

REEF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM



DEEP WATER LIONFISH TRAP RESEARCH LIONFISH TRAP DESIGNS

GITTINGS NONCONTAINMENT TRAP

MODIFIED LOBSTER TRAP

A REBAR FRAME, NETTING, PLASTIC MESH FENCING AND A LATTICE FAD (FISH AGGREGATION DEVICE)

TRAP COMPONENTS

STANDARD WIRE SPINY LOBSTER TRAP, TWO VERTICAL **ESCAPE GAPS, NARROWED PLASTIC THROAT OPENING**









- DESIGN WILL CAPTURE FISH PRESENT AROUND FAD AT RETRIEVAL
- LIONFISH TEND TO CONGREGATE AROUND STRUCTURE ON OCEAN FLOOR: THE FAD **PROVIDES THAT STRUCTURE**
- CONSTRUCTED WITH INEXPENSIVE MATERIALS AND A WELDLESS FRAME
- DESIGNED TO REDUCE RISK OF BYCATCH, ENTANGLEMENT, AND GHOST FISHING



SIMILARITIES OF TRAP DESIGNS

- NO BAIT TO ATTRACT NON-TARGETED SPECIES REDUCING BYCATCH
- TARGET LIONFISH IN DEEP WATER OUTSIDE OF RECREATIONAL SCUBA LIMITS
- SUPPORT EFFORTS TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR LIONFISH IN THE SEAFOOD MARKET



- MODIFIED STANDARD WIRE SPINY LOBSTER TRAP
- NARROWED FUNNEL TO OMIT REGULATION SIZE LOBSTERS AND LARGER FISH
- ESCAPE GAPS TO ALLOW UNDERSIZED LOBSTERS AND SMALL FISH TO SWIM OUT
- DESIGNED BY FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



ABOUT THE PROJECT

- EMPLOYING THE EXPERTISE OF FLORIDA KEYS LOBSTER FISHERMEN
- PROJECT PARTNERS WITH NOAA, FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION **COMMISSION (FWC), AND COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN**
- DETERMINING THE EFFICACY OF LIONFISH TRAPS OFF THE FLORIDA KEYS

PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH NOAA'S SALTONSTALL- KENNEDY GRANT PROGRAM ALL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED UNDER THE FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY (FKNMS) PERMIT

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.REEF.ORG