Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review Artificial Habitat Working Group

Recommendations for Sanctuary Advisory Council Consideration

The following was voted on by working group participants – 19 in favor and 2 abstentions.

The artificial habitat working group of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) advisory council states that there is the potential for value to the placement of artificial habitat within FKNMS. Notably there are costs and benefits to the approval and appropriate placement of such structures. The working group recommends the conservative development of an action plan to be placed in the FKNMS management plan. Said action plan should be further developed in concept based on a consideration of all points made during the working group effort July 7-8, 2015, as well as existing body of knowledge, by the members of the working group to be presented to the advisory council and to be fully developed by FKNMS staff.