Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

Name: Capt Brad Simonds (Alternate Member SAC charter fishing) Date: 9/24/13

MANY of my constituants want to KNOW Why Bag, Size & Season Limits are not Strengthened Before closures are contemplated. For example why are we still allowed to Harvest 10 muttons per person during the Spawning Season? As a charter boat operator I'm allowed to take 6 people and keep 60 muttons on the MAY Moon (I never do this) But it remains legal... absurd!!

Continue on back if necessary.

Size limits on Yellowtail could be increased to 15", Mutton to 18". Aggregate Snapper Limits could be reduced to 6-8 per person Both Mutton & Yellowtail could have a closed Season on the Spawn.

Additionally the commercial Snapper/Grouper "unlimited" License should be phased out why are the holders of that License allowed an unlimited harvest when we all know the resource is not unlimited.

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

Name: Bruce Baker Date: 9/25/13

Spawning Aggregations - manage the fish - not the Spot
If you close an area - close to all user groups -
NO BOATING!!!
there is not a fisherman alive that doesn't want
to protect the fish - I want my kids to ~~fish~~ catch
fish. Bag limits - WATER QUALITY - SEWAGE - SUNSCREEN
cologne - deodorant

Continue on back if necessary.

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Name: Jerry Weinstock Date: 9-25-13

The huge Body of Scientific studies indicate that sustainable Fishing ~~may~~ will depend on Preserves

8 years wrote a Book on it

Continue on back if necessary.

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

Name: Bill Stockton

Date: 9/25/13

Lower Keys liveaboards - Still no Solid Regulation or Compliance to pump out - Raw Sewage Still Dumped in Water Daily - Cow Key Channel Fleming Key Area, Franfort Bank - Biggest Problem With Water Quality -

Continue on back if necessary.

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Name: William o Wickers III Date: 9/25/13

I F u want to Fix issues with coral
You need to Work on water Quality in Everglade,
miami dade sewer system ~~Sugar~~ Sugar Cane ~~Farms~~ Feilds!
~~Feilds~~ Farmers need not to have Fertilizer run oFF in water
Lets take care oF the real issues and we diFFently
dont need anymore Closures!!

Continue on back if necessary.

September 25, 2013

Leah Wilde Gould

WATER QUALITY

My family has worked in the Commercial Marine Life Fishery and aquaculture industry for more than 25 years. We spend 1/3 of operating of budget on maintaining and improving water quality for the livestock we harvest, grow and sell.

The commercial aquaculture and aquarium industry sells products for billions of $$$ to improve and maintain water quality for the holding and display facilities around the world. Our industry would not survive without good quality water.

Gulf of Mexico has large area of dead zones that grow larger each year due to lack of O2, pollution and poor water quality. This year the dead zone is the biggest on record. All of the water in the Gulf of Mexico filters through the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Fertilizer and runoff from the farmland and cities enriches the water and promotes the algae blooms, pollutes the water and robs the water of the o2 to further degrade water quality.

We have observed that since 1985 the days that the water is clear in the waters of the FKNMS is less and less. The time it takes for the sediment to settle after a storm is longer.

All of the already protected areas are in decline and have declined in the past 15 years due to poor water quality.

More protected area will not improve the quality of water.

This working group must compel NOAA to work to improve water quality at the source before making more boundary recommendations.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Capt Bill Wickers **Organization:** _____

Email: [redacted]

If you would like to be added to the marine zoning and regulatory review email updates, please indicate your choice below:

☒ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments Attached

[redacted]

Read quote from Why Review!

The science shows we need ~~to~~ To Sanctuary Condition Report 2011 shows that human actions — such as ① poaching (this is a law enforcement issue. It will not be solved by taking larger areas from the law abiding citizens. If you can not control the poaching now how will you stop it when you have areas 5 to ten times larger. ~~You need~~.

② Boat groundings: Larger areas will not stop ~~boat~~ boat groundings. Boat groundings are caused by human error. I know of no one that runs aground on purpose. Education of the public of our area is the only solution to this.

③ Pollution: Larger zones will not solve this problem! Pollution of our water is the main reason for the decline of our reef. The ~~sewering~~ efforts to get all homes in the Keys ~~has taken way too long.~~ hooked up to Central Sewer Treatment Plants has taken way too long due to political and

and fiscal constraints. the Keys were promised by both Federal and State governments with large sums of money to correct the Keys sewer problems. those monies have been released at a snails pace. Eventually they will hopefully be provided and all our homes and businesses will be hooked up and the ~~pollution~~ sewer pollution corrected. But this will not correct our most important Water Quality problem which is the pollution coming from the Everglades and the Miami Dade area. You could make all our waters an ecological reserve and the coral will still decline if the quality of the water is not increased.

The Sanctuary needs to concentrate on this main issue. If the existing zones have not showed improvement after protection for 15 years then ~~you must know something other than keeping just protecting them prohibiting humans from use is the cause — and that cause~~ then what makes you think by

making them larger will work. You know something else other than just fishing or diving or Trapping is the Cause, and that Cause must be Pollution.

I said when I served on this Board many years ago that after the Sanctuary Protected Areas showed the ~~Public~~ Local Community what a great job they were doing that the community would embrace them and work ~~to~~ with the Sanctuary to possibly expand protected areas based on this success! But your own Report of 2011 says the opposite, it is basically a report of failure which quite frankly I am stunned by. How do expect this Community to give up more and more of our Marine Resources when you are basically saying well after 15 years this plan has not worked so give us more!

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Capt. John Sahagian **Organization:** FUNYET Chartering

Email: [redacted]

If you would like to be added to the marine zoning and regulatory review email updates, please indicate your choice below:

☑ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

No Fishing Zones in the Florida Keys

PUBLIC COMMENT

Please. No additional Restrictions are Necessary for the protection of The Keys Environment.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Mindi Martin **Organization:** Private Citizen

Email: [redacted]

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☑ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

No fishing Zones in The Florida Keys.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Additional Closures Please.
Will Cause hardship for Many People in the Keys.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Captain Jason Brewer **Organization:** Charter Fisherman 20+ years

Email: [redacted]

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☒ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

Closures of more areas. Shark populations. How information is collected from charter boats, its mostly bogus.

PUBLIC COMMENT

you have already taken fish sales from charter boat crews. We are not inclined to kill more than our charter can eat or more than we feel like filleting. The snapper population, mutton, grey, yellowtail etc. is thriving. this is based on fishing 250-300 days per year. Reducing the mutton bag limit to 2 per. [redacted] during the spawn will eliminate the cities boat of vessels that come from Miami to fish and exploit it. Period. The lemon sharks are more numerous than ever and need to be opened for harvest. Same applies to the goliath grouper. Will happily take anyone of position to prove these points. Thank you. There is much more. Please hold the same meetings in Key West as you do in Marathon or Upper Keys.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Simon R Stafford **Organization:** SELF. Trap fisherman.

Email: [redacted].

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

FKNMS Borders + Zones.

PUBLIC COMMENT

① Extend North border out to 26.5°N (approx). Protect area from potential Gas + Oil drilling. Allow only "environmentally sensitive" (as per Alaska) cruise ships to transit sanctuary waters.

② Extend WSER to include the offshore reef bar. Will protect resident lobster population in present ER.

③ Connect ~~Spa~~ Eastern Dry Rocks, Rock Key + Sand Key SPAs ~~from~~ using existing corners.

④ No area closure for spawning aggregations ie Wester Dry Rocks.

Address spawning concerns thru FWCC + FMCs. bag limits, closed seasons etc.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Bob Beighley **Organization:** _____

Email: [redacted]

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

By Closing one area the remaining areas will be fished much harder. My feed back would be, its better to not close areas so the Fisherman would be more spread out

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Lee Starling **Organization:** _____

Email: _____

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☐ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

1) ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT FOR SANCTUARY is absurd. YOUR organization MAKES POOR management decisionsand cannot provide even proper charts at a meeting.

2) Sand Key Rock, EASTern should not be connected it would be to the detriment of commercial + Key West Charter INDUSTRY.

3 STAY out of fisheries management

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: George Niles **Organization:** FKCFA.

Email: [redacted]

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☒ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

closed zones

PUBLIC COMMENT

Let National Marine Fisheries + FWC manage our Fisheries you interfer with there plans when you try to manage Fisheries.

No more closed Zones

closed zone displace Fishermen and make open areas more crowded

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: TOM MORGAN **Organization:** _____

Email: [redacted]

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

- NO ADDITIONAL CLOSURES
-

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: CAPT. VINNY ARGIRO **Organization:** CHARTER FISHERMAN

Email: [redacted]

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☑ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

ADDITIONAL REEF CLOSURES

PUBLIC COMMENT

- ADDITIONAL REEF CLOSURES AND AREAS INSIDE THE REEF MAKE AREAS INACCESABLE DURING FOUL WEATHER AND PRESENT A SAFETY ISSUE FOR MY CUSTOMERS,
- CLOSING AREAS TO FISHING HAS NOT BEEN PROVEN BY SCIENCE TO IMPROVE THE REEF AREAS OF THE KEYS, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE SUBSTANTIAL PROOF OF WHAT CLOSURES ARE GOING TO BENEFIT.
- CLOSING AREAS WOULD INCREASE PRESSURE ON OTHER AREAS

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Rob Harris **Organization:** RESIDENT / REC / FOR-HIRE (DIRECTOR KWFT, SAFMC SNAPPER/GROUPER AP, VP TDC FISHING UMBRELLA, HOST OF "REELIN IN THE KEYS" TV SHOW)

Email: [redacted]

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

- DO NOT INCREASE SIZE NOR NUMBER OF CLOSED AREAS
- ANY CLOSED AREAS SHOULD BE CLOSED TO ALL USER GROUPS.
- CONDUCT STUDY ON IMPACT ON ALL USER GROUPS PRIOR TO ANY NEW REGS.
- AREAS CONSIDERED FOR CLOSURE SHOULD BE BASED ENTIRELY ON ACTUAL SCIENCE AND COORD VIA MANAGING ENTITIES SUCH AS NOAA, SAFMC, Gulf Council, FWC, LEO.
- ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING AND POTENTIAL NEW REGS MUST BE CONSIDERED.
- PUBLISH STUDIES OF EXISISTING SPAS & RESEARCH AREAS.
- IMPACT OF DIFFERENT USER GROUPS W/I SPA AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.
- BAIT FISHING W/ PERMIT SHOULD BE ALLOWED AS ALREADY AGREED
- ALL MISSING SIGNS & MARKERS UNDER FKNMS RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED / REPLACED IN TIMELY MANNER.
- REPRESENTATION FOR ALL USER GROUPS MUST BE MAINTAINED & CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IDENTIFIED
- IMPACT STUDIES OF LOBSTER FISHERIES & SPONGE FISHERIES
- IDENTIFY WHERE MONIES COME FROM FOR STUDIES SUCH AS MUTTON PROJECT

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Chris Trosset **Organization:** Lifetime Resident/charter fish inshore/offshore

Email: [redacted]

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☑ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Bait fishery, some of the proposed closures will cover specific areas that would ~~take~~ not allow me to catch bait for my charters. The ~~south side~~ Atlantic side within 100yds of the shore is my concern

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Steve H. **Organization:** Diving

Email: _____

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

(8) Allow Captains to be trained to have customers to trained on charter to hunt Lion fish. Open Lionfish to All ASAP.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(1) Keep marking for SPAs + ER well marked and checked frequently

(2) Governance of areas are confusing. Esp to tourist & local professionals and aware and seem to rest ERs & SPAs

(3) Simplify rules for different areas

(4) Closed should be close to all

(5) Water Qual is paramont. Enforce against largest on shore polutors

(6) Educate and aim enforcements to tourist. They are the worst offenders and least informed.

(7) Adaptive management to wild life changes that pinpoint targeted high value areas that are small in scale.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: John Paul Castro **Organization:** _____

Email: [redacted]

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☐ Yes, add me to the email list ☒ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

Closed areas

PUBLIC COMMENT

If an area is closed what will happen to the lionfish population?

Areas proposed closed for one species (example mutton) why should I not be able to harvest grouper or permit or anything?

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Mike Weinhofer **Organization:** Key West Sailfish Championship

Email: [redacted]

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

Additional Closures

PUBLIC COMMENT

Closures force a tranfer of Effort.
IS you Close western Dry Rocks you will transfer effort to other areas. Which will damage other areas.

Rileys hump worked well because there were not many users. Just lots of impact.

the issue of Spawn is a limit of fish issue. Should be addressed by bag limit.

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Bill Welker **Organization:** Charter Boat Owner/Operator

Email: [redacted]

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Reduce Bag Limits would work.
Closing Areas would Not Help Anything.

Dive Operations are Treated Differently than Fishermen.

No Dredging Key West Harbour

User Fees For Diving Industry

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT

*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: MARCO HERRERA **Organization:** COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN

Email: [redacted]

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☑ Yes, add me to the email list ☐ No, do not add me to the email list

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

PUBLIC COMMENT