

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Unit P31, St. Andrew, Florida Summary of Final Recommended Changes

Type of Unit: System Unit

Location of Unit: Bay County, Florida

Congressional District: 2

Date of Final Recommended Maps:
October 7, 2016

Number of Maps: Unit P31 is depicted on three maps.

Base Map Imagery Source and Date: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agriculture Imagery Program, 2013

Establishment of Unit: The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) (Pub. L. 97-348 enacted on October 18, 1982) originally established Unit P31.

Public Comments: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) held a 45-day public comment period on the draft maps dated May 16, 2016, from July 7 through August 22, 2016. There are no comments specific to Unit P31. For a summary of the comments received on other units and the Service's responses, see the document entitled *Summary of Public Comments Received on Draft Maps for John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Units P30/P30P and P31/P31P, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Responses and Recommendations*, which is available on the Service's website at: www.fws.gov/cbra.

Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries: There are no changes between the proposed boundary of Unit P31 depicted on the draft maps dated May 16, 2016, and the final recommended boundary of the unit depicted on the maps dated October 7, 2016.

Final Recommended Changes to Unit: The final recommended maps dated October 7, 2016, modify the landward boundary of Unit P31 to remove from the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) approximately five

acres on the mainland, including two structures associated with Tyndall Air Force Base. The Service's assessment indicates that these structures were on-the-ground in 1982 and the areas were inadvertently included within Unit P31 due to the limitations of the original base map, which was a 1956 U.S. Geological Survey Topographic Quadrangle.

The landward boundary of the unit is also modified to add to the CBRS several areas along the length of the unit. The Service's assessment indicates that these areas are appropriate for addition to the CBRS because they meet the CBRA criteria for an undeveloped coastal barrier (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(1)).

Additionally, the coincident boundary between Units P31 and P31P is modified to better follow the boundary of St. Andrews State Park. There is one parcel that is currently part of the State Park that is recommended to remain within System Unit P31 because it was acquired for conservation and/or recreation purposes after it was included within Unit P31, and therefore does not qualify for reclassification to an OPA.

Florida State Aquatic Preserves, Outstanding Florida Waters, and other areas of open water that are not associated with conservation and/or recreation areas are generally classified within the CBRS as System Units because they do not meet the CBRA definition of an OPA (Section 12 of the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act; Pub. L. 101-591). Most open water within adjacent OPA Unit P31P, including areas in Grand Lagoon and St. Andrew Bay are recommended for reclassification to System Unit P31. However, the channel between St. Andrew Bay and the Gulf of Mexico is recommended for inclusion within Unit P31P as there are State Park lands on either side of the channel and it is impractical from a mapping

perspective to delineate it as a System Unit. Additionally, the undeveloped portion of a sand spit located in Grand Lagoon that is known as Alligator Point and a small undeveloped island known as Weakfish Island are also reclassified from OPA Unit P31P to System Unit P31.

The Service's final recommended maps depict changes to the CBRS that will only take effect if the updated maps are adopted through legislation enacted by Congress.

St. Andrew Complex P31, Florida

Acreeage, Shoreline, and Structures:

	<i>Total Acres</i>	<i>Fastland Acres*</i>	<i>Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**</i>	<i>Shoreline Miles</i>	<i>Structures***</i>
Existing Unit	13,773	1,668	12,105	20.4	
Added to the CBRS	1,582	131	1,451		0
Removed from the CBRS	5	5	0		2
Reclassified Area	652	(42)	694		
Final Recommended Unit	16,002	1,752	14,250	20.4	
Net Change	2,229	84	2,145	0.0	(2)

*Land above mean high tide.

**Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier, but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived from an interpretation of 2013 aerial imagery in consultation with National Wetlands Inventory data and other data sources as necessary.

***Approximate structure count derived from 2013 aerial imagery. Structures without walls and a roof (e.g., picnic shelters) and structures with fewer than 200 square feet are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the definition of a "structure" in 16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2).

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