



# Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review

## Sanctuary Advisory Council 2012 Work-Plan Items: Actions for review and recommendation

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# Sanctuary Advisory Council Work-Plan (Completed)



- ✓ 12/11/2012 - Study Areas and Boundary Modifications
- ✓ 12/11/2012 - Personal Watercraft Tours / Fishing Conflicts
- ✓ 2/19/2013 - Vessel / Boating Licensing and Education
- ✓ 4/16/2013 - Education and Outreach
- ✓ 7/9/2013 - Alternative Funding / User Fee
- ✓ 8/20/2013 - Boater Education
- ✓ 2/18/2014 - Law Enforcement (Action – 4/15/2014)
- ✓ 6/17/2014 - Coral Reef Ecosystem Restoration
- ✓ 6/17/2014 - Shallow Water Wildlife and Habitat Protection
- ✓ 8/19/2014 - Ecosystem Protection: Ecological Reserves / Preservation Areas and Wildlife Protection

# Sanctuary Advisory Council Work-Plan (Remaining)



- Permit Procedures and Adaptive Management  
(Discussed at 2/13 and 8/13 Meetings)
- Artificial Habitats
- Water Quality  
(Discussed at 2/13 and 8/13 Meetings)
- Fishery Management Coordination  
(Discussed at 7/13 Meeting)

# Sanctuary Advisory Council Work-Plan



Potential Alternatives to Review in DEIS	Sanctuary Advisory Council Work-Plan Item
7	Permit Procedures
3	Adaptive Management
2	Artificial Habitats
1	Water Quality
2	Fishery Management Coordination

# Permit Procedures



ID	Evaluate for economic and environmental benefit/impact
PP-1	Create a new discharge exemption to allow dispersal of cremated human remains.
PP-2	Implement a prohibition on deserting or abandoning vessels and leaving harmful matter in vessels.
PP-3	Implement a prohibition on abandoning fishing gear.
PP-4	Clarify the discharge prohibition to address fish feeding by divers, by vessels for hire, and in general except during fishing.
PP-5	Implement a prohibition on large boats using mooring buoys not specifically marked "large vessel."

# Permit Procedures



ID	Consider administrative updates and evaluate for economic and environmental benefit/impact
PP-6	Update definitions and terminology to be consistent with state laws and Office of National Marine Sanctuary regulations. Categories include: boating restricted areas, anchoring impacts, existing management areas, submerged lands, nearshore construction definitions, littering, divers down, and protected wildlife.
PP-7	Modify requirements for Tortugas North Ecological Reserves Access Permits to allow requests for permits more than thirty days prior to any given trip and allow the permit to be valid for longer than two weeks. (At present access permits must be requested at least 72 hours but no longer than one month before the date the permit is desired to be effective and the permit is effective for a maximum of 2 weeks.)

# Adaptive Management



ID	Identify and evaluate options for adaptive management
AM-1	Design and implement an adaptive management framework to complement sanctuary regulations and strengthen the ability to more rapidly and flexibly respond to threats impacting sanctuary resources.
AM-2	Consider the following issues (as identified by the Council at the February and August 2013 Council meetings) as triggers /criteria to drive adaptive management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Restoration zones (i.e. zone management, identifying new zones, moving zones)</li><li>• Exotic / invasive species</li><li>• Species specific impacts following an event (i.e. hurricane or cold water event)</li><li>• Climate Change Impacts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Sea level rise</li><li>○ Warming that triggers coral bleaching and/or disease</li></ul></li><li>• New or intensified marine uses</li></ul>
AM-3	Update the emergency regulations to allow a temporary regulation to be in effect for up to six months, with one six month extension. (At present the emergency rule duration is 60 days with up to one 60 day extension.)

# Artificial Habitats



ID	Evaluate economic and environmental benefit/impact
AH-1	Create a sub-committee to serve as a liaison between the Sanctuary Advisory Council and the research community to identify targeted research needs and funding mechanisms to appropriately assess the benefits and impacts of artificial reefs.
AH-2	Evaluate alternatives including establishing control site(s) on existing artificial reefs to facilitate research on the four investigations identified in the 2007 Management Plan.

# Water Quality



<b>ID</b>	<b>Evaluate the economic and environmental benefit/impact</b>
<b>WQ-1</b>	Implement regulation of gray-water discharges from cruise ships similar to other National Marine Sanctuaries.

# Fishery Management Coordination



ID	Update Coordination Agreement & Engage with Fishery Management Bodies
FMC-1	As appropriate, provide recommendations to the fishery management bodies to increase coordination, consistency, and local input regarding fisheries in the Florida Keys.
FMC-2	Update the 1997 Protocol for Cooperative Fisheries Management as needed to implement changes in FKNMS fishing regulations.

For more information:

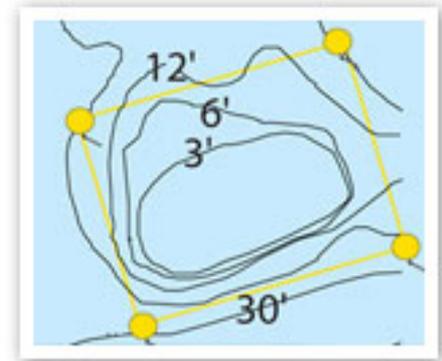
Visit our website at [floridakeys.noaa.gov](http://floridakeys.noaa.gov)

Regulatory Review process:

<http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/review/welcome.html>

Contact your Sanctuary Advisory Council Member:

<http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sac/members.html?s=sac>



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