

# Outstanding Florida Waters and Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Marine Park

**Cry of the Water**  
**Stephanie Clark**  
**February 24, 2010**



**Cry of the Water**

# Priority Area Identified in Broward County Florida Port Everglades to Hillsboro Inlet

- Cry of the Water first documented the Staghorn thicket and high coral cover ledge in 1999 to save the area from a destructive Dredge and Fill Project
- Brought area to the attention of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force at the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Washington DC February 28, 2001 in Public Comment
- Documented new Elkhorn coral colony in this area in 2005  
All known Elkhorn corals in Broward County are located in this high Priority Area.
- This unique area contains the best coral reefs in the continental U. S. that are within swimming distance of the beach leaving them highly susceptible to urban run-off and pollution discharges.



# Economic Benefit Report for Broward County

- 2001 Socioeconomic Study of the Reefs in Southeast Florida stated
- “Broward reef generated \$ 2.1 billion in Reef Related Expenditures”
- More than Palm Beach, Miami-Dade or Monroe (the Keys)
- Broward County Artificial reefs generated \$ 9.6 million
- Broward County Natural reefs generated \$ 1.1 billion
- Not including hotel stays

# PETITION FOR OUTSTANDING FLORIDA WATERS DESIGNATION

- This designation is being sought in order to increase the level of water quality protection being afforded to these waters so that the current marine life, ecological integrity, recreational and fish values and of this system can be maintained.
- The Ft. Lauderdale/Lauderdale-By-The-Sea near shore ecosystem is the only area in Broward County with native beach sand, not ever having a beach dredge and fill project conducted.
- Cry of the Water included the area from Lauderdale-By-The-Sea pier to Hillsboro Inlet at the request of the commercial diver operators and commercial fisherman just 1 week before submitting application.
- Have the support of the local Municipalities, Tourism Development Council and Chamber of Commerce



**Hillsboro Inlet**

Pompano Beach

Sea Ranch Lakes

Lauderdale-by-the-Sea

Oakland Park

Wilton Manors

Fort Lauderdale

**Port Everglades Inlet**

The proposed Outstanding Florida Waters application is for the area between Port Everglades and Hillsboro Inlet.

You can view Cry of the Water and Global Coral Reef Alliance's application at for Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW) at: [http://www.cryofthewater.org/Outstanding\\_Florida\\_Wate.html](http://www.cryofthewater.org/Outstanding_Florida_Wate.html)

Sign on to our Petition at [www.cryofthewater.org](http://www.cryofthewater.org)

# Kick off to Outstanding Florida Waters



Dr. McAllister started diving in the early 1950s co-founded the ocean engineering department at Florida Atlantic University in 1965, mapped the reefs in Palm Beach and Broward Counties producing the McAllister dive location handbook, worked with Florida DEP on mapping reef gaps in Broward County we could go on about his credits but leave it at he is a strong supporter of protection of our coral reefs.

**Patriarch of the Southeast Florida diving community Dr. Ray McAllister is the first to sign the OFW petition.**

<http://www.cdnn.info/news/industry/i070705.html>

# OFW will help with Land Based Sources of Pollution from unpermitted sources



**Illegal A/C  
drainage pipes**



**Stormwater runoff and lack of  
Best Management Practices on  
Beaches**



# Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Marine Park

## An Underwater Park

- The Town already provides safe shoreline access to a swimming area, shore to 300 ft.
- Will extend safe shoreline access to snorkel/diving experience in an area that excludes motorized watercraft. (dive flag would still be required)
- A new Town Park
- No-Take Zone will be discussed at Stakeholder Workshops
- Establish a Management Plan for this Town Park only through Working Group meetings
- A more comprehensive Management Plan is needed for the entire Southeast Florida reef tract
- Recommendations on Watershed management plans to improve water quality
- Pier is not affected or included in the Marine Park



FLORIDA - JULY 1957



## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Elkhorn Coral



- Elkhorn colony time lapsed over 50 years
- All of Broward County was designated as Critical Habitat for both *Acropora palmata* (Elkhorn) shown here and *Acropora cervicornis* (staghorn)



Proposed Marine Park

Sea Ranch  
Lakes

Hall of Fame



Commercial Pier

Proposed  
Boat Exclusion  
Zone

Existing Boat  
Mooring Buoys



Proposed boundaries for  
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea  
Marine Park

# **Coral Reef Conservation Program Land-Based Sources of Pollution Goal & Objective**

**Stakeholders want to be involve now!**

**GOAL: Identify and Prioritize Reefs**

**GOAL: Reduce pollutant loading from watersheds to priority coral reef area.**

**Objective: Implement watershed management plans within priority coral reef watersheds**

**There is no Management Plan for the reefs of Southeast Florida. If the State of Florida does not wish to establish a management plan in the next 2 years, we ask that our reefs be put under the protection of the National Marine Sanctuary program**

Cry of the Water  
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