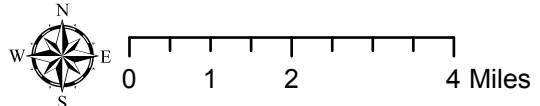


Tennessee Reef Special Use Area/Conservation Area or Long Key Tennessee Reef Sanctuary Preservation Area/Conservation Area



Tennessee Reef SUA/CA protects a deep, drowned spur-and-groove reef with unique deep-water, slow growing corals and sponges. Historically supported large assemblages of ESA-listed staghorn coral and is currently a target for coral restoration as well as an important research site to evaluate changing environmental conditions and impacts of Florida Bay water masses.

Long Key Tennessee Reef SPA/CA protects large, contiguous, interconnected seagrass, shallow hardbottom, aggregate patch reef, and deep, drowned spur-and-groove reef habitats, and provides a corridor for migration of different life stages of fishes from Florida Bay into the Middle Keys. Supports unique deep water, slow growing corals and sponges and remnant populations of ESA-listed staghorn corals. Builds on an existing Tennessee Reef SUA and encompasses an important site for resilience, research, and coral restoration. This area is proposed to meet the advisory council goal to protect large, contiguous, diverse, and interconnected habitats, including for fish moving inshore to offshore through their life cycle.

This map contains proposed marine zone alternatives for public comment. Proposed marine zone alternatives do not reflect agency decision at this time. For more details about the proposed alternatives and zone descriptions, including associated regulations, see Section 3.3 and 3.4 of this DEIS.

Middle Keys Region

