EXPEDITION PROFILE

September 27th aboard DISCOVERY Yacht *Shredder*

The International SeaKeepers Society supported Miami Waterkeeper in its efforts to study marine benthic habitats in Biscayne Bay while aboard D/Y *Shredder* of Fleet Miami. The trip also served as an opportunity to survey the environment following Hurricane Irma.

A photographer joined the expedition to document various marine benthic habitats, including coral, seagrass beds, and mangroves. The group snorkeled at various sites in Biscayne Bay while a Miami Waterkeeper representative identified local species of marine organisms and monitored the health of the local habitats. Seagrass samples were collected for further analyses on the microbial community.

The expedition also served as an opportunity to visually survey impacts from the recent hurricane. Marine habitats, such as mangroves, serve as a primary defense against storm surges and wave action for coastal areas. Many of the sites visited exhibited turbidity and signs of sedimentation.

This is the third scientist-led research expedition conducted with Miami Waterkeeper and one of many SeaKeepers trips that have been support by D/Y *Shredder* of Fleet Miami.

Miami Waterkeeper is a non-profit working to ensure swimmable, drinkable, fishable water in South Florida through community outreach and education, science and research, and legal advocacy.

A special thanks to Crandon Park Marina for serving as meeting place for the vessel.

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