

Strategy for Stewardship: Coral Restoration Foundation's Approach to Regional Reef Management via Volunteerism & Community-based Stewardship Programs



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Appreciation + Awareness = Action



Introduction:

Coral Restoration Foundation (CRF) has developed and sustained a successful offshore coral nursery and restoration program by merging SCUBA diving, education, and volunteerism into supervised, community-based stewardship programs strategically designed to manage and restore endangered corals to reefs. We seek to develop a sense of community stewardship for the coral restoration process through hands-on learning as citizen scientists in action-orientated programs.

What is Stewardship?

Long-term collaborative initiatives between organizations, communities, and businesses for the purpose of sustainable management of ecological resources

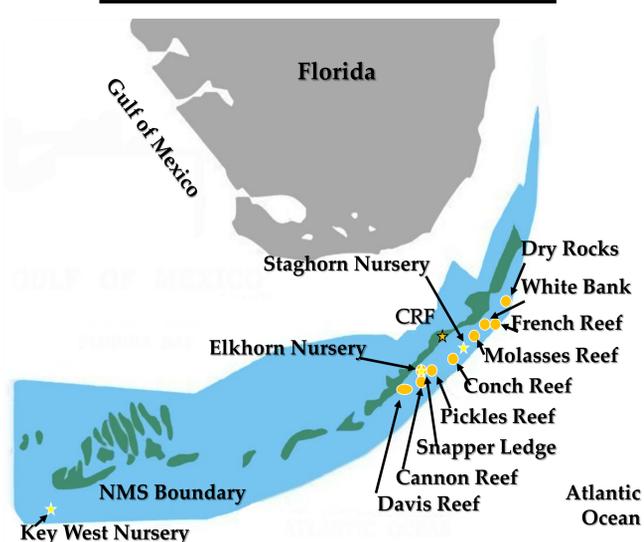
What is Volunteerism?

The merging of tourism and volunteering into one for the purpose of supporting and conducting responsible community service

Program Strategies for Stewardship:

- Support Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Management Objectives
- Facilitate the relationship between society and marine environment
- Educate participants on the local-to-global importance of coral reefs
- Empower teamwork, communication, and leadership via field work
- Magnify on-the-ground restoration efforts through community action
- Develop and refine techniques for nursery maintenance and restoration
- Support local businesses and organizations through long-term partnerships
- Integrate responsible, productive activities into local tourism industry

Restoration Locations



Accomplishments

- Nearly 500+ corals planted
- 20 different restoration sites
- Engaged nearly 700 volunteers directly
- Partnered with dozens of organizations and businesses for long-term restoration support

From Classroom



To Offshore Coral Nursery



To Regional Reefs



To Community Stewardship



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