

Review of the Effect of the Gulf Loop Current on Marco Island Waterways

The purpose of this white paper is to bring to the attention of the City Council and the Citizens of Marco Island the existence of the Gulf Loop Current and its potential impact on water quality on Marco Island. The Gulf Loop Current is the driving force behind the movement of water throughout the Gulf of Mexico and beyond. However, this current is not constant in its course or velocity. Changes in the current occur over short intervals, measured in days, as well as over long intervals, measured in years and decades. Because Marco Island is near the end point of a land mass that shapes this current, its effects on the waters around Marco Island can be dramatic.

This presentation will describe the current and invite the community to be aware of and involved in reporting evidence of this current and its possible influence on our water quality.

Howard Reed 4/23/19