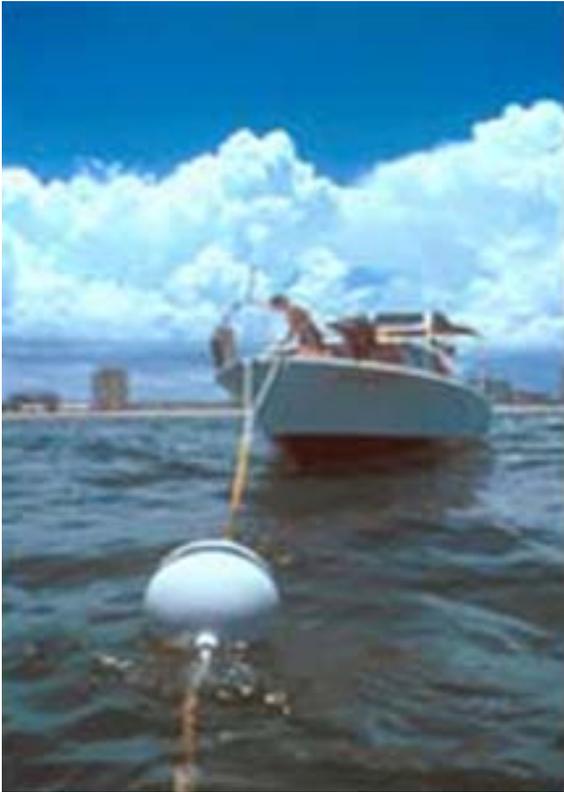


MOORING BUOY LOCATION & USAGE



[Using the Buoys](#)

[Locations](#)

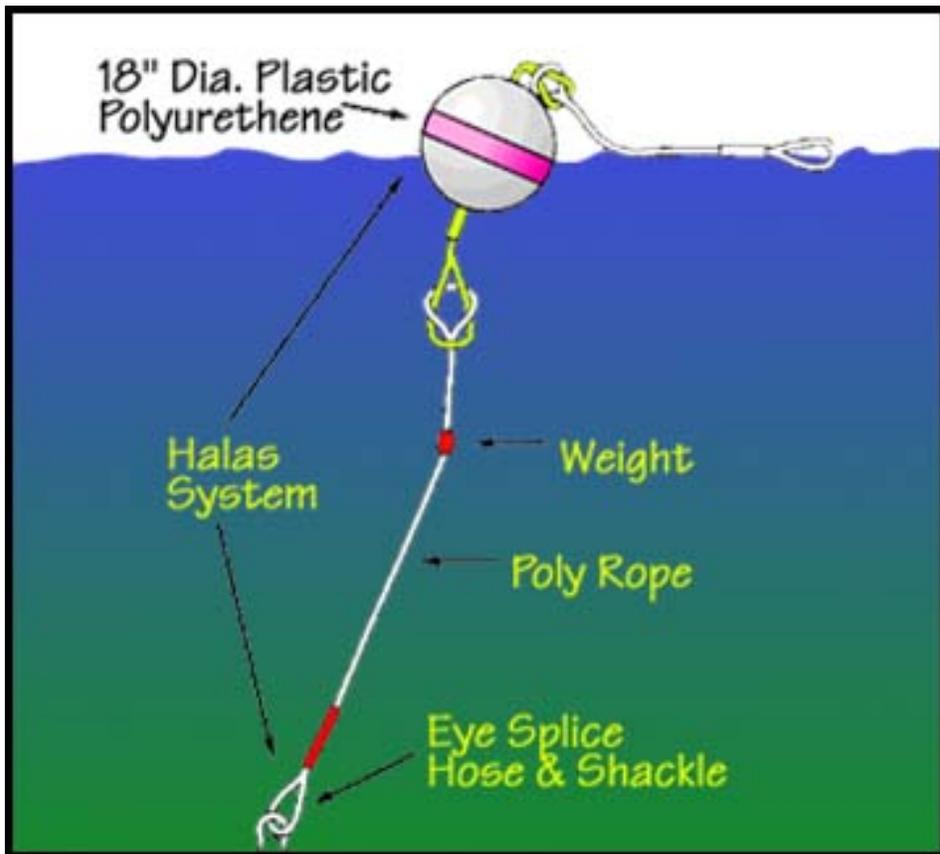
Introduction

To help protect our coral reefs, Florida law prohibits dropping an anchor onto living corals. As further protection, a mooring buoy system was installed so that boaters can moor on reefs without using an anchor and avoid violating the law or damaging the reef. The fragile coral polyps die when touched, stepped on, or anchored on. Corals are very slow growing in our waters, only about 1/5" per year for hard coral (such as brain coral) and 1" annually for soft corals (like sea fans). The mooring buoys in Broward County were installed as a joint project between Ocean Watch Foundation, Broward County Department of Planning & Environmental Protection, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Boating Improvement Program.

Mooring Buoys

Permanent mooring buoys as a means of reducing anchor damage were first developed at the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary. They are extremely effective as a coral preservation measure and have been installed throughout the Florida Keys, Caribbean, and world wide. The mooring buoys are maintained by the Broward County Department of Planning and Environmental Protection. For more information about the buoys contact the Biological Resources Division at (954) 519-1230 The Broward County Department of Planning and Environmental Protection and the [Ocean Watch Foundation](#) assume no responsibility for use of the buoys.

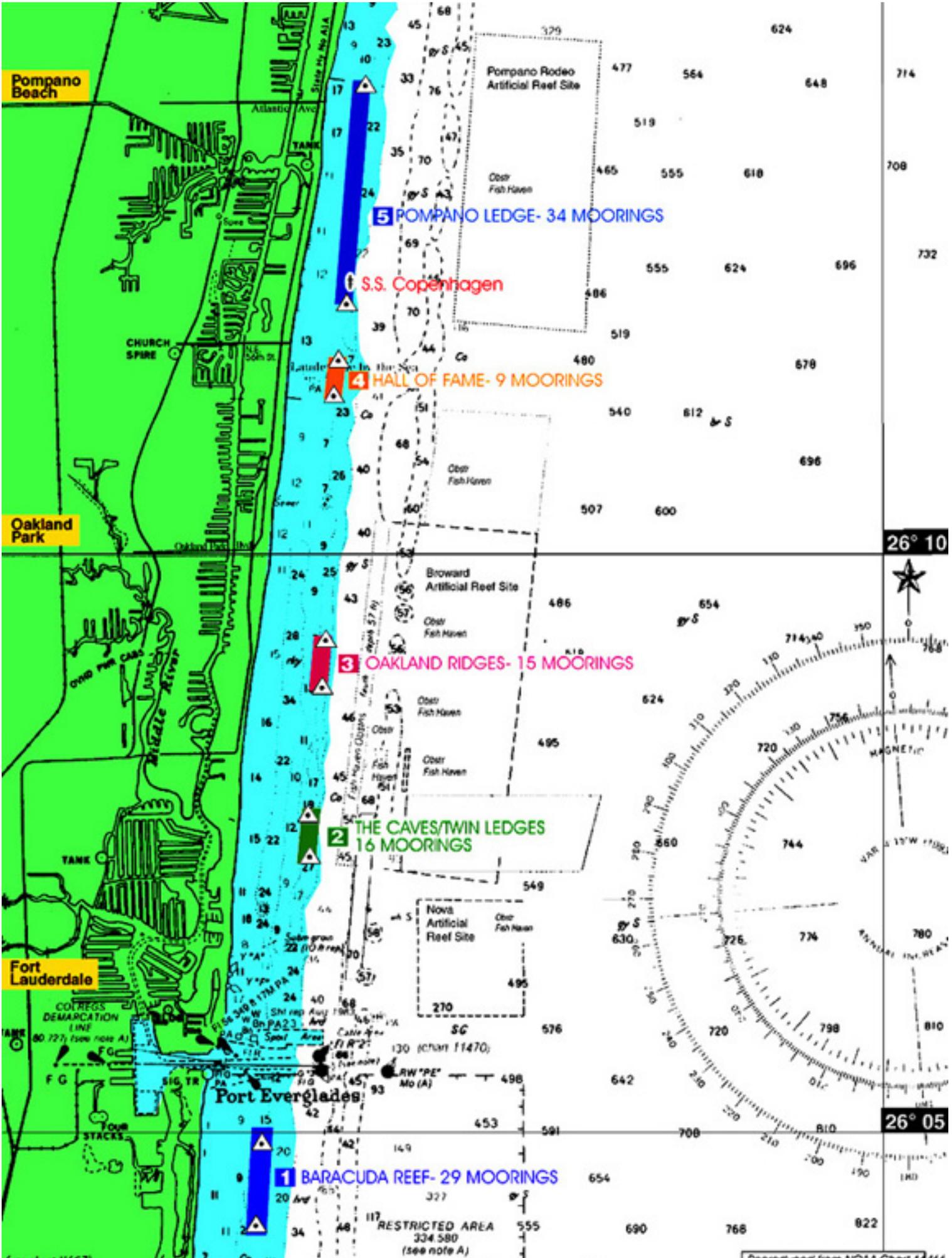
USING THE BUOYS



Using the Buoys

1. When using a buoy, approach it against the wind or current; whichever has the most effect on the boat's course. Approach the buoy head-on without being pushed to the side by the wind or current. The mooring line will be pointed in the direction of the current.
2. The length of the mooring line is for easy pickup and does not allow for enough scope. Never tie your boat directly to the buoy mooring line, as you may be endangering the boat as well as placing too much stress on the buoy system. Always use a line from the boat to the buoy mooring line.
3. With the proper amount of scope, the buoy is not pulled under the water by the action of the boat and the line from the boat to the buoy will bow. It is especially important for all boats to allow for extra scope during rough weather.
4. As you tie up to the buoy, inspect the mooring line to make certain the system is secure and lines are intact.
5. As when using an anchor, someone should always remain on the boat and that person should know how to operate the boat. Remember, as the captain of your boat, you are ultimately responsible for your boat.
6. Buoys are installed in favorite recreational areas. Whenever you are in buoy areas, maneuver at idle speed only and watch for swimmers and divers.
7. Buoys are not intended as markers for the reef. Do not drop an anchor next to a buoy, as this is a living reef area. If all the buoys are in use and you must anchor, make certain you are anchoring in a sandy area. Buoys are for everyone on a first come basis and are intended only for half day usage. Please be considerate. Ocean Watch Foundation and Broward County Department of Natural Resource Protection assume no responsibility for use of the buoys. For more information about the buoys contact Ocean Watch Foundation at (305) 467-1366. To report damaged or missing buoys contact Lighthouse Dive Center at (305) 782-1100.

LOCATIONS



Pompano Beach

Oakland Park

Fort Lauderdale

5 POMPANO LEDGE- 34 MOORINGS

S.S. Copenhagen

4 HALL OF FAME- 9 MOORINGS

3 OAKLAND RIDGES- 15 MOORINGS

2 THE CAVES/TWIN LEDGES 16 MOORINGS

1 BARACUDA REEF- 29 MOORINGS

26° 10'

26° 05'

RESTRICTED AREA 334 580 (see note A)

1. Baracuda Reef

Direction	GPS	LORAN
North	26° 04.99'N	62118.0
	80° 05.72'W	14254.1
South	26° 04.09'N	62120.5
	80° 05.78'W	14255.0

2. The Caves/Twin Ledges

Direction	GPS	LORAN
North	26° 07.75'N	62113.5
	80° 05.46'W	14261.7
South	26° 07.48'N	62112.5
	80° 05.51'W	14261.2

3. Oakland Ridges

Direction	GPS	LORAN
North	26° 09.47'N	62111.0
	80° 05.34'W	14264.6
South	26° 09.02'N	62110.0
	80° 05.39'W	14263.8

4. Hall of Fame

Direction	GPS	LORAN
North	26° 11.68'N	62105.5
	80° 05.08'W	14268.9
South	26° 11.43'N	62105.0
	80° 05.11'W	14268.2

5. Pompano Ledge

Direction	GPS	LORAN
North	26° 14.05'N	62100.2
	80° 04.95'W	14273.0
South	26° 11.05'N	62104.0
	80° 05.09'W	14269.6

6. S.S. Copenhagen

Direction	GPS	LORAN
	26° 12.349'N	14269.7
	80° 05.108'W	