

Mesophotic Reefs Outside of the Tortugas Ecological Reserves

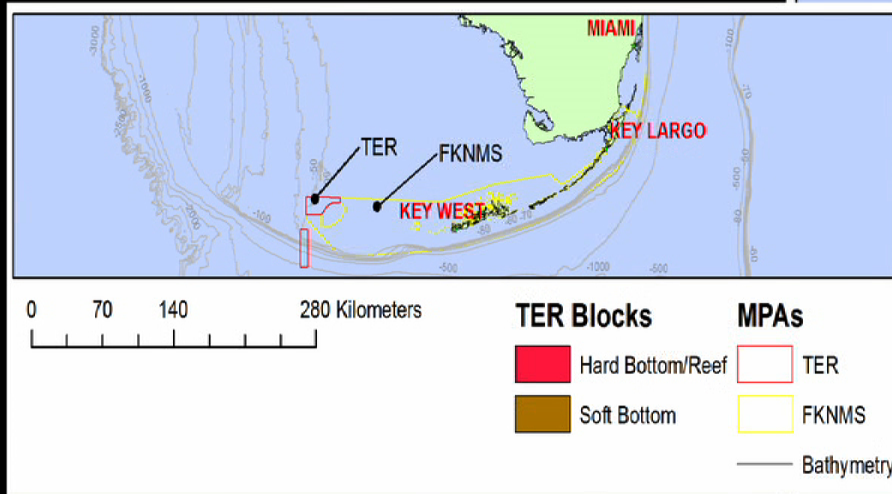
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Research and Technology
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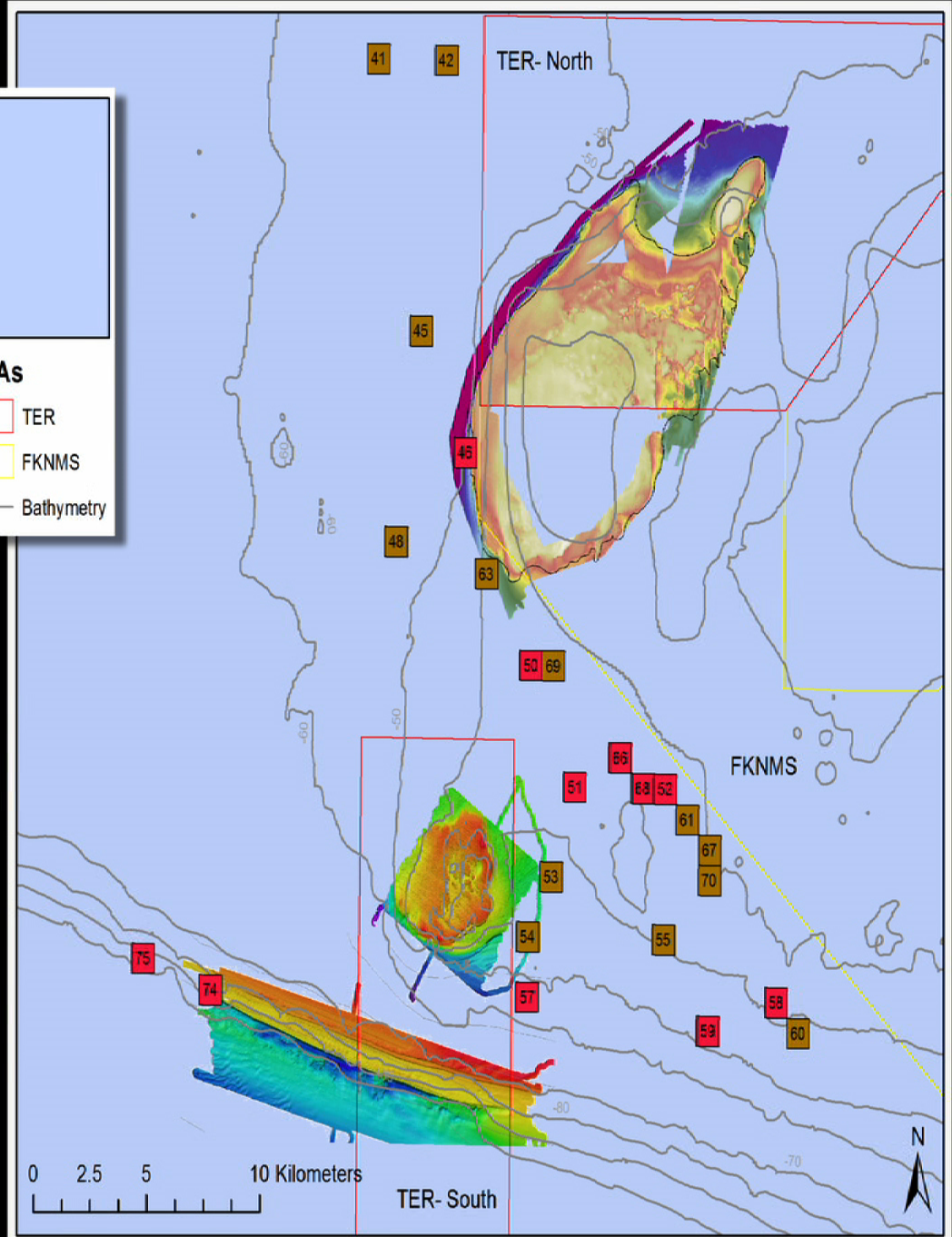


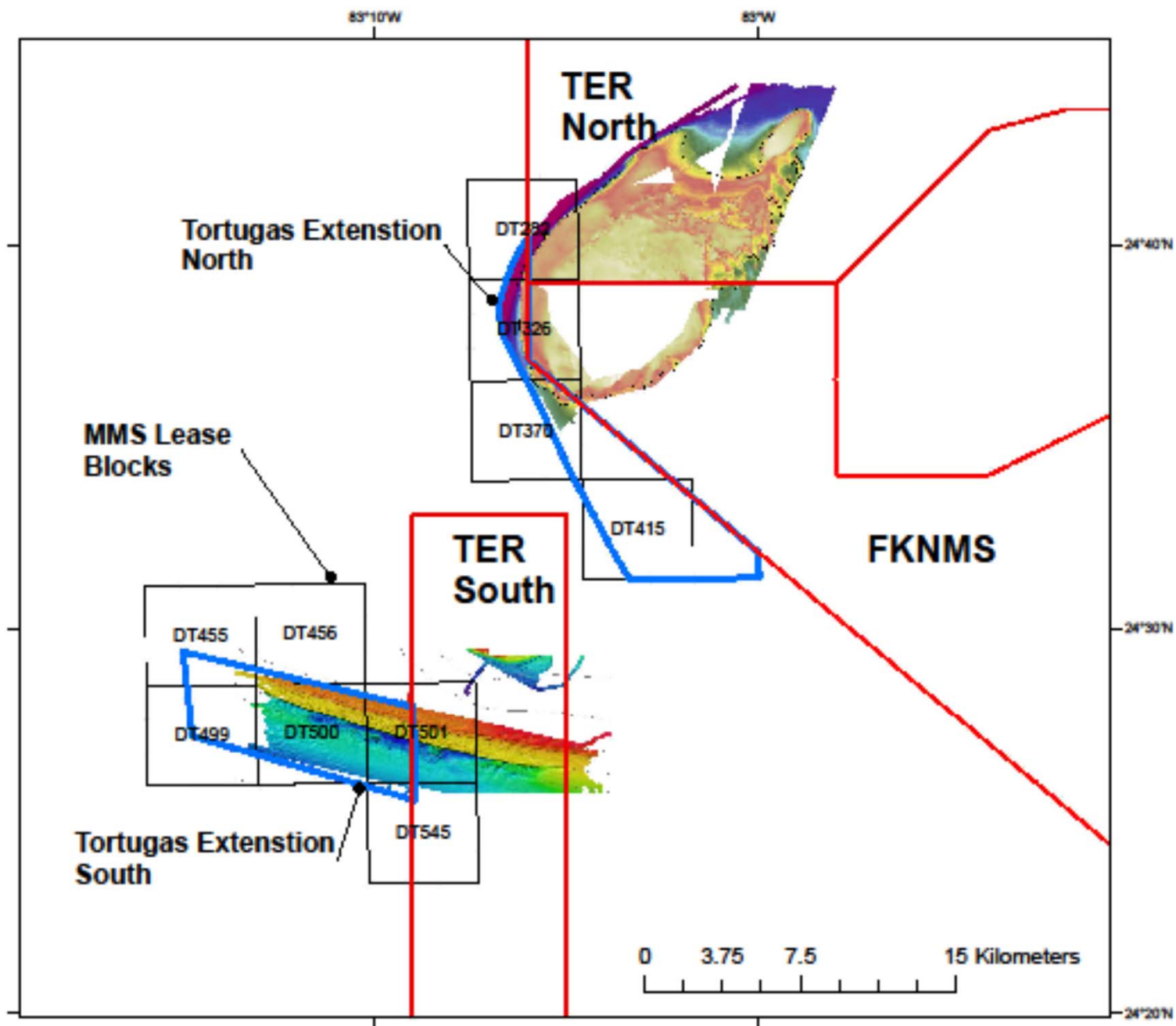
HARBOR BRANCH

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY



2013-2014 HBOI CIOERT surveys with Mohawk ROV of random 1 km² blocks outside of the Tortugas Ecological Reserve and Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Red blocks had reef and hard bottom habitat.

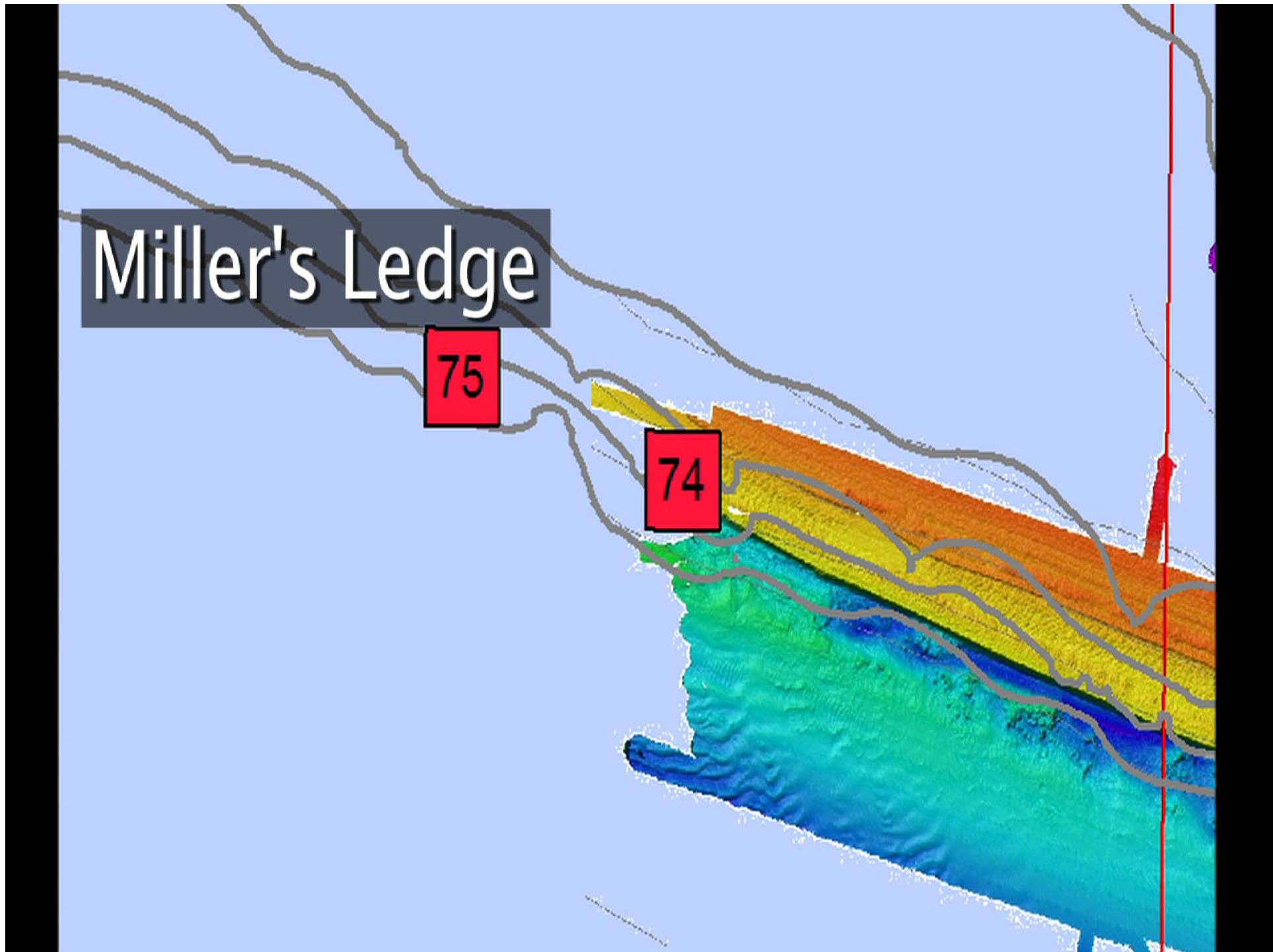




Miller's Ledge

75

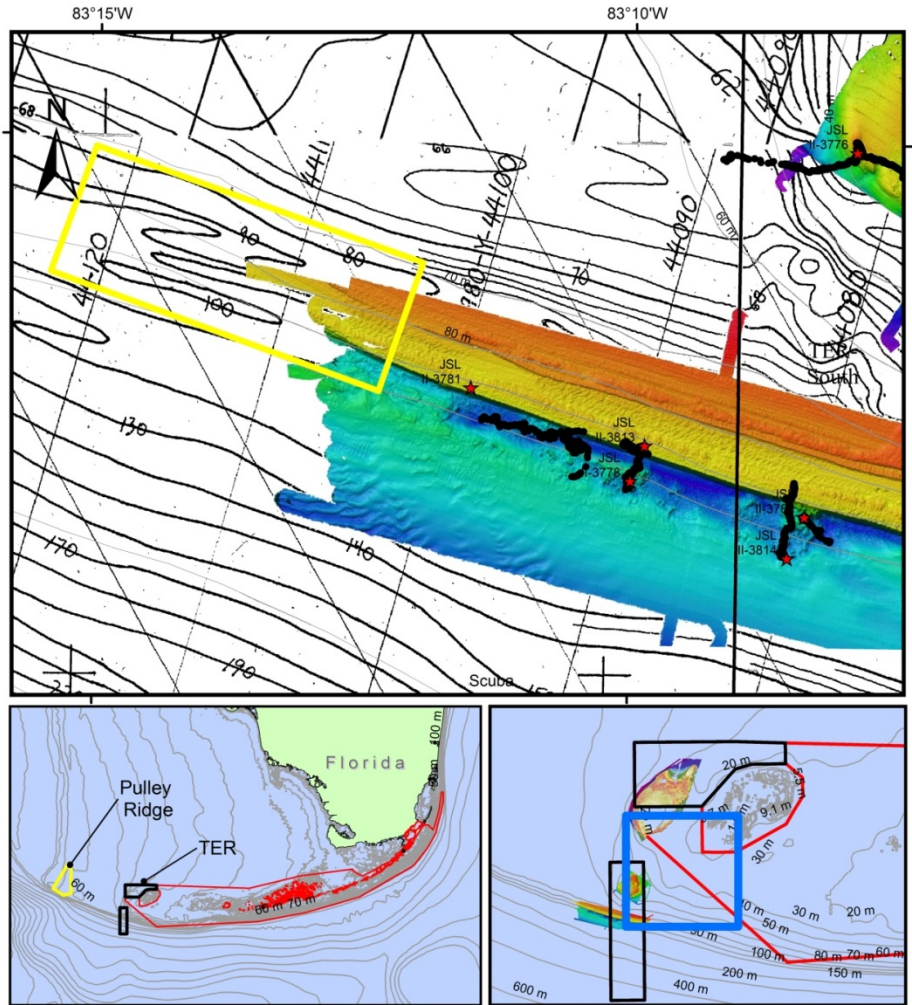
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2010 and 2013 HBOI Dive Sites

Tortugas Sites
 Stephanie Farrington & John Reed
 NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_17N
 Projection: Transverse_Mercator
 Datum: D_North_American_1983

- Proposed Multibeam Sites
- ★ JSL-II
- ★ SCUBA
- JSL Track
- ROV
- Hard Bottom/Patch Reef
- Soft Bottom
- Tortugas Eco. Reserve
- FKNMS
- Bathymetry



Yellow polygon =
 Continuation of Miller's
 Ledge, survey with ROV in
 2014.

Black polylines = 2010
 JSL sub dive tracks west
 of the TER found high
 relief coral/sponge habitat
 and dense scamp grouper
 populations along with
 dense ghost trap gear.

Patch Reefs

FKNMS

50 69

66

51

68

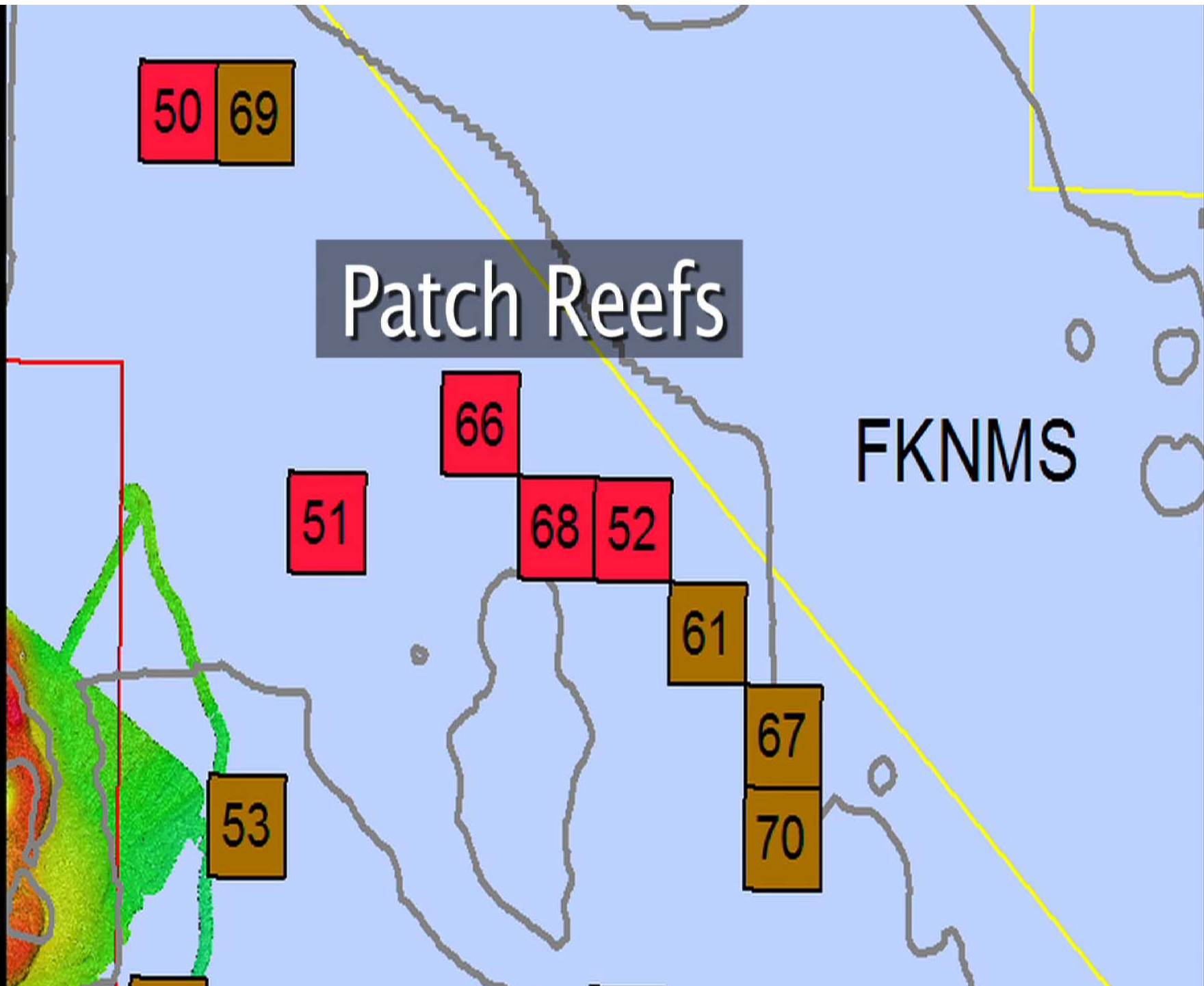
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67

70

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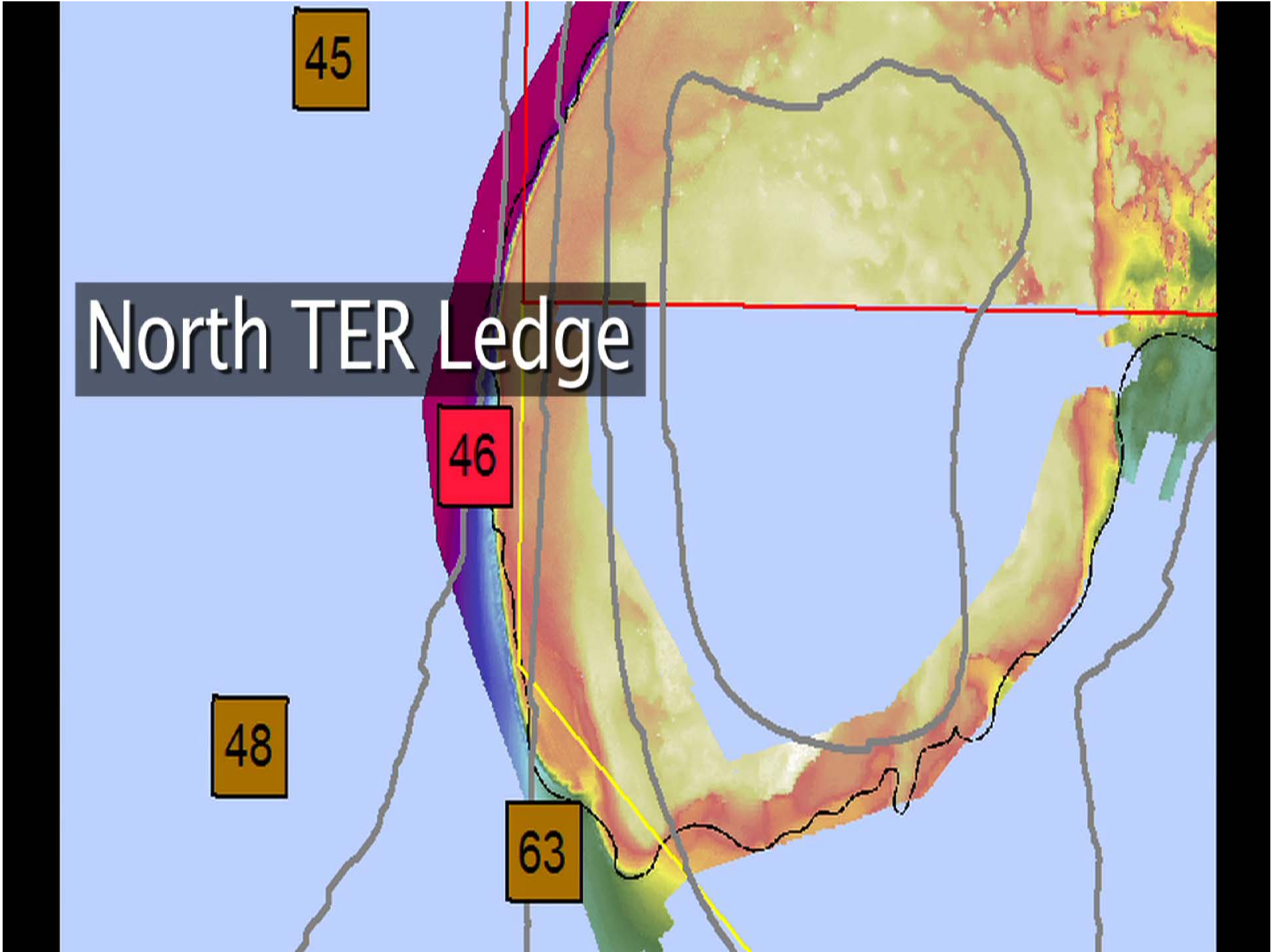
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North TER Ledge

46

48

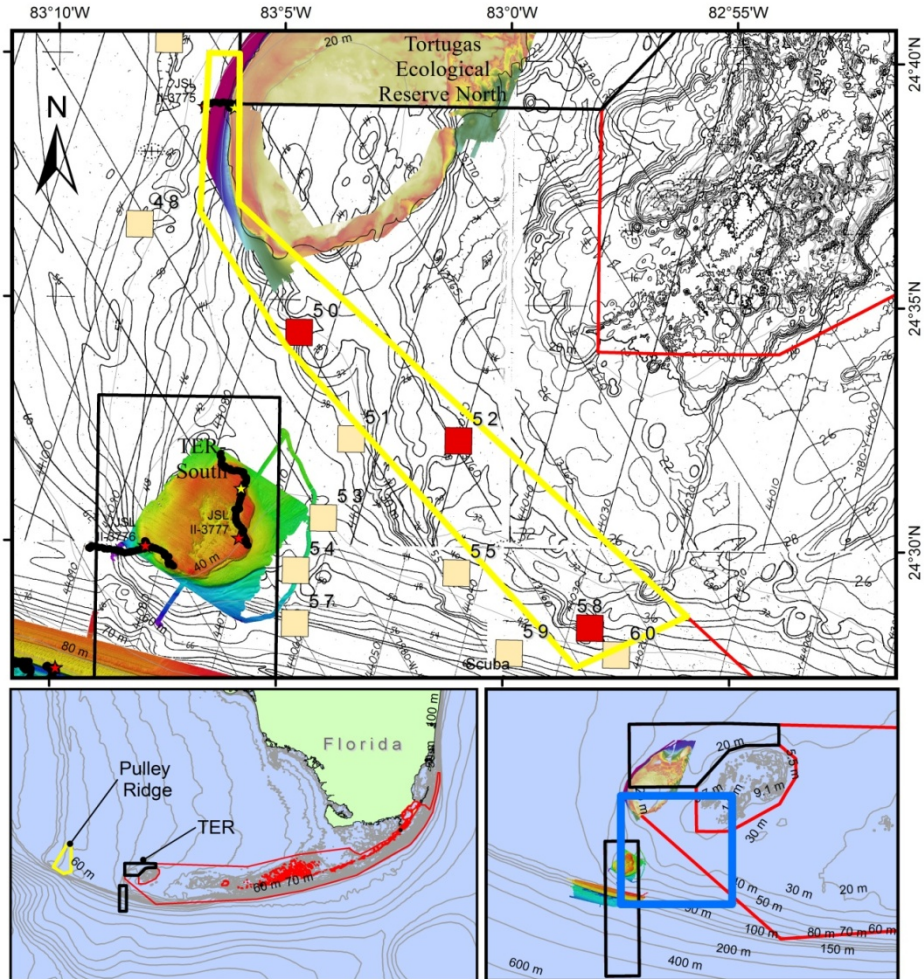
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2010 and 2013 HBOI Dive Sites

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- Proposed Multibeam Sites
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- SCUBA
- JSL Track



Yellow polygon = Areas of mesophotic patch reefs occur along and outside of the western boundary of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. An extensive mesophotic fringing reef occurs outside of the North TER along the west edge.

