



Coastal Communications



NATIONAL COASTAL REPORT CARD COASTAL 2000 - FLORIDA COASTAL ASSESSMENT

ORD/Region IV/Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

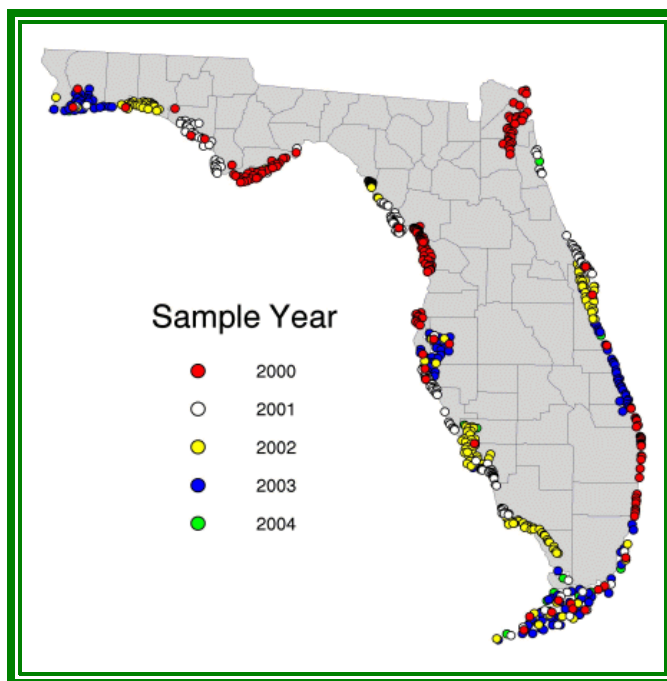


Background

The U.S. EPA's National Coastal Assessment (Coastal 2000) is a partnership among EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) and 24 U.S. coastal states and Puerto Rico to assess the condition of estuaries (followed by coastal waters and wetlands) of individual states and of the entire U.S. Uniform indicators of condition and sampling and analytical protocols allow integration and assessment of data at state and national scales. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is implementing Coastal 2000 for Florida, using a two-scale sampling strategy to assess condition of estuaries within delineated water management districts (watersheds) and state-wide.

Objectives

Coastal 2000 addresses three major objectives: 1) Assess the condition of estuaries (followed by coastal waters and wetlands) at state and national scales, 2) Evaluate change in condition over time and relate to pollution control/remediation efforts, and 3) Develop cause-effects hypotheses.



Indicators

Water Quality	Sediment Quality	Biota - Fish & Benthos	Other Indicators
Dissolved Oxygen	Grain Size	Community Structure	Stable Isotopes of N*
Salinity, Temperature, Depth, pH	Total Organic Carbon	External Pathology	Heterotrophic Dinoflagellates in Sediment*
Nutrients, Chlorophyll	Sediment Chemistry* Sediment Toxicity*	Tissue Analysis*	Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Composition and Abundance

*Statewide-scale only

Further Information

Coastal 2000 information will be publically available as data (EMAP Comprehensive Data Base) and annual State and national publication documenting the status of estuaries, followed by coastal waters and wetlands. Contact Kevin Summers at the National Health and Environmental Effects Laboratory's Gulf Ecology Division at (850) 934-9244, summers.kevin@epa.gov or Gil McRae at (727) 896-8626, gil.mcrae@fwc.state.fl.us.