FISHERIES MONITORING + EVALS

Ocean Aid 360 recognizes that fish are often the primary driver of estuarine restoration because they are good indicators of the health and productivity of estuarine systems. As secondary consumers, fish integrate the functioning of lower trophic levels, such as algae and the herbivores which feed on those algae; and fish are sensitive to physical system attributes like dissolved oxygen and salinity. This means that fisheries monitoring can play a critical role in gathering data toward evidence-based eco-analyses, which inform management.

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Ocean Aid 360 is versed in statistical data management and modeling, which we use to better inform marine resource user groups, resource advocates, and policymakers.

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Presently, Ocean Aid 360 is undertaking a coastal community-driven inventory of bycatch species found in 400 derelict and abandoned crab traps in Tampa Bay, plus an additional 500 traps from four more sample sites. This data will lead to a new understanding of the way that non-target species could be impacted by marine debris, and result in suggested measures, published as part of a formal activity evaluation.

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Our staff has served in a monitoring and evaluation role for multiple federal agencies, and prioritizes sound methodology and inclusive, non-partisan, approaches to fact-finding.

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We invite your ideas and we value your feedback!

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Contact us at: [info@OceanAid360.org](mailto:info@OceanAid360.org)