

Community Based Manatee Protection In Tampa Bay



Task Force Members

- **Scientists** – FMRI, USFWS, Save the Manatee Club
- **Conservationists** – Save the Manatee Club, Ocean Conservancy, Tampa Bay Watch
- **Waterway users** – commercial and recreational
- **Utilities** – Florida Power, TECO
- **Local governments** – Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee Counties
- **Concerned Citizens**

Make recommendations for manatee protection based on:

- use patterns,
- populations,
- wintering sites,
- calving sites,
- boat use,
- recreational uses,
- access and destination points, and
- areas of historic fisheries.



Pathobiology

Task Force Recommendations

- **Regulated vs. Non-regulated**
- **Promote Community Stewardship**
- **Boater Education**
- **Assess Effectiveness of Programs**

Manatee Awareness Coalition

MAC

Tampa Bay Estuary Program

Tampa Electric Company

Florida Progress

Save The Manatee Club

FMRI

Cockroach Bay Users Group

The Ocean Conservancy

Hillsborough County

Manatee County

Pinellas County

Southern Fisheries Association

Marine Industries Assoc. of Greater Tampa Bay

US Coast Guard Auxiliary

Florida Guides Association

Tampa BayWatch

Citizens

Florida Fish and Wildlife

Conservation Commission



Regulated

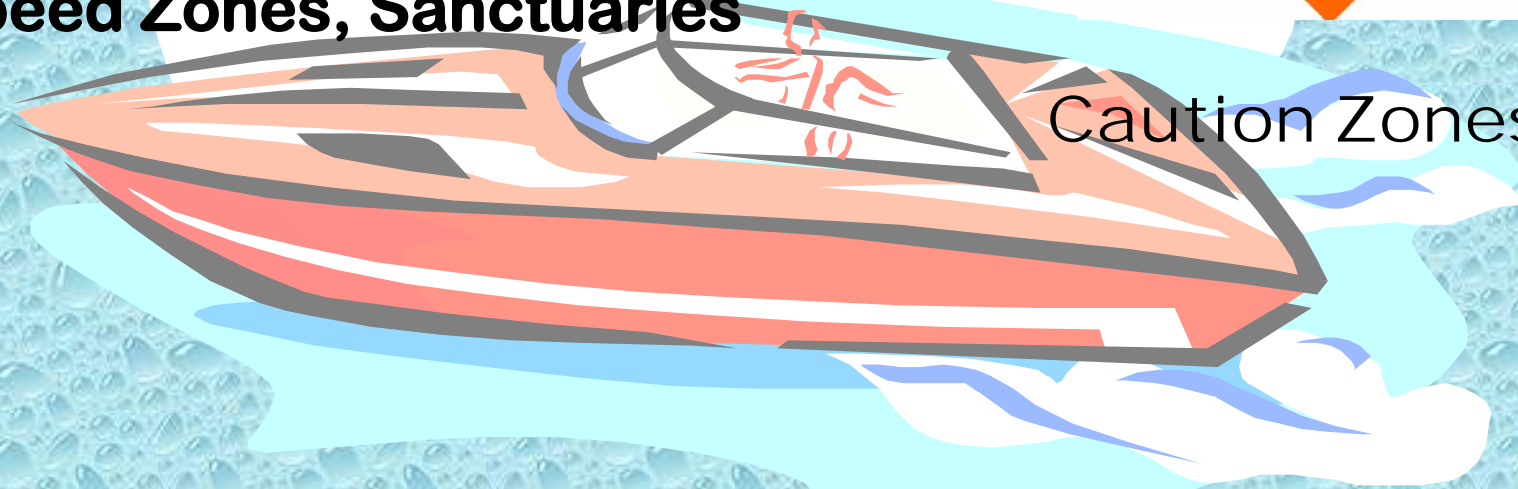
vs.

Non-regulated

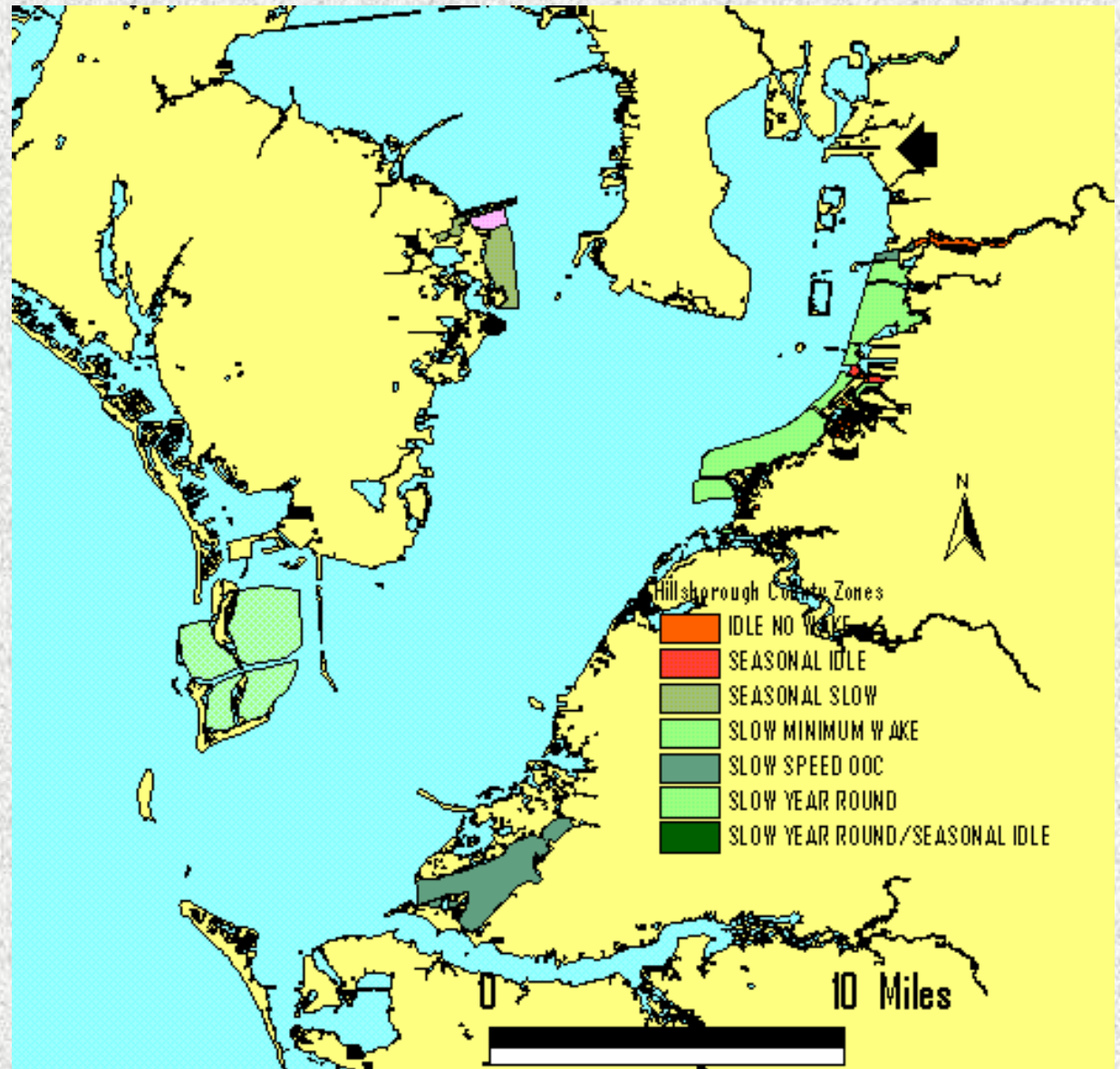


Speed Zones, Sanctuaries

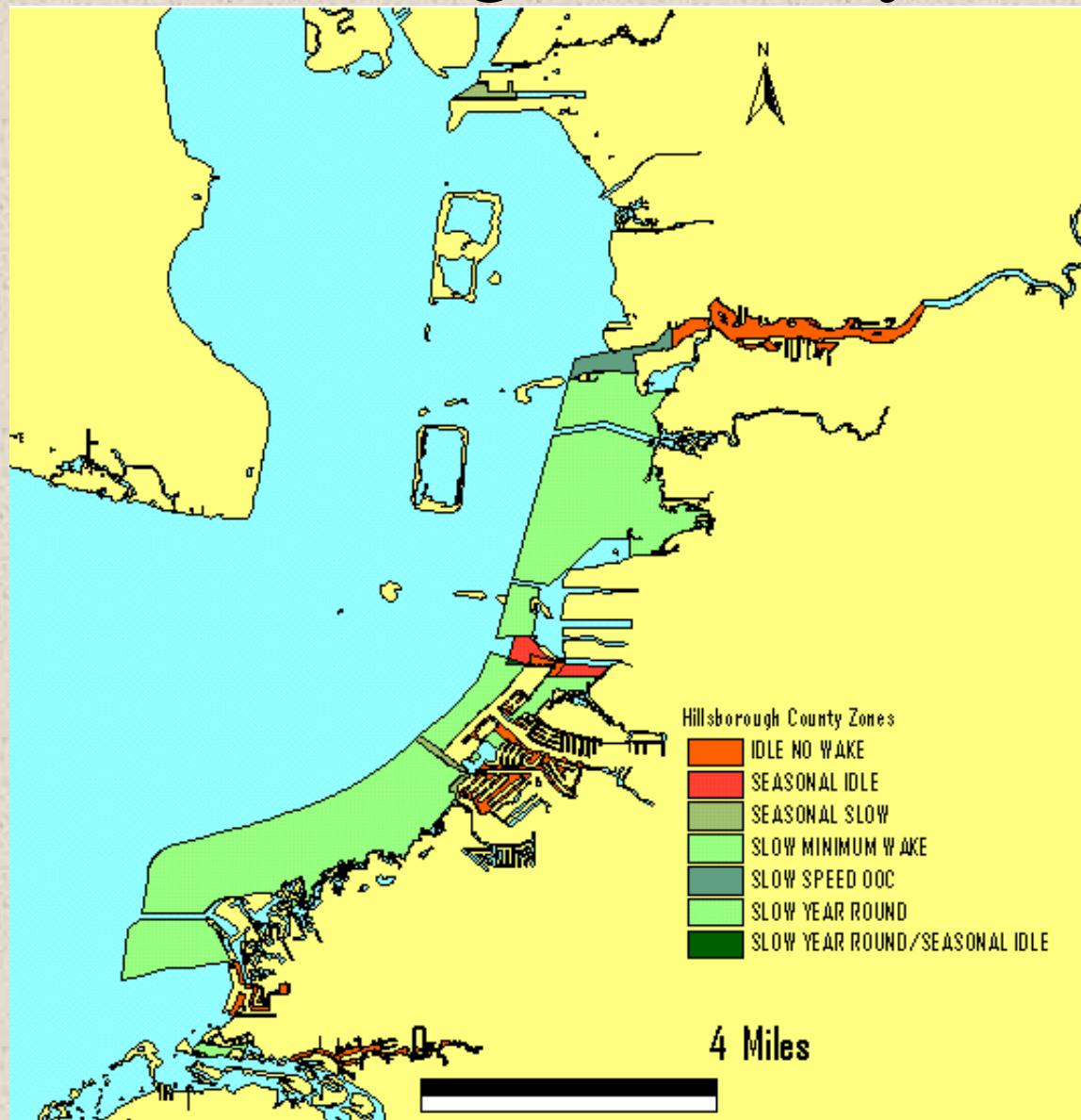
Caution Zones



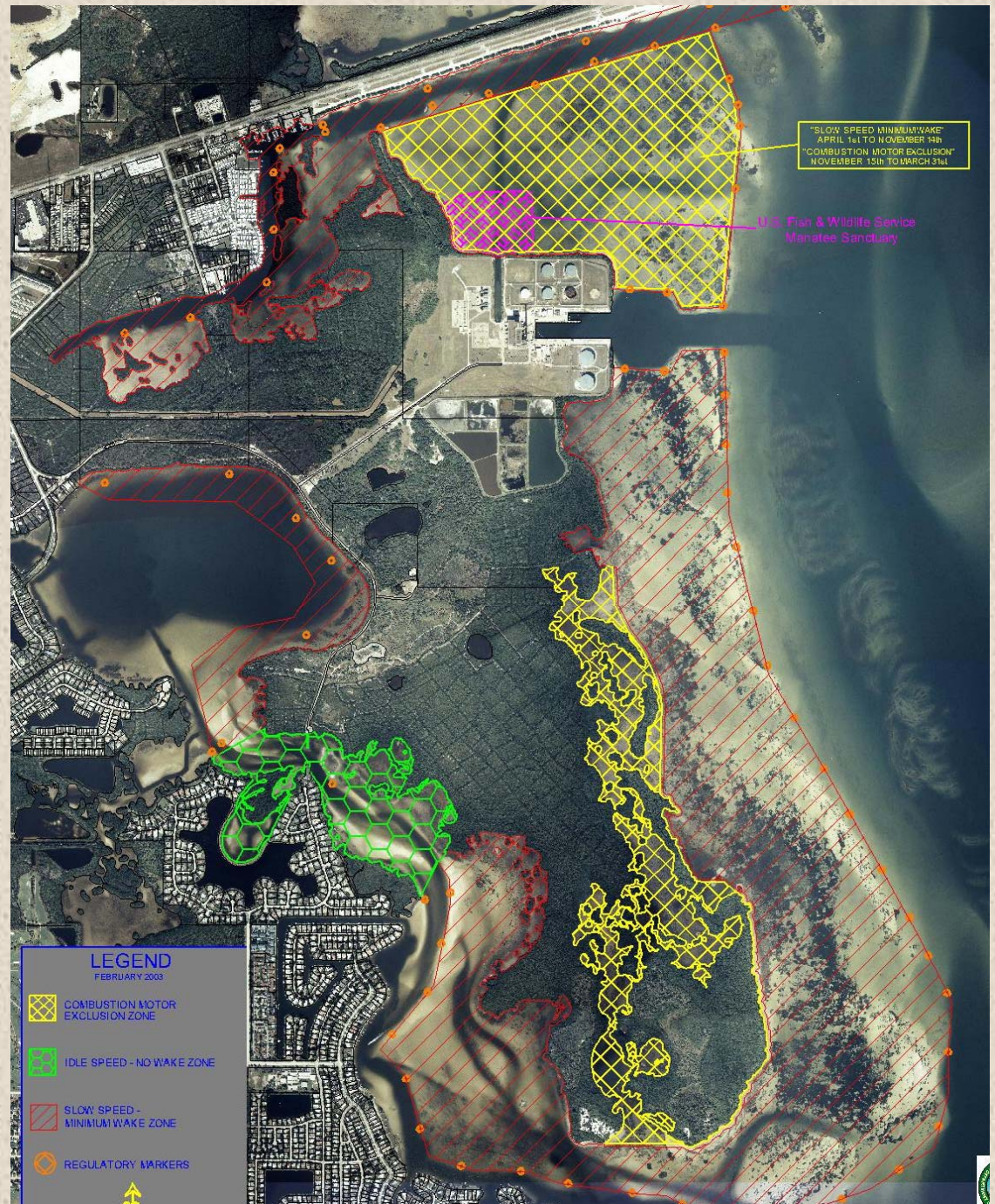
Tampa Bay Protection Zones



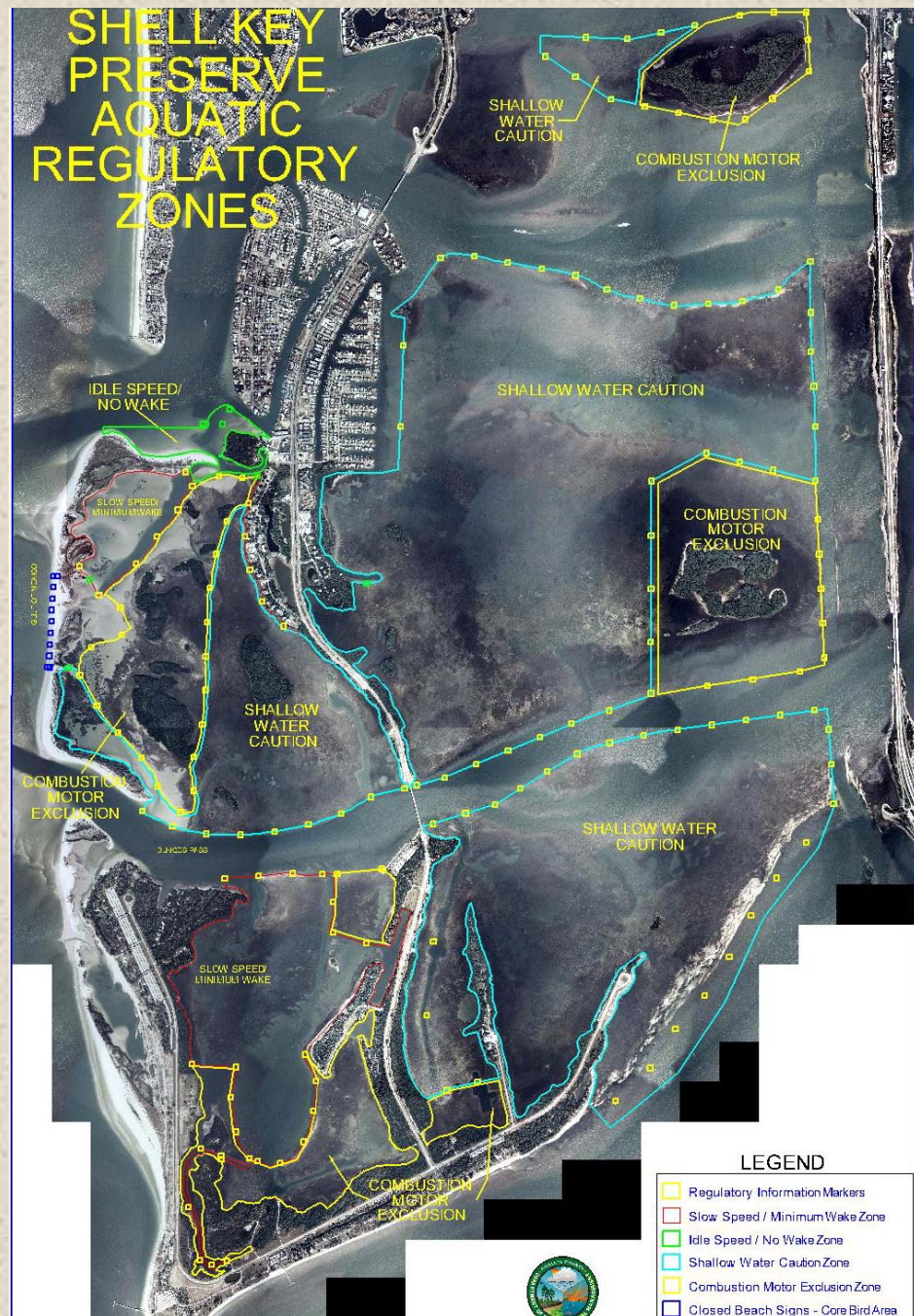
Hillsborough County Zones



Weedon Island Aquatic Preserve



Shell Key Aquatic Preserve Zones





Promote Community Stewardship

Creating a Neighborhood Manatee Watch



Purchase A Manatee License Plate



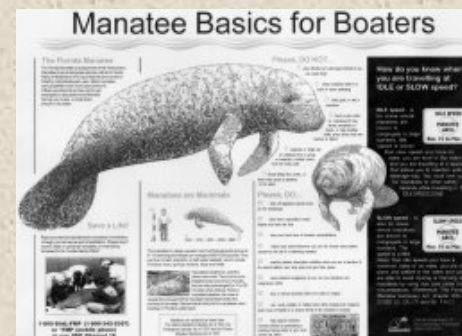
Insert Manatee Protection Tips In Newsletter



Distribute Information To Residents



Install Manatee Signs On Docks



Build An Educational Kiosk

Coquina Key Civic Association is a Manatee Friendly Neighborhood



Boater Education

Boater Education Kits Typically Include:

- A waterproof chart of the local area

- Polarized sunglasses



- A fish-measuring sticker



Assess Effectiveness of Programs

Research and Assessment



Regulation ???

Education ???



**Florida Marine
Research
Institute**

Where do we go from here?

Rotate Manatee Watch to patrol other areas (C-BUG)

Develop neighborhood manatee watch programs throughout the region

Work with other Education Partners (USCGA, Power Squadron)

Continue to provide support for local programs

Continue to recruit volunteers

