

Special Guest Presentation

“The Florida Reef Track”

Joanna C. Walczak

Southeast Regional Administrator, Florida Coastal Office
Florida Department of Environmental Protection



Joanna Walczak is the Southeast Regional Administrator for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Florida Coastal Office. Based in Miami, she oversees the Biscayne Bay, Coupon Bight, and Lignumvitae Key Aquatic Preserves, Florida’s Coral Reef Conservation Program, and she is the State’s co-manager of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. She is also the State of Florida’s Point of Contact for the US Coral Reef Task Force and US All Islands Coral Reef Committee. Joanna holds a B.S. from Texas A&M University Galveston, and an M.S. from Nova Southeastern University’s Oceanographic Center – both in marine biology. She specializes in stakeholder engagement in marine conservation and management, as well as assessing, mitigating, and enforcing coral reef injury events.

Also joining us at the April 24th Council Meeting ...

We are pleased to welcome to the Council Meeting, the Honorable Doug Smith, Martin County Commission Chair and Chair of the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC). He will be accompanied by Michael Busha, Executive Director, TCRPC.

Ms. Walczak comes highly recommended to us by the TCRPC. Based on Ms. Walczak’s presentation, there may be an opportunity for both Councils and the Southeast Florida region to work together on shared issues related to the Florida Reef Track which extends southward from Martin County to Monroe County.