

Socioeconomic Study of Reefs in Southeast Florida - Broward County

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This study used extensive survey research over the twelve-month period from June 2000 to May 2001 to measure the economic contribution and the use values of artificial and natural reefs to the economies and the reef users of southeast Florida.

This study was co-funded by the four southeast Florida counties (Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and



Monroe), the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In all of southeast Florida, residents and visitors spent 28 million

person-days using artificial and natural reefs during the 12-month period. Of this amount, residents and visitors spent about 9.4 million person-days using the reefs in Broward County, or about 34 percent of the regional total. A person-day is one person participating in an activity for a portion or all of a day.

| Artificial and Natural Reef Use in Millions of Person-Days Broward County, Florida - June 2000 to May 2001 | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Reef Use by Reef Type | Artificial Reefs | Natural Reefs | All Reefs |
| | 3.98 | 5.46 | 9.44 |
| Reef Use by User Type | Residents | Visitors | All Users |
| | 3.72 | 5.72 | 9.44 |
| Reef Use by Recreation Type | Snorkeling | SCUBA Diving | Fishing |
| | 1.09 | 3.85 | 4.45 |

person-days using artificial and natural reefs during the 12-month period and created 36,000 jobs.

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Economic Contribution of Reefs to Broward County, Florida June 2000 to May 2001 (Generated from Reef-Related Expenditures)

| Sales (\$ million) | Income (\$ million) | Employment (FT and PT Jobs) |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$2,069 | \$1,049 | 36,000 |

Recreational fishers, divers and snorkelers who use Broward County's reefs are willing to pay \$126 million per year to maintain these reefs in their existing condition.

Natural reef users are willing to pay \$83.6 million per year to maintain the natural reefs in Broward County. Artificial reef users are willing to pay \$55.9 million per year to maintain the existing artificial reefs and \$15.7 million per year to add new artificial reefs to the Broward County system.

Annual User Value to Maintain Reefs in Their Existing Condition - Broward County (million dollars)

| Artificial Reefs | Natural Reefs | All Reefs |
|------------------|---------------|-----------|
| \$55.9 | \$83.6 | \$126.0 |

A majority of Broward County resident reef users would support "no take" zones on 25 percent of the natural reef system.



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