.007" N	80° 25' 48.997" W
	24° 59' 32.665" N	80° 25' 58.610" W
	24° 59' 49.666" N	80° 25' 48.612" W
23	25° 1' 0.006" N	80° 21' 55.002" W
	25° 1' 0.006" N	80° 22' 11.996" W
	25° 1' 18.010" N	80° 22' 11.996" W
	25° 1' 18.010" N	80° 21' 55.002" W
24	25° 1' 34.997" N	80° 23' 12.998" W
	25° 1' 18.010" N	80° 23' 44.000" W
	25° 1' 22.493" N	80° 23' 46.473" W
	25° 1' 36.713" N	80° 23' 37.665" W
	25° 1' 46.657" N	80° 23' 19.390" W
25	25° 1' 38.005" N	80° 21' 25.998" W
	25° 1' 28.461" N	80° 21' 46.158" W
	25° 1' 45.009" N	80° 21' 53.999" W
	25° 1' 54.553" N	80° 21' 33.839" W
26	25° 1' 53.001" N	80° 23' 8.995" W
	25° 1' 53.001" N	80° 23' 17.997" W
	25° 2' 1.008" N	80° 23' 17.997" W
	25° 2' 1.008" N	80° 23' 8.995" W
27	25° 2' 20.000" N	80° 22' 11.001" W
	25° 2' 10.003" N	80° 22' 50.002" W
	25° 2' 22.252" N	80° 22' 53.140" W
	25° 2' 32.250" N	80° 22' 14.138" W

Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
28	25° 2' 29.503" N	80° 20' 30.503" W
	25° 2' 16.498" N	80° 20' 43.501" W
	25° 2' 24.999" N	80° 20' 52.002" W
	25° 2' 38.004" N	80° 20' 38.997" W
29	25° 2' 34.008" N	80° 21' 57.000" W
	25° 2' 34.008" N	80° 22' 14.997" W
	25° 2' 50.007" N	80° 22' 14.997" W
	25° 2' 50.007" N	80° 21' 57.000" W
30	25° 3' 34.570" N	80° 21' 18.767" W
	25° 3' 2.572" N	80° 21' 43.768" W
	25° 3' 8.999" N	80° 21' 51.994" W
	25° 3' 41.011" N	80° 21' 27.000" W
31	25° 3' 26.001" N	80° 19' 43.001" W
	25° 3' 26.001" N	80° 19' 54.997" W
	25° 3' 41.011" N	80° 19' 54.997" W
	25° 3' 41.011" N	80° 19' 43.001" W
32	25° 7' 3.008" N	80° 17' 57.999" W
	25° 7' 3.008" N	80° 18' 10.002" W
	25° 7' 14.997" N	80° 18' 10.002" W
	25° 7' 14.997" N	80° 17' 57.999" W
33	25° 7' 51.156" N	80° 17' 27.910" W
	25° 7' 35.857" N	80° 17' 37.091" W
	25° 7' 43.712" N	80° 17' 50.171" W
	25° 7' 59.011" N	80° 17' 40.998" W
34	25° 8' 12.002" N	80° 17' 9.996" W
	25° 7' 55.001" N	80° 17' 26.997" W
	25° 8' 4.998" N	80° 17' 36.995" W
	25° 8' 22.000" N	80° 17' 20.000" W
35	25° 8' 18.003" N	80° 17' 34.001" W
	25° 8' 18.003" N	80° 17' 45.997" W
	25° 8' 29.003" N	80° 17' 45.997" W
	25° 8' 29.003" N	80° 17' 34.001" W

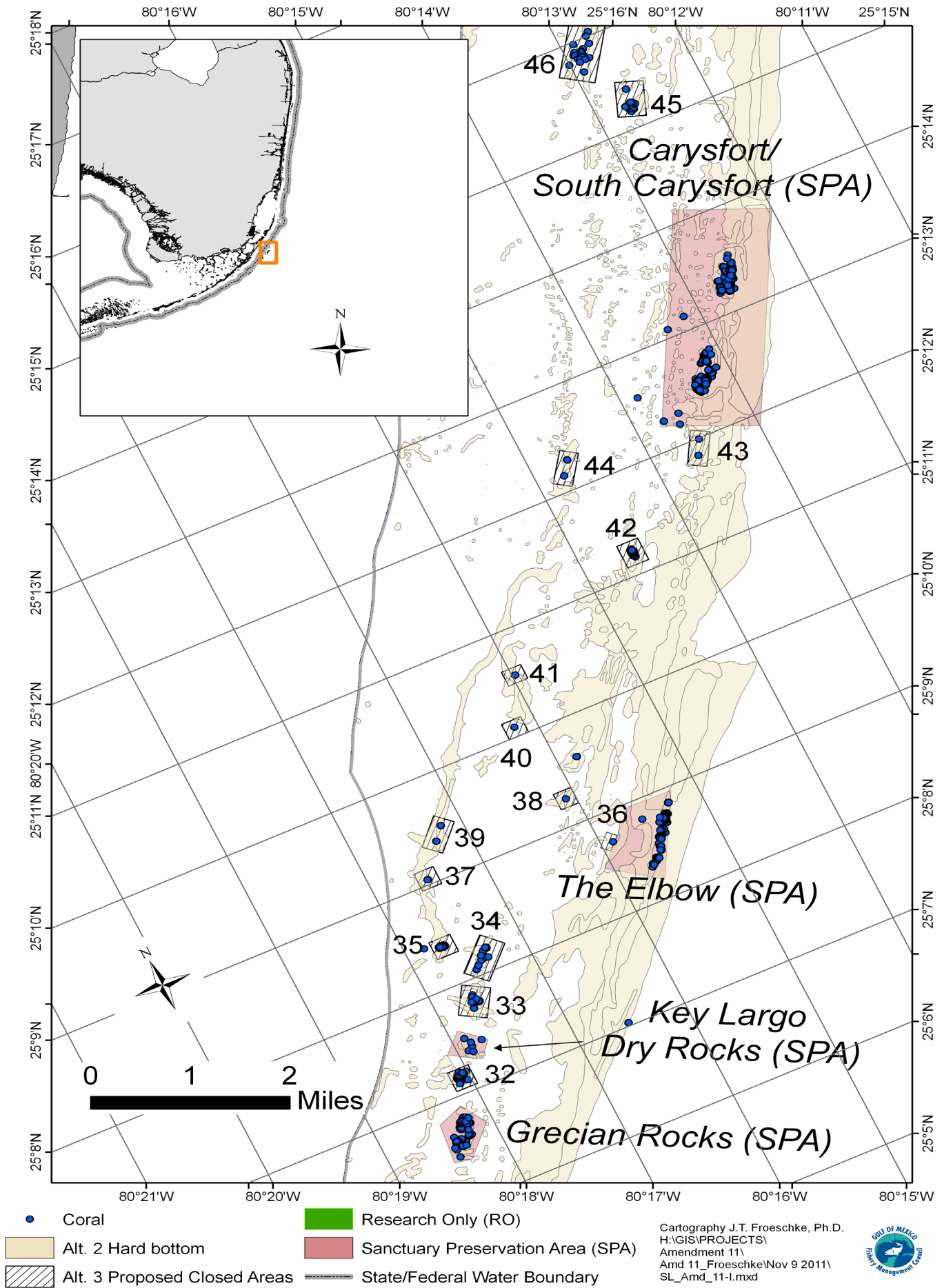


REGION H

Region I Coordinates:

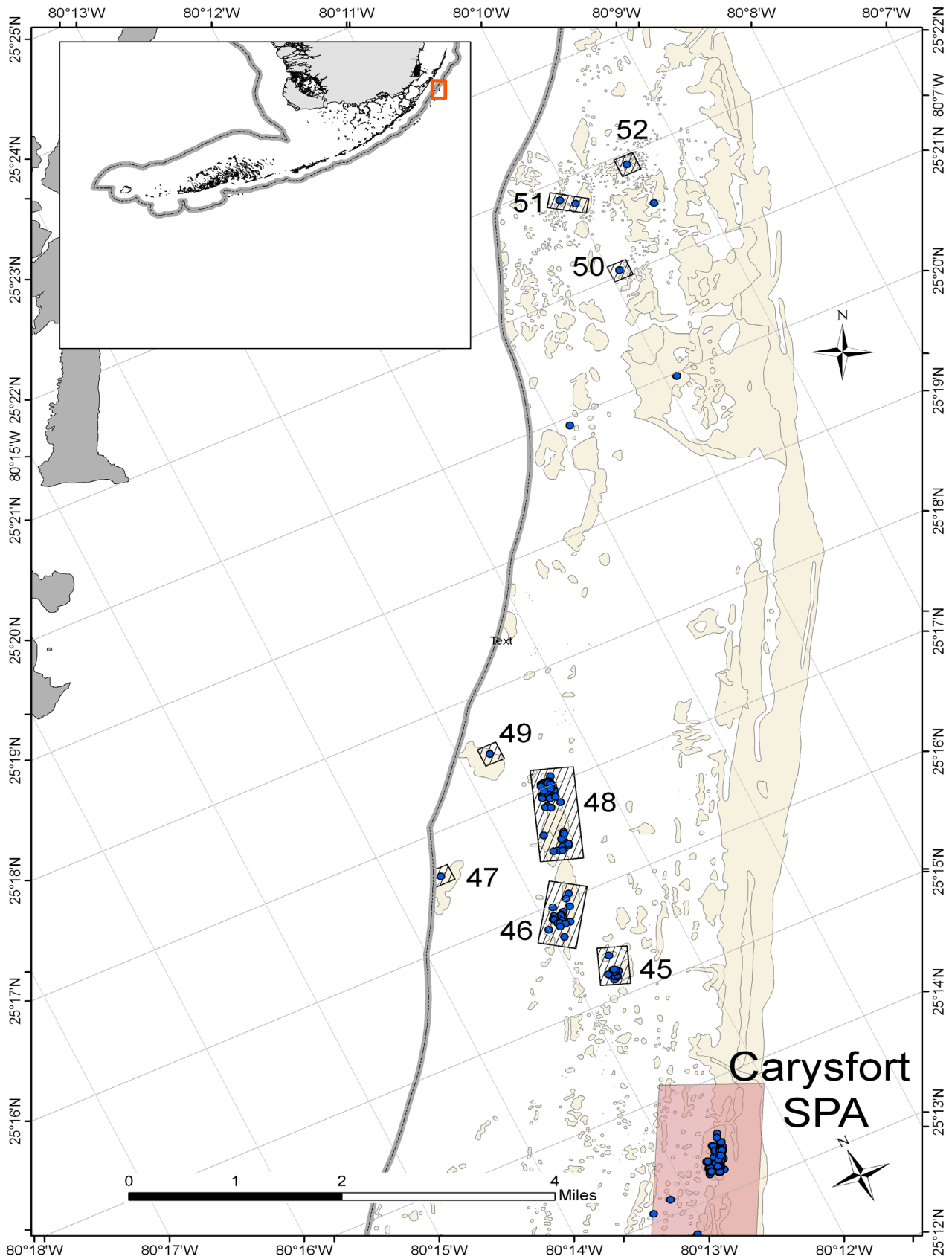
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
32	25° 7' 3.008" N	80° 17' 57.999" W
	25° 7' 3.008" N	80° 18' 10.002" W
	25° 7' 14.997" N	80° 18' 10.002" W
	25° 7' 14.997" N	80° 17' 57.999" W
33	25° 7' 51.156" N	80° 17' 27.910" W
	25° 7' 35.857" N	80° 17' 37.091" W
	25° 7' 43.712" N	80° 17' 50.171" W
	25° 7' 59.011" N	80° 17' 40.998" W
34	25° 8' 12.002" N	80° 17' 9.996" W
	25° 7' 55.001" N	80° 17' 26.997" W
	25° 8' 4.998" N	80° 17' 36.995" W
	25° 8' 22.000" N	80° 17' 20.000" W
35	25° 8' 18.003" N	80° 17' 34.001" W
	25° 8' 18.003" N	80° 17' 45.997" W
	25° 8' 29.003" N	80° 17' 45.997" W
	25° 8' 29.003" N	80° 17' 34.001" W
36	25° 8' 45.002" N	80° 15' 50.002" W
	25° 8' 37.999" N	80° 15' 56.998" W
	25° 8' 42.009" N	80° 16' 0.995" W
	25° 8' 48.999" N	80° 15' 53.998" W
37	25° 8' 58.007" N	80° 17' 24.999" W
	25° 8' 58.007" N	80° 17' 35.999" W
	25° 9' 9.007" N	80° 17' 35.999" W
	25° 9' 9.007" N	80° 17' 24.999" W
38	25° 9' 10.999" N	80° 16' 0.000" W
	25° 9' 10.999" N	80° 16' 9.997" W
	25° 9' 20.996" N	80° 16' 9.997" W
	25° 9' 20.996" N	80° 16' 0.000" W

Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
39	25° 9' 28.316" N	80° 17' 3.713" W
	25° 9' 14.006" N	80° 17' 17.000" W
	25° 9' 21.697" N	80° 17' 25.280" W
	25° 9' 36.006" N	80° 17' 12.001" W
40	25° 10' 0.011" N	80° 16' 6.000" W
	25° 10' 0.011" N	80° 16' 17.000" W
	25° 10' 9.995" N	80° 16' 17.000" W
	25° 10' 9.995" N	80° 16' 6.000" W
41	25° 10' 29.002" N	80° 15' 52.995" W
	25° 10' 29.002" N	80° 16' 4.002" W
	25° 10' 37.997" N	80° 16' 4.002" W
	25° 10' 37.997" N	80° 15' 52.995" W
42	25° 11' 5.998" N	80° 14' 25.997" W
	25° 11' 5.998" N	80° 14' 38.000" W
	25° 11' 20.006" N	80° 14' 38.000" W
	25° 11' 20.006" N	80° 14' 25.997" W
43	25° 12' 0.998" N	80° 13' 24.996" W
	25° 11' 43.008" N	80° 13' 35.000" W
	25° 11' 48.007" N	80° 13' 44.002" W
	25° 12' 6.011" N	80° 13' 33.998" W
44	25° 12' 18.343" N	80° 14' 32.768" W
	25° 12' 2.001" N	80° 14' 44.001" W
	25° 12' 7.659" N	80° 14' 52.234" W
	25° 12' 24.001" N	80° 14' 41.001" W
45	25° 15' 23.998" N	80° 12' 29.000" W
	25° 15' 4.676" N	80° 12' 36.120" W
	25° 15' 9.812" N	80° 12' 50.066" W
	25° 15' 29.148" N	80° 12' 42.946" W
46	25° 16' 1.997" N	80° 12' 32.996" W
	25° 15' 33.419" N	80° 12' 52.394" W
	25° 15' 44.007" N	80° 13' 8.001" W
	25° 16' 12.585" N	80° 12' 48.597" W



Region J Coordinates:

Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
45	25° 15' 23.998" N	80° 12' 29.000" W
	25° 15' 4.676" N	80° 12' 36.120" W
	25° 15' 9.812" N	80° 12' 50.066" W
	25° 15' 29.148" N	80° 12' 42.946" W
46	25° 16' 1.997" N	80° 12' 32.996" W
	25° 15' 33.419" N	80° 12' 52.394" W
	25° 15' 44.007" N	80° 13' 8.001" W
	25° 16' 12.585" N	80° 12' 48.597" W
47	25° 16' 33.006" N	80° 13' 30.001" W
	25° 16' 33.006" N	80° 13' 41.001" W
	25° 16' 34.425" N	80° 13' 41.026" W
	25° 16' 41.850" N	80° 13' 37.475" W
	25° 16' 42.001" N	80° 13' 30.001" W
48	25° 17' 4.715" N	80° 12' 11.305" W
	25° 16' 17.007" N	80° 12' 27.997" W
	25° 16' 23.997" N	80° 12' 47.999" W
	25° 17' 11.705" N	80° 12' 31.300" W
49	25° 17' 23.008" N	80° 12' 40.000" W
	25° 17' 23.008" N	80° 12' 49.997" W
	25° 17' 33.005" N	80° 12' 49.997" W
	25° 17' 33.005" N	80° 12' 40.000" W
50	25° 20' 57.996" N	80° 9' 50.000" W
	25° 20' 57.996" N	80° 10' 0.000" W
	25° 21' 7.005" N	80° 10' 0.000" W
	25° 21' 7.005" N	80° 9' 50.000" W
51	25° 21' 45.004" N	80° 9' 51.998" W
	25° 21' 38.124" N	80° 9' 56.722" W
	25° 21' 49.124" N	80° 10' 12.728" W
	25° 21' 56.004" N	80° 10' 7.997" W
52	25° 21' 49.000" N	80° 9' 21.999" W
	25° 21' 49.000" N	80° 9' 31.996" W
	25° 21' 58.998" N	80° 9' 31.996" W
	25° 21' 58.998" N	80° 9' 21.999" W



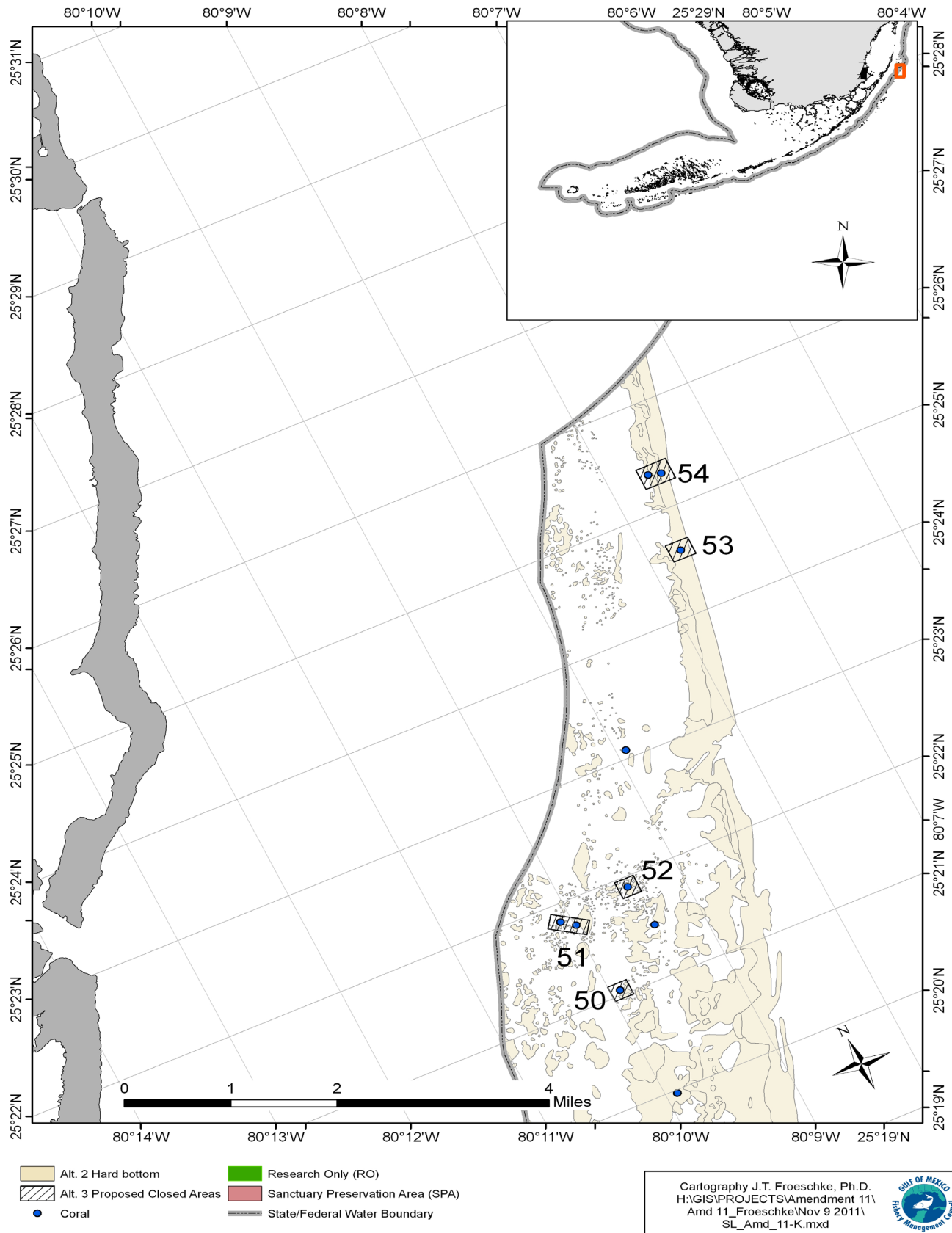
- Alt. 2 Hard bottom
- Alt. 3 Proposed Closed Areas
- Coral
- Research Only (RO)
- Sanctuary Preservation Area (SPA)
- State/Federal Water Boundary

Cartography J.T. Froeschke, Ph.D.
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Region K Coordinates:

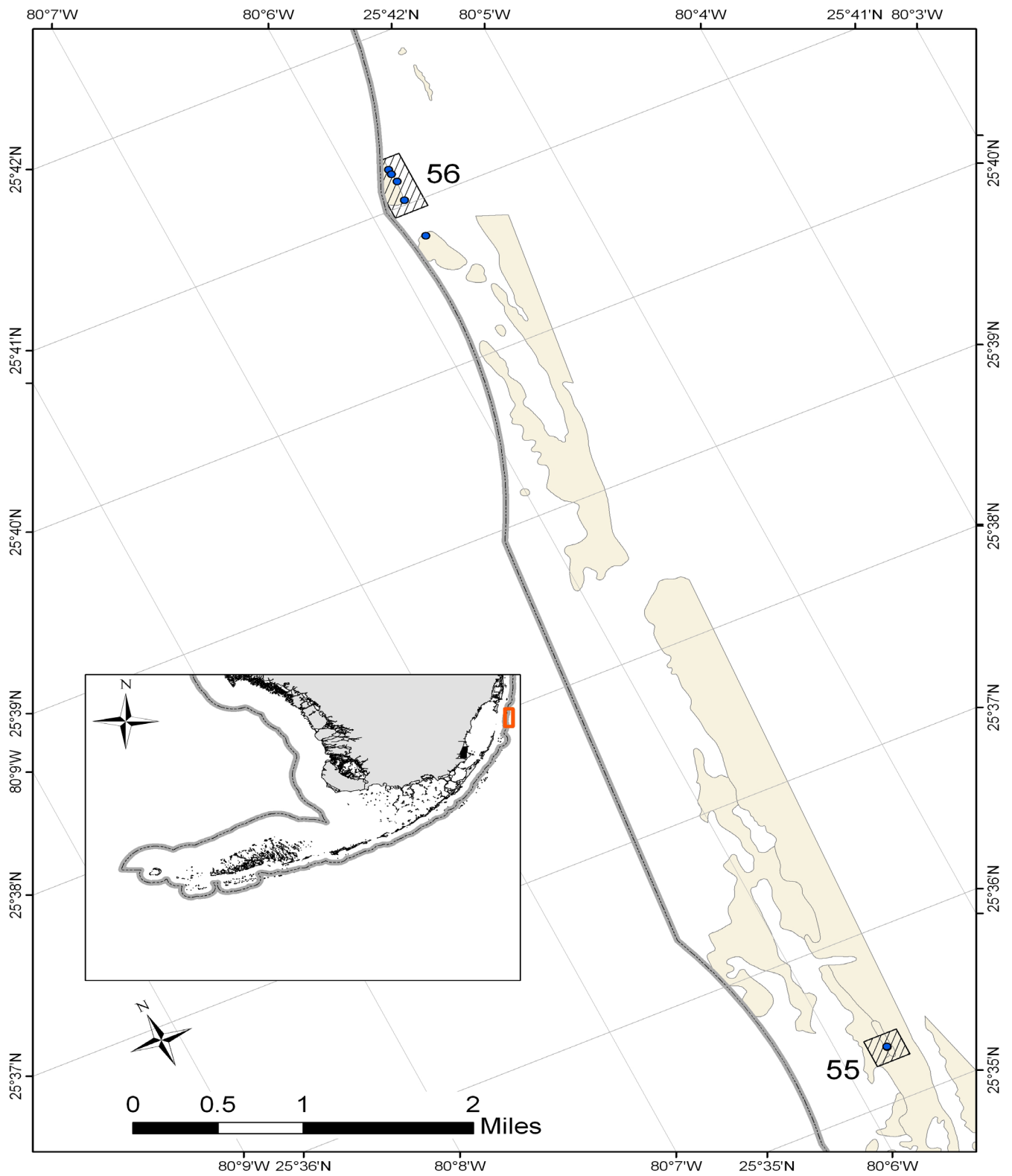
Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
50	25° 20' 57.996" N	80° 9' 50.000" W
	25° 20' 57.996" N	80° 10' 0.000" W
	25° 21' 7.005" N	80° 10' 0.000" W
	25° 21' 7.005" N	80° 9' 50.000" W
51	25° 21' 45.004" N	80° 9' 51.998" W
	25° 21' 38.124" N	80° 9' 56.722" W
	25° 21' 49.124" N	80° 10' 12.728" W
	25° 21' 56.004" N	80° 10' 7.997" W
52	25° 21' 49.000" N	80° 9' 21.999" W
	25° 21' 49.000" N	80° 9' 31.996" W
	25° 21' 58.998" N	80° 9' 31.996" W
	25° 21' 58.998" N	80° 9' 21.999" W
53	25° 24' 31.008" N	80° 7' 36.997" W
	25° 24' 31.008" N	80° 7' 48.999" W
	25° 24' 41.005" N	80° 7' 48.999" W
	25° 24' 41.005" N	80° 7' 36.997" W
54	25° 25' 14.005" N	80° 7' 27.995" W
	25° 25' 14.005" N	80° 7' 44.001" W
	25° 25' 26.008" N	80° 7' 44.001" W
	25° 25' 26.008" N	80° 7' 27.995" W



REGION K

Region L Coordinates:

Closed Area	Latitude	Longitude
55	25° 35' 13.996" N	80° 5' 39.999" W
	25° 35' 13.996" N	80° 5' 50.999" W
	25° 35' 24.007" N	80° 5' 50.999" W
	25° 35' 24.007" N	80° 5' 39.999" W
56	25° 40' 57.003" N	80° 5' 43.000" W
	25° 40' 57.003" N	80° 5' 54.000" W
	25° 41' 6.550" N	80° 5' 53.980" W
	25° 41' 18.136" N	80° 5' 49.158" W
	25° 41' 18.001" N	80° 5' 43.000" W



- Alt. 2 Hard bottom
- Alt. 3 Proposed Closed Areas
- Coral
- Research Only (RO)
- Sanctuary Preservation Area (SPA)
- State/Federal Water Boundary

Cartography J.T. Froeschke, Ph.D.
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Amd 11_Froeschke\Nov 9 2011\
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REGION L

Action 2: Require Gear Markings for Spiny Lobster Trap Lines in the Federal Waters off Florida

Gear lines are consistently found as marine debris and can entangle and harm protected resources (i.e., smalltooth sawfish, sea turtles, and elkhorn and staghorn corals). Currently, it is difficult to determine if the ropes found in the environment or entangling a protected species belong to the spiny lobster trap fishery or another trap fishery. Trap line marking requirements would make it easier to identify which fishery is impacting protected species. If protected species entanglements or habitat destruction could be attributed to a specific fishery, then targeted management measures could be created to reduce species interactions with that identified fishery. NOAA Fisheries is working with the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Councils and the State of Florida, to implement measures that require all spiny lobster trap lines be a specific color or have easily identifiable markings not used in other fisheries. The Biological Opinion originally required these trap line markings be established by August 2014; however, that deadline has since been extended to August 6, 2017. The Council is considering this action to solicit feedback from the public and work with industry to determine which marking requirements will be the most reasonable while still meeting the requirements of the Biological Opinion.

Preferred Alternative 1: No Action – do not require markings for spiny lobster trap lines.

Alternative 2: Require all spiny lobster trap lines in the EEZ off Florida to have a white marking along its entire length, such as an all white line or a white tracer throughout the line. The marking must be visible at all times when traps are in use. All gear must comply with marking requirements no later than August 6, 2017.

Alternative 3: Require all spiny lobster trap lines in the EEZ off Florida to have a permanently affixed white marking at least 4-inches wide spaced at least every 15 feet along the trap line, or at the midpoint if the line is less than 15 feet. The marking must be visible at all times when traps are in use. All gear must comply with marking requirements no later than August 6, 2017.

What happens next?

- Gulf of Mexico Council meeting (January 30-February 3) in Mobile, Alabama
 - The Spiny Lobster Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Council will review Amendment 11 (February 1)
 - Public comment during the Gulf of Mexico Council meeting (February 1 in the afternoon)
 - Final approval of Amendment 11 by the Gulf of Mexico Council
 - South Atlantic Council meeting (March 5-9) in Savannah, Georgia
 - The Spiny Lobster Committee of the South Atlantic Council will review Amendment 11
 - Public comment during the South Atlantic Council meeting
 - Final approval of Amendment 11 by the South Atlantic Council
- Please check the meeting agenda on our website (www.safmc.net)
- Amendment 11 is sent to the Secretary of Commerce for approval in April/May 2012
 - The new regulations are expected to be implemented in August 2012

Comments for the South Atlantic Council (Deadline: February 15, 2012)

Email: SpLobAmend11PHComment@safmc.net

Or mail written comments to:

Robert Mahood

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

4055 Faber Place Dr, Suite 201

North Charleston, SC 29405