

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Temporary Emergency Rulemaking

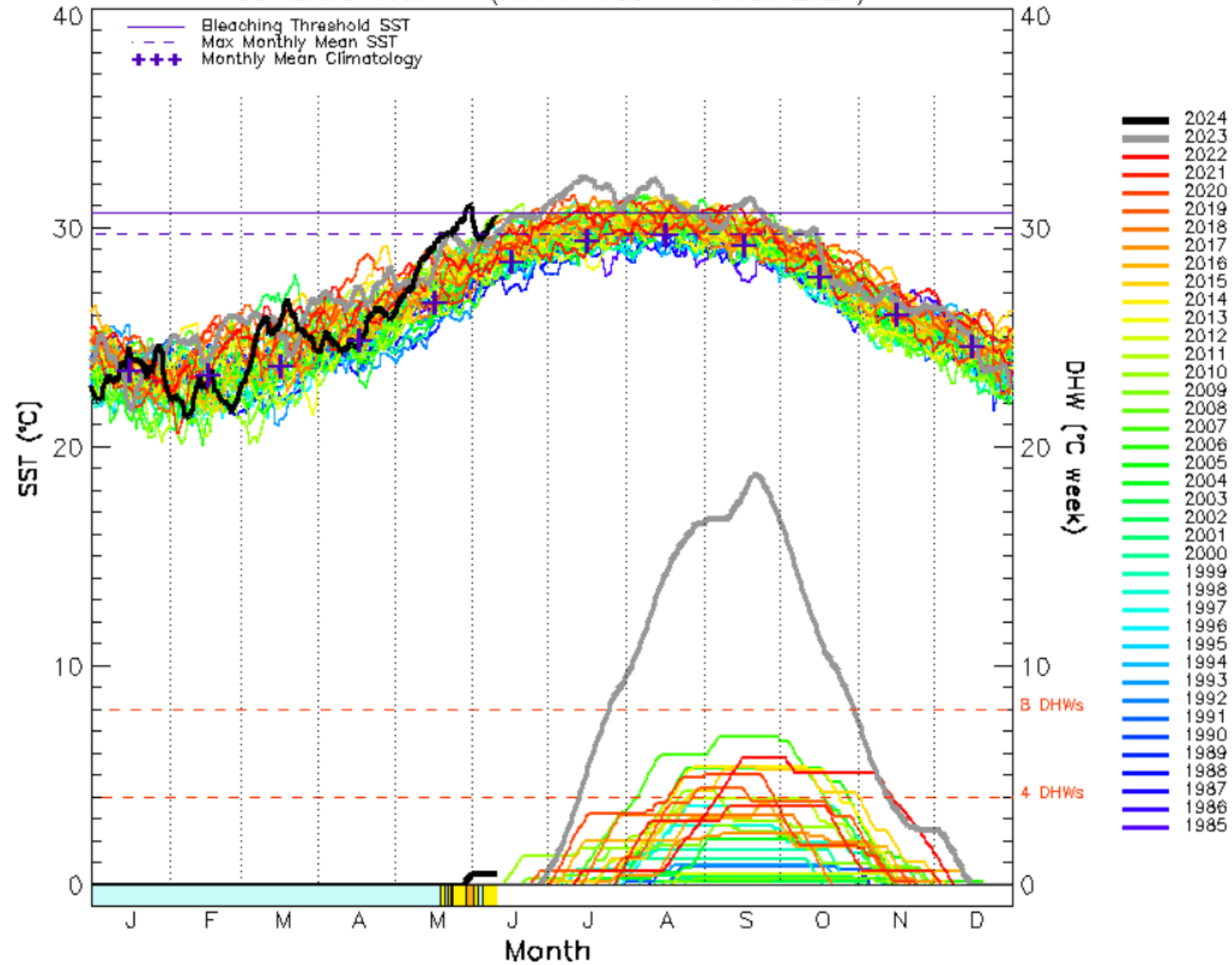


FLORIDA KEYS
NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARY



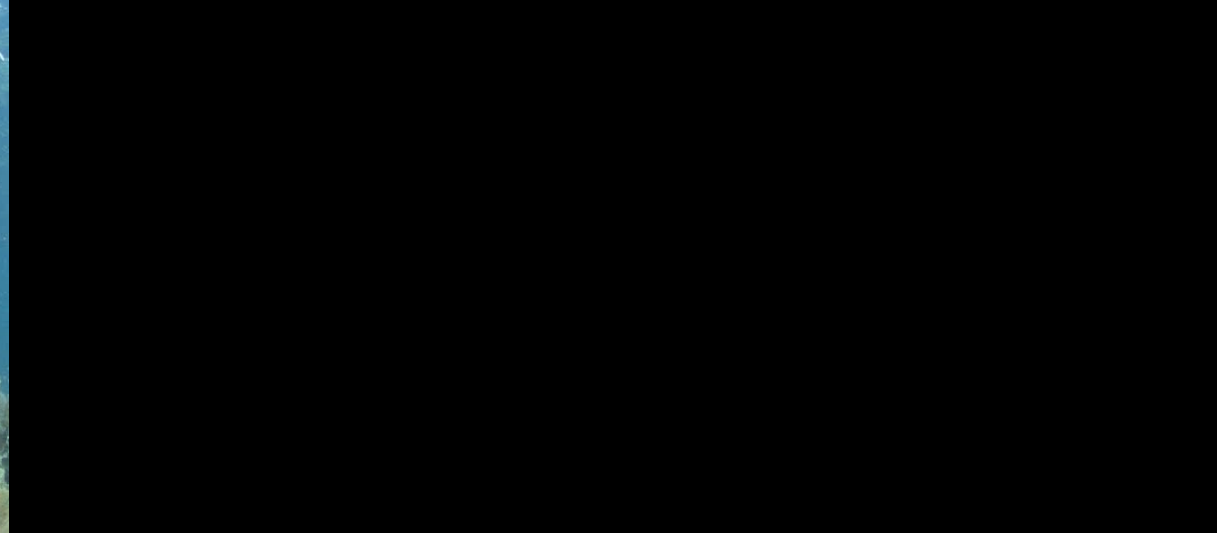
Jay Clue

Sombrero Reef (Jan 1 1985 - 10 Jun 2024)



Bleaching Alert Levels for 2024





Photos: Stephen Frink

Intervention tools



Reef Renewal



Scott Atwell

Coral Nursery Relocation



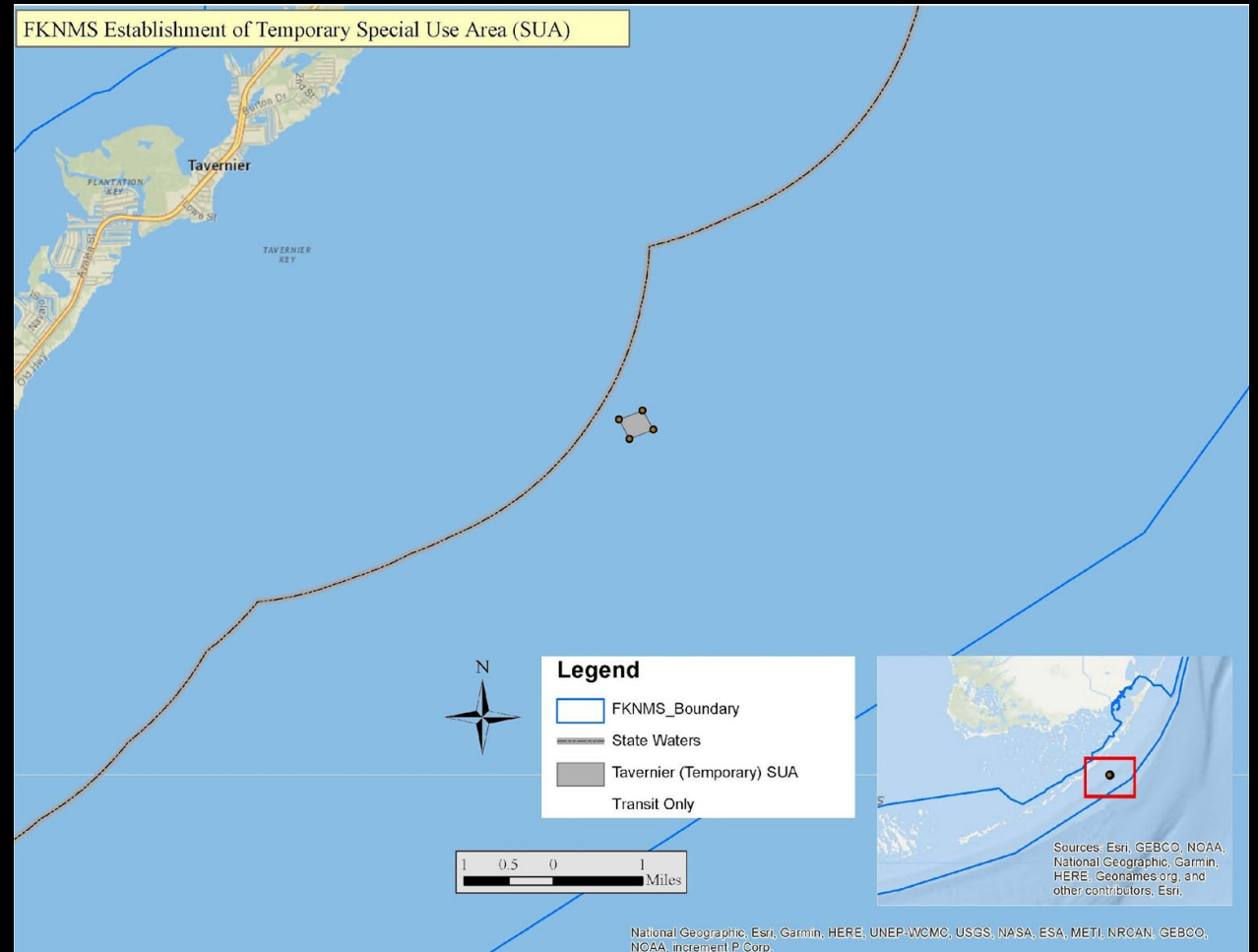
Ben Edmonds



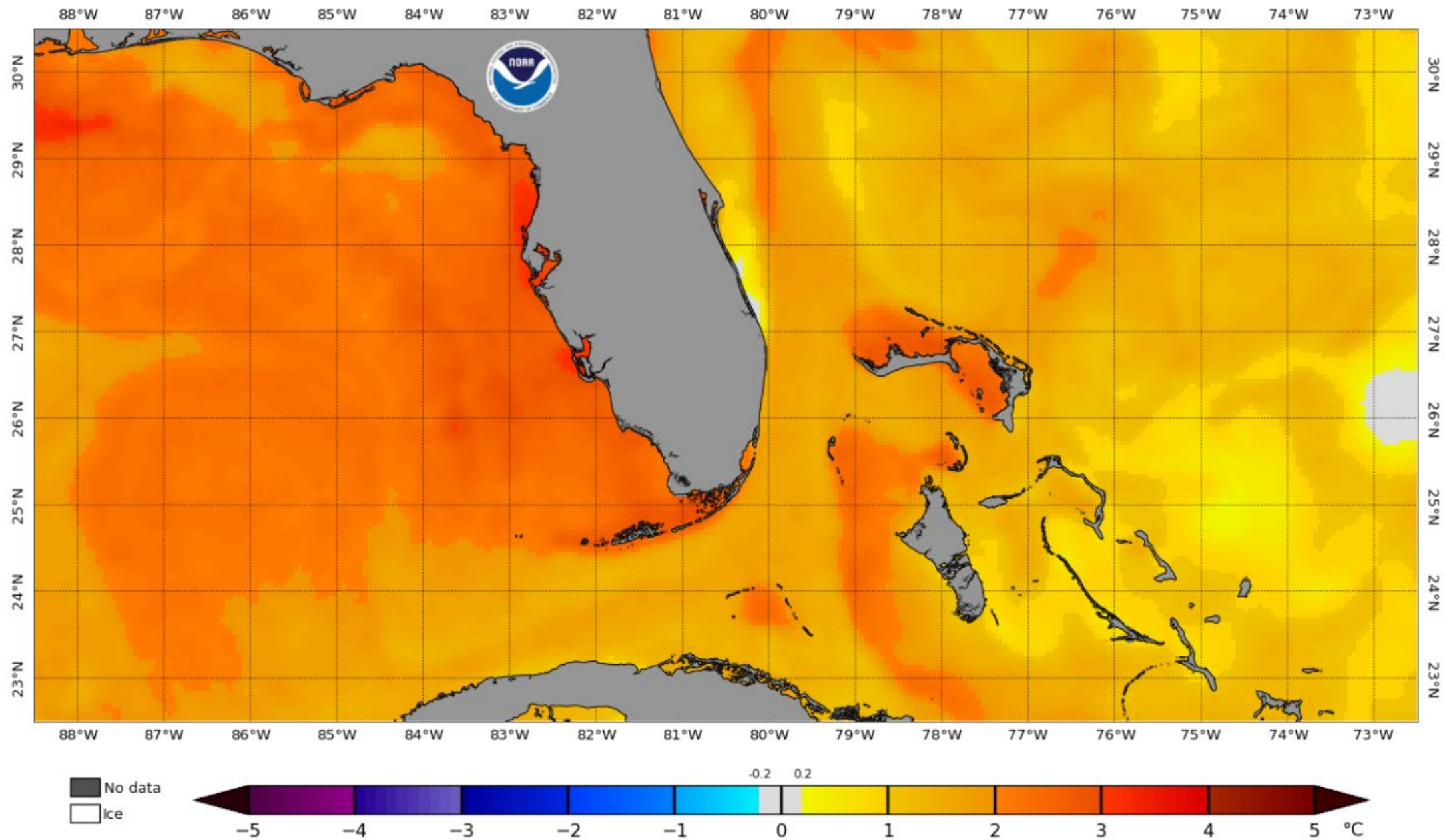
Florida Keys News Bureau

Emergency Protections - 2023

- Temporary Special Use Area
- 60 days with potential for one, 60-day extension
- Entry prohibited except for conducting restoration activities under permit
- Continuous transit without interruption allowed
- First emergency rule since 2003



NOAA Coral Reef Watch Daily 5km SST Anomalies (v3.1) 10 Jun 2024



Proposed Emergency Protections - 2024

What's Different:

- Informed by 2023 emergency rule
- Three temporary Special Use Areas (instead of one)
- Taking public comment (to inform future management action)

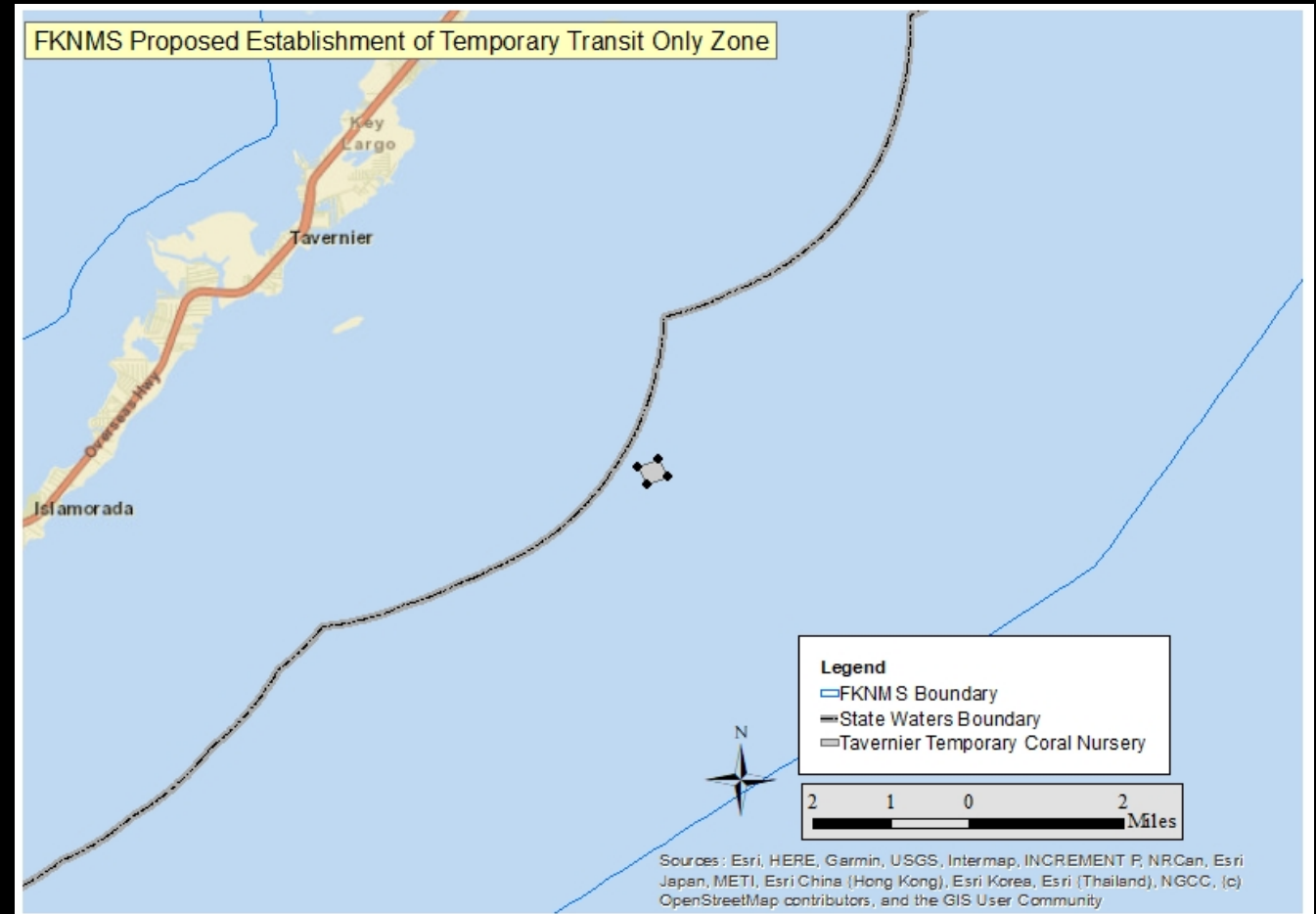
What's the Same:

- 60 days with potential for one, 60-day extension
- Entry prohibited except for conducting restoration activities under permit
- Continuous transit without interruption allowed
- Area includes 200-yard buffer around coral relocation site

Tavernier Special Use Area (Temporary)

- same location as 2023 temporary special use area
- approximately five miles southeast of the community of Tavernier
- approximately 0.068 square miles

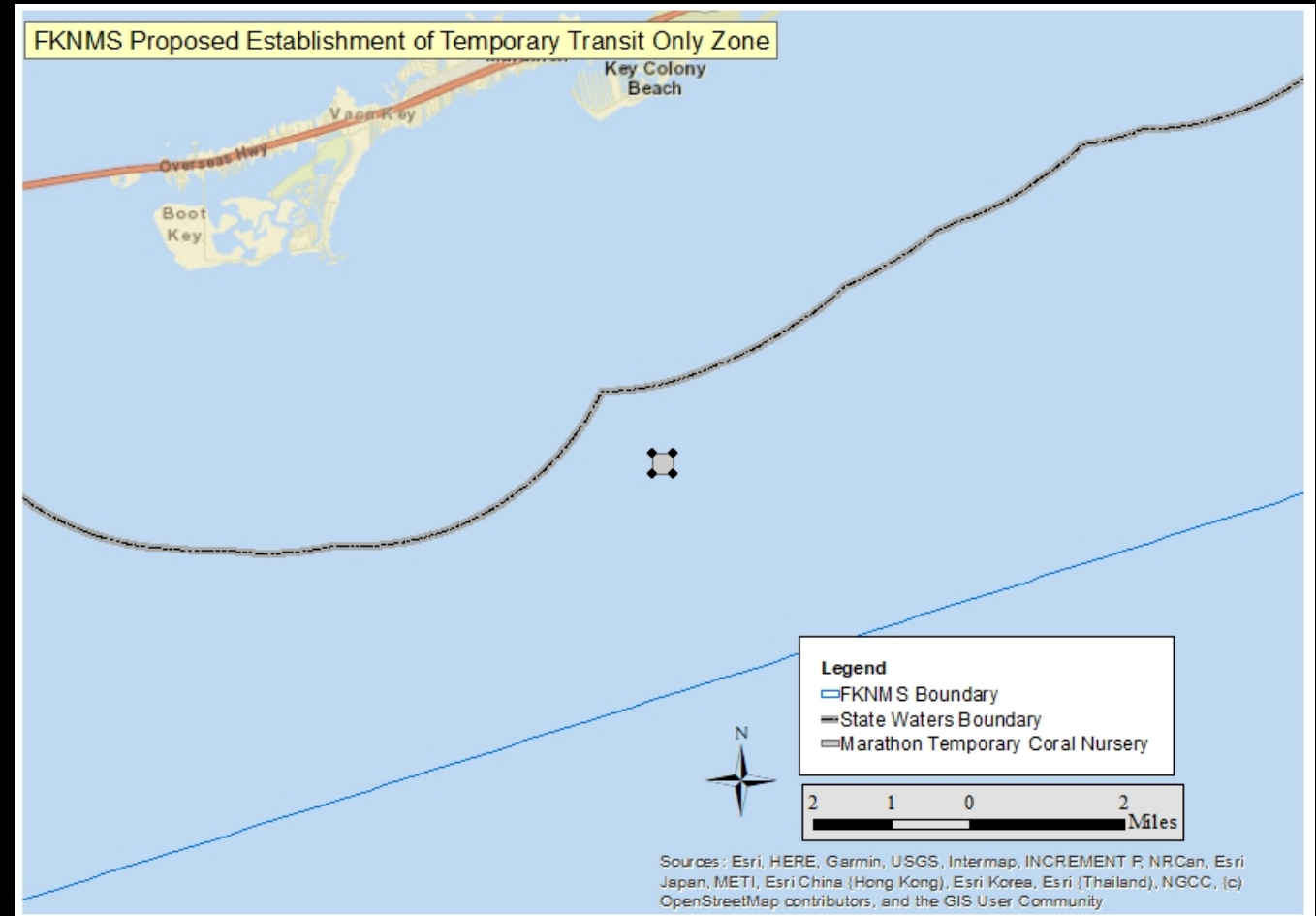
Point No	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.96925	-80.44376
2	24.97079	-80.43950
3	24.96763	-80.43768
4	24.96616	-80.44180
5	24.96925	-80.44376



Marathon Special Use Area (Temporary)

- approximately 4 miles offshore from the City of Key Colony Beach/Marathon
- approximately 0.066 square miles

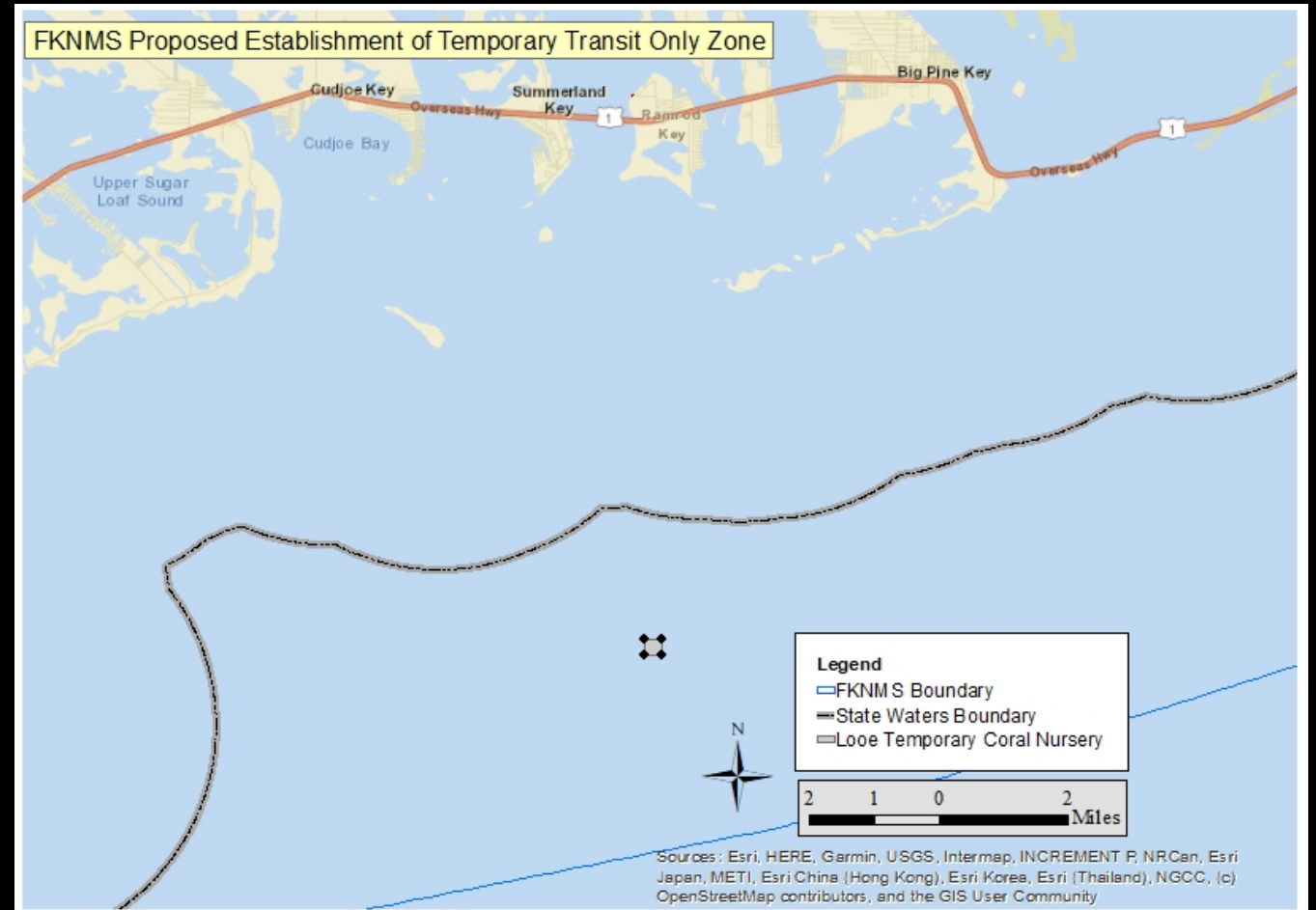
Point No	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.65411	-81.01286
2	24.65412	-81.00869
3	24.65044	-81.00870
4	24.65044	-81.01289
5	24.65411	-81.01286



Looe Key Special Use Area (Temporary)

- approximately 6.5 miles offshore from Summerland Key
- approximately 0.069 square miles

Point No	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.54255	-81.41811
2	24.54256	-81.41357
3	24.53903	-81.41356
4	24.53901	-81.41812
5	24.54255	-81.41811



Status & Next Steps

- Draft emergency rule is in NOAA clearance, DOC following that
- When published, the rule will be in effect
- 30-day Public Comment Opportunity
- Communicating with agency partners, sanctuary advisory council, and affected constituents
- USCG will issue notice to mariners



Future Management/Rulemaking Action

30-day Public Comment Opportunity with the 2024 emergency rule

- solicit input on a proposed long term solution -
 - conduct a full rulemaking to establish permanent offshore zone(s)
 - zones would be used and regulations applied on an as needed and temporary basis
 - when the zone(s) are needed, NOAA would notice the public through a Federal Register Notice and other local communication channels

If a full rulemaking is undertaken, this would trigger:

- environmental and economic analysis
- public notice and comment
- agency coordination and consultation
- **consultation with Fishery Management Councils through the 304(a)(5) process**

THANK YOU



Greg McFall

Sarah.Fangman@noaa.gov
FloridaKeys.noaa.gov