

Tab K, No. 1

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary



**Flower Garden Banks
National Marine Sanctuary**

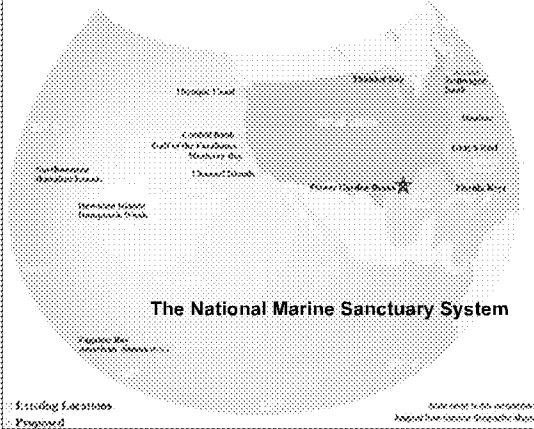
Management Plan Review

G. P. Schmahl
Sanctuary Superintendent

Gulf of Mexico
Fishery Management Council
November 15, 2006



Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary



The National Marine Sanctuary System

Existing Sanctuaries
Proposed

What Are National Marine Sanctuaries?



"Areas of the marine environment of special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archeological, or esthetic quality."

The National Marine Sanctuaries

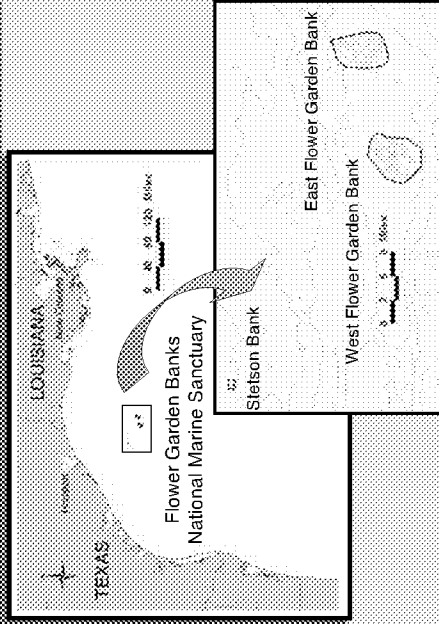
- Long-term conservation and protection of sanctuary resources.
- Raising public awareness and understanding of the marine environment through education and outreach.
- Improving management through research, monitoring and characterization.
- Helping coastal economies by keeping sanctuary resources healthy.
- Facilitating uses that are compatible with the primary function of resource protection.



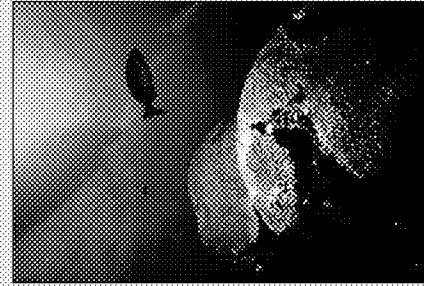
Program Elements



Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

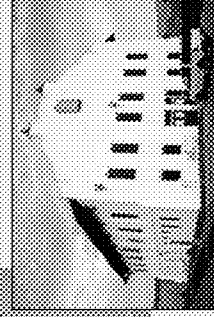
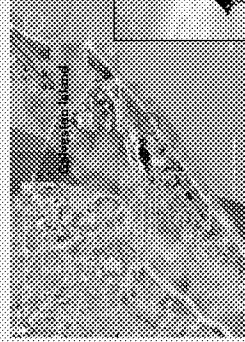


Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary



- Designated in 1992
- Includes: East and West Flower Garden and Stetson Banks
- Located 93 to 104 nautical miles offshore in the Gulf of Mexico
- Area: 42.5 square nautical miles (56 square statute miles)
- Water Depth: 55' to 500'
- Staffing: 7 Staff & Contractors

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New Sanctuary Office - June 1, 2006
NOAA Laboratory, Fort Crockett, Galveston, Texas

