

SEACAR Coral Analysis: Percent Cover

Last compiled on 10 April, 2025

Contents

Important Notes	1
Libraries and Settings	1
File Import	1
Data Filtering	2
Managed Area Statistics	3
Linear Mixed Effects Models	5
Appendix I: Plots	7
Coral Percent Cover	10
Biscayne Bay-Cape Florida to Monroe County Line Aquatic Preserve	10
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary	11
Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area	13

Important Notes

The purpose of this script is to create managed area statistics, perform linear mixed effect analysis, generate summary plots, and create reports in pdf and Word document form for Coral percent cover.

These scripts were created by [J.E. Panzik \(jepanzik@usf.edu\)](mailto:jepanzik@usf.edu) for SEACAR. Updated by [T.G. Hill \(Tyler.Hill@FloridaDEP.gov\)](mailto:T.G.Hill@FloridaDEP.gov).

All scripts and outputs can be found on the SEACAR GitHub repository:

https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Trend_Analyses

This markdown file is designed to be compiled by [Coral_PC_ReportRender.R](https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Trend_Analyses/blob/main/Coral/Coral_PC_ReportRender.R) (https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Trend_Analyses/blob/main/Coral/Coral_PC_ReportRender.R).

Libraries and Settings

Loads libraries used in the script. The inclusion of `scipen` option limits how frequently R defaults to scientific notation. Sets default settings for displaying warning and messages in created document, and sets figure dpi.

```
library(knitr)
library(data.table)
library(dplyr)
library(lubridate)
library(ggplot2)
library(scales)
```

```
library(tidyr)
library(gridExtra)
#library(tidyverse)
library(hrbrthemes)
library(nlme)
library(ggpubr)
options(scipen=999)
knitr::opts_chunk$set(
  warning=FALSE,
  message=FALSE,
  dpi=200
)
seed <- 42
```

File Import

Imports file that is determined in the Coral_PC_ReportRender.R script.

The command `fread` is used because of its improved speed while handling large data files. Only columns that are used by the script are imported from the file, and are designated in the `select` input.

The script then gets the name of the parameter as it appears in the data file and units of the parameter.

The latest version of Coral data is available at: <https://usf.box.com/s/8hyj2ur5arothlifglisnq2gxisjzbdg>

The file(s) being used for the analysis: **All_CORAL_Parameters-2025-Mar-06.txt**

```
data <- fread(file_in, sep="|", header=TRUE, stringsAsFactors=FALSE,
  na.strings=c("NULL", "", "NA"))

cat(paste("The data file(s) used:", file_short, sep="\n"))
```

Data Filtering

The processing and filtering that is done to the data is as follows:

1. Only take data rows that are Percent Cover measurements
2. Shorten parameter names to **Percent Cover**
3. Sets units
4. Removes any data that is not coral
 - Only looks for Octocoral, Milleporans, or Scleractinian
5. Removes rows that contains NA values in **ManagedAreaName**, **GenusName**, **SpeciesName**, **Month**, **Year**, **SpeciesGroup1**, **ResultValue**, and **SampleDate**
6. Removes duplicates (`MADup==1`)
7. Combines genus and species names
8. Corrects some managed area names to match what is being used with other habitats

```
# Only keep data for Percent Cover
# Formerly "Percent Cover - Species Composition"
data <- data[ParameterName=="Percent Cover", ]

# Sets units for percent cover
unit <- "%"
data$ParameterUnits <- unit
```

```

# Remove any rows that are not corals
data <- data[SpeciesGroup1 %in% c("Octocoral", "Milleporans", "Scleractinian"), ]
# Remove rows with missing GenusName
data <- data[!is.na(data$GenusName),]
# Remove rows with missing SpeciesName
data <- data[!is.na(data$SpeciesName),]
# Remove rows with missing Months
data <- data[!is.na(data$Month),]
# Remove rows with missing Years
data <- data[!is.na(data$Year),]
# Remove rows with missing SpeciesGroup1
data <- data[!is.na(data$SpeciesGroup1),]
# Remove rows with missing ResultValue
data <- data[!is.na(data$ResultValue),]
# Remove rows with missing SampleDate
data <- data[!is.na(data$SampleDate),]
# Remove duplicate rows
data <- data[data$MADup==1,]
# Create variable that combines the genus and species name
data$gensp <- paste(data$GenusName, data$SpeciesName, sep=" ")

```

Managed Area Statistics

Gets summary statistics for each managed area. Uses piping from dplyr package to feed into subsequent steps. The following steps are performed:

1. Group data that have the same ManagedAreaName, Year, and Month.
 - Second summary statistics do not use the Month grouping and are only for ManagedAreaName and Year.
 - Third summary statistics do not use Year grouping and are only for ManagedAreaName and Month
 - Fourth summary statistics are only grouped based on ManagedAreaName
2. For each group, provide the following information: Parameter Name (ParameterName), Number of Entries (N_Data), Lowest Value (Min), Largest Value (Max), Median, Mean, Standard Deviation, and a list of all Programs included in these measurements.
3. Sort the data in ascending (A to Z and 0 to 9) order based on ManagedAreaName then Year then Month
4. Write summary stats to a pipe-delimited .txt file in the output directory
 - [Coral Percent Cover Output Files in SEACAR GitHub \(https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Trend_Analyses/tree/main/Coral/output/PercentCover\)](https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Trend_Analyses/tree/main/Coral/output/PercentCover)
5. Determines if there is sufficient data to be analyzed based on having more than 5 years of records.
6. Gets list of managed areas to be analyzed.

```

# Create summary statistics for each managed area based on Year and Month
# intervals.
MA_YM_Stats <- data %>%
  group_by(AreaID, ManagedAreaName, Year, Month) %>%
  summarize(ParameterName=parameter,
             N_Data=length(na.omit(ResultValue)),
             Min=min(ResultValue),
             Max=max(ResultValue),
             Median=median(ResultValue),
             Mean=mean(ResultValue),
             StandardDeviation=sd(ResultValue),
             Programs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramName)), decreasing=FALSE),

```

```

        collapse=', '),
    ProgramIDs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramID), decreasing=FALSE),
        collapse=', '),
    .groups = "keep")
# Puts the data in order based on ManagedAreaName, Year, then Month
MA_YM_Stats <- as.data.table(MA_YM_Stats[order(MA_YM_Stats$ManagedAreaName,
        MA_YM_Stats$Year,
        MA_YM_Stats$Month), ])

# Writes summary statistics to file
fwrite(MA_YM_Stats, paste0(out_dir, "/Coral_", param_file,
        "_MA_MMY_Stats.txt"), sep="|")
# Removes variable storing data to improve computer memory
rm(MA_YM_Stats)

# Create summary statistics for each managed area based on Year intervals
MA_Y_Stats <- data %>%
    group_by(AreaID, ManagedAreaName, Year) %>%
    summarize(ParameterName=parameter,
        N_Data=length(na.omit(ResultValue)),
        Min=min(ResultValue),
        Max=max(ResultValue),
        Median=median(ResultValue),
        Mean=mean(ResultValue),
        StandardDeviation=sd(ResultValue),
        Programs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramName), decreasing=FALSE),
            collapse=', '),
        ProgramIDs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramID), decreasing=FALSE),
            collapse=', '),
        .groups = "keep")
# Puts the data in order based on ManagedAreaName then Year
MA_Y_Stats <- as.data.table(MA_Y_Stats[order(MA_Y_Stats$ManagedAreaName,
        MA_Y_Stats$Year), ])

# Writes summary statistics to file
fwrite(MA_Y_Stats, paste0(out_dir, "/Coral_", param_file,
        "_MA_Yr_Stats.txt"), sep="|")

# Create summary statistics for each managed area based on Month intervals.
MA_M_Stats <- data %>%
    group_by(AreaID, ManagedAreaName, Month) %>%
    summarize(ParameterName=parameter,
        N_Data=length(na.omit(ResultValue)),
        Min=min(ResultValue),
        Max=max(ResultValue),
        Median=median(ResultValue),
        Mean=mean(ResultValue),
        StandardDeviation=sd(ResultValue),
        Programs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramName), decreasing=FALSE),
            collapse=', '),
        ProgramIDs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramID), decreasing=FALSE),
            collapse=', '),
        .groups = "keep")
# Puts the data in order based on ManagedAreaName then Month
MA_M_Stats <- as.data.table(MA_M_Stats[order(MA_M_Stats$ManagedAreaName,

```

```

MA_M_Stats$Month), ]))

# Writes summary statistics to file
fwrite(MA_M_Stats, paste0(out_dir, "/Coral_", param_file,
                           "_MA_Mo_Stats.txt"), sep="|")
# Removes variable storing data to improve computer memory
rm(MA_M_Stats)

# Create summary overall statistics for each managed area.
MA_Ov_Stats <- data %>%
  group_by(AreaID, ManagedAreaName) %>%
  summarize(ParameterName=parameter,
             N_Years=length(unique(na.omit(Year))),
             SufficientData=ifelse(N_Years>=5, TRUE, FALSE),
             EarliestYear=min(Year),
             LatestYear=max(Year),
             N_Data=length(na.omit(ResultValue)),
             Min=min(ResultValue),
             Max=max(ResultValue),
             Median=median(ResultValue),
             Mean=mean(ResultValue),
             StandardDeviation=sd(ResultValue),
             Programs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramName), decreasing=FALSE),
                             collapse=', '),
             ProgramIDs=paste(sort(unique(ProgramID), decreasing=FALSE),
                               collapse=', '),
             .groups = "keep")
# Puts the data in order based on ManagedAreaName
MA_Ov_Stats <- as.data.table(MA_Ov_Stats[order(MA_Ov_Stats$ManagedAreaName), ])

# Replaces blank ProgramIDs with NA (missing values)
MA_Ov_Stats$ProgramIDs <- replace(MA_Ov_Stats$ProgramIDs,
                                  MA_Ov_Stats$ProgramIDs=="", NA)
MA_Ov_Stats$Programs <- replace(MA_Ov_Stats$Programs,
                                 MA_Ov_Stats$Programs=="", NA)
# Write overall statistics to file
fwrite(MA_Ov_Stats, paste0(out_dir, "/Coral_", param_file,
                           "_MA_Overall_Stats.txt"), sep="|")
# Creates a variable with the names of all the managed areas that contain
# species observations
coral_pc_MA_Include <- MA_Ov_Stats[!is.na(Mean) & SufficientData==TRUE, unique(ManagedAreaName)]

# Puts the managed areas in alphabetical order
coral_pc_MA_Include <- coral_pc_MA_Include[order(coral_pc_MA_Include)]

# Determines the number of managed areas used
n <- length(coral_pc_MA_Include)

```

Linear Mixed Effects Models

Performs a linear mixed effects (LME) model on each managed area between using a relationship between percent cover and year.

The following steps are performed:

1. Create a blank data frame to store results
2. Sets the column names for the data to be stored from LME model
3. Starts a loop for each managed area included in the analysis
4. Gets data for the current managed area
5. Performs LME on current managed area
6. Stores information and fits into lme_stats data frame for current managed area
7. Merges lme_stats with MA_Ov_Stats to create a data frame with gegneral statistics and the LME parameters
8. Puts lme_stats in alphabetical order by managed area name
9. Write lme_stats to a pipe-delimited .txt file in the output directory
 - Coral Percent Cover Output Files in SEACAR GitHub (https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Trend_Analyses/tree/main/Coral/output/PercentCover)
10. Gets the start and endpoints for LME fit to be used in plots.

```
# Creates blank data frame with number of rows defined by how many managed areas
# are going to be analyzed
lme_stats <- data.frame(matrix(ncol = 5, nrow = n))
# Sets column names for blank data frame
colnames(lme_stats) <- c("AreaID", "ManagedAreaName", "LME_Intercept",
                        "LME_Slope", "LME_p")

# Begins to loop through each managed area for analysis
for(i in 1:n){
  ma_i <- coral_pc_MA_Include[i]
  # Gets data for current managed area
  lme_data <- data[ManagedAreaName==ma_i,]
  # Perform LME for relation between ResultValue and Year for current managed area
  AnyCoral<-lme(ResultValue ~ Year,
                random =~1|ProgramLocationID,
                na.action = na.omit,
                data = lme_data)
  # Store information and model fits in appropriate row of data frame
  lme_stats$AreaID[i] <- unique(lme_data$AreaID)
  lme_stats$ManagedAreaName[i] <- ma_i
  lme_stats$LME_Intercept[i] <- AnyCoral$coefficients$fixed[1]
  lme_stats$LME_Slope[i] <- AnyCoral$coefficients$fixed[2]
  lme_stats$LME_p[i] <- anova(AnyCoral)$p[2]

  # Clears temporary variables for memory
  rm(lme_data)
  (AnyCoral)
}

# Merges LME stats with overall stats to complete stats for each managed area
lme_stats <- merge.data.frame(MA_Ov_Stats[, -c("Programs", "ProgramIDs")],
                             lme_stats, by=c("AreaID", "ManagedAreaName"), all=TRUE)

# Puts the data in order based on ManagedAreaName
lme_stats <- as.data.frame(lme_stats[order(lme_stats$ManagedAreaName), ])

# Write lme statistics to file
fwrite(lme_stats, paste0(out_dir, "/Coral_", param_file,
                        "_LME_Stats.txt"), sep="|")
```

```

# Gets lower x and y values based on LME fit to use in plot
lme_plot <- lme_stats %>%
  group_by(AreaID, ManagedAreaName) %>%
  summarize(x=EarliestYear,
            y=LME_Slope*x+LME_Intercept, .groups = "keep")
# Gets upper x and y values based on LME fit to use in plot
lme_plot2 <- lme_stats %>%
  group_by(AreaID, ManagedAreaName) %>%
  summarize(x=LatestYear,
            y=LME_Slope*x+LME_Intercept, .groups = "keep")
# Merges LME fit values for plot into one data frame
lme_plot <- bind_rows(lme_plot, lme_plot2)
rm(lme_plot2)
# Puts LME plot data fram in alphabetical order by managed area
lme_plot <- as.data.frame(lme_plot[order(lme_plot$ManagedAreaName), ])
lme_plot <- lme_plot[!is.na(lme_plot$y),]

```

Appendix I: Plots

The plots shown here are the percent cover for each managed area by year with the LME trendline.

1. Set common plot theme.
2. Starts a loops that creates plots for each managed area analyzed
3. Determine the earliest and latest year of the data to create x-axis scale and intervals
4. Determine the upper and lower limit of the plot for better y-axis labels
5. Set the plot type as a jitter plot with the size of the points to show concentration of data
6. Add LME trendline
7. Create the title, x-axis, y-axis
8. Set the y and x limits
9. Apply common plot theme
10. Add table with summary statistics below each figure
 - Numerical non-integer values are rounded to 2 decimal places
 - StandardDeviation is renamed StDev for space reasons
11. Create file name to save figure
12. Save figure as png file
 - Coral Percent Cover Figures in SEACAR GitHub (https://github.com/FloridaSEACAR/SEACAR_Tree_Analyses/tree/main/Coral/output/PercentCover/Figures)

```

# Defines standard plot theme: black and white, no major or minor grid lines,
# Arial font. Title is centered, size 12, and blue (hex coded). Subtitle is
# centered, size 10, and blue (hex coded). Legend title is size 10 and the
# legend is left-justified. X-axis title is size 10 and the margins are padded
# at the top and bottom to give more space for angled axis labels. Y-axis title
# is size 10 and margins are padded on the right side to give more space for
# axis labels. Axis labels are size 10 and the x-axis labels are rotated -45
# degrees with a horizontal justification that aligns them with the tick mark
plot_theme <- theme_bw() +
  theme(panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor = element_blank(),
        text=element_text(family="Arial"),
        plot.title=element_text(hjust=0.5, size=12, color="#314963"),
        plot.subtitle=element_text(hjust=0.5, size=10, color="#314963"),
        legend.title=element_text(size=10),

```

```

    legend.text = element_text(hjust=0),
    axis.title.x = element_text(size=10, margin = margin(t = 5, r = 0,
                                                         b = 10, l = 0)),
    axis.title.y = element_text(size=10, margin = margin(t = 0, r = 10,
                                                         b = 0, l = 0)),
    axis.text=element_text(size=10),
    axis.text.x=element_text(angle = -45, hjust = 0))
# Create jitter object that sets the height and width
# Sets seed to be reproducible
plot_jitter <- position_jitter(width = 0.2, height = 0.2, seed=seed)

# Loop that cycles through each managed area with data
if(n==0){
  # Prints a statement if there are no managed areas with appropriate data
  print("There are no locations that qualify.")
} else {
  for (i in 1:n) {
    ma_i <- coral_pc_MA_Include[i]
    # Gets data for target managed area
    plot_data <- data[ManagedAreaName==ma_i,]

    lme_plot_data <- lme_plot[ManagedAreaName==ma_i,]
    # Determines most recent year with available data for managed area
    t_max <- max(MA_Ov_Stats[ManagedAreaName==ma_i, LatestYear])
    # Determines earliest recent year with available data for managed area
    t_min <- min(MA_Ov_Stats[ManagedAreaName==ma_i, EarliestYear])
    # Determines how many years of data are present
    t <- t_max-t_min

    # Creates break intervals for plots based on number of years of data
    if(t>=30){
      # Set breaks to every 10 years if more than 30 years of data
      brk <- -10
    }else if(t<30 & t>=10){
      # Set breaks to every 5 years if between 30 and 10 years of data
      brk <- -5
    }else if(t<10 & t>=4){
      # Set breaks to every 2 years if between 10 and 4 years of data
      brk <- -2
    }else if(t<4 & t>=2){
      # Set breaks to every year if between 4 and 2 years of data
      brk <- -1
    }else if(t<2){
      # Set breaks to every year if less than 2 years of data
      brk <- -1
      # Sets t_max to be 1 year greater and t_min to be 1 year lower
      # Forces graph to have at least 3 tick marks
      t_max <- t_max+1
      t_min <- t_min-1
    }
    # Determine range of data values for the managed area
    y_range <- max(plot_data$ResultValue) - min(plot_data$ResultValue)
  }
}

```



```

# Sets y_min to be -1
y_min <- -1

# Sets upper bound of y-axis to be 10% of the data range above the
# maximum value.
y_max <- max(plot_data$ResultValue)+(0.1*y_range)

# Creates plot object using plot_data.
# Data is plotted as a point plot with jitter to show concentrations
# that overlap. LME fit is plotted as a line
p1 <- ggplot(data=plot_data) +
  geom_point(aes(x=Year, y=ResultValue),
             position=plot_jitter, shape=21, size=2,
             color="#333333", fill="#cccccc", alpha=1) +
  geom_line(data=lme_plot_data, aes(x=x, y=y),
            color="#000099", size=2, alpha=0.8) +
  labs(title="Coral Percent Cover",
        subtitle=ma_i,
        x="Year", y="Percent cover (%)") +
  scale_x_continuous(limits=c(t_min-0.25, t_max+0.25),
                     breaks=seq(t_max, t_min, brk)) +
  scale_y_continuous(limits=c(y_min, y_max),
                     breaks=pretty_breaks(n=5)) +
  plot_theme
# Sets file name of plot created
outname <- paste0("Coral_", param_file, "_", gsub(" ", "", ma_i),
                  ".png")
# Saves plot as a png image
png(paste0(out_dir, "/Figures/", outname),
    width = 8,
    height = 4,
    units = "in",
    res = 200)
print(p1)
dev.off()

# Creates a data table object to be shown underneath plots in report
ResultTable <- lme_stats[ManagedAreaName==ma_i,]
# Removes location, and parameter information because it is in plot
# labels
ResultTable <- select(ResultTable, -c("AreaID", "ManagedAreaName",
                                       "ParameterName"))
# Renames StandardDeviation to StDev to save horizontal space
ResultTable <- ResultTable %>%
  rename("StDev"="StandardDeviation")
# Converts all non-integer values to 2 decimal places for space
ResultTable$Min <- round(ResultTable$Min, digits=2)
ResultTable$Max <- round(ResultTable$Max, digits=2)
ResultTable$Median <- round(ResultTable$Median, digits=2)
ResultTable$Mean <- round(ResultTable$Mean, digits=2)
ResultTable$StDev <- round(ResultTable$StDev, digits=2)
ResultTable$LME_Intercept <- round(ResultTable$LME_Intercept, digits=2)
ResultTable$LME_Slope <- round(ResultTable$LME_Slope, digits=2)

```

```

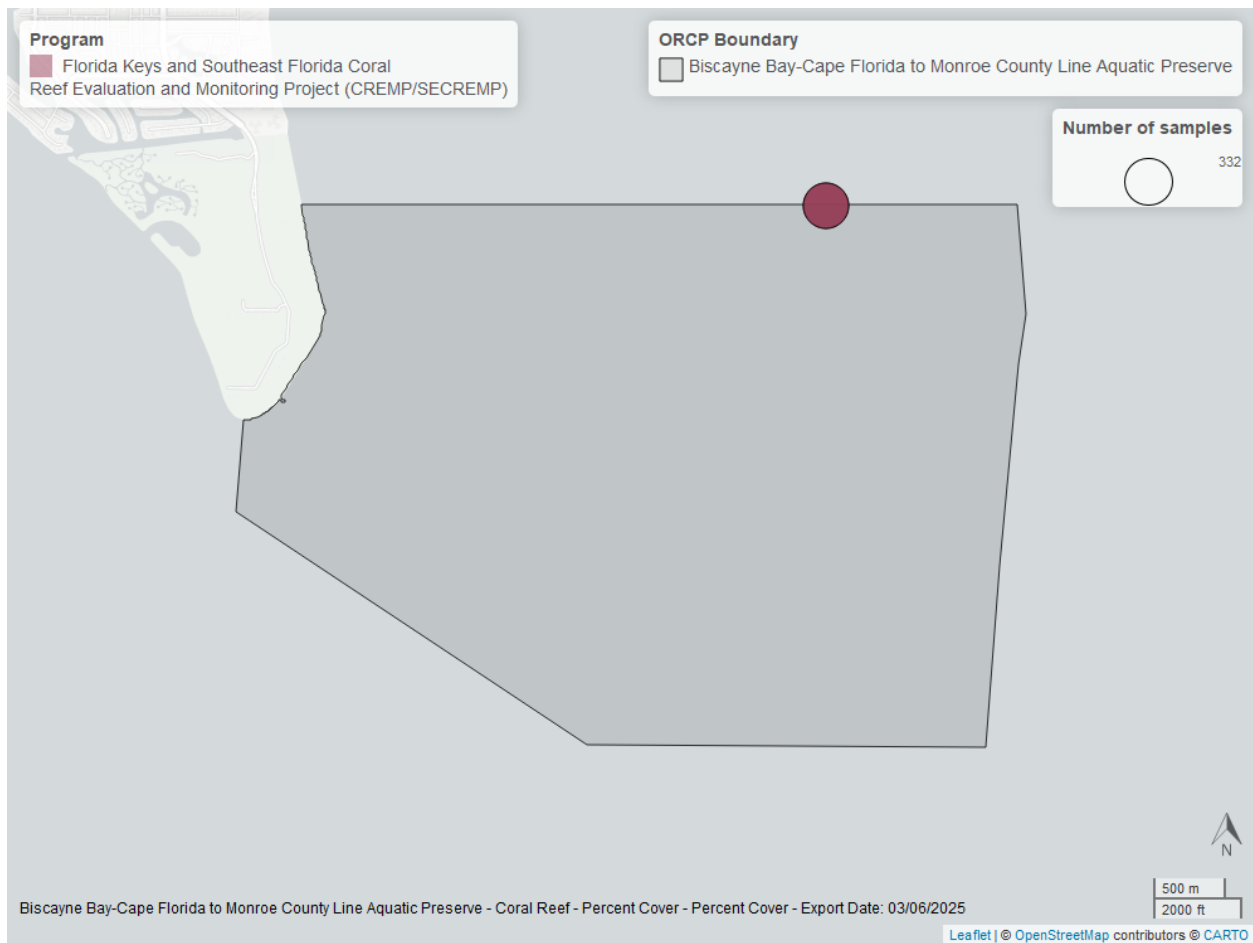
ResultTable$LME_p <- round(ResultTable$LME_p, digits=4)
# Stores as plot table object
t1 <- ggtexttable(ResultTable, rows = NULL,
                  theme=ttheme(base_size=7)) %>%
  tab_add_footnote(text="LME_p < 0.00005 appear as 0 due to rounding.",
                  size=10, face="italic")
# Combines plot and table into one figure
print(ggarrange(p1, t1, ncol=1, heights=c(0.85, 0.15)))

# Add extra space at the end to prevent the next figure from being too
# close. Does not add space after last plot
if(i!=n){
  cat("\n \n \n \n")
}
}
}

```

Biscayne Bay-Cape Florida to Monroe County Line Aquatic Preserve

11



Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

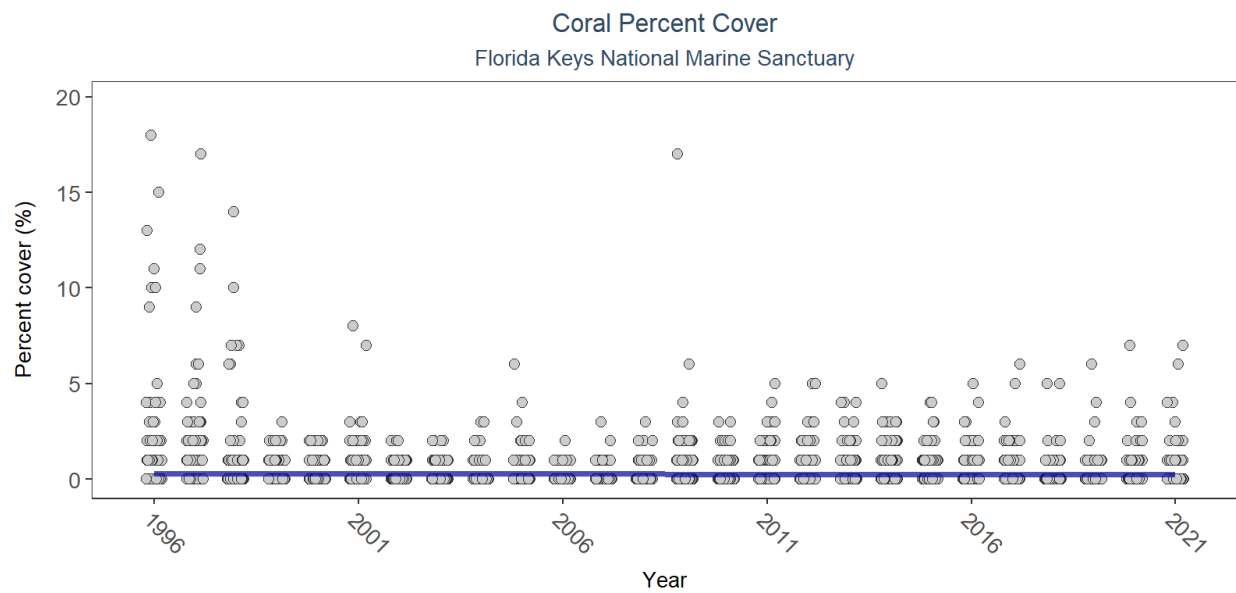
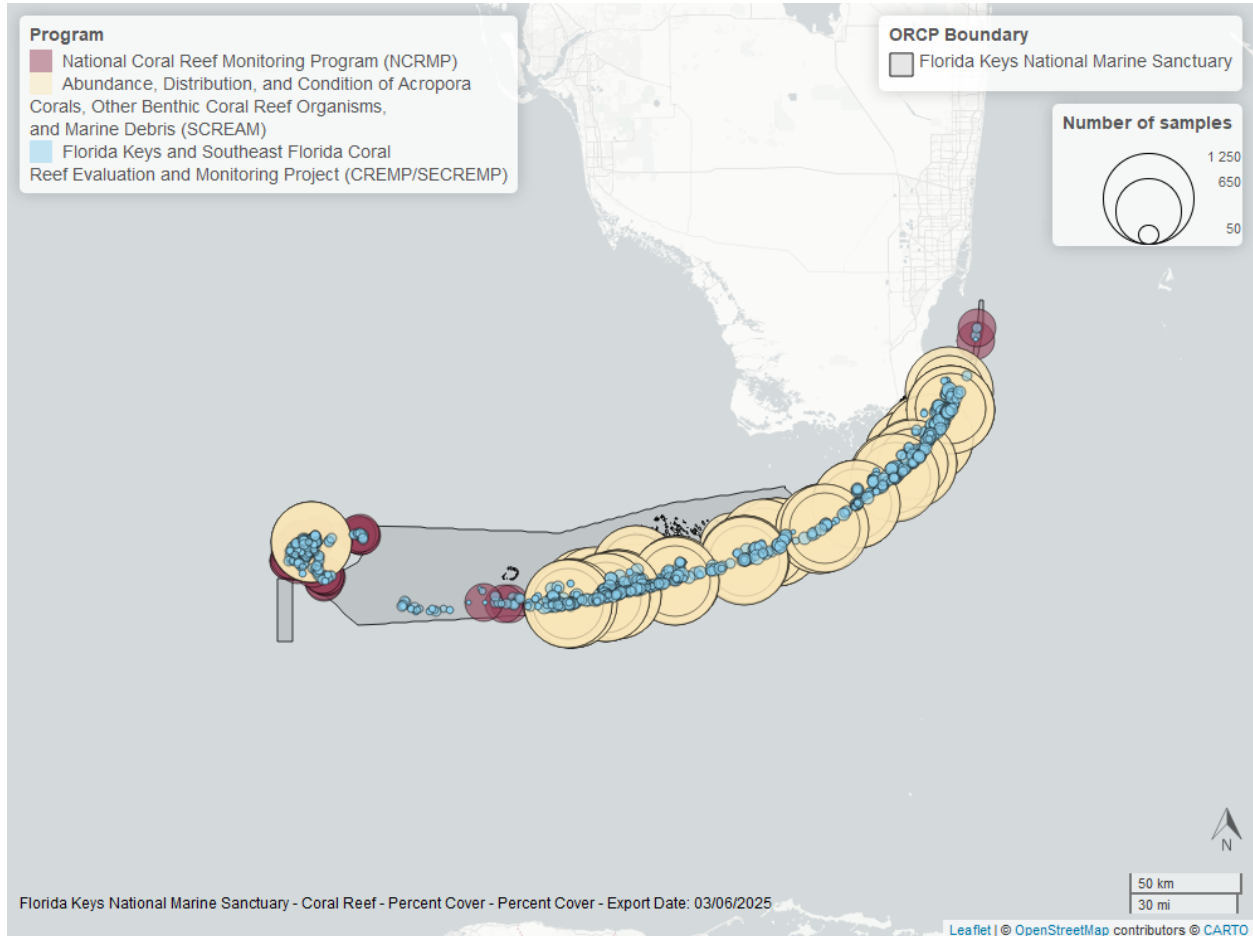


Table 2: Coral Percent Cover - Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

N-Years	EarliestYear	LatestYear	N-Data	Min	Max	Median	Mean	StDev	Year-MinRichness	Year-MaxRichness
21	1999	2019	11167	1	302	281	220.23	106.46	2019	2001



Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area

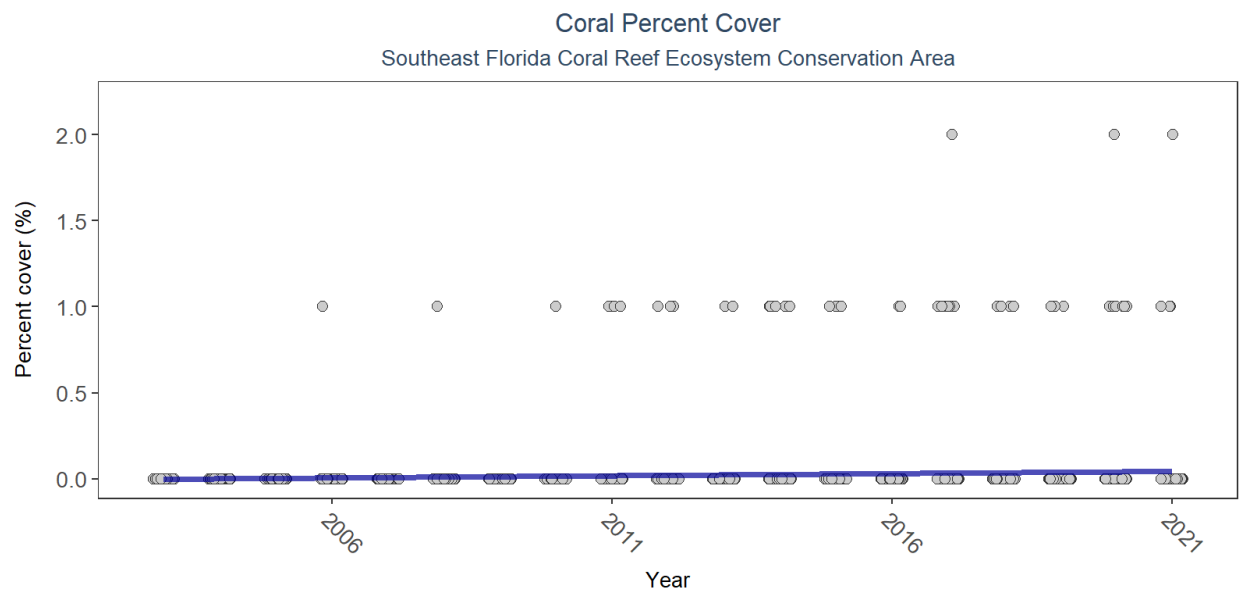


Table 3: Coral Percent Cover - Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Area

N-Years	EarliestYear	LatestYear	N-Data	Min	Max	Median	Mean	StDev	Year-MinRichness	Year-MaxRichness
26	1985	2020	3686	1	302	294	193.88	123.01	2020	2014

