Re: OHAPC Amendment 11-12_Denial of Amend 10 by NMFS
John Reed
Coral Amendment 10 was denied by the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service because in part it: 1) did not include adequate analysis to guarantee the action would minimize adverse effects on the Oculina coral and habitat, and 2) adequately demonstrate how bycatch would be minimized.

Neither of these issues have been adequately addressed. During the meeting in June by the SAFMC and vote for Amendment 11/12 by the Shrimp committee and Habitat committee, they addressed these issues with this specious argument. There will be limited sedimentation on the reefs from the trawling because we don't plan to fish there often (paraphrased). The same rebuttal would apply to bycatch, i.e., there will be limited bycatch because they don't plan to fish there often.

How often is 'not often'? So if they don't plan to fish there often, why is this strip necessary considering the potential damage to the coral ecosystem?