

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**15 CFR Part 922**

[Docket No. 220516–0115]

RIN 0648–BJ14

**Proposed Rule for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Management Review: Blueprint for Restoration**

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is proposing several changes to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) to expand the boundary of the sanctuary, update sanctuary-wide regulations, update the individual marine zones and their associated regulations, and revise the sanctuary’s terms of designation. In addition, a revised draft management plan is included in the supporting material for this proposed rule. FKNMS currently protects 3,800 square miles of waters surrounding the Florida Keys, from south of Miami westward to the Dry Tortugas. Within the boundaries of the sanctuary lie spectacular, unique, and nationally significant marine resources including North America’s only coral barrier reef, extensive seagrass beds, mangrove-fringed islands, and more than 6,000 species of marine life. The sanctuary also protects pieces of our Nation’s history such as shipwrecks and other archeological resources. This proposed rule follows NOAA’s publication of a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) in August 2019, also referred to as the Restoration Blueprint, which included a range of alternatives. The proposed rule is necessary to improve the condition of resources in the Florida Keys through a series of regulatory measures designed to reduce threats and, where appropriate, restore coral reefs, seagrasses, and other important habitats. The intended effect of this proposed rule is to protect and preserve the living and heritage resources of the Florida Keys for the benefit of the public. NOAA is soliciting public comment on this proposed rule.

**DATES:**

*Comments due:* October 26, 2022.

*Public Comment Meetings:* NOAA will host four public comment meetings during the public comment period, one virtual and three in-person.

The virtual public comment meeting will occur at the following date and time:

- Tuesday, August 30, 2022, *Time:* 6 p.m.–9 p.m.

The in-person public meetings will occur at the following dates and times:

- Key Largo, FL; *Date:* September 20, 2022; *Location:* Key Largo Coral Shores High School Auditorium; *Address:* 89901 Old Hwy., Tavernier, FL 33070; *Time:* 6 p.m.–9 p.m.
- Marathon, FL; *Date:* September 21, 2022; *Location:* Marathon High School Auditorium; *Address:* 350 Sombrero Beach Rd., Marathon, FL 33050; *Time:* 6 p.m.–9 p.m.
- Key West, FL; *Date:* September 22, 2022; *Location:* Key West High School Auditorium; *Address:* 2100 Flagler Ave., Key West, FL 33040; *Time:* 6 p.m.–9 p.m.

Please check <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint> for meeting links and the most up-to-date information, should plans for these public meetings change. NOAA may end a virtual or in-person meeting before the time noted above if all participants have concluded their oral comments.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NOS–2019–0094, by the following methods:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and search for docket NOAA–NOS–2019–0094, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- *Written comments may also be mailed to:* Sarah Fangman, Superintendent, FKNMS, 33 East Quay Rd., Key West, FL 33040.

*Instructions:* Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NOAA. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personally identifiable information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NOAA will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Copies of the proposed rule, the DEIS, maps of the proposed management zones, and additional background materials can be found on the FKNMS website at <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov>. The notice of proposed rulemaking can also be downloaded or viewed on the internet at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (search for docket # NOAA–NOS–2019–0094).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Beth Dieveney, Policy Analyst, FKNMS, 33 East Quay Rd., Key West, FL, 33040, 305–797–6818 phone, or by email at [beth.dieveney@noaa.gov](mailto:beth.dieveney@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Introduction**

*1. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary*

Designated in 1990, FKNMS was the ninth national marine sanctuary to be established in a network that now comprises 15 sanctuaries and 2 marine national monuments. As one of the largest marine protected areas in the United States, the sanctuary currently protects approximately 3,800 square miles of coastal and ocean waters from the estuarine waters of South Florida along the Florida Keys archipelago to the Dry Tortugas, encompassing more than 1,700 islands. The ecosystems of FKNMS provide habitats for more than 6,000 species of fishes, invertebrates, and plants, in addition to uniquely expansive and diverse seagrass and coral reef communities.

The Florida Keys have more than 77,000 residents and up to 5.5 million annual visitors, and a local economy of nearly \$5.0 billion. In 2018, tourism spending in Monroe County accounted for \$2.4 billion, supporting 44 percent of jobs/employment in the county. Tourism activity and spending is heavily dependent on the maintenance of a healthy marine environment. Approximately 60 percent of the economy is tied directly to marine-related activities, including commercial and recreational fishing, boating, diving, wildlife viewing, and other various tourist-related activities. A declining marine environment puts the Florida Keys’ economy and jobs at risk.

*2. Need for the Proposed Rule*

The statutory bases for NOAA’s management of FKNMS are primarily the purposes and policies of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA; 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*), and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act (FKNMSPA, Public Law 101–605). The NMSA authorizes the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to, among other purposes and policies:

- “Provide authority for comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management of these marine areas, and activities affecting them, in a manner which complements existing regulatory authorities” (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)(2));
- “Maintain the natural biological communities in the national marine sanctuaries, and to protect, and, where appropriate, restore and enhance natural habitats, populations, and ecological processes” (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)(3));
- “Facilitate to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection, all public and private uses of the resources of these marine areas not prohibited pursuant to other authorities” (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)(6));
- “Develop and implement coordinated plans of the protection and management of these areas with appropriate Federal agencies, State and local governments . . . and other public and private interests concerned with the continuing health and resilience of these marine areas” (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)(7));
- “Create models of, and incentives for, ways to conserve and manage these areas, including the application of innovative management techniques” (16 U.S.C. 1431(b)(8)); and
- “Evaluate the substantive progress toward implementing the management plan and goals for the sanctuary, especially the effectiveness of site-specific management techniques and strategies, and shall revise the management plan and regulations as necessary to fulfill the purposes and policies of this chapter.” (16 U.S.C. 1434(e)).

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act (FKNMSPA, Public Law 101–605), directs NOAA to protect and preserve living and other resources of the Florida Keys marine environment, provide education on and interpretation of sanctuary resources to the public, and manage human uses of the sanctuary consistent with the FKNMSPA.

The need for this proposed rule is to respond to threats to marine resources of the Florida Keys, consistent with the purposes and policies of both the NMSA and the FKNMSPA. FKNMS is currently operating under the original regulations, including marine zones, that became effective in 1997, and a 2007 revised management plan, which directs the sanctuary’s non-regulatory management activities. In order to ensure long-term resource viability and ecosystem function, this management framework needs to be updated to address current and foreseeable future threats. Generally, the marine resources within

the sanctuary face increased risk from local, regional, and global threats; and changes in visitor numbers, use patterns, types, and shifting recreational interests. Specifically, these threats include diminished water quality originating from both within and outside the sanctuary, significant decrease in coral cover, and habitat degradation from vessel impacts including anchor damage, propeller-scarring, and groundings. Each of these threats has major implications for FKNMS.

In addition, updates are needed to the management regime in order to respond to the *2011 FKNMS Condition Report*,<sup>1</sup> which concluded that resources in the Florida Keys appear to be in fair to fair/poor condition, and are generally either stable or in decline. Since the release of the 2011 condition report, sanctuary resources have been further degraded by Hurricane Irma (2017), a serious and widespread coral disease outbreak, and a seagrass die-off, among other threats.

Furthermore, during scoping for the 2019 DEIS, the public emphasized the need for a more ecosystem-based management approach to better protect the region’s marine resources. To that end, there was strong support for sanctuary expansion and updated marine zones—actions that are consistent with the purposes and policies of the NMSA and the FKNMSPA. More specifically, the need for this proposed rule is to extend national marine sanctuary protections to areas that have significant marine resources with demonstrated biological and ecological connectivity to existing sanctuary resources and to adapt management strategies to changing conditions, use patterns, and emerging threats to resources. FKNMS’ efforts to update the sanctuary’s regulations and management plan are informed by recent scientific findings of degraded habitat in the sanctuary and how the condition of resources can improve with application of long-term management and conservation strategies, which include marine zoning.

At the same time, as articulated in the revised draft management plan, continued research, restoration, and education is needed to conserve and restore these nationally significant sanctuary resources. This work is critical for assessing changes occurring in the environment, fostering a stewardship ethic, and developing a better understanding of the ecosystem services that sanctuary resources

provide for communities throughout the Florida Keys.

In a parallel process, ONMS has been working to update the sanctuary regulations found at 15 CFR part 922. Part 922 includes general regulations applicable to all sanctuaries (subparts A through E) and site-specific regulations that relate to each individual sanctuary (subparts F through T). An interim final rule that was published at *87 FR 29606*<sup>2</sup> on May 13, 2022 updates and reorganizes the existing regulations, eliminates redundancies across the sanctuary regulations, eliminates outmoded regulations, adopts standard boundary descriptions, and consolidates general regulations and permitting procedures. All regulatory references to 15 CFR part 922 in this proposed rule are to be read as they will be amended by the interim final rule.

### 3. Incorporation by Reference

The definitions in § 922.162 for “marine life species” and “tropical fish” incorporate by reference the same definitions under State of Florida regulations for Marine Life found at Florida Administrative Code 68B–42.001 and 68B–42.002. Specifically, under these Florida regulations, the definitions of “marine life species” and “tropical fish” incorporate lists of species designated as “restricted species” found at 68B–42.002. Under Florida regulations, a fishing permit is required to target any species that fall under the definition of “marine life species” and “tropical fish.” Similarly, sanctuary regulations at § 922.163(a)(12) require that marine life species only be harvested from the sanctuary if authorized by a state permit or exemption. Sanctuary regulations at § 922.164(b)(2) also prohibit the collection of tropical fish from within two areas of the sanctuary that were formerly the Key Largo and Looe Key national marine sanctuaries. Florida regulations are readily accessible at <https://www.flrules.org/>. These Florida regulations are currently referenced in the existing sanctuary regulations; at this time NOAA is updating the language in order to comply with Office of Federal Register regulations for incorporation by reference found at 1 CFR part 51.

The definition of “traditional fishing” in § 922.162 incorporates by reference pages 84 through 91 of the 1996 Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Final Management Plan/Environment Impact Statement (1996 FL Keys NMS FMP/EIS (Vol. II)). This document was prepared

<sup>1</sup> <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/science/condition/fknms/welcome.html>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-05-13/pdf/2022-09626.pdf>.

by NOAA to accompany the promulgation of the initial regulations for the newly designated Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The document provides a detailed description of the commercial and recreational fishing activities that historically and presently (as of 1996) were conducted in the Florida Keys region, including targeted species, locations where and seasons when fishing occurred or occurs, and types of gears used to harvest those species. Exemptions from several sanctuary prohibitions for traditional fishing are found in § 922.163(a)(3) (prohibition on altering the seafloor), § 922.163(a)(4) (prohibition on discharges), and § 922.163(a)(14) (prohibition on fish feeding). For more discussion on NOAA's proposed update to the definition of "traditional fishing" to incorporate by reference the 1996 FL Keys NMS FMP/EIS (Vol. II), please see part III, section 2. *Sanctuary-wide Regulations*, paragraph e Fish Feeding. The 1996 FL Keys NMS FMP/EIS (Vol. II) is readily available at <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/mgmtplans/>.

## II. FKNMS 2019 DEIS—The Restoration Blueprint Process

### 1. Notice of Intent & Scoping

On April 19, 2012, NOAA and the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) published a notice of intent in the **Federal Register**. The notice informed the public of the proposal to develop a Draft Environmental Impact Statement

(DEIS), announced five public scoping meetings, and solicited public comment. ONMS and USFWS held public scoping meetings throughout the Florida Keys, in Ft. Myers and Miami and accepted written comments from April 19, 2012, to June 29, 2012. The website provides a scoping comments summary document<sup>3</sup> and original comments can be found at the regulations.gov docket for this notice of intent: *NOAA-NOS-2012-0061*.

In addition, as part of formal scoping, the FKNMS Sanctuary Advisory Council played a significant role throughout this review and the alternatives development process. Informed by their *2012 Regulatory and Marine Zone Alternatives Development Work Plan*<sup>4</sup> and input from four community working groups,<sup>5</sup> the Sanctuary Advisory Council provided over 200 recommendations for the sanctuary superintendent as well as the USFWS Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges Complex manager to consider when developing alternatives related to regulations and marine zones within the sanctuary. The website <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/review/workgroups.html> provides more

<sup>3</sup> <https://nmsfloridakeys.blob.core.windows.net/floridakeys-prod/media/archive/review/documents/scopingcommentssummary.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://nmsfloridakeys.blob.core.windows.net/floridakeys-prod/media/archive/sac/othermaterials/121211draftworkplan.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> These working groups included 35 additional community member participants, many of whom represented local, small Florida Keys businesses. For details see: <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/review/workgroups.html>.

information and summary documents of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and working groups.

### 2. Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Following the NOI and scoping, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the NMSA (16 U.S.C. 1434), NOAA prepared and released a DEIS and updated draft management plan on August 20, 2019 (84 FR 45728, September 3, 2019). The DEIS, also referred to as the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Restoration Blueprint, evaluated the environmental consequences of four specific alternatives (see Table 1) and provided an in-depth resource assessment. The alternatives in the DEIS considered sanctuary boundary expansion to protect ecologically connected habitats, proposed new or modified sanctuary-wide regulations, proposed to establish new and modify existing marine zones to protect additional sensitive and threatened coral reef, seagrass, hardbottom habitats and species dependent on these habitats, and included an updated draft management plan. The DEIS alternatives aim to address threats and protect sanctuary resources by separating conflicting uses and managing high intensity and concentrated use activities while still allowing sustainable uses compatible with FKNMS natural resource protection goals.

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**Table 1: DEIS Comparison of Alternatives**

<b>Components</b>	<b>Alternatives</b>			
	<b>Alternative 1 (no action)</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3 (preferred)</b>	<b>Alternative 4</b>
<b>Sanctuary boundary</b>	Alt. 1 (no action) 3,800 sq miles	Existing boundary ATBA <sup>1</sup> Tortugas Region 4,541 sq miles	Existing boundary ATBA Tortugas Region 4,541 sq miles	Existing boundary ATBA Tortugas Region Pulley Ridge 4,800 sq miles
<b>Sanctuary-wide regulations</b>	Alt. 1 (no action)	Update 3 existing Propose 4 new	Update 4 existing Propose 4 new	Update 5 existing Propose 4 new
<b>Marine zone boundaries<sup>2</sup></b>	Alt. 1 (no action) 57 total zones 1033 sq miles	96 total zones 1129 sq miles	98 total zones 1141 sq miles	98 total zones 1433 sq miles <sup>3</sup>
<b>Additional marine zone regulations</b>	Alt. 1 (no action)	Eliminate 2 exceptions Update 2 existing Apply more protective regulations than Alternative 1	Same as Alt. 2 or more protective (e.g., greater number of no entry areas)	Same as Alt. 2 or 3, or more protective (e.g., greater number of transits only areas)
<b>Management plan</b>	Alt. 1 (no action)	New proposed management plan	Same as Alternative 2	Same as Alternative 2

1. ATBA: The Area to Be Avoided are areas within the sanctuary, originally proposed by the USCG (55 FR 19418, May 9, 1990) and codified through the FKNMSPA, where operating any tank vessel or vessel over 50 meters length is prohibited.

2. Marine zone numbers and area calculations include Great White Heron and Key West National Wildlife Refuges.

3. The area estimate includes the boundary expansion at Pulley Ridge due to the application of a proposed no anchor regulation.

FKNMS mission to “protect the marine resources of the Florida Keys while facilitating human uses that are consistent with the primary objective of sanctuary resource protection,” would provide for more comprehensive management and protection of important and vulnerable ecological and cultural resources in the Florida Keys, and would provide important opportunities for research and recovery of resources from observed impacts. No significant adverse impacts to the human environment were identified under any alternative considered in the DEIS.

Due to broad public interest and the comprehensive nature of the review of FKNMS regulations and management plan, NOAA separated the DEIS and rulemaking processes to allow increased opportunity for public and agency input to inform this proposed rule. This proposed rulemaking combines individual aspects of each of the four alternatives presented in the DEIS and is directly informed by the thousands of public and agency comments received on the DEIS (see further discussion in part II, section 3. *Comments Received on the DEIS; Agency Consultations and Other Coordination* and part III. *NOAA’s Proposed Rule and How it was Informed by Public and Agency Comment* of this document).

### 3. *Comments Received on the DEIS; Agency Consultations and Other Coordination*

This section provides a high-level summary of public and agency coordination conducted and comments received on the 2019 DEIS. These comments formed the foundation for many of the changes NOAA considered and made between the 2019 DEIS Alternatives and this proposed rule.

#### a. Public Comments

NOAA accepted public comments on the DEIS from August 2019 to January 2020 through *regulations.gov* for Docket NOAA–NOS–2019–0094<sup>6</sup> by mail, and in person during six public hearings and two Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings in Key West, FL; Marathon FL; Key Largo/Islamorada, FL; Coral Gables, FL; and Ft. Myers, FL. Public comments are available for review at *www.regulations.gov* docket # NOAA–NOS–2019–0094.

NOAA received 1,213 separate comments during the public comment period, and several letter campaigns and petitions each with multiple signatories for a total of well over 35,000

comments. The types of organizations that commented include the following: state and federal agencies, local municipalities, homeowners’ associations, fishing organizations, diving organizations, non-governmental organizations, trade organizations, scientists, permit holders, and school groups.

The public comments are generally summarized below, and, where relevant to this proposed rulemaking are included in the specific sections below. A comprehensive summary of public comments along with responses to comments will be included in the final environmental impact statement (FEIS), which FKNMS anticipates will be published in 2022 following public review and comment on this proposed rule.

In general, public comments on the 2019 DEIS ranged from supporting no action or the status quo (Alternative 1) to supporting more protective actions than those proposed in Alternative 4. Many comments supported elements of Alternatives 3 or 4 at a minimum to adequately protect the Florida Keys ecosystem. Comments supportive of the alternatives in the 2019 DEIS referred to increasing threats to resources and a need to increase the size and associated regulations of marine zones. Comments in opposition to the alternatives in the 2019 DEIS primarily spoke against additional marine zones and other regulations that could potentially restrict user access. Many commenters cited a need to address large regional threats, including water quality, education, and enforcement.

#### b. FKNMS Advisory Council DEIS Review

The FKNMS Sanctuary Advisory Council hosted two meetings (October and December 2019) to hear public comment on the DEIS alternatives. From February through April 2020 the Sanctuary Advisory Council deliberated to prioritize issues and provide NOAA with recommendations.

The range of Sanctuary Advisory Council input is well represented in the range of general public comments received as outlined above and in part III. *NOAA’s Proposed Rule and How it was Informed by Public and Agency Comment*, below, so is not further detailed here.

#### c. Agency Consultations and Other Coordination

##### i. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Consultation

NOAA and USFWS jointly published a **Federal Register** notice of intent on

April 19, 2012, to notify the public of the agencies’ intent to prepare a DEIS and to initiate the scoping process. USFWS participated in the public scoping events and relevant community working groups (Shallow Water Wildlife and Habitat Protection) and provided subject matter expertise throughout development of the DEIS and this proposed rule. In addition, NOAA initiated Endangered Species Act consultation with USFWS Ecological Services in August 2019 and received comment on June 22, 2020. USFWS Ecological Services concurred with NOAA’s determinations for potential effects to protected species and noted that coordination with the Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges would be ongoing in the development of this proposed rule.

USFWS, through the Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuge Complex, provided comments on all proposed Wildlife Management Areas that fall within their National Wildlife Refuge boundaries. Highlights of USFWS comments specific to regulatory and marine zone proposals, including guiding principles that informed their comments, are included in the relevant sections below.

##### ii. DOI Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Consultation

DOI’s Bureau of Energy Management (BOEM) considered potential impacts to offshore wind and determined there would be no effect from NOAA’s proposed sanctuary expansion in the Florida Keys. BOEM further reviewed potential offshore oil and gas resources and due to uncertainty provided a low, mid, and high potential impact determination. BOEM determined effects to recoverable methane hydrates would be zero. BOEM identified an expired Outer Continental Shelf Marine Minerals lease less than 200 yards from the northern edge of the proposed sanctuary boundary expansion area that overlaps with the Atlantic Sand Aliquots, a potential sand resource site for beach renourishment projects. FKNMS has since confirmed with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Florida Department of Environmental Protection that the area has not been used as a sand borrow site since 2012.

##### iii. Regional Fishery Management Council Consultation: Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic

Pursuant to NMSA Section 304(a)(5), ONMS sent letters on August 22, 2019, to initiate consultation with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC) and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC).

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.regulations.gov/document/NOAA-NOS-2019-0094-0001/comment>.

NOAA also provided multiple updates at the respective Council meetings and various advisory and technical committees over the course of the development of the DEIS and throughout the public comment period following its release.

GMFMC submitted a comment letter dated February 21, 2020, and, in general, noted the need for additional information to facilitate stakeholder understanding of the proposals and engagement in the process and acknowledged the importance of water quality and impacts to coral and other important fish habitats.

SAFMC submitted a comment letter dated March 13, 2020 and, in general, noted concern about water quality degradation and its effects on the fisheries and coral reefs and the need for additional law enforcement.

Where relevant, highlights of GMFMC and SAFMC comments specific to regulatory and marine zone proposals are included in the sections below.

#### iv. U.S. Department of Defense Coordination

The Department of the Navy provided a summary of their operational environment and activities at Naval Air Station (NAS) Key West during development of the 2019 DEIS (see Appendix F of the DEIS). The Department of the Navy submitted a comment letter on March 2, 2020 and has continued to provide additional information and clarification on Navy activities in and adjacent to the sanctuary throughout the development of this proposed rule. Navy comments included additional information about existing operations in and adjacent to the sanctuary and comments on specific zone proposals in the 2019 DEIS that may impact naval operations are included in relevant sections below.

#### v. State of Florida Coordination

NOAA has worked closely with several Florida state agencies throughout the public scoping process, and development of the DEIS and this proposed rule. As 60 percent of the sanctuary is within Florida State waters, the sanctuary is cooperatively managed with the State of Florida, with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) as lead agencies. The Florida Department of State through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is also a key resource management partner for sanctuary historical resources. NOAA coordinates with other state agencies as needed on topic-specific issues. Several co-trustee agreements outline a

framework for this cooperative management relationship. These agreements are currently under review and any revised and/or new co-trustee agreements will be included in the FEIS.

#### Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Florida DEP staff has coordinated directly with sanctuary staff, was represented by a Florida State Parks staff member at most Sanctuary Advisory Council community working group meetings where they provided management perspective and resource status and use data, and has an official non-voting seat on the Sanctuary Advisory Council. DEP submitted a comment letter to NOAA on the 2019 DEIS on May 1, 2020. Generally, DEP comments acknowledged the valuable partnership with the sanctuary and the role DEP's Division of State Lands plays with regards to managing State sovereign submerged lands. DEP also commented that they believed the areas of greatest public concern are water quality, enforcement, habitat restoration, and education and outreach. Highlights of DEP comments specific to regulatory and marine zone proposals are included in the relevant sections below.

#### Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Florida FWC staff has coordinated directly with sanctuary staff, notably with Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) experts assigned to provide scientific and technical support for each of the Sanctuary Advisory Council community working groups. Florida FWC staff also served as a co-chair with FKNMS to facilitate one working group, and has an official non-voting seat on the Sanctuary Advisory Council. NOAA also provided multiple updates at FWC meetings over the course of the development of the 2019 DEIS and throughout the public comment period. In addition, FWRI research findings directly informed various regulatory and zoning aspects of this proposed rule.

FWC submitted a comment letter to NOAA on the 2019 DEIS on April 29, 2020. FWC articulated a suite of guiding principles that informed their comments. FWC further commented on several management plan issues including law enforcement, education, water quality, coral reef ecosystem and recovery, carrying capacity, and artificial reefs. Highlights of FWC's comments specific to regulatory and marine zone proposals are included in the relevant sections below.

#### Florida State Historic Preservation Office

The Florida State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Florida Division of Historical Resources staff have coordinated with FKNMS staff to review and develop an updated draft *Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Operations, Management, and Permitting* (Programmatic Agreement), which was included in the DEIS (Appendix C) for public comment. In addition, the SHPO submitted a comment letter to NOAA on the 2019 DEIS on January 31, 2020 that noted the DEIS Preferred Alternative (Alternative 3) would sufficiently address the sanctuary's National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 (54 U.S.C. 306108) responsibilities through implementation of the new management plan and Section 106 Programmatic Agreement.

### III. NOAA's Proposed Rule and How It Was Informed by Public and Agency Comment

The following sections summarize the proposed rule including a brief discussion of comments received on the 2019 DEIS and how they informed the proposed rule. In addition to comments received the proposed rule is also informed by additional agency input and scientific and user data.

These sections are organized in the same way they were presented in the 2019 DEIS/Restoration Blueprint:

1. sanctuary boundary;
2. sanctuary-wide regulations;
3. marine zone boundaries within the sanctuary; and
4. marine zone regulations.

A revised draft management plan is included as supporting material and is available at the address and website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule.

#### 1. Sanctuary Boundary

There are three principal areas where NOAA is proposing changes to the FKNMS boundary. First, NOAA seeks to align the FKNMS seaward boundary with the northernmost Area to Be Avoided (ATBA) seaward boundary, which by doing so will also encompass two areas of the existing ATBA that currently fall outside the sanctuary boundary (two small areas of the ATBA along the Key West shipping channel); second, to encompass the proposed modified Tortugas South Conservation Area (which is currently referred to as the Tortugas South Ecological Reserve); and third, to include a non-contiguous

area at Pulley Ridge. First, the boundary expansion to align with the ATBA would result in a consistent regulatory boundary, which is intended to provide clarity for mariners and additional ecosystem protections. The ATBA areas within the sanctuary were established through the FKNMSPA and prohibit operating any tank vessel or vessel over 50 meters length within specified areas to protect coral reef habitat from potential vessel impacts, including groundings. Second, the proposal for boundary expansion in the Tortugas region takes into account recently collected and compiled mapping coverage data and remotely operated vehicle imagery in the southern portion of the existing Tortugas South Ecological Reserve which show unique and sensitive habitat features in this area (for more details on this information see part III, section 3. *Marine Zone Boundaries within the Sanctuary*, below). And third, NOAA intends to create a non-contiguous sanctuary area that encompasses the southern portion of Pulley Ridge to protect the deepest known photosynthetic coral reef system off the coast of the continental United States. In addition to sanctuary-wide regulations, NOAA is proposing a no anchor regulation in Pulley Ridge that would apply to all vessels to reduce the risk of damage to this fragile coral marine environment (for more details see part III, section 3. *Marine Zone Boundaries within the Sanctuary*, below).

NOAA received many comments that supported the status quo (*i.e.*, no change to the overall sanctuary boundary). NOAA also received comments specific to the sanctuary boundary proposals. Of those, the majority were in support of providing additional protections in the Tortugas region and Pulley Ridge, and supported aligning the sanctuary boundary with the ATBA. One comment suggested that NOAA explore other ways to protect Pulley Ridge from anchors. In response, NOAA is considering pursuing International Maritime Organization adoption of a no anchoring area designation for Pulley Ridge, which may affect NOAA's decision about whether to include boundary expansion at Pulley Ridge in the final rule. Comments also specifically opposed boundary expansion at Pulley Ridge because this area is already protected as a GMFMC Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC), and questioned the need for additional action and the ability to enforce regulations in this area. NOAA's proposal considers the HAPC designation. The HAPC is limited to

fishing vessels and will not prevent anchoring and anchor damage by non-fishing vessels like the ones documented in GMFMC's letter. Specific to proposed sanctuary boundary expansion in Pulley Ridge, the FMCs and NMFS emphasized a need to consider the interests of fishermen who fish in Pulley Ridge but do not live in the Florida Keys and are therefore potentially unaware of the sanctuary and associated regulations and management goals. Throughout the scoping and 2019 DEIS public comment process, FKNMS made a concerted effort to provide notice and opportunity for engagement by these non-Florida Keys residents through hosting scoping meetings, informational sessions, and public comment meetings (*e.g.*, Ft. Myers, FL).

Agency comments, specifically from FWC, requested that the proposed boundary in the Tortugas region be shifted further north due to a lack of knowledge about resources in the southern portion of the existing Tortugas South Ecological Reserve (see part III, section 3. *Marine Zone Boundaries within the Sanctuary* for details as to why NOAA is not proposing this marine zone boundary change).

## 2. Sanctuary-Wide Regulations

This section describes regulations that would apply throughout the sanctuary (*i.e.*, sanctuary-wide). This section includes a discussion of how the proposed rule was informed by comments received on the sanctuary-wide regulatory alternatives proposed in the 2019 DEIS and additional relevant information, including discussing why some regulatory alternatives were not carried forward in these proposed regulations.

### a. Live Rock Aquaculture

NOAA's proposed rule maintains the current exception for live rock aquaculture from sanctuary-wide regulatory prohibitions if authorized by a submerged lands lease issued by the Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services or a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Aquacultured Live Rock permit, which is issued under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) authority in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers via the Programmatic General Permit SAJ-71. Additionally, NOAA proposes to develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NMFS and Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services related to live rock aquaculture in the sanctuary. This MOA

would enhance inter-agency collaboration, clarify the process by which such proposals are reviewed, and ensure that requirements to protect sanctuary resources are included in live rock aquaculture permits. The proposal to develop the MOA is included in the revised draft management plan, which is included with this proposed rule as a supporting document.

The DEIS included a regulatory alternative that would have required live rock aquaculture operations to obtain a separate sanctuary permit, in addition to state or NMFS permits. However, public comments supported either (1) maintaining the status quo (*i.e.*, no change from current regulations), which provides an exception for permitted live rock aquaculture operations from sanctuary prohibitions, or (2) developing a MOA with NMFS and Florida Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, which was the preferred alternative (Alternative 3) in the DEIS. After considering public comment, NOAA believes that a MOA will allow NOAA to ensure protection of sanctuary resources through inter-agency collaboration without requiring a separate sanctuary permit.

### b. Discharge Regulation Exception

NOAA proposes to update the existing discharge regulation to explicitly prohibit discharge by cruise ships, and to simplify and clarify terminology by removing the exception for "exhaust gas" and "water generated by routine vessel operations." Each of these are explained in more detail below.

NOAA has a long history of regulating various discharges under the NMSA to ensure that the discharges do not degrade water quality within the sanctuary. When the original FKNMS regulations were implemented in 1997, NOAA established prohibitions against discharging most items into the sanctuary, with exceptions for bait or chum, biodegradable effluent from approved marine sanitation devices, graywater and deck washdown during routine vessel operations, and vessel cooling water and engine exhaust. In sanctuary zones, such as Sanctuary Preservation Areas and Ecological Reserves, NOAA established more stringent regulations to only allow discharge of vessel cooling water and engine exhaust. The 1997 regulations also prohibited the discharge of material or other matter from outside the sanctuary that enters and injures a sanctuary resource. In 1999, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established a No Discharge Zone under

the Clean Water Act (CWA) for vessel sewage in Key West, Florida, within State waters, in response to a petition from the State. The No Discharge Zone prohibited the discharge of untreated or treated vessel sewage, including from marine sanitation devices. Subsequently EPA expanded the No Discharge Zone to all State waters of the sanctuary (67 FR 35735;<sup>7</sup> May 21, 2002). In 2010, NOAA removed the exception for discharges from marine sanitation devices in the entire sanctuary under the NMSA, thereby making all sanctuary waters a no discharge zone under the NMSA (75 FR 72655;<sup>8</sup> Nov. 26, 2010). Comments on NOAA's rulemaking at that time also supported banning harmful vessel graywater discharges, especially from large cruise ships and cargo vessels. While NOAA did not ban graywater discharges in 2010, NOAA responded by noting that additional water quality regulations may be considered in future FKNMS management plan reviews.

Under its NMSA authorities, NOAA now proposes to further restrict discharges from cruise ships while in the sanctuary. Specifically, the proposed rule would prohibit discharges of any material or other matter from a cruise ship, except cooling water. This change would result in prohibiting the discharges of graywater and deck washdown from cruise ships, which are currently exempt from the prohibitions. Cruise ships are among the largest vessels traversing the sanctuary and the source of a considerable volume of discharges. Scientific literature discusses the adverse effects of various cruise ship discharges on the marine environment, including brine from desalination equipment, ballast water, and spa/pool water, among others. NOAA believes that it is feasible for cruise ships to successfully avoid discharging in sanctuary waters because cruise ship operations in sanctuary waters are extremely limited to entering and leaving the port of Key West. In addition, certain routine maintenance activities may occur while a cruise ship is in port within the sanctuary, including hull cleaning or scraping and application of antifouling paint, which may alter water quality. These activities may occur in other ports in less sensitive ecosystems outside of the sanctuary.

This proposed rule is informed by information received through

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/FR-2002-05-21/02-12283>.

<sup>8</sup> [https://nmsanctuaries.blob.core.windows.net/sanctuaries-prod/media/archive/management/fr/75\\_fr\\_72655.pdf](https://nmsanctuaries.blob.core.windows.net/sanctuaries-prod/media/archive/management/fr/75_fr_72655.pdf).

coordination with the EPA, notably the agency's studies related to cruise ship discharges and vessel operations in other sensitive marine environments (classified as "Waters Federally Protected wholly or in part for Conservation Purposes" under the EPA Vessel General Permit). NOAA also considered information related to the successful management of cruise ship operations in certain National Parks, including Glacier Bay, Alaska where, through concession agreements, cruise ships operate with higher environmental standards when in park waters.

NOAA determined that the 2019 DEIS alternatives, which proposed instead to specify certain discharges that would be allowed by cruise ships (e.g., "clean wash water") would be extremely difficult to define based on changing industry standards. The use of such terms could be interpreted differently among stakeholders, which could create compliance and enforcement challenges. Further, NOAA reasonably believes there may be new and emerging technologies and activities on cruise ships that may result in discharges into ocean waters, such as the increased use of exhaust gas scrubber systems, the impacts of which are not fully defined in the scientific literature. As such, instead of attempting to itemize every current and possible future discharge and assess whether it would be prohibited or not, NOAA is proposing to apply the precautionary principle by prohibiting all discharges from cruise ships, except for cooling water.

NOAA would continue to provide an exception to the discharge prohibition for cooling water from all vessels, including cruise ships, because it is currently technologically infeasible for cruise ships to operate without discharging cooling water. However, this exception does not apply if cooling water is mixed with other substances. In particular, cooling water that is mixed with any other substances, such as exhaust gas cleaning systems (EGCS) scrubber wash water, would be prohibited.

NOAA proposes to remove the exception for "exhaust gas" from its discharge prohibitions for all vessels to reduce confusion. NOAA believes the original intent of this exception was to allow the discharge of boat engine wet exhaust, rather than exhaust emissions, since NOAA does not regulate air emissions. The term "cooling water" encompasses "boat engine wet exhaust," which is defined in the EPA Vessel General Permit (Section 2.2.21) as the ambient water that is injected into the exhaust for cooling and noise

reduction purposes and then discharged, typical of marine outboard engine operation. NOAA does not believe "boat engine wet exhaust" or "cooling water" would include any other discharges including EGCS scrubber wash water.

NOAA also proposes to simplify the exception for discharges of "water generated by routine vessel operations." The current regulatory exception for discharges of "water generated by routine vessel operations (e.g., deck wash down and graywater as defined in section 312 of the CWA), excluding oily wastes from bilge pumping," does not clearly explain what types of discharges are allowed. Specifically, the term "water generated by routine vessel operations" is not defined in FKNMS or other agency rules (compared with the terminology used by the Clean Water Act for "discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel"), creating ambiguity as to what, if any, additional discharges are meant to be excepted from the regulatory prohibition besides deck washdown and graywater. Based on a review of the original regulations and management plan for the sanctuary, NOAA believes the intention of this exception was simply to allow discharges of cooling water (including boat engine wet exhaust), deck washdown, and graywater, and to explicitly prohibit the discharge of oily bilge wastes. At this time, NOAA is proposing to make technical corrections to the discharge exceptions to simplify this provision to clearly explain that cooling water, deck washdown, and graywater are allowable discharges from vessels other than cruise ships, but oily wastes from bilge pumping are not. NOAA continues to intend that the terms "cooling water," "deck washdown," "graywater," and "oily wastes from bilge pumping" have the same meaning as these terms pursuant to section 312 of the CWA, but believes that inclusion of the citation to that statute in the regulatory text is unnecessary. Discharges of fish and fish parts when part of a traditional fishing activity are allowed under another exception to the discharge prohibitions and would not change.

Of note, on December 4, 2018, Congress passed the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA) (Title IX of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018). VIDA requires the EPA to develop new national standards of performance for commercial vessel incidental discharges and the United States Coast Guard to develop corresponding implementing regulations. At the time of publication of this NMSA proposed rule for the



FKNMS, implementing regulations for VIDA have not yet been published. However, NOAA acknowledges that when those regulations are finalized, there may be additional discharge prohibitions placed on vessels operating in federally protected waters such as national marine sanctuaries. NOAA would review any VIDA implementing regulations to ensure they are consistent with the sanctuary's primary goal of resource protection and to determine whether conforming changes to the sanctuary regulations may be necessary and appropriate.

During the 2019 DEIS process, public comments strongly supported the need to take additional action related to sanctuary water quality; this included support for revising the existing discharge regulation exceptions to prohibit graywater discharges from cruise ships. Comments also requested clarification about specific discharges that may be allowed and required technological standards (e.g., closed loop or hybrid exhaust gas cleaning systems). NOAA has intended to address this concern through simplifying the language and intent of the cruise ship discharge prohibition from the 2019 DEIS proposal to this proposed rule.

#### c. Temporary Regulation for Emergency and Adaptive Management

NOAA proposes updating the existing regulations to allow for rapid, temporary rulemaking to facilitate time-sensitive, adaptive management and respond to emergencies. First, the proposed rule would expand the time frame during which any temporary regulation could remain in place from 60 days to six months, with the option for one additional extension of six months (rather than the currently authorized additional 60 days). While NOAA's proposal is to extend the potential time frame that a temporary regulation could be in effect, NOAA would consider the specific circumstances and craft any temporary regulation for the appropriate duration, which may be less than the maximum time allowed under this proposed regulation. Second, this proposed rule outlines three categories for which NOAA would issue temporary regulations (as outlined below in this section). Third, this proposed rule would set out the procedure by which a temporary regulation would be promulgated. This includes the requirement that the agency provide a justification for the time sensitivity of the action to comply with the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B)). This procedure also (1) addresses notice and comment

requirements, and (2) requires State approval for any temporary regulations proposed in State waters. NOAA intends to work with its state partners to clarify the process for actions in State waters in co-trustee management agreements.

NOAA proposes three categories for temporary regulation to protect sanctuary resources when time is of the essence. The first category would allow for temporary regulations to prevent or minimize destruction of, loss of, or injury to sanctuary resources from any human-made or natural circumstances, including a concentration of human use, change in migratory or habitat use patterns, vessel impacts, natural disaster or similar emergency, disease, or bleaching. Second, temporary regulations may be used to initiate restoration, recovery, or other activities where a delay would undermine the success of the activity. Lastly, NOAA may use temporary regulations to initiate research where an unforeseen event produces an opportunity for scientific research that may be lost if it is not initiated immediately.

Importantly, temporary regulations would only allow NOAA to shorten or bypass minimum public comment periods if NOAA makes a finding of "good cause" that such procedures are "impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest" pursuant to Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B)). This finding must be made before promulgating a temporary regulation without following the full rulemaking procedures, including public notice and comment. While NOAA must make this required finding before promulgating a temporary regulation under this proposal, NOAA believes that all three of the temporary regulation categories will satisfy this good cause requirement because each of these categories requires NOAA to take rapid, immediate actions in order to address an important and time-sensitive environmental need. However, when any given issue arises, NOAA will review it on a case by case basis to determine if application of this proposed rule is consistent with the Administrative Procedure Act. Where the agency determines that time is available without jeopardizing the effectiveness of the action, NOAA will follow notice and comment procedures, even for temporary actions.

Public comments included support for NOAA's authority to respond to emergencies and to allow NOAA to be more responsive to emerging issues that would benefit from immediate management action. NOAA believes this proposal provides a framework for such

immediate actions where one did not previously exist. Comments also included concerns that the proposal to expand the time that a temporary regulation could be in place (from a maximum of 120 days to a maximum of one year) would subvert the public comment process required for rulemaking. NOAA is addressing this concern in this proposed rule by identifying categories for which temporary regulations may be promulgated for the public to provide comments, and has incorporated the existing requirements from the Administrative Procedure Act to demonstrate good cause. Some commenters recommended the sanctuary consider different time frames for sanctuary-wide versus marine zone emergencies. NOAA believes different maximum time frames would hamper NOAA's management flexibility. NOAA has established a maximum time frame (six months with one six-month extension), but NOAA would consider shorter time frames where appropriate to meet management needs. Comments also voiced concerns that "emergency" was not clearly defined. NOAA believes it would be clearer and more efficient to establish well-defined categories, criteria, and processes for temporary regulations to respond to time-sensitive needs to manage sanctuary resources, rather than attempt to define "emergency."

State agency, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council comments noted concern about application of the emergency regulation to fishing and related businesses; however, the comments also supported aligning the time frame (up to one year) with regulations that provide for emergency actions in section 305(c) of the MSA. NOAA has chosen to increase the time frame to harmonize with the emergency time frames as outlined in section 305(c) of the MSA, as well as other national marine sanctuary regulations. State agency comments emphasized the need for Governor approval for all proposed temporary regulations in State waters and recommended that a process be developed and codified in co-trustee management agreements for FWC and the Governor to engage on temporary regulations in State waters prior to approval. NOAA proposes to maintain the requirements for Governor approval for temporary regulations in State waters and proposes to work with FWC to develop a streamlined co-trustee process.

While NOAA is proposing these regulations to allow greater

responsiveness to emerging issues and in response to public comment, in the history of the sanctuary FKNMS has only issued emergency regulations on three separate occasions. In 1997, the emergency regulation was used to prohibit anchoring of vessels 50 meters or greater in an area of Tortugas Bank, which was subsequently established through a full rulemaking process. In 2002, an area of approximately 0.58 acres was identified as an area to avoid for a period of 104 days at the M/V *Wellwood* grounding site. Finally, in 2003, two areas totaling 425 acres were closed for a period of 60 days to prevent additional injury to living coral in an area impacted by a rapidly spreading coral disease outbreak.

#### d. Historical Resources Permitting

NOAA proposes to update historical resource permitting by replacing the current survey/inventory, research/recovery, and deaccession/transfer permit categories with a new, single archaeological research permit category. The proposed rule would define the term “archaeological research,” explain criteria that must be met in order for NOAA to issue an archaeological research permit (including applicant qualifications), and prescribe certain conditions that would apply to these permits. This would align sanctuary historical resource permitting with state permitting regulations for archaeological research promulgated under Chapter 1A–32, Florida Administrative Code, and optimize compliance with the *Federal archeology program*.<sup>9</sup> The Federal archeology program is a general term used to encompass archeological activities on public land, as well as archaeological activities for federally financed, permitted, or licensed activities on non-federal land. Its foundation is based upon historic preservation laws like the National Historic Preservation Act and Archaeological Resources Protection Act. Dozens of federal agencies, including NOAA, undertake archeological activities and contribute to the Federal archeology program. The Secretary of the Interior is charged with providing general guidance and coordination for all of Federal archeology.

The proposed archaeological research permit category would simplify permitting research focused on historical resources in the sanctuary, including the State waters portion of the sanctuary. While the current system requires separate NOAA and Florida

Division of Historical Resources permits for archaeological research activities in State waters, the proposed archaeological research permit category combined with the process set forth in the draft *Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Operations, Management, and Permitting*, would create a single review process for most types of archaeological research in State waters. Research that results in adverse effects to historic properties would not qualify for this simplified permitting process. For example, adverse effects to historical resources may result from site excavation in which case the proposed activity would need to be separately permitted by the State and sanctuary.

The current permitting system is unnecessarily complicated and confusing to applicants as it artificially bisects the archaeological research process. Division of permits into either survey/inventory or research/recovery often resulted in insufficient research plans to meet project goals. The proposed archaeological research permit category would require that applicants commit to following an explicit statement of objectives and that project methods be chosen to gather the information required to meet the stated objectives.

The proposed archaeological research permit category would also require that an applicant be the project’s supervising archaeologist whose qualifications meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards for archaeology. This aligns with the required credentials for investigators receiving a state archaeological research permit under Chapter 1A–32, Florida Administrative Code. Additionally, the proposed permit category would require that the supervising archaeologist be on site for any excavation and/or artifact recovery. As a result of these proposed changes, NOAA believes that the quality of the research, both proposed and conducted, will be improved. NOAA anticipates that the reporting of research results will also be of higher quality when directed by a professional archaeologist with the required field experience. For the above reasons, NOAA believes that the proposed archaeological research permit category with associated application and review criteria will increase the protection of historical resources throughout the sanctuary.

In addition to the above changes, NOAA proposes to eliminate the permit category allowing for the deaccession/transfer of historical resources.

Eliminating the deaccession/transfer of historical sanctuary resources is consistent with Chapter 1A–31, Florida Administrative Code, which states that the State of Florida will not issue permits for exploration and recovery of historic shipwreck sites by commercial salvors or for transferring objects recovered by commercial salvors for areas of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Eliminating the deaccession/transfer permit category is also consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs and Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, which focus on the preservation and long-term curation of any recovered historical resources for the benefit of the public (as opposed to private ownership). Likewise, this approach is consistent with the Abandoned Shipwreck Act Guidelines, which recommend that, at a minimum, state-owned shipwrecks located within a national marine sanctuary or in other areas (like habitat areas or coralline formations) protected under Federal or State statute, order or regulation not be available for commercial salvage, treasure hunting or personal collecting. These Federal guidelines, and the statutes that underpin them, are part of the Federal archaeology program and align with NOAA’s long-standing classification and protection of historical resources as sanctuary resources under the NMSA.

To date, no deaccession/transfer permit has ever been issued and, as such, the impact of this change will be minimal. NOAA intends to continue engaging directly with current sanctuary historical resource permit holders and entities with pre-existing, valid rights of access to clarify how updated historical resource permitting regulations would or would not affect potential future activities.

The DEIS (Appendix C) also included the draft *Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Operations, Management, and Permitting* (Programmatic Agreement), for public comment. Once finalized, this Programmatic Agreement will be a formal agreement between NOAA, the Florida SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and will specify procedures NOAA will follow to satisfy National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 obligations for sanctuary operations, management, and permitting. The draft Programmatic Agreement would provide for streamlined review of certain archaeological research permits,

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.nps.gov/archeology/sites/fedarch.htm>.

as well as certain sanctuary undertakings that would not adversely affect historic properties.

This proposal responds to public and agency comments that supported updating sanctuary historical resources permitting to align with the State of Florida regulations, creating a consistent approach to permitting historical resource investigations in both state and federal sanctuary waters of the sanctuary. NOAA determined that the benefit of updating the FKNMS historical resource permitting program outweighed public comment supporting the status quo.

NOAA received agency comments from the Florida SHPO that indicated that the proposed permitting update presented as DEIS Preferred Alternative (Alternative 3) would sufficiently address the sanctuary's National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 responsibilities in combination with the new management plan and draft Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. The SHPO also acknowledged that when finalized and executed, the Programmatic Agreement would reinforce the sanctuary's and state's shared stewardship responsibility for historical resources and would also ensure NOAA's consistent and streamlined adherence to National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 regulations. The SHPO noted that comments from other interested parties and the public should be addressed when finalizing the Programmatic Agreement language.

#### e. Fish Feeding

NOAA proposes to prohibit the feeding and attracting of fish, including sharks, or other marine species, from any vessel or while diving, and to define "diving," and "feeding." The term "attracting" is defined in National Marine Sanctuary System-wide regulations at 15 CFR 922.11.<sup>10</sup> The regulatory text in the proposed rule has been developed with additional input and expertise from NMFS staff related to impacts to sharks and shark depredation, human safety concerns, and compliance and enforcement. NOAA has not provided an express "grandfather" clause for current fish feeding operations (*i.e.*, an exemption for pre-existing operators), although NOAA received some comments requesting such a provision. Instead, NOAA would consider issuing general

permits to pre-existing eco-tour operators who are able to satisfy all general permit application requirements. Any permits would contain specific terms and conditions to protect sanctuary resources. In order to assist NOAA in identifying appropriate terms and conditions for such permits, NOAA seeks comments on the numbers, scale, and types of activities related to feeding and attracting fish, including sharks, or other marine species that currently occur within the sanctuary.

NOAA carefully considered public comments regarding extending this prohibition to shore-based operations (*i.e.*, dock-side fish feeding); however, NOAA is not proposing to regulate shore-based activity at this time because additional information is needed about its scope, scale, and economic impact to develop appropriate regulations.

The proposed new fish feeding regulation would not affect the existing regulatory exception that allows discharge of fish, fish parts, chumming materials, or bait that is used or generated while conducting traditional fishing in the sanctuary.

NOAA proposes modifying the regulatory definition for traditional fishing to clarify that the 1996 FEIS and management plan describe what activities are considered "traditional fishing." In addition, in response to agency and FMC comments and in recognition of decades of fishery management by state and federal partners that promotes gear innovations to reduce bycatch and other unintended effects of fishing, ONMS plans to work with NMFS, FWC, and the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic FMCs on an updated Protocol for Cooperative Fisheries Management. The updated Protocol would further clarify what traditional fishing activities consist of and develop a transparent process by which allowing new or modified fishing activities, such as those that reduce impacts to sanctuary resources, and other relevant changes to fisheries management, can be evaluated for potential future rulemaking.

Public comments generally supported additional prohibitions on fish feeding in the sanctuary. Other comments opposed additional regulation because of the potential loss of eco-tour and educational opportunities and questioned the impacts of fish feeding on the environment, human safety, and fish and shark behavior. In preparing this rule, NOAA has carefully considered available literature on the effects of fish feeding, which include potentially harmful impacts on fish behavior, including shark behavior, and believes that the regulation is necessary.

But, as stated above, NOAA would consider issuing permits to pre-existing eco-tour operators in order to minimize the economic impacts of this provision. Agency comments indicated support for regulating fish feeding and, specifically, FWC noted it would consider modifying its existing fish feeding regulation in State waters to be consistent with a sanctuary regulation.

#### f. Grounded and Deserted Vessels, and Harmful Matter

NOAA proposes including new regulations prohibiting anchoring, mooring, or occupying a vessel at risk of becoming derelict, or deserting a vessel aground, at anchor, or adrift in the sanctuary. The proposed rule would also prohibit leaving harmful matter aboard a grounded or deserted vessel, and would define "at risk of becoming derelict" and "deserting." The term "harmful matter" is defined in National Marine Sanctuary System-wide regulations at 15 CFR 922.11. These proposed regulations and associated definitions align with existing state regulations that outline conditions for at-risk vessels, and include specific timeframes for giving notice that a vessel has gone aground and for submitting a salvage plan to FKNMS. In addition, these notification requirements would apply anytime a vessel operator strikes the seabed regardless of whether or not sanctuary resources are injured.

NOAA and Florida DEP have an existing Co-Trustee Agreement for Civil Claims that would be updated to reflect these new regulations and processes, and to facilitate coordination and response to grounded and deserted vessels in State waters.

Finally, the revised draft management plan includes additional details for how NOAA would engage with towing and salvage operators to develop best management practices and a permitting process for removing grounded and deserted vessels.

Public comments were generally supportive of NOAA developing new regulations to address grounded and deserted vessels; however, many commenters noted that NOAA should ensure that definitions and application of any proposed regulations are consistent with state regulations and enforcement authorities, particularly related to the term "at risk vessel." NOAA agrees and the proposed regulations are consistent with state regulations. Commenters also noted that enforcement of a new regulation could prove challenging given the number of deserted vessels in the sanctuary and broad geographic area where they are

<sup>10</sup> As discussed above, this rule modifies the regulations in 15 CFR part 922 that will be amended by an interim final rule published at 87 FR 29606 (May 13, 2022). All regulatory references to 15 CFR part 922 in this proposed rule are to be read as they will be amended by the interim final rule.

found. NOAA would collaborate with the State, county, and other partners due to the challenging scope of this issue.

State agency comments were supportive of regulating grounded and deserted vessels, in part, if it builds upon existing state regulations including Florida's Coral Reef Protection Act and relevant FWC boating regulations.

#### g. Large Vessels and Overnight Use of Mooring Buoys

NOAA proposes to include a new regulation that requires large vessels to use designated large vessel mooring buoys and small vessels to use regular mooring buoys. An associated new definition for "large vessel" would also be added. Additional information about sanctuary mooring buoy management, including plans to engage user groups to help identify areas of use, numbers of users, and placement of mooring buoys, is included in the revised draft management plan.

Public and agency comments generally supported delineating large and small vessel mooring buoys and using the availability of such buoys to limit access to sensitive areas that have been damaged by overcrowding and intensive use. Commenters also recommended boater education courses to increase boater knowledge regarding proper use of and regulations associated with mooring buoys. The sanctuary currently has a voluntary boater education course and participates in and provides sanctuary specific content for boater training courses hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and others.

Public and agency comments were generally not supportive of prohibiting overnight use of mooring buoys largely due to issues of public safety, public access, and enforcement. Some public comments, however, highlighted concern for new and increasing practice of anchored and moored vessels being used for overnight accommodation (*e.g.*, vacation rental by owner) and possible impacts from such use, including prohibited discharges. DEP comments also suggested limiting visitors to a maximum 14-day stay to prevent long-term use of moorings, which would be consistent with Florida State Parks rules. While the proposed rule does not include a regulation prohibiting overnight use of mooring buoys at this time, NOAA may reconsider this proposal in the future if conditions warrant.

#### h. Military Exemption

NOAA proposes revising the existing military exemption regulation in two

ways. First, NOAA would update the list of exempted military activities from the list found in the 1996 Final Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan (FEIS) for the sanctuary to the forthcoming Final Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan for the sanctuary. Second, NOAA would clarify the process for new military activities to be exempted from sanctuary prohibitions. Each proposed change is described below.

Current FKNMS regulations reference military activities in the sanctuary and, for certain activities, provide an exemption from sanctuary prohibitions. The current exemptions for Department of Defense (DOD) activities in the sanctuary reference existing classes of military activities which were conducted prior to the effective date of these regulations, as identified in the Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan for the Sanctuary. This language refers to the description of military activities contained in the 1996 FKNMS FEIS (Volume II, pages 93–96). NOAA proposes updating this exemption to include military activities currently conducted within the sanctuary that NOAA has determined are appropriate for exemption because the activities are not likely to injure sanctuary resources or will be carried out in a manner that avoids to the maximum extent practical any adverse impact on sanctuary resources and qualities. An updated list that reflects current DOD activities conducted in the sanctuary that NOAA considers to be exempt is provided in the revised draft management plan. The updated list includes activities that are already exempt, the effects of which were analyzed in the 1996 FKNMS FEIS, and will be included in the 2022 FEIS. In addition, the updated list includes one new activity, the effects of which were analyzed in the Navy's 2018 Atlantic Fleet Testing and Training Environmental Impact Statement and will be incorporated by reference in the forthcoming FEIS. The updated list of exemptions does not include DOD activities that occur outside of the sanctuary, or DOD activities that occur inside the sanctuary but are not prohibited by FKNMS regulations. The updated exemptions would apply to activities that occur within the current sanctuary boundary and the proposed boundary expansion area.

Second, NOAA proposes revising the existing FKNMS military exemption regulation to clarify how new or modified DOD activities may be exempted from the prohibitions in the future. NOAA commits to working with

DOD to consider exempting new activities from the prohibitions. NOAA would use the same standard to exempt new activities as used to update the list of DOD exemptions in the forthcoming FEIS. In other words, NOAA would exempt a new activity from the prohibitions if NOAA determines such activity is not likely to injure sanctuary resources or will be carried out in a manner that avoids to the maximum extent practical any adverse impact on sanctuary resources and qualities. Any changes to this list of exempted military activities would only occur after compliance with all applicable laws, such as the Administrative Procedure Act and NEPA, as necessary, and after public notice and comment, as applicable.

NOAA has removed from the military exemption regulation reference to NMSA 304(d) Interagency Cooperation. The regulation previously referenced 304(d) as the mechanism for exempting new DOD activities from the prohibitions. However, NOAA has removed the reference to the 304(d) Interagency Cooperation process because 304(d) applies to all federal agency actions that are likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure sanctuary resources, including those conducted by DOD, regardless of whether the specific actions are prohibited by sanctuary regulations. Additionally, certain activities that DOD may seek to exempt from the prohibitions would not require 304(d) consultation if the activities are not likely to injure sanctuary resources.

For those DOD activities that will be exempted and that are likely to injure sanctuary resources, NOAA believes the information DOD provided to NOAA, which was included in Appendix F of the FKNMS 2019 DEIS, satisfies the requirements of a sanctuary resource statement under the NMSA 304(d) Interagency Cooperation provision. Therefore, NOAA will document in the forthcoming FEIS DOD's compliance with the NMSA 304(d) process for all activities that the DOD conducts inside or outside of the sanctuary that are likely to injure sanctuary resources. If a DOD activity described in the 2022 FEIS for this rule is modified, or new information becomes available, such that the activity is likely to destroy, cause the loss of, or injure a sanctuary resource or quality in a manner greater than considered in the FEIS, DOD would reinstate 304(d) consultation.

Since FKNMS designation, DOD has coordinated closely and successfully with ONMS informally as well as through the Interagency Cooperation requirement under section 304(d) of the NMSA to ensure that DOD operations in

the Florida Keys that are essential to national defense are allowed to continue and are conducted to avoid and minimize impacts to sanctuary resources to the greatest extent possible. NOAA is committed to continued partnership with DOD to facilitate mission-critical defense activities in the sanctuary, including reviewing and updating new or changing DOD activities that may warrant exemption from FKNMS regulations.

#### i. Technical Revisions to Sanctuary Regulations

NOAA proposes including technical revisions and updates to regulatory definitions, terms, and provisions (see the general summary included in Appendix B of the DEIS). As this is the first comprehensive review of FKNMS regulations since they were implemented in 1997, NOAA has undertaken a thorough review of all existing regulations. These technical changes can be grouped in three broad categories described below.

*Definitions and Terms* would be updated for greater consistency with the State of Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), National Marine Sanctuary System-wide regulations, other sanctuary-specific regulations, proposed FKNMS regulations, and the revised management plan. For example, due to proposed new regulations, several new terms and definitions have been added including but not limited to “anchoring,” “archaeological research,” “at risk of becoming derelict,” “continuous transit,” and “deserting.” These new terms are explained in the relevant subsections describing the new substantive regulatory changes in this proposed rule (*i.e.*, “at risk of becoming derelict” is described in subsection 2.f. of this document). Several terms that are no longer needed or are being replaced with new terms would be eliminated, such as “Ecological Reserve,” “no access buffer,” and “closed.” Terms that are now defined in National Marine Sanctuary System-wide regulations would be removed, including “seagrass” and “vessel.”

*General Editorial changes* would be made to clarify, remove redundancy, and reorganize and simplify regulations where possible to make them easier to understand. These changes are solely editorial, grammatical, or stylistic, and no new requirements are established by these changes.

*Editorial changes to permitting regulations* would be made to reduce redundancy with National Marine Sanctuary System-wide permitting regulations, which were recently published for consolidation and

updating to 15 CFR subpart D (87 FR 29606; <sup>11</sup> May 13, 2022). These changes are solely editorial, and no new requirements are established by these changes.

First, since the 1997 FKNMS regulations, ONMS has published application guidelines to aid potential applicants for ONMS permits. The *application guidelines*<sup>12</sup> explain the necessary parts of an application and how to submit it. Updated National Marine Sanctuary System-wide regulations (15 CFR subpart D) codify these requirements. As such, in the proposed rule, NOAA would remove redundant application instructions.

Second, the proposed rule would also include two new general permit categories that are unique to FKNMS—one for Archaeological Research and one for Restoration—which are discussed in detail in other sections of this document. A third general permit category specific to FKNMS, activities that further FKNMS purposes, is found at 15 CFR subpart D. The proposed rule would only specify where different or additional information or procedures are needed for general permit categories that are unique to FKNMS (such as Tortugas North Conservation Area access permits).

Lastly, NOAA also proposes adding a provision for the certification of any valid lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access that is in existence when the revised sanctuary terms of designation become effective. Under National Marine Sanctuary System-wide regulations, FKNMS currently has authority to certify such pre-existing rights of access or use (15 CFR 922.10). The proposed rule would add procedures and criteria to clarify how ONMS would issue such certification permits for FKNMS. A certification permit would be available to persons holding such valid and pre-existing rights of access or use in the proposed sanctuary expansion areas, which are currently not under sanctuary jurisdiction but are proposed to be regulated. Certification permits would also be available to persons holding valid and pre-existing rights of access or use to conduct activities in the sanctuary that were not previously regulated but are now proposed to be regulated.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-05-13/pdf/2022-09626.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/permits/welcome.html>.

### 3. Marine Zone Boundaries and Associated Regulations Within the Sanctuary

NOAA’s proposed rule includes five marine zone types: Management Areas, Conservation Areas, Sanctuary Preservation Areas, Restoration Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas. This section includes a summary of the marine zones and associated regulations proposed in this rule with relevant highlights from the 2019 DEIS alternatives, and an overview of public and agency comments and how they informed this proposed rule. Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates for all marine zones included in NOAA’s proposed rule can be found in Appendices II through IX. An interactive map (available at the address and website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule) showing the existing marine zones and the zoning scheme set forth in this proposed rule, including the specific purpose and intent and resources within each, has also been developed. A marine zone summary table is also provided in the supporting information and is available at the address and website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule. The summary table includes the marine zones included in this proposed rule indicating the following: if the marine zone is existing, modified, or proposed new; and if modified, a description of how (spatial or regulation change); and the rationale for the proposed change. In addition to marine zone-specific regulations, sanctuary-wide regulations apply within all marine zones of the sanctuary.

#### a. Management Areas

NOAA proposes maintaining Key Largo and Looe Key Existing Management Areas, with minor modifications, but would rename them the “Key Largo Management Area” and the “Looe Key Management Area.” These two areas were designated as national marine sanctuaries in 1975 and 1981, respectively, which preceded designation of FKNMS and were therefore included within the FKNMS boundary and referred to as Existing Management Areas. The Looe Key Management Area currently encompasses the Looe Key Special Use Area (SUA) and Sanctuary Preservation Area (SPA). NOAA proposes only slight modifications to the Looe Key Management Area due to the proposed elimination of the Looe Key SUA and the addition of two Restoration Areas within the Looe Key Management Area boundary (see part III, section 3c. *Sanctuary Preservation Areas* and part

III, section 3d. *Restoration Areas*, below). By eliminating the Looe Key SUA, the Management Area regulations would now apply within the former SUA, and as such, certain fishing activities would be allowed where they are currently not (see the Management Area regulations for details). The Looe Key SPA will remain unchanged. The outer boundary of Looe Key Management Area would not change. With the exception of minor, technical revisions to regulations as explained in part III, section 2i *Technical Revisions to Sanctuary Regulations*, above, all other Management Area regulations would be maintained in these areas. In response to public comments, NOAA will not apply a no anchor regulation in either Management Area as proposed in the 2019 DEIS.

The Key West and Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuges, which are currently referred to as Existing Management Areas, would simply be referred to by their full names. Existing regulations in the Key West and Great White Heron national wildlife refuges would be maintained with the exception of a minor changes to the area where personal watercraft are allowed (see part III, section 4q. *Personal Watercraft* below).

#### i. Public and Agency Comment Highlights Specific to the Proposed Management Areas

NOAA received many comments opposing the no anchor regulation in the Key Largo Management Area proposed in the 2019 DEIS. Comments noted that this was a very large area with multi-use activities, including fishing that would be highly impacted by a no anchor regulation. Comments also noted that the area includes a variety of habitats including sandy bottom, where a no anchor regulation is not needed. Comments did however support the use of no anchor regulations in smaller, targeted areas with sensitive habitats that would benefit from protection from anchor damage. In response to these comments, NOAA will not apply a no anchor regulation in the Key Largo Management Area. However, NOAA does propose additional no anchor regulations in SPAs and Restoration Areas as described in the below sections.

NOAA received public comments on changes proposed in the 2019 DEIS to Looe Key Management Area and associated Sanctuary Preservation Area (SPA) and Special Use Area (SUA). Commenters did not support the proposed changes presented in the 2019 DEIS for a no anchor prohibition for the entire Looe Key Management Area or

the proposed expansion of the SPA and SUA boundaries, which would have eliminated a large portion of the Management Area where certain fishing activities are currently allowed. Comments that did not support spatial changes to these zones noted the potential loss of fishing opportunity and access (e.g., if the Looe Key SPA and SUA were expanded). In response, NOAA is not proposing to prohibit anchoring throughout the Looe Key Management Area or to expand the SPA boundaries. NOAA is proposing to eliminate the existing Looe Key SUA, as described in the Conservation Area section below. Comments supported greater protections in this area due to the presence of coral nursery and transplanting sites, for which NOAA is proposing to create Restoration Areas, as described in the Restoration Area section below.

FWC comments did not support the proposed spatial changes for Looe Key SPA and SUA due to potential loss of fishing access. However, their comments also noted the presence of coral nursery sites in the vicinity of Looe Key SPA and recommended expanding the SPA to capture these sites. Rather than change the SPA, NOAA instead proposes to establish Restoration Areas to capture these sites (see respective sections below for additional information about these zone types and proposed changes).

#### b. Conservation Areas

NOAA proposes to combine the existing Ecological Reserves and Special Use Areas into one Conservation Area zone type, and to maintain and apply the existing Special Use Area (SUA) regulations prohibiting fishing, requiring continuous transit without interruption, and requiring stowage of gear in such areas. As defined in this proposed rule, "Conservation Area" means an area of the sanctuary that provides natural spawning, nursery, and residence areas for the replenishment and genetic protection of marine life, and protects and preserves groups of habitats and species, within which activities are subject to conditions, restrictions and prohibitions to achieve these objectives. These areas consist of contiguous, diverse habitats, protect a variety of sanctuary resources and/or facilitate scientific research that promotes sanctuary management or recovery of sanctuary resources. In addition, these areas, with the exception of Western Sambo, have similar regulations, which are intended to provide the greatest level of protection to these contiguous habitats and areas set aside to support scientific research.

NOAA's proposed rule includes six Conservation Areas, all of which are existing sanctuary marine zones. Proposed changes include slightly expanding the spatial area of three existing zones (Tennessee Reef, Western Sambo, and Tortugas South), and eliminating one zone (the existing Looe Key SUA). Western Sambo would also be included as a Conservation Area with slightly different regulations as outlined below. With the exception of the zone name change to Conservation Area, NOAA proposes no changes to the existing Conch Reef SUA, Eastern Sambo SUA, or Tortugas North Ecological Reserve.

A summary of proposed Conservation Areas and changes from current FKNMS zoning and regulations follows. Note that for all of the proposed zones below the zone name would be changed to Conservation Area.

- *Conch Reef*: No changes to the regulations or area.
- *Tennessee Reef*: No changes to regulations. This zone would be extended to the 90-foot contour line to capture additional deep reef habitats.
- *Looe Key*: This existing Special Use Area zone would not be converted to a Conservation Area and would be eliminated. This area would, instead, be managed as part of the larger Management Area, as described above in section 3.a. *Management Areas*.
- *Eastern Sambo*: No changes to the regulations or area.
- *Western Sambo*: This existing zone would extend to the 90-foot contour line to capture additional deep reef habitats. In addition, no-anchor restrictions would be included for the southern portion of the zone in the area of most prominent coral reef development. All other existing regulations in Western Sambo would be maintained, including prohibitions on discharging any matter, fishing by any means, or harvesting any marine life. This is the only Conservation Area that allows access for snorkeling and diving. The 2019 DEIS included proposals to establish a shoreline idle speed no wake (Alternative 3) or no entry (Alternative 4) zone, which are not included in this proposed rule.
- *Tortugas North*: No changes to the regulations or area. In addition, see part III, section 4. *Additional Marine Zone Regulations*, below, for information on administrative changes to Tortugas North Access Permit requirements.
- *Tortugas South*: No changes to the regulations. This zone would be extended to the west by one mile along its entire length. This expansion would capture additional habitat west of Riley's Hump that is known to support

fish spawning aggregations and important deep reef habitats. Recently collected and compiled mapping coverage data and remotely operated vehicle (ROV) imagery show unique habitat features in this area, including rock escarpment formations and a well-defined ledge. These data also showed the presence of a diversity of fish species. Therefore, the southern boundary of the Tortugas South Conservation Area would not change.

There are several Conservation Areas that NOAA proposed in the 2019 DEIS that are not included in this proposed rule. These are:

- *Channel Key Bank and Moser Channel Bank*: These proposed new Conservation Areas were included in Alternatives 2, 3, and 4 to protect shallow mixed hardbottom habitat that is not currently well represented in sanctuary marine zones. NOAA's proposed rule does not include these areas as Conservation Areas due to the level of reported fishing use in the area (e.g., lobster); however, NOAA includes proposed marine zones in the vicinity as idle speed no wake Wildlife Management Areas to protect the bottom habitat from vessel prop scarring (see part III, section 3e. *Wildlife Management Areas*, below).

- *Long Key Tennessee Reef*: This area was included as a Sanctuary Preservation Area in Alternative 3 and a Conservation Area in Alternative 4, designed to protect large, contiguous, diverse habitats that support natural spawning, nursery, and residence areas for a variety of marine species. As proposed in the 2019 DEIS, this zone would have included important habitat that supports a range of species life cycle needs (e.g., lobster settlement) and areas of mixed bottom habitat. Informed by public and FWC comment, NOAA determined that the zone and associated regulations, as designed, may not outweigh the possible negative impact to users including loss of fishing access to local residents, lobster trap fishing, and near-shore flats fishing.

- *Tortugas Corridor*: This area was included as a Sanctuary Preservation Area in Alternative 3 and a Conservation Area in Alternative 4. This region of the sanctuary serves as a corridor for fish traveling between the Dry Tortugas National Park and known spawning sites in Riley's Hump (within the Tortugas South Conservation Area). NOAA evaluated the need to close this area to fishing, including bottom tending gear. Through consultation with FWC, NOAA determined that the impact to user groups, most notably fishermen, may outweigh the resource protection goals of this proposed zone

and associated regulations. However, NOAA acknowledges the importance of conserving fish and wildlife habitat and corridors, and will reconsider this proposal in the future as needed.

#### i. Public and Agency Comment Highlights Specific to the Proposed Conservation Areas

Public comments related to Conservation Areas both supported the status quo and supported creating additional areas and/or expanding existing or proposed areas. A selection of specific issues is noted here.

Public and agency comments supported expanding the existing Western Sambo Ecological Reserve and the Tennessee Reef Special Use Area to include deep water coral reef habitats. In these proposed expanded zones, FWC also specifically requested that in areas deeper than 60 feet, hook and line trolling or drift fishing be allowed. The proposed rule does not allow fishing in these expanded areas. Conservation Areas are designed to provide the greatest level of protection for the habitats and species within these zones, as such NOAA is not including exceptions for fishing in a portion of these zones. In addition, NOAA determined that consistent regulations would better facilitate public understanding and compliance.

Public and agency comments generally supported extending the existing Tortugas South Ecological Reserve westward to capture additional habitat and an area shown to support multi-fish aggregation activity. Agency comments, specifically from FWC, also recommended that NOAA remove 34 square miles from the southern portion of this zone to allow for fishing opportunities in an area that has been closed to fishing since 2001, noting that the vast majority of known coral reefs in the Tortugas region and fish spawning aggregations would still be included in marine zones in this area. As noted above, NOAA determined that maintaining protection in the southern portion of Tortugas South is warranted due to recently collected and compiled data showing unique habitat features in this area, which support the presence of a diversity of fish species.

Specific to the 2019 DEIS proposal to establish three large, contiguous Conservation Areas in the sanctuary (Carysfort Reef, Long Key Tennessee Reef, and Tortugas Corridor) to further protect interconnected habitats and various stages of marine life, public and agency comments noted the value of providing these additional ecosystem-level management and protection, however also noted the need to properly

design a network of reserves. Public comments also included general concern about loss of access and opportunity for use in all the proposed areas. In response to these comments, NOAA is not proposing these three specific areas.

While NOAA is not proposing to include these three new large, contiguous marine zones in the proposed rule at this time, the specific zones proposed in the 2019 DEIS alternatives and the overarching concept of protecting diverse, connected habitats, are topics NOAA may explore more robustly in the future. Specifically, FWC noted that "[t]he knowledge gained from research and monitoring related to the existing spatial management in FKNMS provides a body of knowledge indicating that a properly designed network of reserves containing an appropriate array of management approaches could have substantial positive impacts to the Florida Keys ecosystem and fisheries." In light of this, FWC recommended NOAA establish an interagency team to evaluate the merits of a carefully designed network of marine reserves. NOAA acknowledges the important research data FWRI scientists have contributed over the years related to performance of the existing network of sanctuary marine zones, and NOAA will continue to work with state and academic partners to monitor the effects of any revised sanctuary zone network, and to explore new contiguous zones in the future.

Public and agency comments did not support creating new Conservation Areas to protect shallow mixed bank and hardbottom habitat in the middle keys, bayside at Channel Key Bank and Moser Channel Red Bay Bank. Public comments noted these are important lobster and flats fishing areas and did not support creating transit only areas; however, public and agency comments did support additional idle speed no wake regulations in these general areas (see the Wildlife Management Area section below).

#### c. Sanctuary Preservation Areas (SPAs)

NOAA's proposed rule includes 17 SPAs. As defined in NOAA's proposed rule, "Sanctuary Preservation Area" means an area of the sanctuary that encompasses a discrete, biologically important area, within which activities are subject to conditions, restrictions and prohibitions, to avoid concentrations of uses that could result in significant declines in species populations or habitat, to reduce conflicts between uses, to protect areas that are critical for sustaining important

marine species or habitats, or to provide opportunities for scientific research.

The proposed rule expands two existing SPAs (Carysfort Reef and Alligator Reef) to capture deep reef habitat, connects the existing Key Largo Dry Rocks and Grecian Rocks SPAs, slightly expands Sombrero Key, eliminates the existing French Reef and Rock Key SPAs, creates two new SPAs at Turtle Rocks and Turtle Shoal, and makes no spatial changes to the eleven existing SPAs: The Elbow, Molasses Reef, Conch Reef, Davis Reef, Hen and Chickens, Cheeca Rocks, Coffins Patch, Newfoundland Harbor Key, Looe Key, Eastern Dry Rocks, and Sand Key SPAs.

SPA regulations included in the proposed rule eliminate the current exception for catch and release fishing in four existing SPAs where it is currently applied (Conch Reef, Alligator Reef, Sombrero Key, and Sand Key) and eliminate the practice of issuing bait fishing permits (See part III, section 4. *Additional Marine Zone Regulations* for a full discussion of NOAA's proposal related to bait fishing in the SPAs). In addition, NOAA proposes to prohibit anchoring in all SPAs and to include a new definition for "anchoring," which would mean securing a vessel to the seabed by any means. All other existing SPA regulations would remain, including prohibitions on discharging any matter except cooling water and fishing by any means or harvesting any marine life. Consistent regulations throughout SPAs are intended to clarify for the public what is allowed and what is restricted to promote understanding and compliance and to facilitate enforcement and management.

A summary of proposed Sanctuary Preservation Areas and changes from current FKNMS zoning and regulations and/or the 2019 DEIS alternatives follows (listed northeast to southwest). For all of the zones listed below, the SPA regulations as outlined above and at 15 CFR 922.164(e), would apply.

- *Turtle Rocks*: This is a proposed new SPA. This marine zone is expanded slightly from the area included in the 2019 DEIS alternatives to align with the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park No Lobster Trap zone and to capture additional historical resources.

- *Carysfort Reef*: This existing SPA would be expanded to the 90-foot contour to include additional deep reef habitat. This SPA would not include any limited entry regulations as had been proposed in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *The Elbow*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Key Largo Dry Rocks-Grecian Rocks*: This is a proposed modified SPA that

would connect two existing SPAs. The proposed rule includes a smaller area than was included in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3) due, in part, to public and agency comments noting that the larger zone included sandy bottom area and that SPA protections should be focused on the sensitive coral reef habitats.

- *French Reef*: This existing SPA would be eliminated. General sanctuary-wide regulations would apply in this area and mooring buoys would be maintained.

- *Molasses Reef*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Conch Reef*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change. The regulatory exception that allows catch and release fishing by trolling in the SPA would be removed.

- *Davis Reef*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Hen and Chickens Reef*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Cheeca Rocks*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change. Agency comments from NMFS, FWC and from the SAFMC recommended that additional areas be included for protection in the Cheeca Rocks SPA. FKNMS reviewed these proposed areas and rather than making the existing Cheeca Rocks SPA larger, proposes to include these areas as Restoration Areas (see part III, section 3d. *Restoration Areas*, below).

- *Alligator Reef*: This existing SPA would be expanded to the 90-foot contour to include additional deep reef habitat. The regulatory exception that allows catch and release fishing by trolling in the SPA would be removed.

- *Turtle Shoal*: This is a proposed new SPA. This marine zone would include the same area as proposed in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Coffins Patch*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Sombrero Key*: This existing SPA would be expanded slightly to include remnant elkhorn corals, a species listed under the Endangered Species Act. In addition, this proposed expansion would square off the existing triangular shape facilitating marking, compliance, and enforcement. This SPA would not include any limited entry regulations as had been proposed in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3). The regulatory exception that allows catch and release fishing by trolling in the SPA would be removed.

- *Newfound Harbor Key*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Looe Key*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Eastern Dry Rocks*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change.

- *Rock Key*: This existing SPA would be eliminated. General sanctuary-wide regulations would apply in this area and mooring buoys would be maintained.

- *Sand Key*: Existing SPA; no proposed boundary change. This SPA would not include any limited entry regulations as had been proposed in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3). The regulatory exception that allows catch and release fishing by trolling in the SPA would be removed.

#### i. Public and Agency Comment Highlights Specific to the Proposed SPAs

The 2019 DEIS included proposals to modify existing SPA boundaries, add new SPAs, and modify regulations within SPAs. NOAA received public comments specific to these proposals, too many to include for each individual SPA; therefore, the summary below is by general theme.

The 2019 DEIS included a proposal to apply idle speed no wake and no anchor regulations in all SPAs. Public and agency commenters did not support an idle speed no wake regulation due to several factors, including the size of many zones and the inclusion of portions of Hawk Channel. In general, comments supported greater protections to coral and other sensitive habitats from anchor damage. Comments also addressed the need for additional, well placed and maintained mooring buoys, particularly if additional no anchor restrictions would be applied. Based on the extensive input received through public comment and agency evaluation of the conservation need and value of idle speed no wake regulations in all SPAs, NOAA's proposed rule does not include an idle speed no wake regulation for SPAs. However, NOAA's proposed rule does include no anchor regulations in all SPAs.

The 2019 DEIS included proposed spatial changes to several existing SPAs. NOAA proposed expanding two SPAs (Carysfort Reef and Alligator Reef) and the Tennessee Reef Conservation Area (discussed in part III, section 3b. *Conservation Areas*, above) to the 90-foot depth contour, to include additional deep coral reef habitat. Public comments both supported and opposed this proposal for a variety of reasons. Supporters noted such expansions would provide additional protections to deep reef habitats that show potential resilience to the stony coral tissue loss disease, could serve as a source for coral reef seed stock, and would provide greater ecosystem level



protection. Public comments that opposed this proposal did so largely due to general opposition to limiting any access for fishing activity. For these proposed deep reef SPA expansions, FWC also specifically requested that in areas deeper than 60 feet, hook and line trolling or drift fishing be allowed, noting their desire to allow as much user access as possible while still protecting coral reef habitat from physical damage. NOAA determined that consistent regulations would better facilitate public understanding and compliance and therefore, NOAA is not including exceptions for fishing in a portion of these zones.

Of the eight proposed new SPAs included in the 2019 DEIS Alternative 3, NOAA proposes including two in this proposed rule: Turtle Rocks and Turtle Shoal. Both would protect nearshore patch reef habitats, which is a habitat type that is currently underrepresented in the sanctuary zoning network and potentially consists of some of the most resilient areas of the sanctuary. Protecting these resilient areas from local stressors is intended to maintain the health of these sites, associated sanctuary resources, and provide a refuge for important frame-building and Endangered Species Act listed corals, which could potentially serve to promote recovery of surrounding reef sites by maintaining resilient reproductive populations of these species whose offspring can reseed degraded areas. Public and agency comments supported additional protections in these patch reef areas including no fishing and no anchoring. Public comments also supported establishing these areas as Conservation Areas to provide the greatest level of protection for these sensitive habitats. However, at this time NOAA is including these areas as SPAs to maintain some level of public access. FWC comments supported making Turtle Rocks slightly larger to encompass the existing John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park No Lobster Trap zone, and DEP recommended that the sanctuary coordinate management with the State park. The proposed zone at Turtle Rocks is expanded slightly from what was included in the 2019 DEIS. FKNMS will continue to coordinate with the State Park for this marine zone and more generally.

The 2019 DEIS did not propose to eliminate any existing SPAs. However, following public and agency comments, NOAA is now proposing to eliminate two existing SPAs (French Reef SPA in the Upper Keys and Rock Key SPA in the Lower Keys) to allow for multiple

use in these areas. Some public commenters expressed concern that NOAA establishes new marine zones with access restrictions, particularly impacting fishing access, and does not subsequently re-open areas for fishing once the marine zone has either achieved its purpose or resource conditions have shifted. FWC comments specifically supported the elimination of French Reef and Rock Key SPAs.

NOAA proposes to eliminate French Reef SPA in the Upper Keys and Rock Key SPA in the Lower Keys because the habitats no longer contain reproductively viable populations of Endangered Species Act-listed coral reef species or other important reef-building corals. These areas also were selected due to their proximity to other SPAs; therefore, they would promote continued habitat protections and separation of conflicting uses in the general area. Mooring buoys in these areas would be maintained. Sanctuary-wide regulations would continue to apply in these areas.

#### d. Restoration Areas

Given the increase in important habitat restoration activities in the sanctuary over the past two decades, NOAA's proposed rule includes a new Restoration Area zone type. This new Restoration Area zone would include two distinct designations:

- *Restoration Area—Nursery* zone type would encompass existing nursery areas and would be regulated similar to Conservation Areas to provide the highest level of protection to sensitive corals and other organisms while they are being propagated. These regulations would prohibit fishing, anchoring, and discharges and would require that vessels remain in transit through the area.

- *Restoration Area—Habitat* zone type would protect sites where active transplanting and restoration activities are ongoing. These areas would be managed with the same regulations that apply to SPAs to provide for access and educational opportunities while prohibiting fishing, anchoring, and discharges.

In the proposed rule, "Restoration Area" would be defined as an area of the sanctuary that supports species or habitat recovery, including protection for short and long-term propagation nurseries (referred to as Restoration Areas—Nursery) and active restoration sites (Restoration Areas—Habitat), within which activities are subject to conditions, restrictions, and prohibitions to achieve these objectives.

#### i. Restoration Areas—Nursery

Specifically, the proposed rule includes nine Restoration Areas—Nursery zones with regulations prohibiting fishing, anchoring, and discharges and requiring that vessels remain in transit through the area. All proposed Restoration Areas—Nursery zones are very small (individual zones are approximately 70 acres (0.1 square miles)) and are designed to protect the underwater nursery structures and associated corals growing on them with a 200-yard buffer.

Three of the proposed Restoration Areas—Nursery zones (Pickles Reef, Marathon, and Sand Key) were included in the 2019 DEIS as individual SPA zones in Alternatives 2 and 3. These were included in the 2019 DEIS as representative coral nursery sites in the Upper, Middle and Lower Keys. NOAA proposes to establish all existing, permitted coral nurseries as distinct Restoration Areas—Nursery zones. The following existing, permitted coral nurseries are proposed as distinct Restoration Areas—Nursery zones (listed northeast to southwest):

- *Carysfort Reef—Nursery*: This zone is a discrete area within the larger Carysfort Reef SPA.

- *Pickles Reef West—Nursery*: In the 2019 DEIS alternatives 2 and 3, this area was proposed as a SPA. In the proposed rule this marine zone would instead become a Restoration Areas—Nursery and be expanded to include multiple coral nursery sites at this location, which has been shown to be resilient to high water temperatures, storms, and coral disease.

- *The Elbow Reef—Nursery*: This area was not proposed in the 2019 DEIS; however, it is proposed here to provide additional protections to an existing, permitted coral nursery site.

- *Marathon—Nursery*: In the 2019 DEIS alternatives 2, 3, and 4 this area was proposed as a SPA. In the proposed rule this marine zone would instead become a Restoration Areas—Nursery. NOAA is not proposing any spatial changes to this zone between the DEIS and proposed rule.

- *Middle Keys—Nursery*: While not included in the 2019 DEIS, NOAA proposes Middle Keys—Nursery to provide additional protections to an existing, permitted coral nursery site.

- *Looe Key East—Nursery*: While not included in the 2019 DEIS, NOAA proposes Looe Key East—Nursery to provide additional protections to an existing, permitted coral nursery site.

- *Looe Key West—Nursery*: While not included in the 2019 DEIS, NOAA proposes Looe Key West—Nursery to

provide additional protections to an existing, permitted coral nursery site.

- *Key West—Nursery*: While not included in the 2019 DEIS, NOAA proposes Key West—Nursery to provide additional protections to an existing, permitted coral nursery site.

- *Sand Key—Nursery*: In the 2019 DEIS alternatives 2 and 3, NOAA included the coral nursery at Sand Key as the Key West SPA; however, it is proposed here as a Restoration Areas—Nursery. NOAA is not proposing any spatial changes to this zone between the DEIS and proposed rule.

#### ii. Restoration Areas—Habitat

NOAA also proposes establishing four new Restoration Areas—Habitat to protect existing, permitted active coral reef restoration sites. These were not included in the DEIS as distinct marine zones. All proposed Restoration Areas—Habitat are small, ranging from 5 to 220 acres (<0.01 to 0.35 square miles), with an average size of 85 acres (0.13 square miles), and are designed to protect sites supporting active coral restoration with a 200-yard buffer. The proposed rule would establish the following Restoration Areas—Habitat with regulations prohibiting fishing, anchoring, and discharges:

- *Horseshoe Reef—Habitat*: This is the only Mission: Iconic Reefs site that is not already included within an existing SPA. The new proposed Restoration Areas—Habitat zone would specifically encompass the portion of Horseshoe Reef targeted for active restoration and would not affect the remainder of the reef.

- *Pickles Reef East—Habitat*: This is an active and long-term restoration site that includes a large population of Endangered Species Act listed elkhorn coral and staghorn coral that has been particularly vulnerable to anchor damage.

- *Cheeca Rocks East—Habitat*: This is an active and long-term restoration site with one of the largest remaining populations of Endangered Species Act listed star coral (*Orbicella* spp.), still contains intact populations of species susceptible to Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease and appears to be a site that is more resilient to bleaching and disease.

- *Cheeca Rocks South—Habitat*: This is an active and long-term restoration site with one of the largest remaining populations of Endangered Species Act listed star coral (*Orbicella* spp.), still contains intact populations of species susceptible to Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease and appears to be a site that is more resilient to bleaching and disease. In addition, NMFS, FWC, and SAFMC comments specifically recommended

this site for additional habitat protections.

In this proposed rule all Restoration Areas—Habitat would protect active coral reef restoration; however, NOAA does not intend to limit application of this proposed new zone type to coral restoration activities only. Conceivably, the Restoration Areas—Habitat zone type could be applied in the future in any area to support and facilitate restoration of other degraded habitats or species (e.g., seagrass, hardbottom, etc.). In addition, a framework for establishing short-term, time sensitive protections to support critical management including habitat restoration is described in a proposed, updated temporary regulation for emergency and adaptive management (see part III, section 2. *Sanctuary-wide Regulations* above and the proposed full regulatory text included in 15 CFR 922.165.) Additional information about how this zone type may be used in the future can be found in the revised draft management plan. Future nursery and habitat restoration area site locations, sizes, and duration will be informed by site specific habitat restoration plans, which could be prepared as part of a vessel grounding incident, disease response, or Restoration permit application.

Finally, to further facilitate habitat restoration and complement this zone type, NOAA proposes including a new category of general permit for Restoration.

#### iii. Public and Agency Comment Highlights Specific to the Proposed Restoration Areas

Public and agency comments on the 2019 DEIS supported additional protections for coral nursery sites. However, public and agency comments, specifically FWC's, went beyond the 2019 DEIS to recommend additional protections for coral reef transplanting sites and that a specific zone type be created to further advance habitat restoration efforts and for the purpose of facilitating and educating the public about habitat restoration.

In addition, FWC comments recommended that NOAA develop, in partnership with FWC and other stakeholders, a process to quickly open and close areas for temporary, in-water nurseries. For example, "pop-up" nurseries could be deployed, in which corals are reared directly adjacent to restoration sites and then transplanted when ready. NOAA believes that the Temporary Regulation for Emergency and Adaptive Management, as described in part III, section 2c. *Sanctuary-wide*

*Regulations*, above, and at 15 CFR 922.165, serves this purpose.

#### e. Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs)

NOAA's proposed rule includes 47 WMAs. In this proposed rule, "Wildlife Management Area" means an area of the sanctuary in which various access and use restrictions are applied to manage, protect, preserve, and minimize disturbance to sanctuary wildlife resources, including but not limited to endangered or threatened species, or the habitats, special places, or conditions on which they rely. The access and use restrictions applied in each area are specific to the management goals of that area.

The proposed rule includes no change and/or only minor technical modifications to existing regulations for nine existing WMAs, spatial and/or regulatory modifications for 15 existing WMAs, and proposes 23 new WMAs. In addition, the proposed rule eliminates two existing WMAs and does not include eight zones that were included as new WMAs in the 2019 DEIS. The average size of WMAs (excluding the proposed Pulley Ridge and existing Tortugas Bank zones) is 0.62 square miles, ranging from 0.01 to 6.37 square miles (the proposed new Pelican Shoal WMA and Marquesas Turtle WMA, respectively).

WMAs are generally designed to protect shallow water habitats and species dependent on those habitats. Access and use restrictions applied in WMAs address the specific protections necessary to minimize disturbances to sanctuary habitats and wildlife and are therefore tailored for the specific location and resource need. In addition, these access and use restrictions may be for a limited or seasonal time period. The proposed WMAs aim to balance resource protection with compatible uses. This action generally favors sanctuary resource protection over access where biological and impact data demonstrate a need; however, the least restrictive access regulations and zone size needed to meet the resource protection goals are proposed.

Due to the number and range of proposed WMAs, they are discussed in relevant sections below (e.g., existing zones with no change, proposed new zones etc.); with general overarching public and agency comments included in this introductory section and where public or agency comments directly informed the proposed rule, they are included with the individual WMA description. For a complete list of WMAs in this proposed rule, see 15 CFR 922.164(d).

Public comments both supported and opposed the proposed WMA modifications and new zones. Public comments received also indicated that many in the community are not fully aware of the existing WMAs and associated regulations. Many public comments also provided more tailored input with specific information about the resource status at certain WMAs, human use and other existing and/or potential impacts to resources at the site, and in some cases, specific alternate proposals for where and how to manage the site. These comments generally supported taking some action to protect sanctuary resources while also allowing the greatest level of access and use. Most public comments included some mention of the importance and challenge of marking WMAs and educating the public and users.

NOAA also received several public comments suggesting additional areas to include as new WMAs. NOAA used this information to modify the spatial configuration of one area (proposed in the 2019 DEIS as West Barracouta Key Flats, but now in this proposed rule called Ballast and Man Keys Flats). NOAA is not proposing any additional WMAs beyond those included and analyzed in the 2019 DEIS because NOAA would need additional human use and natural resource information to fully evaluate the need and overall benefit of including these additional areas in the sanctuary zoning scheme. NOAA removed several WMAs that were proposed in the 2019 DEIS because NOAA does not have sufficient information regarding use impacts to warrant proposing restrictions. More detail on these zones is included below in section iv. *Existing and DEIS Proposed WMAs that would be Eliminated*.

Agency comments also included input on individual WMA proposals. FWC commented on all the WMAs, specifically providing additional human use, ecological, and biological resource data, particularly for bird species of state interest, and requested that NOAA consider each zone on a case-by-case basis to more closely evaluate the balance between resource protection goals and user access. DEP commented on WMAs located within or adjacent to State Parks and/or Aquatic Preserves, and USFWS commented on WMAs located within National Wildlife Refuge boundaries. Agency comments from FWC, DEP, and USFWS also provided additional use and resource data and considerations for cooperative management. USFWS additionally provided guiding principles for their

recommendations that focused on the most impacted and their habitat needs within the National Wildlife Refuges, including migratory birds (e.g., great white heron, reddish egret, little blue heron, and magnificent frigatebirds) and wading birds, seabirds and shorebirds. USFWS recommended, where needed, a 100-yard buffer to minimize disturbance to wading birds and other migratory bird species that are documented to be the most impacted by human disturbance from boats. The Naval Air Station Key West (NASKW) commented on WMAs located within their testing and training operational area and/or adjacent to their property, specifically if the proposals may impact their operations. Notably, NASKW commented on the proposed new Demolition Key marine zone (which is not included in this proposed rule), the proposals for shoreline vessel speed restrictions (which is also not included in this proposed rule), and the Marquesas Turtle zone (which has been modified in this proposed rule).

Nine of the twenty-eight existing WMAs have no spatial or regulatory changes, or only minor technical changes, in this proposed rule. The minor technical changes include (1) spatial changes that clarify exceptions to access regulations for certain channels and (2) regulatory changes in zone access terminology such that the existing “no access buffer” and “closed” regulations would be changed to “no entry” to be consistent with the intent of the regulation and with state regulations.

NOAA proposes to eliminate the existing “no access buffer” and “closed” zone regulation, replacing them with a “no entry” regulation that has the same effect. The existing “no access buffer” zone means a portion of the sanctuary where vessels are prohibited from entering regardless of the method of propulsion. In general practice the “no access buffer,” “closed,” and “no entry” regulations have similar intent. In addition, this change in nomenclature creates consistency in application of this regulation throughout the sanctuary and aligns with state regulations. In addition to the zones discussed in this section, the no-access buffer zones at Crocodile Lake and Marquesas Keys WMAs would be eliminated, however both of these WMAs would have additional minor spatial and/or regulatory changes, so are more fully discussed in the section below.

#### ii. Existing WMAs With Proposed Spatial or Regulatory Changes

The WMAs in this proposed rule with no spatial or regulatory changes, or only minor technical changes, follow:

- *Horseshoe Key*: This is an existing 300 foot no access buffer zone with the island closed by the USFWS to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds. NOAA proposes a technical update to change the existing no access buffer regulation to no entry.

- *West Content Keys*: This is an existing zone with idle speed no wake in selected creeks and no access buffer in one cove to decrease disturbance to shorebirds using the area for nesting and foraging. NOAA proposes a technical update to change the existing no access buffer regulation to no entry.

- *Sawyer Key*: This is an existing zone where the tidal creeks on the south side are closed to decrease disturbance to nesting birds. NOAA proposes a technical update to change the existing closed regulation to no entry.

- *East Harbor Key*: This is an existing 300 foot no access buffer zone to decrease disturbance to various resting and nesting birds. NOAA proposes a technical update to change the existing no access buffer regulation to no entry.

- *Cayo Agua Keys*: This is an existing zone with idle speed no wake in all navigable creeks to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds, including great white heron, osprey, and the large numbers of resting shorebirds. There would be no change from the status quo.

- *Big Mullet Key*: This is an existing 300 foot no motor zone around the island to decrease disturbance to nesting birds and resting shorebirds. There would be no change from the status quo.

- *Little Mullet Key*: This is an existing 300 foot no access buffer zone to decrease disturbance to nesting, roosting, and foraging birds and shallow seagrass flats around the island, which exhibit prop scarring. NOAA proposes a technical update to change the existing no access buffer regulation to no entry.

- *Pelican Shoal*: This is an existing zone that was proposed to be eliminated in the DEIS; however, in recent years this area has been repopulated with nesting roseate terns and is an area that is thought to be the last active ground-breeding location for this ESA-listed species in Florida. Additionally, this is an FWC Critical Wildlife Area that was established in 1990. For these reasons, NOAA would retain Pelican Shoal WMA in the proposed rule.

- *Tortugas Bank*: This is an existing sanctuary zone prohibiting anchoring by vessels over 50 meters in length, which protects coral and hardbottom habitats

on Tortugas Bank from anchor damage. NOAA proposes no change in the spatial area or regulations for this zone; however, it would be included as a WMA since the purpose and intent of the zone align with those of WMAs.

ii. Existing WMAs With Proposed Spatial or Regulatory Changes

As noted above, WMAs protect important habitats and species dependent on those habitats with access and use restrictions tailored for the specific location and resource need. Listed below (approximately northeast to southwest) are existing WMAs with proposed changes to spatial boundaries, regulations, or a combination of both. These proposed changes were informed by public and agency comments, and additional data on resources and human uses. With this additional input, NOAA refined the spatial areas included in WMAs and the specific regulations that apply to most efficiently protect sanctuary resources while allowing the greatest level of use compatible with the resource protection goals. A summary of proposed changes follows:

- *Crocodile Lake*: This existing March 1 to October 1 no access buffer WMA would be modified to become a year-round no entry zone but would allow transit through Steamboat Creek. The portion of the existing Crocodile Lake WMA on the northwestern shoreline of Eastern Lake Surprise would become part of the Eastern Lake Surprise WMA as it is contiguous with that area. Crocodile Lake WMA is intended to decrease disturbance to ESA-listed species, including American crocodile and West Indian manatee, and various bird species that use the area for foraging, nesting and roosting. This WMA is also intended to protect the shallow seagrass flats near Card Sound Bridge that have been impacted by vessel groundings and exhibit prop scarring. This is a slight modification from the 2019 DEIS alternatives including shifting a portion of the zone to Eastern Lake Surprise and allowing transit in Steamboat Creek, which was requested through public and agency comment.

- *Eastern Lake Surprise*: This existing WMA would be modified to include a no entry area along the western shoreline that is currently part of the Crocodile Lake WMA. In the canal and basin on the southeast side of Eastern Lake Surprise, the existing regulations would be changed from idle speed no wake to no entry. All other regulations would be maintained. Like Crocodile Lake WMA, this WMA is intended to decrease disturbance to ESA-listed species including American crocodile

and West Indian manatee. This is a slight modification from the 2019 DEIS alternatives due to the addition of the western shoreline that is now included in Crocodile Lake WMA.

- *Dove and Rodriguez Keys*: These two existing WMAs would be combined to create one no motor zone WMA. The existing regulations that close two small islands near Dove Key would be eliminated. This WMA is intended to decrease disturbance to a variety of birds, fish, and the benthic community, including seagrass and hardbottom habitat. The shallow seagrass flats in this area have been impacted by vessel groundings and exhibit prop scarring. This proposed rule modifies the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3), which included a no entry zone around Dove Key and a no anchor regulation throughout.

- *Tavernier Key*: This is an existing no motor zone. NOAA proposes to maintain the existing no motor regulation, add no anchor, and provide exceptions to these regulations in Tavernier Creek and the unnamed channel to the northeast leading to it. This WMA is intended to decrease disturbance to a variety of birds, fish, and the benthic community, including seagrass and hardbottom habitat. The shallow seagrass flats in this area have been impacted by vessel groundings and exhibit prop scarring. The proposed rule would be the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Snake Creek*: This existing no motor zone would be extended to the west along the shoreline up to but not including the existing Monroe County no motor zone as was included in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3). An exception to the no motor regulations would be made for Snake Creek itself and the three channels providing access to Windley Key. This WMA is intended to decrease the disturbance to a variety of birds using the area for nesting, roosting, and foraging, and protect shallow water habitat used by various fish species. The shallow seagrass flats have been impacted by vessel groundings and exhibit prop scarring.

- *Cotton Key*: This existing no motor zone would be extended to include an area west of Cotton Key that exhibits prop scarring. The 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3) included expanding the WMA to include additional area to the south east of the existing zone; however, this expansion is not included in this proposed rule due to public and agency concerns related to proximity and the potential to interfere with access to Whale Harbor Channel. In addition to protecting

shallow seagrass habitats, this WMA is intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds.

- *East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key Flats*: East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key Flats are both existing marine zones that are proposed to be modified in this proposed rule. East Content Keys WMA consists of an existing small idle speed no wake zone in the largest tidal creek. NOAA proposes applying additional idle speed no wake regulations in the remaining tidal creeks at East Content Keys. In addition, the seagrass flats to the east, north, and south of East Content Key, extending beyond Upper Harbor Key, would be designated as idle speed no wake as this area exhibits scarring. This large, idle speed no wake zone was included in the 2019 DEIS Alternative 4 as the Upper Harbor Key Flats WMA. Upper Harbor Keys WMA is an existing 300-foot no access zone around the entire island. NOAA proposes changing this no access buffer zone to a no entry zone that would be encompassed within the larger proposed East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key Flats idle speed no wake WMA.

- *Snipe Keys*: This existing marine zone would have a no entry area added, which is an important roosting area for magnificent frigatebirds that are easily disturbed by motorized and non-motorized boat traffic. This proposed expansion is just south of the existing no motor and idle speed no wake areas, which would not change. The proposed rule would be the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Mud Keys*: This existing marine zone includes idle speed no wake and closed areas within the channels. NOAA proposes updating this to idle speed no wake in all channels. Through discussion with USFWS, NOAA determined that idle speed no wake would be sufficient to decrease disturbance to nesting, roosting, and foraging birds while also providing user access in this area.

- *Lower Harbor Keys*: This existing zone includes idle speed no wake in selected tidal creeks. NOAA proposes expanding the idle speed no wake area to further protect and decrease disturbance to various nesting, roosting, and wading birds. The expanded area would also capture surrounding seagrass flats that exhibit prop scarring. NOAA also proposes including slightly more area than the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3) included to provide better protection for wading bird species in this location.

- *Bay Keys*: This existing marine zone would expand the current idle speed no

wake area in the channel leading to the northwest island, maintain that island as no motor, and would include an additional adjacent island to the southeast as no motor. Southwest Bay Key, the existing no motor zone, is used as a roosting area for magnificent frigatebirds, a species that is highly disturbed by boater use. These proposed modifications, informed by USFWS data, would decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds, including great white heron, tricolored heron, little blue heron, cormorant, osprey, and various other small birds. The WMA in this proposed rule would be the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 2.

- *Cottrell Key*: This existing no motor zone would be updated to a no entry zone to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds. Cottrell Key has one of the highest annual counts of nesting great white herons in the Lower Keys, and serves as an important island for other nesting, roosting and foraging birds. The WMA in this proposed rule would be the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Woman Key*: This existing marine zone, which currently includes one-half of the beach and sand spit as closed, would be changed to no entry and expanded to include 300-foot offshore of the beach to further decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds and ESA-listed sea turtles, which may be impacted during nesting by high concentrations of visitors. The WMA in this proposed rule would be the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Boca Grande Key*: This existing marine zone currently includes a closed area on the south half of the beach and the island is closed by the USFWS. In this proposed rule the WMA would be changed to no entry and expanded to include 300-foot offshore of the beach to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds and ESA-listed sea turtles, which may be impacted during nesting by high concentrations of visitors. The WMA in this proposed rule would be slightly smaller than the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3), which extended further along the shoreline at both ends of the marine zone (to the north and east).

- *Marquesas Keys*: This is an existing zone with a 300-foot no motor regulation around three keys, a 300-foot no access buffer zone around one island (all on the western side of Mooney Harbor), and idle speed no wake in a southwest tidal creek. NOAA proposes to maintain all of these areas; however, the no motor and no access buffer zones would be updated to no entry and would add one additional island on the

south end of Mooney Harbor as no entry. The idle speed no wake zone in the southwest tidal creek would not change. Based on public comments and discussions with USFWS related to the resource status and protection needs for the main island of Long Beach, NOAA does not propose to include a no entry area around the main island, which was included in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3). USFWS noted the potential value of a no motor zone; however, at this time no additional marine zone would be proposed for this area. Therefore, the WMA in this proposed rule is a combination of status quo and the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3) as outlined above.

### iii. Proposed New WMAs

NOAA proposes including 23 new WMAs. All of these areas were included in the 2019 DEIS with various spatial and regulatory options across Alternatives 2, 3, and 4. However, nine of the newly proposed WMAs have been modified in NOAA's proposed rule in either their spatial boundary, access regulations, or both (Whitmore Bight, Channel Key Banks, Red Bay Bank, Marathon Oceanside, Happy Jack Keys, Western Dry Rocks, Marquesas Turtle, Barracuda Keys, and Ballast and Man Keys Flats). These changes have stemmed directly from public and agency comments, resource status, and existing or potential resource impact.

- *Barnes-Card Sound*: This is a proposed new WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and wading birds, shallow water gamefish, and impacts to the benthic community including seagrass and macroalgae where shallow seagrass flats exhibit prop scarring. The WMA in this proposed rule would be the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Whitmore Bight*: This is a proposed new no motor WMA which has been modified slightly from the 2019 DEIS Alternative 2. The proposed rule would include an area along the shoreline in John Pennekamp State Coral Reef Park up to but not including the State Park managed no motor zone. This proposed zone is intended to decrease disturbance to the benthic community, including hardbottom habitat that supports juvenile lobster and various reef and game fish. Shallow seagrass flats in this area exhibit prop scarring.

- *Pelican Key*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA, which is the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 4. The proposed rule would include the most protective measures for this area to decrease disturbance of roosting and wading

birds including magnificent frigatebirds and pelicans. Shallow seagrass flats in this area exhibit prop scarring.

- *Pigeon Key*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting wading birds including roseate spoonbills and roosting magnificent frigatebirds. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Ashbey-Horseshoe Key*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance of brown pelicans and magnificent frigatebirds roosting in Lignumvitae Key Aquatic Preserve and Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park. In addition, recent monitoring documented many nesting cormorants and great egrets, including great egret hatchlings. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Channel Key Banks*: This is a proposed new idle speed no wake WMA, which has been modified from the 2019 DEIS alternatives. The proposed rule would include a much smaller and targeted zone in the area with the greatest amount of prop scarring. This WMA is intended to protect seagrass and hardbottom habitat that supports a diverse assemblage of corals, sponges, macroalgae, seagrass, and many juvenile fish species prior to their movement to the coral reefs. This habitat type is not currently well represented in the existing FKNMS marine zones.

- *Red Bay Bank*: This is a proposed new idle speed no wake WMA, which has been modified from the 2019 DEIS alternatives. The proposed rule would include a much smaller and targeted zone in the area with the greatest amount of prop scarring. This WMA is intended to protect seagrass and hardbottom habitat that supports a diverse assemblage of corals, sponges, macroalgae, seagrass, and many juvenile fish species prior to their movement to the coral reefs. These habitat types are not currently well represented in the existing FKNMS marine zones.

- *Marathon Oceanside Shoreline*: This is a proposed new idle speed no wake WMA to decrease disturbance to nearshore seagrass and hardbottom habitats from vessel impacts in areas with prop scarring. The 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3) included this zone as a no motor area and based on public comment, the WMA in this proposed rule would be idle speed no wake with exceptions for established channels.

- *East Bahia Honda Key*: This is a proposed new no motor WMA intended

to decrease disturbance to nesting and foraging birds. Shallow seagrass flats in this area exhibit prop scarring. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 2.

- *West Bahia Honda Key*: This is a proposed new no motor WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and foraging birds. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 2.

- *Little Pine Key Mangrove*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds including magnificent frigatebirds, reddish egrets, and tricolored and great white herons. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Water Key Mangroves*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting, wading, and foraging birds and to decrease impacts to habitats for shallow water foraging shorebirds. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Howe Key Mangrove*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting birds including great white heron, great blue heron and reddish egret. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Torch Key Mangroves*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting habitat for various birds including white-crowned pigeon and reddish egret, and is shallow water foraging habitat for wading and shorebirds. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Crane Key*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds including magnificent frigatebirds and great white heron. Crane Key has the highest post-Hurricane Irma annual count of nesting great white herons in the backcountry, and serves as an important island for other nesting, roosting and foraging birds. Additional protections would reduce flushing of these birds from their nests and roosting sites. Shallow seagrass flats exhibit prop scarring. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Northeast Tarpon Belly Keys*: This is a proposed new no motor WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting sites for reddish egrets and other wading birds. The

WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 2.

- *Happy Jack Key*: This is a proposed new no entry WMA intended to decrease disturbance to wading bird foraging habitat and nesting reddish egret and great white heron. Happy Jack Key supports high numbers of nesting and roosting reddish egrets, while the surrounding shallows provide pristine foraging habitat. The WMA in this proposed rule includes a smaller and different island to the southeast of the island and area included in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3).

- *Western Dry Rocks*: This is a proposed new WMA that would mirror newly established *FWC regulations*<sup>13</sup> (February 2021) with a seasonal no fishing prohibition from April 1 to July 31, and include a no anchor regulation during this same seasonal time period.

NOAA received hundreds of public comments related to including Western Dry Rocks as a sanctuary marine zone. The 2019 DEIS included options for a 796 acre (1.2 square mile) trolling only Wildlife Management Area (Alternatives 2 and 3) and a transit only Conservation Area (Alternative 4). Public comments both strongly supported and opposed these proposals. Comments in support noted the need to protect this site due to its importance as a multi-fish spawning aggregation site; comments included support for both a year-round closure and seasonal closure during the peak spawning time, particularly for permit species, which are not managed through an existing fishery management plan. Public comments in opposition noted the importance of this site for charter fishing activity, questioned the definition of trolling, and noted that any action at Western Dry Rocks should be taken through fishery management plan action and referenced recent action taken to modify bag and size limits for mutton snapper, one of several fish that spawn at this site. Agency comments, specifically those from FWC, did not support NOAA taking any action at Western Dry Rocks and recommended it be removed from further consideration. FWC commented that fisheries management in State waters at this location should remain under the sole authority of FWC, and further noted that FWC would consider rulemaking for this area. Since submitting their comments on the 2019 DEIS, FWC proposed various options for protecting fish spawning aggregations at Western Dry Rocks, and at their February 2021 FWC Commission meeting, adopted a

seasonal closure that prohibits fishing from April 1 through July 31 annually in an area that mostly encompasses NOAA's 2019 DEIS proposal, but is slightly smaller (0.98 square miles). As a result, and because it is customary for federal and state agencies to craft complementary regulations to ensure consistency and transparency and improve enforcement, NOAA also proposes including a seasonal no fishing WMA at Western Dry Rocks. Further, FWC has requested that anchoring by vessels be prohibited during the seasonal fishing closure, so NOAA is proposing to establish no anchoring regulations at the same time of year as the no fishing regulations. NOAA would work cooperatively with FWC to place marker buoys to delineate the Western Dry Rocks WMA.

- *Barracuda Keys*: This is a proposed new idle speed no wake WMA intended to decrease disturbance to important shallow water habitats and the large numbers of resting shorebirds that use the shallow seagrass flats. Shallow flats exhibit prop scarring. Informed by public comment, the proposed rule modifies the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3), which included this area as a no motor zone. In the 2019 DEIS this WMA was referred to as Marvin Barracuda Key Flat.

- *Archer Key*: This is a proposed new no anchor WMA intended to decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds and protect seagrass habitat and associated species, which exhibit prop scarring. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 2.

- *Ballast and Man Keys Flats*: This is a proposed new idle speed no wake WMA intended to protect important hardbottom and seagrass habitat, which exhibit prop scarring. Additional regulation in this area would also reduce user conflict between flats fishers and recreational boaters. The WMA in this proposed rule is modified from the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3), which proposed no anchor in an area slightly to the north. The shift in location and regulation is based on public comment, user feedback and prioritizing protection in the area of greatest prop scarring.

- *Marquesas Turtle*: This is a proposed new idle speed no wake zone to decrease disturbance to ESA-listed green sea turtles on a rare, internationally-important foraging ground. NOAA proposes including a smaller area than was proposed in the 2019 DEIS preferred alternative (Alternative 3). The WMA boundary included in this proposed rule removes the southern portion of the area that was

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=68B-6.004>.

included in the DEIS proposal due to public and agency comment regarding needing this area for safe transit to the Marquesas Keys. The WMA in this proposed rule also captures the area of greatest habitat variability and highest numbers of turtle sightings.

- *Pulley Ridge*: This area is proposed for overall sanctuary boundary expansion where sanctuary-wide regulations would apply. Additional regulations would prohibit anchoring by all vessels. This proposed new WMA would protect the deepest known photosynthetic coral reef system off the coast of the continental United States with demonstrated connectivity to the Florida Keys. These nationally-significant mesophotic reef ecosystems are threatened by anchor damage. This zone overlaps with an existing Gulf of

Mexico Fishery Management Council Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC), which prohibits anchoring by fishing vessels and bottom tending fishing gear, with an exception for long-line gear in a portion of the HAPC. The proposed no anchor regulations for all vessels would complement the existing HAPC anchoring restrictions that only apply to fishing vessels. The WMA in this proposed rule is the same as the 2019 DEIS Alternative 4 proposal. In addition, as noted in part III. section 1. *Sanctuary Boundary*, NOAA is also pursuing International Maritime Organization adoption of a no anchoring area designation for Pulley Ridge.

iv. Existing DEIS Proposed WMAs That Would Be Eliminated

Several new WMAs were proposed in the 2019 DEIS alternatives, which, for various reasons, including extensive public and agency comments, are not included in NOAA's proposed rule. One existing WMA, Little Crane Key, which was proposed to be eliminated in the DEIS, is also proposed to be eliminated in NOAA's proposed rule. Another existing WMA, Tidal Flat South of Marvin Key, was not proposed for elimination in the DEIS alternatives but is proposed to be eliminated in NOAA's proposed rule. Table 2 provides a summary of the eight WMAs that were proposed in the DEIS and are not being included in NOAA's proposed rule and the two existing WMAs that would also be eliminated.

TABLE 2—SUMMARY OF EXISTING OR DEIS PROPOSED WMAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED RULE

Zone name	Purpose and intent	Reason for not carrying forward
Alligator Reef .....	Protect a significant amount of ESA-listed coral by providing additional protections to an existing fishery management plan area closed to lobster trap gear.	NOAA determined that due to FWC and FMC interest in evaluating all lobster trap exclusion zones, NOAA will await this review prior to including this area as a sanctuary marine zone.
Key Lois Loggerhead Key ...	Decrease impacts to shallow water habitat adjacent to Bow Channel. Many of the shallow seagrass flats in this area exhibit light-to-moderate prop scarring. Decrease disturbance to migrating tarpon that use this basin from February through June. Decrease user conflict between flats fishermen and transiting boats.	NOAA determined that the burden to local homeowners outweighed the resource protection goals and that the original intent to separate conflicting users (boating and fishing) may not be needed.
Western Sambo Shoreline ...	Decrease disturbance in the nearshore foraging and nursery habitat for various fish species. Provide stricter protections to meet the advisory council goal to protect large, contiguous, diverse and interconnected habitats, including for fish moving inshore to offshore through their life cycle.	NOAA determined that current zone regulations of Western Sambo Conservation Area are sufficient for the resource protection goals.
Demolition Key .....	Decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds, including great white heron and magnificent frigatebirds.	NOAA determined that the impacts to uses including general transit, fishing, and military testing and training outweighed the resource protection goals of this proposed zone.
Little Crane Key .....	Decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds .....	NOAA determined the existing zone is no longer needed as the area shifted during Hurricane Wilma and no longer supports the bird species it was designed to protect.
Tidal Flat South of Marvin Key.	Decrease disturbance to nesting and foraging shorebirds that use the shallow seagrass flats.	NOAA determined the existing zone is no longer needed as the nearby proposed Marvin Barracuda Keys WMA would be more effective for decreasing bird disturbance in this general area.
Marvin Key .....	Decrease disturbance to nesting and foraging shorebirds that use the shallow seagrass flats.	NOAA determined that the impacts to access to popular recreation sites outweighed the resource protection benefits of this zone and the nearby proposed Marvin Barracuda Keys WMA would be more effective for decreasing bird disturbance in this general area.
East Barracouta Key .....	Decrease disturbance to ESA-listed sea turtles and protect important hardbottom habitat. Shallow seagrass flats in the area exhibit light prop scarring.	NOAA determined resource conditions are not severe enough to warrant restricting access.
Boca Grande Woman Key Flat.	Decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds and shallow water habitats including seagrass and hardbottom. Limit user conflict in a high traffic area.	NOAA determined that the resource protection needs of this site, at this time, are not sufficient to restrict access. USFWS specifically noted that if this shallow flat were used by nesting birds in the future, they would work with NOAA on options to use the proposed <i>Temporary Regulation for Emergency and Adaptive Management</i> .

TABLE 2—SUMMARY OF EXISTING OR DEIS PROPOSED WMAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED RULE—Continued

Zone name	Purpose and intent	Reason for not carrying forward
Wilma Key .....	Decrease disturbance to nesting and roosting birds. Decrease disturbance to ESA-listed sea turtle nesting beaches that may be impacted by high concentrations of visitors. Shallow seagrass flats around the island exhibit light-to-moderate prop scarring.	NOAA determined that the resource protection needs of this site, at this time, are not sufficient to restrict access. USFWS noted interest in working with NOAA to potentially use the proposed <i>Temporary Regulation for Emergency and Adaptive Management</i> if bird nesting occurs here in the future.

v. Shoreline Slow Speed

In addition, NOAA has decided not to include a shoreline slow speed regulation in this proposed rule. The existing regulation requiring idle speed no wake operation within 100 yards of residential shorelines would remain in effect and not be modified. NOAA’s deliberation on this draft regulation considered the value that additional shoreline protections could provide in light of potential impacts from climate change and sea level rise and therefore NOAA does not rule out potential future, additional shoreline vessel speed regulations.

Public comments were generally supportive of a proposed shoreline slow speed regulation because it would potentially decrease the number of individual Wildlife Management Areas (where speed is regulated), reduce the need for marker buoys and signage, and provide additional protections for nearshore habitats and species. However, several comments noted concern regarding the feasibility of enforcing a shoreline slow speed regulation and the number of exceptions that may be required for channels, passes, and ability to access deeper areas nearshore. Agency comments both supported this proposed regulation and noted similar concerns to those included in public comments.

4. Additional Marine Zone Regulations

a. Motorized Personal Watercraft

NOAA proposes including regulatory changes to allow motorized personal watercraft (PWC) operation in a small portion of the Key West National Wildlife Refuge, west of the Key West main ship channel around marker G13, where PWC operation is otherwise prohibited.

The 2019 DEIS included this proposal in Alternatives, 2, 3, and 4. Public comments on the operation of PWCs in the sanctuary ranged from banning PWCs throughout the sanctuary to opposing any restrictions for where PWCs could operate. Public comments also included more specific recommendations, such as allowing PWC use in areas parallel to the entire

length of the Key West ship channel to further public safety, and that the State of Florida should take the lead for regulating PWCs under Chapter 327.60 Florida Statutes, which states that personal watercraft must be regulated as any other vessel on waters of the State. USFWS comments supported allowing PWC operation in this small section with no other changes to PWC operations within the National Wildlife Refuges.

b. Tortugas North Access Permits

NOAA proposes streamlining the permit application process for persons wishing to enter the Tortugas North Conservation Area. The current regulation requires that access permits must be requested at least 72 hours but no longer than one month before the date that access is requested. NOAA proposes to remove the current requirement to request access permits no longer than one month before the date of entrance to the area, and remove the requirement to notify FKNMS before entering and upon leaving the area. The requirement to request an access permit at least 72 hours in advance will remain. This permit would also refer to the zone as Tortugas North Conservation Area rather than Ecological Reserve due to the zone type name change.

NOAA received minimal public and agency comments regarding this specific proposal, but those comments received were supportive of it.

c. Catch and Release Fishing by Trolling in Four SPAs

NOAA proposes eliminating the exception allowing catch and release fishing by trolling in four SPAs (Conch Reef, Alligator Reef, Sombrero Key, and Sand Key). NOAA believes that user compliance is greatly reduced and enforcement greatly hindered when exceptions to regulations in specific zones are provided. Over two decades of management experience with marine zones in the sanctuary points to providing zones with consistent and clear regulations.

The 2019 DEIS included this proposal in Alternatives 2, 3, and 4. Public comments included support for

additional and consistent protections and opposition for the loss of fishing access in these SPAs. FWC comments noted that state rules at 68B–6, F.A.C. allow catch and release by trolling in Sand Key SPA, which is in State waters. Modification to fishing activities in this area would constitute a fisheries management action under FWC authority, and the FWC was not supportive of access limitations without information to justify that such an action was in response to a specific problem. Considering these comments, NOAA determined that the effects of removing the exception for catch and release fishing at Sand Key SPA, in State waters, would be insignificant given the small size of this zone (0.45 square miles) and because fishermen are able to access multiple reef areas nearby but outside this zone. As noted above, consistent no fishing and no harvest regulations in fully protected SPAs facilitate compliance by all users.

d. Bait Fishing Permits

NOAA proposes eliminating over a three-year period the practice of issuing bait fishing permits of any kind in SPAs in federal waters and the practice of issuing permits to bait fish using cast nets in SPAs in State waters. FKNMS regulations currently prohibit fishing within SPAs, with exceptions for catch and release fishing in four SPAs (see 15 CFR 922.164(d)). However, NOAA has been issuing a very small number of general permits for limited bait fishing in SPAs since the original FKNMS regulations became effective in 1997. Permits issued to date allow the harvest of bait fish from all 18 SPAs using either a hand-thrown cast net (which is the gear used by recreational and charter fishermen) or modified lampara net (which is the gear type used by commercial fishermen in the State’s limited endorsement lampara net fishery). NOAA also issues general permits that authorize the use of small hair hooks (*i.e.*, sabiki rig) to remove baitfish from just three of the SPAs in federal waters offshore of Islamorada. All permitted fishermen are required to report their catch inside and outside of the SPAs to FKNMS annually. NOAA’s



proposal to eliminate the practice of issuing bait fish permits does not require a change to the regulations and would be implemented via changes to FKNMS's permitting policies. When final FKNMS regulations become effective, existing bait fishing permit holders would have the option to renew their permit annually for three years but NOAA would not issue any bait fishing permits to any new persons. After the third year, NOAA would no longer issue permits for this activity.

Public comments supporting this proposal noted that allowing this activity in SPAs creates an incentive to fish in no-fishing zones more generally and supported consistency of regulations in all SPAs. Public comments opposing this proposal noted that allowing bait fishing in SPAs was part of an original trade-off with fishermen to gain their support for the establishment of SPAs, noting that this agreement should continue to be upheld.

Agency comments from FWC and SAFMC supported phasing out the use of cast nets for bait fishing in SPAs, stating that the use of this gear may cause impacts to coral reef and hardbottom habitats. GMFMC noted that NOAA may want to consider specific gear types that could be allowed and recommended consulting with FWC. More specifically, FWC supported continuing to allow the use of modified lampara nets to commercially harvest baitfish in the SPAs. FWC also noted that even though this proposal does not impact the ability of fishermen to fish for bait outside of SPAs, SPA areas have been identified as important areas for bait fishing in the Keys. FWC noted that a limited entry lampara net endorsement exists in State waters and therefore recommended that those endorsement holders be allowed to continue to fish within designated SPAs. FWC explained that gear contact with the reef is unlikely and conflict with other user groups is unlikely based on the time of day they fish.

NOAA considered FWC's comments regarding continuing to allow lampara net use in SPAs in federal waters, but believes that allowing only certain gear types increases conflict with other users and importantly, complicates compliance with the existing prohibition against fishing in these areas. This proposed decision is based on over 25 years of management of the network of marine zones within the sanctuary, including a review of catch log data submitted by permit holders over the past five years. These reports indicate that there is a limited number of recreational and commercial

fishermen using the permits to catch bait fish, with over half of the permitted fishermen reporting annually they are not using the permit (*i.e.*, not catching baitfish within the SPAs). Those fishermen that do state they are harvesting baitfish within the SPAs report very low catch numbers, leading NOAA to believe that very few users will be adversely affected by this change and that most fishermen are already catching baitfish outside of the SPAs. NOAA has also received input from dozens of recreational (cast net) fishermen over the last two decades through log form reporting and other means (*e.g.*, phone calls, emails) noting conflicts with commercial lampara net fishermen when in the SPAs.

NOAA considered all of this input when proposing the change in bait fishing permits in this proposed rule. Specifically, in support of the comments from FWC summarized above, NOAA would work with state fishery managers to develop a process for fishermen currently managed through the State's limited entry endorsement program to use lampara nets in existing SPAs in State waters.

#### e. Restricted Access in Select Sanctuary Preservation Areas

NOAA's proposed rule does not include a regulation to restrict commercial operator access in three SPAs (Carysfort Reef, Sombrero Key, and Sand Key), as proposed in Alternatives 3 and 4 in the DEIS. In these regulatory alternatives, NOAA would have only allowed charter operator access to these areas to dive/snorkel businesses that participate in the Blue Star program. The Blue Star program is an existing program that recognizes tour operators who are committed to promoting responsible and sustainable diving and snorkeling practices to reduce the impact of these activities on ecosystems in the Florida Keys, participate in training for their staff, and conduct conservation activities. NOAA received many public comments specific to these alternatives to limit access, with the majority of comments opposing. While not supporting this specific proposal, comments also noted concern about increasing numbers and intensity of use and supported considering ways to manage numbers of users in the sanctuary including in coral reef and backcountry areas. In addition, many commenters acknowledged that other resource protection entities (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, international marine parks, among others) manage use, access, and overall numbers of users through various

regulatory and non-regulatory mechanisms, and some commenters provided ideas and recommendations for consideration, which NOAA will evaluate as additional management plan activities are considered. In response to these comments, the revised draft management plan includes additional information about NOAA's intent to better assess sanctuary carrying capacity, evaluate regulatory and non-regulatory tools to manage use and use numbers in the sanctuary, and consider how existing regulations and management activities can be more strategically applied to better manage use and impacts from use (*e.g.*, boater education, mooring buoys, proposed no anchor regulation in SPAs, etc.). With this additional evaluation and further public and agency engagement, NOAA may consider regulatory action to manage numbers of users and impacts of this use on sanctuary resources in the future.

#### 5. Sanctuary Management Plan

NOAA has revised the draft management plan that was published along with the 2019 DEIS. While NOAA received very few direct comments on the specific content in that draft plan, public comments did highlight several management issues of interest including: (1) water quality, (2) enforcement, (3) education, (4) mooring and marker buoys and signage, (5) better understanding of carrying capacity and managing high and conflicting uses, (6) habitat restoration, (7) artificial habitats and artificial reefs, and (8) management effectiveness monitoring and the ability to be more flexible in responding to outcomes of such monitoring.

The revised draft management plan, which includes the non-regulatory actions, complements and further supports this notice of proposed rulemaking. The revised draft management plan actions are largely focused on understanding and improving the condition of sanctuary resources through reducing threats and addressing emerging issues. Actions also include the need to engage with and strengthen partnerships to address issues and impacts that occur outside the sanctuary boundary and fall within the jurisdiction or authority of partner federal or state agencies. For example, a priority is strengthening the NOAA partnership with the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force to ensure Florida Keys water quality, habitat, living marine resource conditions, and community interests are considered and integrated into regional restoration and management plans.

NOAA has revised the draft management plan to provide more detail on these and other topics identified in this Notice. A copy of this revised draft management plan is available at the address and website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule.

#### IV. Summary of Proposed Changes to the Sanctuary Terms of Designation

Section 304(a)(4) of the NMSA requires that the terms of designation for national marine sanctuaries include: (1) the geographic area of the sanctuary; (2) the characteristics of the area that give it conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, research, educational, or aesthetic value; and (3) the types of activities subject to regulation by NOAA to protect those characteristics. This section also specifies that the terms of designation may be modified only by the same procedures by which the original designation was made, including public notice and comment, and preparation of an EIS. Terms of designation include the geographic area of the sanctuary, characteristics of the area that give it value, and the types of activities that will be subject to regulation. Therefore, through the proposed rule, the revised FKNMS terms of designation would:

1. Modify Article I (“Designation and Effect”) to include the expanded sanctuary boundary;

2. Modify Article II (“Description of the Area”) by changing the geographic description and size of the sanctuary;

3. Modify Article III (“Characteristics of the Area That Give it Particular Value”) by updating the size of the sanctuary and the description of the special resources contained within it;

4. Modify Article IV (“Scope of Regulation”) by simplifying descriptions of the categories of activities that may be subject to regulation. As originally drafted, the Terms of Designation contain a level of detail similar to, if not the same, as the regulations. Instead, NOAA proposes to provide broad categories of activities to be more consistent with the legislative intent of section 304(a)(4) of the NMSA to merely identify the “types of activities,” and rely instead on the regulations themselves to provide the specific regulatory details. Otherwise, the “Scope of Regulation” section would be duplicative of the regulations and serve no purpose. By simplifying the activity descriptions, NOAA is not broadening in any way the scope of the regulations and is not adding any new or different activities to be subject to regulation. The regulations themselves contain the operative language and only the regulations are enforceable;

5. Modify Article V (“Effect on Leases, Permits, Licenses, and Rights”) by modifying language to be consistent with section 304(c) of the NMSA related to any valid lease, permit, license, approval, or other authorization or right in existence prior to the effective date of the revised terms of designation, and to cite the correct section of Office of National Marine Sanctuaries regulations for certifying such valid rights;

6. Modify the “Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Boundary Coordinates” to include the expanded sanctuary boundary.

For the proposed modified FKNMS Designation Document, please refer to appendix J.

#### V. Classification

##### 1. National Marine Sanctuaries Act

Section 301(b) of the NMSA (16 U.S.C. 1431) provides authority for comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management of national marine sanctuaries in coordination with other resource management authorities. Section 304(a)(4) of the NMSA (16 U.S.C. 1434) requires that the procedures specified in Section 304 for designating a national marine sanctuary be followed for modifying any terms of designation. This action is revising the terms of designation (e.g., expanding the boundary) for FKNMS. Section 304(a)(5) of the NMSA also requires that NOAA consult with the appropriate federal fishery management council on any action proposing to regulate fishing in federal waters. Consultation with the SAFMC and GMFMC is discussed above in part II, *FKNMS 2019 DEIS—The Restoration Blueprint Process*, section 3c, *Agency Consultations and Other Coordination*. Pursuant to Section 304(a)(1) of the NMSA, Congress and the Governor of Florida will also have the opportunity to review this proposed action.

##### 2. National Environmental Policy Act

In accordance with Section 304(a)(2) of the NMSA (16 U.S.C. 1434(a)(2)), and the provisions of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370), NOAA has prepared a DEIS to evaluate the impacts of this action. For more information on the DEIS and steps leading to the action, please refer above to part II, *FKNMS 2019 DEIS—The Restoration Blueprint Process*, section 2, *Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)*. The DEIS contains a statement of the purpose and need for the project, description of proposed alternatives, including the no action alternative, description of the affected environment, and evaluation and

comparison of environmental consequences including cumulative impacts.

NOAA has determined that a supplemental NEPA analysis is not required for this proposed rule because the DEIS presented the public with a comprehensive analysis of the spectrum of environmental impacts among several alternative scenarios from which this proposed rule was derived. Any changes reflected in the proposed action are insubstantial in that they do not differ from the impacts already analyzed in the DEIS. The specific combination of elements from the alternatives analyzed in the DEIS and reflected in the proposed rulemaking will not have any synergistic or cumulative impacts not already analyzed in the DEIS. Based on the evaluation of the alternatives, NOAA determined that no significant adverse impacts to resources and the human environment are expected if any of the alternatives are adopted, and this conclusion applies to this proposed action. Copies of the DEIS are available at the address and website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule. NOAA will analyze the comments that have been previously received on the DEIS when the final rule and FEIS are prepared and issued. NOAA also invites the public to provide additional comments on the DEIS based on the proposed rule as presented herein.

##### 3. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Impact

OMB has determined this rule is significant as that term is defined under Executive Order 12866. NOAA anticipates the associated costs with this proposed rule will be *de minimis*, as explained more fully in the Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, a copy of which is available at the address and website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule.

##### 4. Executive Order 13132: Federalism Assessment

NOAA has concluded this regulatory action does not have federalism implications sufficient to warrant preparation of a federalism assessment under Executive Order 13132. This proposed rule will not have a substantial or direct effect on states or local governments. NOAA has coordinated closely with state partners throughout the development of this proposed rule and, where applicable and practicable, aligns with and/or defers to existing state regulations for proposals within State waters of the sanctuary. NOAA has aimed for consistent regulations throughout

sanctuary waters including those within state and federal jurisdiction.

##### 5. Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

Executive Order 13175 reaffirms the Federal government's commitment to tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and self-government. Its purpose is to ensure that all Executive departments and agencies consult with Indian tribes and respect tribal sovereignty as they develop policies on issues that impact Indian communities. This proposed action is not anticipated to have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibility between the Federal government and Indian tribes. The Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office provided comments on the DEIS specific to the *Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Operations, Management, and Permitting*, and consultation related to archaeological research permits.

##### 6. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) requires Federal agencies to prepare an analysis of a rule's impact on small entities whenever the agency is required to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking, unless the agency can certify, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), that the action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. NOAA has prepared a Socioeconomic Report, in which Chapter 6 serves as the factual basis for certification. A copy of this report is available as a supporting document to this rule (see **ADDRESSES**). Chapter 6 of the report, Economic Effects on Small Entities, is also included here.

This section evaluates the quantitative potential effects of marine zone boundary changes on small entities. There are three primary industries considered in this section; commercial fishing, recreational for-hire fishing and dive/snorkeling for-hire operations. Based upon quantitative and qualitative analysis, the quantitative assessment provided here is an overestimate of the negative potential impacts of the proposed rule. We conclude that the economic impacts are expected to be much smaller because, based on other studies of marine protected areas, fishers are anticipated to be able to

relocate their effort to other areas or other species.

The RFA requires agencies to consider the effects of rules on small entities. The RFA does not require the agency to necessarily minimize a rule's impact on small entities. There are no decision criteria in the RFA. Instead, the goal of the RFA is to inform the agency and public of expected economic effects of the proposed rule contained within the regulatory action and to ensure the agency considers alternatives that minimize the expected economic effects on small entities while meeting the goals and objectives of the applicable statutes.

This analysis supports NOAA's decision to certify that the proposed rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of entities, and, therefore, no further analysis is needed under the RFA (US EEOC, 2021). The analysis provided here supports NOAA's decision to certify that there will not be a significant economic impact on a substantial number of entities.

Small entities are defined by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The definition of the relevant small businesses are presented here and are from the most recent size standards published by the SBA in 2019 (US SBA, 2019). Size standards are based upon the average annual receipts (all revenue) or the average employment of a firm. The commercial size standards for finfish fishing (NAICS code—114111) is \$22.0 million, shellfish fishing (NAICS code—114112) is \$6.0 million and other marine fishing (NAICS code—114119) is \$8.0 million. Scenic and sightseeing transportation, water-based businesses such as for-hire recreational fishing operations, and dive/snorkeling for-hire operations (NAICS code—487210) have size standards of \$8.0 million.

##### a. Commercial Fishing

All data presented in this chapter uses the five-year average (2015–2019). The data was provided by FWC. The data set requested by ONMS only includes data for landings that occur within the statistical areas and subareas described in Chapter 4 of the Socioeconomic Report. It is possible that some of the vessels with landings in the evaluated statistical areas have additional landings outside of the data requested from the State. This means that some of the vessels evaluated may not be classified as small businesses as defined by the SBA if their landings within Monroe County-associated statistical areas in addition to those outside Monroe County surpass the SBA size standards. Additionally, complete ownership and

cost data for businesses and vessels that participate in commercial fishing and other industries is not available.

Consequently, NOAA is not able to determine affiliations between multiple vessels and businesses. As a result, NOAA assumes that each of the vessels are independently owned by a single business. Either one of these two factors alone could result in an overestimate of the actual number of small businesses directly impacted by the proposed regulatory action. Additionally, the spatial data provided is for the statistical subareas and data are not available related to the specific catch or number of businesses that operate within the proposed marine zones. In this regard, there is a spatial mismatch between the data available and the size of the marine zones, which are likely to affect commercial and recreational activity. Chapter 4 of the Socioeconomic Report documents the assumptions made with regards to how affects to these specific industries are estimated.

##### i. Description and Estimate of the Number of Small Entities to Which the Proposed Action Would Apply

NOAA has calculated the potential number of vessels that may be impacted by this proposed rule. If a vessel operates in a statistical subarea that has a proposed zone or zone change that would impact commercial fishing, these vessels were considered. Unless otherwise stated, the supporting Socioeconomic Report (see Table 4 in Chapter 2) shows the statistical areas associated with the Gulf of Mexico or South Atlantic regions and which statistical areas include proposed rule zone changes that would restrict commercial fishing. In total, there are six statistical areas that have zone changes within habitat that the species analyzed are likely to be associated with. Impacts are considered by fish groups below. It is possible, and likely, that vessels may target multiple species and thus would be accounted for in several of the individual fish groupings provided below.

##### Reef Fish

The reef fish analyzed here include red grouper, grunts, hogfish (hog snapper), mutton snapper, grey (mangrove) snapper, lane snapper, black grouper (carberita), gag grouper, and yellowtail snapper. Please see Chapter 4 of the Socioeconomic Report for a more detailed explanation of why the analysis of reef fish focused on these nine specific reef associated species. The analysis for reef associated species is provided for the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic fisheries. The five-year

average (2015–2019) of the number of vessels that reported at least \$1 or more of harvest revenue for reef associated species in statistical areas affected by the proposed rule are presented here. In the Gulf of Mexico region, there was an annual average of 39 vessels. For the South Atlantic fishery there was an annual average of 231 vessels. (The estimates of vessels should not be summed to get the total number of vessels, as some vessels may fish in both regions and this would result in double counting.) Further, the maximum annual average revenue (2011–2015) of vessels operating within the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery is \$4.9 million (GMFMC, 2017). Within the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Fishery, the maximum average annual revenue (2012–2016) is \$1.7 million (SAFMC, 2019). The SBA commercial size standard for finfish is \$22.0 million, all vessels that have reported \$1 or more of reef fish harvest revenue do not surpass this threshold. Consequently, all the vessels potentially affected by this regulation are considered small entities.

#### Shrimp

Commercial vessels that fished pink, brown, white, royal red, rock, and “other” shrimp species (as reported in FWC trip tickets) were considered in this analysis. The number of vessels engaged in the shrimp fishery was estimated for the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic regions. Statistical subarea 2.8 (Federal Waters Gulf of Mexico) is the only statistical subarea in which the shrimp fishery may be affected by the proposed rule; thus, no South Atlantic region vessels engaged in the shrimp fishery would be affected. From 2015–2019, an average of 108 vessels per year reported at least \$1 or more of harvest revenue in statistical subarea 2.8. The SBA commercial size standard for shell fishing is \$6.0 million. From 2011–2014, the maximum annual average revenue for a single vessel harvesting shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico was \$2.0 million (GMFMC, 2017b). Consequently, all vessels potentially affected by the proposed rule were considered small entities.

#### Lobster

The five-year average of the number of vessels that reported at least \$1 or more of harvest revenue for lobster in statistical areas affected by the proposed rule are presented here. The analysis for lobster is not differentiated by South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico regions and 521 vessels on average (2015–2019) were identified as harvesting \$1 or more in lobster revenue. The maximum annual average revenue (2012–2016)

from all species reported by a single vessel that harvested lobster was \$2.0 million (GMFMC, 2018). The SBA commercial size standard for shell fishing is \$6.0 million, all vessels that have \$1 or more of lobster harvest revenue do not surpass this threshold. Consequently, the vessels potentially affected by this proposed rule are considered small entities.

#### Stone Crab

The five-year average of the number of vessels that reported at least \$1 or more of harvest revenue for stone crab in statistical subareas affected by the proposed rule are presented here. The analysis for stone crab is not differentiated by region and only considered harvesters in the State of Florida. An annual average of 282 vessels were identified as harvesting \$1 or more in stone crab revenue within the statistical subareas where there are proposed zone changes. The SBA commercial size standard for shell fishing is \$6.0 million, all vessels that have \$1 or more of stone crab harvest revenue do not surpass this threshold. Consequently, the vessels affected by this proposed rule are considered small entities.

#### ii. Significance of Economic Effects on Small Entities: Reef Fish Substantial Number Criterion

The proposed rule is likely to impact those that fish within the statistical areas affected by the proposed rule zone changes. On average (2011–2015), there were 585 vessels that landed at least one pound within the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery (both Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and non-IFQ species) managed under the Gulf reef fish fishery management plan (GMFMC, 2017). The maximum average annual gross revenue earned by a single vessel was approximately \$4.9 million (GMFMC, 2017). There is an average of 39 vessels that were identified (annually from 2015–2019) that may be affected by the proposed rule within the Gulf of Mexico.

The number of vessels that used their commercial permits annually for harvesting purposes on average between 2012 and 2016 was 584 vessels in the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Fishery (SAFMC, 2019). In the South Atlantic, the maximum average annual gross revenue from 2012–2016 for a single vessel within the snapper grouper fishery was about \$1.7 million (SAFMC, 2019 F–3). Within the South Atlantic region, an average of 231 vessels were identified (annually from 2015–2019) that used the statistical areas likely to be affected by the proposed rule. Based

upon the maximum average gross revenue all these commercial reef fishing businesses are believed to be small entities. Consequently, this action would affect a substantial number of small entities within the reef fishery in the South Atlantic region (39.6 percent), but not the Gulf of Mexico (3.8 percent).

#### Significant Economic Impacts

*Profitability:* Do the regulations significantly reduce profits for a substantial number of small entities?

The maximum potential average annual loss of harvest revenue across all vessels within the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Fishery is estimated to be \$19,900 and the estimated maximum potential loss within the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Fishery is roughly \$1,400 for the reef species analyzed. (The above estimates are totals across the fisheries and not per vessel maximum potential losses.) Although profit loss is not analyzed here, the loss in profit would be smaller than the loss of harvest revenue. The loss of profit considers the avoided costs of not spending the time and effort to catch the fish, where the harvest revenue does not. It is unknown how this loss would be distributed across individual vessels. However, the areas where fishing is prohibited are a small fraction of the overall sanctuary. The targeted zones, of which 95 percent are less than 5 square kilometers and 90 percent are less than 1 square kilometer, are spread throughout the sanctuary. Consistent with previous studies that analyze the impact of marine zone changes, it is likely that fishers would not experience the maximum potential loss and would be able to substitute places within the proposed zones for areas just outside or elsewhere (CDFG, 2008, Hackett et al., 2017, Jeffrey, et al., 2012, Murray & Hee, 2019, and PISCO, 2013). Further, each spatial zone is small and it is likely that commercial harvesters will, in the long-run, find replacement areas and/or benefit from spillover from improvements to reefs and fish communities within closed areas. Because of the above information, a significant reduction in profits for a substantial number of small entities is not expected from the proposed rule to these reef fish fisheries.

#### iii. Significance of Economic Effects on Small Entities: Lobster Substantial Number Criterion

On average (2012–2016), there were 770 commercial fishing businesses with recorded landings of spiny lobster in the State of Florida (GMFMC, 2018). During this time, these businesses earned an average annual revenue of approximately \$84,000 (\$2017) and

spiny lobster accounted for 67 percent of revenue (GMFMC, 2018). The maximum average annual revenue from all species reported by a single business that harvested spiny lobster from 2012 to 2016 was about \$2.0 million (GMFMC, 2018). There are 521 vessels that were identified on average between 2015–2019 that may be affected by the proposed rule. Since these commercial fishing businesses are believed to be small entities, it is assumed that this proposed rule would affect a substantial number of small entities.

#### Significant Economic Impacts

*Profitability:* Do the regulations significantly reduce profits for a substantial number of small entities?

The maximum potential total loss of lobster harvest revenue per year (for the 2015–2019 average) was estimated to be \$966,000. The average harvest revenue per year in the Monroe County statistical areas was roughly \$42.0 million. This represents a maximum potential loss of 2.3 percent of harvest revenue when compared to the harvest revenue in Monroe County statistical areas. If this potential loss of harvest revenue is evenly distributed across the 521 vessels, the average annual loss per vessel would be \$1,900. Although profit loss is not analyzed here, the loss in profit would be smaller than the loss of harvest revenue. The loss of profit considers the avoided costs of not spending effort (time and money) to catch the fish, where the harvest revenue does not. Further, as stated earlier, most targeted zones are small, and it is unlikely that the maximum potential loss would occur. A significant reduction in profits for a substantial number of small entities is not expected from the proposed rule in the lobster fishery.

#### iv. Significance of Economic Effects on Small Entities: Shrimp Substantial Number Criterion

On average (2011–2014), there were 1,140 vessels with valid permits that actively fished (had landings) in the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery. From 2011–2014 the average annual gross revenue was about \$413,900 for vessels with a shrimp moratorium permit (GMFMC, 2019). There are 108 vessels on average (from 2015–2019) that may be affected by this proposed rule.

From 2014–2018, the average number of vessels with a valid permit that actively fished (had landings) in the South Atlantic Shrimp Fishery was 262 (SAFMC, 2020). However, in the South Atlantic fishery, zero vessels that reported shrimp landings would be affected by the proposed rule.

These commercial fishing businesses are believed to be small entities. However, it is assumed that this proposed rule would not affect a substantial number of small entities. Less than 10 percent of vessels in the Gulf of Mexico fishery and zero percent of vessels in the South Atlantic fishery would be affected.

#### Significant Economic Impacts

*Profitability:* Do the regulations significantly reduce profits for a substantial number of small entities?

The proposed zone changes in the proposed rule are not expected to affect the South Atlantic shrimp fishery. Within the Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery, there is a de minimis effect that is expected. Small marginal areas of existing zones that were previously closed to shrimping will be opened, while other areas that have been closed may see minor increases in size due to slight boundary changes. Although the analysis found the resulting estimated benefit of \$5 of harvest revenue occurring across the fishery, it is likely that these small boundary changes will have no economic impact or alter the location of effort. Consequently, a significant reduction in profits for a substantial number of small entities is not expected from the proposed rule in the shrimp fishery.

#### v. Significance of Economic Effects on Small Entities: Stone Crab Substantial Number Criterion

This proposed rule would apply to all commercial fishing businesses that harvest stone crab in sanctuary waters. On average (2015–2019), there were 754 commercial fishing vessels with recorded landings of stone crab in Florida, but on average 282 of these vessels (2015–2019) harvested stone crab in the statistical areas that contain marine zones that are affected by the proposed rule. In the absence of more specific data, it is assumed that a maximum of 282 vessels may be affected within the stone crab fishery. The stone crab commercial fishing vessels are believed to be small entities, it is assumed that this proposed rule would affect a substantial number of small entities.

#### Significant Economic Impacts

*Profitability:* Do the regulations significantly reduce profits for a substantial number of small entities?

The maximum potential loss of harvest revenue across all vessels from the proposed rule is roughly \$37,700. Within Monroe County statistical subareas, the average annual total harvest revenue was \$20.2 million. The

maximum potential loss represents a potential loss of 0.2 percent of harvest revenue from the Monroe County statistical areas. Given the information above, a significant reduction in profits for a substantial number of small entities is not expected from the proposed rule. Although profit loss is not analyzed here, the loss in profit would be smaller than the loss of harvest revenue. The loss of profit considers the avoided costs of not spending effort (time and money) to catch the fish, where the harvest revenue does not.

#### vi. Summary of Effects to Commercial Fisheries

Table 3 provides a summary of the maximum average harvest revenue and maximum average revenue to the various fisheries provided in this section based upon their total catch. These numbers include total catch, regardless of targeted species. Additionally, the estimated loss of harvest revenue because of the proposed zone changes are provided, along with the loss of revenue on average to each vessel that reported fishing in the affected statistical areas. The last column provides information on the percent of total average annual harvest revenue lost per vessel. Except for the lobster fishery, losses are expected to be less than one percent. The lobster fishery vessels may experience a loss of roughly two percent. The losses are assumed to be evenly distributed across vessels operating in the statistical subareas affected by the proposed zone changes. Data on the costs, harvest revenues, and profits to individual businesses are not available to NOAA.

This estimate of losses is considered the maximum potential loss (MPL). This MPL is not expected to occur. First, the MPL is based on gross revenue, which does not consider a reduction in costs (e.g., fuel, labor) from decreased fishing effort. Further, these losses do not account for substitution of activity outside of the proposed zones or for harvesting of other species.

Most targeted zones are small, and it is unlikely that the maximum potential loss would occur. The Restoration Areas—Nursery, a new type of zone, are all roughly a half square kilometer or less in size. This new zone type results in an additional 2.4 square kilometers being added as transit only areas. Wildlife Management Areas may vary in regulations from idle speed, no wake, no motor, and no entry. In total, 4.0 square kilometers of area will be converted or expanded to Wildlife Management Areas. The smallest zone change proposed is 0.001 square kilometers and

the largest zone change is 0.56 square kilometers. Additionally, as noted above, several studies across multiple geographies have demonstrated that the maximum potential losses do not occur because of the availability of substitute places with the proposed zones for areas

just outside or elsewhere (CDFG, 2008, Hackett et al., 2017, Jeffrey, et al., 2012, Marry & Hee, 2019, and PISCO, 2013). Each spatial zone proposed to be added is small and it is likely that commercial harvesters will find substitute areas and benefit from spillover improvements

from the proposed closed areas. Within the commercial fishing industry, a significant economic effect is not expected to occur to a substantial number of small businesses from the proposed rule.

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Table 3. Summary of maximum potential effects to small commercial businesses.

	Maximum Annual Average Revenue (2019\$) [1]	Average Annual Revenue (2019\$) [2]	Number of Vessels in Fishery	Number of Vessels affected [3]	Loss of Harvest Revenue (2019\$)	Loss of Harvest Revenue per Affected Vessel (2019\$) [4]	Loss of Harvest Revenue as a Percent of Average Annual Revenue per Affected Vessel [5]
Gulf of Mexico reef fish [6]	\$4,853,899	\$133,047	585	39	\$1,443	\$37	1.08 percent
South Atlantic snapper/grouper [7]	\$1,704,330	\$46,869	584	231	\$19,826	\$86	0.18 percent
Caribbean spiny lobster [8]	\$1,960,816	\$87,611	770	521	\$965,833	\$1,854	2.12 percent

Stone Crab [9]	--	\$34,435	754	282	\$37,714	\$134	0.36 percent
Gulf of Mexico shrimp [10]	\$1,997,860	\$413,857	1,140	108	-\$5	\$0	0.00 percent
South Atlantic shrimp [11]	\$2,647,111	\$422,212	262	0	\$0	\$0	0.00 percent

[1] Revenues reflect all species harvested by a vessel.

[2] Revenues reflect all species harvested by a vessel.

[3] The number of vessels impacted is calculated based upon the average number of vessels that have landed the species (or fish group) listed within the statistical areas that contain proposed zone changes.

[4] Based on a qualitative assessment, we conclude that the maximum potential loss will not occur.

[5] Based on a qualitative assessment, we conclude that the maximum potential loss will not occur.

[6] Maximum annual average harvest revenue is based on data for 2011–2015 (GMFMC, 2017). Average annual harvest revenue is based on data for 2014–2016 (Overstreet et al., 2017; Overstreet et al., 2018a, 2018b).

[7] Maximum annual and annual average harvest revenues are based on data for 2012–2016 (SAFMC, 2019).

[8] Maximum annual and annual average harvest revenues are based on data for 2012–2016 (GMFMC, 2018b).

[9] The number of vessels engaged in this fishery is based on FWC data (S. Brown/FWC, personal communication, September 2, 2021).

[10] Maximum annual and annual average harvest revenues are based on data for 2011–2014 (GMFMC, 2017; GMFMC, 2019).

[11] Maximum annual and annual average harvest revenues are based on data for 2014–2018 (SAFMC, 2020).



## BILLING CODE 3510-NK-C

## b. Recreational For-Hire Fishing

## i. Description and Estimate of the Number of Small Entities to Which the Proposed Action Would Apply

For hire recreational fishing includes both charter and headboats. Charter boats, generally, are fishing vessels that are hired to take up to six anglers on a fishing trip. Typically, the charge is on a per-trip basis. Headboats usually operate on a schedule, and may provide several trips in a single day, taking many different fishing parties at a time. The charge is on a per-person basis. Headboats are usually larger and able to accommodate more anglers than a charter boat. Headboats are defined in Souza & Liese, 2019 as vessels with a passenger capacity of 18 or more individuals or were included in the Southeast Region Headboat Survey, and make up less than ten percent of permit holders (This definition differs from the NMFS definition.) There were 172 headboats identified, of which 51 percent (or 87 vessels) operated within Florida (Souza & Liese, 2019).

The summary provided here is for federally permitted for-hire vessels. In 2017 (from September to October) 1,166 charter vessels were identified to have active permits in the South Atlantic of which 29 percent reported they had not taken a trip within the past year, yielding 828 active charter vessels in the South Atlantic. Within the Gulf of Mexico, 956 charter vessels were identified with 24 percent of vessels

reporting they were not active within the last year. Only active vessels would be affected by this proposed rule (Souza & Liese, 2019). There are 828 charter vessels associated with the South Atlantic that may be affected and 727 charter vessels that may be affected within the Gulf of Mexico.

The maximum average annual gross revenue for a headboat in the South Atlantic in 2017 was about \$779,100. On average, annual gross revenue for charter vessels is less than half of that for headboats, so it is assumed that the maximum annual gross revenue for charter vessels in the South Atlantic is less than \$779,100 (85 FR 43135; July 16, 2020). As of 2018, annual average gross revenue was estimated to be approximately \$89,600 for for-hire charter vessels in the Gulf of Mexico (85 FR 43135; July 16, 2020). In 2017, the maximum annual gross revenue for a single headboat in the Gulf of Mexico was about \$1.3 million, so it was assumed that the maximum annual gross revenue for a single charter vessel was less than \$1.3 million (85 FR 45363; July 28, 2020). The annual average revenue for headboats in the southeast region (*i.e.*, Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic) was approximately \$701,500 (Souza & Liese, 2019). Because all for-hire fishing businesses are considered small entities, it was assumed that the proposed rule would affect a substantial number of small entities.

## ii. Significance of Economic Effects on Small Entities

*Profitability:* Do the regulations significantly reduce profits for a substantial number of small entities?

The average trip revenue including labor for South Atlantic charters is \$554, for Gulf of Mexico charters it is \$781 and for the southeast headboat it is \$1,815. The average number of passengers are 4.7, 5.5 and 28.2, respectively (Souza & Liese, 2019). However, the proposed zones are small and headboat fishing is not dependent upon specific species being harvested, even if passengers may have a target in mind.

It was estimated that the average annual mean effort of person-trips from charter vessels from 2014–2018 is 117,119 (MRIP, 2020). As a result of the proposed rule, up to 424 days of person activity (or 0.36 percent) may be lost. The trips lost are associated with the South Atlantic, and may result in a total of roughly \$50,000 revenue lost on average each year (average trip revenue\*number of lost person-days/average number of people per trip in the South Atlantic). The distribution of this loss is not known. It is likely that both charter operations and passengers will adapt to locations outside of the targeted marine zones with the targeted fish or catch other species. A significant reduction in profits for a substantial number of small entities is not expected from the proposed rule.

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Table 4. Summary of maximum potential effects to small for-hire fishing businesses.

	Maximum Revenue (2019\$)	Average Revenue (2019\$)	Number of Vessels	Number of Vessels affected	Loss of Revenue (2019\$)	Loss Revenue per Vessel affected (2019\$)	Revenue loss as a Percent of Average Annual Revenue per Affected Vessel
South Atlantic charter vessels [1]	<\$779,065	\$122,809	828	455	\$48,000	\$105	0.09 percent
South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico headboat vessels [2]	\$1,300,000	\$701,544	144	9.6	\$183,409	\$19,105	2.72 percent

[1] Maximum revenue estimates assume that maximum revenues for charter vessels are less than those for headboats, since, on average, charter vessels generate less than half the annual gross revenue of headboats (85 FR 45363, July 28, 2020). Average revenue was calculated by multiplying the average number of trips per vessel in 2017 by the average revenue per trip in 2017 (Souza & Liese, 2019).

[2] Maximum revenue is based on estimates for a single year, 2017, in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic regions (Souza & Liese, 2019; 85 FR 43135, July 16, 2020). Average revenue per vessel was calculated by multiplying the average revenue per trip by the average number of trips per vessel for all active headboats in the southeast region in 2017 (Souza & Liese, 2019).

Estimates of the number of affected vessels and loss of revenue are based on the spatial analysis described in Chapter 4 of the supporting Socioeconomic Report and represent averages for the years 2014–2018.

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c. Non-Consumptive Recreation Industry

This section considers the number of small businesses operating within the non-consumptive recreation industry and the potential effects on those businesses. Businesses considered within this industry include dive and snorkeling operations, rental equipment operations, wildlife viewing operations and other businesses that either utilize or whose customers utilize sanctuary resources, but do not take resources.

i. Description and Estimate of the Number of Small Entities to Which the Proposed Action Would Apply

There are currently thirty recognized Blue Star dive/snorkeling operators (M. Tumolo, Pers. Comm. 2021). However, this number should be viewed as a minimum and it regularly changes as operations close and other operators sign up for the program. The exact number of dive and snorkeling operations is not known as many of these small businesses do not operate from brick and mortar locations. Further, using Trip Advisor, there were several operations identified for other watersports (Table 5). The table does not reflect the unique number of businesses, as those that provide multiple services may be identified in multiple rows. Utilizing NAICS code 487210 (scenic and sightseeing transportation), the U.S. Census identifies 73 establishments in 2017 in Monroe County, Florida (U.S. Census, 2021b).

TABLE 5—NUMBER OF OPERATIONS BY WATERSPORT

Watersport	Number of operations
Kayak/Canoe .....	73
Stand-Up Paddle boarding ...	44
Waterskiing & Jet skiing .....	28
Parasailing & Paragliding .....	16
Rafting & Tubing .....	2
Surfing, Windsurfing & Kitesurfing .....	10
Speed boating .....	5

Source: Trip Advisor, 2021.

Based upon site knowledge, these non-consumptive businesses are believed to be small entities, it is assumed that this proposed rule would affect a substantial number of small entities.

ii. Significance of Economic Effects on Small Entities

*Profitability:* Do the regulations significantly reduce profits for a substantial number of small entities?

Although some of the proposed marine zone boundary changes will affect activity, the majority of zones that limit activity are small. The Conservation Areas will see an increase of 49.3 square kilometers being converted to transit only areas. Ecological Reserves and Special Use Areas under current regulations will be renamed Conservation Areas under the proposed rule. Further, 46.5 square kilometers are located in the Tortugas South Conservation Area, and are not frequented often by operations because the area only allows transit, this means only 2.8 square kilometers of Conservation Areas are likely to affect non-consumptive recreation businesses. Tortugas North Conservation Area allows activity if the user has an access permit.

The Restoration Areas—Nursery, a new type of zone, are all roughly a half square kilometer or less in size. This new zone type results in an additional 2.4 square kilometers being added as transit only areas. Lastly, Wildlife Management Areas may vary in regulations from idle speed, no wake, no motor, and no entry. In total, 4.0 square kilometers of area will be converted or expanded to Wildlife Management Areas. The smallest zone proposed is 0.001 square kilometers and the largest zone change was 0.56 square kilometers in size.

Estimates on revenue, costs and profitability of non-consumptive business are not available. However, the zone changes being proposed, except for Tortugas South Conservation Area (46.5 sq. km) and Tennessee Reef Conservation Area (1.8 sq. km) are all roughly a half square kilometer or less. Further, these additional protections will help to conserve and sustain resources to ensure the future health of the individual reefs and consequently the larger reef tract to ensure its existence and use of FKNMS to support businesses.

Further, some of the zones and/or expanded areas of the zones are proposed to be no anchor. This may affect small businesses if there is not a sufficient number of mooring buoys available. In addition to the marine zone boundary changes, the proposed sanctuary wide regulation requires vessels 65 feet in length or greater to use a large vessel mooring buoy may affect non-consumptive recreation entities. However, as part of the management action, the site plans to work with the Sanctuary Advisory Council to determine the number and locations where large vessel moorings are needed. The intent of these regulations is primarily to protect sensitive reef

habitat by building better infrastructure to support access to these areas. As a result of the information above, a significant reduction in profits for a substantial number of small entities is not expected as a result of the proposed rule.

d. Sanctuary Wide and Marine Zone Regulations

Due to the lack of quantitative data on the number of businesses directly affected by the proposed rule and their levels of revenues, costs, and profits from their activities within the sanctuary, the analysis provided here is qualitative. The types of small entities that may be impacted by the proposed rule include cruise lines, non-consumptive and consumptive recreational charter businesses, and commercial fishing businesses.

In this analysis, NOAA concluded that the impacts to small business entities that were analyzed would be no effect or negligible. No effect means that the proposed action would have no impact to small entities, and negligible means that the proposed rule would cause less than 1 percent change to small businesses and no likely impact to revenue, costs, and profits.

i. Discharge Regulation Exception

The costs to cruise ship businesses are minimal to non-existent since they can discharge once outside sanctuary boundaries. Additionally, cruise ships are limited to the Key West ship channel and spend little time transiting the sanctuary. Any costs associated with the discharge regulations would be minor compared to overall costs of operating a cruise ship.

ii. Temporary Regulation for Emergency and Adaptive Management

Temporary regulations allow the sanctuary to prevent or minimize the destruction of, loss of, or injury to sanctuary resources or the quality of the resources upon which many small businesses (e.g., commercial fishing, consumptive recreational charters, dive operations) rely. Potential costs include temporary displacement of activities from the initiation of the temporary regulation. But in the short-term, substitution or re-location of activities will most likely be available and short-term disruption to activity would be minimal. There would be no long-term costs associated with each temporary regulation, but future temporary regulations would have costs similar to the short-term costs associated with disruption of activity. Although these proposed regulations may result in short-term costs to small entities, they

are expected to provide large net benefits to small entities in the long-term through improved resource conditions. The effect of this proposed rule on small entities would be negligible.

### iii. Historical Resources Permitting

The revised historical resources permitting system would eliminate deaccession/transfer permits, thereby removing the ability of individuals to take private possession of historic resources. This will not have any economic effects because the sanctuary has never issued any such permits. This proposed rule would have no effect on small entities.

### iv. Fish Feeding

The fish feeding regulation would not apply to feeding for the purpose of harvesting marine species during traditional fishing. There are very few non-consumptive recreational operations in FKNMS that conduct fish feeding activities. There is a lack of data on how fish feeding activities generate revenue for small businesses. Existing eco-tour operators may seek an ONMS permit for fish feeding if they are able to satisfy all general permit application requirements and review criteria, which would serve to mitigate any costs associated with the proposed rule. This proposed rule would have negligible effects on small entities.

### v. Grounded and Deserted Vessels, and Harmful Matter

The grounding or desertion of vessels is not essential to the operations of any type of small entity in the sanctuary. Additionally, any costs to small entities to remove derelict and/or abandoned vessels are minimal compared to their liability if the derelict or abandoned vessel damages sanctuary resources or damage assessment cases are brought against those who damage sanctuary resources. The proposed rule would have negligible effects on small entities.

### vi. Large Vessel Mooring Buoys

In conjunction with this regulation, NOAA will work with user groups to ensure that an adequate number of large vessel mooring buoys are available and sited at appropriate locations. Accordingly, this proposed rule would have no effect on small entities.

### vii. Prohibition of Catch and Release Fishing by Trolling in Four Sanctuary Preservation Areas

The proposed regulation only applies to catch and release fishing, so commercial fishing operations would not be impacted. Isolating the effects of

the regulation to specific charter fishing businesses is not possible given the spatial limitations of the data available. However, the spatial extent of the SPAs where this activity is currently allowed is small and any costs to small entities are likely to be offset by spatial substitution to similar areas nearby. Accordingly, costs to small entities would be negligible.

### viii. Bait Fishing Permits

The FKNMS baitfish permit database does not contain information on businesses affiliated with permit holders. However, it is assumed that some of these permit holders use baitfish catch for either commercial fishing operations or charter fishing operations. Estimated average annual replacement costs per active permit holder (*i.e.*, those who reported using the permit at least once) are \$684 for lampara net fishers, between \$815 and \$1304 for cast net fishers, and between \$94 and \$150 for hair hook fishers. These estimates represent maximum potential replacement costs, as they do not account for the likelihood of spatial substitution away from the relatively small SPAs. Additionally, from 2015–2019, there were only 3 lampara net permit holders, 26 active cast net permit holders, and 5 active hair hook permit holders. The proposed rule would not affect a substantial number of small commercial fishing or charter fishing entities.

### ix. Tortugas North Access Permits

This proposed regulation is an administrative change that would result in no costs to small entities.

### e. Summary of Findings

i. Description of the Projected Reporting, Record-Keeping and Other Compliance Requirements of the Proposed Rule, Including an Estimate of the Classes of Small Entities Which Will be Subject to the Requirement and the Type of Professional Skills Necessary for the Preparation of the Report or Records

The proposed regulatory action would not establish any new reporting or record-keeping requirements.

ii. Identification of All Relevant Federal Rules, Which May Duplicate, Overlap or Conflict With the Proposed Rule

No duplicative, overlapping, or conflicting federal rules have been identified.

iii. Description of Significant Alternatives to the Proposed Action and Discussion of How the Alternatives Attempt To Minimize Economic Impacts on Small Entities

This proposed rule, if implemented, is not expected to reduce the profits of any small businesses directly regulated by this proposed rule. This is in part due to the potential for substitution of location for activities and that the proposed rule is informed by and responsive to comments from the potentially impacted user groups (*e.g.*, two specific marine zones included in the DEIS are not included in the proposed rule due, in part, to comments from lobster fishermen regarding their expected maximum potential loss of access and use). As a result, the issue of significant alternatives is not relevant.

### f. Conclusion of Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

This proposed regulatory action, if implemented, is not expected to reduce the profits of any small businesses directly regulated by this proposed rule. As a result, the issue of significant alternatives is not relevant. The proposed regulatory action would not establish any new reporting or record-keeping requirements. No duplicative, overlapping, or conflicting federal rules have been identified. The Chief Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certifies that this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

### 7. Paperwork Reduction Act

The existing FKNMS regulations contain a collection-of-information requirement for persons making an application for a permit. This collection of information is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), under control number 0648–0141 (expires November 30, 2024), for collection-of-information for reporting and recordkeeping requirements under 15 CFR part 922. This proposed rule would not increase or otherwise revise the existing paperwork burdens.

The public reporting burden for national marine sanctuary general permit applications is estimated to average 1 hour 30 minutes per application, including the time for reviewing the application instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. For special use permits, a collection-of-

information requirement is necessary to determine whether the proposed activities are consistent with the terms and conditions of special use permits prescribed by the NMSA. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average eight (8) hours per response (application, annual report, and financial report), including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The current OMB-approved collection-of-information requirement also includes other types of permits that may be issued by FKNMS, such as Tortugas North access permits, authorization permits, and certification permits. The estimates set forth in the OMB approval do not include additional time that may be required should the applicant be required to provide information to NOAA for the preparation of documentation that may be required under NEPA (16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*).

NOAA does not expect that this proposed rule would appreciably change the average annual number of respondents or the reporting burden for the information requirements supporting general or special use permits, authorization permits, or certification permits because sanctuary boundaries, marine zones, and regulations are not being modified in such a way that a significant number of new permits would be expected or required. Uses that require permits are anticipated to continue with similar frequencies as current operations. NOAA believes that the proposed regulations do not necessitate a modification to its information collection approval by the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act. However, an increase in the number of ONMS permit requests would require a change to the reporting burden certified for OMB control number 0648-0141. While not expected, if such permit requests do increase, an update to this control number for the processing of ONMS permits would be requested.

Comments regarding this burden estimate, or any other aspect of this data collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, may be sent to NOAA (see **ADDRESSES** above) and to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by email to [OIRA\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax to (202) 395-7285. Before an agency submits a collection-of-information to OMB for approval, the agency shall provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register**, and otherwise consult with members of the public and

affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information, to solicit comments to:

- (i) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (ii) Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (iii) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (iv) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

#### 8. National Historic Preservation Act

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA; 54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq.*) is intended to preserve historical and archaeological sites in the United States of America. The NHPA created the National Register of Historic Places, the list of National Historic Landmarks, and the State Historic Preservation Offices. Section 106 of the NHPA requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties, and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to comment. The review process mandated by Section 106 is outlined in regulations issued by the ACHP (*36 CFR part 800*<sup>14</sup>).

In coordinating its responsibilities under Section 106 of the NHPA with release of the 2019 DEIS, NOAA solicited for and identified potential consulting parties, identified historic properties in the area of potential effects, and assessed the effects of the undertaking on such properties in consultations with those identified parties. NOAA received official comment letters from the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, non-governmental organizations, associations, sanctuary historical resource permittees, and other interested members of the public. Pursuant to *36 CFR 800.16*<sup>15</sup>(1)(1), the

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/chapter-VIII/part-800>.

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/chapter-VIII/part-800/subpart-C/section-800.16>.

term "historic property" means: "any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior." The term includes "artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties" as well as "properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe . . . that meet the National Register criteria." Responses to comments received on the 2019 DEIS, this proposed rule, and the Section 106 consultation will be published in the Final Environmental Impact Statement and in the final rule. NOAA intends to contact the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer and the Seminole Tribe of Florida to continue NHPA Section 106 consultation based on this proposed rule and revised draft management plan. NOAA also invites additional comments from consulting parties or other interested parties on the effects to historic properties from this proposed rule.

Once this rule is final, NOAA will continue coordination with SHPO, ACHP, and other consulting parties to finalize the draft *Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Operations, Management, and Permitting*, which is a separate effort from this proposed rule.

#### 9. Coastal Zone Management Act

Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA; 16 U.S.C. 1456) requires Federal agencies to conduct their activities in a manner that is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a state's coastal management program if such activities will affect any coastal uses or resources of the State. NOAA provided copies of the DEIS to the State of Florida and requested that the State identify any enforceable policies of its coastal management program applicable to the proposed action. In compliance with the CZMA, NOAA will prepare a consistency determination and submit it to the State of Florida before publishing the final rule.

#### VI. Request for Comments

Comments are welcome on any and all aspects of the proposed rule, and we request any data that may further inform impacts of the proposed action.

#### List of Subjects in 15 CFR Part 922

Administrative practice and procedure, Coastal zone, Fishing gear, Incorporation by reference, Marine

resources, Natural resources, Penalties, Recreation and recreation areas, Wildlife.

**Paul M. Scholz**

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Ocean Service.*

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, NOAA is proposing to amend 15 CFR part 922 (as amended by 87 FR 29606, May 13, 2002; delayed at 87 FR 37729, June 24, 2022) as follows:

**PART 922—NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM REGULATIONS**

- 1. The authority citation for part 922 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*

Subpart P also issued under Public Law 101–605.

- 2. Revise subpart P to read as follows:

**Subpart P—Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary**

Sec.	
922.160	Purpose.
922.161	Boundary.
922.162	Definitions.
922.163	Prohibited activities—Sanctuary-wide.
922.164	Additional activity regulations by designated sanctuary area.
922.165	Temporary regulation for emergency and adaptive management.
922.166	National Marine Sanctuary permitting—General permits, special use permits, and authorizations.
922.167	National Marine Sanctuary permitting—Certifications.
922.168–922.178	[Reserved]
922.179	Incorporation by reference.
Appendix A to Subpart P of Part 922—	Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Boundary Coordinates
Appendix B to Subpart P of Part 922—	Areas To Be Avoided Boundary Coordinates
Appendix C to Subpart P of Part 922—	Management Areas Boundary Coordinates
Appendix D to Subpart P of Part 922—	National Wildlife Refuges Boundary Coordinates
Appendix E to Subpart P of Part 922—	Wildlife Management Areas Boundary Coordinates and Access Restrictions
Appendix F to Subpart P of Part 922—	Sanctuary Preservation Areas Boundary Coordinates
Appendix G to Subpart P of Part 922—	Conservation Areas Boundary Coordinates
Appendix H to Subpart P of Part 922—	Restoration Areas—Habitat Boundary Coordinates
Appendix I to Subpart P of Part 922—	Restoration Areas—Nursery Boundary Coordinates
Appendix J to Subpart P of Part 922—	Revised Designation Document for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

**§ 922.160 Purpose.**

(a) The purpose of the regulations in this subpart is to implement the comprehensive management plan for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary by regulating activities affecting the resources of the sanctuary or any of the qualities, values, or purposes for which the sanctuary is designated, in order to protect, preserve, and manage the conservation, ecological, recreational, research, educational, historical, and aesthetic resources and qualities of the area. In particular, the regulations in this subpart are intended to protect, restore, and enhance the living resources of the sanctuary, contribute to the maintenance of natural assemblages of living resources for future generations, provide places for species dependent on such living resources to survive and propagate, facilitate to the extent compatible with the primary objective of resource protection all public and private uses of the resources of the sanctuary not prohibited under other authorities, reduce conflicts between such compatible uses, and achieve the other policies and purposes of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act and the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

(b) Section 304(e) of the NMSA requires the Secretary to review management plans and regulations every five years, and make necessary revisions. Upon completion of the five-year review of the sanctuary management plan and regulations, the Secretary will re-propose the regulations in their entirety with any proposed changes thereto. The Governor of the State of Florida will have the opportunity to review the re-proposed regulations before they take effect and if the Governor certifies any such regulation as unacceptable, it will not take effect in State waters of the sanctuary.

**§ 922.161 Boundary.**

The sanctuary consists of an area of approximately 3622 square nautical miles (nmi<sup>2</sup>) (4797 sq. mi.) of coastal and ocean waters, and the submerged lands thereunder, surrounding the Florida Keys in Florida. Appendix A to this subpart sets forth the precise sanctuary boundary.

**§ 922.162 Definitions.**

(a) The following definitions apply to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary regulations. Other terms appearing in the regulations in this part are defined at 15 CFR 922.11, and/or in the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MRPSA), as amended,

33 U.S.C. 1401 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*, and/or the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act, Public Law 101–605. To the extent that a term appears in § 922.11 and this section, the definition in this section governs.

*Acts* means the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act, as amended, (FKNMSPA) (Pub. L. 101–605), and the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA), also known as Title III of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, as amended, (MPRSA) (16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*).

*Adverse effect* means any factor, force, or action that would independently or cumulatively damage, diminish, degrade, impair, destroy, or otherwise harm any sanctuary resource, as defined in section 302(8) of the NMSA (16 U.S.C. 1432(8)) and in this section, or any of those qualities, values, or purposes for which the sanctuary is designated.

*Airboat* means a vessel operated by means of a motor driven propeller that pushes air for momentum.

*Anchoring* means securing a vessel to the seabed by any means.

*At risk of becoming derelict* means a vessel when any of the following conditions exist:

- (1) The vessel is taking on or has taken on water without an effective means to dewater;
- (2) Spaces on the vessel that are designed to be enclosed are incapable of being sealed off or remain open to the elements;
- (3) The vessel has broken loose or is in danger of breaking loose from its anchor or mooring;
- (4) The vessel is left or stored aground unattended in such a state that would prevent the vessel from getting underway, is listing due to water intrusion, or is sunk or partially sunk; or

(5) The vessel does not have an effective means of propulsion for safe navigation within 72 hours after the vessel owner or operator receives telephonic or written notice, which may be provided by facsimile, electronic mail, or other electronic means, stating such from the Director, and the vessel owner or operator is unable to provide a receipt, proof of purchase, or other documentation of having arranged for vessel repair.

*Conservation Area* means an area of the sanctuary that provides natural spawning, nursery, and residence areas for the replenishment and genetic protection of marine life, and protects and preserves groups of habitats and species, within which activities are

subject to conditions, restrictions and prohibitions to achieve these objectives. These areas consist of contiguous, diverse habitats, protect a variety of sanctuary resources and/or facilitate scientific research that promotes sanctuary management or recovery of sanctuary resources. Appendix G to this subpart sets forth the geographic coordinates of these areas.

*Continuous transit without interruption* means a vessel must keep traveling through a designated area and fishing by any means is prohibited. However, fish, invertebrates, and marine plants may be possessed aboard a vessel if such organisms have not been harvested or removed from within the designated area. Any organisms must be stowed in a cabin, locker, or similar storage area prior to entering and during transit through a designated area, and any gear used to harvest such organisms must not be available for immediate use, as defined in this section, when entering and during transit through the designated area.

*Coral* means but is not limited to the corals of the Class Hydrozoa (stinging and hydrocorals); Class Anthozoa, Subclass Hexacorallia, Order Scleractinia (stony corals); Class Anthozoa, Subclass Ceriantipatharia, Order Antipatharia (black corals); and Class Anthozoa, Subclass Octocorallia, Order Gorgonacea, species *Gorgonia ventalina* and *Gorgonia flabellum* (sea fans).

*Coral reefs* means hardbottoms, patch reefs, mid-channel reefs, and all parts of the reef tract.

*Deserting* means leaving a vessel aground or adrift without notification to the Director of the vessel going aground or becoming adrift within 24 hours of leaving it and, having failed to salvage it, without developing and presenting to the Director a preliminary salvage plan within 72 hours of such notification, or when the owner/operator cannot after reasonable efforts by the Director be reached within 24 hours of the vessel's condition being reported to authorities; or leaving a vessel at anchor when its condition creates potential for a grounding, discharge, or deposit as determined by NOAA or Florida and the owner/operator fails to secure the vessel within the time prescribed by NOAA or Florida.

*Diving* means when a person is wholly or partially submerged in the water and is equipped with a face mask, face mask and snorkel, or underwater breathing apparatus.

*Exotic species* means any species whose natural zoogeographic range would not have included the waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean, or Gulf

of Mexico without passive or active introduction to such area through anthropogenic means.

*Feeding* means offering, giving, or attempting to give any food or other substance to fish, including sharks, or other marine species, except for the purpose of harvesting marine species during traditional fishing as defined in this section.

*Hardbottom* means a submerged marine community comprised of organisms attached to solid rock substrate. Hardbottom is the substrate to which corals may attach but does not include the corals themselves.

*Idle speed no wake* means that a vessel must proceed at a speed no greater than that which will maintain steerageway and headway and which does not cause a visible wake. At no time is any vessel required to proceed so slowly that the operator is unable to maintain control over the vessel or any other vessel or object that it has under tow.

*Large vessel* means a vessel greater than 65' length, or the combined lengths of two or more vessels if, when tied together, the vessels would be greater than 65' length.

*Length* means the straight line horizontal measurement of the overall length from the foremost part of the boat to the aftermost part of the boat, measured from end to end over the deck excluding sheer, and measured parallel to the centerline. Bow sprits, bumpkins, rudders, outboard motor brackets, handles, and other similar fittings, attachments, and extensions are not included in the measurement.

*Live rock* means any living marine organism or an assemblage thereof and the hard substrate to which it is attached, including hard bottom, dead coral, rock, banks, or reefs, but not individual mollusk shells (e.g., scallops, clams, oysters). Such attached living marine organisms may include, but are not limited to: sea anemones (Phylum Cnidaria: Class Anthozoa: Order Actiniaria); sponges (Phylum Porifera); tube worms (Phylum Annelida), including fan worms, feather duster worms, and Christmas tree worms; bryozoans (Phylum Bryozoa); sea squirts (Phylum Chordata); and marine algae, including Mermaid's fan and cups (*Udotea* spp.), coralline algae, green feather and green grape algae (*Caulerpa* spp.), and watercress (*Halimeda* spp.).

*Marine life species* means any species of fish, invertebrate, or plant designated as restricted species in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of F.A.C. 68B-42.001 (incorporated by reference, see § 922.179).

*Military activity* means an activity conducted by the Department of Defense with or without participation by foreign forces, other than civil engineering and other civil works projects conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

*No anchor* means securing a vessel to the seabed by any means is prohibited.

*No anchor by vessels >50m length* means securing a vessel greater than 50 meters (164 feet) length to the seabed by any means is prohibited.

*No entry* means all vessels and all persons are prohibited from entering the area.

*No motor* means the use of internal combustion motors is prohibited. A vessel with an internal combustion motor may access a no motor zone only through the use of a push pole, paddle, sail, electric motor, or similar means of operation, but is prohibited from using its internal combustion motor.

*Not available for immediate use* means not readily accessible for immediate use, e.g., by being stowed unbaited in a cabin, locker, rod holder, or similar storage area, or by being securely covered and lashed to a deck or bulkhead.

*Officially marked channel* means a channel marked by Federal, State of Florida, or Monroe County officials of competent jurisdiction with navigational aids.

*Personal watercraft* means any jet or air-powered watercraft operated by standing, sitting, or kneeling on or behind the vessel, in contrast to a conventional boat where the operator stands or sits inside the vessel, and that uses an inboard engine to power a water jet pump for propulsion, instead of a propeller as in a conventional boat.

*Prop dredging* means the use of a vessel's propulsion wash to dredge or otherwise alter the seabed. Prop dredging includes, but is not limited to, the use of propulsion wash deflectors or similar means of dredging or otherwise altering the seabed. Prop dredging does not include the disturbance to bottom sediments resulting from normal vessel propulsion.

*Prop scarring* means the injury to seagrasses or other immobile organisms attached to the seabed caused by operation of a vessel in a manner that allows its propeller or other running gear, or any part thereof, to cause such injury (e.g., cutting seagrass rhizomes).

*Residential shoreline* means any human-made or natural shoreline, canal mouth, basin, or cove, when any of these features are adjacent to any residential land use district, including: improved subdivision, suburban residential or suburban residential limited, sparsely settled, urban

residential, and urban residential mobile home under the Monroe County land development regulations.

*Restoration Area* means an area of the sanctuary that supports species or habitat recovery, including protection for restoration sites (referred to as Restoration Areas—Habitat) and short- and long-term propagation nurseries (referred to as Restoration Areas—Nursery), within which activities are subject to conditions, restrictions, and prohibitions to achieve these objectives. Appendices H and I to this subpart set forth the geographic coordinates of these areas.

*Sanctuary* means the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

*Sanctuary Preservation Area* means an area of the sanctuary that encompasses a discrete, biologically important area, within which activities are subject to conditions, restrictions, and prohibitions, to avoid concentrations of uses that could result in significant declines in species populations or habitat, to reduce conflicts between uses, to protect areas that are critical for sustaining important marine species or habitats, or to provide opportunities for scientific research. Appendix F to this subpart sets forth the geographic coordinates of these areas.

*Tank vessel* means a vessel that is constructed or adapted to carry, or that carries, oil or hazardous material in bulk as cargo or cargo residue, and that—

- (1) Is a vessel of the United States;
- (2) Operates on the navigable waters of the United States; or
- (3) Transfers oil or hazardous material in a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States (46 U.S.C. 2101).

*Traditional fishing* means those commercial or recreational fishing activities that were customarily conducted within the sanctuary prior to its designation as identified in the 1996 FL Keys NMS FMP/EIS (Vol. II) and Management Plan, pages 84–91 (incorporated by reference, see § 922.179).

*Tropical fish* means any species of fish designated as a restricted species in F.A.C. 68B–42.001(2) and defined as tropical fish under F.A.C. 68B–42.002(18) (incorporated by reference, see § 922.179).

*Wildlife Management Area* means an area of the sanctuary in which various access and use restrictions are applied to manage, protect, preserve, and minimize disturbance to sanctuary wildlife resources, including but not limited to endangered or threatened species, or the habitats, special places, or conditions on which they rely. Appendix E to this subpart lists these

areas and their access and use restrictions.

**§ 922.163 Prohibited activities—Sanctuary-wide.**

(a) Except as specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the following activities are prohibited and thus are unlawful for any person to conduct or to cause to be conducted:

(1) *Mineral and hydrocarbon exploration, development and production.* Exploring for, developing, or producing minerals or hydrocarbons within the sanctuary.

(2) *Removal of, injury to, or possession of coral or live rock.* Moving, removing, harvesting, damaging, disturbing, touching, breaking, cutting, otherwise injuring, or possessing, in or from the sanctuary, any living or dead coral or coral formation, or live rock, or attempting any of these activities, except as authorized by an aquacultured live rock permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service or a Florida Sovereignty Submerged Land Live Rock Aquaculture Lease issued by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

(3) *Alteration of, or construction on, the seabed.* Drilling into, dredging, or otherwise altering the seabed of the sanctuary, or engaging in prop-dredging; or constructing, placing, or abandoning any structure, material, or other matter on or in the seabed of the sanctuary, except as an incidental result of:

- (i) Anchoring vessels in a manner not otherwise prohibited by this subpart;
- (ii) Traditional fishing activities not otherwise prohibited by this subpart;
- (iii) Installation and maintenance of navigational aids by, or pursuant to valid authorization by, any Federal, State, or local authority of competent jurisdiction;

(iv) Dredging within Key West Harbor, its approach channels, and turning basins, only in Federally dredged areas in existence as of July 1, 1997;

(v) Construction, repair, replacement, or rehabilitation of minor structures including docks, swim/observation platforms, floating vessel platforms, boat ramps, boat notches, boat lifts, mooring piles, seawalls, rip rap revetments, culverts, bulkheads, piers, or marinas with less than ten slips authorized by any valid lease, permit, license, approval, or other authorization issued by any Federal, State, or local authority of competent jurisdiction; or

(vi) Placement of approved rock material pursuant to the terms and conditions of an aquaculture live rock permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service or a Florida Sovereignty Submerged Land Live Rock

Aquaculture Lease issued by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

(4) *Discharge or deposit of materials or other matter.* (i) Within the boundary of the sanctuary, discharging or depositing any material or other matter from a cruise ship, except cooling water;

(ii) Within the boundary of the sanctuary, discharging or depositing any material or other matter from a vessel other than a cruise ship, except:

- (A) Fish, fish parts, chumming materials, or bait used or generated incidental to and while conducting traditional fishing in the sanctuary;
- (B) Cooling water, deck washdown, and graywater, discharged in compliance with 33 U.S.C. 1322 *et seq.* Vessels may not discharge oily wastes from bilge pumping.

(iii) Beyond the boundary of the sanctuary, discharging or depositing any material or other matter that subsequently enters the sanctuary and injures a sanctuary resource or quality, except:

- (A) Those listed in paragraphs (a)(4)(ii)(A) and (B) of this section;
- (B) Sewage from a vessel in compliance with United States Coast Guard regulations at 33 CFR 159.7;
- (C) Those authorized under Monroe County land use permits; or
- (D) Those authorized under State of Florida permits.

(5) *Operation of vessels.* (i) Operating a vessel in such a manner as to strike or otherwise injure coral, coral reefs, hardbottom, seagrass, or any other immobile organism attached to the seabed, including, but not limited to, operating a vessel in such a manner as to cause prop-scarring.

(A) The owner and/or operator of any vessel that has been operated in a manner described in paragraph (a)(5)(i) introductory text of this section must notify the Director of such an event within 24 hours after its occurrence. Unless otherwise prohibited or restricted by the United States Coast Guard, the owner and/or operator must remove or cause the removal of the vessel within 72 hours after the initial incident unless the Director agrees that extenuating circumstances such as weather or marine hazards would prevent safe removal of the vessel. The owner and/or operator must remove or cause the removal of the vessel in a manner that avoids injury to sanctuary resources and shall consult with the Director in accomplishing this task.

(B) [Reserved].

(ii) Anchoring a vessel on living coral.

(iii) Except in officially marked channels, operating a vessel at a speed greater than idle speed no wake within:



(A) An area designated as idle speed no wake;

(B) 300 feet (100 yards) of navigational aids indicating emergent or shallow reefs (international diamond warning symbol);

(C) 300 feet (100 yards) of residential shorelines; or

(D) 300 feet (100 yards) of a stationary vessel.

(iv) Operating a vessel at a speed greater than idle speed no wake less than 100 feet (33.3 yards) from a divers-down flag on an inlet or navigation channel; or less than 300 feet (100 yards) from a divers-down flag on all waters other than inlets and navigation channels.

(v) Operating a vessel in such a manner as to injure wading, roosting, or nesting birds, or marine mammals.

(vi) Operating a vessel in a manner that endangers life, limb, marine resources, or property.

(vii) Having a marine sanitation device that is not secured in a manner that prevents discharges or deposits of treated or untreated sewage. Acceptable methods include, but are not limited to, all methods that have been approved by the United States Coast Guard.

(viii) Anchoring, mooring, or occupying a vessel at risk of becoming derelict, or deserting a vessel aground, at anchor, moored, or adrift in the sanctuary.

(ix) Leaving harmful matter aboard a grounded or deserted vessel in the sanctuary.

(x) Tying a large vessel to a mooring buoy not specifically designated for large vessels, or tying a vessel other than a large vessel to a mooring buoy specifically designated for large vessels.

(6) *Conduct of diving/snorkeling without a flag.* Diving or snorkeling without displaying a divers-down flag from the highest point of the vessel or such other location from which the visibility of the divers-down flag is not obstructed in any direction.

(i) Divers must stay within 100 feet (33.3 yards) of the divers-down flag on inlets and navigation channels.

(ii) Divers must stay within 300 feet (100 yards) of the divers-down flag on all waters in the sanctuary other than rivers, inlets, and navigation channels.

(7) *Release of exotic species.* Introducing or releasing any exotic species into the sanctuary.

(8) *Damage or removal of markers.* Marking, defacing, or damaging in any way or displacing, removing, or tampering with any official markers, signs, notices, or placards, whether temporary or permanent, or with any navigational aids, monuments, stakes,

posts, mooring buoys, boundary buoys, trap buoys, or scientific equipment.

(9) *Movement of, removal of, injury to, or possession of sanctuary historical resources.* Moving, removing, injuring, or possessing, or attempting to move, remove, injure, or possess, a sanctuary historical resource.

(10) *Conduct of prohibited activities under the MMPA, ESA, and MBTA.*

Conducting any activity that is prohibited under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, as amended, (MMPA), 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*, the Endangered Species Act, as amended, (ESA), 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*, or the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, (MBTA) 16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*, except as authorized under those statutes.

(11) *Possession or use of explosives or electrical charges.* Possessing, using, or releasing explosives or electrical charges within the sanctuary, except powerheads and distress signaling devices when necessary and proper for safety.

(12) *Harvest or possession of marine life species.* Harvesting, fishing for, possessing, or landing any marine life species, or part thereof, in or from the sanctuary, except as authorized by a valid State of Florida license or exemption.

(13) *Interference with law enforcement.* Interfering with, obstructing, delaying, or preventing an investigation, a boarding, a search, a seizure, or the disposition of seized property in connection with enforcement of the Acts or any regulation or permit issued under the Acts.

(14) *Fish feeding.* Attracting or feeding fish, including sharks, or other marine species from any vessel and/or while diving. Attracting or feeding does not include using bait or chum when conducting traditional fishing.

(b) *Exemption for Military Activities.* (1) The prohibitions in paragraph (a) of this section and § 922.164 do not apply to existing classes of military activities that were conducted prior to the effective date of these regulations, as identified in the 2022 Final Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan (for availability, see <http://www.floridakeys.noaa.gov>) for the sanctuary. New military activities in the sanctuary may be exempted from the prohibitions in paragraph (a) of this section and in § 922.164 by the Director after consultation between the Director and the Department of Defense.

(2) In the event of threatened or actual destruction of, loss of, or injury to a sanctuary resource or quality, including but not limited to spills and groundings

caused by the Department of Defense, the cognizant component of the Department of Defense shall promptly coordinate with the Director for the purpose of taking appropriate actions to prevent, respond to, or mitigate the harm and, if possible, restore or replace the sanctuary resource or quality.

(c) *Exemption for Law Enforcement.* The following prohibitions do not apply to Federal, State, or local officers while performing enforcement duties in their official capacities or responding to emergencies that threaten life, property, or the environment:

(1) Those contained in paragraphs (a)(2), (a)(5), and (a)(8) through (a)(12) of this section;

(2) Those contained in paragraph (a)(4), except that all discharges of sewage must be in compliance with United States Coast Guard regulations at 33 CFR 159.7;

(3) Those contained in § 922.164(b)(1), (2) and (4); and

(4) Those contained in § 922.164(d) through (h).

(d) In no event may the Director issue a permit, including a certification or authorization, under § 922.10, subpart D of this part, § 922.166, or § 922.167 authorizing, or otherwise approving, the exploration for, leasing, development, or production of minerals or hydrocarbons within the sanctuary, the disposal of dredged material within the sanctuary other than in connection with beach renourishment or sanctuary restoration projects, or the discharge of untreated or primary treated sewage, and any purported authorizations issued by other authorities for any of these activities within the sanctuary shall be invalid.

#### **§ 922.164 Additional activity regulations by designated sanctuary area.**

In addition to the prohibitions set forth in § 922.163, which apply throughout the sanctuary, the following regulations apply with respect to activities conducted within the sanctuary areas described in this section and in appendices B through I to this subpart.

(a) *Areas to be avoided.* Operating a tank vessel or a vessel greater than 50 meters (164 feet) in length, or towing vessel(s), equipment, or materials such that the combined length of the tow vessel and all towed vessels, equipment, or materials is greater than 50 meters, is prohibited in all areas to be avoided, except if such vessel is a public vessel and its operation is essential for national defense, law enforcement, or responses to emergencies that threaten life, property, or the environment. Appendix B to this subpart sets forth the

geographic coordinates of these areas, which are established under Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act, Public Law 101–605 and International Maritime Organization advisory SN/Circ. 145.

(b) *Key Largo and Looe Key Management Areas.* The following activities are prohibited within the Key Largo and Looe Key Management Areas described in appendix C to this subpart:

(1) Removing, collecting, damaging, harming, breaking, cutting, spearing, or similarly injuring, or possessing, in or from the management area, any coral or other marine invertebrate, or any plant, soil, rock, or other material, except that commercial harvesting of spiny lobster and stone crab by trap and recreational

harvesting of spiny lobster by hand or by hand gear is allowed if consistent with the regulations in this part and regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

(2) Collecting or harvesting tropical fish.

(3) Fishing with wire fish traps, bottom trawls, dredges, fish sleds, or similar vessel-towed or anchored bottom fishing gear or nets.

(4) Fishing with, carrying, or possessing pole spears, air rifles, bows and arrows, slings, Hawaiian slings, rubber powered arbaletes, pneumatic and spring-loaded guns, or similar devices known as spearguns.

(c) *Great White Heron and Key West National Wildlife Refuges.* Operating a

personal watercraft, operating an airboat, water skiing, and landing recreational aircraft are prohibited within the Great White Heron and Key West National Wildlife Refuges (described in appendix D to this subpart), except that operating a personal watercraft is allowed in six areas described in appendix D.

(d) *Wildlife Management Areas.* Appendix E to this subpart sets forth the geographic coordinates of Wildlife Management Areas. The following access and use restrictions apply in individual Wildlife Management Areas. Certain exceptions from the access and use restrictions are also provided. All restrictions apply year-round unless specified.

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (d)

Wildlife management area	Access and use restriction
Barnes-Card Sound Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Crocodile Lake Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry within 300 feet (100 yards) of shorelines. Exceptions: Steamboat Creek.
Eastern Lake Surprise Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake. No entry within 300 feet (100 yards) of the northern half of the shoreline.
Whitmore Bight Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry in the canal and basin on the southeast side.
Pelican Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Dove and Rodriguez Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Pigeon Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Tavernier Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry. No motor and no anchor. Exceptions: • Tavernier Creek. • Unnamed channel to the northeast of Tavernier Creek.
Snake Creek Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor. Exceptions: • Snake Creek. • Three channels providing access to Windley Key.
Cotton Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Ashbey-Horseshoe Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Channel Key Banks Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake. Exceptions: • Channel Key Pass.
Marathon Oceanside Shoreline Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake. Exceptions: • Ten channels providing access to Marathon.
Red Bay Bank Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake.
East Bahia Honda Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
West Bahia Honda Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Horseshoe Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Little Pine Key Mangrove Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Water Key Mangroves Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Howe Key Mangrove Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key Flats Wildlife Management Area.	No entry. Idle speed no wake in all tidal creeks and shallow flats.
West Content Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry around Upper Harbor Key. Idle speed no wake in the eastern tidal creek. No entry in the western cove.
Torch Key Mangroves Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Northeast Tarpon Belly Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Crane Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Sawyer Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Happy Jack Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Barracuda Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake.
Pelican Shoal Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Snipe Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake in the main tidal creek. No motor in all other tidal creeks. No entry around the two small southern islands.

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (d)—Continued

Wildlife management area	Access and use restriction
Mud Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake.
Lower Harbor Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake.
East Harbor Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Cayo Agua Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake.
Bay Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake in the channel north of the western island. No motor around the eastern and western islands.
Archer Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No anchor.
Big Mullet Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No motor.
Cottrell Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Little Mullet Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Ballast and Man Keys Flats Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake. Exception: Two channels between the keys.
Western Dry Rocks Wildlife Management Area .....	From April 1 to July 31, continuous transit without interruption and no anchor.
Woman Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Boca Grande Key Wildlife Management Area .....	No entry.
Marquesas Keys Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake in the creek east of Gull Keys. No entry around the small island west of Gull Key. No entry around three smallest islands on the western side of Mooney Harbor.
Marquesas Keys Turtle Wildlife Management Area .....	Idle speed no wake.
Tortugas Bank Wildlife Management Area .....	No anchor by vessels >50m length.
Pulley Ridge Wildlife Management Area .....	No anchor.

(e) *Sanctuary Preservation Areas.* Appendix F to this subpart sets forth the geographic coordinates of Sanctuary Preservation Areas. The following activities are prohibited within the Sanctuary Preservation Areas:

(1) Discharging or depositing any material or other matter, except cooling water from vessels.

(2) Moving, harvesting, removing, collecting, damaging, disturbing, breaking, cutting, spearing, otherwise injuring, or possessing, in or from the area, any coral, marine invertebrate, fish, bottom formation, algae, seagrass or other living or dead organism, including shells, or attempting any of these activities. However, fish, invertebrates, and marine plants may be possessed aboard a vessel provided that the vessel remains in continuous transit without interruption.

(3) Anchoring a vessel.

(f) *Conservation Areas.* Appendix G to this subpart sets forth the geographic coordinates of Conservation Areas. The following activities are prohibited within the Conservation Areas:

(1) Conducting any activity prohibited at 922.164(e)(1) and 922.164(e)(2).

(2) Anchoring a vessel, except in the Western Sambo Conservation Area where anchoring is allowed landward of the line connecting the points 24.498774, -81.725441 and 24.504693, -81.693012.

(3) Entering a Conservation Area other than the Western Sambo Conservation Area, except for continuous transit without interruption.

(g) *Restoration Areas—Habitat.* Appendix H to this subpart sets forth

the geographic coordinates of Restoration Areas—Habitat. The following activities are prohibited within the Restoration Areas—Habitat:

(1) Conducting any activity prohibited at 922.164(e).

(h) *Restoration Areas—Nursery.* Appendix I to this subpart sets forth the geographic coordinates of Restoration Areas—Nursery. The following activities are prohibited within the Restoration Areas—Nursery:

(1) Conducting any activity prohibited at 922.164(e).

(2) Entering any Restoration Area—Nursery, except for continuous transit without interruption.

**§ 922.165 Temporary regulation for emergency and adaptive management.**

(a) Any and all activities are subject to temporary regulation, including prohibition of any activity, restriction of access or uses, or designation or modification of any areas identified in §§ 922.164(d) through (h), subject to the limitations in this section.

(b) The Director may temporarily regulate activities in the sanctuary only if the Director determines, based on the best available information, that immediate action is reasonably necessary to:

(1) Prevent or minimize destruction of, loss of, or injury to sanctuary resources, or risk of the same, from any human-made or natural circumstances. These circumstances may include, but are not limited to, a concentration of human-use, change in migratory or habitat use patterns, vessel impacts,

natural disaster or similar emergency, disease, or bleaching;

(2) Initiate restoration, recovery, or other activity to improve or repair living habitats and species where a delay in time would impair the ability of such activity to succeed; or

(3) Initiate research where an unforeseen event produces an opportunity for scientific research that may be lost if research is not initiated immediately.

(c) Any temporary regulation issued under this section shall be subject to the following procedure:

(1) No temporary regulation issued under this section will take effect until the Director:

(i) Files the proposed temporary regulation for public inspection with the Office of the Federal Register; and,

(ii) Finds for good cause that notice and comment rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553, is impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.

(2) The Director shall receive public comments on the necessity for, and extent of, the temporary regulation for a period of 15 days after the effective date of notification.

(3) Notification of temporary regulation issued by the Director under this section will include the following information:

(i) A description of the regulation;

(ii) Reason(s) for the regulation under paragraph (b) of this section, and the good cause determinations required under paragraph (c)(1) of this section; and

(iii) The effective date and any termination date of such regulation.

(d) Any temporary regulation may be in effect for up to six months (180 days), with one six-month (additional 186-day) extension. Any extension requires the same procedures in paragraphs (c)(1) to (c)(3) of this section. Additional or extended action beyond 365 days will require notice and comment rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553.

(e) Temporary regulations under this section shall not take effect in Florida State waters until approved by the Governor of the State of Florida.

(f) It is prohibited for any person to violate any temporary regulation imposed under this section.

**§ 922.166 National Marine Sanctuary permitting—General permits, special use permits, and authorizations**

(a) *National Marine Sanctuary general permits.* (1) Except as noted at § 922.163(d), a person may conduct an activity prohibited by § 922.163 or 922.164 if such activity is specifically allowed by, and conducted in accordance with the scope, purpose, and terms and conditions of a general permit issued under this section or subpart D of this part.

(2) The Director, at his or her discretion, may issue a general permit under this section subject to such terms and conditions as he or she deems appropriate, if the Director finds that the activity falls within one of the general permit categories at § 922.30(b) or one of the following categories:

(i) *Archaeological research:* Activities involving the scientific study of the physical remains of human activity and its surrounding environmental context, utilizing research questions to inform society's understanding of the past;

(ii) *Restoration:* Activities that further restoration of natural resources of the sanctuary;

(iii) *Tortugas North Conservation Area Access:* Activities that involve access to and entry into the Tortugas North Conservation Area.

(b) *Application requirements and procedures.* (1) Applications for general permits, special use permits, and authorizations under this section or subpart D of this part, other than for Tortugas North Conservation Area Access shall be addressed to the Superintendent, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, 33 East Quay Road, Key West, FL 33040 or sent by electronic means as defined in the instructions for the ONMS permit application. All applications, except those for Tortugas North Conservation Area Access, shall comply with the

requirements and procedures under subpart D of this part.

(2) Applications for general permits for Tortugas North Conservation Area shall be requested via telephone to FKNMS at (305) 809-4700 or by email to *TortugasNorthPermit@noaa.gov* at least 72 hours before the date the permit is desired to be effective. All applications shall include:

- (i) Vessel name;
- (ii) Name, address, and telephone number of owner and operator;
- (iii) Name, address, and telephone number of applicant;
- (iv) USCG documentation, state license, or registration number;
- (v) Home port;
- (vi) Length of vessel and propulsion type (*i.e.*, motor or sail);
- (vii) Number of divers; and
- (viii) Requested effective date (date of ingress) and date of egress. General permits for Tortugas North Conservation Area Access shall be issued for a period not exceeding two weeks.

(c) *Review procedures and evaluation.* (1) *General permits, special use permits, and authorizations.* The Director shall review and evaluate an application for a general permit, special use permit, or authorization in accordance with this section and subpart D of this part.

(2) *General permits for archaeological research.* The Director shall not issue a general permit for archaeological research unless the Director makes the required findings in paragraph (c)(1) of this section and further finds that:

(i) The applicant is a supervising archaeologist responsible for project planning, field operations, research analysis, and reporting, and who will directly supervise and be on site for any excavation and/or historical resource recovery operations. A supervising archaeologist shall have underwater archaeological experience related to the research proposed and shall meet the requirements for prehistoric or historic archaeology in the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation," which are:

(A) A graduate degree in archaeology, anthropology, or closely related field;

(B) At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archaeological research, administration, or management;

(C) At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archaeology;

(D) Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion; and

(E) A professional in prehistoric archaeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a

supervisory level in the study of prehistoric period archaeological resources. A professional in historic archaeology shall have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of historic period archaeological resources;

(ii) The applicant commits to following an explicit statement of objectives and methods that respond to needs identified in the planning process;

(iii) The methods and techniques of the proposed activity are selected to obtain the information required by the statement of objectives; and

(iv) The applicant commits to assess the results against the statement of objectives and integrate them into the planning process.

(3) *Activities in designated sanctuary areas.* The Director shall not issue a general permit, special use permit, or authorization under this section or subpart D of this part for activities within any of the areas described in § 922.164 (b) through (h) unless he or she finds that such activities will further and are consistent with the purposes for which such area was established, as described in §§ 922.162 and 922.164 and in the management plan for the sanctuary.

(d) *Terms and conditions.* (1) In addition to any terms and conditions in subpart D of this part, general permits, special use permits, and authorizations issued under this section or subpart D of this part shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

(i) Except for Tortugas North Conservation Area Access Permits, the signed permit or a copy thereof shall be maintained in legible condition on board all vessels or aircraft used in the conduct of the permitted activity and be displayed for inspection upon the request of any authorized officer;

(ii) All permitted activities shall be conducted in a manner that does not destroy, cause the loss of, or injure sanctuary resources or qualities, except to the extent that such may be specifically authorized;

(iii) The permittee agrees to hold the United States harmless against any claims arising out of the conduct of the permitted activities; and

(iv) All necessary Federal, State, and/or local leases, permits, licenses, approvals, or other authorizations from all agencies with jurisdiction over the proposed activities shall be secured before commencing any activities authorized pursuant to a sanctuary permit.

(2) General permits for archaeological research shall be subject to the terms and conditions in paragraph (d)(1) of

this section and to the following terms and conditions:

(i) An agreement with a conservation laboratory shall be in place before historical resource recovery operations begin, where a qualified marine archaeological materials conservator shall be in charge of planning, conducting, and supervising the conservation of any historical resources and other materials recovered. To be considered a qualified marine archaeological materials conservator, the individual shall have a graduate degree in archaeology, history, anthropology, or science with experience conserving archaeological materials recovered from the marine environment documented in a Curriculum Vitae and professional references; and

(ii) A curation agreement with a museum or facility for curation, public access, periodic public display, and maintenance of the recovered historical resources shall be in place before commencing field operations involving historical resource recovery. The curation facility shall meet the requirements of 36 CFR part 79.

(3) The Director, at his or her discretion, may subject a general permit, special use permit, or authorization issued under this section of subpart D of this part to such additional terms and conditions as he or she deems appropriate. These may include but are not limited to the following:

(i) Any data, information, or results obtained pursuant to the permit shall be made available to NOAA and the public;

(ii) A NOAA official shall be allowed to observe any activity conducted pursuant to the permit;

(iii) The permittee shall submit to NOAA one or more reports on the status, progress, or results of any activity authorized by the permit, including all revenues derived from such activities during the year and/or term of the permit, as applicable; and

(iv) The permittee shall purchase and maintain general liability insurance or other acceptable security against potential claims for destruction, loss of, or injury to sanctuary resources arising out of the permitted activities. The amount of insurance or security should be commensurate with an estimated value of the sanctuary resources in the permitted area. A copy of the insurance policy or security instrument shall be submitted to the Director.

#### **§ 922.167 National Marine Sanctuary permitting—Certifications.**

(a) Except as noted at § 922.163(d), a person may conduct an activity prohibited by § 922.163 or 922.164

within the sanctuary expansion area, or an activity within the sanctuary or expansion area that is newly regulated by this subpart, if such activity is specifically authorized by a valid Federal, State, or local lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access that is in existence on the effective date of the revised terms of designation, provided that the holder of the lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access complies with § 922.10 and provided that:

(1) The holder of such authorization or right notifies the Director, in writing, within 90 days of the effective date of the revised terms of designation of the existence and location of such authorization or right and requests certification of such authorization or right; and

(2) The holder complies with any terms and conditions on the exercise of such authorization or right imposed as a condition of certification, by the Director, to achieve the purposes for which the sanctuary was designated.

(b) Requests for certifications shall be addressed to the Superintendent, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, 33 East Quay Road, Key West, FL 33040 or sent by electronic means as defined in the instructions for the ONMS permit application. A copy of the lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access must accompany the request.

(c) A certification requester with an authorization or right described in paragraph (a) of this section authorizing an activity prohibited by § 922.163 or 922.164 may continue to conduct the activity without being in violation of applicable provisions of § 922.163 or 922.164, pending the Director's review of and decision regarding his or her certification request.

(d) The Director may request additional information from the certification requester as the Director deems reasonably necessary to condition appropriately the exercise of the certified authorization or right to achieve the purposes for which the sanctuary was designated. The Director must receive the information requested within 45 days of the date of the Director's request for information. Failure to provide the requested information within this time frame may be grounds for denial by the Director of the certification request.

(e) In considering whether to issue a certification, the Director may seek and consider the views of any other person or entity, within or outside the Federal government, and may hold a public hearing as deemed appropriate by the Director.

(f) Upon completion of review of the authorization or right and information received with respect thereto, the Director shall communicate, in writing, any decision on a certification request or any action taken with respect to any certification made under this section, in writing, to both the holder of the certified lease, permit, license, approval, other authorization, or right, and the issuing agency, and shall set forth the reason(s) for the decision or action taken.

(g) The Director may amend, suspend, or revoke any certification issued under this section whenever continued operation would otherwise be inconsistent with any terms or conditions of the certification. Any such action shall be forwarded in writing to both the certification holder and the agency that issued the underlying lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access, and shall set forth reason(s) for the action taken.

(h) The Director may amend any certification issued under this section whenever additional information becomes available that he or she determines justifies such an amendment.

(i) Any time limit prescribed in or established under this section may be extended by the Director for good cause.

(j) It is unlawful for any person to violate any terms and conditions in a certification issued under this section.

#### **§§ 922.168—922.178 [Reserved]**

#### **§ 922.179 Incorporation by reference.**

Certain material is incorporated by reference into this subpart with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. All approved incorporation by reference (IBR) material is available for inspection at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Contact NOAA at: the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 713-3125; website: <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/contact.html>. For information on the availability of this material at NARA, email: [fr.inspection@nara.gov](mailto:fr.inspection@nara.gov), or go to: [www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html). The material may be obtained from the following sources:

(a) *Department of Commerce, NOAA*. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, 33 East Quay Road, Key West, FL 33040; phone: (305) 809-4700; <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov>.

(1) 1996 FL Keys NMS FMP/EIS (Vol. II). Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Final Management Plan/ Environment Impact Statement, Volume II of III—Development of the Management Plan: Environmental Impact Statement, 1996; IBR into § 922.162.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) *State of Florida—Department of State*. R.A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399–0250; phone: (850) 245–6270; email: *AdministrativeCode@dos.myflorida.com*; website: *https://flrules.org/*.

(1) *F.A.C. 68B–42.001*. Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission—Marine Fisheries—Marine Life—Purpose and Intent; Designation of Restricted Species; Definition of “Marine Life Species”, effective November 1, 2012; IBR into § 192.162.

(2) *F.A.C. 68B–42.002*. Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission—Marine Fisheries—Marine Life—Definitions, effective November 1, 2012; IBR into § 192.162.

#### **Appendix A to Subpart P of Part 922—Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Boundary Coordinates**

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (sanctuary) encompasses an area of 3,622 square nautical miles (4,797 square miles) of coastal, ocean, and Gulf of Mexico waters and the submerged lands thereunder from the boundary to the shoreline as defined by the mean high water tidal datum surrounding the Florida Keys in southern Florida.

The sanctuary boundary begins approximately 4 miles east of the northern extent of Key Biscayne at Point 1 and continues roughly south and then southwest and west in numerical order to Point 15 approximately 27 miles SW of Loggerhead Key. From Point 15 the sanctuary boundary continues north to Point 17 which is approximately 18 miles NW of Loggerhead Key and then continues roughly east in numerical order to Point 23 just north of Sprigger Bank. From Point 23 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly SE to Point 26 just north of Old Dan Bank. From Point 26 the boundary continues NE in numerical order through Bowlegs Cut and Steamboat Channel to Point 42 near the southern entrance to Cowpens Cut west of Plantation Key.

From Point 42 the boundary continues towards Point 43 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 44 and Point 45.

From this intersection the boundary continues NNE to Point 45 and then roughly NE in numerical order to Point 61 just west of Hammer Point in Tavernier, FL. From Point 61 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly north and then NW to Point 64 just west of Pigeon Key. From Point 64 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly NE then NNE through Baker Cut to Point 69. From Point 69 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly NE through Buttonwood Sound to Point 73.

From Point 73 the boundary continues towards Point 74 until it intersects the shoreline near the southern entrance to Grouper Creek west of Key Largo, FL. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE along Grouper Creek until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 75 and Point 76. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 76 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 77 and Point 78.

From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 78 and then roughly ESE in numerical order through Tarpon Basin to Point 85. From Point 85 the boundary continues NE and then NW to Point 92.

From Point 92 the boundary continues towards Point 93 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly north along Dusenberry Creek until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 94 and Point 95.

From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 95 and then NE in numerical order through Blackwater Sound to Point 102 south of the entrance to Jewfish Creek.

From Point 102 the boundary continues towards Point 103 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNE and then NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 104 and Point 105. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 105 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNE and then roughly west along southwestern Barnes Sound and around Division Point until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 106 and Point 107 near Manatee Creek east of Long Sound. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 107 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 108 and Point 109. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 109 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 109 and

110. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 110 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly north and then NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 111 and Point 112. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 112 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly east and then north around Bay Point and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 113 and Point 114. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 114 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north along the western side of Manatee Bay until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 115 and Point 116. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 116 until it intersects the shoreline.

From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline around northern Manatee Bay and Barnes Sound until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 117 and Point 118. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 118 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly to the SE south of FL State Route 905A—Card Sound Road then NW and roughly north along western Little Card Sound and then Card Sound cutting off the mouths of canals and drainage ditches until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 119 and Point 120 south of Midnight Pass. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 120 and then roughly SE to each successive point in numerical order approximating the southern boundary of Biscayne National Park to Point 142 approximately 3 miles ENE of Turtle Rocks. From Point 142 the boundary continues roughly N to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point 158.

The inner landward sanctuary boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified in the description above.

Pulley Ridge, located along the southwest Florida Shelf in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, is included as a part of the FKNMS, and the sanctuary boundary for this area begins approximately 52 miles NW of Loggerhead Key at Point PR1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point PR9.

Dry Tortugas National Park is not included within the FKNMS and the inner sanctuary boundary in this area is coterminous with this national park boundary and begins at Point DT1 and continues in numerical order counterclockwise around the national park ending at Point DT10.

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY BOUNDARY COORDINATES

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	25.72274	-80.08695
2	25.64500	-80.04500
3	25.36667	-80.05000
4	25.10633	-80.17467
5	24.93950	-80.32100
6	24.63167	-80.78833
7	24.48667	-81.28833
8	24.37167	-81.71950
9	24.38333	-81.89167
10	24.38333	-82.05833
11	24.38749	-82.22133
12	24.38854	-82.26357
13	24.36667	-82.80000
14	24.30000	-83.08333
15	24.30084	-83.16711
16	24.54992	-83.16627
17	24.76760	-83.16665
18	24.76670	-83.10000
19	24.76667	-82.90000
20	24.76333	-82.80000
21	24.73333	-81.91667
22	24.85000	-81.43333
23	24.91667	-80.93333
24	24.87555	-80.89054
25	24.87315	-80.88754
26	24.85164	-80.83258
27	24.86699	-80.77381
28	24.89338	-80.74983
29	24.90039	-80.73560
30	24.90073	-80.73483
31	24.91255	-80.72551
32	24.93676	-80.67597
33	24.93859	-80.67223
34	24.93891	-80.67163
35	24.94153	-80.66370
36	24.94315	-80.65854
37	24.96567	-80.63474
38	24.99620	-80.56513
39	24.99637	-80.56482
40	24.99756	-80.56322
41	24.99919	-80.56088
42	25.00054	-80.56067
43*	25.00130	-80.56032
44*	25.00597	-80.55863
45	25.00722	-80.55812
46	25.00786	-80.55769
47	25.00883	-80.55694
48	25.01038	-80.55553
49	25.01590	-80.54977
50	25.01695	-80.54876
51	25.02295	-80.53795
52	25.02304	-80.53783
53	25.02309	-80.53768
54	25.02361	-80.53499
55	25.02687	-80.53021
56	25.03011	-80.52417
57	25.03095	-80.52186
58	25.03179	-80.51954
59	25.03388	-80.51809
60	25.03398	-80.51804
61	25.03409	-80.51801
62	25.03740	-80.51778
63	25.03825	-80.51790
64	25.05836	-80.52178
65	25.06772	-80.49982
66	25.08144	-80.47469
67	25.09063	-80.46820
68	25.09088	-80.46808
69	25.09294	-80.46779
70	25.09387	-80.46704
71	25.12097	-80.44703
72	25.12126	-80.44688

## FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY BOUNDARY COORDINATES—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
73	25.12142	-80.44684
74*	25.12214	-80.44683
75*	25.12785	-80.44378
76*	25.12845	-80.44309
77*	25.12878	-80.44084
78	25.12875	-80.44022
79	25.12870	-80.43984
80	25.12834	-80.43776
81	25.12787	-80.43414
82	25.12772	-80.43313
83	25.12739	-80.43078
84	25.12690	-80.42809
85	25.12667	-80.42678
86	25.12815	-80.42335
87	25.12839	-80.42307
88	25.12889	-80.42266
89	25.12942	-80.42242
90	25.12972	-80.42234
91	25.13040	-80.42244
92	25.13126	-80.42273
93*	25.13200	-80.42327
94*	25.14298	-80.42513
95	25.14339	-80.42491
96	25.14359	-80.42472
97	25.14390	-80.42416
98	25.14744	-80.41865
99	25.17698	-80.39366
100	25.17961	-80.39071
101	25.17986	-80.39049
102	25.18009	-80.39037
103*	25.18302	-80.38932
104*	25.18612	-80.39050
105*	25.18637	-80.39084
106*	25.23068	-80.43215
107*	25.23093	-80.43225
108*	25.23170	-80.43239
109*	25.23193	-80.43244
110*	25.23245	-80.43118
111*	25.23533	-80.42929
112*	25.23578	-80.42858
113*	25.24041	-80.43052
114*	25.24081	-80.43041
115*	25.25651	-80.42968
116*	25.25692	-80.43006
117*	25.30013	-80.38710
118*	25.30034	-80.38658
119*	25.37260	-80.31062
120	25.36649	-80.28245
121	25.35144	-80.25593
122	25.34986	-80.25492
123	25.34899	-80.25473
124	25.34633	-80.25384
125	25.34545	-80.25288
126	25.34484	-80.25239
127	25.34370	-80.25134
128	25.34246	-80.25012
129	25.34203	-80.24950
130	25.34151	-80.24892
131	25.34107	-80.24829
132	25.34069	-80.24776
133	25.33956	-80.24736
134	25.33816	-80.24685
135	25.33724	-80.24628
136	25.33661	-80.24578
137	25.33587	-80.24482
138	25.33530	-80.24386
139	25.33531	-80.24328
140	25.33638	-80.21007
141	25.32064	-80.19434
142	25.29144	-80.16515
143	25.30885	-80.15424
144	25.46608	-80.10667



FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY BOUNDARY COORDINATES—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
145	25.48154	-80.10296
146	25.49758	-80.09999
147	25.51415	-80.09664
148	25.52104	-80.09524
149	25.52554	-80.09471
150	25.55760	-80.09125
151	25.57223	-80.09004
152	25.59328	-80.08848
153	25.59972	-80.08808
154	25.60242	-80.08791
155	25.61437	-80.08784
156	25.63198	-80.08743
157	25.64476	-80.08736
158	25.72274	-80.08695
PR1	24.88098	-83.69735
PR2	24.97167	-83.64250
PR3	24.97167	-83.61667
PR4	24.68638	-83.61667
PR5	24.66667	-83.68945
PR6	24.66110	-83.71080
PR7	24.79258	-83.92067
PR8	24.95108	-83.80675
PR9	24.88098	-83.69735
DT1	24.72612	-82.79849
DT2	24.72537	-82.86646
DT3	24.71690	-82.89975
DT4	24.64904	-82.96770
DT5	24.56533	-82.96789
DT6	24.56624	-82.90040
DT7	24.61764	-82.79902
DT8	24.66867	-82.76542
DT9	24.70164	-82.76522
DT10	24.72612	-82.79849

**Note:** The coordinates in the table above marked with an asterisk (\*) are not a part of the sanctuary boundary. These coordinates are landward reference points used to draw a line segment that intersects with the shoreline.

**Appendix B to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Areas To Be Avoided Boundary  
Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The boundary for the following Area to be Avoided zones begins at Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at the zone's last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

**ATBA 1**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.37167	-81.71950
2	24.46667	-81.71950
3	24.47833	-81.72500
4	24.49667	-81.71950
5	24.55167	-81.58583
6	24.56000	-81.43333
7	24.63667	-81.11667
8	24.72000	-80.88667
9	24.76833	-80.76917
10	24.85167	-80.61833
11	24.95833	-80.45833
12	25.16500	-80.27000
13	25.40000	-80.15167
14	25.52500	-80.11667
15	25.66167	-80.11417
16	25.75000	-80.10167
17	25.72262	-80.08689
18	25.64500	-80.04500
19	25.36667	-80.05000
20	25.10633	-80.17467
21	24.93950	-80.32100
22	24.63167	-80.78833

## ATBA 1—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
23 .....	24.48667	-81.28833
24 .....	24.37167	-81.71950

## ATBA 2

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.46583	-81.81084
2 .....	24.38333	-81.89167
3 .....	24.44333	-81.97500
4 .....	24.46250	-81.92834
5 .....	24.48917	-81.89000
6 .....	24.48917	-81.83334
7 .....	24.46583	-81.81084

## ATBA 3

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.38854	-82.26357
2 .....	24.39333	-82.46333
3 .....	24.57500	-82.62500
4 .....	24.71667	-82.44167
5 .....	24.63850	-81.90100
6 .....	24.63183	-81.89000
7 .....	24.60250	-81.86300
8 .....	24.57333	-81.84333
9 .....	24.55733	-81.82883
10 .....	24.52000	-81.86833
11 .....	24.47833	-81.94666
12 .....	24.44333	-81.99250
13 .....	24.38333	-82.05833
14 .....	24.38854	-82.26357

## ATBA 4

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.53333	-82.89167
2 .....	24.53333	-83.00083
3 .....	24.66167	-83.00083
4 .....	24.76000	-82.90667
5 .....	24.76000	-82.78667
6 .....	24.71333	-82.73167
7 .....	24.65833	-82.73167
8 .....	24.59333	-82.77333
9 .....	24.53333	-82.89167

**Appendix C to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Management Areas Boundary  
Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The boundary for the following Management Area zones begins at each individual zone's Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at that same zone's last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

## KEY LARGO MANAGEMENT AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.96750	-80.31889
2 .....	25.02050	-80.39784
3 .....	25.02111	-80.39765
4 .....	25.02349	-80.39596
5 .....	25.02480	-80.39511
6 .....	25.02647	-80.39412
7 .....	25.02835	-80.39311

KEY LARGO MANAGEMENT AREA—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
8	25.03026	-80.39219
9	25.03239	-80.39127
10	25.03437	-80.39054
11	25.03582	-80.39006
12	25.03766	-80.38952
13	25.04131	-80.38859
14	25.04242	-80.38834
15	25.04466	-80.38792
16	25.04654	-80.38767
17	25.04899	-80.38745
18	25.05181	-80.38736
19	25.05367	-80.38740
20	25.05394	-80.38732
21	25.05501	-80.38504
22	25.05674	-80.38186
23	25.05817	-80.37953
24	25.05915	-80.37808
25	25.06050	-80.37585
26	25.06127	-80.37467
27	25.06219	-80.37338
28	25.06343	-80.37103
29	25.06500	-80.36841
30	25.06659	-80.36607
31	25.06791	-80.36430
32	25.06917	-80.36273
33	25.07090	-80.36078
34	25.07161	-80.35932
35	25.07319	-80.35646
36	25.07492	-80.35370
37	25.07627	-80.35170
38	25.07758	-80.34993
39	25.07871	-80.34852
40	25.07988	-80.34715
41	25.08122	-80.34569
42	25.08233	-80.34456
43	25.08376	-80.34320
44	25.08584	-80.34140
45	25.08816	-80.33961
46	25.09008	-80.33827
47	25.09123	-80.33754
48	25.09340	-80.33628
49	25.09508	-80.33461
50	25.09727	-80.33265
51	25.09909	-80.33118
52	25.10065	-80.33003
53	25.10306	-80.32842
54	25.10455	-80.32753
55	25.10675	-80.32633
56	25.10986	-80.32489
57	25.11178	-80.32356
58	25.11340	-80.32254
59	25.11593	-80.32113
60	25.11717	-80.31955
61	25.11860	-80.31788
62	25.12093	-80.31541
63	25.12266	-80.31379
64	25.12400	-80.31262
65	25.12523	-80.31162
66	25.12694	-80.31033
67	25.12887	-80.30900
68	25.13035	-80.30808
69	25.13203	-80.30711
70	25.13443	-80.30588
71	25.13689	-80.30478
72	25.13830	-80.30423
73	25.14048	-80.30347
74	25.14175	-80.30309
75	25.14388	-80.30178
76	25.14505	-80.30112
77	25.14692	-80.30015
78	25.14953	-80.29897
79	25.15236	-80.29789

## KEY LARGO MANAGEMENT AREA—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
80	25.15525	-80.29691
81	25.15781	-80.29618
82	25.16003	-80.29567
83	25.16189	-80.29534
84	25.16377	-80.29507
85	25.16640	-80.29484
86	25.16831	-80.29476
87	25.17038	-80.29477
88	25.17167	-80.29483
89	25.17332	-80.29382
90	25.17517	-80.29279
91	25.17672	-80.29201
92	25.17811	-80.29137
93	25.17936	-80.29046
94	25.18113	-80.28928
95	25.18344	-80.28789
96	25.18581	-80.28665
97	25.18754	-80.28585
98	25.18939	-80.28428
99	25.19109	-80.28297
100	25.19284	-80.28174
101	25.19464	-80.28059
102	25.19715	-80.27915
103	25.19887	-80.27828
104	25.20114	-80.27726
105	25.20274	-80.27663
106	25.20410	-80.27526
107	25.20523	-80.27420
108	25.20638	-80.27318
109	25.20756	-80.27221
110	25.21054	-80.26987
111	25.21246	-80.26852
112	25.21408	-80.26749
113	25.21540	-80.26671
114	25.21691	-80.26589
115	25.21947	-80.26464
116	25.22157	-80.26376
117	25.22312	-80.26299
118	25.22521	-80.26208
119	25.22681	-80.26146
120	25.22861	-80.26085
121	25.22973	-80.26014
122	25.23088	-80.25948
123	25.23240	-80.25831
124	25.23381	-80.25731
125	25.23571	-80.25608
126	25.23687	-80.25540
127	25.23879	-80.25310
128	25.24041	-80.25134
129	25.24283	-80.24901
130	25.24477	-80.24735
131	25.24725	-80.24545
132	25.24940	-80.24349
133	25.25105	-80.24211
134	25.25338	-80.24035
135	25.25547	-80.23894
136	25.25694	-80.23804
137	25.25835	-80.23724
138	25.26092	-80.23594
139	25.26355	-80.23480
140	25.26687	-80.23359
141	25.26915	-80.23204
142	25.27098	-80.23093
143	25.27251	-80.23008
144	25.27697	-80.22775
145	25.27997	-80.22644
146	25.28249	-80.22552
147	25.28432	-80.22495
148	25.28642	-80.22274
149	25.28768	-80.22149
150	25.29000	-80.21941
151	25.29197	-80.21783

KEY LARGO MANAGEMENT AREA—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
152	25.29352	-80.21644
153	25.29547	-80.21481
154	25.29748	-80.21329
155	25.29940	-80.21199
156	25.30114	-80.20984
157	25.30329	-80.20751
158	25.30570	-80.20518
159	25.30734	-80.20377
160	25.30980	-80.20185
161	25.31204	-80.20031
162	25.31452	-80.19880
163	25.31588	-80.19805
164	25.31708	-80.19745
165	25.31853	-80.19611
166	25.32064	-80.19434
167	25.29144	-80.16515
168	25.26130	-80.13652
169	25.11806	-80.20139
170	24.96750	-80.31889

LOOE KEY MANAGEMENT AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.53389	-81.43333
2	24.56583	-81.43333
3	24.57083	-81.38333
4	24.53889	-81.38333
5	24.53389	-81.43333

**Appendix D to Subpart P of Part 922—  
National Wildlife Refuges Boundary  
Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

**Note:** The coordinates in the tables of this appendix marked with an asterisk (\*) are not a part of the zone’s boundary. These

coordinates are landward reference points used to draw a line segment that intersects with the shoreline.

**Key West National Wildlife Refuge**

The seaward boundary for the Key West National Wildlife Refuge begins at Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at Point 5. The inner landward boundary for Key West

National Wildlife Refuge is defined by and follows the shoreline at mean high water.

**Note:** This boundary description only represents the marine portions of the Key West National Wildlife Refuge that fall within the sanctuary. The full Key West National Wildlife Refuge boundary was established by Executive Order 923 in 1908.

KEY WEST NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.66495	-82.16653
2	24.66715	-81.81657
3	24.44728	-81.81653
4	24.44690	-82.16601
5	24.66495	-82.16653

**Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge**

The boundary description below only represents the marine portions of the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge that fall within the sanctuary. The full Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge boundary was established by Executive Order 7993 in 1938, with additional islands acquired under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C., S. 715).

The Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge boundary begins approximately 1.6 miles south of Coconut Key at Point 1 and continues west to Point 2 and then south to Point 3. From Point 3 the boundary continues west towards Point 4 until it intersects the

shoreline at No Name Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 6 and then south towards Point 7 until it intersects the shoreline at Big Pine Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north and then around to the south and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 9 and then west towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west and then north until

it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 12 and then west towards Point 13 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 14 and Point 15. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 15 and then west towards Point 16 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north around the northern end of Big Pine Key and then generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 17 and Point 18. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 18 until it intersects

the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west and then south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 19 and Point 20. From this intersection the boundary continues west towards Point 20 until it intersects the shoreline at Big Torch Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 21 and Point 22. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 22 and then west towards Point 23 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north around the northern end of Big Torch Key and then generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 24 and Point 25. From this intersection the boundary continues south towards Point 25 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 26 and Point 27. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 27 then west to Point 28 and south towards Point 29 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 30 and Point 31. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 31 and then south towards Point 32 until it intersects the shoreline at Cudjoe Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 32 and Point 33. From this intersection the boundary continues south towards Point 33 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 34 and Point 35. From this intersection the boundary

continues west to Point 35 and then south to Point 36 and west to Point 37 and north to Point 38. From Point 38 the boundary continues west towards Point 39 until it intersects the shoreline at Sugarloaf Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline around the northern end of Sugarloaf Key until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 40 and Point 41. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 41 and then generally SW to each successive point in numerical order to Point 45. From Point 45 the boundary continues south towards Point 46 until it intersects the shoreline at Saddlebunch Keys. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 47 and Point 48. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 48 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 48 and Point 49. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 49 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 50 and Point 51. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 51 and then south towards Point 52 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 53 and Point 54. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 54 and then south towards Point 55 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 55 and Point 56. From this intersection

the boundary continues south to Point 56 and then west to Point 57 and then south to Point 58. From Point 58 the boundary continues towards Point 59 until it intersects the shoreline at Big Coppitt Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 60 and Point 61. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 61 and then south towards Point 62 until it intersects the shoreline at Rockland Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 63 and Point 64. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 64 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 65 and Point 66. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 66 and then west towards Point 67 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 67 and Point 68. From this intersection the boundary continues west towards Point 68 until it intersects the shoreline at Channel Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 69 and Point 70. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 70 and then generally NE to each successive point in numerical order to Point 78. From Point 78 the boundary continues south and then west to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point 81. The inner landward boundary of this National Wildlife Refuge is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

GREAT WHITE HERON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.72002	-81.23787
2	24.71978	-81.26930
3	24.70532	-81.26938
4*	24.70505	-81.33922
5*	24.70504	-81.34280
6	24.70502	-81.34800
7*	24.69801	-81.34804
8*	24.69391	-81.34807
9	24.69081	-81.34809
10*	24.69087	-81.35670
11*	24.70579	-81.36417
12	24.71964	-81.36412
13*	24.71976	-81.37785
14*	24.72221	-81.37952
15	24.73455	-81.37969
16*	24.73458	-81.39071
17*	24.72233	-81.39533
18*	24.72180	-81.39532
19*	24.72005	-81.39747
20*	24.72017	-81.43404
21*	24.72197	-81.43521
22	24.73481	-81.43526
23*	24.73478	-81.43997
24*	24.73337	-81.45123
25*	24.72838	-81.45121
26*	24.72109	-81.45119
27	24.72012	-81.45119

GREAT WHITE HERON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
28	24.71965	-81.49089
29*	24.70513	-81.49086
30*	24.70510	-81.49384
31	24.70498	-81.50701
32*	24.70121	-81.50701
33*	24.69340	-81.50703
34*	24.69042	-81.51572
35	24.69044	-81.52277
36	24.67596	-81.52261
37	24.67582	-81.53856
38	24.69038	-81.53872
39*	24.69045	-81.55392
40*	24.69047	-81.55588
41	24.69053	-81.57072
42	24.67611	-81.57031
43	24.67605	-81.58622
44	24.66152	-81.58615
45	24.66145	-81.60206
46*	24.65367	-81.60210
47*	24.65278	-81.60211
48*	24.65161	-81.60212
49*	24.64975	-81.60213
50*	24.64716	-81.61461
51	24.64715	-81.61790
52*	24.63403	-81.61779
53*	24.63271	-81.62618
54	24.63278	-81.63326
55*	24.62056	-81.63345
56	24.61820	-81.63349
57	24.61820	-81.66690
58	24.60367	-81.66677
59*	24.60365	-81.67007
60*	24.60363	-81.67520
61	24.60359	-81.68266
62*	24.59486	-81.68266
63*	24.58918	-81.69107
64*	24.58905	-81.69613
65*	24.59312	-81.69862
66	24.60374	-81.69868
67*	24.60370	-81.70391
68*	24.60360	-81.72036
69*	24.60359	-81.72386
70	24.60338	-81.81000
71	24.73450	-81.81037
72	24.73433	-81.61816
73	24.82134	-81.61827
74	24.82180	-81.33316
75	24.79245	-81.33308
76	24.79258	-81.23840
77	24.82172	-81.23861
78	24.82103	-81.14278
79	24.73416	-81.14243
80	24.73455	-81.23785
81	24.72002	-81.23787

**Personal Watercraft (PWC) Exception Area 1—Key West National Wildlife Refuge**

Personal watercraft are allowed within the following area inside Key West National

Wildlife Refuge. The boundary for PWC Exception Area 1 begins at Point 1 and continues to each successive point in

numerical order until ending at Point 4 in the following coordinate table:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.52853	-81.81654
2	24.54833	-81.81655
3	24.54298	-81.82584
4	24.52853	-81.81654

**PWC Exception Area 2—Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge**

Personal watercraft are allowed within the following area inside Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge. The area begins just north of No Name Key at Point 1 and continues west towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline at No Name Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line

segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 4 then south towards Point 5 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NW then south and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 7 and then west towards Point

8 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 10 then east to Point 11 and then south to Point 12 where it ends. The inner landward boundary of this zone is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.70499	-81.33226
2*	24.70505	-81.33922
3*	24.70504	-81.34280
4	24.70502	-81.34800
5*	24.69801	-81.34804
6*	24.69391	-81.34807
7	24.69081	-81.34809
8*	24.69087	-81.35670
9*	24.70579	-81.36417
10	24.71964	-81.36412
11	24.71969	-81.33228
12	24.70499	-81.33226

**PWC Exception Area 3—Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge**

Personal watercraft are allowed within the following area inside the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge. This area begins on Howe Key at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed by Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues east towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline at Big Pine Key. From

this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west and south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary

continues west to Point 6 and then north towards Point 7 until it intersects the shoreline at Howe Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south and east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9 where it ends. The inner landward boundary of this zone is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.73472	-81.40463
2*	24.73464	-81.39898
3*	24.72233	-81.39533
4*	24.72180	-81.39532
5*	24.72005	-81.39747
6	24.72025	-81.41181
7*	24.73480	-81.41169
8*	24.73472	-81.40463
9*	24.73464	-81.39898

**PWC Exception Area 4—Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge**

Personal watercraft are allowed within the following area inside the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge. This area begins just west of Big Torch Key at Point 1 and continues west to Point 2 and then north towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the

shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 5 and then east towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 7 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 8 until it intersects

the shoreline at Big Torch Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues south towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 12 where it ends. The inner landward boundary of this zone is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.72012	-81.45119
2	24.72024	-81.45910
3*	24.72739	-81.45914
4*	24.72850	-81.45915



Point	Latitude	Longitude
5 .....	24.73470	-81.45913
6* .....	24.73472	-81.45545
7* .....	24.73472	-81.45506
8* .....	24.73474	-81.45214
9* .....	24.73337	-81.45123
10* .....	24.72838	-81.45121
11* .....	24.72109	-81.45119
12 .....	24.72012	-81.45119

**PWC Exception Area 5—Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge**

Personal watercraft are allowed within the following area inside the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge. This area begins just NW of Halfmoon Key at Point 1 and continues south to Point 2 and then west towards Point 3 until it intersects the

shoreline at Big Coppitt Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 5 and then north towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline at Duck Key. From this intersection

the boundary follows the shoreline SW and then NW around Duck Key until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues east to Point 8 where it ends. The inner landward boundary of this zone is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.61820	-81.66690
2 .....	24.60367	-81.66677
3* .....	24.60365	-81.67007
4* .....	24.60363	-81.67520
5 .....	24.60359	-81.68266
6* .....	24.61716	-81.68207
7* .....	24.61821	-81.68201
8 .....	24.61820	-81.66690

**PWC Exception Area 6—Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge**

Personal watercraft are allowed within the following area inside the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge. This area begins just north of Rockland Key at Point 1. From Point 1 the boundary continues south towards Point 2 until it intersects the

shoreline at Rockland Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south and west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues west towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the

shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 6 and then east to Point 7 where it ends. The inner landward boundary of this zone is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.60359	-81.68266
2* .....	24.59486	-81.68266
3* .....	24.58918	-81.69107
4* .....	24.58905	-81.69613
5* .....	24.59312	-81.69862
6 .....	24.60374	-81.69868
7 .....	24.60359	-81.68266

**Appendix E to Subpart P of Part 922—Wildlife Management Areas Boundary Coordinates and Access and Use Restrictions**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The access and use restriction for each zone is listed under the zone name and set forth at 15 CFR 922.164(d).

The boundary for the following Wildlife Management Areas begins at each individual zone's Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until

ending at that same zone's last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

**Ballast and Man Keys Flats WMA 1**

**IDLE SPEED NO WAKE**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.52370	-81.94818
2 .....	24.52568	-81.94852
3 .....	24.53128	-81.95063
4 .....	24.53197	-81.95088
5 .....	24.53253	-81.95179
6 .....	24.53296	-81.95226
7 .....	24.53342	-81.95250

## IDLE SPEED NO WAKE—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
8 .....	24.53515	-81.95235
9 .....	24.53455	-81.93151
10 .....	24.52213	-81.93124
11 .....	24.52370	-81.94818

## Ballast and Man Keys Flats WMA 2

## IDLE SPEED NO WAKE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.53526	-81.95645
2 .....	24.53513	-81.95653
3 .....	24.53507	-81.95660
4 .....	24.53466	-81.95711
5 .....	24.53398	-81.95777
6 .....	24.53361	-81.95844
7 .....	24.53336	-81.95918
8 .....	24.53296	-81.95969
9 .....	24.53242	-81.95984
10 .....	24.53195	-81.95987
11 .....	24.53135	-81.95991
12 .....	24.53059	-81.96006
13 .....	24.52984	-81.96056
14 .....	24.52911	-81.96119
15 .....	24.52803	-81.96208
16 .....	24.52728	-81.96270
17 .....	24.52645	-81.96261
18 .....	24.52513	-81.96213
19 .....	24.52499	-81.96205
20 .....	24.52614	-81.96561
21 .....	24.53545	-81.96303
22 .....	24.53526	-81.95645

## Ballast and Man Keys Flats WMA 3

## IDLE SPEED NO WAKE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.53519	-81.95404
2 .....	24.53482	-81.95413
3 .....	24.53373	-81.95423
4 .....	24.53298	-81.95422
5 .....	24.53266	-81.95348
6 .....	24.53234	-81.95281
7 .....	24.53192	-81.95214
8 .....	24.53153	-81.95139
9 .....	24.53085	-81.95099
10 .....	24.53006	-81.95075
11 .....	24.52913	-81.95055
12 .....	24.52806	-81.95035
13 .....	24.52705	-81.95038
14 .....	24.52630	-81.95049
15 .....	24.52522	-81.95083
16 .....	24.52400	-81.95136
17 .....	24.52489	-81.96102
18 .....	24.52510	-81.96119
19 .....	24.52632	-81.96187
20 .....	24.52710	-81.96176
21 .....	24.52782	-81.96125
22 .....	24.52858	-81.96083
23 .....	24.52937	-81.96021
24 .....	24.53002	-81.95986
25 .....	24.53131	-81.95944
26 .....	24.53214	-81.95929
27 .....	24.53278	-81.95925
28 .....	24.53307	-81.95871
29 .....	24.53340	-81.95777

IDLE SPEED NO WAKE—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
30 .....	24.53430	-81.95707
31 .....	24.53503	-81.95625
32 .....	24.53517	-81.95610
33 .....	24.53525	-81.95601
34 .....	24.53519	-81.95404

Channel Key Banks WMA 1

IDLE SPEED NO WAKE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.81429	-80.90823
2 .....	24.81441	-80.91337
3 .....	24.83992	-80.91123
4 .....	24.85246	-80.89969
5 .....	24.85295	-80.89489
6 .....	24.85097	-80.88579
7 .....	24.85682	-80.88193
8 .....	24.87021	-80.88591
9 .....	24.87054	-80.88345
10 .....	24.85033	-80.87681
11 .....	24.84612	-80.89420
12 .....	24.84127	-80.90120
13 .....	24.82315	-80.89502
14 .....	24.82025	-80.89590
15 .....	24.82013	-80.89894
16 .....	24.82623	-80.90103
17 .....	24.82468	-80.90508
18 .....	24.81429	-80.90823

Marquesas Keys Turtle WMA

IDLE SPEED NO WAKE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.55110	-82.25453
2 .....	24.57496	-82.25476
2 .....	24.57546	-82.19300
4 .....	24.55156	-82.19305
5 .....	24.55110	-82.25453

Pelican Shoal WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.50252	-81.63114
2 .....	24.50206	-81.63075
3 .....	24.50164	-81.63064
4 .....	24.50147	-81.63068
5 .....	24.50132	-81.63078
6 .....	24.50122	-81.63094
7 .....	24.50118	-81.63113
8 .....	24.50120	-81.63126
9 .....	24.50135	-81.63162
10 .....	24.50158	-81.63188
11 .....	24.50193	-81.63207
12 .....	24.50223	-81.63212
13 .....	24.50245	-81.63212
14 .....	24.50259	-81.63207
15 .....	24.50273	-81.63196
16 .....	24.50282	-81.63179
17 .....	24.50284	-81.63160
18 .....	24.50280	-81.63141

## NO ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
19 .....	24.50269	-81.63126
20 .....	24.50252	-81.63114

## Pulley Ridge WMA

## NO ANCHOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.88098	-83.69735
2 .....	24.97167	-83.64250
3 .....	24.97167	-83.61667
4 .....	24.68638	-83.61667
5 .....	24.66667	-83.68945
6 .....	24.66110	-83.71080
7 .....	24.79258	-83.92067
8 .....	24.95108	-83.80675
9 .....	24.88098	-83.69735

## Red Bay Bank WMA

## IDLE SPEED NO WAKE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.75323	-81.15290
2 .....	24.75432	-81.17150
3 .....	24.76932	-81.18551
4 .....	24.77090	-81.17929
5 .....	24.76124	-81.16976
6 .....	24.75728	-81.15075
7 .....	24.75060	-81.13581
8 .....	24.74698	-81.13746
9 .....	24.75323	-81.15290

## Snake Creek WMA 1

## NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.94965	-80.58774
2 .....	24.94895	-80.58751
3 .....	24.94821	-80.58710
4 .....	24.94790	-80.58685
5 .....	24.94761	-80.58643
6 .....	24.94695	-80.58520
7 .....	24.94676	-80.58495
8 .....	24.94554	-80.58387
9 .....	24.94439	-80.58404
10 .....	24.94374	-80.58407
11 .....	24.94327	-80.58395
12 .....	24.94236	-80.58331
13 .....	24.94151	-80.58182
14 .....	24.94114	-80.58139
15 .....	24.94047	-80.58102
16 .....	24.93612	-80.58770
17 .....	24.94352	-80.59103
18 .....	24.94840	-80.59079
19 .....	24.94965	-80.58774

## Snake Creek WMA 2

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.94824	-80.59116
2 .....	24.94368	-80.59135
3 .....	24.94737	-80.59330
4 .....	24.94824	-80.59116

Snake Creek WMA 3

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.94725	-80.59360
2 .....	24.93974	-80.58991
3 .....	24.94570	-80.59761
4 .....	24.94725	-80.59360

Snake Creek WMA 4

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.94540	-80.59785
2 .....	24.93942	-80.58980
3 .....	24.93584	-80.58814
4 .....	24.93424	-80.59059
5 .....	24.93594	-80.59222
6 .....	24.93666	-80.59207
7 .....	24.93715	-80.59183
8 .....	24.93750	-80.59175
9 .....	24.93772	-80.59177
10 .....	24.93806	-80.59181
11 .....	24.93873	-80.59213
12 .....	24.93904	-80.59239
13 .....	24.93919	-80.59258
14 .....	24.93934	-80.59288
15 .....	24.93943	-80.59321
16 .....	24.93972	-80.59488
17 .....	24.93972	-80.59536
18 .....	24.93981	-80.59567
19 .....	24.93981	-80.59581
20 .....	24.93994	-80.59618
21 .....	24.93996	-80.59675
22 .....	24.93985	-80.59760
23 .....	24.93984	-80.59972
24 .....	24.93994	-80.60078
25 .....	24.94007	-80.60166
26 .....	24.94020	-80.60233
27 .....	24.94046	-80.60274
28 .....	24.94061	-80.60290
29 .....	24.94082	-80.60298
30 .....	24.94111	-80.60335
31 .....	24.94540	-80.59785

Tortugas Bank WMA

NO ANCHOR BY VESSELS >50M LENGTH

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.53333	-83.00080
2 .....	24.61666	-83.10000
3 .....	24.65000	-83.10000
4 .....	24.65000	-83.00080
5 .....	24.53333	-83.00080

**Western Dry Rocks WMA**

FROM APRIL 1 TO JULY 31, CONTINUOUS TRANSIT WITHOUT INTERRUPTION AND NO ANCHOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.42822	-81.92479
2 .....	24.42802	-81.95011
3 .....	24.43694	-81.95018
4 .....	24.43712	-81.92488
5 .....	24.42822	-81.92479

The seaward boundary for the following Wildlife Management Areas begins at each individual zone's Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order

until ending at that same zone's last point as listed in its specific coordinate table. The inner landward boundary for each individual

zone below is defined by and follows the shoreline at mean high water.

**Archer Key WMA**

NO ANCHOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.56410	-81.88557
2 .....	24.56204	-81.88243
3 .....	24.55982	-81.88302
4 .....	24.55672	-81.88773
5 .....	24.55748	-81.88907
6 .....	24.55951	-81.89267
7 .....	24.56246	-81.89424
8 .....	24.56347	-81.89323
9 .....	24.56410	-81.88557

**Ashbey-Horseshoe Key WMA**

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.91328	-80.65696
2 .....	24.91059	-80.65764
3 .....	24.91142	-80.66045
4 .....	24.91414	-80.65961
5 .....	24.91328	-80.65696

**Bay Keys WMA 1**

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.63604	-81.76179
2 .....	24.63575	-81.76133
3 .....	24.63530	-81.76112
4 .....	24.63469	-81.76077
5 .....	24.63400	-81.76062
6 .....	24.63310	-81.76065
7 .....	24.63218	-81.76082
8 .....	24.63178	-81.76125
9 .....	24.63111	-81.76203
10 .....	24.63071	-81.76286
11 .....	24.63099	-81.76382
12 .....	24.63123	-81.76472
13 .....	24.63160	-81.76550
14 .....	24.63204	-81.76629
15 .....	24.63289	-81.76629
16 .....	24.63353	-81.76601
17 .....	24.63416	-81.76584
18 .....	24.63511	-81.76579
19 .....	24.63559	-81.76530
20 .....	24.63589	-81.76457
21 .....	24.63584	-81.76399
22 .....	24.63603	-81.76353

NO MOTOR—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
23 .....	24.63613	-81.76319
24 .....	24.63622	-81.76258
25 .....	24.63604	-81.76179

Bay Keys WMA 2

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.63560	-81.77521
2 .....	24.63493	-81.77494
3 .....	24.63452	-81.77470
4 .....	24.63414	-81.77460
5 .....	24.63384	-81.77461
6 .....	24.63364	-81.77467
7 .....	24.63323	-81.77490
8 .....	24.63302	-81.77509
9 .....	24.63288	-81.77531
10 .....	24.63277	-81.77576
11 .....	24.63279	-81.77619
12 .....	24.63322	-81.77719
13 .....	24.63355	-81.77758
14 .....	24.63378	-81.77774
15 .....	24.63402	-81.77784
16 .....	24.63423	-81.77788
17 .....	24.63444	-81.77786
18 .....	24.63484	-81.77774
19 .....	24.63549	-81.77748
20 .....	24.63573	-81.77733
21 .....	24.63591	-81.77714
22 .....	24.63595	-81.77709
23 .....	24.63610	-81.77691
24 .....	24.63620	-81.77672
25 .....	24.63621	-81.77668
26 .....	24.63627	-81.77643
27 .....	24.63627	-81.77619
28 .....	24.63620	-81.77588
29 .....	24.63607	-81.77561
30 .....	24.63585	-81.77536
31 .....	24.63560	-81.77521

Big Mullet Key WMA

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.58096	-81.91817
2 .....	24.58090	-81.91758
3 .....	24.58080	-81.91723
4 .....	24.58051	-81.91671
5 .....	24.58029	-81.91649
6 .....	24.58001	-81.91630
7 .....	24.57930	-81.91618
8 .....	24.57897	-81.91606
9 .....	24.57803	-81.91612
10 .....	24.57730	-81.91636
11 .....	24.57690	-81.91667
12 .....	24.57677	-81.91683
13 .....	24.57659	-81.91714
14 .....	24.57647	-81.91762
15 .....	24.57650	-81.91818
16 .....	24.57665	-81.91856
17 .....	24.57690	-81.91886
18 .....	24.57758	-81.91929
19 .....	24.57757	-81.91952
20 .....	24.57761	-81.91975

## NO MOTOR—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
21	24.57793	-81.92047
22	24.57863	-81.92131
23	24.57887	-81.92147
24	24.57917	-81.92155
25	24.57962	-81.92151
26	24.58006	-81.92128
27	24.58042	-81.92092
28	24.58068	-81.92051
29	24.58079	-81.92015
30	24.58106	-81.91976
31	24.58116	-81.91940
32	24.58112	-81.91861
33	24.58096	-81.91817

## Channel Key Banks WMA 2

## IDLE SPEED NO WAKE

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.81164	-80.90655
2	24.80309	-80.90109
3	24.79341	-80.90382
4	24.78363	-80.91293
5	24.79325	-80.91988
6	24.79879	-80.91468
7	24.81171	-80.91360
8	24.81164	-80.90655

## Cottrell Key WMA

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.60377	-81.91824
2	24.60300	-81.91882
3	24.60285	-81.91909
4	24.60262	-81.91937
5	24.60197	-81.91958
6	24.60109	-81.92023
7	24.60095	-81.92045
8	24.60061	-81.92084
9	24.60034	-81.92138
10	24.60020	-81.92193
11	24.59996	-81.92219
12	24.59984	-81.92238
13	24.59972	-81.92274
14	24.59969	-81.92298
15	24.59982	-81.92389
16	24.60029	-81.92486
17	24.60069	-81.92516
18	24.60112	-81.92528
19	24.60144	-81.92526
20	24.60176	-81.92512
21	24.60209	-81.92487
22	24.60271	-81.92470
23	24.60296	-81.92458
24	24.60317	-81.92441
25	24.60365	-81.92457
26	24.60402	-81.92463
27	24.60463	-81.92461
28	24.60482	-81.92465
29	24.60514	-81.92463
30	24.60537	-81.92456
31	24.60556	-81.92445
32	24.60584	-81.92407
33	24.60612	-81.92403
34	24.60647	-81.92408



No ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
35 .....	24.60701	-81.92405
36 .....	24.60734	-81.92386
37 .....	24.60753	-81.92358
38 .....	24.60764	-81.92319
39 .....	24.60765	-81.92284
40 .....	24.60759	-81.92245
41 .....	24.60770	-81.92202
42 .....	24.60765	-81.92152
43 .....	24.60752	-81.92112
44 .....	24.60734	-81.92085
45 .....	24.60652	-81.92024
46 .....	24.60646	-81.92009
47 .....	24.60649	-81.91955
48 .....	24.60627	-81.91899
49 .....	24.60567	-81.91844
50 .....	24.60534	-81.91826
51 .....	24.60455	-81.91806
52 .....	24.60430	-81.91808
53 .....	24.60377	-81.91824

Crane Key WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.75715	-81.51346
2 .....	24.75651	-81.51279
3 .....	24.75602	-81.51237
4 .....	24.75603	-81.51177
5 .....	24.75562	-81.51127
6 .....	24.75527	-81.51098
7 .....	24.75436	-81.51080
8 .....	24.75327	-81.51102
9 .....	24.75218	-81.51170
10 .....	24.75169	-81.51339
11 .....	24.75232	-81.51475
12 .....	24.75330	-81.51486
13 .....	24.75392	-81.51468
14 .....	24.75491	-81.51549
15 .....	24.75599	-81.51582
16 .....	24.75709	-81.51581
17 .....	24.75748	-81.51526
18 .....	24.75753	-81.51437
19 .....	24.75715	-81.51346

Dove and Rodriguez Keys WMA

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.04935	-80.43991
2 .....	25.04375	-80.45695
3 .....	25.04506	-80.47474
4 .....	25.04718	-80.47836
5 .....	25.05116	-80.47513
6 .....	25.05257	-80.46613
7 .....	25.05639	-80.44296
8 .....	25.04935	-80.43991

East Bahia Honda Key WMA

## NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.78258	-81.22843
2	24.78185	-81.22775
3	24.78061	-81.22719
4	24.77864	-81.22625
5	24.77759	-81.22590
6	24.77676	-81.22560
7	24.77592	-81.22468
8	24.77522	-81.22475
9	24.77521	-81.22593
10	24.77468	-81.22756
11	24.77484	-81.22917
12	24.77600	-81.22990
13	24.77704	-81.23140
14	24.77783	-81.23134
15	24.77834	-81.23113
16	24.77909	-81.23108
17	24.77950	-81.23098
18	24.78013	-81.23124
19	24.78055	-81.23169
20	24.78069	-81.23242
21	24.78138	-81.23261
22	24.78257	-81.23189
23	24.78284	-81.23101
24	24.78284	-81.22957
25	24.78258	-81.22843

East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key  
Flats WMA 1

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.81100	-81.44379
2	24.81136	-81.44433
3	24.81144	-81.44439
4	24.81175	-81.44454
5	24.81239	-81.44470
6	24.81287	-81.44470
7	24.81356	-81.44459
8	24.81381	-81.44449
9	24.81402	-81.44431
10	24.81418	-81.44400
11	24.81425	-81.44356
12	24.81424	-81.44332
13	24.81419	-81.44309
14	24.81418	-81.44216
15	24.81414	-81.44176
16	24.81408	-81.44144
17	24.81401	-81.44128
18	24.81370	-81.44076
19	24.81351	-81.44056
20	24.81323	-81.44040
21	24.81294	-81.44033
22	24.81273	-81.44033
23	24.81235	-81.44042
24	24.81196	-81.44062
25	24.81160	-81.44088
26	24.81130	-81.44114
27	24.81099	-81.44147
28	24.81085	-81.44169
29	24.81075	-81.44190
30	24.81067	-81.44224
31	24.81067	-81.44252
32	24.81070	-81.44278
33	24.81100	-81.44379

Happy Jack Key WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.69922	-81.56774
2	24.69900	-81.56754
3	24.69868	-81.56741
4	24.69841	-81.56738
5	24.69810	-81.56746
6	24.69765	-81.56771
7	24.69732	-81.56797
8	24.69715	-81.56823
9	24.69707	-81.56861
10	24.69708	-81.56887
11	24.69717	-81.56917
12	24.69732	-81.56940
13	24.69758	-81.56967
14	24.69783	-81.56983
15	24.69846	-81.57007
16	24.69872	-81.57023
17	24.69901	-81.57031
18	24.69922	-81.57030
19	24.69938	-81.57026
20	24.69968	-81.57008
21	24.69989	-81.56980
22	24.69996	-81.56962
23	24.70000	-81.56939
24	24.70001	-81.56918
25	24.69998	-81.56895
26	24.69977	-81.56838
27	24.69961	-81.56814
28	24.69932	-81.56791
29	24.69922	-81.56774

Horseshoe Keys WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.78282	-81.29316
2	24.78271	-81.29266
3	24.78160	-81.29255
4	24.78133	-81.29209
5	24.78055	-81.29126
6	24.77962	-81.29059
7	24.77887	-81.29017
8	24.77867	-81.28991
9	24.77840	-81.28970
10	24.77820	-81.28961
11	24.77800	-81.28958
12	24.77817	-81.28908
13	24.77816	-81.28867
14	24.77804	-81.28833
15	24.77792	-81.28814
16	24.77774	-81.28746
17	24.77751	-81.28715
18	24.77734	-81.28700
19	24.77700	-81.28683
20	24.77679	-81.28678
21	24.77601	-81.28692
22	24.77585	-81.28665
23	24.77530	-81.28600
24	24.77512	-81.28588
25	24.77489	-81.28582
26	24.77464	-81.28562
27	24.77444	-81.28553
28	24.77423	-81.28550
29	24.77395	-81.28552
30	24.77375	-81.28560
31	24.77357	-81.28573
32	24.77316	-81.28561
33	24.77291	-81.28560
34	24.77291	-81.28526

## NO ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
35	24.77278	-81.28494
36	24.77249	-81.28453
37	24.77209	-81.28425
38	24.77188	-81.28420
39	24.77125	-81.28419
40	24.77093	-81.28432
41	24.77053	-81.28436
42	24.77029	-81.28448
43	24.77039	-81.28374
44	24.77011	-81.28284
45	24.76971	-81.28267
46	24.76963	-81.28273
47	24.76939	-81.28261
48	24.76804	-81.28243
49	24.76783	-81.28248
50	24.76760	-81.28261
51	24.76727	-81.28254
52	24.76701	-81.28259
53	24.76665	-81.28280
54	24.76649	-81.28295
55	24.76635	-81.28320
56	24.76613	-81.28400
57	24.76610	-81.28423
58	24.76612	-81.28446
59	24.76638	-81.28521
60	24.76764	-81.28733
61	24.76778	-81.28748
62	24.76789	-81.28783
63	24.76793	-81.28817
64	24.76821	-81.28889
65	24.76831	-81.28999
66	24.76866	-81.29104
67	24.76910	-81.29164
68	24.76935	-81.29183
69	24.76999	-81.29247
70	24.77012	-81.29286
71	24.77046	-81.29327
72	24.77067	-81.29344
73	24.77099	-81.29354
74	24.77134	-81.29408
75	24.77163	-81.29431
76	24.77186	-81.29461
77	24.77216	-81.29485
78	24.77316	-81.29517
79	24.77343	-81.29514
80	24.77383	-81.29497
81	24.77417	-81.29510
82	24.77454	-81.29507
83	24.77448	-81.29520
84	24.77557	-81.29723
85	24.77572	-81.29705
86	24.77606	-81.29682
87	24.77624	-81.29658
88	24.77638	-81.29652
89	24.77678	-81.29666
90	24.77700	-81.29664
91	24.77720	-81.29657
92	24.77740	-81.29678
93	24.77764	-81.29663
94	24.77779	-81.29650
95	24.77797	-81.29623
96	24.77830	-81.29587
97	24.77835	-81.29572
98	24.77837	-81.29537
99	24.77842	-81.29532
100	24.77871	-81.29546
101	24.77898	-81.29551
102	24.78047	-81.29525
103	24.78078	-81.29510
104	24.78111	-81.29488
105	24.78170	-81.29405
106	24.78281	-81.29406

No ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
107 .....	24.78290	-81.29384
108 .....	24.78293	-81.29361
109 .....	24.78290	-81.29337
110 .....	24.78282	-81.29316

Howe Key Mangrove WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.77266	-81.43359
2 .....	24.77228	-81.43272
3 .....	24.77178	-81.43246
4 .....	24.77106	-81.43234
5 .....	24.77040	-81.43278
6 .....	24.77026	-81.43410
7 .....	24.77044	-81.43557
8 .....	24.77101	-81.43616
9 .....	24.77192	-81.43662
10 .....	24.77300	-81.43639
11 .....	24.77337	-81.43584
12 .....	24.77338	-81.43524
13 .....	24.77303	-81.43477
14 .....	24.77281	-81.43429
15 .....	24.77266	-81.43359

Little Mullet Key WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.58361	-81.94891
2 .....	24.58321	-81.94826
3 .....	24.58295	-81.94794
4 .....	24.58272	-81.94778
5 .....	24.58224	-81.94762
6 .....	24.58199	-81.94762
7 .....	24.58178	-81.94768
8 .....	24.58151	-81.94787
9 .....	24.58070	-81.94817
10 .....	24.58033	-81.94850
11 .....	24.58014	-81.94882
12 .....	24.58006	-81.94904
13 .....	24.58005	-81.94974
14 .....	24.57994	-81.94996
15 .....	24.57990	-81.95019
16 .....	24.57991	-81.95113
17 .....	24.58000	-81.95160
18 .....	24.58016	-81.95197
19 .....	24.58040	-81.95240
20 .....	24.58067	-81.95266
21 .....	24.58117	-81.95292
22 .....	24.58145	-81.95297
23 .....	24.58167	-81.95295
24 .....	24.58217	-81.95278
25 .....	24.58307	-81.95243
26 .....	24.58326	-81.95232
27 .....	24.58342	-81.95214
28 .....	24.58356	-81.95190
29 .....	24.58375	-81.95132
30 .....	24.58378	-81.95090
31 .....	24.58384	-81.95059
32 .....	24.58388	-81.95008
33 .....	24.58384	-81.94970
34 .....	24.58373	-81.94926
35 .....	24.58361	-81.94891

## Little Pine Key Mangrove WMA

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.75670	-81.34069
2 .....	24.75666	-81.33996
3 .....	24.75632	-81.33942
4 .....	24.75569	-81.33901
5 .....	24.75502	-81.33900
6 .....	24.75434	-81.33963
7 .....	24.75372	-81.34056
8 .....	24.75333	-81.34189
9 .....	24.75390	-81.34298
10 .....	24.75431	-81.34336
11 .....	24.75492	-81.34342
12 .....	24.75534	-81.34361
13 .....	24.75604	-81.34380
14 .....	24.75641	-81.34362
15 .....	24.75700	-81.34347
16 .....	24.75723	-81.34325
17 .....	24.75745	-81.34263
18 .....	24.75748	-81.34190
19 .....	24.75722	-81.34130
20 .....	24.75689	-81.34101
21 .....	24.75674	-81.34094
22 .....	24.75670	-81.34069

## Marquesas Keys WMA 1

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.57552	-82.14685
2 .....	24.57554	-82.14726
3 .....	24.57569	-82.14771
4 .....	24.57599	-82.14805
5 .....	24.57633	-82.14822
6 .....	24.57692	-82.14822
7 .....	24.57725	-82.14811
8 .....	24.57756	-82.14783
9 .....	24.57774	-82.14742
10 .....	24.57778	-82.14695
11 .....	24.57764	-82.14651
12 .....	24.57722	-82.14600
13 .....	24.57688	-82.14583
14 .....	24.57645	-82.14584
15 .....	24.57595	-82.14613
16 .....	24.57566	-82.14644
17 .....	24.57552	-82.14685

## Marquesas Key WMA 2

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.57633	-82.14964
2 .....	24.57590	-82.14952
3 .....	24.57549	-82.14958
4 .....	24.57519	-82.14976
5 .....	24.57488	-82.14980
6 .....	24.57459	-82.14995
7 .....	24.57423	-82.15031
8 .....	24.57391	-82.15098
9 .....	24.57381	-82.15130
10 .....	24.57236	-82.15268
11 .....	24.57235	-82.15295
12 .....	24.57246	-82.15366
13 .....	24.57260	-82.15397

No ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
14 .....	24.57279	-82.15417
15 .....	24.57299	-82.15427
16 .....	24.57331	-82.15435
17 .....	24.57361	-82.15434
18 .....	24.57381	-82.15426
19 .....	24.57554	-82.15273
20 .....	24.57580	-82.15233
21 .....	24.57630	-82.15195
22 .....	24.57652	-82.15172
23 .....	24.57687	-82.15115
24 .....	24.57697	-82.15068
25 .....	24.57695	-82.15030
26 .....	24.57684	-82.15003
27 .....	24.57668	-82.14983
28 .....	24.57633	-82.14964

Marquesas Keys WMA 3

No ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.56599	-82.15858
2 .....	24.56647	-82.15876
3 .....	24.56674	-82.15878
4 .....	24.56704	-82.15871
5 .....	24.56723	-82.15860
6 .....	24.56748	-82.15837
7 .....	24.56775	-82.15788
8 .....	24.56792	-82.15724
9 .....	24.56783	-82.15642
10 .....	24.56775	-82.15620
11 .....	24.56754	-82.15590
12 .....	24.56738	-82.15574
13 .....	24.56719	-82.15564
14 .....	24.56667	-82.15555
15 .....	24.56571	-82.15574
16 .....	24.56532	-82.15600
17 .....	24.56510	-82.15638
18 .....	24.56504	-82.15664
19 .....	24.56503	-82.15697
20 .....	24.56511	-82.15735
21 .....	24.56525	-82.15770
22 .....	24.56554	-82.15821
23 .....	24.56599	-82.15858

Marquesas Keys WMA 4

No ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.55340	-82.13516
2 .....	24.55248	-82.13464
3 .....	24.55170	-82.13506
4 .....	24.55169	-82.13633
5 .....	24.55215	-82.13727
6 .....	24.55300	-82.13727
7 .....	24.55362	-82.13677
8 .....	24.55378	-82.13566
9 .....	24.55340	-82.13516

Northeast Tarpon Belly Keys WMA

## NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.73167	-81.50581
2 .....	24.73095	-81.50581
3 .....	24.73060	-81.50606
4 .....	24.73044	-81.50671
5 .....	24.73042	-81.50717
6 .....	24.73047	-81.50759
7 .....	24.73064	-81.50789
8 .....	24.73090	-81.50815
9 .....	24.73114	-81.50851
10 .....	24.73128	-81.50877
11 .....	24.73137	-81.50897
12 .....	24.73181	-81.50900
13 .....	24.73207	-81.50902
14 .....	24.73238	-81.50898
15 .....	24.73262	-81.50880
16 .....	24.73275	-81.50868
17 .....	24.73290	-81.50854
18 .....	24.73294	-81.50821
19 .....	24.73293	-81.50769
20 .....	24.73289	-81.50723
21 .....	24.73278	-81.50707
22 .....	24.73267	-81.50689
23 .....	24.73252	-81.50663
24 .....	24.73232	-81.50622
25 .....	24.73205	-81.50587
26 .....	24.73167	-81.50581

## Pelican Key WMA

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.09429	-80.45566
2 .....	25.09324	-80.45404
3 .....	25.09202	-80.45437
4 .....	25.08935	-80.45648
5 .....	25.09236	-80.45738
6 .....	25.09338	-80.45711
7 .....	25.09429	-80.45566

## Pigeon Key WMA

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.05874	-80.50884
2 .....	25.05365	-80.50892
3 .....	25.05367	-80.51362
4 .....	25.05876	-80.51361
5 .....	25.05874	-80.50884

## Snipe Keys WMA 1

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.68464	-81.67036
2 .....	24.68437	-81.66977
3 .....	24.68443	-81.66914
4 .....	24.68456	-81.66873
5 .....	24.68463	-81.66823
6 .....	24.68472	-81.66743
7 .....	24.68456	-81.66699



No ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
8 .....	24.68443	-81.66677
9 .....	24.68429	-81.66655
10 .....	24.68370	-81.66644
11 .....	24.68300	-81.66677
12 .....	24.68246	-81.66724
13 .....	24.68208	-81.66778
14 .....	24.68198	-81.66874
15 .....	24.68216	-81.66928
16 .....	24.68249	-81.66978
17 .....	24.68255	-81.67000
18 .....	24.68249	-81.67027
19 .....	24.68216	-81.67057
20 .....	24.68211	-81.67118
21 .....	24.68213	-81.67210
22 .....	24.68268	-81.67287
23 .....	24.68338	-81.67292
24 .....	24.68396	-81.67280
25 .....	24.68445	-81.67252
26 .....	24.68488	-81.67219
27 .....	24.68506	-81.67173
28 .....	24.68511	-81.67140
29 .....	24.68504	-81.67106
30 .....	24.68499	-81.67092
31 .....	24.68464	-81.67036

Tavernier Key WMA 1

NO MOTOR AND NO ANCHOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.00309	-80.49276
2 .....	24.99672	-80.48946
3 .....	24.99390	-80.49587
4 .....	24.98732	-80.51278
5 .....	24.99099	-80.52419
6 .....	24.99283	-80.52588
7 .....	24.99646	-80.52861
8 .....	24.99898	-80.52879
9 .....	24.99885	-80.52771
10 .....	24.99856	-80.52683
11 .....	24.99823	-80.52632
12 .....	24.99713	-80.52483
13 .....	24.99687	-80.52417
14 .....	24.99678	-80.52373
15 .....	24.99658	-80.52314
16 .....	24.99631	-80.52256
17 .....	24.99619	-80.52227
18 .....	24.99625	-80.52149
19 .....	24.99679	-80.52019
20 .....	24.99562	-80.51942
21 .....	25.00309	-80.49276

Torch Key Mangroves WMA 1

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.74240	-81.46950
2 .....	24.74188	-81.46907
3 .....	24.74113	-81.46884
4 .....	24.74050	-81.46898
5 .....	24.73993	-81.46952
6 .....	24.73970	-81.47021
7 .....	24.73979	-81.47084
8 .....	24.74002	-81.47115
9 .....	24.74090	-81.47141

## NO ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
10 .....	24.74162	-81.47180
11 .....	24.74189	-81.47180
12 .....	24.74223	-81.47173
13 .....	24.74241	-81.47161
14 .....	24.74259	-81.47116
15 .....	24.74268	-81.47055
16 .....	24.74276	-81.46996
17 .....	24.74240	-81.46950

## Torch Key Mangroves WMA 2

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.73398	-81.47187
2 .....	24.73345	-81.47166
3 .....	24.73300	-81.47159
4 .....	24.73253	-81.47185
5 .....	24.73232	-81.47243
6 .....	24.73221	-81.47312
7 .....	24.73229	-81.47375
8 .....	24.73260	-81.47403
9 .....	24.73294	-81.47415
10 .....	24.73319	-81.47420
11 .....	24.73341	-81.47431
12 .....	24.73373	-81.47436
13 .....	24.73420	-81.47412
14 .....	24.73432	-81.47386
15 .....	24.73462	-81.47313
16 .....	24.73458	-81.47252
17 .....	24.73436	-81.47211
18 .....	24.73398	-81.47187

## Water Key Mangroves WMA 1

## NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.74854	-81.34645
2 .....	24.74837	-81.34611
3 .....	24.74828	-81.34592
4 .....	24.74790	-81.34566
5 .....	24.74774	-81.34520
6 .....	24.74755	-81.34494
7 .....	24.74724	-81.34456
8 .....	24.74672	-81.34442
9 .....	24.74625	-81.34448
10 .....	24.74571	-81.34494
11 .....	24.74559	-81.34543
12 .....	24.74557	-81.34602
13 .....	24.74565	-81.34633
14 .....	24.74593	-81.34659
15 .....	24.74636	-81.34677
16 .....	24.74659	-81.34683
17 .....	24.74676	-81.34706
18 .....	24.74687	-81.34741
19 .....	24.74702	-81.34773
20 .....	24.74733	-81.34796
21 .....	24.74746	-81.34794
22 .....	24.74754	-81.34799
23 .....	24.74762	-81.34816
24 .....	24.74771	-81.34824
25 .....	24.74790	-81.34858
26 .....	24.74810	-81.34869
27 .....	24.74834	-81.34871
28 .....	24.74860	-81.34874
29 .....	24.74886	-81.34863

No ENTRY—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
30 .....	24.74904	-81.34853
31 .....	24.74914	-81.34833
32 .....	24.74924	-81.34808
33 .....	24.74933	-81.34778
34 .....	24.74931	-81.34735
35 .....	24.74921	-81.34685
36 .....	24.74883	-81.34649
37 .....	24.74854	-81.34645

Water Key Mangroves WMA 2

NO ENTRY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.74448	-81.34500
2 .....	24.74448	-81.34460
3 .....	24.74448	-81.34437
4 .....	24.74433	-81.34388
5 .....	24.74392	-81.34358
6 .....	24.74322	-81.34334
7 .....	24.74260	-81.34305
8 .....	24.74211	-81.34317
9 .....	24.74181	-81.34369
10 .....	24.74170	-81.34442
11 .....	24.74188	-81.34512
12 .....	24.74224	-81.34588
13 .....	24.74252	-81.34616
14 .....	24.74284	-81.34656
15 .....	24.74320	-81.34678
16 .....	24.74364	-81.34669
17 .....	24.74406	-81.34664
18 .....	24.74437	-81.34636
19 .....	24.74449	-81.34604
20 .....	24.74456	-81.34588
21 .....	24.74458	-81.34571
22 .....	24.74460	-81.34552
23 .....	24.74455	-81.34514
24 .....	24.74448	-81.34500

West Bahia Honda Key WMA

NO MOTOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.78525	-81.27156
2 .....	24.78470	-81.27108
3 .....	24.78428	-81.27094
4 .....	24.78352	-81.27019
5 .....	24.78274	-81.26991
6 .....	24.78195	-81.26989
7 .....	24.78128	-81.26965
8 .....	24.78047	-81.26962
9 .....	24.77941	-81.26936
10 .....	24.77877	-81.26932
11 .....	24.77824	-81.26939
12 .....	24.77777	-81.26967
13 .....	24.77761	-81.27003
14 .....	24.77754	-81.27073
15 .....	24.77755	-81.27144
16 .....	24.77779	-81.27204
17 .....	24.77829	-81.27222
18 .....	24.77860	-81.27223
19 .....	24.77886	-81.27238
20 .....	24.77912	-81.27259
21 .....	24.77955	-81.27279
22 .....	24.78067	-81.27283

NO MOTOR—Continued

Point	Latitude	Longitude
23	24.78116	-81.27303
24	24.78156	-81.27303
25	24.78210	-81.27338
26	24.78234	-81.27391
27	24.78284	-81.27483
28	24.78295	-81.27513
29	24.78333	-81.27544
30	24.78401	-81.27555
31	24.78453	-81.27532
32	24.78487	-81.27512
33	24.78525	-81.27485
34	24.78556	-81.27449
35	24.78582	-81.27398
36	24.78587	-81.27368
37	24.78590	-81.27320
38	24.78585	-81.27253
39	24.78560	-81.27186
40	24.78525	-81.27156

**Note:** The coordinates in the tables below marked with an asterisk (\*) are not a part of the zone's boundary. These coordinates are landward reference points used to draw a line segment that intersects with the shoreline.

**Barnes-Card Sound WMA**

*No Motor*

The wildlife management area boundary begins SW of Middle Key in the NW corner of Barnes Sound at the intersection of the

shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally around to the NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary continues to follow the shoreline generally to the SW and then to the east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From

this intersection the boundary continues SW to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8 on Middle Key. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline around the western side of Middle Key until it intersects the line segment between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	25.27503	-80.39899
2*	25.27519	-80.39925
3*	25.29560	-80.38496
4*	25.29534	-80.38494
5*	25.29207	-80.38250
6*	25.29189	-80.38228
7*	25.28008	-80.39430
8*	25.28027	-80.39516
9*	25.27574	-80.39840
10*	25.27557	-80.39829
11*	25.27503	-80.39899
12*	25.27519	-80.39925

**Bay Keys WMA 3**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2 on Bay Keys. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 2 and then to the south and back generally to the north

to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 29. From Point 29 the boundary continues towards Point 30 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary continues around the eastern side of Bay Keys until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 31 and Point 32. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 32 and to each

successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 38. From Point 38 the boundary continues towards Point 39 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary continues around the western side of Bay Keys until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 40 and Point 41 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.64084	-81.77765
2	24.64039	-81.77751
3	24.63991	-81.77707
4	24.63927	-81.77672
5	24.63882	-81.77661
6	24.63834	-81.77669
7	24.63786	-81.77669
8	24.63705	-81.77692
9	24.63645	-81.77684

Point	Latitude	Longitude
10	24.63621	-81.77668
11	24.63620	-81.77672
12	24.63610	-81.77691
13	24.63595	-81.77709
14	24.63644	-81.77736
15	24.63786	-81.77743
16	24.63879	-81.77724
17	24.63921	-81.77727
18	24.63952	-81.77752
19	24.63984	-81.77794
20	24.64020	-81.77830
21	24.64079	-81.77871
22	24.64083	-81.78048
23	24.64090	-81.78064
24	24.64137	-81.78126
25	24.64154	-81.78166
26	24.64189	-81.78113
27	24.64159	-81.78064
28	24.64151	-81.78042
29	24.64139	-81.77968
30*	24.64152	-81.77950
31*	24.64219	-81.77902
32	24.64249	-81.77886
33	24.64281	-81.77877
34	24.64295	-81.77860
35	24.64299	-81.77841
36	24.64289	-81.77823
37	24.64259	-81.77808
38	24.64237	-81.77804
39*	24.64208	-81.77795
40*	24.64084	-81.77765
41*	24.64039	-81.77751

**Boca Grande Key WMA**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area boundary begins just south of Boca Grande Key at Point 1. From Point 1 the boundary continues

generally to the west and then north to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 29. From Point 29 the boundary continues towards Point 30 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the

shoreline to the south and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 31 and Point 32. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 32 and then to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point 34.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.52704	-82.00396
2	24.52705	-82.00424
3	24.52697	-82.00481
4	24.52689	-82.00508
5	24.52687	-82.00529
6	24.52676	-82.00566
7	24.52676	-82.00591
8	24.52677	-82.00627
9	24.52678	-82.00636
10	24.52688	-82.00676
11	24.52696	-82.00697
12	24.52744	-82.00791
13	24.52748	-82.00799
14	24.52755	-82.00809
15	24.52778	-82.00832
16	24.52787	-82.00838
17	24.52799	-82.00845
18	24.52821	-82.00854
19	24.52837	-82.00857
20	24.52858	-82.00856
21	24.52883	-82.00867
22	24.52943	-82.00887
23	24.52950	-82.00890
24	24.52996	-82.00919
25	24.53071	-82.00957
26	24.53182	-82.01006
27	24.53192	-82.01010
28	24.53230	-82.01019
29	24.53298	-82.01037
30*	24.53310	-82.00904

Point	Latitude	Longitude
31 * .....	24.52812	-82.00374
32 .....	24.52770	-82.00343
33 .....	24.52721	-82.00335
34 .....	24.52704	-82.00396

**Crocodile Lake WMA 1**

*No Entry Within 300 Feet (100 Yards) of Shorelines*

The wildlife management area boundary begins just north of the mouth of Steamboat Creek on the Card Sound side North Key

Largo at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 2 and then generally NE to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 36. From Point 36 the

boundary continues towards Point 37 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally to the SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 38 and Point 39 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 * .....	25.28658	-80.32913
2 .....	25.28713	-80.32954
3 .....	25.28726	-80.32938
4 .....	25.28734	-80.32921
5 .....	25.28740	-80.32886
6 .....	25.28781	-80.32822
7 .....	25.28817	-80.32686
8 .....	25.28821	-80.32647
9 .....	25.28849	-80.32595
10 .....	25.28906	-80.32511
11 .....	25.28928	-80.32489
12 .....	25.28943	-80.32463
13 .....	25.28959	-80.32450
14 .....	25.29017	-80.32376
15 .....	25.29083	-80.32245
16 .....	25.29090	-80.32215
17 .....	25.29119	-80.32188
18 .....	25.29145	-80.32157
19 .....	25.29219	-80.32054
20 .....	25.29229	-80.32037
21 .....	25.29245	-80.32024
22 .....	25.29298	-80.31954
23 .....	25.29313	-80.31923
24 .....	25.29339	-80.31886
25 .....	25.29354	-80.31852
26 .....	25.29366	-80.31836
27 .....	25.29382	-80.31822
28 .....	25.29398	-80.31810
29 .....	25.29426	-80.31782
30 .....	25.29431	-80.31773
31 .....	25.29458	-80.31757
32 .....	25.29511	-80.31711
33 .....	25.29546	-80.31675
34 .....	25.29551	-80.31665
35 .....	25.29553	-80.31655
36 .....	25.29551	-80.31645
37 * .....	25.29532	-80.31608
38 * .....	25.28658	-80.32913
39 .....	25.28713	-80.32954

**Crocodile Lake WMA 2**

*No Entry Within 300 Feet (100 Yards) of Shorelines; Exception for Steamboat Creek*

The wildlife management area boundary begins just SW of the mouth of Steamboat Creek on the Barnes Sound side North Key Largo at the intersection of the shoreline and

the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 2 and then generally to the NW in Barnes Sound to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 158. From Point 158 the boundary continues generally to the east in Card Sound to Point 262 at the mouth of Steamboat

Creek. From Point 262 the boundary continues towards Point 263 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south along the western side of Steamboat Creek until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 264 and Point 265 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 * .....	25.26721	-80.34202
2 .....	25.26672	-80.34252
3 .....	25.26698	-80.34263
4 .....	25.26718	-80.34272

Point	Latitude	Longitude
5	25.26736	-80.34271
6	25.26783	-80.34234
7	25.26808	-80.34225
8	25.26817	-80.34212
9	25.26832	-80.34209
10	25.26843	-80.34200
11	25.26875	-80.34186
12	25.26892	-80.34162
13	25.26915	-80.34158
14	25.26928	-80.34150
15	25.26936	-80.34139
16	25.26953	-80.34135
17	25.26977	-80.34121
18	25.26989	-80.34128
19	25.27006	-80.34127
20	25.27037	-80.34105
21	25.27054	-80.34101
22	25.27115	-80.34105
23	25.27120	-80.34108
24	25.27108	-80.34137
25	25.27108	-80.34180
26	25.27096	-80.34201
27	25.27082	-80.34209
28	25.27074	-80.34219
29	25.27067	-80.34279
30	25.27113	-80.34375
31	25.27140	-80.34404
32	25.27154	-80.34408
33	25.27168	-80.34404
34	25.27179	-80.34410
35	25.27196	-80.34412
36	25.27238	-80.34392
37	25.27260	-80.34390
38	25.27300	-80.34374
39	25.27365	-80.34340
40	25.27446	-80.34334
41	25.27495	-80.34342
42	25.27516	-80.34342
43	25.27567	-80.34355
44	25.27630	-80.34419
45	25.27643	-80.34437
46	25.27679	-80.34511
47	25.27689	-80.34521
48	25.27694	-80.34539
49	25.27689	-80.34564
50	25.27694	-80.34609
51	25.27689	-80.34636
52	25.27693	-80.34657
53	25.27675	-80.34676
54	25.27663	-80.34703
55	25.27644	-80.34716
56	25.27639	-80.34732
57	25.27613	-80.34773
58	25.27594	-80.34818
59	25.27598	-80.34844
60	25.27613	-80.34870
61	25.27600	-80.34921
62	25.27603	-80.34959
63	25.27615	-80.34983
64	25.27622	-80.35017
65	25.27638	-80.35036
66	25.27664	-80.35041
67	25.27711	-80.35058
68	25.27765	-80.35100
69	25.27827	-80.35126
70	25.27846	-80.35150
71	25.27857	-80.35198
72	25.27863	-80.35209
73	25.27898	-80.35235
74	25.27926	-80.35242
75	25.27949	-80.35264
76	25.27949	-80.35278
77	25.27938	-80.35293
78	25.27898	-80.35330

Point	Latitude	Longitude
79	25.27784	-80.35393
80	25.27768	-80.35408
81	25.27736	-80.35457
82	25.27714	-80.35503
83	25.27710	-80.35524
84	25.27694	-80.35631
85	25.27700	-80.35654
86	25.27710	-80.35665
87	25.27736	-80.35681
88	25.27750	-80.35698
89	25.27766	-80.35729
90	25.27806	-80.35758
91	25.27821	-80.35762
92	25.27843	-80.35757
93	25.27861	-80.35763
94	25.27904	-80.35760
95	25.27915	-80.35756
96	25.27896	-80.35810
97	25.27896	-80.35832
98	25.27886	-80.35847
99	25.27883	-80.35874
100	25.27871	-80.35901
101	25.27870	-80.35928
102	25.27859	-80.35956
103	25.27879	-80.36036
104	25.27895	-80.36055
105	25.27969	-80.36063
106	25.28007	-80.36059
107	25.28059	-80.36074
108	25.28104	-80.36063
109	25.28157	-80.36032
110	25.28187	-80.36029
111	25.28222	-80.36015
112	25.28272	-80.35991
113	25.28282	-80.35981
114	25.28311	-80.35982
115	25.28331	-80.36007
116	25.28346	-80.36014
117	25.28361	-80.36014
118	25.28363	-80.36027
119	25.28371	-80.36041
120	25.28369	-80.36065
121	25.28376	-80.36081
122	25.28386	-80.36090
123	25.28389	-80.36102
124	25.28394	-80.36136
125	25.28373	-80.36152
126	25.28362	-80.36187
127	25.28346	-80.36214
128	25.28330	-80.36223
129	25.28321	-80.36236
130	25.28305	-80.36325
131	25.28306	-80.36341
132	25.28293	-80.36378
133	25.28279	-80.36400
134	25.28278	-80.36426
135	25.28252	-80.36444
136	25.28235	-80.36474
137	25.28234	-80.36489
138	25.28218	-80.36500
139	25.28209	-80.36515
140	25.28211	-80.36543
141	25.28222	-80.36574
142	25.28205	-80.36603
143	25.28202	-80.36628
144	25.28220	-80.36651
145	25.28228	-80.36670
146	25.28245	-80.36679
147	25.28297	-80.36673
148	25.28314	-80.36667
149	25.28364	-80.36670
150	25.28416	-80.36651
151	25.28436	-80.36638
152	25.28445	-80.36625



Point	Latitude	Longitude
153	25.28475	-80.36615
154	25.28494	-80.36590
155	25.28528	-80.36561
156	25.28551	-80.36512
157	25.28566	-80.36515
158	25.28585	-80.36506
159	25.28598	-80.36496
160	25.28607	-80.36478
161	25.28608	-80.36461
162	25.28593	-80.36418
163	25.28600	-80.36400
164	25.28596	-80.36371
165	25.28607	-80.36342
166	25.28603	-80.36313
167	25.28592	-80.36291
168	25.28572	-80.36282
169	25.28569	-80.36276
170	25.28572	-80.36251
171	25.28566	-80.36207
172	25.28555	-80.36179
173	25.28554	-80.36156
174	25.28534	-80.36104
175	25.28531	-80.36085
176	25.28496	-80.35981
177	25.28486	-80.35965
178	25.28474	-80.35922
179	25.28450	-80.35875
180	25.28435	-80.35862
181	25.28410	-80.35818
182	25.28410	-80.35780
183	25.28382	-80.35701
184	25.28374	-80.35663
185	25.28369	-80.35615
186	25.28398	-80.35485
187	25.28400	-80.35444
188	25.28412	-80.35443
189	25.28427	-80.35434
190	25.28441	-80.35418
191	25.28457	-80.35373
192	25.28460	-80.35339
193	25.28493	-80.35291
194	25.28618	-80.35160
195	25.28655	-80.35129
196	25.28680	-80.35089
197	25.28688	-80.35007
198	25.28671	-80.34942
199	25.28683	-80.34792
200	25.28730	-80.34630
201	25.28748	-80.34531
202	25.28771	-80.34471
203	25.28789	-80.34440
204	25.28830	-80.34391
205	25.28852	-80.34381
206	25.28862	-80.34371
207	25.28879	-80.34326
208	25.28916	-80.34325
209	25.28935	-80.34331
210	25.28948	-80.34328
211	25.28965	-80.34333
212	25.28985	-80.34329
213	25.29000	-80.34318
214	25.29013	-80.34318
215	25.29023	-80.34326
216	25.29037	-80.34328
217	25.29058	-80.34316
218	25.29067	-80.34288
219	25.29087	-80.34256
220	25.29091	-80.34233
221	25.29086	-80.34215
222	25.29088	-80.34200
223	25.29097	-80.34179
224	25.29096	-80.34161
225	25.29109	-80.34117
226	25.29114	-80.34045

Point	Latitude	Longitude
227	25.29104	-80.34022
228	25.29099	-80.33992
229	25.29085	-80.33968
230	25.29062	-80.33957
231	25.29050	-80.33955
232	25.29047	-80.33939
233	25.29053	-80.33890
234	25.29024	-80.33835
235	25.28982	-80.33807
236	25.28907	-80.33786
237	25.28855	-80.33753
238	25.28836	-80.33729
239	25.28810	-80.33708
240	25.28761	-80.33679
241	25.28735	-80.33619
242	25.28724	-80.33555
243	25.28723	-80.33545
244	25.28736	-80.33506
245	25.28733	-80.33481
246	25.28717	-80.33464
247	25.28700	-80.33435
248	25.28652	-80.33423
249	25.28655	-80.33396
250	25.28651	-80.33381
251	25.28637	-80.33361
252	25.28636	-80.33340
253	25.28627	-80.33309
254	25.28592	-80.33244
255	25.28585	-80.33196
256	25.28597	-80.33167
257	25.28599	-80.33140
258	25.28595	-80.33126
259	25.28606	-80.33089
260	25.28614	-80.33012
261	25.28614	-80.33008
262	25.28585	-80.32979
263 *	25.28566	-80.33011
264 *	25.26721	-80.34202
265	25.26672	-80.34252

**Crocodile Lake WMA 3**

*No Entry Within 300 Feet (100 Yards) of Shorelines*

The wildlife management area boundary begins just SW of the mouth of Steamboat Creek on the Barnes Sound side North Key

Largo at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 2 and then generally to the NW in Barnes Sound to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 8. From Point 8 the boundary continues

to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary follows the western shoreline around generally to the SE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 *	25.26527	-80.34055
2	25.26484	-80.34102
3	25.26488	-80.34108
4	25.26510	-80.34127
5	25.26523	-80.34133
6	25.26532	-80.34147
7	25.26576	-80.34187
8	25.26615	-80.34205
9 *	25.26635	-80.34179
10 *	25.26608	-80.34141
11 *	25.26527	-80.34055
12	25.26484	-80.34102

**Crocodile Lake WMA 4**

*No Entry Within 300 Feet (100 Yards) of Shorelines*

The wildlife management area boundary begins just SW of the mouth of Steamboat Creek on the Barnes Sound side North Key

Largo at Point 1. From Point 1 the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 2 and Point 3. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally to the south and then SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and

Point 5 at the northern mouth of Jewfish Creek on Key Largo. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 5 in Barnes Sound and then generally to the NE and then north to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point 298.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	25.26445	-80.34046
2*	25.26461	-80.34057
3*	25.26494	-80.33988
4*	25.19810	-80.38422
5*	25.19833	-80.38449
6	25.19872	-80.38428
7	25.19877	-80.38399
8	25.19863	-80.38362
9	25.19890	-80.38308
10	25.19910	-80.38287
11	25.19922	-80.38250
12	25.19934	-80.38234
13	25.19973	-80.38201
14	25.19987	-80.38173
15	25.20002	-80.38154
16	25.20035	-80.38056
17	25.20023	-80.38010
18	25.20008	-80.37982
19	25.19988	-80.37970
20	25.19967	-80.37977
21	25.19956	-80.37947
22	25.19937	-80.37918
23	25.19881	-80.37867
24	25.19866	-80.37839
25	25.19843	-80.37775
26	25.19844	-80.37725
27	25.19819	-80.37635
28	25.19830	-80.37619
29	25.19829	-80.37598
30	25.19806	-80.37563
31	25.19754	-80.37547
32	25.19751	-80.37516
33	25.19759	-80.37499
34	25.19760	-80.37483
35	25.19776	-80.37465
36	25.19782	-80.37444
37	25.19776	-80.37414
38	25.19798	-80.37404
39	25.19809	-80.37384
40	25.19809	-80.37371
41	25.19801	-80.37345
42	25.19816	-80.37335
43	25.19844	-80.37345
44	25.19865	-80.37340
45	25.19882	-80.37319
46	25.19883	-80.37306
47	25.19878	-80.37292
48	25.19922	-80.37264
49	25.19944	-80.37280
50	25.19963	-80.37279
51	25.19981	-80.37263
52	25.19986	-80.37242
53	25.19999	-80.37239
54	25.20034	-80.37214
55	25.20051	-80.37220
56	25.20076	-80.37221
57	25.20091	-80.37217
58	25.20121	-80.37227
59	25.20139	-80.37223
60	25.20150	-80.37235
61	25.20169	-80.37242
62	25.20191	-80.37241
63	25.20209	-80.37229
64	25.20224	-80.37233
65	25.20241	-80.37229
66	25.20252	-80.37240
67	25.20302	-80.37261
68	25.20350	-80.37246
69	25.20367	-80.37250
70	25.20396	-80.37275
71	25.20434	-80.37284
72	25.20450	-80.37281
73	25.20453	-80.37311
74	25.20448	-80.37337

Point	Latitude	Longitude
75	25.20456	-80.37369
76	25.20465	-80.37378
77	25.20477	-80.37382
78	25.20504	-80.37371
79	25.20533	-80.37344
80	25.20552	-80.37318
81	25.20624	-80.37151
82	25.20628	-80.37126
83	25.20601	-80.36976
84	25.20605	-80.36941
85	25.20611	-80.36920
86	25.20675	-80.36793
87	25.20699	-80.36736
88	25.20717	-80.36675
89	25.20721	-80.36582
90	25.20714	-80.36518
91	25.20709	-80.36486
92	25.20688	-80.36419
93	25.20691	-80.36372
94	25.20687	-80.36247
95	25.20697	-80.36189
96	25.20717	-80.36130
97	25.20736	-80.36094
98	25.20746	-80.36059
99	25.20774	-80.36015
100	25.20787	-80.35979
101	25.20805	-80.35909
102	25.20825	-80.35867
103	25.20845	-80.35798
104	25.20861	-80.35725
105	25.20858	-80.35651
106	25.20846	-80.35630
107	25.20832	-80.35616
108	25.20795	-80.35603
109	25.20774	-80.35609
110	25.20760	-80.35622
111	25.20725	-80.35628
112	25.20707	-80.35646
113	25.20689	-80.35673
114	25.20685	-80.35687
115	25.20663	-80.35686
116	25.20642	-80.35699
117	25.20625	-80.35727
118	25.20622	-80.35747
119	25.20608	-80.35750
120	25.20588	-80.35763
121	25.20572	-80.35795
122	25.20556	-80.35793
123	25.20538	-80.35801
124	25.20540	-80.35777
125	25.20527	-80.35755
126	25.20507	-80.35746
127	25.20480	-80.35749
128	25.20461	-80.35741
129	25.20446	-80.35719
130	25.20440	-80.35707
131	25.20445	-80.35688
132	25.20440	-80.35670
133	25.20441	-80.35649
134	25.20433	-80.35631
135	25.20423	-80.35622
136	25.20421	-80.35583
137	25.20407	-80.35567
138	25.20395	-80.35528
139	25.20367	-80.35499
140	25.20368	-80.35470
141	25.20358	-80.35447
142	25.20393	-80.35374
143	25.20401	-80.35335
144	25.20401	-80.35308
145	25.20433	-80.35318
146	25.20481	-80.35314
147	25.20515	-80.35295
148	25.20550	-80.35255

Point	Latitude	Longitude
149	25.20567	-80.35249
150	25.20601	-80.35247
151	25.20616	-80.35242
152	25.20624	-80.35247
153	25.20638	-80.35298
154	25.20654	-80.35337
155	25.20670	-80.35352
156	25.20693	-80.35351
157	25.20703	-80.35343
158	25.20710	-80.35328
159	25.20770	-80.35304
160	25.20826	-80.35248
161	25.20869	-80.35187
162	25.20876	-80.35164
163	25.20873	-80.35115
164	25.20863	-80.35087
165	25.20868	-80.35013
166	25.20884	-80.34999
167	25.20899	-80.34993
168	25.20928	-80.34965
169	25.20944	-80.34988
170	25.20966	-80.35074
171	25.20993	-80.35133
172	25.21020	-80.35174
173	25.21027	-80.35196
174	25.21046	-80.35209
175	25.21060	-80.35210
176	25.21076	-80.35205
177	25.21095	-80.35187
178	25.21118	-80.35145
179	25.21198	-80.35072
180	25.21283	-80.34982
181	25.21303	-80.34968
182	25.21328	-80.34920
183	25.21388	-80.34836
184	25.21397	-80.34820
185	25.21402	-80.34798
186	25.21408	-80.34792
187	25.21419	-80.34786
188	25.21499	-80.34773
189	25.21567	-80.34755
190	25.21592	-80.34779
191	25.21627	-80.34801
192	25.21657	-80.34806
193	25.21672	-80.34802
194	25.21757	-80.34761
195	25.21800	-80.34716
196	25.21830	-80.34703
197	25.21873	-80.34664
198	25.21900	-80.34622
199	25.21905	-80.34586
200	25.21953	-80.34539
201	25.21966	-80.34542
202	25.21986	-80.34538
203	25.22044	-80.34501
204	25.22184	-80.34481
205	25.22224	-80.34470
206	25.22239	-80.34461
207	25.22257	-80.34442
208	25.22268	-80.34417
209	25.22277	-80.34385
210	25.22280	-80.34328
211	25.22287	-80.34352
212	25.22309	-80.34362
213	25.22355	-80.34351
214	25.22378	-80.34334
215	25.22406	-80.34292
216	25.22474	-80.34211
217	25.22517	-80.34152
218	25.22585	-80.34072
219	25.22625	-80.34036
220	25.22672	-80.33984
221	25.22692	-80.33983
222	25.22749	-80.33945

Point	Latitude	Longitude
223	25.22959	-80.33859
224	25.23145	-80.33767
225	25.23199	-80.33734
226	25.23247	-80.33723
227	25.23393	-80.33666
228	25.23454	-80.33648
229	25.23610	-80.33617
230	25.23637	-80.33605
231	25.23660	-80.33590
232	25.23691	-80.33556
233	25.23711	-80.33543
234	25.23789	-80.33513
235	25.23913	-80.33447
236	25.23943	-80.33435
237	25.24017	-80.33422
238	25.24072	-80.33419
239	25.24136	-80.33407
240	25.24145	-80.33418
241	25.24168	-80.33432
242	25.24250	-80.33436
243	25.24444	-80.33465
244	25.24532	-80.33471
245	25.24562	-80.33469
246	25.24678	-80.33496
247	25.24742	-80.33503
248	25.24775	-80.33501
249	25.24799	-80.33493
250	25.24878	-80.33447
251	25.25069	-80.33320
252	25.25116	-80.33300
253	25.25185	-80.33280
254	25.25273	-80.33282
255	25.25366	-80.33274
256	25.25408	-80.33275
257	25.25445	-80.33266
258	25.25472	-80.33253
259	25.25498	-80.33256
260	25.25524	-80.33264
261	25.25581	-80.33268
262	25.25617	-80.33269
263	25.25635	-80.33262
264	25.25668	-80.33258
265	25.25729	-80.33272
266	25.25752	-80.33260
267	25.25786	-80.33264
268	25.25815	-80.33245
269	25.25834	-80.33250
270	25.25862	-80.33241
271	25.26013	-80.33252
272	25.26113	-80.33234
273	25.26192	-80.33226
274	25.26296	-80.33236
275	25.26338	-80.33257
276	25.26358	-80.33284
277	25.26372	-80.33313
278	25.26404	-80.33343
279	25.26437	-80.33349
280	25.26479	-80.33346
281	25.26499	-80.33339
282	25.26514	-80.33341
283	25.26522	-80.33348
284	25.26518	-80.33372
285	25.26540	-80.33426
286	25.26528	-80.33462
287	25.26531	-80.33481
288	25.26528	-80.33500
289	25.26530	-80.33534
290	25.26520	-80.33602
291	25.26484	-80.33736
292	25.26485	-80.33769
293	25.26480	-80.33786
294	25.26484	-80.33800
295	25.26469	-80.33835
296	25.26442	-80.33926

Point	Latitude	Longitude
297 .....	25.26437	-80.34014
298 .....	25.26445	-80.34046

**Eastern Lake Surprise WMA 1**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins in Lake Surprise on North Key Largo at Point 1. From Point 1 the boundary continues towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south around eastern Lake Surprise until it intersects the

line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary continues

generally NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 10 and then generally NE to the successive points in numerical order until it reaches Point 65 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.18536	-80.37233
2* .....	25.18501	-80.37223
3* .....	25.17923	-80.37263
4* .....	25.17891	-80.37293
5* .....	25.17666	-80.37687
6* .....	25.18118	-80.38331
7* .....	25.18144	-80.38356
8* .....	25.18218	-80.38470
9* .....	25.18283	-80.38464
10 .....	25.18239	-80.38413
11 .....	25.18254	-80.38402
12 .....	25.18268	-80.38401
13 .....	25.18334	-80.38446
14 .....	25.18371	-80.38448
15 .....	25.18384	-80.38440
16 .....	25.18426	-80.38408
17 .....	25.18424	-80.38388
18 .....	25.18414	-80.38358
19 .....	25.18413	-80.38327
20 .....	25.18416	-80.38305
21 .....	25.18425	-80.38290
22 .....	25.18443	-80.38281
23 .....	25.18482	-80.38286
24 .....	25.18528	-80.38271
25 .....	25.18569	-80.38241
26 .....	25.18609	-80.38197
27 .....	25.18645	-80.38148
28 .....	25.18639	-80.38106
29 .....	25.18646	-80.38090
30 .....	25.18663	-80.38070
31 .....	25.18677	-80.38010
32 .....	25.18678	-80.37964
33 .....	25.18688	-80.37944
34 .....	25.18730	-80.37814
35 .....	25.18744	-80.37689
36 .....	25.18768	-80.37657
37 .....	25.18767	-80.37636
38 .....	25.18774	-80.37621
39 .....	25.18791	-80.37607
40 .....	25.18820	-80.37603
41 .....	25.18834	-80.37588
42 .....	25.18831	-80.37568
43 .....	25.18837	-80.37546
44 .....	25.18859	-80.37517
45 .....	25.18865	-80.37484
46 .....	25.18893	-80.37438
47 .....	25.18874	-80.37411
48 .....	25.18865	-80.37384
49 .....	25.18839	-80.37395
50 .....	25.18800	-80.37385
51 .....	25.18770	-80.37395
52 .....	25.18745	-80.37394
53 .....	25.18701	-80.37415
54 .....	25.18676	-80.37420
55 .....	25.18662	-80.37416
56 .....	25.18653	-80.37407

Point	Latitude	Longitude
57	25.18648	-80.37389
58	25.18636	-80.37379
59	25.18628	-80.37361
60	25.18629	-80.37328
61	25.18642	-80.37302
62	25.18639	-80.37296
63	25.18592	-80.37245
64	25.18570	-80.37231
65	25.18536	-80.37233

**Eastern Lake Surprise WMA 2**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area boundary begins in eastern Lake Surprise on North Key

Largo at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally to the SE and then to the NW until it intersects with the

line segment formed between Point 2 and Point 3. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 3 until it ends at the intersection with the shoreline.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 *	25.17923	-80.37263
2 *	25.17891	-80.37293
3 *	25.17923	-80.37263

**Eastern Lake Surprise WMA 3**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area boundary begins in northeastern Lake Surprise on North Key Largo at the intersection of the

shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 2 and then generally SW to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 57. From Point 57 the boundary

continues towards Point 58 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline of northwestern Lake Surprise generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 59 and Point 60 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 *	25.18501	-80.37223
2	25.18536	-80.37233
3	25.18570	-80.37231
4	25.18592	-80.37245
5	25.18639	-80.37296
6	25.18642	-80.37302
7	25.18629	-80.37328
8	25.18628	-80.37361
9	25.18636	-80.37379
10	25.18648	-80.37389
11	25.18653	-80.37407
12	25.18662	-80.37416
13	25.18676	-80.37420
14	25.18701	-80.37415
15	25.18745	-80.37394
16	25.18770	-80.37395
17	25.18800	-80.37385
18	25.18839	-80.37395
19	25.18865	-80.37384
20	25.18874	-80.37411
21	25.18893	-80.37438
22	25.18865	-80.37484
23	25.18859	-80.37517
24	25.18837	-80.37546
25	25.18831	-80.37568
26	25.18834	-80.37588
27	25.18820	-80.37603
28	25.18791	-80.37607
29	25.18774	-80.37621
30	25.18767	-80.37636
31	25.18768	-80.37657
32	25.18744	-80.37689
33	25.18730	-80.37814
34	25.18688	-80.37944
35	25.18678	-80.37964
36	25.18677	-80.38010
37	25.18663	-80.38070
38	25.18646	-80.38090
39	25.18639	-80.38106
40	25.18645	-80.38148



Point	Latitude	Longitude
41	25.18609	-80.38197
42	25.18569	-80.38241
43	25.18528	-80.38271
44	25.18482	-80.38286
45	25.18443	-80.38281
46	25.18425	-80.38290
47	25.18416	-80.38305
48	25.18413	-80.38327
49	25.18414	-80.38358
50	25.18424	-80.38388
51	25.18426	-80.38408
52	25.18384	-80.38440
53	25.18371	-80.38448
54	25.18334	-80.38446
55	25.18268	-80.38401
56	25.18254	-80.38402
57	25.18239	-80.38413
58*	25.18283	-80.38464
59*	25.18501	-80.37223
60	25.18536	-80.37233

**Lower Harbor Keys WMA 1**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 just north of Lower Harbor Keys. From Point 1 the boundary continues to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 9. From Point 9 the boundary continues towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary

continues towards Point 12 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 14 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 22. From Point 22 the boundary continues towards Point 23 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the SE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary

continues towards Point 24 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 24 and Point 25. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 25 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west and south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 26 and Point 27. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 27 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it ends at Point 41.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.65039	-81.73302
2	24.65042	-81.73330
3	24.65046	-81.73369
4	24.65054	-81.73444
5	24.65065	-81.73518
6	24.65106	-81.73609
7	24.65164	-81.73561
8	24.65138	-81.73502
9	24.65138	-81.73446
10*	24.65145	-81.73357
11*	24.65238	-81.73229
12*	24.65286	-81.73252
13*	24.65373	-81.73248
14	24.65397	-81.73231
15	24.65431	-81.73240
16	24.65458	-81.73294
17	24.65450	-81.73331
18	24.65407	-81.73414
19	24.65449	-81.73388
20	24.65473	-81.73335
21	24.65490	-81.73266
22	24.65467	-81.73248
23*	24.65459	-81.73192
24*	24.65378	-81.73136
25*	24.65315	-81.73141
26*	24.65288	-81.73189
27	24.65229	-81.73119
28	24.65171	-81.73116
29	24.65173	-81.73040
30	24.65133	-81.72978
31	24.65102	-81.72915
32	24.65187	-81.72797
33	24.64998	-81.72693
34	24.65020	-81.72884

Point	Latitude	Longitude
35	24.65047	-81.72930
36	24.65076	-81.72973
37	24.65120	-81.73080
38	24.65089	-81.73139
39	24.65036	-81.73151
40	24.65033	-81.73223
41	24.65039	-81.73302

**Lower Harbor Keys WMA 2**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at the intersection of the southern shoreline and the line segment formed by Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 2 until it intersects the northern shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 4 and then to each

successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 35. From Point 35 the boundary continues towards Point 36 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 37 and Point 38. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 38 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary continues NE and then NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 39 and Point 40. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 40

until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 41 and Point 42. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 42 and then generally south to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 58. From Point 58 the boundary continues towards Point 59 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 60 and Point 61 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.63714	-81.72648
2*	24.63786	-81.72658
3*	24.64324	-81.72504
4	24.64357	-81.72482
5	24.64379	-81.72478
6	24.64398	-81.72471
7	24.64431	-81.72469
8	24.64453	-81.72475
9	24.64467	-81.72493
10	24.64488	-81.72525
11	24.64502	-81.72554
12	24.64512	-81.72578
13	24.64514	-81.72594
14	24.64506	-81.72610
15	24.64490	-81.72632
16	24.64481	-81.72669
17	24.64480	-81.72697
18	24.64475	-81.72733
19	24.64470	-81.72750
20	24.64459	-81.72765
21	24.64432	-81.72817
22	24.64418	-81.72849
23	24.64397	-81.72882
24	24.64378	-81.72928
25	24.64359	-81.72965
26	24.64334	-81.73000
27	24.64306	-81.73054
28	24.64269	-81.73109
29	24.64231	-81.73194
30	24.64192	-81.73319
31	24.64240	-81.73364
32	24.64239	-81.73331
33	24.64245	-81.73291
34	24.64258	-81.73221
35	24.64290	-81.73172
36*	24.64366	-81.73050
37*	24.64393	-81.73019
38*	24.64423	-81.73019
39*	24.64863	-81.72961
40*	24.64875	-81.72928
41*	24.64906	-81.72888
42	24.64909	-81.72802
43	24.64893	-81.72729
44	24.64860	-81.72812
45	24.64795	-81.72822
46	24.64775	-81.72862
47	24.64688	-81.72765

Point	Latitude	Longitude
48	24.64640	-81.72754
49	24.64573	-81.72762
50	24.64529	-81.72752
51	24.64491	-81.72753
52	24.64495	-81.72682
53	24.64517	-81.72625
54	24.64532	-81.72589
55	24.64524	-81.72562
56	24.64460	-81.72447
57	24.64403	-81.72442
58	24.64344	-81.72451
59*	24.64267	-81.72468
60*	24.63714	-81.72648
61*	24.63786	-81.72658

**Lower Harbor Keys WMA 3**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at the intersection of the southeastern shoreline and the line segment formed by Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection

the boundary continues towards Point 2 until it intersects the southwestern shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary

continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the northeastern shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.63598	-81.72307
2*	24.63671	-81.72340
3*	24.63793	-81.72233
4*	24.63763	-81.72191
5*	24.63598	-81.72307
6*	24.63671	-81.72340

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 1**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 just south of Vaca Key and

continues south to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west and then north until it

intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 5 and then east and south to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point 12.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.69269	-81.07529
2	24.69203	-81.07537
3*	24.69177	-81.07551
4*	24.69376	-81.07932
5	24.69368	-81.07888
6	24.69356	-81.07840
7	24.69350	-81.07803
8	24.69346	-81.07746
9	24.69341	-81.07712
10	24.69340	-81.07675
11	24.69322	-81.07522
12	24.69269	-81.07529

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 2**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 2 and Point

3. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 3 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 20. From Point 20 the boundary continues towards Point 21 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 22

and Point 23. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 23 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 24 and Point 25. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 25 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.70081	-81.07727
2*	24.70137	-81.07703
3	24.70133	-81.07685
4	24.70114	-81.07592

Point	Latitude	Longitude
5	24.70099	-81.07551
6	24.70076	-81.07505
7	24.70054	-81.07481
8	24.70024	-81.07455
9	24.69997	-81.07442
10	24.69968	-81.07421
11	24.69952	-81.07411
12	24.69889	-81.07346
13	24.69528	-81.07496
14	24.69341	-81.07520
15	24.69351	-81.07594
16	24.69355	-81.07631
17	24.69360	-81.07688
18	24.69362	-81.07743
19	24.69372	-81.07816
20	24.69387	-81.07886
21*	24.69395	-81.07930
22*	24.69559	-81.07875
23*	24.69569	-81.07910
24*	24.70020	-81.07787
25	24.70081	-81.07727

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 3**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2

and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 11. From Point 11 the boundary continues towards Point 12 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the

boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 15 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.70296	-81.07077
2	24.69992	-81.07304
3	24.69907	-81.07339
4	24.69968	-81.07396
5	24.70001	-81.07420
6	24.70029	-81.07440
7	24.70061	-81.07467
8	24.70088	-81.07496
9	24.70112	-81.07539
10	24.70131	-81.07586
11	24.70148	-81.07676
12*	24.70152	-81.07701
13*	24.71061	-81.07095
14*	24.71059	-81.07084
15	24.70296	-81.07077

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 4**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2

and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 4. From Point 4 the boundary continues towards Point 5 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the

boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 7 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.70382	-81.07013
2	24.70345	-81.07041
3	24.71124	-81.07041
4	24.71160	-81.07013
5*	24.70842	-81.07013
6*	24.70814	-81.07013
7	24.70382	-81.07013

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 5**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2 and then to Point 3.

From Point 3 the boundary continues north towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this

intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point

7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally to the NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 10 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.70751	-81.06421
2 .....	24.70582	-81.06865
3 .....	24.70448	-81.06964
4* .....	24.71254	-81.06968
5* .....	24.71314	-81.06943
6* .....	24.71351	-81.06927
7* .....	24.71335	-81.06914
8* .....	24.71350	-81.06895
9* .....	24.71556	-81.06431
10 .....	24.70751	-81.06421

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 6**  
*Idle Speed No Wake*  
 The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues north towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 5 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 7 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.70843	-81.06178
2 .....	24.70762	-81.06391
3* .....	24.71557	-81.06392
4* .....	24.71557	-81.06380
5* .....	24.71549	-81.06339
6* .....	24.71565	-81.06177
7 .....	24.70843	-81.06178

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 7**  
*Idle Speed No Wake*  
 The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues north towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 5 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.70909	-81.06003
2 .....	24.70860	-81.06134
3* .....	24.71568	-81.06139
4* .....	24.71604	-81.06000
5 .....	24.70909	-81.06003

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 8**  
*Idle Speed No Wake*  
 The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues north towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 15 and Point 16. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 17 and Point 18. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 19 and Point 20. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 20 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.71070	-81.05387
2 .....	24.70930	-81.05937
3* .....	24.71645	-81.05956
4* .....	24.71694	-81.05857
5* .....	24.71683	-81.05843
6* .....	24.71705	-81.05819
7* .....	24.71724	-81.05789
8* .....	24.71724	-81.05769

Point	Latitude	Longitude
9*	24.71718	-81.05754
10*	24.71722	-81.05740
11*	24.71771	-81.05691
12*	24.71764	-81.05676
13*	24.71798	-81.05676
14*	24.71819	-81.05665
15*	24.71872	-81.05617
16*	24.71859	-81.05604
17*	24.71881	-81.05600
18*	24.71896	-81.05588
19*	24.72026	-81.05397
20	24.71070	-81.05387

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 9**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues north towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it

intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary

continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects with the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 11 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.71131	-81.05148
2	24.71083	-81.05339
3*	24.72015	-81.05343
4*	24.72135	-81.05298
5*	24.72127	-81.05279
6*	24.72145	-81.05268
7*	24.72148	-81.05217
8*	24.72135	-81.05203
9*	24.72148	-81.05184
10*	24.72150	-81.05155
11	24.71131	-81.05148

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 10**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues north towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed

between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed

between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 14 and Point 15. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects with the line segment formed between Point 16 and Point 17. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 17 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.71265	-81.04627
2	24.71142	-81.05107
3*	24.72151	-81.05114
4*	24.72111	-81.05061
5*	24.72097	-81.05042
6*	24.72110	-81.05030
7*	24.72109	-81.04978
8*	24.72085	-81.04965
9*	24.72096	-81.04944
10*	24.72238	-81.04897
11*	24.72233	-81.04885
12*	24.72242	-81.04872
13*	24.72244	-81.04692
14*	24.72239	-81.04651
15*	24.72254	-81.04625
16*	24.72269	-81.04605
17	24.71265	-81.04627

**Marathon Oceanside Shoreline WMA 11**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues north towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed

between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 12 and Point 13. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 15 and Point 16. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 17 and Point 18. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 19 and Point 20. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 20 and Point 21. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 22 and Point 23. From this intersection the boundary

continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 25 and Point 26. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 26 and Point 27. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 28 and Point 29. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 30 and Point 31. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects with the line segment formed between Point 32 and Point 33. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 33 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 43 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.71297	-81.04491
2*	24.72368	-81.04480
3*	24.72371	-81.04462
4*	24.72365	-81.04439
5*	24.72387	-81.04421
6*	24.72401	-81.04373
7*	24.72381	-81.04357
8*	24.72401	-81.04339
9*	24.72414	-81.04293
10*	24.72400	-81.04278
11*	24.72429	-81.04264
12*	24.72535	-81.04143
13*	24.72520	-81.04118
14*	24.72546	-81.04101
15*	24.72586	-81.03979
16*	24.72575	-81.03947
17*	24.72599	-81.03943
18*	24.72616	-81.03933
19*	24.72720	-81.03490
20*	24.72711	-81.03470
21*	24.72724	-81.03458
22*	24.72728	-81.03390
23*	24.72708	-81.03375
24*	24.72720	-81.03356
25*	24.72731	-81.03264
26*	24.72718	-81.03239
27*	24.72739	-81.03227
28*	24.72756	-81.03154
29*	24.72742	-81.03125
30*	24.72778	-81.03133
31*	24.72801	-81.03115
32*	24.72821	-81.03029
33	24.72521	-81.03060
34	24.72248	-81.03188
35	24.71857	-81.03016
36	24.71598	-81.02914
37	24.71362	-81.02521
38	24.71169	-81.02500
39	24.71234	-81.03006
40	24.71291	-81.03354
41	24.71342	-81.03673
42	24.71362	-81.03903
43	24.71297	-81.04491

**Marquesas Keys WMA 5**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues west to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues towards Point 3 until it intersects the

shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues east to Point 5. From Point 5 the boundary continues towards Point 6 until it intersects

the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 8 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.54928	-82.12325
2 .....	24.54925	-82.12387
3* .....	24.54932	-82.12463
4* .....	24.55071	-82.12565
5 .....	24.55084	-82.12426
6* .....	24.55100	-82.12265
7* .....	24.54930	-82.12248
8 .....	24.54928	-82.12325

**Snake Creek WMA 5**

*No Motor*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues north to

Point 2 and Point 3. From Point 3 the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the

segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 6 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 14 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.94988	-80.58636
2 .....	24.95017	-80.58640
3 .....	24.95120	-80.58686
4* .....	24.95213	-80.58686
5* .....	24.95365	-80.57247
6 .....	24.95186	-80.57257
7 .....	24.94680	-80.57271
8 .....	24.94129	-80.58042
9 .....	24.94368	-80.58226
10 .....	24.94592	-80.58277
11 .....	24.94742	-80.58409
12 .....	24.94797	-80.58525
13 .....	24.94863	-80.58603
14 .....	24.94988	-80.58636

**Tavernier Key WMA 2**

*No Motor and No Anchor*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues generally

west to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 9. From Point 9 the boundary continues towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the

shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 12 and ends at Point 13.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.99714	-80.52042
2 .....	24.99669	-80.52156
3 .....	24.99678	-80.52273
4 .....	24.99718	-80.52350
5 .....	24.99737	-80.52449
6 .....	24.99814	-80.52557
7 .....	24.99877	-80.52654
8 .....	24.99903	-80.52697
9 .....	24.99904	-80.52698
10* .....	24.99958	-80.52898
11* .....	25.00200	-80.51992
12 .....	24.99800	-80.52098
13 .....	24.99714	-80.52042

**Tavernier Key WMA 3**

*No Motor and No Anchor*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues generally south and then west to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 6.

From Point 6 the boundary continues towards Point 7 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary continues east to

Point 9 and then generally NE to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 23 where it ends.



Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.99533	-80.52814
2	24.99333	-80.52659
3	24.98952	-80.52362
4	24.98458	-80.52899
5	24.98735	-80.53482
6	24.99049	-80.53631
7*	24.99154	-80.53528
8*	24.99304	-80.53406
9	24.99289	-80.53310
10	24.99284	-80.53281
11	24.99291	-80.53246
12	24.99287	-80.53218
13	24.99294	-80.53193
14	24.99297	-80.53182
15	24.99308	-80.53174
16	24.99312	-80.53171
17	24.99384	-80.53075
18	24.99380	-80.53042
19	24.99379	-80.53026
20	24.99407	-80.52967
21	24.99500	-80.52932
22	24.99635	-80.52893
23	24.99533	-80.52814

**West Content Keys WMA 1**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 and continues west towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point

4. From this intersection the boundary continues east to Point 4 and then south to Point 5. From Point 5 the boundary continues towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection

the boundary continues SW to Point 7. From Point 7 the boundary continues towards Point 8 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 10 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.78196	-81.48875
2*	24.78194	-81.49159
3*	24.79184	-81.48926
4	24.79152	-81.48779
5	24.79037	-81.48830
6*	24.79030	-81.48832
7	24.79020	-81.48848
8*	24.79008	-81.48864
9*	24.78374	-81.48891
10	24.78196	-81.48875

**West Content Keys WMA 2**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north until it intersects the line segment formed between

Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the

boundary follows the shoreline east and then south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary continues west to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 8 and Point 9 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.78361	-81.49804
2*	24.78383	-81.49804
3*	24.78689	-81.50019
4*	24.78758	-81.50002
5*	24.78877	-81.49667
6*	24.78898	-81.49638
7*	24.78342	-81.49486
8*	24.78361	-81.49804
9*	24.78383	-81.49804

**Whitmore Bight WMA**

*No Motor*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 east of Key Largo and continues to Point 2, Point 3, and then Point 4. From Point 4 the boundary continues west towards Point 5 until it intersects the

shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 7 and Point 8. From Point 8 the boundary continues north towards Point 9 until it intersects the shoreline. From this

intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary continues east to Point 11 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 14 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	25.09879	-80.40625
2	25.09985	-80.40544
3	25.10127	-80.40509
4	25.10169	-80.40362
5*	25.10384	-80.40763
6*	25.15866	-80.35582
7	25.16045	-80.35397
8	25.16109	-80.35387
9*	25.16314	-80.35469
10*	25.16915	-80.35011
11	25.16918	-80.34978
12	25.16672	-80.34438
13	25.09659	-80.39692
14	25.09879	-80.40625

**Woman Key WMA**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area boundary begins at Point 1 SE of Woman Key and

continues west to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 24. From Point 24 the boundary continues north towards Point 25 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the

boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 26 and Point 27. From this intersection the boundary continues east to Point 27 then south to Point 28 and Point 29 where it ends.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.52295	-81.96687
2	24.52294	-81.96689
3	24.52291	-81.96698
4	24.52290	-81.96706
5	24.52289	-81.96714
6	24.52286	-81.96723
7	24.52283	-81.96740
8	24.52281	-81.96758
9	24.52281	-81.96773
10	24.52285	-81.96855
11	24.52286	-81.96866
12	24.52289	-81.96885
13	24.52290	-81.96913
14	24.52290	-81.96971
15	24.52291	-81.96981
16	24.52296	-81.97038
17	24.52296	-81.97069
18	24.52295	-81.97104
19	24.52282	-81.97202
20	24.52276	-81.97239
21	24.52269	-81.97282
22	24.52268	-81.97293
23	24.52265	-81.97340
24	24.52265	-81.97349
25*	24.52391	-81.97363
26*	24.52419	-81.96746
27	24.52420	-81.96700
28	24.52319	-81.96689
29	24.52295	-81.96687

**Barracuda Keys WMA**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins just east of Barracuda Keys at Point 1 and continues SW to Point 2. From Point 2 the seaward boundary continues

towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the NE and then generally SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues SW to Point 5 and then to each

successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 8 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.72801	-81.59614
2	24.71841	-81.60001
3*	24.71345	-81.60925
4*	24.71318	-81.60986
5	24.70397	-81.62932
6	24.71496	-81.64186
7	24.73373	-81.60053
8	24.72801	-81.59614

**Cayo Agua Keys WMA**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins in northern Cayo Agua Keys at the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 8 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment

formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 9 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 11 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west and then north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 12 and Point 13. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 13 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 14 and Point 15. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 15 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east and then north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 16 and Point 17. From this intersection the boundary

continues towards Point 17 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 18 and Point 19. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 19 and then to point 20 and to Point 21. From Point 21 the boundary continues towards Point 22 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 24 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 25 and Point 26. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 27 and Point 28 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.63365	-81.74368
2*	24.63352	-81.74371
3*	24.63305	-81.74364
4*	24.63300	-81.74353
5*	24.63216	-81.74279
6*	24.63163	-81.74274
7*	24.63001	-81.74285
8*	24.62958	-81.74284
9*	24.62947	-81.74324
10*	24.62948	-81.74393
11*	24.62956	-81.74444
12*	24.63249	-81.74670
13*	24.63244	-81.74697
14*	24.63224	-81.74788
15*	24.63250	-81.74800
16*	24.63323	-81.74701
17*	24.63356	-81.74700
18*	24.63474	-81.74603
19	24.63485	-81.74580
20	24.63468	-81.74542
21	24.63370	-81.74540
22*	24.63326	-81.74553
23*	24.63270	-81.74530
24*	24.63258	-81.74514
25*	24.63366	-81.74419
26*	24.63374	-81.74406
27*	24.63365	-81.74368
28*	24.63352	-81.74371

**Cotton Key WMA**

*No Motor*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins just north of Cotton Key at Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches

Point 13. From Point 13 the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed by Point 14 and Point 15. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 16 and Point 17. From this intersection the

boundary continues south to Point 17 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 34 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.96534	-80.62371
2	24.96217	-80.62222
3	24.95775	-80.62167
4	24.95604	-80.62041
5	24.95566	-80.62018
6	24.95510	-80.61969
7	24.95467	-80.61944
8	24.95382	-80.61882
9	24.95357	-80.61860
10	24.95342	-80.61853
11	24.95315	-80.61857
12	24.95207	-80.61844
13	24.95168	-80.61848
14*	24.95134	-80.61852
15*	24.95140	-80.61866
16*	24.95048	-80.61950
17	24.95012	-80.61944
18	24.94987	-80.61950
19	24.94932	-80.61943
20	24.94901	-80.61933
21	24.94868	-80.61911
22	24.94778	-80.61887
23	24.94753	-80.61886
24	24.94740	-80.62102
25	24.94742	-80.62205
26	24.94748	-80.62268
27	24.94804	-80.62353
28	24.95682	-80.62360
29	24.95838	-80.62506
30	24.95650	-80.63762
31	24.96032	-80.63704
32	24.96016	-80.62849
33	24.96322	-80.62475
34	24.96534	-80.62371

**East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key Flats WMA 2**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins just NE of Upper Harbor Key at Point 1 and continues generally SW and then NW to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 9. From Point 9 the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 12 and Point 13. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 14 and then Point 15. From Point 15 the boundary continues towards Point 16 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 17 and Point 18. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 18 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the

line segment formed between Point 19 and Point 20. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 20 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 21 and Point 22. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 22 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 24 and then to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 25 and Point 26. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north and then NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 27 and Point 28. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 28 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 29 and Point 30. From this intersection the boundary continues towards

Point 30 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the east and north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 30 and Point 31. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 31 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 31 and Point 32. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 32 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 33 and Point 34. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 34 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 38 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

In addition, the inner boundary of this zone is also defined by the East Content Keys and Upper Harbor Key Flats Wildlife Management Area 1 (no entry zone around

Upper Harbor Key) that is described earlier in this appendix.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.81837	-81.42989
2	24.81206	-81.43563
3	24.80073	-81.44120
4	24.79213	-81.45039
5	24.78816	-81.45029
6	24.78526	-81.45419
7	24.77731	-81.45450
8	24.77819	-81.46489
9	24.78344	-81.46760
10*	24.78440	-81.46821
11*	24.78451	-81.46802
12*	24.78492	-81.46804
13*	24.78493	-81.46825
14	24.78593	-81.46810
15	24.79541	-81.46748
16*	24.79638	-81.46742
17*	24.79589	-81.46810
18*	24.79556	-81.46851
19*	24.79537	-81.47051
20*	24.79331	-81.47179
21*	24.79230	-81.47551
22*	24.79230	-81.47601
23*	24.79361	-81.47575
24	24.79382	-81.47614
25*	24.79593	-81.47599
26*	24.79610	-81.47565
27*	24.79978	-81.47308
28*	24.80041	-81.47262
29*	24.80184	-81.46881
30*	24.80207	-81.46886
31*	24.80228	-81.46889
32*	24.80224	-81.46866
33*	24.80322	-81.46592
34	24.80377	-81.46534
35	24.82795	-81.44055
36	24.82599	-81.43778
37	24.82329	-81.43647
38	24.81837	-81.42989

**East Harbor Key WMA**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins just NE of East Harbor Key at Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches

Point 8. From Point 8 the boundary continues towards Point 9 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline to the north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this

intersection the boundary continues to Point 11 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 36 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.65964	-81.73360
2	24.65919	-81.73347
3	24.65892	-81.73346
4	24.65871	-81.73349
5	24.65843	-81.73361
6	24.65820	-81.73377
7	24.65807	-81.73391
8	24.65794	-81.73410
9*	24.65787	-81.73422
10*	24.65779	-81.73518
11	24.65784	-81.73532
12	24.65797	-81.73552
13	24.65813	-81.73570
14	24.65827	-81.73598
15	24.65842	-81.73617
16	24.65856	-81.73629
17	24.65881	-81.73645
18	24.65906	-81.73655

Point	Latitude	Longitude
19	24.65931	-81.73657
20	24.65959	-81.73658
21	24.65981	-81.73652
22	24.66001	-81.73643
23	24.66017	-81.73632
24	24.66032	-81.73615
25	24.66040	-81.73601
26	24.66048	-81.73578
27	24.66049	-81.73549
28	24.66045	-81.73511
29	24.66041	-81.73496
30	24.66034	-81.73480
31	24.66031	-81.73454
32	24.66022	-81.73420
33	24.66013	-81.73402
34	24.65999	-81.73383
35	24.65983	-81.73369
36	24.65964	-81.73360

### Mud Keys WMA

#### *Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins on the eastern side of Mud Keys at the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 3 and Point 4. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 6 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 8 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 12 until it intersects

the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 14 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 15 and Point 16. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 16 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 17 and Point 18. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 18 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 19 and Point 20. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 20 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east and then north and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 21 and Point 22. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 22 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east and then north and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 24 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the

boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 25 and Point 26. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 26 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 27 and Point 28. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 28 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 29 and Point 30. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 30 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 31 and Point 32. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 32 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 33 and Point 34. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 35 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 36 and Point 37 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.67121	-81.69116
2*	24.67064	-81.69055
3*	24.67040	-81.69063
4*	24.66977	-81.69077
5*	24.66936	-81.69118
6*	24.66866	-81.69180
7*	24.66809	-81.69341
8*	24.66820	-81.69402
9*	24.66824	-81.69461
10*	24.66856	-81.69564
11*	24.66899	-81.69598
12*	24.66861	-81.69695
13*	24.66868	-81.69730
14*	24.66862	-81.69785

Point	Latitude	Longitude
15*	24.66876	-81.69814
16*	24.66961	-81.69805
17*	24.66999	-81.69847
18*	24.67044	-81.69861
19*	24.67121	-81.69800
20*	24.67132	-81.69766
21*	24.67168	-81.69848
22*	24.67243	-81.69841
23*	24.67377	-81.69850
24*	24.67412	-81.69866
25*	24.67461	-81.69839
26*	24.67488	-81.69850
27*	24.67502	-81.69888
28*	24.67581	-81.69883
29*	24.67604	-81.69760
30*	24.67656	-81.69672
31*	24.67642	-81.68895
32*	24.67529	-81.68934
33*	24.67312	-81.69109
34*	24.67292	-81.69091
35*	24.67227	-81.69186
36*	24.67121	-81.69116
37*	24.67064	-81.69055

**Sawyer Key WMA**

*No Entry*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins at Point 1 and continues west to Point 2. From Point 2 the boundary continues west towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 5 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SW until it

intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues SW to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 9 and Point 10. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE until it intersects the line segment formed between

Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally north and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 12 and Point 13. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 13 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 14 and Point 15. From this intersection the boundary continues south to Point 16 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.75564	-81.55825
2	24.75565	-81.55869
3*	24.75564	-81.55915
4*	24.75537	-81.56027
5*	24.75502	-81.56068
6*	24.75390	-81.56322
7*	24.75174	-81.56691
8*	24.75186	-81.56706
9*	24.75761	-81.56705
10*	24.75769	-81.56691
11*	24.75785	-81.56602
12*	24.75830	-81.56476
13*	24.75826	-81.56416
14*	24.75880	-81.55778
15*	24.75851	-81.55730
16	24.75564	-81.55825

**Snipe Keys WMA 2**

*Idle Speed No Wake*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins at the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 1 and Point 2. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point

5. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 5 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 7 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment

formed between Point 8 and Point 9. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 9 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 10 and Point 11. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 11 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it

intersects the line segment formed between Point 12 and Point 13. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 13 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 13 and Point 14. From this intersection the boundary continues NW to Point 14 and then west to Point 15. From Point 15 the boundary continues SW towards Point 16 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally SW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 16 and Point 17. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 17 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 18 and Point 19. From this intersection the boundary continues west to Point 19 and then Point 20. From Point 20 the boundary continues towards Point 21 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the

boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 21 and Point 22. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 22 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 24 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 25 and Point 26. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 26 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 26 and Point 27. From this intersection the boundary continues NW to Point 27 and then to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 34. From Point 34 the boundary continues east towards Point 35 until it intersects the shoreline. From this

intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 36 and Point 37. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 37 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 38 and Point 39. From this intersection the boundary continues east to the intersection of the shoreline with the line segment formed between Point 40 and Point 41. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects with the line segment formed between Point 42 and Point 43. From this intersection the boundary continues east towards Point 43 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 44 and Point 45 where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1*	24.69379	-81.66054
2*	24.69368	-81.66045
3*	24.69316	-81.66077
4*	24.69355	-81.66239
5*	24.69343	-81.66275
6*	24.69298	-81.66378
7*	24.69273	-81.66402
8*	24.69167	-81.66801
9*	24.69152	-81.66834
10*	24.69174	-81.66910
11*	24.69185	-81.67023
12*	24.69241	-81.67087
13*	24.69262	-81.67119
14	24.69293	-81.67142
15	24.69291	-81.67153
16*	24.69285	-81.67160
17*	24.69275	-81.67166
18*	24.69278	-81.67176
19	24.69279	-81.67189
20	24.69276	-81.67206
21*	24.69264	-81.67220
22*	24.69259	-81.67231
23*	24.69269	-81.67266
24*	24.69263	-81.67287
25*	24.69274	-81.67328
26*	24.69281	-81.67341
27	24.69292	-81.67346
28	24.69343	-81.67337
29	24.69328	-81.67278
30	24.69330	-81.67221
31	24.69335	-81.67208
32	24.69327	-81.67196
33	24.69327	-81.67191
34	24.69335	-81.67182
35*	24.69342	-81.67153
36*	24.69345	-81.67122
37*	24.69330	-81.67089
38*	24.69295	-81.67030
39*	24.69283	-81.67030
40*	24.69309	-81.66963
41*	24.69299	-81.66963
42*	24.69337	-81.66454
43*	24.69380	-81.66326
44*	24.69379	-81.66054
45*	24.69368	-81.66045



**Snipe Keys WMA 3**

*No Motor*

The wildlife management area seaward boundary begins at Point 1 at Snipe Keys and continues towards Point 2 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 2 and Point 3. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 3 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 4 and Point 5. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 5 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 6 and Point 7. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 7 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 7 and Point 8. From this intersection the boundary continues east to Point 8 and then to Point 9. From Point 9 the boundary continues towards Point 10 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 11 and Point 12. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 12 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 12 and Point 13. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 13 and then Point 14. From Point 14 the boundary continues towards Point 15 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 15 and Point 16. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 16 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline SE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 17 and Point 18. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 18 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 19 and Point 20. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 21 and Point 22. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 22 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE and then east until it intersects the line segment formed between

Point 23 and Point 24. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 24 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline east and then south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 25 and Point 26. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 26 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 27 and 28. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 28 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 29 and Point 30. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 30 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 30 and Point 31. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 31 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 31 and Point 33. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 33 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 34 and Point 35. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 35 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 36 and the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 37 and Point 38. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 37 and Point 38. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 39 and Point 40. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 41 and Point 42. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 43 and Point 44. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 45 and Point 46. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 47 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 48 and Point 49. From this intersection the boundary

continues towards Point 49 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 50 and Point 51. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 51 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline south until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 52 and Point 53. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 53 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline west until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 54 and Point 55. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 55 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally west and then north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 56 and Point 57. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 57 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 58 and the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 59 and Point 60. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 59 and Point 60. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 61 and Point 62. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline generally NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 63 and the intersection formed between the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 64 and Point 65. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 64 and Point 65. From this intersection the boundary continues to the intersection of the shoreline and the line segment formed between Point 66 and Point 67. From this intersection the boundary continues NE to Point 67. From Point 67 the boundary continues east towards Point 68 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 69 and Point 70. From this intersection the boundary continues north to Point 70 and Point 71 and then generally east to each successive point in numerical order until it reaches Point 83. From Point 83 the boundary continues towards Point 84 until it intersects the shoreline where it ends. The inner landward boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.69292	-81.67346
2*	24.69281	-81.67341
3*	24.69274	-81.67328
4*	24.69263	-81.67287
5*	24.69269	-81.67266
6*	24.69259	-81.67231
7*	24.69264	-81.67220

Point	Latitude	Longitude
8	24.69276	-81.67206
9	24.69279	-81.67189
10*	24.69278	-81.67176
11*	24.69275	-81.67166
12*	24.69285	-81.67160
13	24.69291	-81.67153
14	24.69293	-81.67142
15*	24.69262	-81.67119
16*	24.69241	-81.67087
17*	24.69185	-81.67023
18*	24.69174	-81.66910
19*	24.69152	-81.66834
20*	24.69167	-81.66801
21*	24.69273	-81.66402
22*	24.69298	-81.66378
23*	24.69343	-81.66275
24*	24.69355	-81.66239
25*	24.68938	-81.66143
26*	24.68868	-81.66151
27*	24.68598	-81.66518
28*	24.68574	-81.66543
29*	24.68572	-81.66562
30*	24.68573	-81.66580
31*	24.68577	-81.66598
32*	24.68592	-81.66595
33*	24.68604	-81.66622
34*	24.68655	-81.66859
35*	24.68733	-81.66899
36*	24.68843	-81.67065
37*	24.68852	-81.67164
38*	24.68869	-81.67164
39*	24.68832	-81.67239
40*	24.68849	-81.67241
41*	24.68821	-81.67283
42*	24.68836	-81.67294
43*	24.68780	-81.67317
44*	24.68798	-81.67334
45*	24.68753	-81.67355
46*	24.68768	-81.67373
47*	24.68702	-81.67392
48*	24.68598	-81.67433
49*	24.68579	-81.67505
50*	24.68506	-81.67548
51*	24.68481	-81.67598
52*	24.68454	-81.67621
53*	24.68420	-81.67739
54*	24.68415	-81.67947
55*	24.68453	-81.67966
56*	24.68780	-81.68024
57*	24.68815	-81.68001
58*	24.68838	-81.67997
59*	24.68883	-81.67993
60*	24.68880	-81.67979
61*	24.68970	-81.67984
62*	24.68965	-81.67964
63*	24.69017	-81.67882
64*	24.69054	-81.67760
65*	24.69029	-81.67763
66*	24.69055	-81.67730
67	24.69078	-81.67719
68*	24.69099	-81.67589
69*	24.69180	-81.67492
70	24.69239	-81.67474
71	24.69256	-81.67476
72	24.69262	-81.67462
73	24.69256	-81.67437
74	24.69243	-81.67423
75	24.69256	-81.67406
76	24.69260	-81.67391
77	24.69288	-81.67376
78	24.69290	-81.67369
79	24.69296	-81.67367
80	24.69300	-81.67364
81	24.69302	-81.67354

Point	Latitude	Longitude
82 .....	24.69299	-81.67350
83 .....	24.69292	-81.67346
84* .....	24.69281	-81.67341

**Appendix F to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Sanctuary Preservation Areas  
Boundary Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The boundary for the following Sanctuary Preservation Areas (SPA) begins at each individual zone's Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at that same zone's last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

**ALLIGATOR REEF SPA**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.85383	-80.61950
2 .....	24.84691	-80.60967
3 .....	24.84002	-80.62083
4 .....	24.84683	-80.62716
5 .....	24.85383	-80.61950

**CARYSFORT REEF SPA**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.22734	-80.19447
2 .....	25.19451	-80.20821
3 .....	25.20476	-80.23208
4 .....	25.23405	-80.21709
5 .....	25.23671	-80.21573
6 .....	25.23492	-80.21169
7 .....	25.22734	-80.19447

**CHEECA ROCKS SPA**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.90367	-80.61917
2 .....	24.90700	-80.61517
3 .....	24.90417	-80.61283
4 .....	24.90167	-80.61667
5 .....	24.90367	-80.61917

**COFFINS PATCH SPA**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.67917	-80.97217
2 .....	24.68433	-80.97467
3 .....	24.69117	-80.96133
4 .....	24.68533	-80.95883
5 .....	24.67917	-80.97217

**CONCH REEF SPA**

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.95800	-80.45783
2 .....	24.95567	-80.45433
3 .....	24.94986	-80.45703
4 .....	24.94633	-80.45867
5 .....	24.94933	-80.46217
6 .....	24.95800	-80.45783

## DAVIS REEF SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.92233	-80.50867
2 .....	24.92683	-80.50450
3 .....	24.92350	-80.50083
4 .....	24.91850	-80.50583
5 .....	24.92233	-80.50867

## EASTERN DRY ROCKS SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.46200	-81.84767
2 .....	24.46533	-81.84250
3 .....	24.46217	-81.83883
4 .....	24.45783	-81.84667
5 .....	24.46200	-81.84767

## HEN AND CHICKENS SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.93400	-80.55317
2 .....	24.93967	-80.54767
3 .....	24.93683	-80.54383
4 .....	24.93100	-80.54917
5 .....	24.93400	-80.55317

## KEY LARGO DRY ROCKS—GRECIAN ROCKS SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.10502	-80.30565
2 .....	25.10880	-80.31061
3 .....	25.12650	-80.29850
4 .....	25.12432	-80.29468
5 .....	25.10502	-80.30565

## LOOE KEY SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.55200	-81.41350
2 .....	24.55400	-81.40050
3 .....	24.54500	-81.39750
4 .....	24.54200	-81.41167
5 .....	24.54745	-81.41267
6 .....	24.55200	-81.41350

## MOLASSES REEF SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.01767	-80.36400
2 .....	25.00483	-80.37833
3 .....	25.01200	-80.38050
4 .....	25.01667	-80.37550
5 .....	25.01767	-80.36400

## NEWFOUND HARBOR KEY SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.61233	-81.39667
2 .....	24.61667	-81.39767
3 .....	24.61833	-81.38900
4 .....	24.61417	-81.38800
5 .....	24.61233	-81.39667

SAND KEY SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.45033	-81.88250
2 .....	24.46017	-81.88233
3 .....	24.45967	-81.87150
4 .....	24.45017	-81.87200
5 .....	24.45033	-81.88250

SOMBRERO KEY SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.62983	-81.11863
2 .....	24.63398	-81.10694
3 .....	24.62500	-81.10317
4 .....	24.62083	-81.11483
5 .....	24.62983	-81.11863

THE ELBOW SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.14950	-80.26050
2 .....	25.14917	-80.25367
3 .....	25.13633	-80.26067
4 .....	25.14167	-80.26783
5 .....	25.14320	-80.26640
6 .....	25.14720	-80.26266
7 .....	25.14950	-80.26050

TURTLE ROCKS SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.27452	-80.23195
2 .....	25.28222	-80.24276
3 .....	25.31600	-80.21793
4 .....	25.30578	-80.20878
5 .....	25.27452	-80.23195

TURTLE SHOAL SPA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.73452	-80.92027
2 .....	24.72375	-80.91202
3 .....	24.71386	-80.93661
4 .....	24.72406	-80.94341
5 .....	24.73452	-80.92027

**Appendix G to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Conservation Areas Boundary  
Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The boundary for the following Conservation Areas begins at each individual zone's Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at that same zone's last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

CONCH REEF CONSERVATION AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.95167	-80.44883
2 .....	24.94717	-80.45433
3 .....	24.94986	-80.45703
4 .....	24.95567	-80.45433
5 .....	24.95167	-80.44883

EASTERN SAMBO CONSERVATION AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.48950	- 81.66600
2 .....	24.49617	- 81.66717
3 .....	24.49733	- 81.65983
4 .....	24.49250	- 81.65583
5 .....	24.48950	- 81.66600

TENNESSEE REEF CONSERVATION AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.77003	- 80.75115
2 .....	24.75788	- 80.74189
3 .....	24.75157	- 80.75147
4 .....	24.76495	- 80.75955
5 .....	24.77003	- 80.75115

TORTUGAS NORTH CONSERVATION AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.76667	- 83.10000
2 .....	24.76667	- 82.90000
3 .....	24.76333	- 82.80000
4 .....	24.72610	- 82.80000
5 .....	24.72537	- 82.86646
6 .....	24.71690	- 82.89975
7 .....	24.65000	- 82.96674
8 .....	24.65000	- 83.10000
9 .....	24.76667	- 83.10000

TORTUGAS SOUTH CONSERVATION AREA

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.55017	- 83.16643
2 .....	24.55000	- 83.08333
3 .....	24.30000	- 83.08333
4 .....	24.30084	- 83.16711
5 .....	24.55017	- 83.16643

**Western Sambo Conservation Area**

The Western Sambo Conservation Area boundary begins approximately 6 miles south of Boca Chica Key at Point 1. From Point 1

the boundary continues to Point 2 and Point 3. From Point 3 the boundary continues towards Point 4 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary continues east following the

shoreline until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 5 and Point 6. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 6 and ends at Point 7.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.47295	- 81.70024
2 .....	24.46655	- 81.72928
3 .....	24.49877	- 81.72544
4* .....	24.55794	- 81.71838
5* .....	24.56201	- 81.67996
6 .....	24.50469	- 81.69301
7 .....	24.47295	- 81.70024

**Note:** The coordinates in the table above marked with an asterisk (\*) are not a part of the zone's boundary. These coordinates are landward reference points used to draw a line segment that intersects with the shoreline.

Within the Western Sambo Conservation Area, an additional no anchor zone

surrounds the offshore reef tract. The boundary for the Western Sambo

Conservation Area No Anchor zone begins at Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at Point 5.

**Western Sambo Conservation Area**

NO ANCHOR

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.49877	- 81.72544
2 .....	24.50469	- 81.69301
3 .....	24.47295	- 81.70024
4 .....	24.46655	- 81.72928
5 .....	24.49877	- 81.72544

**Appendix H to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Restoration Areas—Habitat Boundary  
Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The boundary for the following Restoration Areas—Habitat zones begins at each individual zone’s Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at that same zone’s last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

CHEECA ROCKS EAST RESTORATION AREA—HABITAT

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.90299	- 80.61106
2 .....	24.90298	- 80.60901
3 .....	24.90194	- 80.60902
4 .....	24.90195	- 80.61106
5 .....	24.90299	- 80.61106

CHEECA ROCKS SOUTH RESTORATION AREA—HABITAT

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.89782	- 80.62210
2 .....	24.89846	- 80.61492
3 .....	24.89581	- 80.61500
4 .....	24.89587	- 80.62216
5 .....	24.89782	- 80.62210

HORSESHOE REEF RESTORATION AREA—HABITAT

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.13797	- 80.29796
2 .....	25.14422	- 80.29317
3 .....	25.13806	- 80.28500
4 .....	25.13196	- 80.28979
5 .....	25.13797	- 80.29796

PICKLES REEF RESTORATION AREA—HABITAT

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.97864	- 80.43372
2 .....	24.97866	- 80.44120
3 .....	24.98488	- 80.44055
4 .....	24.98459	- 80.43332
5 .....	24.97864	- 80.43372

**Appendix I to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Restoration Areas—Nursery Boundary  
Coordinates**

Coordinates listed in this appendix are unprojected (Geographic) and based on the North American Datum of 1983.

The boundary for the following Restoration Areas—Nursery zones begins at each individual zone’s Point 1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order until ending at that same zone’s last point as listed in its specific coordinate table.

## CARYSFORT REEF RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	25.23492	-80.21169
2 .....	25.23231	-80.21302
3 .....	25.23405	-80.21709
4 .....	25.23671	-80.21573
5 .....	25.23492	-80.21169

## LOOE KEY EAST RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.55911	-81.40124
2 .....	24.56385	-81.40272
3 .....	24.56554	-81.39802
4 .....	24.56109	-81.39638
5 .....	24.55911	-81.40124

## LOOE KEY WEST RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.55149	-81.41663
2 .....	24.55200	-81.4135
3 .....	24.54745	-81.41267
4 .....	24.54705	-81.41568
5 .....	24.55149	-81.41663

## MARATHON RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.66333	-81.02078
2 .....	24.66333	-81.02780
3 .....	24.66986	-81.02781
4 .....	24.66986	-81.02078
5 .....	24.66333	-81.02078

## MARKER 32 RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.47712	-81.77809
2 .....	24.48104	-81.77811
3 .....	24.48105	-81.77368
4 .....	24.47717	-81.77372
5 .....	24.47712	-81.77809

## MIDDLE KEYS RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.65659	-81.02141
2 .....	24.65858	-81.01799
3 .....	24.65533	-81.01548
4 .....	24.65337	-81.01932
5 .....	24.65659	-81.02141

## SAND KEY RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1 .....	24.45983	-81.88394
2 .....	24.45605	-81.88389
3 .....	24.45603	-81.88804
4 .....	24.45981	-81.88808
5 .....	24.45983	-81.88394



TAVERNIER RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	24.98883	-80.42110
2	24.99140	-80.41819
3	24.98708	-80.41356
4	24.98417	-80.41647
5	24.98883	-80.42110

THE ELBOW RESTORATION AREA—NURSERY

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	25.14320	-80.26640
2	25.14515	-80.26901
3	25.14928	-80.26534
4	25.14720	-80.26266
5	25.14320	-80.26640

**Appendix J to Subpart P of Part 922—  
Revised Designation Document for the  
Florida Keys National Marine  
Sanctuary**

*Article I. Designation and Effect*

On November 16, 1990, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act, Public Law 101–605 (16 U.S.C. 1433 note), became law. That Act designated an area of waters and submerged lands, including the living and nonliving resources within those waters, as described therein, as the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (sanctuary). In 2001, the boundary of the sanctuary was expanded to include important coral reefs and other resources in two areas west of the Dry Tortugas National Park, including Sherwood Forest and Riley’s Hump. By this revised Designation Document, the boundary of the sanctuary is further expanded to include areas: (a) north of the existing northern extent of the sanctuary, offshore of Miami-Dade County, to align with the Area To Be Avoided, (b) seaward of the existing southern boundary of the sanctuary to align with the Area To Be Avoided, (c) at the far western end of the existing sanctuary boundary, to extend by approximately one mile westward and encompass the outer boundaries of the Tortugas South Conservation Area (formerly the Tortugas South Ecological Reserve) and square off the sanctuary boundary in its northwestern corner, and (d) encompassing Pulley Ridge, north and west of the westernmost boundary and as a distinct segment of the sanctuary.

Section 304 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA), 16 U.S.C. 1434, authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to issue such regulations as are necessary and reasonable to implement the designation, including managing and protecting the conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, educational, cultural, archaeological or aesthetic resources and qualities of a national marine sanctuary. Section 1 of Article IV of this Designation Document lists activities of the type that are presently being regulated or may have to be regulated in the future, in order to protect sanctuary resources and qualities. Listing in

section 1 does not mean that a type of activity will be regulated in the future, however, if a type of activity is not listed, it may not be regulated, except on an emergency basis, unless section 1 is amended, following the procedures for designation of a sanctuary set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 304 of the NMSA, to include the type of activity.

Nothing in this Designation Document is intended to restrict activities that do not cause an adverse effect on the resources or qualities of the sanctuary or on sanctuary property or that do not pose a threat of harm to users of the sanctuary.

*Article II. Description of the Area*

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary boundary encompasses a total of approximately 3,622 square nautical miles (4,797 square statute miles) of coastal, ocean, and Gulf of Mexico waters, and the submerged lands thereunder, surrounding the Florida Keys in south Florida. The northernmost point of the sanctuary lies just east of Miami and Key Biscayne, and the westernmost point is approximately 60 miles to the west of the western boundary of Dry Tortugas National Park at Pulley Ridge, a linear, arcing distance of approximately 290 miles. The contiguous area boundary on the Atlantic Ocean side of the Florida Keys runs south from just north of Biscayne National Park generally curving in a southwesterly direction along the Florida Keys archipelago until southwest of the Dry Tortugas and Loggerhead Key. The contiguous area boundary on the Gulf of Mexico side of the Florida Keys continues from this southwestern point to the north approximately 32 miles until it reaches a point northwest of Loggerhead Key and the Dry Tortugas. The boundary then continues east to approximately 8 miles north of Cottrell Key, and then from there it continues generally to the northeast to just north of Sprigger Bank. The boundary then generally approximates the southeastern Everglades National Park boundary until it continues along the western shore of Manatee Bay, Barnes Sound, and Card Sound. The boundary then generally approximates the southern boundary of Biscayne National Park and continues to do so north along the park’s

eastern boundary until it reaches the sanctuary’s northeastern most point.

In addition, the sanctuary boundary includes a non-contiguous section encompassing Pulley Ridge and the Gulf of Mexico waters and lands thereunder to the west of the contiguous boundary area. Pulley Ridge is a carbonate ridge that extends nearly 186 miles along the southwest Florida Shelf in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, approximately 41 miles west of the Dry Tortugas and is entirely oceanic with no landward boundary.

The landward boundary of the contiguous sanctuary area is the shoreline as defined by the mean high-water line. The Dry Tortugas National Park is not included within the sanctuary and the inner sanctuary boundary in this location is coterminous with this national park boundary. The sanctuary boundary encompasses the entire Florida coral reef tract, all of the mangrove islands of the Florida Keys, and some of the seagrass meadows of the Florida Keys. The precise boundary of the sanctuary is set forth at the end of this Designation Document.

*Article III. Characteristics of the Area That Give it Particular Value*

The Florida Keys extend approximately 223 miles southwest from the southern tip of the Florida peninsula. Adjacent to the Florida Keys land mass are located spectacular unique, nationally significant marine environments, including seagrass meadows, mangrove islands, and extensive living coral reefs. These marine environments support rich biological communities possessing extensive conservation, recreational, commercial, ecological, historical, research, educational, and aesthetic values which give this area special national significance. These environments are the marine equivalent of tropical rain forests in that they support high levels of biodiversity, are fragile and easily susceptible to damage from human activities, and possess high value to humans if properly conserved. These marine environments are subject to damage and loss of their ecological integrity from a variety of sources of disturbance.

The Florida Keys are a limestone island archipelago. The Keys are located at the southern edge of the Florida Plateau, a large

carbonate platform made of a depth of up to 7000 meters of marine sediments, which have been accumulating for 150 million years and which have been structurally modified by subsidence and sea level fluctuation. The Keys region is generally divided into five distinct areas: the Florida reef tract, one of the world's largest coral reef tracts and the only barrier reef in the United States; Florida Bay, a large, shallow seagrass-dominated estuary and world-famous game fishing region that sits at the interface between the Florida Everglades and the Florida Reef Tract; the Southwest Continental Shelf; the Straits of Florida; and the Keys themselves.

The more than three million-acre sanctuary contains one of North America's most diverse assemblages of terrestrial, estuarine, and marine fauna and flora. In addition to the Florida reef tract, the sanctuary includes thousands of patch reefs, various hardbottom habitats, mangrove fringed shorelines and mangrove islands, and a substantial portion of one of the world's largest seagrass communities that covers 3.6 million acres of the nearshore marine environment in south Florida. The sanctuary area at Pulley Ridge supports the deepest known photosynthetic coral reef off the continental United States. These diverse habitats provide shelter and food for thousands of species of marine plants and animals, including more than 50 species of animals identified under Federal or State law, as endangered or threatened. The Keys were at one time a major seafaring center for European and American trade routes to the Caribbean, and the submerged cultural and historic resources (*i.e.*, shipwrecks) abound in the surrounding waters. In addition, the sanctuary contains substantial archaeological resources of pre-European cultures.

The uniqueness of the marine environment draws multitudes of visitors to the Keys. The major industry in the Florida Keys is tourism, including activities related to the Keys' marine resources, such as dive shops, charter fishing and dive boats and marinas, as well as hotels and restaurants. The abundance of the resources also supports a large commercial fishing employment sector.

The number of visitors to the Keys grows each year, with a concomitant increase in the number of residents, homes, jobs, and businesses. As population grows and the Keys accommodate ever-increasing resource use pressures, the quality and quantity of sanctuary resources are increasingly threatened. These pressures require coordinated and comprehensive monitoring and researching of the Florida Keys' region.

#### Article IV. Scope of Regulations

##### Section 1. Activities Subject to Regulation

The following activities are subject to regulation under the NMSA, either throughout the entire sanctuary or within identified portions of it or, as indicated, in areas beyond the boundary of the sanctuary, to the extent necessary and reasonable. Such regulation may include prohibitions to ensure the protection and management of the conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, educational, cultural, archaeological or aesthetic resources and qualities of the area. Because an activity is

listed here does not mean that such activity is being or will be regulated. Listing an activity here means that Secretary of Commerce can regulate the activity, after complying with all applicable regulatory laws, without going through the designation procedures required by paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 304 of the NMSA, 16 U.S.C. 1434(a) and (b). Further, no regulation issued under the authority of the NMSA except an emergency and/or temporary regulation issued with the approval of the Governor of the State of Florida may take effect in Florida State waters within the sanctuary if the Governor of the State of Florida certifies to the Secretary of Commerce that such regulation is unacceptable within the forty-five day review period specified in NMSA.

##### Activities Subject to Regulation:

1. Mineral or hydrocarbon exploration, development, or production;
2. Destroying, causing the loss of, or injuring coral or live rock or attempting to do so;
3. Altering or placing any structure, object, or other material on the seabed, except as authorized by appropriate permits or as part of lawful fishing;
4. Discharging or depositing any material, or discharging or depositing any material beyond the sanctuary that then enters the sanctuary and injures a sanctuary resource or quality;
5. Operating a vessel, including anchoring, in a manner that may destroy, cause the loss of, or injure sanctuary resources or property; or in a manner that may injure or endanger the life of sanctuary users;
6. Diving in a manner that could harm sanctuary resources, sanctuary property, or other users of the sanctuary;
7. Stocking within the sanctuary or releasing within or from beyond the boundary of the sanctuary, any non-native or exotic species;
8. Defacing, marking, or damaging in any way or displacing, removing, or tampering with any markers, signs, notices, placards, navigational aids, monuments, stakes, posts, mooring buoys, boundary buoys, trap buoys, or scientific equipment;
9. Moving, removing, injuring, preserving, curating, and managing historic resources;
10. Taking, removing, moving, catching, collecting, harvesting, feeding, attracting, injuring, destroying, or causing the loss of, or attempting to take, remove, move, catch, collect, harvest, feed, attract, injure, destroy, or cause the loss of any sanctuary resource;
11. Conducting or attempting to conduct any manner of activities within specially designated marine areas, including removing, injuring or disturbing any living or dead organism or bottom formation; possessing or using certain fishing gear; operating or anchoring vessels; entering areas; and diving;
12. Harvesting marine life species except as regulated by the State of Florida;
13. Possessing or using explosives, electrical charges, or toxic substances within the sanctuary, or using explosives, electrical charges, or toxic substances beyond the sanctuary that then enter the sanctuary and injure a sanctuary resource or quality;
14. Abandoning fishing gear or vessels; and removing (including salvaging) fishing gear

and grounded, derelict, or abandoned vessels;

15. Maintaining or deserting a derelict vessel or vessel at risk of becoming derelict; and leaving harmful matter aboard a grounded or deserted vessel; and,

16. Interfering with any enforcement action.

##### Section 2. Emergency and/or Temporary Regulation

Any and all activities are subject to immediate emergency and/or temporary regulation, including any not listed in Section 1 of this article. However, no such regulation may take effect in Florida State waters within the sanctuary without the approval of the Governor of the State of Florida.

#### Article V. Effect on Leases, Permits, Licenses, and Rights

Pursuant to paragraph (c)(1) of section 304 of the NMSA, 16 U.S.C. 1434(c)(1), a person may conduct an activity prohibited by sanctuary regulations if such activity is specifically authorized by a valid Federal, State, or local lease, permit, license, approval, or other authorization or right in existence prior to the effective date of these revised terms of designation, provided that the holder of the lease, permit, license, approval, or other authorization complies with the procedures outlined in this subpart and subpart E.

However, in no event may the Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee issue any form of approval for the: (1) exploration, leasing, development, or production of minerals or hydrocarbons; (2) disposal of dredged material within the sanctuary other than in connection with beach renourishment or sanctuary restoration projects; or (3) discharge of untreated or primary treated sewage. Any purported authorizations issued by other authorities for any of these activities within the sanctuary shall be invalid.

#### Article VI. Alteration of This Designation

The terms of designation, as defined in paragraph (a) of section 304 of the NMSA, 16 U.S.C. 1434(a), may be modified only by the procedures outlined in paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 304 of the NMSA, 16 U.S.C. 1434(a) and (b), including public hearings, consultation with interested federal, state, and local government agencies, review by the appropriate Congressional committees, review by the Governor of the State of Florida, and approval by the Secretary of Commerce, or his or her designee. No designation, term of designation, or implementing regulation may take effect in Florida State waters within the sanctuary if the Governor of the State of Florida certifies to the Secretary of Commerce that such designation or term of designation regulation is unacceptable within the forty-five day review period specified in NMSA.

#### Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Boundary Coordinates

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (sanctuary) encompasses an area of 3,622 square nautical miles (4,797 square miles) of coastal, ocean, and Gulf of Mexico

waters and the submerged lands thereunder from the boundary to the shoreline as defined by the mean high water tidal datum surrounding the Florida Keys in southern Florida. The precise boundary coordinates are listed in Appendix I to this Subpart.

The sanctuary boundary begins approximately 4 miles east of the northern extent of Key Biscayne at Point 1 and continues roughly south and then southwest and west in numerical order to Point 15 approximately 27 miles SW of Loggerhead Key. From Point 15 the sanctuary boundary continues north to Point 17 which is approximately 18 miles NW of Loggerhead Key and then continues roughly east in numerical order to Point 23 just north of Sprigger Bank. From Point 23 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly SE to Point 26 just north of Old Dan Bank. From Point 26 the boundary continues NE in numerical order through Bowlegs Cut and Steamboat Channel to Point 42 near the southern entrance to Cowpens Cut west of Plantation Key.

From Point 42 the boundary continues towards Point 43 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 44 and Point 45.

From this intersection the boundary continues NNE to Point 45 and then roughly NE in numerical order to Point 61 just west of Hammer Point in Tavernier, FL. From Point 61 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly north and then NW to Point 64 just west of Pigeon Key. From Point 64 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly NE then NNE through Baker Cut to Point 69. From Point 69 the boundary continues in numerical order roughly NE through Buttonwood Sound to Point 73.

From Point 73 the boundary continues towards Point 74 until it intersects the shoreline near the southern entrance to Grouper Creek west of Key Largo, FL. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline NE along Grouper Creek until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 75 and Point 76. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 76 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 77 and Point 78.

From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 78 and then roughly ESE in numerical order through Tarpon Basin to Point 85. From Point 85 the boundary continues NE and then NW to Point 92.

From Point 92 the boundary continues towards Point 93 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly north along Dusenberry Creek until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 94 and Point 95.

From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 95 and then NE in numerical order through Blackwater Sound to Point 102 south of the entrance to Jewish Creek.

From Point 102 the boundary continues towards Point 103 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNE and then NW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 104 and Point 105. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 105 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNE and then roughly west along southwestern Barnes Sound and around Division Point until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 106 and Point 107 near Manatee Creek east of Long Sound. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 107 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly NNW until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 108 and Point 109. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 109 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly east until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 109 and Point 110. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 110 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly north and then NE until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 111 and Point 112. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 112 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly east and then north around Bay Point and then west until it intersects the line segment formed between

Point 113 and Point 114. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 114 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline north along the western side of Manatee Bay until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 115 and Point 116. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 116 until it intersects the shoreline.

From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline around northern Manatee Bay and Barnes Sound until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 117 and Point 118. From this intersection the boundary continues towards Point 118 until it intersects the shoreline. From this intersection the boundary follows the shoreline roughly to the SE south of FL State Route 905A—Card Sound Road then NW and roughly north along western Little Card Sound and then Card Sound cutting off the mouths of canals and drainage ditches until it intersects the line segment formed between Point 119 and Point 120 south of Midnight Pass. From this intersection the boundary continues to Point 120 and then roughly SE to each successive point in numerical order approximating the southern boundary of Biscayne National Park to Point 142 approximately 3 miles ENE of Turtle Rocks. From Point 142 the boundary continues roughly N to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point 158.

The inner landward sanctuary boundary is defined by and follows the shoreline where not already specified in the description above.

Pulley Ridge, located along the southwest Florida Shelf in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, is included as a part of the FKNMS, and the sanctuary boundary for this area begins approximately 52 miles NW of Loggerhead Key at Point PR1 and continues to each successive point in numerical order ending at Point PR9.

Dry Tortugas National Park is not included within the FKNMS and the inner sanctuary boundary in this area is coterminous with this national park boundary and begins at Point DT1 and continues in numerical order counterclockwise around the national park ending at Point DT10.

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