Program Name: NOAA South Florida Program
Project Name: **South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Planning and Projects**
Project ID: 2200
Lead Agency: NOAA NMFS/SEFSC and OAR/AOML
Authority: Magnuson Stevens Fisheries Wildlife Conservation Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act. NMSA (16 U.S.C. §§ 1431 *et seq.*), FKNMSPA (PL 101-605), and Executive Order 13089 (Coral Reef Protection)
Funding Source: NOAA and USACE

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: Goal 2, Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species, Subgoal, 2A, Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats; and 2B, Control Invasive Exotic Plant and Animal Species

Measurable Output(s): NOAA conducts several projects to support the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration. These projects involve (1) collection and analysis of physical, water quality, and biological data as part of the CERP Monitoring and Assessment Plan; (2) development of physical and biological models of Florida Bay to evaluate CERP and climate change scenarios; (3) monitoring and assessment of selected indicator species in the ecosystem, including abundant forage/prey species; important commercial species and coral; (4) determination of estuarine and coastal marine mammal population health and status; (5) development and application of ecological models; (5) documenting potential species introductions to the marine environment through the ornamental species trade and providing expertise to the South Florida Task Force IES Action Framework Team, NISC, GSARP, and other invasive exotics species planning and advisory teams; and (6) analyses of species and community attributes in relation to freshwater inflow and salinity. NOAA scientists and managers are contributing members of multi-agency groups addressing South Florida Ecosystem Restoration issues and opportunities at several levels, including the Task Force, the Working Group, the Science Coordination Group, CERP RECOVER's Leadership Group, RECOVER's Southern Coastal Systems subteam, and the Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team. NOAA publishes its South Florida research results in scientific journals, contributes to the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Biennial Assessment Report and RECOVER's System Status Report, and presents scientific findings about South Florida at scientific symposia. NOAA/AOML conducted bi-monthly water quality sampling trips in Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay throughout the year and made special water quality sampling trips in Biscayne Bay between Rickenbacker Causeway and Barnes Sound to characterize an unusual, widespread phytoplankton bloom in the late summer. SEFSC and AOML collaborated with the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science in a modeling project, "Integrated MODels for Evaluating Climate Change, population growth, and water management effects on south Florida coastal marine and estuarine ecosystems", iMODEC), on Florida's southwest coast and Florida Bay.

Project Synopsis: Ongoing program initiated in FY96 including research, monitoring and modeling components as well as a specific Education/Outreach Component. Includes three NOAA line organizations (NOS, NMFS and OAR) as well as Florida Sea Grant.

Current Status: NOAA is conducting monitoring and assessment projects in Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay as part of the Monitoring and Assessment Plan of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project. Biscayne Bay monitoring is collaborative with the National Park Service.

Cost: Total: FY14 $0.307M from SEFSC
$0.107M from AOML
Project Development: $0.240M USACE

Project Schedule:
Start Date: 1997
Finish Date: Ongoing

Detailed Project Budget Information ($1,000s)

	Thru 2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Balance to complete	Total to Date
Federal (NOAA)	42,121	1,895	1,895	429	412	309	414	ongoing	46,752
State	2,030	285	285					ongoing	2,600
Tribal									0
Local									0
Other (Corps)	5,223	1,540	1,540	1,540	240	240	240	ongoing	10,083
Total	49,374	**3,720**	**3,720**	**1,969**	**652**			**ongoing**	**59,435**

Hyperlink: http://www.mares-eu.org/index.asp

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