



# CaMPAM

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## Network and Forum

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### 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](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](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](http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary_resources/dr_splist.pdf)

### **Marine invertebrates and fishes**

[http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary\\_resources/dr\\_splist.pdf](http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary_resources/dr_splist.pdf)

### **Marine mammals, birds and sea turtles**

[http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sanctuary\\_resources/dr\\_splist.pdf](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,