



CaMPAM

Network and Forum

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

**Short Name**

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

Country

United States

Description**Ecoregion location**

Florida

Boundaries

The boundary extends southward on the Atlantic Ocean side of the Keys, from the northeastern-most point of the Biscayne National Park along the approximate 300-foot isobath for over 220 nautical miles to the Dry Tortugas National Park. The boundary exte

Map URL

http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/research_monitoring/map.html

Total Surface area

9800

Sea Surface area

9800

Shoreline area

2920

Site national category

National Marine Sanctuary

Site international designation

Particularly Sensitive Sea Area

IUCN category

VI

Designation

Legally Designated

Date established

1990/01/01

Legal citation

Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act, Public Law 101-605 (H.R. 5909), 16 U.S.C 1431 et seq., and 15 CFR 922 et seq.

Citation reference URL

http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/regs/sp_act.html

Other legal designations

National Marine Sanctuaries Act , 16 U.S.C 1431 et seq.

Primary responsible institution

NOAA/Office of National Marine Sanctuaries/Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, State of Florida, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Primary contact

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Web site

<http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/>

Climate

Similar to Miami and other south Florida locations (sub-tropical).

Geological features

beaches, rocky shores, rocky shores, keys, karstic

Hydrological features

ocean loop/meandering current, upwelling

Other hydrological features

Florida Current; Loop Current; Tortugas gyre, Portales gyre,

Marine habitats

Coral, seagrass, mangrove islands; please consult the FKNMS benthic habitat maps found on

the internet at <http://flkeysbenthicmaps.noaa.gov/>

Marine flora

http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary_resources/dr_splist.pdf

Marine invertebrates and fishes

http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary_resources/dr_splist.pdf

Marine mammals, birds and sea turtles

http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary_resources/dr_splist.pdf

Endangered species

refer to the T & E species list found on the internet at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/sites/keys/info.htm>

Special aggregation sites

snapper and grouper spawning aggregations; seaturtle nesting; spiny lobster and (pink) shrimp nursery

Primary management institution

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Other institutions that participate in management

NOAA Fisheries Law Enforcement and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Law Enforcement

Personnel

Staff grouped into different teams that include: resource management, science, education and outreach, permitting, operations, mooring buoy, volunteer coordination, Team OCEAN, law enforcement, DARP (resource damage assessment, restoration, and monitoring)

Management objectives

ecosystem protection, user conflict resolution, navigation restrictions

Management framework

Yes

Date of establishment of management framework

2007/12/01

Management programmes

advisory committee, construction regulations, emergency operations program, enforcement program, fisheries regulations, habitat restoration program, institutional arrangements for management

Other zone types

• Wildlife Management Area (Buffer zone), • Ecological Reserves and Research Only Areas (No take/No anchor - transit only), • Sanctuary Preservation Area (No take/No anchor - diving and snorkeling allowed), • Existing Management Area (identifies areas t

Funding sources

The FKNMS budget is primarily received through federal (congressional) appropriations.

Cultural resources

The Sanctuary's submerged cultural resources encompass a broad historical range from the European Colonial Period to the Modern Era. Because of the Keys' strategic location on early European shipping routes, the area's shipwrecks reflect the histor

Fisheries resources

principally snappers and groupers; other reef fishes; pelagic fishes; estuarine fishes; spiny lobster; shrimps; stone crab; tropical marine life.

Fisheries regulations

The FKNMS does not have regulatory authority over fisheries. Instead, fisheries that occur within the FKNMS are regulated by NOAA's National Marine Fishery Service, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), and the Gulf of Mexico and

Coastal development

FKNMS has authority to condition or regulate certain levels of development of coastal habitat from Mean High Water Line and deeper if resources will be impacted.

Beach management

construction restrictions

Monitoring programmes

coral reef health, coral reef resilience, fish surveys, other socioeconomic monitoring program, user patterns

Other monitoring programmes

coral reef health (FIO/GSU/DISL; FKNMS annual Coral Condition Cruise; CREMP/FWRI; (UNCW/NURC) rapid ecological assessments,Â· coral reef resilience (Florida Reef Resilience Program - TNC and WWF);,Â· fish surveys (NMFS/RSMAS and REEF);,Â· Socio-Economic

Issues or threats for accomplishing management objectives

over fishing; climate change; eutrophication; vessel groundings; coastal development and runoff; pollution;

Role of site in network

The National Marine Sanctuary The FKNMS is one of the 13 National Marine Sanctuaries.

Areas of special expertise for knowledge transfer

Management Plan development and revision, advisory council creation and development, comprehensive science plan development, and mooring buoy installation and maintenance, implementation,