

EPA Other Issues of Concern re: Port Everglades Harbor Expansion Project

Port Everglades Interagency Working Group Meeting – Orlando, FL

July 26-27, 2016

EPA's jurisdictions over coral community resources –

- Clean Water Act Section 404 – Coral Reefs are listed as Special Aquatic Sites
 - The CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines) establish the environmental standards to be used by EPA and the Corps in the review of permit applications, and as part of the evaluation of Corps feasibility studies, to discharge dredged or fill material in the Nation's waters, including marine waters that are home to coral reefs. Degradation or destruction of special aquatic sites may represent an irreversible loss of valuable aquatic resources.

- Executive Order 13089 on Coral Reef Protection
 - E.O. 13089 directs Federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), whose actions may affect U.S. coral reef ecosystems, to take the following steps: identify their actions that may affect U.S. coral reef ecosystems; utilize their programs and authorities to protect and enhance the conditions of such ecosystems; and to the extent permitted by law, ensure that any actions they authorize, fund, or carry out will not degrade the conditions of such ecosystems.

- Marine Pollution, Research and Sanctuaries Act
 - The Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA), also known as the Ocean Dumping Act, regulates the transportation and dumping of any material into ocean waters. The MPRSA prohibits or restricts ocean dumping that would adversely affect human health, welfare, amenities, the marine environment, ecological systems or economic potentialities; and prevents adverse impacts to other uses of the sea, such as navigation and fishing, from pollution caused by ocean dumping.