

Data Management Plan Collaborative Proposal: The role of sponges in the coastal nitrogen cycle.

We will share and archive data collected as part of this research project in compliance with the Division of Ocean Science Data and Sample Policy. All data will be compiled in a commonly used database management program with metadata and primary data submitted to archiving data repositories as appropriate. Routine field data will be added to the existing Florida Coastal Everglades Long Term Ecological Research Program (FCE-LTER; <http://fcelter.fiu.edu>) database for Florida Bay (see attached Letter of Collaboration from the LTER leadership).

We will also work with the Director and scientists at the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) based in Marathon, Florida Keys (see attached letter of Collaboration from the FWC) to insure that results and data from this project are utilized as widely as possible to better understand water quality and fisheries issues in Florida Bay and surrounding reef ecosystems. In addition, hydrographic and other oceanographic metadata from our research will be supplied to the National Oceanographic Data Center.

We will work closely with Mr. Patrick Caldwell, the University of Hawaii liaison to the National Oceanographic Data Center, to identify other appropriate venues for archiving non-traditional hydrographic and other oceanographic metadata that are geospatially collected. Experimental data and observations not appropriate for archiving in national data repositories will be reported where appropriate in peer-reviewed publications either as tabulated data in the publication or in supplementary data tables.