

Title: COASTAL AND ESTUARINE DATA/DOCUMENT
ARCHEOLOGY AND RESCUE (CEDAR) FOR SOUTH FLORIDA.

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Project Summary: The purpose of this proposal is to continue collecting unpublished data and documents on the South Florida coastal and estuarine ecosystem; convert and restore information judged valuable to the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) effort into electronic and printed form, and distribute it electronically to the scientific community, academia and public. There are a significant number of documents and data related to the marine environment of Florida that have never been published and are, thus, not used by the scientific community and academia. These documents and data are important because they can help define the state of the coastal environment in the past and, thus, are essential when evaluating the current state of degradation and setting restoration goals. The search for unpublished data and/or document will be done in cooperation with oceanographic institutions known to have worked in Florida. The coated material will be evaluated by a NOAA scientist to determine the physical state of the paper or electronic media, quality of data and/or texts, and the completeness of metadata (methodology, location, time, data quality parameters). Valuable material that is in poor physical condition will be restored to archive quality. Priority for restoration will be based on topic and geographic coverage. The restored material will be subjected to a quality assurance evaluation by a NOAA scientist to eliminate errors caused during conversion to electronic form, and to ascertain that text, figures, tables, and metadata are complete. Whenever possible, the authors of the publication will be contacted and will be invited to participate in the rescue process. Any needed text to describe data or finish unpublished reports will be provided by a NOAA scientist and/or the original author(s). The rescued material will be published in printed and electronic form and will be cataloged by accredited librarians and technical information specialists. The rescue effort will be publicized at libraries, Internet sites, seminars and conferences to increase the amount of data and documents to be found. This proposal is a cooperative endeavor between NCCOS, NMFS, and NESDIS, and other participating organizations including the University of Miami, Metro-Dade County, oceanographic institutions in the state of Florida,

and individuals.

Relevance to
Restoration and/or
Resource
Management:

Documents and data rescued through this project are important because they can help define the state of the coastal environment in the past and, thus, are essential when evaluating the current state of degradation and setting restoration goals.

Geographic Area:

Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay, the Florida Keys, the St. Lucie Estuary and Ten Thousand Islands, and the Dry Tortugas.