

# Partnerships for Resource Protection in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Steve Werndli

FKNMS Enforcement and Emergency Response Coordinator

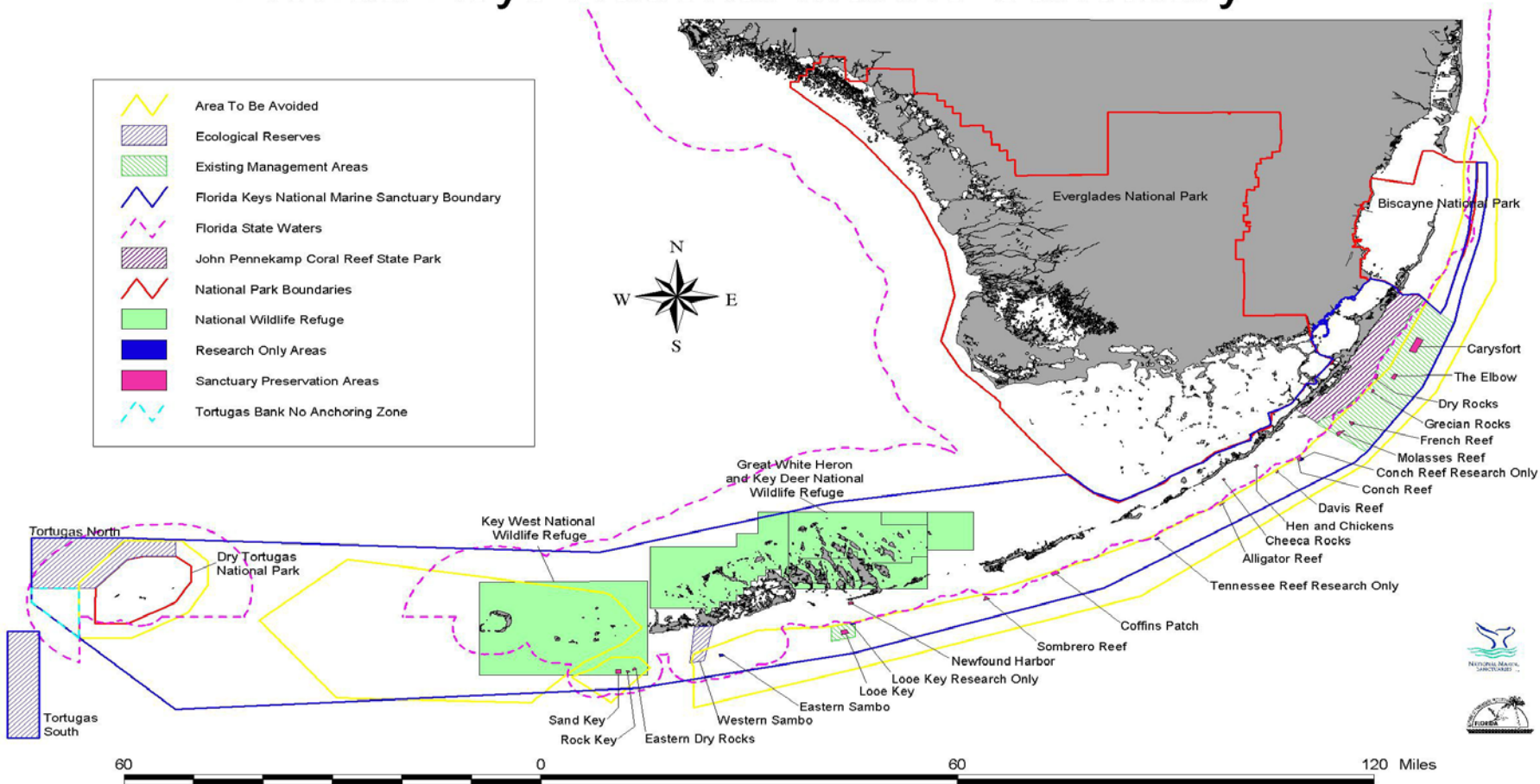
A presentation to the FKNMS Sanctuary Advisory Council  
February 18, 2014

# Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

National Marine Sanctuaries  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



## Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

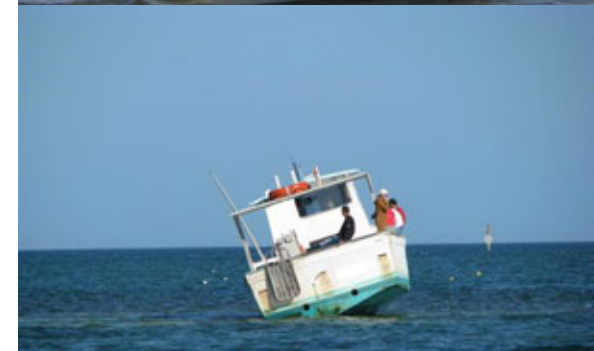


# Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary General Regulations

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- Dumping / Discharges
- Spearfishing
- Fishing
- Vessel Speed
- Personal Watercraft
- Vessel Access
- Groundings
- Marine Construction & Dredging
- Oil and Gas Development
- Touching / Standing on Coral
- Diving / Snorkeling
- Marine Life / Aquarium Collection



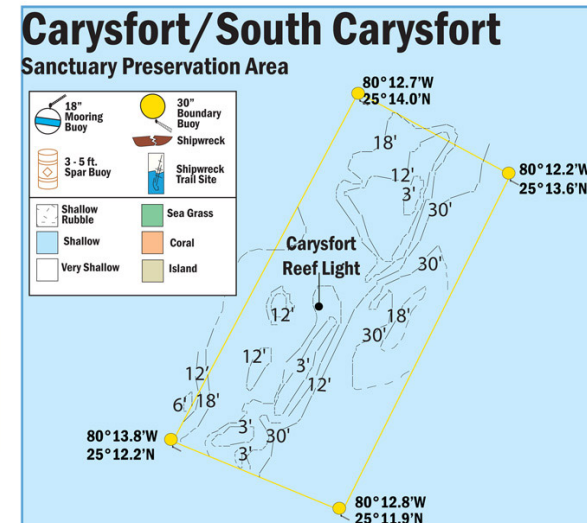
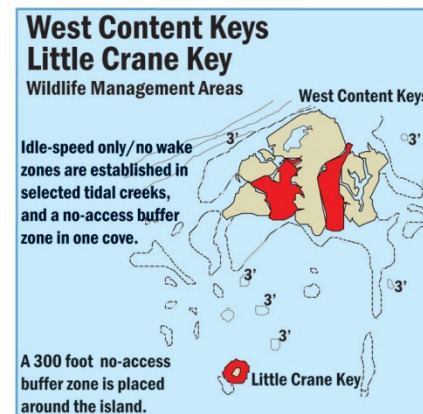
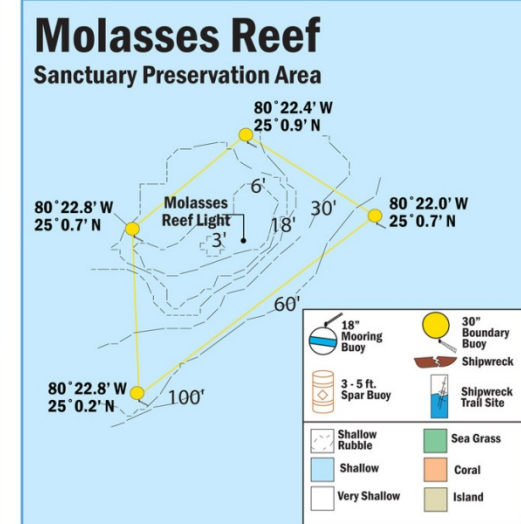
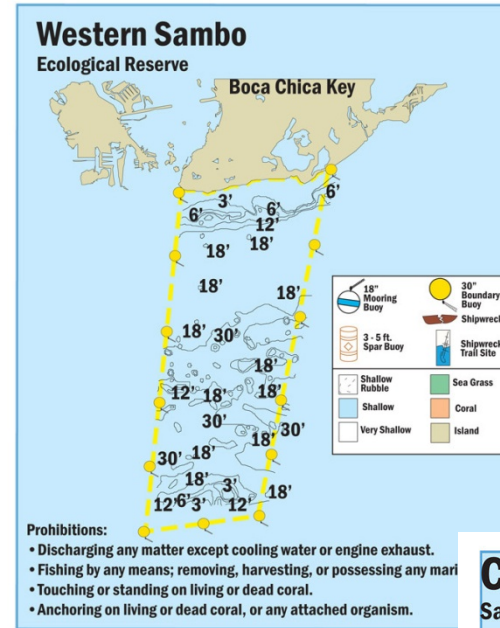


# Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Zone Specific Regulations

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- Sanctuary Preservation Areas (SPAs) and Ecological Reserves (ERs) – No Take Areas
- Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) – Access and Boating Restrictions
- Existing Management Areas (EMA) – Previously Designated Zones / Regulations
- Special Use Areas – Research Only
- Areas to be Avoided



# Types of Incidents and Violations

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Photo: USCG





# Enforcement within FKNMS

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# Surface Assets

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Photo: USCG



Photo: USCG



Photo: USCG



# Surface Assets

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Photo: MCSO



Photo: MCSO



Photo: FWC





# Aircraft

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Photo: FWC



Photo: USCG



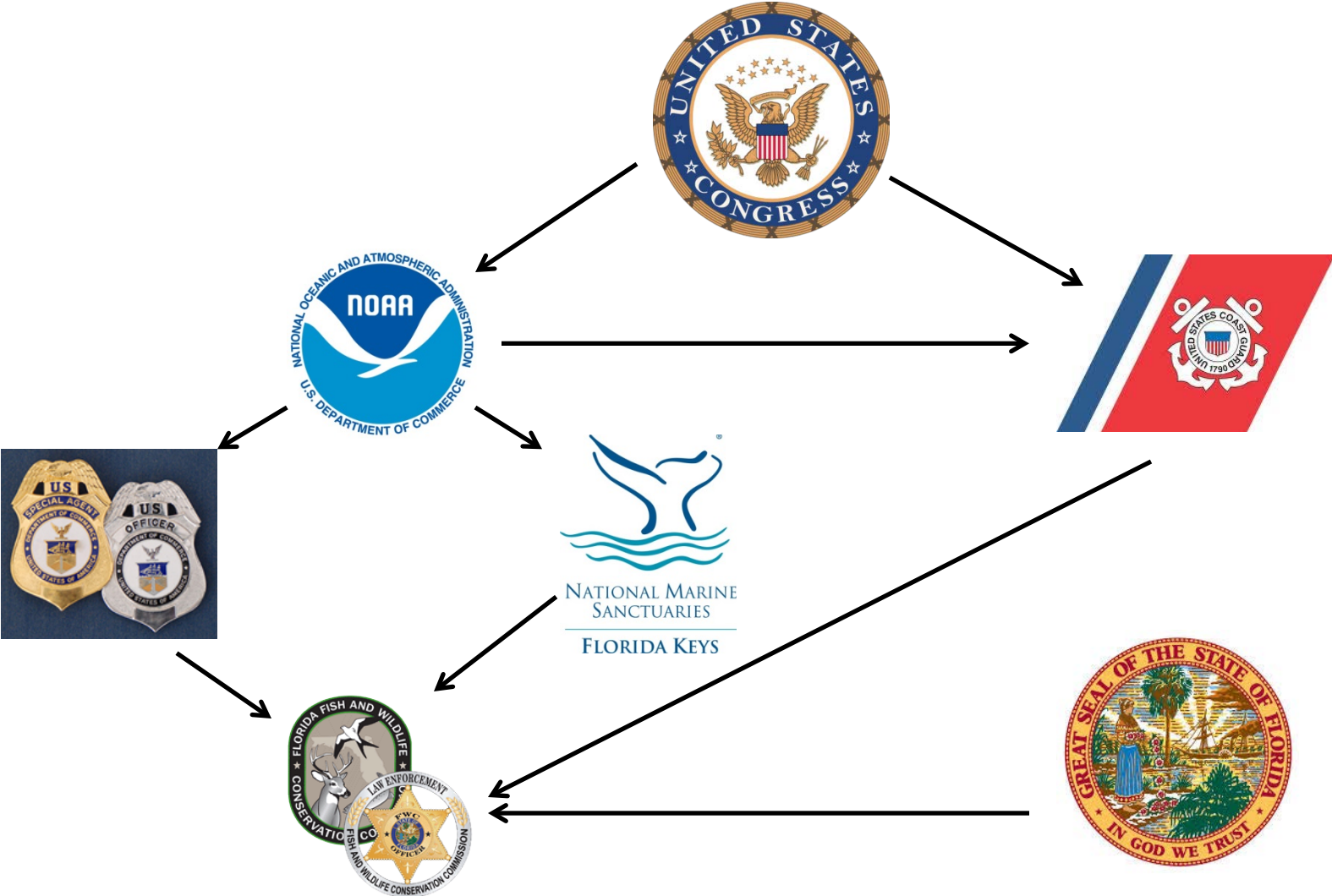
Photo: USCG



Photo: FWC

# Enforcement Funding

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# NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Cooperative Enforcement Program

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- Cooperative Enforcement Agreements
- Joint Enforcement Agreements
- Division Enforcement Plans



# FKNMS Joint Enforcement Agreement

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Since 2000, FKNMS has provided almost \$15 million to FWC for funding of officers and equipment and continues to provide \$1.5 million per year in resources to FWC to enforce FKNMS regulations. These funds are in addition to the \$1.1 million per year NOAA provides to FWC for enforcement of federal regulations throughout the State of Florida. More than 30% of the FKNMS budget goes towards the direct support of enforcement.

Peter Gladding: \$1.9 million dollars

\$150,000-\$200,000 per year to operation and maintenance of vehicles and vessels.

FKNMS also provides mechanics to maintain enforcement vessels, a team to maintain buoys that mark zone boundaries, a team to conduct assessments of injuries to sanctuary resources, and a team to provide programs educating the public on FKNMS regulations and the significance of sanctuary resources.



# FKNMS Joint Enforcement Agreement

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



- 6 Law Enforcement Vehicles
- P/V Peter Gladding
- 2 Near Shore Patrol Vessels
  - 4 total so 2 are always operational
- 1 Long Range Patrol Vessel
- Fuel and Maintenance
- Mechanics
- Mess Supplies (long range patrols)
- Travel for judicial proceedings
- Office/Meeting Space in Key Largo and Key West



# Additional FKNMS Programs Assisting with Enforcement

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Team OCEAN Volunteers



Public Involvement



Boater Education Programs



Buoy Program



Permits



# FKNMS Division Enforcement Plan

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Coral/Live Rock Removal: 100 hours



Discharge/Deposit: 100 hours



Wildlife Management Areas: 500 hours



Protected Wildlife: 50 hours

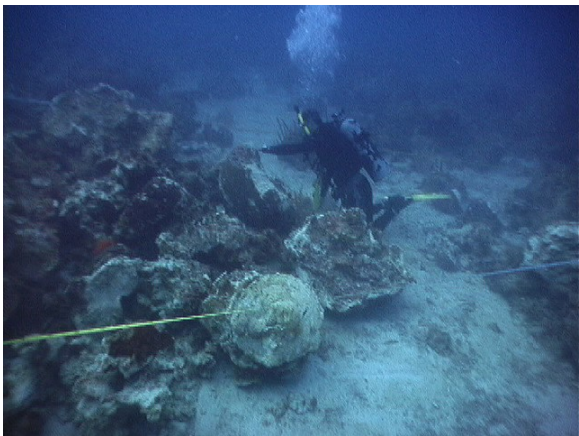


Areas To Be Avoided: 200 hours



# FKNMS Division Enforcement Plan

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



Tortugas Ecological Reserve: 2000 hours



Historical/Cultural Resources: 50 hours



Western and Eastern Sambo: 500 hours



Grounding Response: 150 hours



Sanctuary Preservation Areas: 1850 hours



# NOAA Office of Law Enforcement

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- A marine life wholesale dealer out of Grassy Key was charged with a violation of the Lacey Act for smuggling and selling corals nationally and internationally.
- An employee of the Idaho Aquarium was found guilty of obstruction of justice (federal court) and faces up to 5 years in prison and a fine up to \$250,000.
- Two Pompano Beach men were charged with exporting mislabeled sharks that were caught in the Keys. They were fined and surrendered their business licenses.
- A California based dealer obtained nurse sharks from the Keys that were obtained illegally from a local trap fisherman. The trap fisherman has since died but the dealer is facing violations of Lacey act and could be fined and incarcerated.

# Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

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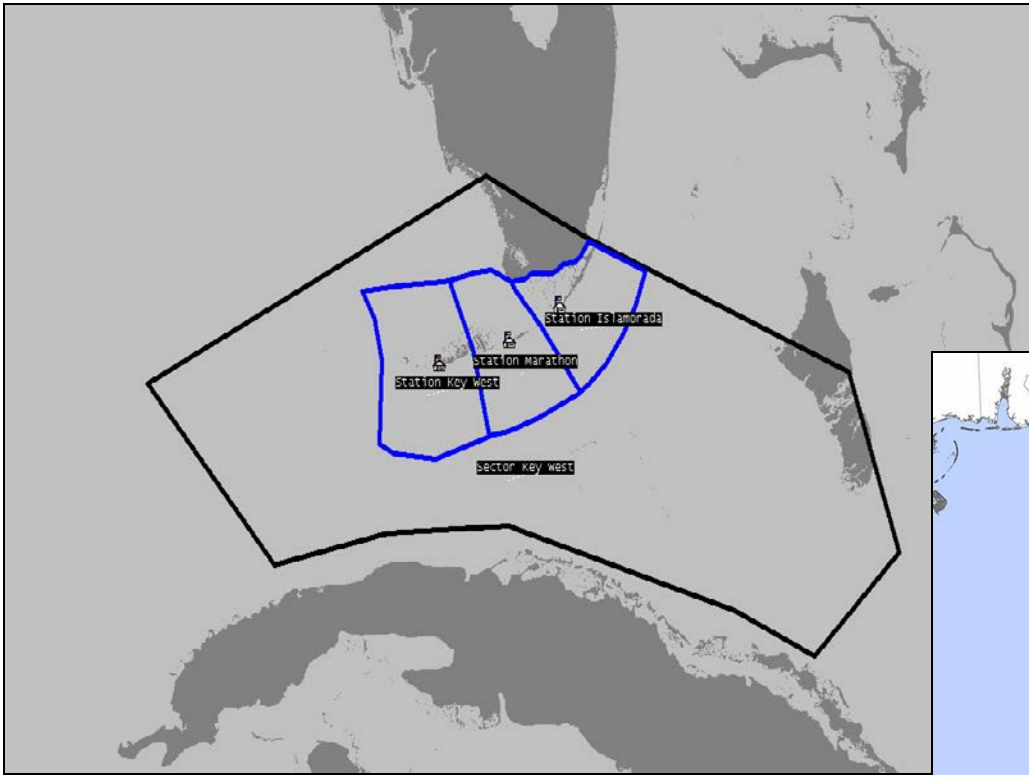
2012 FKNMS JEA (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013)

- 5,428 at sea personnel hours, 4,497 vessel hours, and 6,479 land based personnel hours
- Responded to 243 vessel groundings
- Issued 80 warnings and 85 citations for violations of FKNMS regulations



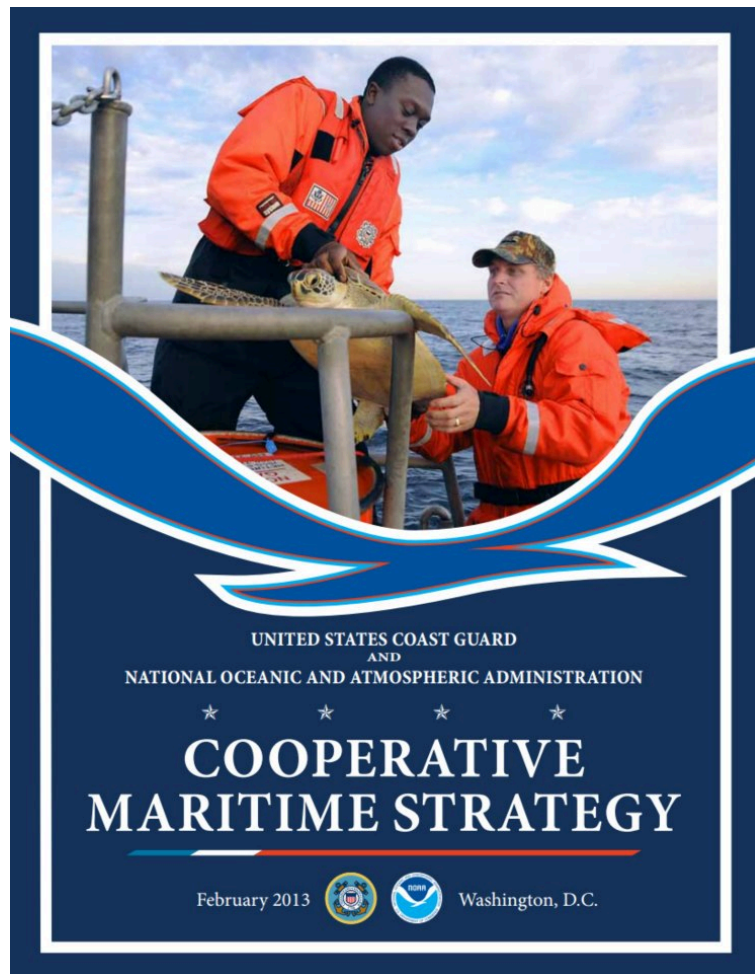
# USCG District 7 Sectors Miami and Key West

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# USCG Living Marine Resource Mission

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## USCG and USCG Auxiliary Missions Fiscal Year 2013

- USCG Sector Key West small boat station units conducted 1,128 Living Marine Resource boardings and 812 boating safety boardings.
- USCG Auxiliary Aircraft conducted nearly 50 flights totaling over 150 hours documenting 1,684 vessels using Sanctuary Preservation and Research Only Areas
- USCG Auxiliary Flotillas began weekly patrols of Sanctuary Preservation and Research Only Areas to educate boaters, protect FKNMS resources, and promote boating safety



# Monroe County Sheriff's Office

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Photo: MCSO



Photo: MCSO



Photo: MCSO

# Emergency Response

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Photo: USCG



Photo: USCG





# Contingency Planning

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## Free HAZWOPER Training

(HAZardous Waste OPerations and Emergency Response)

Become a Monroe County volunteer trained to assist various emergency responders during major pollution incidents

Training sessions to be held from 9 am until 5 pm:

- June 15 - Harvey Government Center, Key West
- August 15 - History of Diving Museum, Islamorada



To register or for more details call 1.888.470.5566 ext. 4  
or e.mail: [keys.volunteers@yahoo.com](mailto:keys.volunteers@yahoo.com)

Certificate of Completion awarded at end of course

Sponsored by the US Coast Guard, USCG Auxiliary and  
Monroe County Emergency Management

Photo: USCG



Photo: USCG



- FWC officers on board USCG Auxiliary Aircraft
- NOAA acquisition of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) having the potential for conducting enforcement and research missions
- Joint operations with USCG
- Joint training



