

South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act 2021 IWG-HABHRCA

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IWG-HABHRCA

- Est. 1998 as an “interagency task force”
 - ◆ Reauthorized in 2014 under the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research Control Amendments Act
- Mandated to respond to legislative requirements of HABHRCA
 - ◆ Develop actions plans, reports, & assessments
- Co-Chaired by NOAA (David Kidwell) and EPA (Deborah Nagle)
 - ◆ 80 members; 12 agencies



South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act

Passed June 16, 2022 → Amends HABHRCA, 1998

Ensure an integrated Federal assessment of and plan for addressing these blooms in a highly managed aquatic ecosystem.

S. 66 Requires Task Force to:

- Conduct an integrated assessment examining HABS and Hypoxia in S. FL
- Develop a plan to reduce, mitigate, and control HABS & Hypoxia in S. FL



Interim/Integrated Assessment Details

From South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act (2022):

“(3) **CONTENTS OF INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.**—The integrated assessment... shall examine the causes, consequences, and potential approaches to reduce [HABs] and hypoxia in South Florida and the status of, and gaps within, current [HAB] and hypoxia research, monitoring, management, prevention, response, and control activities that directly affect the region by—

- (A) Federal agencies;
- (B) State agencies;
- (C) regional research consortia;
- (D) academia;
- (E) private industry;
- (F) nongovernmental organizations; and
- (G) Indian tribes

“(c) **ACTION PLAN.**—“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 years and 180 days after the date of the enactment..., the Task Force shall develop and submit to Congress a plan, based on the integrated assessment..., for reducing, mitigating, and controlling [HABs] and hypoxia in South Florida.



Mandated Report Requirements

Integrated Assessment(s):

- Examine the causes, consequences, and potential approaches to reduce HABs and hypoxia
 - ◆ status of, and gaps within: current research, monitoring, management, prevention, response, and control activities

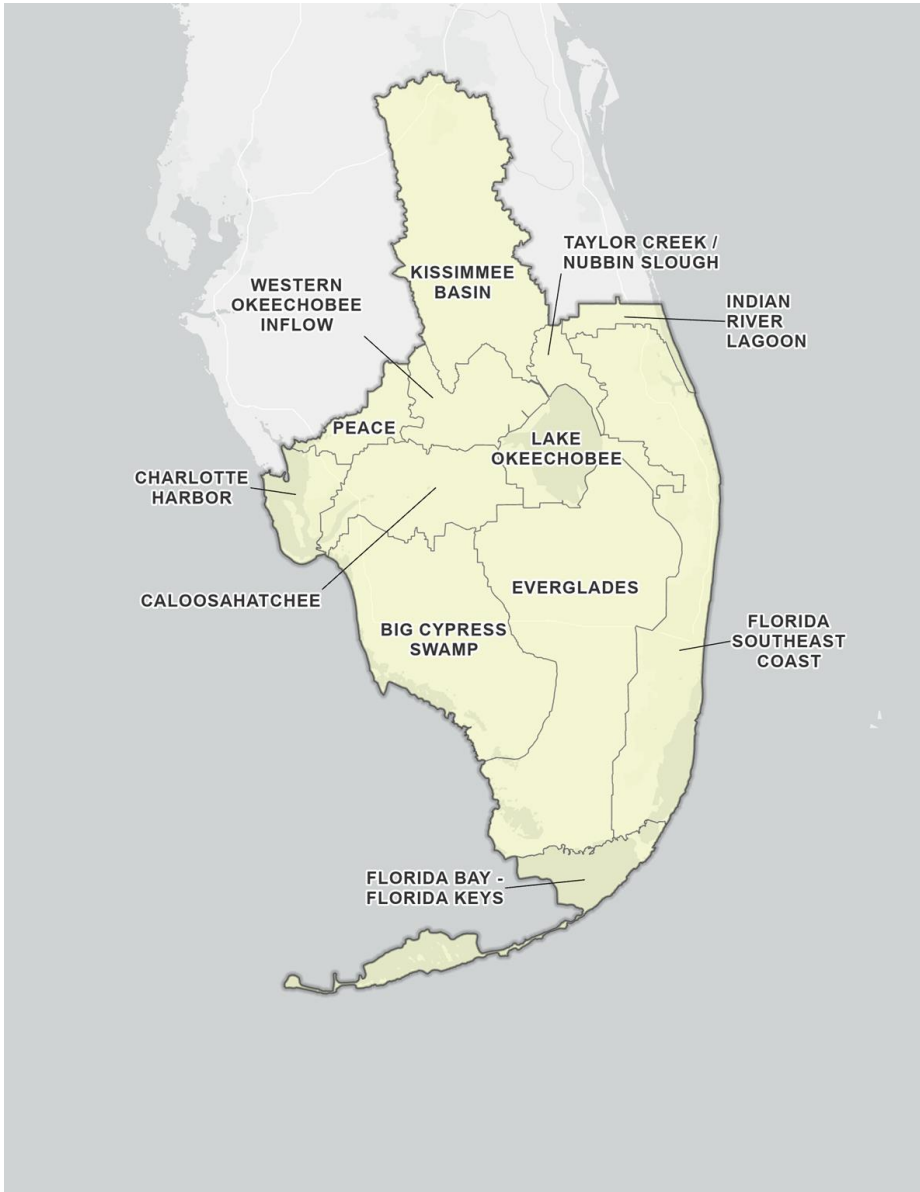
Action Plan:

- Address the monitoring needs
- Develop a timeline and budgetary requirements
- Identify requirements for the development and verification of HAB and Hypoxia Models
- Propose plan to implement a remote monitoring network and early warning system for alerting local communities in the region to HAB risks that may impact human health

★ Biennial Progress Reports



Definition of South Florida



- All lands and waters within the administrative boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District
- Regional coastal waters, including Biscayne Bay, the Caloosahatchee Estuary, Florida Bay, Indian River Lagoon, and St. Lucie River Estuary
- Florida Reef Tract



S. Florida Mandated Report Dates

Integrated Assessments

1) Interim Integrated Assessment—540 days after enactment

Dec 8, 2023

1) Finalized Integrated Assessment—3 yrs after enactment

June 16, 2025

Action Plan

1) Reducing, mitigating, and controlling HABs and hypoxia in South Florida—3 yrs plus 180 days after enactment

Dec. 14, 2025





Timeline for South Florida HAB and Hypoxia Interim Report

December 2022 → Receive input from key groups

January 2023 → NOAA library literature searches

January-May → incorporate information in $\frac{3}{4}$ draft

June 2023 → in person public forums comment on $\frac{3}{4}$ draft

June, 2023 → revise, based on input

July, 2023 → NOAA review

Aug, 2023 → All federal agency review

Nov./December, 2023 → Submit Interim Assessment to Congress





Key Groups: Federal Agencies

→ Marine

- ◆ NOAA

→ Freshwater

- ◆ EPA
- ◆ USDA
- ◆ USGS
- ◆ USACE

→ Other

- ◆ NASA
- ◆ CDC
- ◆ USCG





Key Materials: State Groups

State Agencies

- DEP
- FWC
- Blue-Green Algae Task Force
- Red-Tide Task Force
- S. FL Ecosystem Restoration Task Force
- S. FL Water Management District
- St. John's Water Management District
- DOH

NGOs

- CHNEP
- IRLNEP

Native Tribes



Key Materials: Research

Regional Research Consortia

- GCOOS
- SECOORA

Academia

- University of Florida IFAS, FL Sea Grant



Prepared by
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 on behalf of the
 SECOORA Regional Association

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NCCOS

NATIONAL CENTERS FOR
COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE

Engage With Us!

We are currently collating HAB & Hypoxia information and activities pertaining to South Florida.

If you have any relative knowledge or efforts regarding this area of expertise including:

- Reports
- Action Plans
- Strategies

Or other materials you would like us to know about..

Please contact us; we would love to incorporate your subject matter





Contact Information

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THANK YOU!

