



# CTA-213-Drone Corridor Planning

Join WFCRC

The World Federation for Coral Reef Conservation  
Vic Ferguson

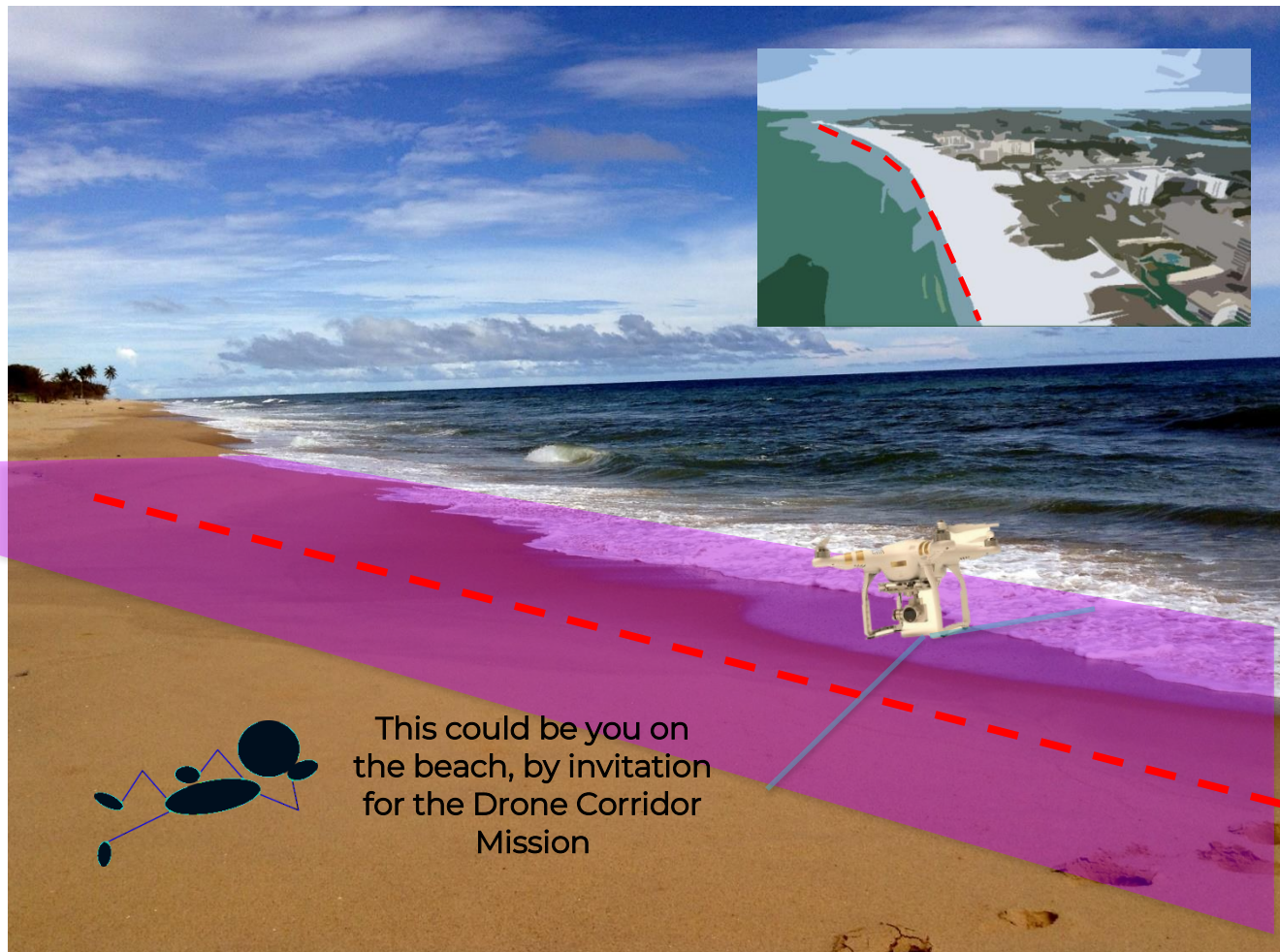
512.986.1902  
Executive Director/Founder

4010 Skipper Rd.  
Sebring, Florida 33875  
vferguson001@gmail.com

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For a **Diver**  Every day is **Ocean Day**

## Drone Corridor Planning



This could be you on the beach, by invitation for the Drone Corridor Mission

Benthic and geomorphic data provide useful information about the reefs ecosystem. The term “benthic” refers to the composition of the ocean floor while “geomorphic” refers to the seascape, or the structure, of the ocean floor. With these maps, local end users will have a new tool to guide their conservation efforts and enhance their knowledge of coastal ecosystems.

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UAV drone imagery taken along a center line (red dashed) provides the detail for a 400' wide informational corridor along a shallow water coral lined beach area within The Florida Keys which will serve as the interface between coral ecosystems and humanity in that location.

Within the Keys, there are many areas of interest that fit the criteria for capturing this interface. In 2021 a major milestone is completing local strip maps of the Florida Keys, and the local collaboration has resulted in an interface that shows the marine ecosystem's benthic and geomorphic data in unprecedented detail along with events and threats by humans and by nature.

To anyone who has never seen the reef, it is somewhat like looking at a city from a helicopter. There is lots of activity, color, shapes, and buildings, teeming with life and activity. Conversely, when you look at a devastated reef, it looks like a bombed city. It is very impactful.

It is a gratifying milestone that, after years of consistent teamwork to bring this local interface map to fruition and to share the scalable model with team members. However, the true value of the work will come when local coral conservationists are able to better protect coral reefs based on the high-resolution maps and monitoring system, said Dr. Greg Asner, Managing Director of the Atlas at Arizona State University (ASU). "We must double down and use this tool as we work to save coral reefs from the impacts of our climate crisis and other threats."

We are utilizing this very valuable and important dataset to contribute to our continuing development of **The Collaborative Beach and Coral Reef Registry**, and look forward to future and continuing collaborations and data updates. It is a dual use application capturing time valued data for the very long term.

We created a solution built around, and by the Keys community, and is more than just a resource. **The Collaborative Beach and Coral Reef Registry** is a collaboration of coral reef scientists and local conservationists working together to build and improve coral reef mapping and monitoring.

## **Working on the future.....NOW!**

**The WFCRC Beach and Coral Reef Registry** is a knowledge sharing platform that will be an invaluable resource for coral reef education, research, and conservation as well as knowing how we impose on the coastal ecosystems. WFCRC plans to continue producing innovative tools for the local coastal community now and for the long term.

We intend to improve and expand our shared knowledge base, not only for local knowledge of reef environments but also for the historical value of how we have imposed on them. Saleable platforms allows for creating a registry in any location that has sufficient data to share. Anything that has a location component can be located on the registry.

We all may be only a drop in the ocean, but we will be a *contributing* drop. This first reef monitoring system is simply a drop in the bucket for what is to come.

Join us to change the ocean narrative of the next 30 years and help protect the environment we want to save..... The "rainforests of the sea."

One Ocean.....One Planet

Reference Material-Parcel data for Monroe Co..

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