

A satellite image of a large hurricane system over the ocean. The hurricane's eye is visible in the center, surrounded by dense, swirling white clouds. The surrounding ocean is a deep blue. The text is overlaid on the image in yellow, bold, sans-serif font.

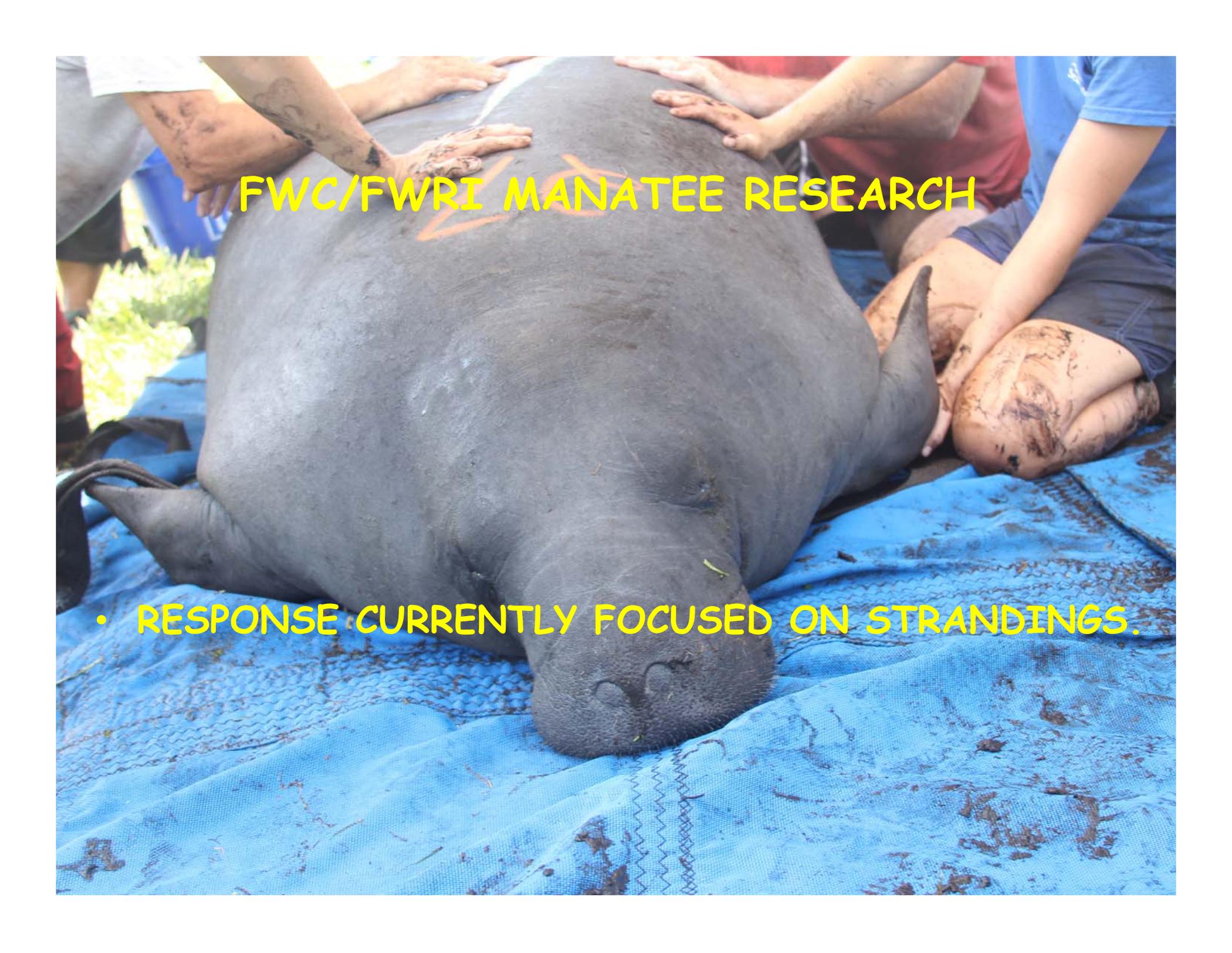
POST-HURRICANE IRMA ACTIVITIES

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
(FWC)

Penny Hall and Brad Furman

FWC HABITAT AND SPECIES CONSERVATION

- RAPID ASSESSMENTS OF HURRICANE IMPACTS ON SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE SPECIES AND THEIR HABITATS.
- EXISTING RESOURCES BEING USED FOR RAPID ASSESSMENTS. IN-DEPTH ASSESSMENTS WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF AND FUNDING.
 - Bald Eagle
 - Coastal Wading Birds, Shorebirds and Seabirds
 - Florida Burrowing Owl
 - Snail Kite
 - Red-Cockaded Woodpecker
 - Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow
 - Sea Turtles
 - Lower Keys Brown Snake
 - Florida Keys Mole Skink
 - Panthers
 - Manatees
 - Big Cypress Fox Squirrel
 - Sanibel Island Rice Rat
 - Key Deer
 - Beach Mice
 - Lower Keys Marsh Rabbit
 - Key Largo Cotton Mouse

A large manatee is lying on its side on a blue tarp. Several people are surrounding it, with their hands resting on its back and head. The manatee has a red star-shaped marking on its back. The scene appears to be outdoors, possibly at a research site.

FWC/FWRI MANATEE RESEARCH

- **RESPONSE CURRENTLY FOCUSED ON STRANDINGS.**

FWC/FWRI CORAL RESEARCH

- FWC, PARTNER AGENCIES AND NGOs ASSESSING REEFS, CORAL NURSERIES AND OUTPLANT SITES.
- HURRICANE IMPACTS VARIED WIDELY AMONG NURSERIES. STAGHORN DAMAGE WORSE THAN ELKHORN.
- LARGE LOSSES OBSERVED AT ALL OUTPLANT SITES ASSESSED TO DATE.
- PLANS UNDERWAY TO SURVEY 40-50 REEFS (BETH.DIEVENEY@NOAA.GOV).

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Irma and FWRI Coastal Wetlands Research Sites

Hurricane Irma's path relative to major field study locations established by the FWRI Coastal Wetlands Research Program.

Pre-storm data include sediment cores, elevations, canopy density, plant biomass estimates, and basic water quality parameters.

FWC/FWRI COASTAL WETLANDS RESEARCH

• SITES IN THE 10,000 ISLANDS AND ROOKERY BAY WILL BE SAMPLED IN EARLY OCTOBER.

- VISUAL SITE SURVEYS AND DAMAGE ESTIMATES.
- SEDIMENTARY CORES AND SET MEASUREMENTS TO DETERMINE POST-STORM EROSION AND DEPOSITION.
- TREE CANOPY DENSITY AND PLANT BIOMASS METRICS.

• ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIRED TO SAMPLE SITES IN LOWER KEYS AND CHARLOTTE HARBOR.

Google earth

Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

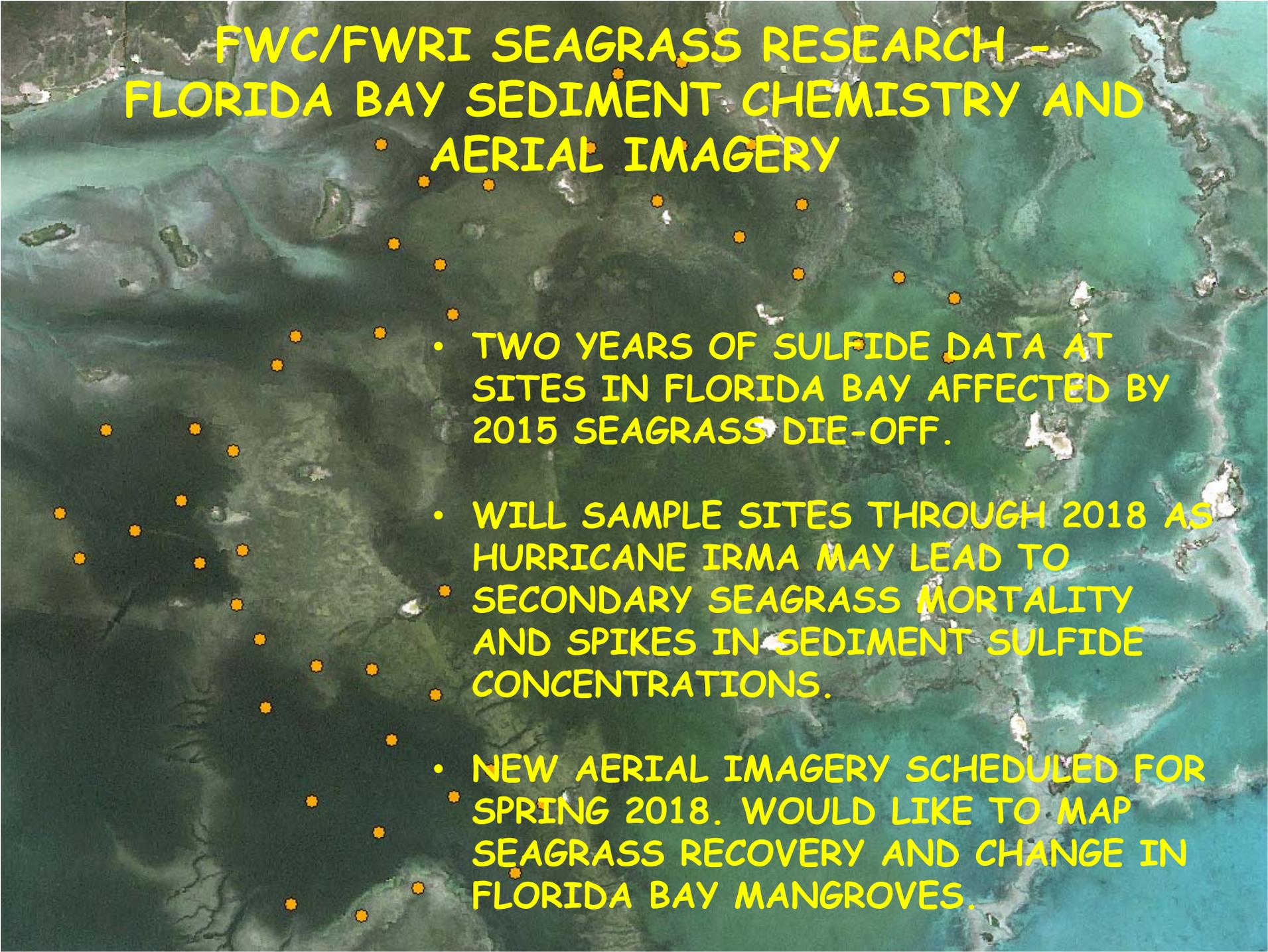
Image Landsat / Copernicus

200 km



FWC/FWRI SEAGRASS RESEARCH - SOUTH FLORIDA FISHERIES HABITAT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

- SPECIES COMPOSITION AND ABUNDANCE OF SEAGRASS AND MACROALGAE.
- SHOOT COUNTS AND BIOMASS AT TRANSECT SITES.
- SEDIMENT DEPTH AND WATER QUALITY.

An aerial photograph of Florida Bay, showing a complex network of waterways and seagrass beds. The water is a mix of dark green and light turquoise. Numerous small orange dots are scattered across the bay, indicating the locations of research sites. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

FWC/FWRI SEAGRASS RESEARCH - FLORIDA BAY SEDIMENT CHEMISTRY AND AERIAL IMAGERY

- TWO YEARS OF SULFIDE DATA AT SITES IN FLORIDA BAY AFFECTED BY 2015 SEAGRASS DIE-OFF.
- WILL SAMPLE SITES THROUGH 2018 AS HURRICANE IRMA MAY LEAD TO SECONDARY SEAGRASS MORTALITY AND SPIKES IN SEDIMENT SULFIDE CONCENTRATIONS.
- NEW AERIAL IMAGERY SCHEDULED FOR SPRING 2018. WOULD LIKE TO MAP SEAGRASS RECOVERY AND CHANGE IN FLORIDA BAY MANGROVES.

FWC HABITAT AND SPECIES CONSERVATION

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