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Landscape Master Plan
B. Framework
B05. Coastal Zone

B05. Coastal Zone

B05.1 Introduction

The Coastal Zone of Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) provides critical natural infrastructure to support mission readiness, enhance the overall resilience of the built infrastructure, and conserve a wealth of natural resources. This unique coastal area provides numerous year-round recreational opportunities that are vital to the health and wellbeing of Airmen and their families. The preservation and enhancement of these critical waterfront ecosystems positively supports the many aspects of Tyndall AFB’s current and future missions through a more resilient natural infrastructure.

B05.1.1 Goals

- Provide clear guidance for landscape improvements in the Coastal Zone to support sustainability and resilience while achieving regulatory compliance
- Establish and delineate the Coastal Zone planning area to streamline the coordination and alignment with non-Coastal Zone development projects
- Identify and maximize the important inter-relationship between ongoing coastal zone landscape management and coastal resiliency’s long-term planning requirements, strategies, and initiatives

B05.1.2 Objectives

- Minimize disturbance to the natural environment and while enhancing existing natural resources
- Align with Tyndall AFB’s *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan* (INRMP) and support installation-wide ecosystem initiatives as a part of a broader integrated resilient environmental infrastructure system
- Coordinate with Tyndall AFB Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Element for any planned improvements in the Coastal Zone



Tyndall AFB’s Coastal Zone provides critical natural infrastructure

B05.2 Planning Approach

B05.2.1 Policy & Compliance

All work within the Coastal Zone should be consistent with applicable regulations and guidance documents, highlighted below:

Air Force-Specific Guidance – Tyndall AFB’s INRMP guides natural resource management at the base and is developed in conjunction with the installation’s many stakeholders. INRMPs assist installation commanders with natural resource conservation and rehabilitation, consistent with base use that ensures Armed Forces readiness. INRMP actions include invasive and nuisance species management, outdoor recreation, forest ecosystem management, wildland fire management, wetland restoration, longleaf pine forest restoration, and specific action related to managing federal- and state-listed species and their habitats. This may limit the type, location, and timing of activities that are allowed in certain locations.

Florida Coastal Management Program (FCMP). The FCMP ([2017 Guide](#)), implements the Coastal Zone Management Act ([CZMA 1972](#)) to protect Florida’s coastal resources. The FCMP restricts development activities to minimize vulnerability to coastal erosion and sea level rise, and to protect coastal ecosystems, recreation, and public access, along with other coastal zone resources.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (1969). A NEPA analysis was implemented consistent with Title 40 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Parts 1500-1508 and the Air Force Environmental Impact Analysis Process Regulations (32 CFR Part 989). NEPA is used to evaluate the potential effects of projects and programs and prevent or eliminate damage to the environment. A NEPA analysis includes consideration of biological resources (such as state and federally listed species, Migratory Bird Treaty Act species, and wetlands), water quality, geology, cultural resources, environmental justice, and land-use, amongst other resources.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) (1973). ESA provides guidance to protect and recover imperiled species and their habitats.



The Coastal Zone provides nesting habitat for protected sea turtles

Wetlands and Waters

- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act ([1972](#)) regulates pollution discharges into waters of the U.S. and quality standards for surface waters
- Section 10 of Rivers and Harbors Act ([1899](#)) prohibits obstructions to navigable waters of the U.S.

Cultural Resources

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act ([1966](#)) requires federal agencies to identify and assess the effects its actions may have on historic buildings
- Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments* ([2000](#)) establishes regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials regarding federal policies that have tribal implications, strengthen relationships with Indian tribes, and reduce unfunded mandates upon Indian tribes



Multiple endangered shore birds, beach mice, and sea turtles call the Coastal Zone home



The base’s beaches are designated Critical Wildlife Area

B05.3 Boundary Definition Approach

B05.3.1 Coastal Zone Boundary

The Coastal Zone represents a composite of marine influenced habitats (tidal waters, wetlands, beaches, dunes, and coastal grasslands) and a 200-foot boundary from the shoreline. The shoreline boundary is intended to cover coastal areas that are not characteristic coastal habitats but that occur along the waterfront and should be managed through the regulatory lens of the Coastal Zone.

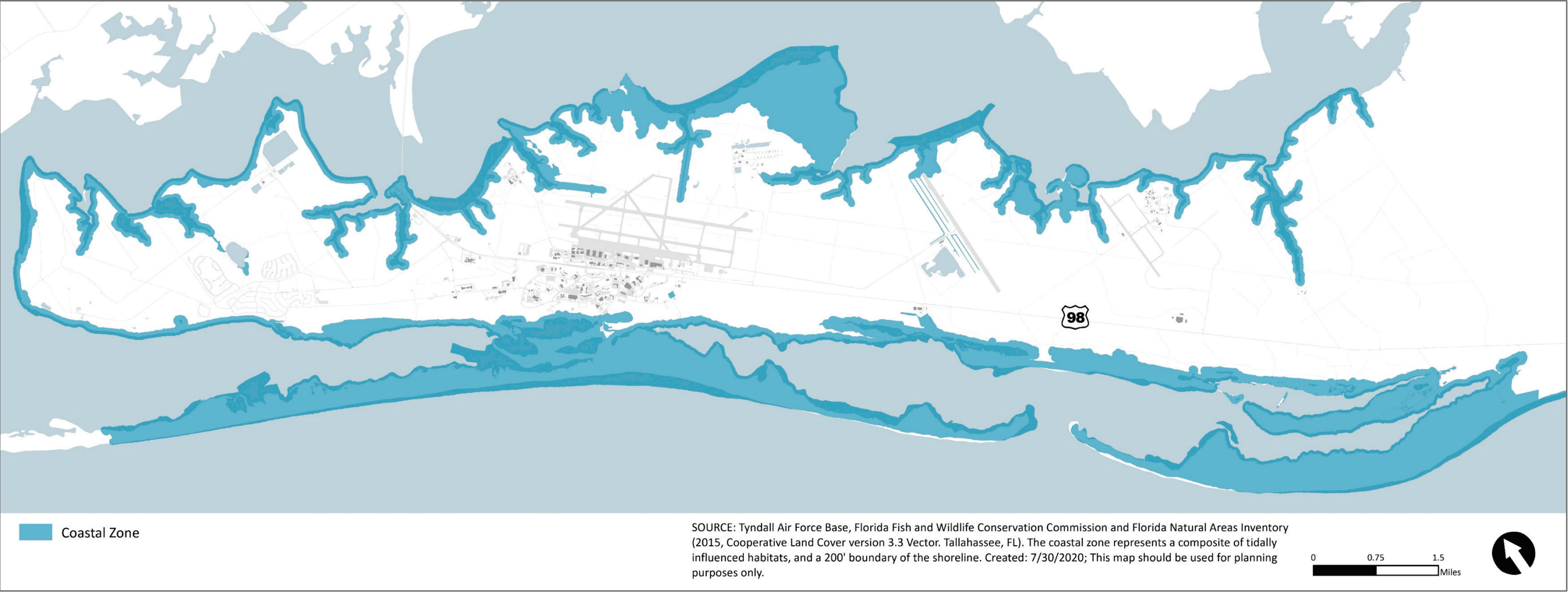
Coastal
Zone

Tidally influenced habitats



200' Offset of the shoreline

Exhibit B05-1. Coastal Zone



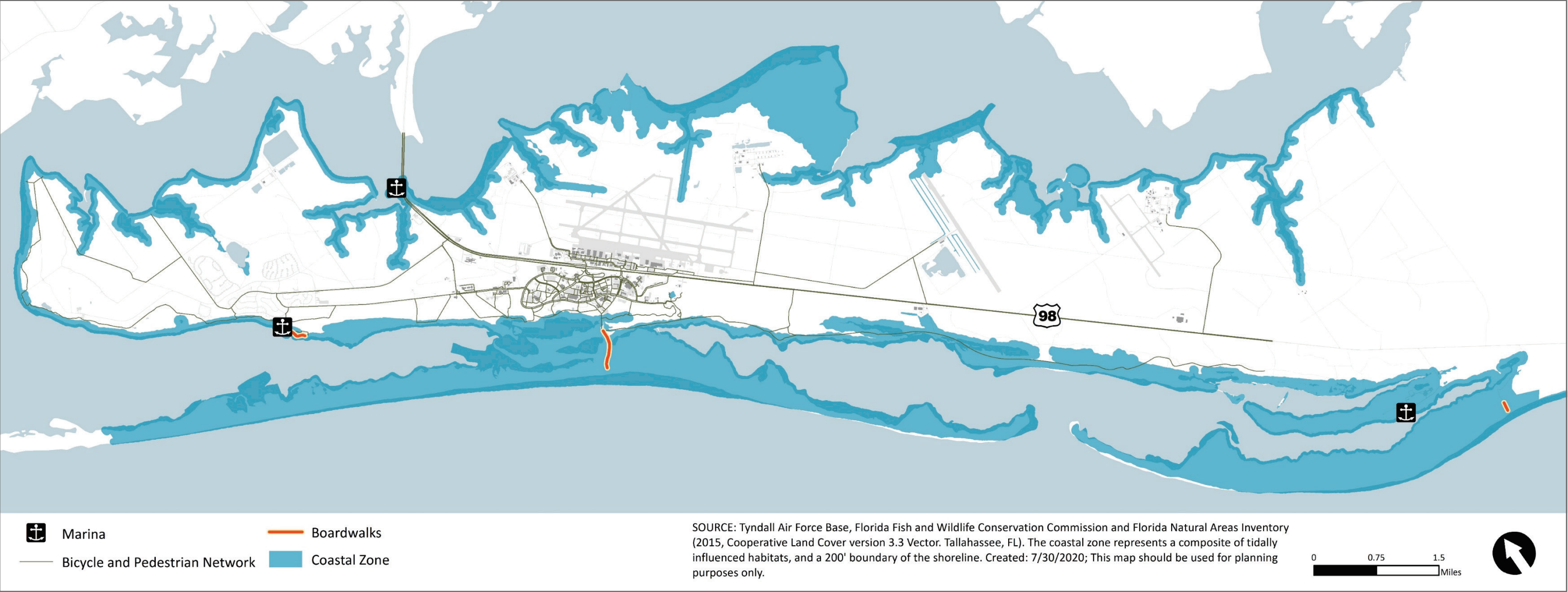
B05.4 Extent of Landscape Master Plan Improvements

A range of built infrastructure currently exists within the Coastal Zone, including Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) facilities, streets, and other support structures. MWR facilities will be the primary new improvements within the Coastal Zone, to include:

- Restoration/repair of existing marinas (Beacon Beach Marina, Benita Bay Marina)
- Restoration/repair of existing boardwalks
- Implementation of proposed bike and trail network

Refer to relevant sections in this Tyndall AFB **Landscape Master Plan** for the specific Coastal Zone guidelines and requirements of various landscape-related facilities that may be planned for installation within the Coastal Zone.

Exhibit B05-2. Extent of Landscape Master Plan Improvement



B05.5 Future Coastal Projects Integration

Tyndall AFB is working with an array of stakeholders on four proposed pilot projects to evaluate a range of nature-based solutions to help protect mission readiness by reducing coastal flood risks and erosion while also enhancing the natural environment.

The four proposed pilot projects listed below are described in detail in the *Alternative Delivery and Finance Report: Coastal Restoration and Resilience*. The design criteria for coastal elements are provided in **Section C, Site Development Plan**.

Exhibit B05-3. Pilot Projects

