



NOAA
FISHERIES

Southeast Region

Elkhorn and Staghorn Corals

Recovery Planning Case Study

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Introduction

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|----------|---|
| What? | Elkhorn and Staghorn Corals Recovery Plan |
| When? | March 2015 |
| How? | 19 Member Team |
| Where? | Wider-Caribbean |
| How Bad? | Listed as Threatened in 2006 and Decreasing |



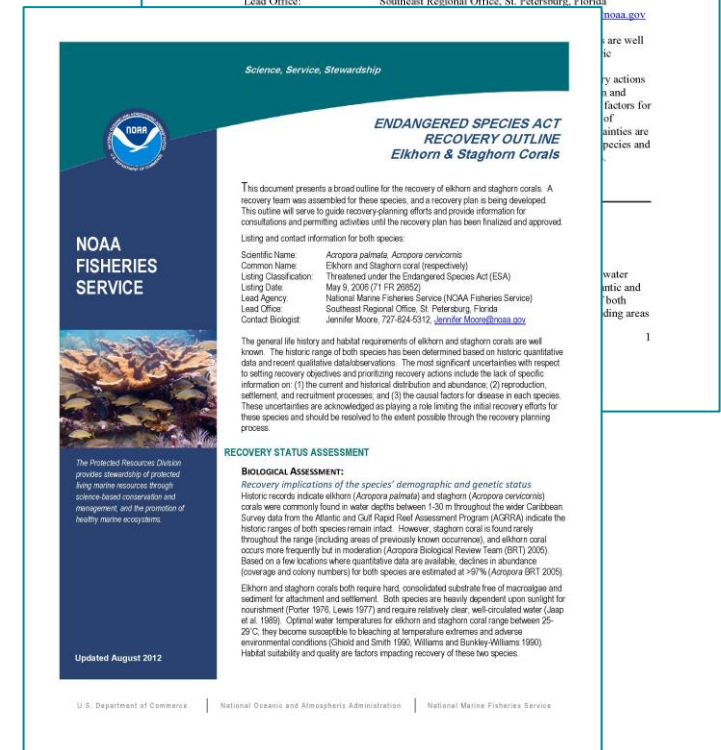
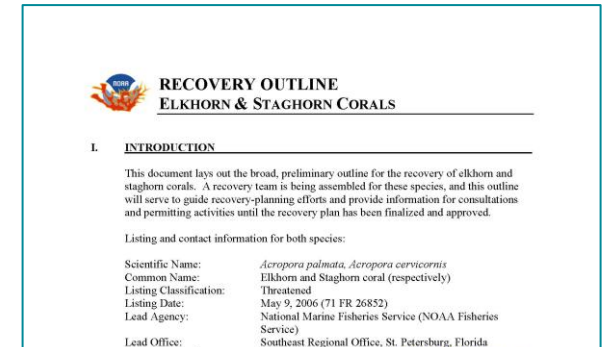
Elkhorn Coral (*Acropora palmata*)



Staghorn Coral (*Acropora cervicornis*)

Recovery Outline

- Released August 2006
 - Focused on basic research and monitoring needs
- Revised December 2012
 - Added focus on threat reduction and population enhancement



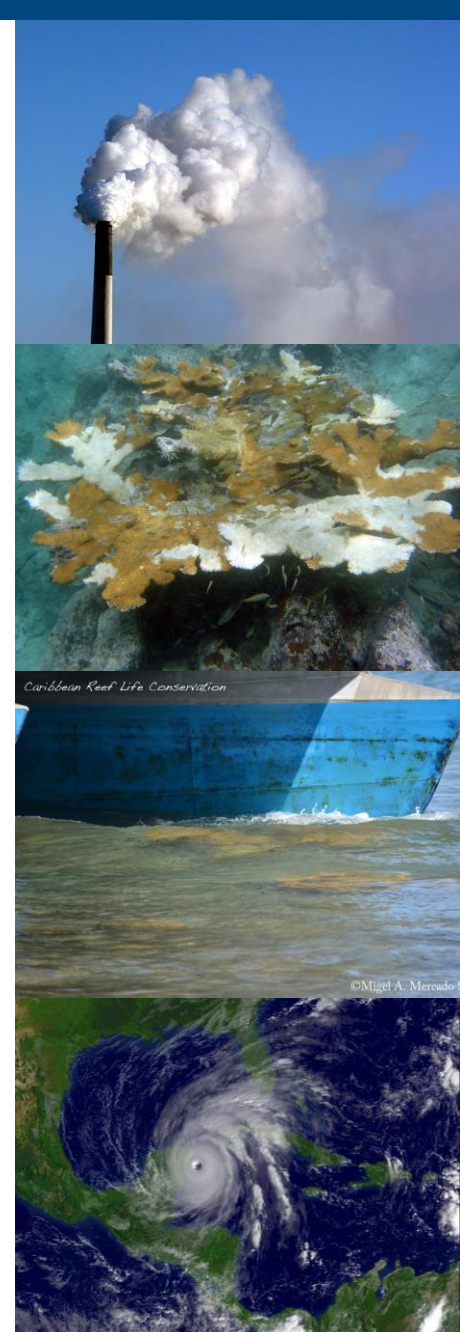
Planning Approach

- Two species plan
- First corals ever listed
- Sibling species
- Similar life histories
- Almost identical ranges
- Same threats
- Slightly different habitat occupation and population dynamics

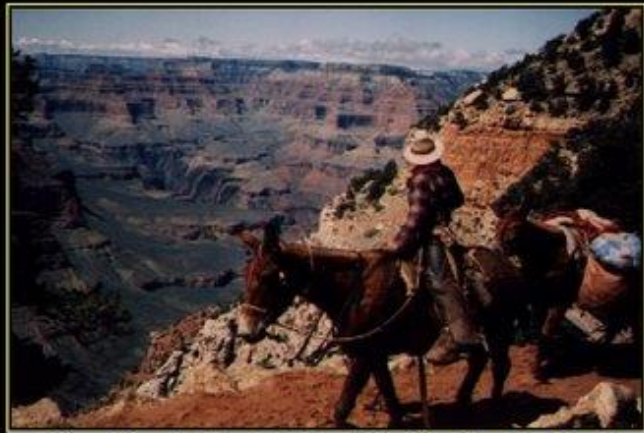


Recovery Team

- 19 members
- Experts in biology and ecology, threats
- Regional managers
- Stakeholders
- NGOs
- 2 NOAA Fisheries Liaisons to Team



Recovery Planning Engagement



CONSENSUS

A mule is a horse designed by committee.



Recovery Planning Priority and Timing

