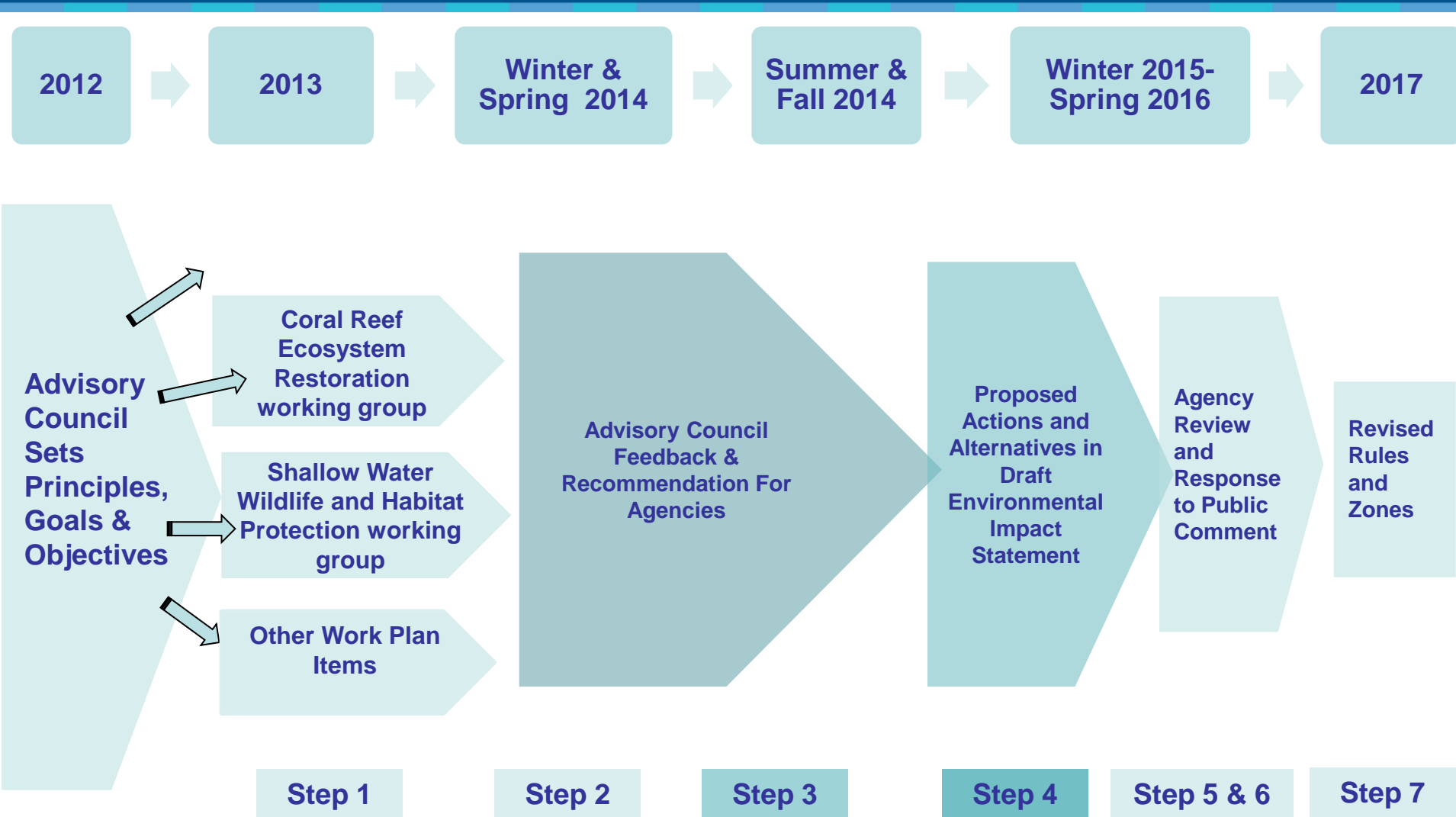




Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review: Advisory Council Recommendation & Agency Review

Sean Morton
FKNMS Superintendent
October 21, 2014

Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review Timeline



Looking Ahead – Overall Next Steps



- ✓ Advisory Council Feedback & Recommendation for Agencies
- Proposed Actions and Alternatives released in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- Agency Review and Response to Public Comments
- Proposed Actions and Alternatives released in a Final Environmental Impact Statement
- Revised Rules and Marine Zones

Looking Ahead – Draft Alternatives Development and Environmental / Economic Analysis



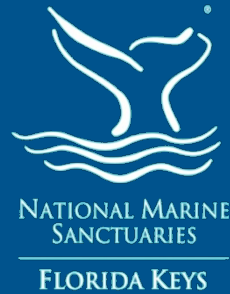
- Staff develops range of regulatory and zoning alternatives based on scoping comments, Advisory Council recommendations and input, and agency input.
- Alternative development includes coordination amongst agencies looking at feasibility, enforceability, administrative requirements, cost, legality, etc.
- Staff analyzes environmental / economic benefits and impacts of each alternative

National Environmental Policy Act



- Mandates federal agencies to consider all environmental effects of proposed actions and inform the public
- Requires involving interested and affected agencies, governments, organizations and individuals early in planning processes
- Conduct environmental reviews and related decisions appropriately and efficiently
- Coordination with National Marine Sanctuaries Act and Administrative Procedure Act

Looking Ahead – Draft Alternatives and Environmental / Economic Analysis



Proposed Action Alternatives and Analysis released in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) – Summer 2015 ?

- Required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- Includes a No Action alternative and analysis for every proposed alternative.
- Agency consultation process (State agencies, Federal agencies, Fishery Councils).
- Public Comment (90 Days) which will span two SAC meetings.
- Advisory Council decision / action on range of alternatives

Proposed Actions and Alternatives released in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement



- Executive Summary
 - Background, Purpose and Need
 - Public and Agency Involvement
 - Summary of Proposed Action and Alternatives
 - Summary of Impacts
- Section I – Background
 - Statutory Authorities
 - FKNMS Management
 - Project Location and Description of Study Area

Proposed Actions and Alternatives released in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement

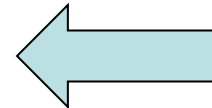


- Section II – Purpose of and Need for Action
 - Purpose of Action
 - Need for Action
 - Scope of the DEIS
 - Decisions to be Made
- Section III – Description of Proposed Actions and Alternatives
 - Development of Alternatives
 - Proposed Action
 - No Action Alternative (existing management baseline for comparison)
 - Other Alternatives Considered and Eliminated

Proposed Actions and Alternatives released in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement



- Section IV – Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences
 - Background
 - Scope of Impact Analysis and Study Area
 - Determining Significance of Impacts
 - Resources/Issues Not Analyzed
 - Resources Analyzed (physical, biological, maritime, economic, etc)
 - Regional Overview of Affected Environment
 - Regulatory Overview
 - Impact Assessment Methodology
 - ***Environmental Consequences***
 - Cumulative Impacts
 - Comparison of Alternatives

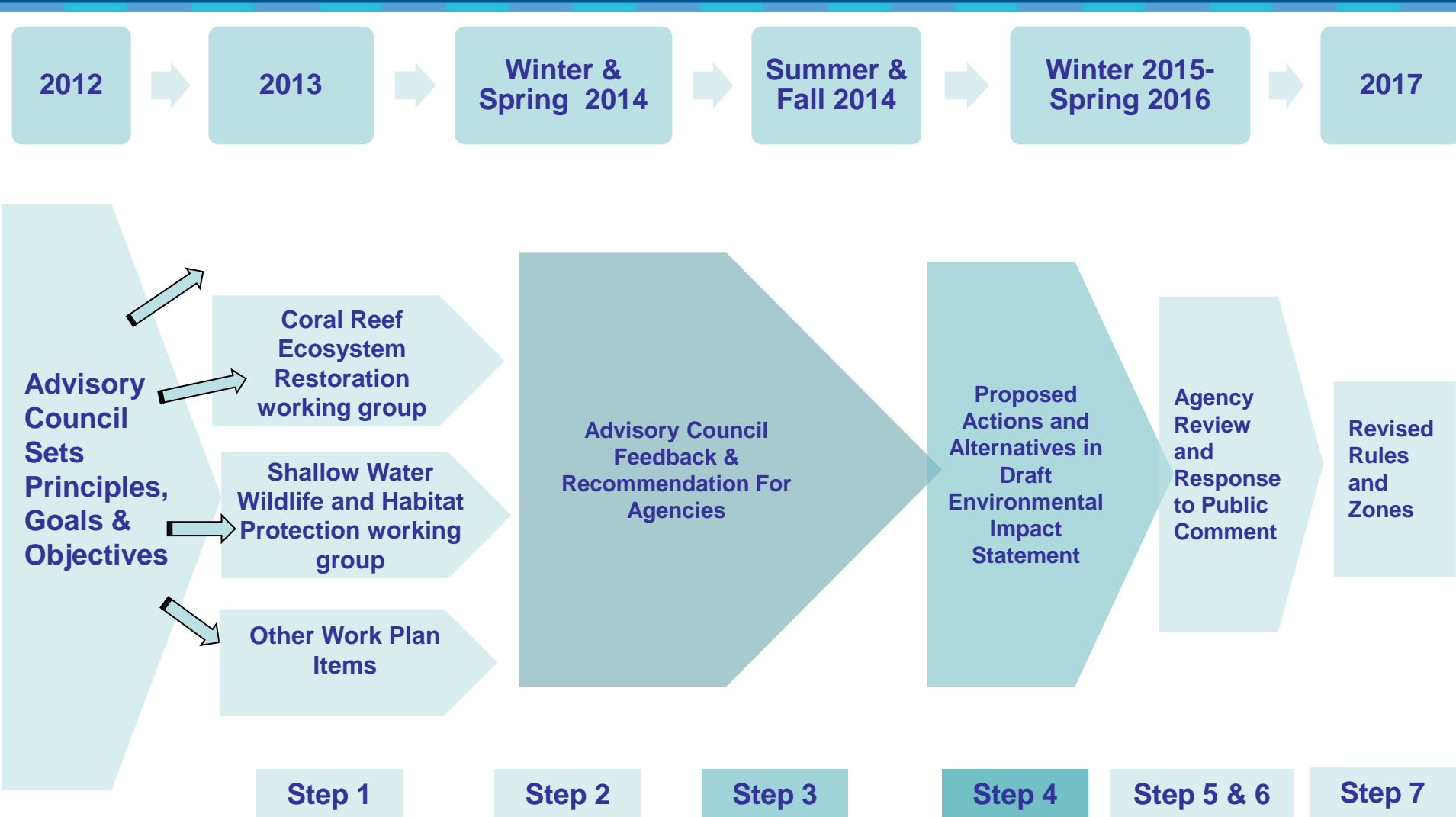


Looking Ahead – Key Points!



- Alternatives in DEIS will not have proposed regulatory language
- FKNMS and National Wildlife Refuges will propose draft regulations after public review and SAC action on DEIS alternatives
- When draft regulations are proposed, FKNMS & NWR will have another round of public comment
- Other agencies may be implementing regulations to meet goals and objectives of zoning review

Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review Timeline



For more information:



Visit our website at floridakeys.noaa.gov

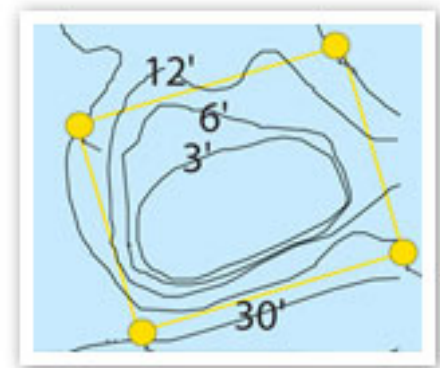
Regulatory Review process:

<http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/review/welcome.htm>

National Environmental Policy Act Implementation:

www.nepa.noaa.gov

www.nepa.gov



MARINE ZONING &
REGULATORY REVIEW