

Purpose

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is requesting proposals for a large-scale interior exhibit fabrication and installation at the Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center in Key West, Florida.

Overview

Project Background

The Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center has been a free tourist attraction for over a decade in Key West. The facility is the premier destination in the Florida Keys to learn about the natural environment within Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

Since opening in 2007, the Center has seen nearly 750,000 visitors. This project would update the outdated interior exhibits to match the beautiful new exterior building artwork and signage, enhancing the visitor experience as well as attracting new visitors.

Need

We are seeking services from interpretive exhibit companies to construct, fabricate, install, and perform final detailing of various exhibits and panels on the interior of the visitor center. Links to the design documents and dimensions will be provided below in the useful resources section.

Project Objective

Construct, fabricate, and install interior exhibits in the center with a focus on accessibility.

Funding Availability and Matching

The total budget for this project is not to exceed \$666,500. Upon award of the contract 30% of costs per project line item as noted in the scope of work will be provided up front, with the remaining 70% provided upon completion of each line item.

Eligibility

Proven track record of doing similar projects in scope and scale, preferably in Key West or South Florida, technical ability to complete the project within the provided budget.

By submitting an offer in response to this RFP, the offeror certifies that it and its principal officers are not debarred, suspended, or otherwise considered ineligible for an award by



the U.S. Government. The Foundation will not award a contract to any firm that is debarred, suspended, or considered to be ineligible by the U.S. Government.

How to Apply

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation requires responses to this RFP to be delivered electronically, via email as an Adobe™ .pdf file to rfp@marinesanctuary.org. Please include "Interior Exhibits Phase II of Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center" in the subject line. Proposals must be received electronically no later than November 18, 2021 by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time.

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation will send a confirmation by email within five business days of receiving your submission that your proposal was received, and all files are accessible. It is the submitter's responsibility to ensure that the Foundation receives the proposal prior to the specified closing date. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Proposals should include the following elements:

- 1. A description of the company with an explanation of why you are qualified to complete this project;
- 2. A detailed budget proposal with line items for staff time, travel, supplies, and other significant budget elements. An outline of the budget can be found below in budget requirements.
- 3. Two examples of past work; and
- 4. Three references. Please include their names, email addresses, phone numbers, and in what capacity you worked with them.

Questions regarding the technical requirements of this RFP may be submitted by email to John Genthert at john.genthert@noaa.gov, and questions regarding the administrative requirements of this RFP may be submitted by email to dayna.mclaughlin@noaa.gov. Questions must be submitted in writing; phone calls will not be accepted. Questions and requests for clarification—and the responses thereto—the Foundation believes may be of interest to other offerors will be circulated to all RFP recipients who have indicated an interest in bidding.

Only written answers to questions via email issued by the Foundation will be considered official and carry weight in the RFP process and subsequent evaluation. Any verbal information received from employees or any other entity should not be considered as an official response to any questions regarding this RFP.

Period of Performance

Start Date End Date

December 1, 2021 April 15, 2022



Scope of Work

Desired Outcomes

Priority 1:

1. General:

- a. Site visit to confirm measurements on exhibit design drawings.
- b. Add in new LED track light cans to existing lighting infrastructure.
- c. Replace carpet for approximately 6,400 square feet.
- d. Preparation of the area for exhibits. Most demolition will already be completed.
- e. Disposal of current wallpaper and exhibit panels as needed.
- f. Ensure exhibits and space meet ADA requirements.
- g. Tie into existing electric or run new conduit in open ceiling.
- h. Allow for on/off switches for exhibits.
- i. Final detailing of project installation.

2. Shipwreck hallway exhibit:

- a. Option A: on-floor vinyl applique image with light features
- b. Option B: on-floor monitor(s) that plays a pre-recorded video of a Florida Keys shipwreck

Approximate measurements of floor space available: 13.8 ft wide X 21 ft long

3. Mangrove, Seagrass, and Theater Exhibit (wall lengths approximately 16.8 feet, 46 feet, and 13.5 feet, and wall height is approximately 11 feet):

- a. Printing and application of exhibit walls and backgrounds
- b. Six (6) turn-tile panels with text and images
- c. Two (2) light boxes
- d. Fabrication of touch cabinet with four (4) holes and reveal gates
- e. Accessible theater seating
- f. Government approved Brightsign player
- g. Directional speakers

4. Partners wall (wall space is approximately 15.3 feet long, and 8 feet high):

- a. Printing and application of exhibit wall space
- b. Fabrication of wall covering (MDF, dry wall, etc.) to put over current exhibit space (see current space photos in supporting documents)

5. Recreation wall (wall lengths are approximately 9 feet and 14 feet in length, and 8 feet in height):

- a. Printing and application of exhibit wall space
- b. Printing of six (6) small posters (please provide a range options for print backing materials)
- c. Printing of one (1) large poster
- d. Fabrication of wall covering (MDF, dry wall, etc.) to put over current exhibit space (see current space photos in supporting documents)

6. Coral Reef and Restoration Exhibit:

a. Printing and application of exhibit wall space



- b. 3D printing of tactile coral exhibit, with lift doors to reveal the name of the corals
- c. Tactile versions of coral photos
- d. "Microscope" exhibit with video player in microscope and two (2) screens on the wall with push-button selection of videos. Microscope will be mirrored to an on-wall screen. Second on-wall screen will have content interpreting the videos.
- e. Integration of audio in the exhibit space; audio player will play files of reef sounds
- f. TV with government approved Brightsign player for B-roll footage
- g. Lightbox with graphic

7. Heritage and Artifacts Exhibit:

- a. Print and application of exhibit wall space
- b. Fabrication/installation of mast and sail components above exhibit cap
- c. Build out of cabinetry for artifacts
- d. Labels for artifacts
- e. Installation of a small cannon (provided) and construction of a railing with tablets(2-3). Railing tablet: users will read or be able to hear audio of stories about the history of the Florida Keys. These stories will be updated, so this will need to be updated frequently by the team on site.

8. Paddle Experience:

- a. Printing and application of high resolution photo on the wall
- b. Creation and fabrication of a wooden branded photo opportunity prop

Priority 2:

1. General:

a. Integration of pre-purchased technology (i.e., players, screens) into panels

2. Mangrove, Seagrass, and Theater:

- a. Fabrication of 3D mangrove habitat with protruding roots in mangrove exhibit
- b. 3-dimensional seagrass blades with movement to go above exhibit cap

3. Coral and Restoration Exhibit:

- a. Fabrication and installation of coral decorations above the cap
- b. Large screen with "slave" tablet to video 360-degree images. 360 dive tablet: users will select 360 files and be able to view them.

Priority 3:

1. Pre-programmed tablets and back up technology for exhibit components.

2. Coral and Restoration Exhibit:

- a. Tablet with interactive game. Interactive tablet game of heroes: users will be able to select various "heros" to learn more about how they help coral reefs. Artwork and design work will need to be included in this programming cost. Children-focused, cartoon-like design.
- b. Touch screen to explore components of Mission: Iconic Reefs. Mission: Iconic Reefs exploration screen: This screen will display information about Mission: Iconic Reefs and will need to be editable by the team on site.



Potential buttons include data, status, videos, partners, about the mission, and more.

3. Heritage and Artifacts exhibit:

a. Center screen with tablet controller. Center screen and tablet: users must be able to manipulate 3D images of artifacts. This exhibit will need to be editable by the team on site.

4. Programming add-ons:

a. Blue Star Kiosk:

 Free-standing kiosk to run current (in development) sanctuary app, additional programming needed to access website content for other gateways (i.e., information about Blue Star providers)

b. "You Can Help" Interactive Table:

i. Fabrication and programming of a touchscreen table where people can learn more about solutions to help the sanctuary.

Please draft the proposal around the design document. The design documents are found attached to this RFP.

Budget Requirements

Please use the table below as a guideline to creating your budget proposal. Please be sure to list any aspects that need outside contracts for work and their estimated amount separately. Each component of the project should have its own budget line item and include a price range for each line item.

Line Items	Budget Detail	Price Range
Example: Exhibit fabrication	Panels cost \$X per unit and we need Y units	\$X*Y=\$A-\$Z
Example: Total Labor Costs	The crew of X for Y days is estimated at \$Z	\$Z

Review Process

Evaluation Criteria

Please Include the following in the offer:



- Company Name;
- Company's POC and title;
- The POC's email address;
- Company Address;
- Company Website;
- Company Phone Number;
- Company DUNS Number; and
- Company Tax ID Number.

All applications will be screened for relevance and completeness, and will then be evaluated based on the extent to which they meet the following criteria and how they are weighted:

Technical Criteria - total 50 maximum points

- Eligibility as noted above
- Geographic Focus 35 East Quay Road Key West, FL 33040
- Technical Merit Proven history of executing similar jobs with positive outcomes
- Metrics and Outcomes
 - Material used
 - Travel and installation costs
 - Craftsmanship
 - o In-house vs. sub-contracting needs
- Product Sustainability Exhibits should last at least 10 years prior to needing any maintenance, electronics excluded
 - Please demonstrate this via craftsmanship & warranties usually used.

Financial Criteria - Total of 50 maximum points

The budget line items, details, number of priority items, and overall pricing

Application Logistics

Useful Resources

View attached documents:

Design Draft

Current Space Photos

Timeline

RFP open: October 20, 2021 RFP Due: November 18, 2021 Project Awarded: December 1, 2021 Project Completed: April 15, 2022

Notification



Selected proposal(s) will be notified by December 1, 2021 for next steps. The Foundation or its partners at NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries may reach out between November 15 and December 1 with questions about a submitted proposal.

Additional Information

This is a Request for Proposals only. Issuance of this RFP does not in any way obligate the Foundation to make an award or pay for costs incurred by potential offerors in the preparation and submission of an offer. In addition:

- (a) The Foundation may cancel RFP and not award;
- (b) The Foundation may reject any or all responses received:
- (c) Issuance of RFP does not constitute award commitment by The Foundation;
- (d) The Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow RFP instructions;
- (e) The Foundation will not compensate offerors for a response to RFP;
- (f) The Foundation reserves the right to issue an award based on an initial evaluation of offers without further discussion;
- (g) The Foundation may negotiate with short-listed offerors for their best and final offer;
- (h) The Foundation reserves the right to order additional quantities or units with the selected offer or;
- (i) The Foundation may reissue the solicitation or issue formal amendments revising the original RFP specifications and evaluation criteria before or after receipt of proposals;
- (j) The Foundation may modify the specifications without issuing a formal notice to all offerors when the revisions are immaterial to the scope of the RFP;
- (k) The Foundation may choose to award only part of the activities in the RFP or issue multiple awards based on multiple RFP activities; and
- (I) The Foundation reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.

Florida Keys **Eco-Discovery Center Visitor Center Renovation**







Phase 2 Layouts



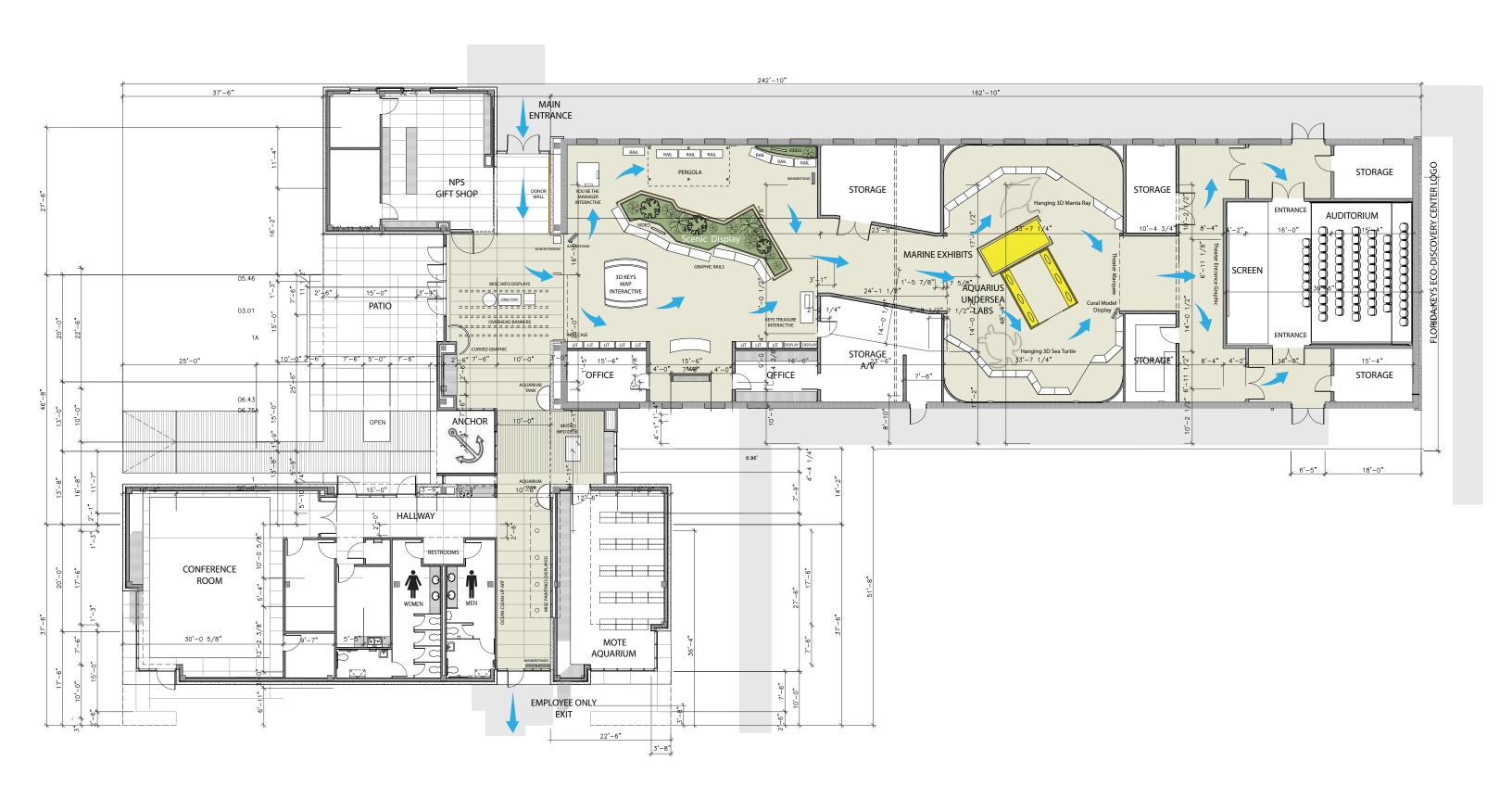
Elevations October 13, 2021

existing space

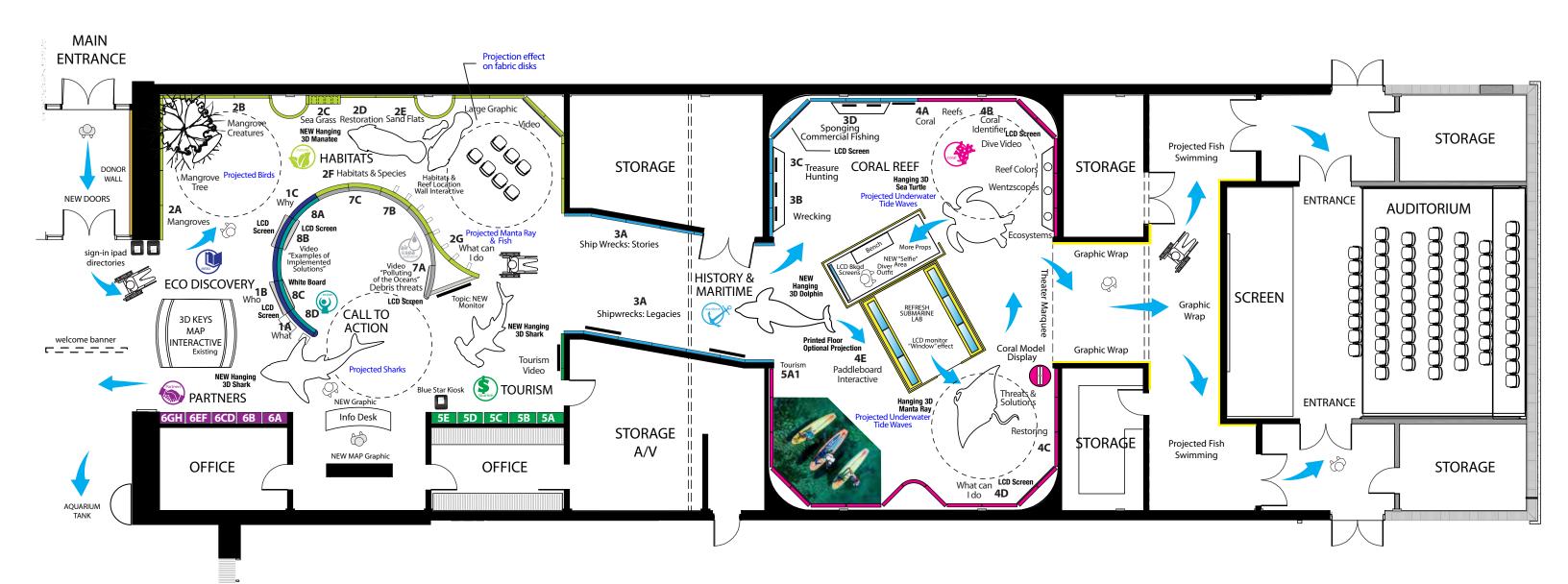


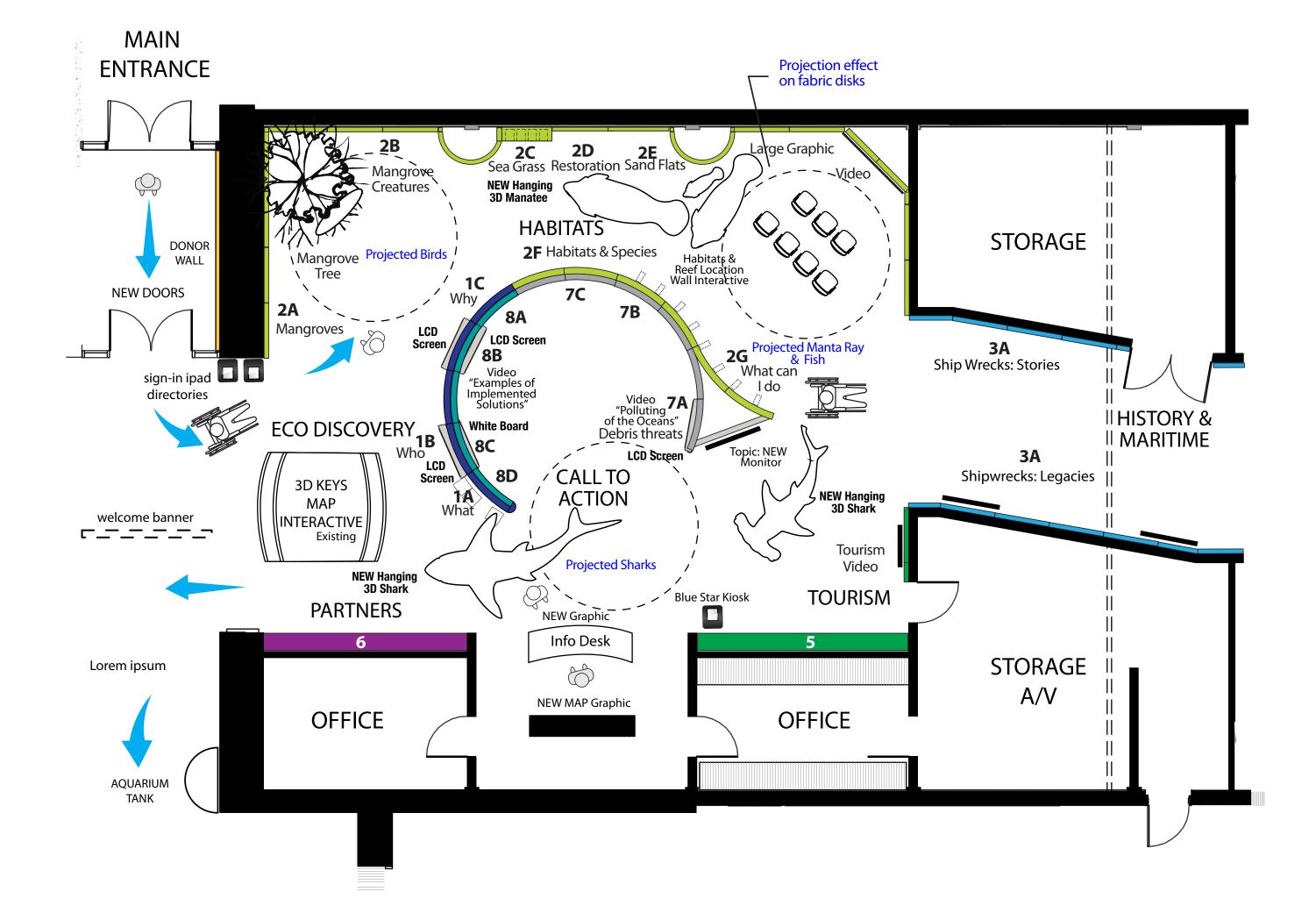




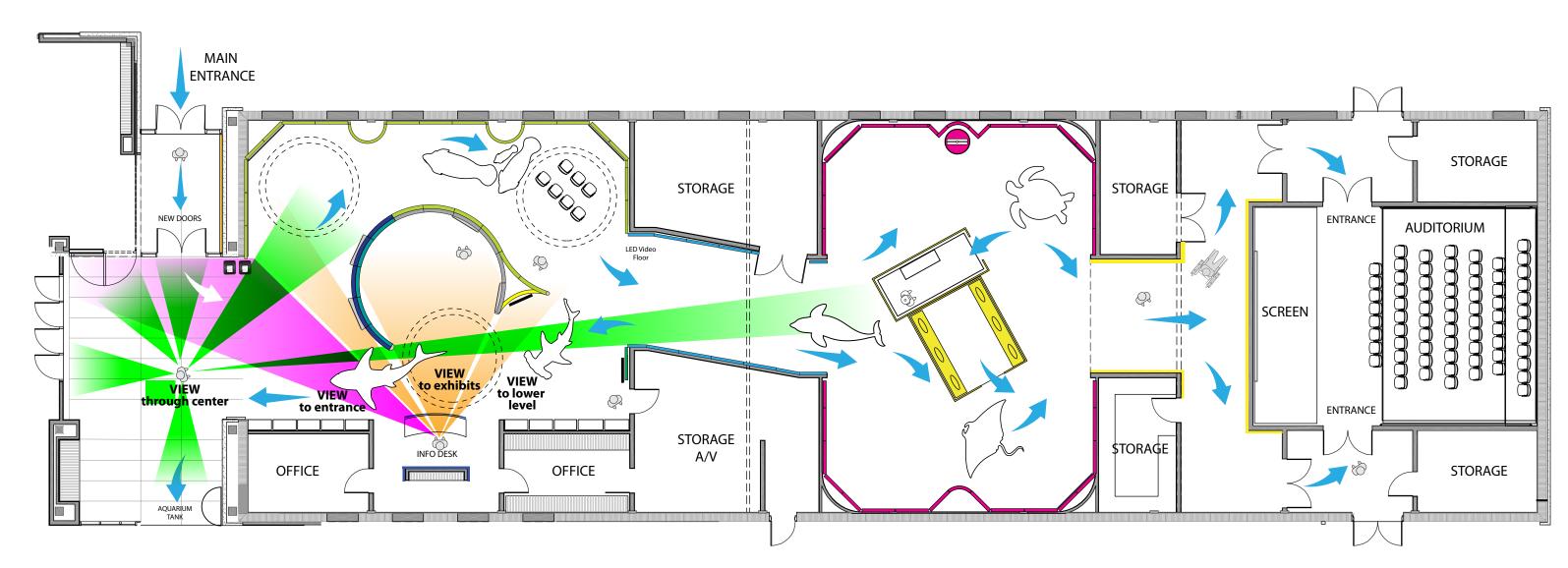


design & strategy









Sightlines for Staff

coastal area





lbis

Look for ibis in the tops of mangroves!
Ibis use their bills to feel around grass flats and shorelines for small crabs to eat.



Roseate Spoonbill

Rare roseate spoonbills can be found roosting in the canopy of mangroves with other birds. They get their bright pink colors from the pigments in the small crabs and shrimp they eat.



Nurse Shark

Nurse sharks are nocturnal animals, and can be found resting in shallow areas during the day. In order to find their food in the dark, nurse sharks use appendages that look like whiskers, called barbells, which provide a sense of touch to help locate their prey.



Barracuda

Some of the teeth of barracuda are pointed backwards to keep slippery fish from escaping once they have been captured. You can find barracuda cruising along the roots of the mangroves, searching for their next meal.



Sponges

Sponges get their food by drawing in water from their pores and filtering out nutrients. A single sponge can drink as much as 64 gallons of water in one day. You can find these important creatures on the roots of mangroves.



Lobster

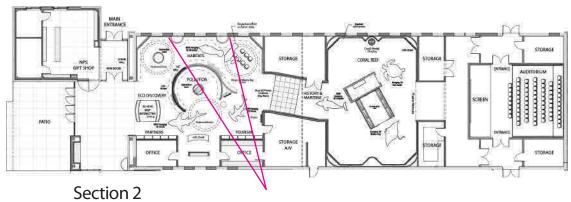
Humans aren't the only ones that like to eat Florida lobster! Lobsters are an important food item for groupers, sharks, snappers, skates, turtles, and octopuses. You can find lobsters hiding along the mangrove roots in cracks and crevices.



mangroves

by taking steps to reduce pollution runoff from land such as not using pesticides and fertilizers prior to a rain shower.



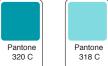






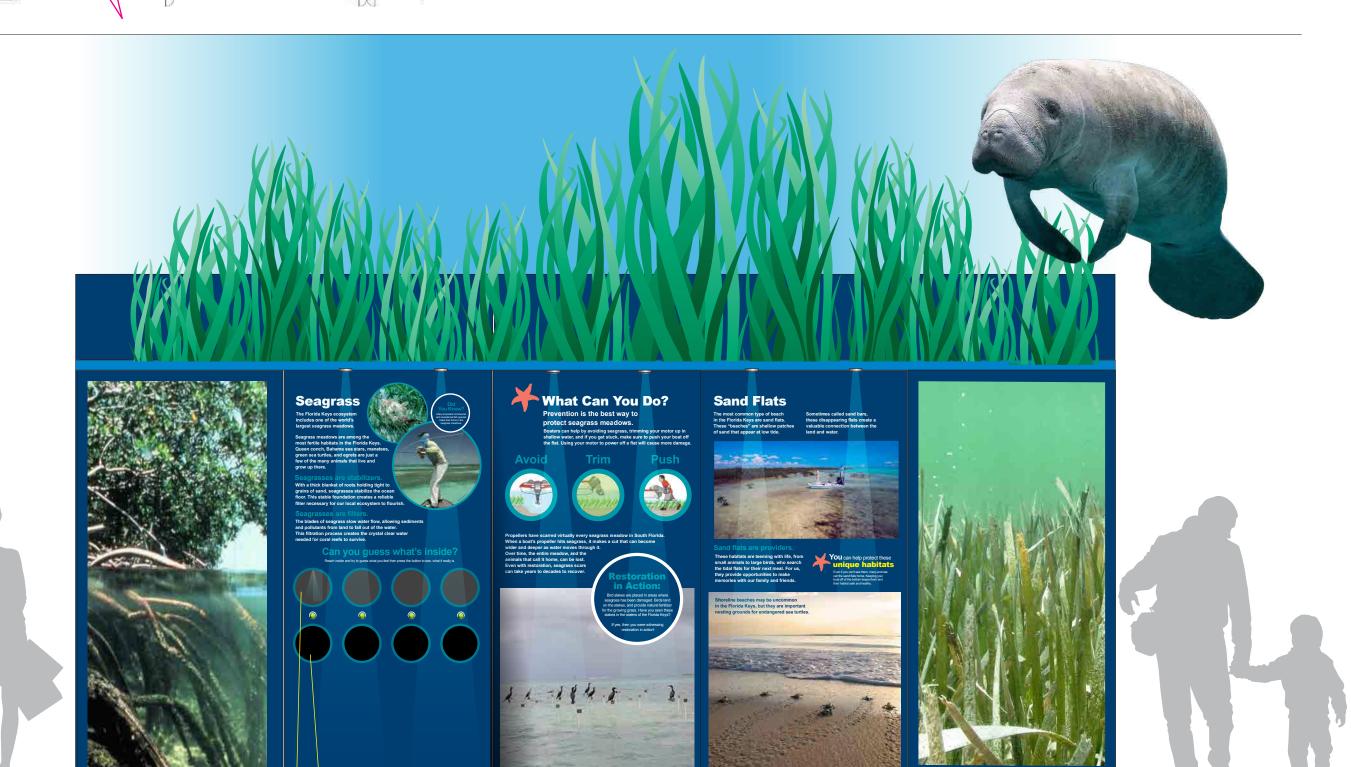


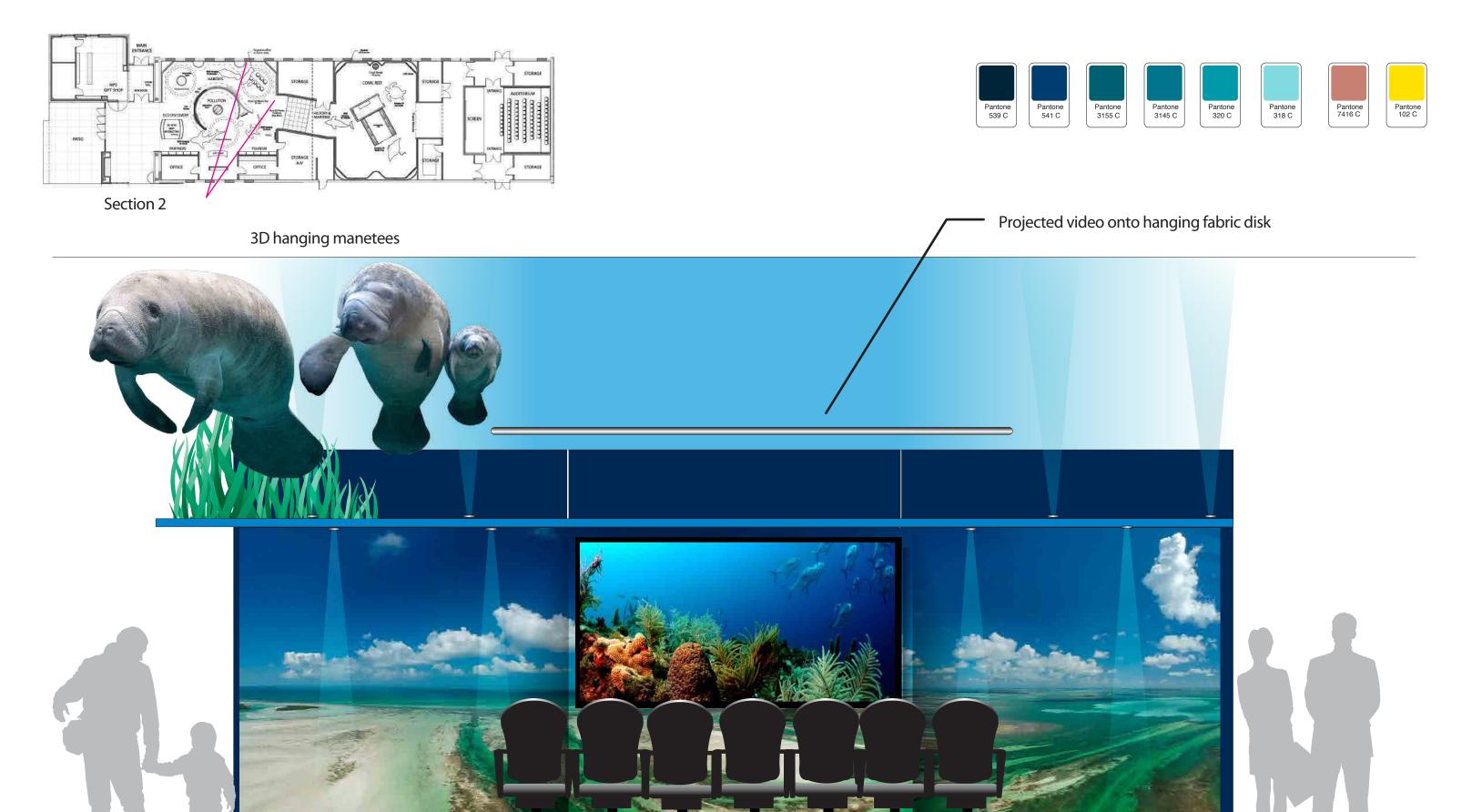




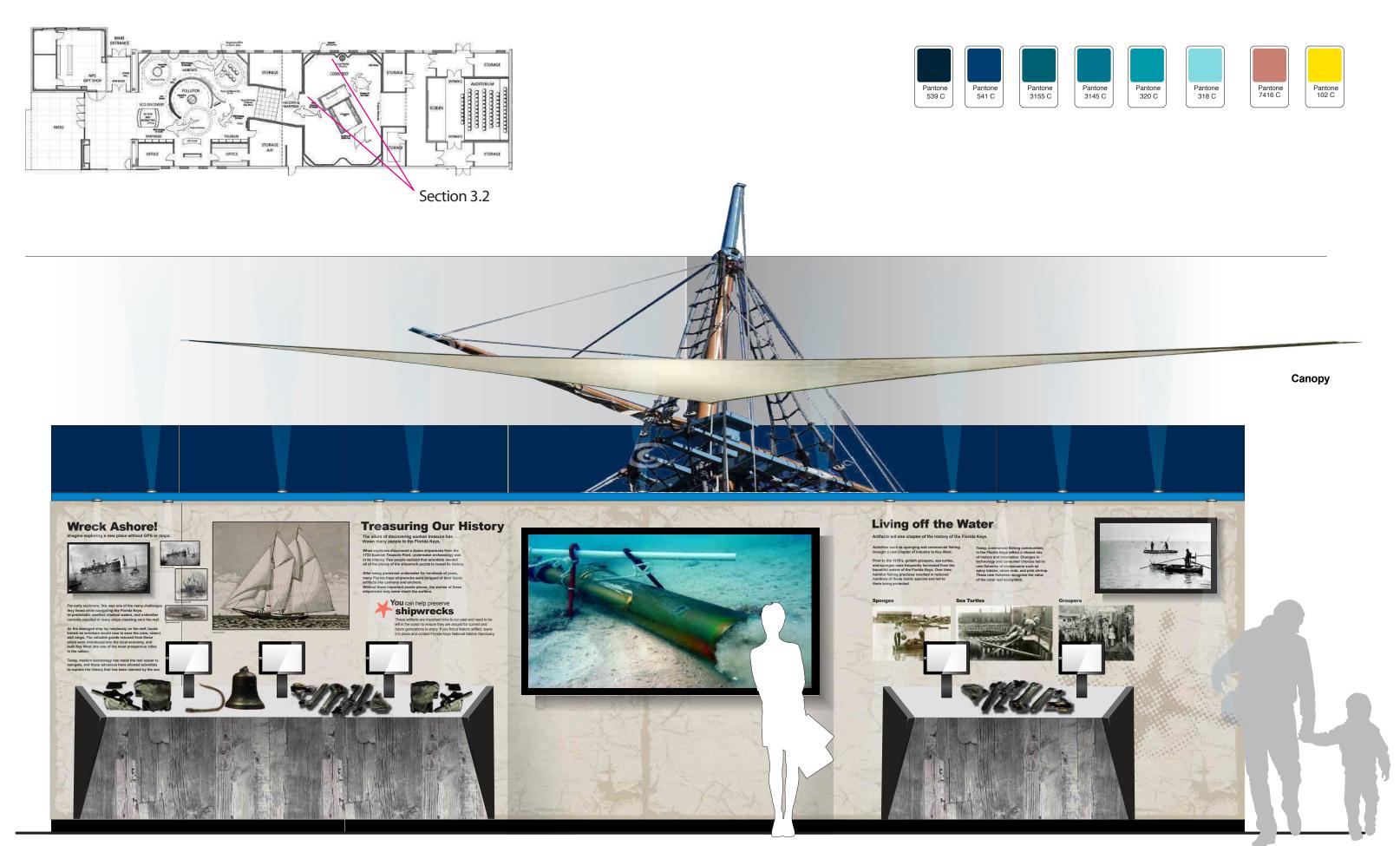




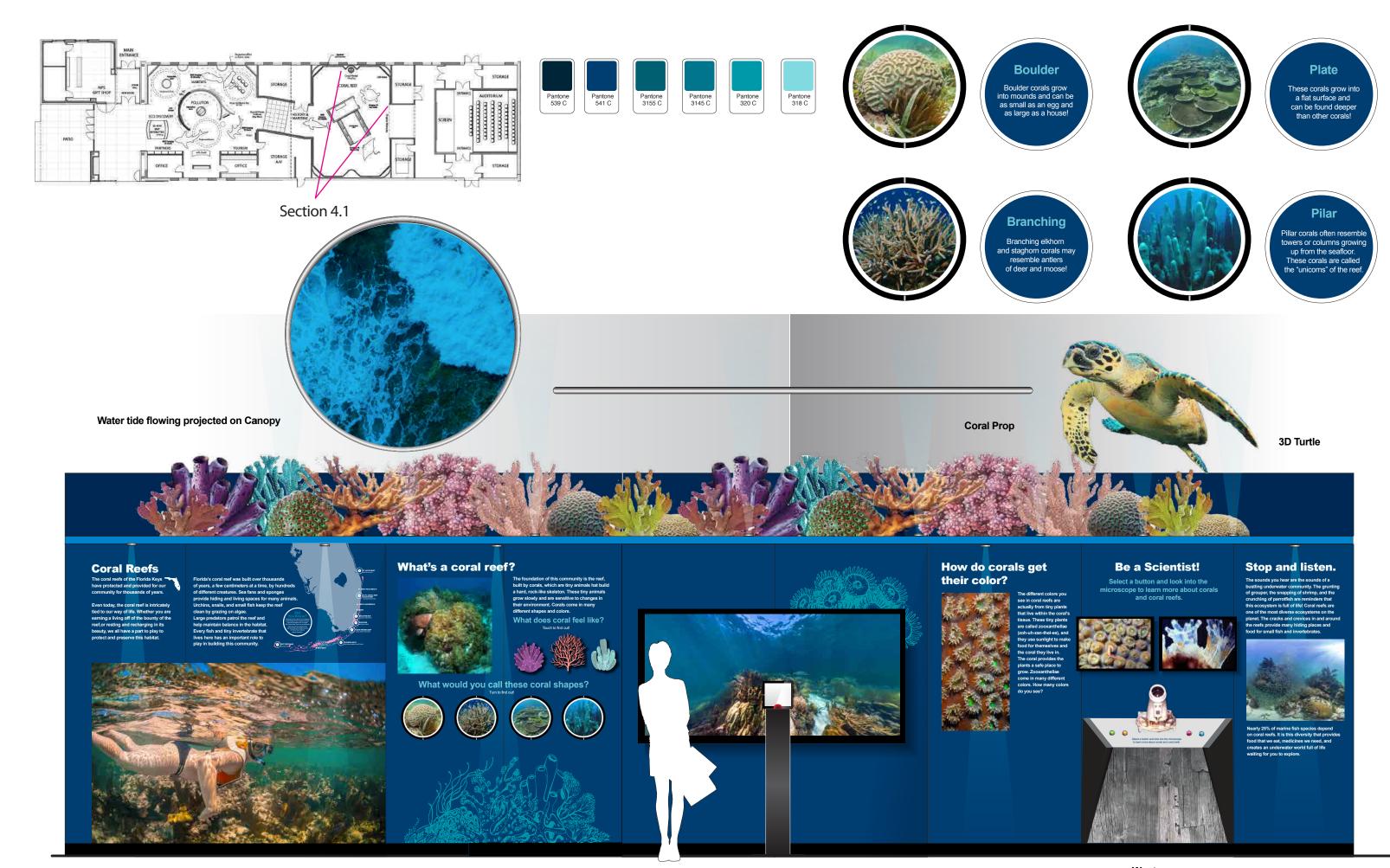




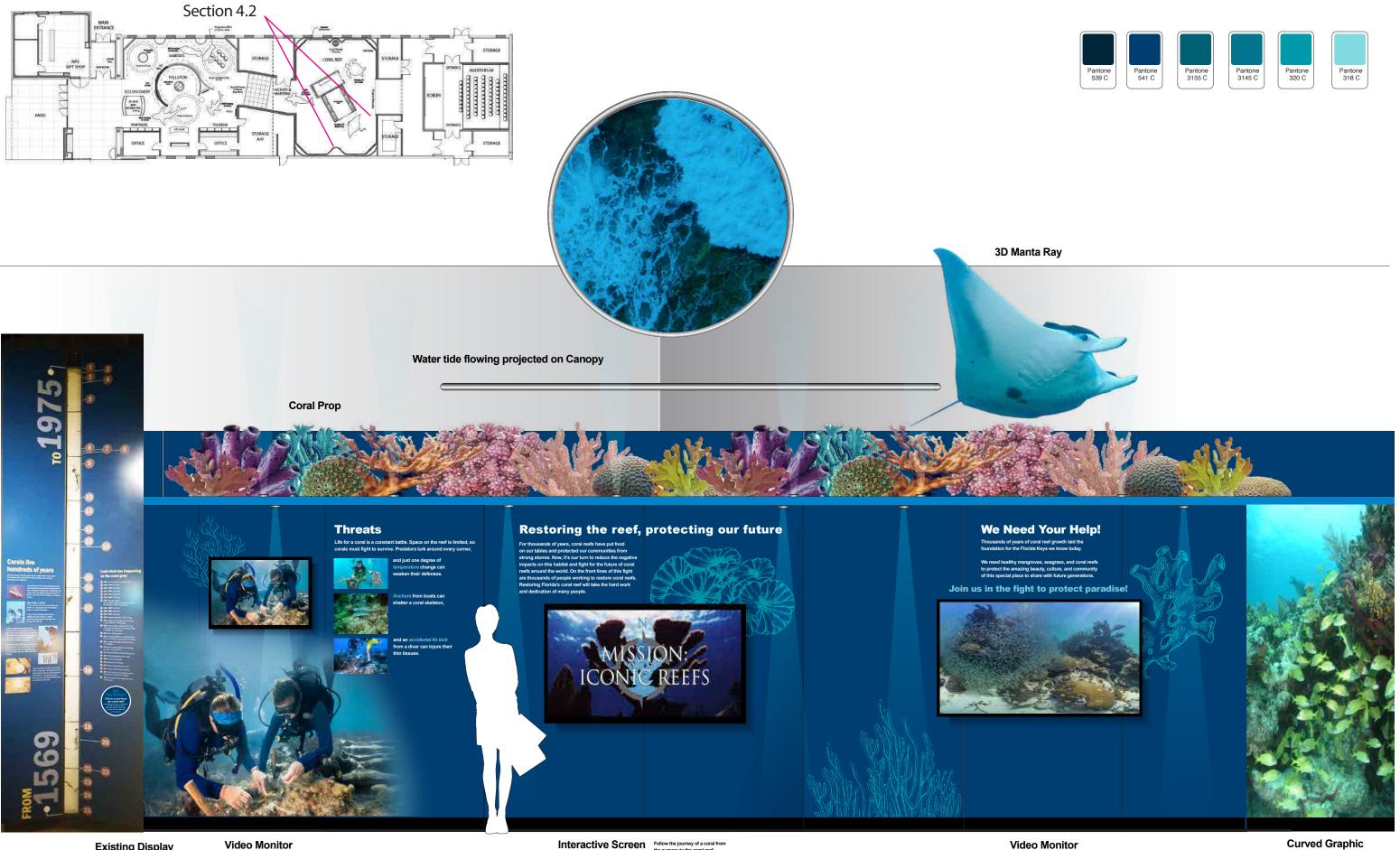
maritime area



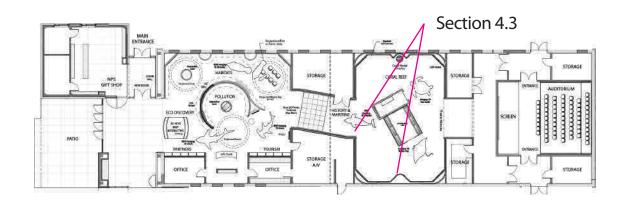
coral area



360 Dive Video Screen Wentzscope



Step 4: Monitoring



Video walls and floor lcd screens with wii interactive technology



Cradle post

Paddle Board

Cradle post

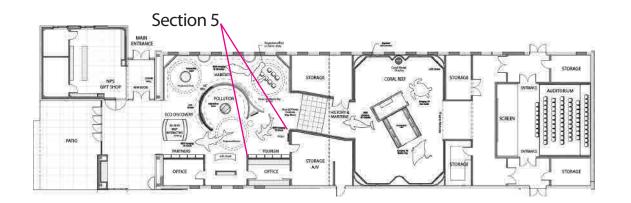
Open Area for Handicapped, printed paddle board on floor

Cradle post

Paddle Board

Wii Technology Devices

tourist area











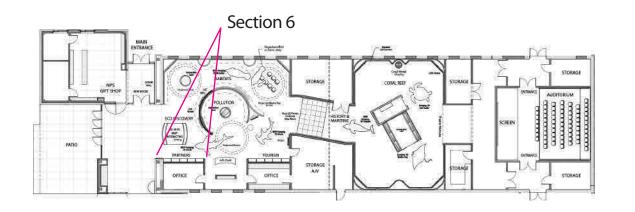




117"



partner area













header 211" x 18" cleated panel x .75" thick (3 panels)



elements





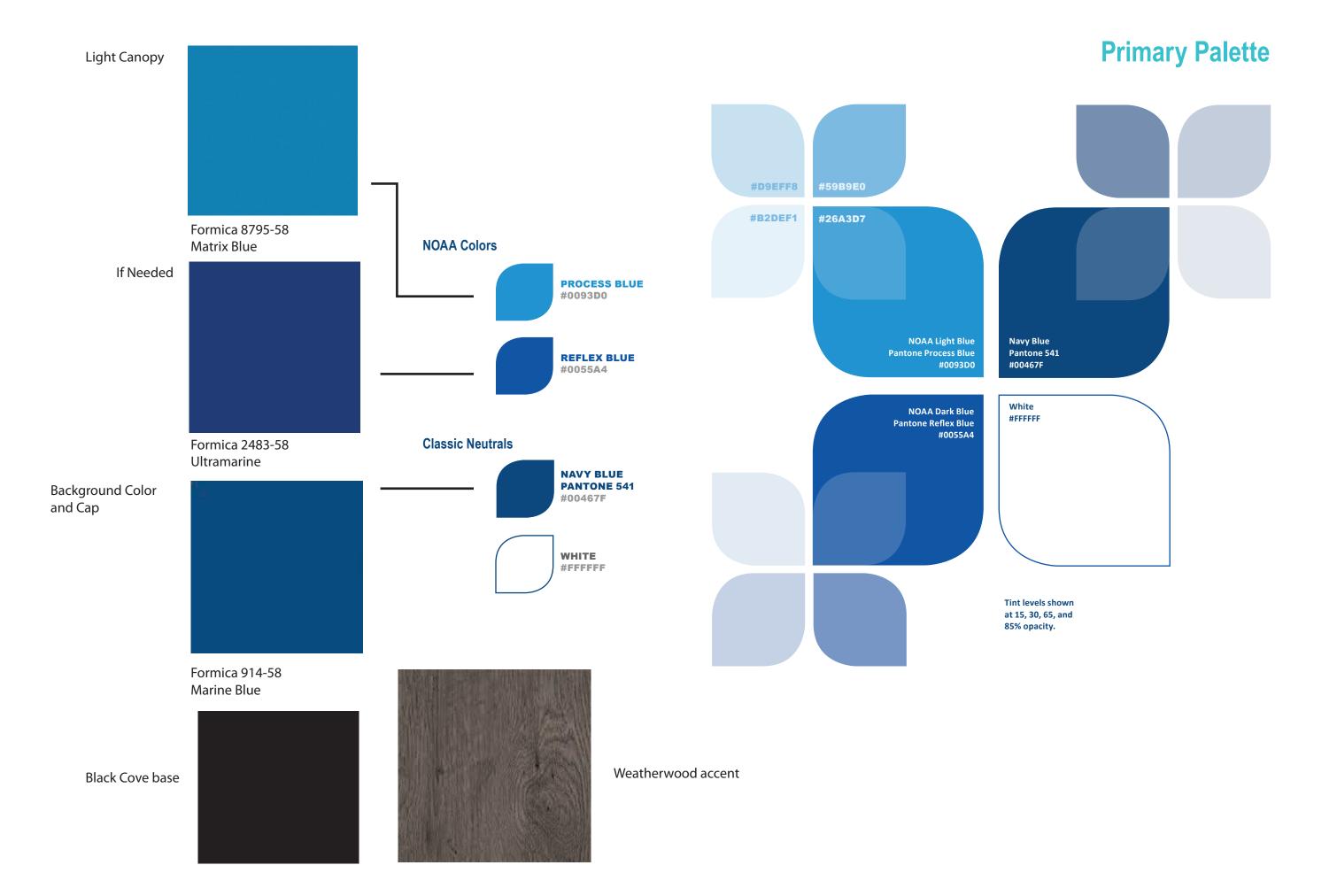
Shown as projected down on circular fabric disks



Walls could have a horizontal band of LCD screens



Area 7&8 could be the illusion of walking into an aquarium



thank you











