

# Outstanding Florida Waters

Cry of the Water

Stephanie Clark

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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.

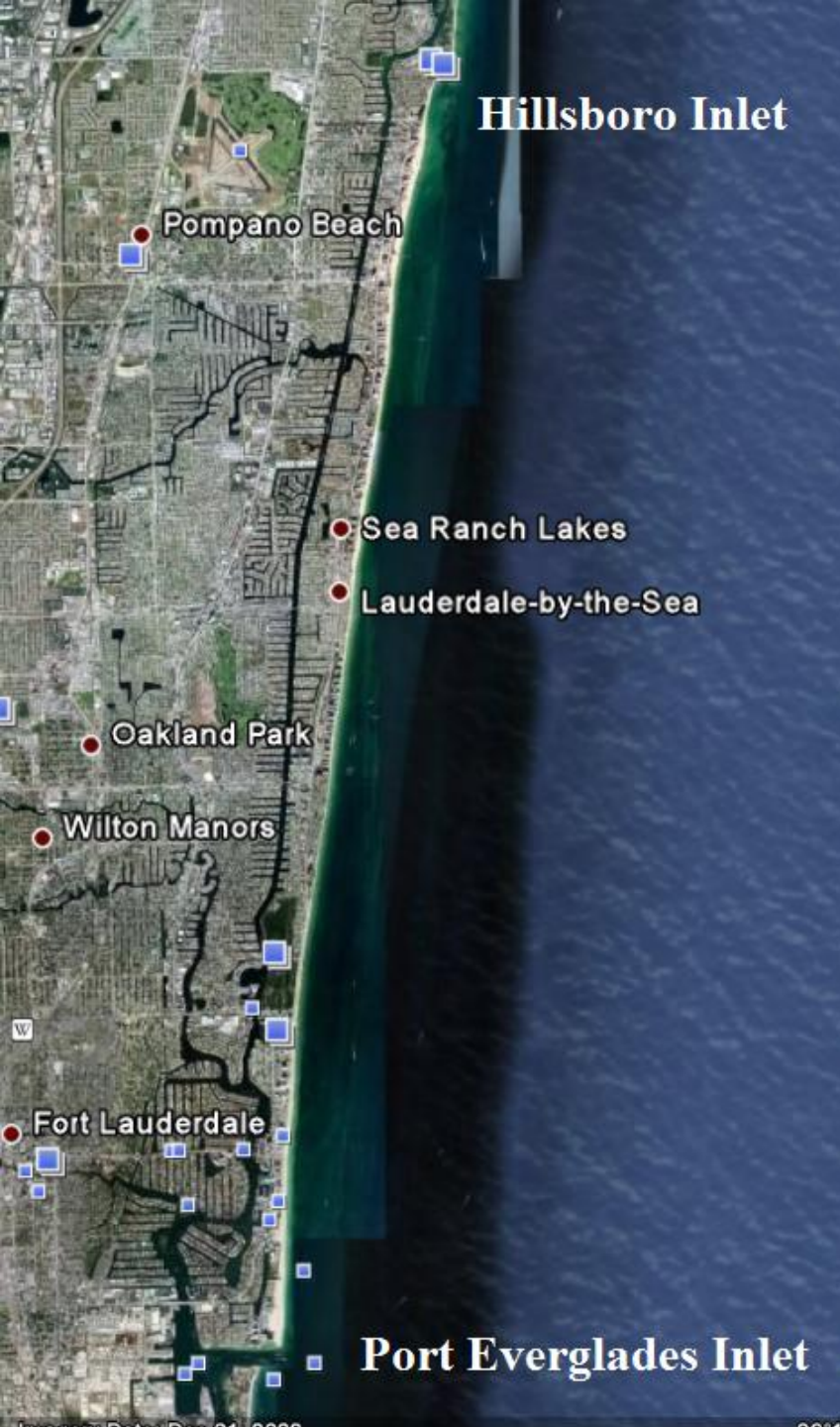


# Economic Benefit Report for Broward County

- 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



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

You can view Cry of the Water's application at for Outstanding Florida Waters (OFW) at:

[http://www.cryofthewater.com/Outstanding\\_Florida\\_Wate.html](http://www.cryofthewater.com/Outstanding_Florida_Wate.html)

# OFW will help bring attention to Land Based Sources of Pollution from unpermitted sources



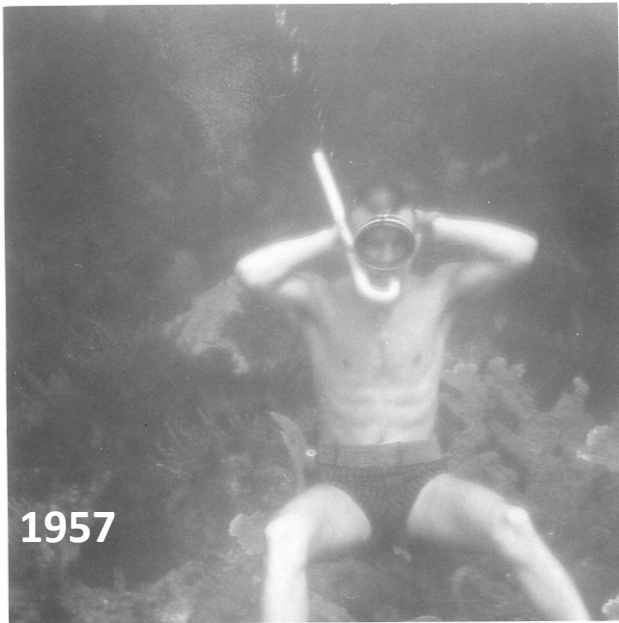
**Illegal A/C  
drainage pipes**



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



FLORIDA - JULY 1957



1957

## Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Elkhorn Coral



2002 Marc Furth



Deb Devers 2006

- 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)

**This is the second OFW petition that Cry of the Water has submitted. The first petition request was put in under Governor Jeb Bush. That petition was never processed or submitted to the board for review as the process requires. Our new petition has been in for 2 years and still has not been processed.**

**The reasons given for not processing applications are**

- It's not time yet**
- It will not give you enough protection**
- The reefs need something more than this**

**We can't wait another 6 or 8 years to address the water quality issue. We are asking the State of Florida to process our application for Outstanding Florida Waters .**



Cry of the Water  
P.O. Box 8143, Coral Springs, FL 33075  
954-753-9737

[www.cryofthewater.com](http://www.cryofthewater.com)  
[reefteam2@yahoo.com](mailto:reefteam2@yahoo.com)

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

