

**Planning meeting for upcoming site investigations and planned reauthorization request of
Brevard County's permitted artificial reef areas**

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building A Viera, FL 32940

August 24, 2007 9-10am

notes prepared by Keith Mille

ATTENDEES

Name	Affiliation	Email	phone
Keith Mille	FWC, Division of Marine Fisheries Management	Keith.mille@myfwc.com	850-487-0580 x207 (m) 850-509-2974
Virginia Barker	Brevard County, Natural Resources Management	Virginia.Barker@brevardcounty.us	321-633-2016 (m) 321-749-0784
Matt Culver	Brevard County, Natural Resources Management	Matt.Culver@brevardcounty.us	321-633-2016
Scott Chandler	Florida Sport Fishing Association	sdchandler@ft.newyorklife.com	(m) 321-749-0784

PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting was to review the locations of known artificial reef material associated with Brevard County's permitted artificial reef areas, and identify a draft plan for field work to be conducted within the next two weeks. The ultimate goal is to acquire one active artificial reef site for Brevard County.

MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting was held at the Brevard County Natural Resources Management office. Keith Mille called in via teleconference.

Existing Artificial Reef Permit Areas

The name and location of the existing permit areas were discussed to identify the areas in which field assessment activities should be focused. The group pointed out that there is some discrepancy between the permit names being used by FWC as compare to the permit names being used by the local community. FWC has been incorrectly using the name Louis Dubois site, for the site which is actually referred to as 'Brevard County Artificial Reef Site 2'. Keith mentioned that there is an old permit for the Damocles Reef that corresponds with the circular blued out area on the chart, just north of the Brevard County Artificial Reef Site 2.

Overall site characterization

Scott Chandler regularly fishes and dives the area stated that he is not aware of any natural hardbottom or historical resources within the charted Brevard County Artificial Reef Site 2. He mentioned the nearest rock outcrops that he is aware of start at Pelican Flats, a few miles (?) south of the artificial reef site. Scott also mentioned that he has been assisting with some treasure hunting with a company called "Florida Research and Recovery" at an area about 4

miles south of the artificial reef site, and that there is no reason to believe there is anything of historical significance within the boundaries of the permitted site.

Coordinate review

Focusing in on the Brevard County Artificial Reef Site 2 region, the group reviewed and compared coordinates from the FWC database and from Scott Chandler's field notes. The following coordinates were discussed:

- 1) Domacles Wreck (C-3962, F42-1, 1987 deployment):
(from Scott Chandler) LORAN 43865.2/61919.3 Lat 28 24.451 / Lon 80 16.923, also
Lat 28 24.707 / Lon 80 16.749
- 2) Reef Balls (OFMAS-005, 1995 deployments):
(FWC & Chandler coordinates identical) Lat 28 23.833 / Lon 80 17.833
- 3) NAUI Reef Balls (according to Scott, deployed same time as OFMAS-005, unpublished)
(from Scott Chandler) LORAN 43928.33/61917.13 Lat 28 30.113 / Lon 80 18.809
- 4) The Lead Wreck
(from Scott Chandler) Lat 28 23.391 / Lon 80 17.324
- 5) Tiger Red Wreck
(from Scott Chandler) Lat 28 21.913 / Lon 80 16.667
- 6) 'The Lumps' (described as 'funky bottom' by Scott Chandler). His records show that his father reported a dive in 1983 at this site describing a small ledge, depth 80 ft.
(from Scott Chandler) LORAN 43895.7/61926.0 Lat 28 26.634 / Lon 80 18.824
- 7) Old concrete sailboat hull. Scott does not have coordinates for this site, but reportedly it is somewhere in the southern quarter of the Brevard County Artificial Reef Site 2, and is fished by locals.
- 8) Louis Dubois Wreck. This wreck is located at the south end of the 40 fathom ridge (wreck located at depth 162 feet) (beyond the area to be assessed). Scott provided recent numbers for comparison with the FWC database:
(from Scott Chandler) LORAN 43835.9/61842.0 Lat 28 27.063 / Lon 80 05.929

Permit Area Boundaries

Judging by the locations of the above coordinates, most of the sites are located within or just east of the eastern edge of the charted Brevard County Artificial Reef Site 2 permit boundary. Keith explained the merits of maintaining the boundaries similar to what is already permitted in order to avoid changes in the charts and minimize conflict with the commercial shrimping industry. Since there are existing deployments outside the permit area, the group agreed to expanding the permit boundary slightly east to properly capture those materials within a charted area. Prior to the field assessment work, new proposed corner coordinates will be identified.

Coordinates to be inspected

Depending on diver and boat availability, the following sites were identified as the best potential candidates for inspection:

- 1) Reef Balls (FWC published and NAUI unpublished);
- 2) Domacles;
- 3) The Lumps (i.e., potential natural bottom within the site?);
- 4) Representative sandy bottom areas within the proposed boundaries (i.e., for future deployment locations).

Logistics

Vessel availability for the site assessments includes:

- 1) Brevard County's 23' center console, twin 140s
- 2) Scott Chandler's 21 SeaRay Laguna center console, 200hp Mercury
- 3) (tentative) Kyler Miller's uncle's, 25' center console bluewater, twin 200s(?)

Diver availability includes:

- 1) Matt Culver
- 2) Virginia Barker
- 3) Scott Chandler
- 4) (tentative) David Chandler
- 5) Eddie Leonard, FL SeaGrant Agent
- 6) Keith Mille (tentative dive status)
- 7) (tentative) Bill Horn (tentative dive status)
- 8) (tentative) Kyle Miller (tentative dive status)

Calendar & Schedule

The next available dates for Scott Chandler are Friday 8/31, Thursday 9/6, or Friday 9/7. The group will review the marine forecast and select the earliest date available, with an anticipated departure time of 7am from Port Canaveral.

Objectives

The objectives of the site assessment will include verifying the existing materials, locating any natural hardbottom, and identify potential sites for future deployments.

KJM