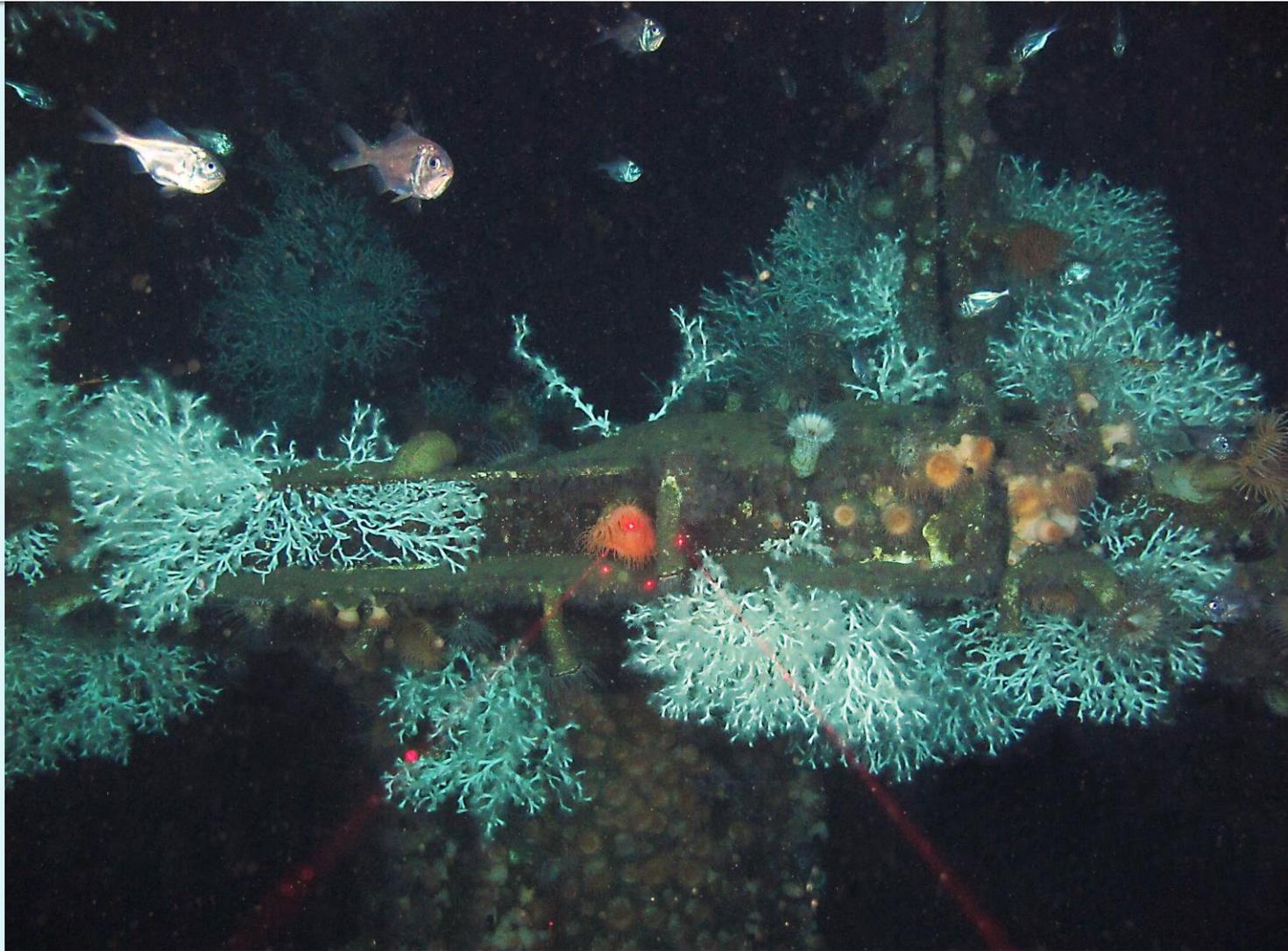


Potential Coral HAPCs



http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2012/20120810_deepseacoral.html



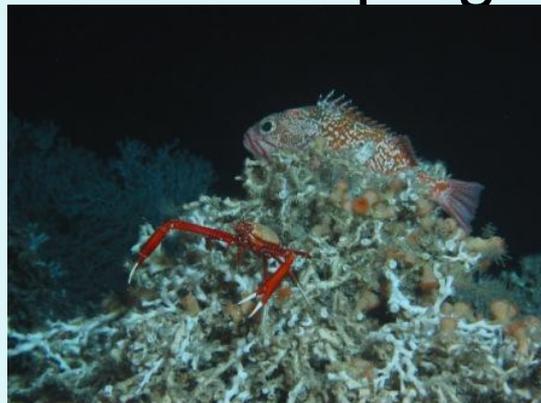
History

- In May 2014, the Coral AP and Coral SSC met
 - Evaluating new and existing HAPCs was proposed
 - Several research cruises have been conducted since 2006 and have led to new deepwater coral discoveries
- A working group met in December, 2014 to discuss potential areas and give data/rationale for those areas
- The Coral SSC/AP reviewed the working group's recommendations in May, 2015



Coral SSC/AP Summary

- 47 new and existing areas identified by the Coral Working Group
- Coordinates were provided to group ahead of time
- Members from royal red shrimping community and shrimp AP participated
- Boundary revisions were suggested to refine areas with potential shrimping interactions

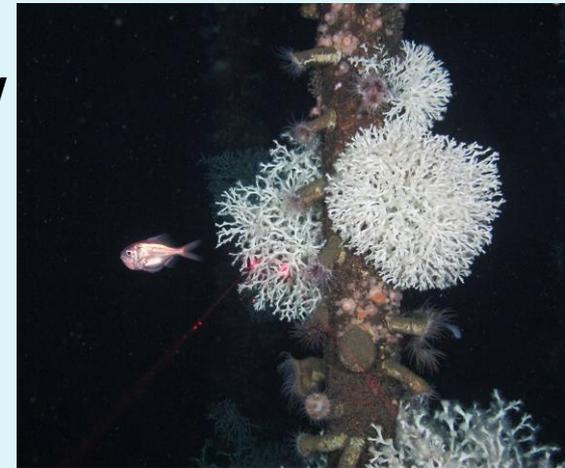


<http://coralreef.noaa.gov/deepseacorals/about/value/>



Coral SSC/AP Summary

- Current HAPCs with regulations, Sanctuaries, and Reserves total 1,588 sq. miles (1,199 sq. nm)
- Current boundaries for proposed new coral HAPCs area is 1,186 total sq. miles (896 sq. nm)
 - This includes existing HAPCs with no regulations
- Areas were selected based on known coral presence and new studies



<http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2012/images/zinc2.jpg>



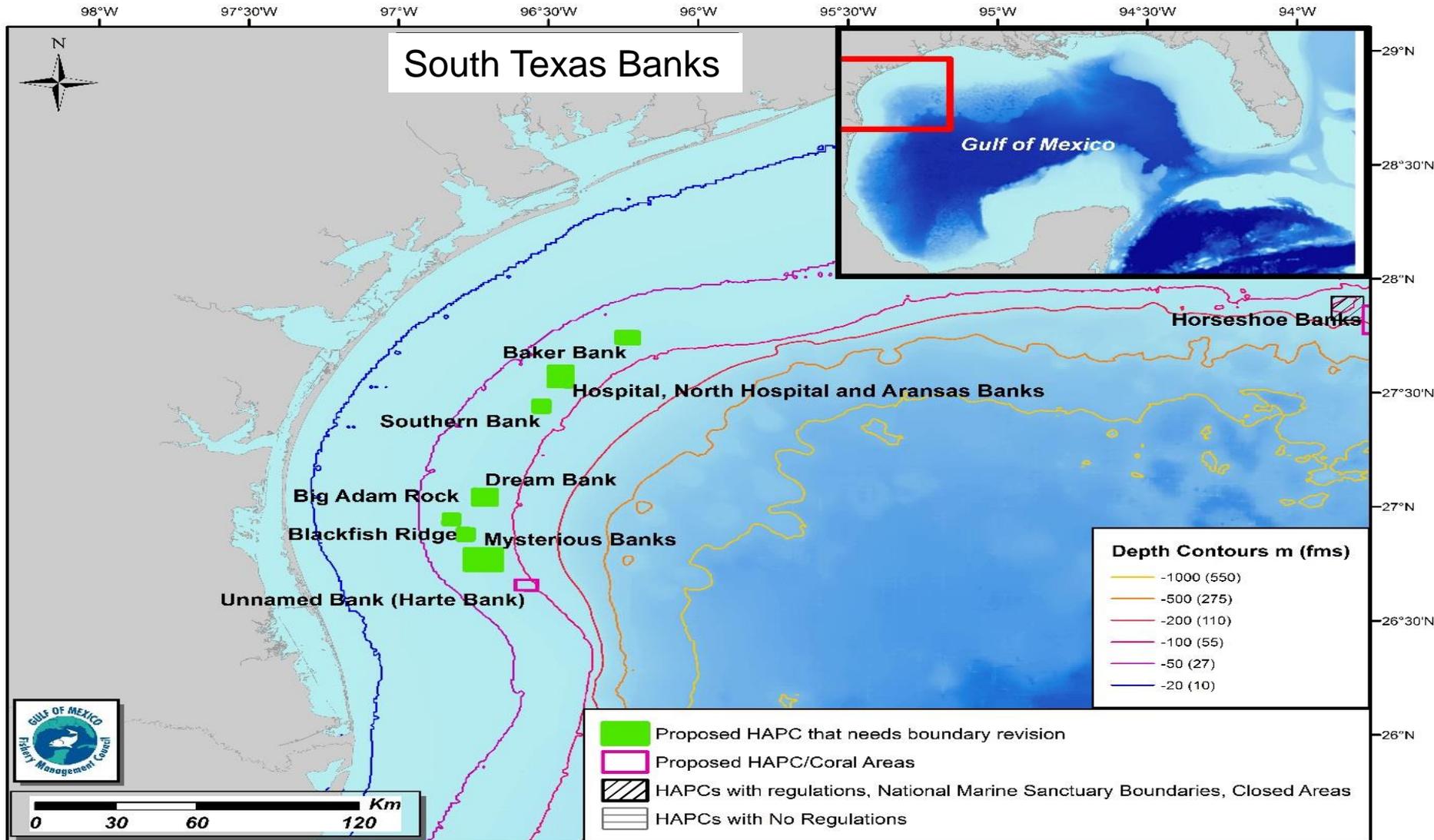
Existing HAPCs and Reserves

| Areas | Sanctuary | HAPC | Reserve | Area (nm^2) |
|------------------------------|-----------|------|---------|-------------|
| Florida Middle Grounds | | 1984 | | 339 |
| East Flower Gardens | 1992 | 2006 | | 28.8 |
| West Flower Gardens | 1992 | 2006 | | 35.8 |
| McGrail | | 2006 | | 14.1 |
| Madison-Swanson | | 2006 | 2000 | 115.2 |
| Pulley Ridge (small portion) | | 2006 | | 100.7 |
| Steamboat Lumps | | | 2000 | 106.7 |
| Stetson | 1996 | 2006 | | 1.7 |
| The Edges | | | 2009 | 390 |
| Tortugas North | | 2006 | 2002 | 12.1 |
| Tortugas South | | 2006 | 2002 | 54.6 |

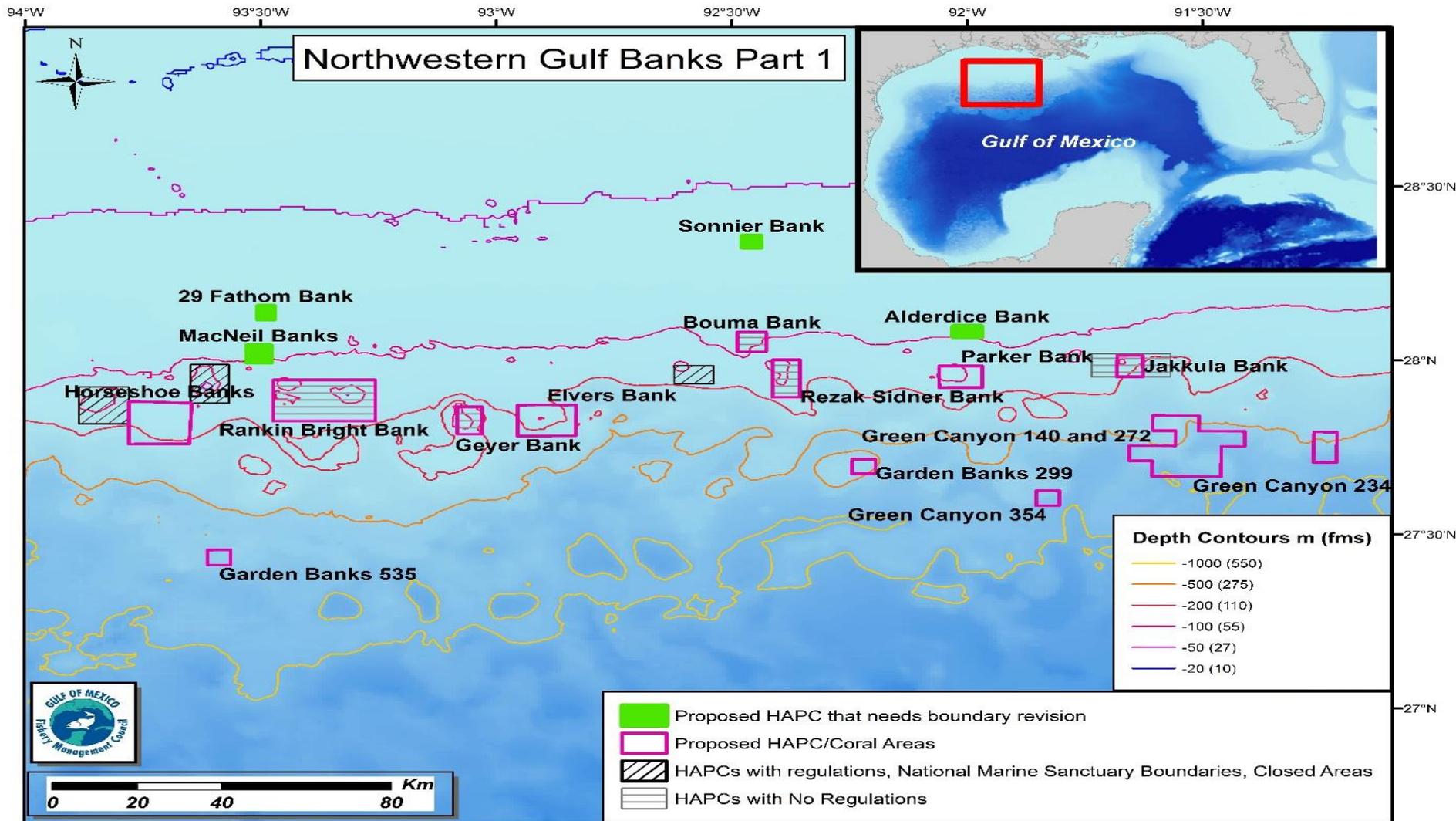
Existing HAPCs with no Regulations

| Areas in western Gulf | HAPC | Area (nm ²) | Proposed Area (nm ²) |
|----------------------------|------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Alderdice Bank | 2006 | 6 | needs revision |
| Bouma Banks | 2006 | 11 | 11 |
| Fathom 29 | 2006 | 4.3 | needs revision |
| Geyer Bank | 2006 | 13.1 | 13.1 |
| Jakkula Bank | 2006 | 35 | 10.7 |
| MacNeil Bank | 2006 | 8.1 | needs revision |
| Pulley Ridge (larger area) | 2006 | 2,302.4 | 194.3 |
| Rankin Bright Bank | 2006 | 81.1 | 81.1 |
| Rezak-Sidner Bank | 2006 | 20 | 20 |
| Sonnier | 2006 | 4.2 | needs revision |

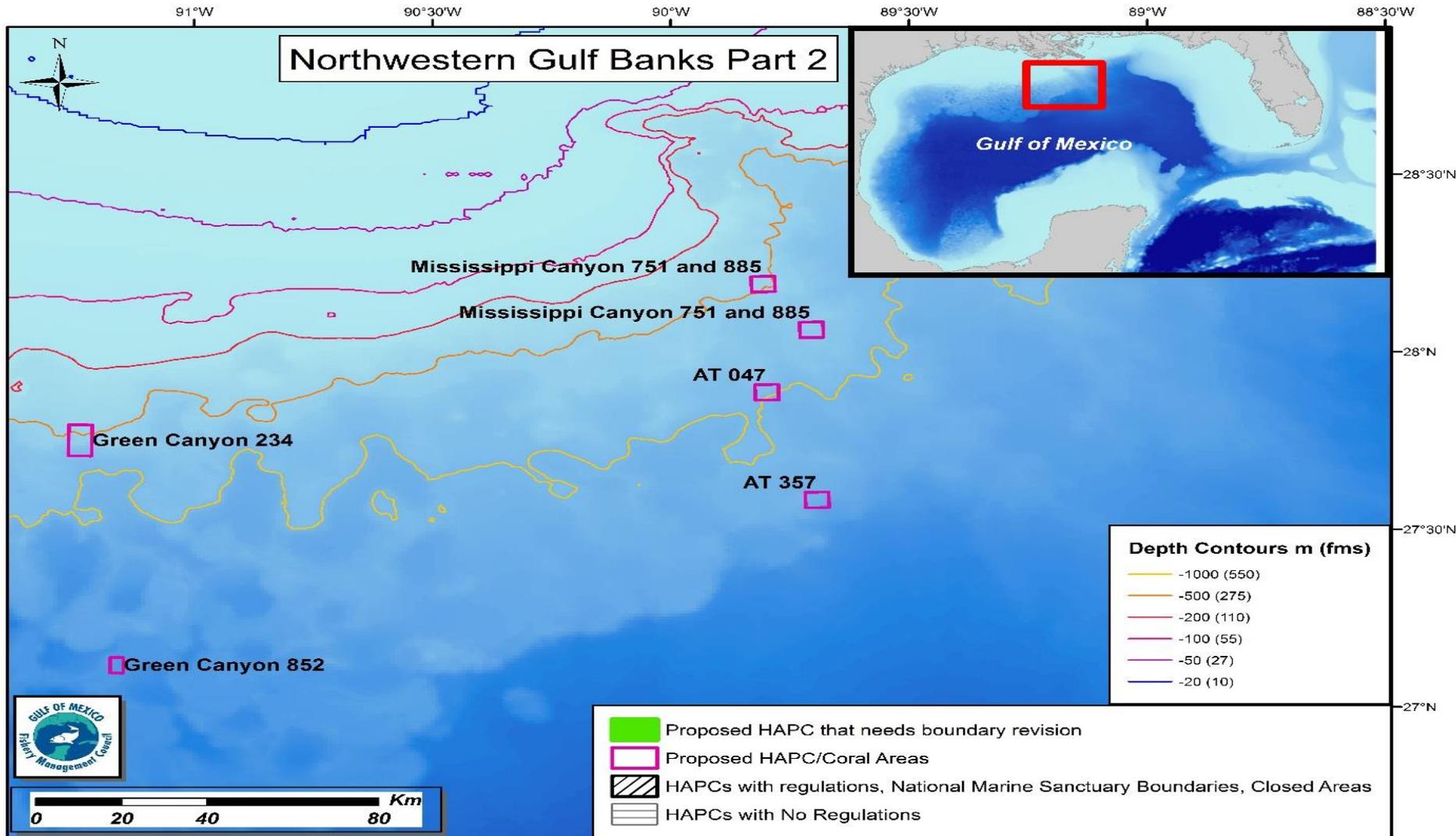
Coral SSC/AP Proposed Areas Summary



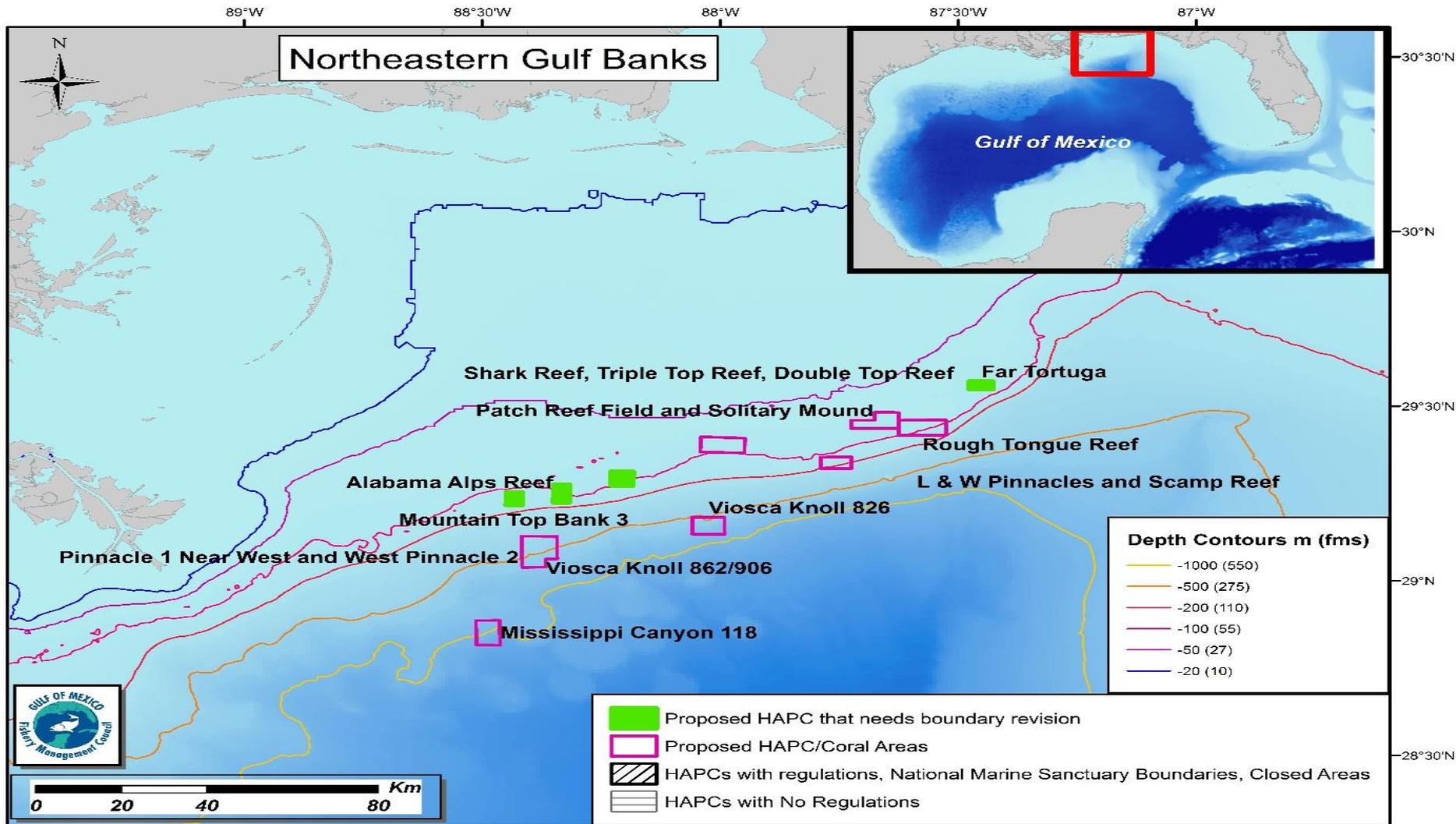
Coral SSC/AP Proposed Areas Summary



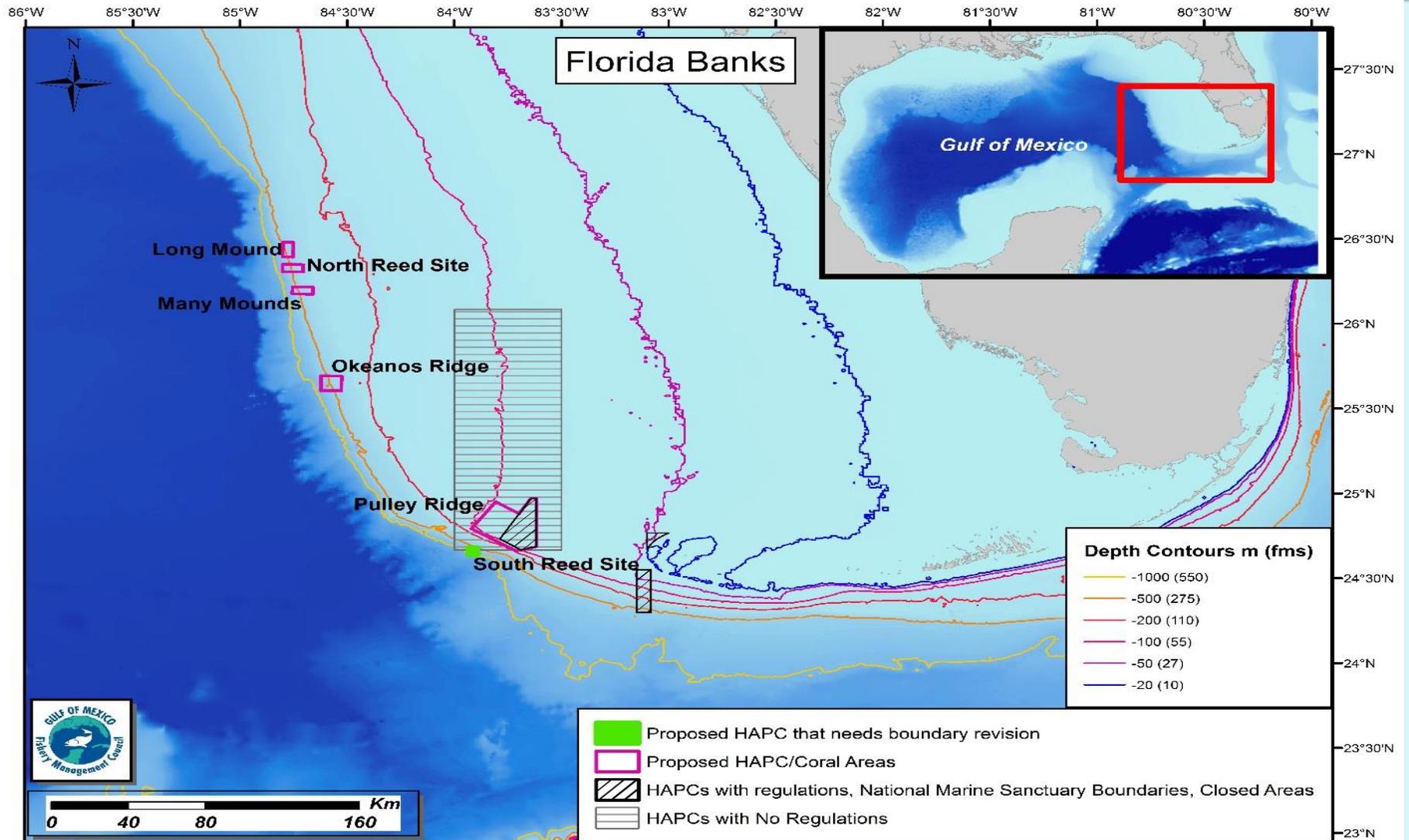
Coral SSC/AP Proposed Areas Summary



Coral SSC/AP Proposed Areas Summary



Coral SSC/AP Proposed Areas Summary



Coral SSC/AP Recommendations

- Reincorporate deepwater (> 100 m) octocorals into the Fishery Management Unit
- Initiate an amendment to designate new coral HAPCs and refine existing
- 15 (of the 47 proposed areas) need boundary revision with the incorporation of more fishery data
- Remaining 32 areas have boundaries recommended by the coral working group



- Two potential areas with special exemptions for royal red shrimpers
- Joint meeting between representatives of the Coral SSC & AP, & Shrimp SSC



Council Conclusions



http://www.noaaews.noaa.gov/stories2010/images/callobrittles_gc140.jpg

- **Motion: to instruct staff to convene a meeting of the appropriate coral scientists along with other fishery stakeholders to review potential coral HAPCs**
- Specific fisheries & gear types mentioned were: reef fish, shrimp, lobster, and bottom longliners
- Example on next page



Ex: potential changes in boundaries

