Coral Reef Ecosystem Restoration Working Group

Permitting in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
May 22, 2013

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If an activity is prohibited, it cannot be conducted in the sanctuary… *unless* a permit is issued.

To be *eligible* for a permit, the activity must be a certain type.

To be *issued* a permit, the project must meet specific review criteria.
What is permit-able?

15 CFR 922.166 (soon to be 15 CFR 922.30 and 922.31)

• Research / monitoring
• Education
• Further natural or historical resource value
• Further salvage or recovery operations
• Assist in management
• Otherwise further purposes of FKNMS
• Maritime heritage

• Special Use: 7 specific categories of activities

1 eliminated / included in maritime heritage
2 included in management category
Permit issuance criteria

15 CFR 922.166 (soon to be 15 CFR 922.33)

1. Professionally qualified
2. Financial resources available
3. Duration no longer than necessary
4. Methods appropriate in relation to impacts
5. Extent activity diminishes or enhances sanctuary qualities, including type and duration of effects
6. Must occur within the sanctuary
7. End value outweighs any adverse impacts
8. No other factors make permit issuance inappropriate\(^3\)

\(^3\) in new regulations
Additional consultations & authorities

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
  - State Parks and Aquatic Preserves
  - Submerged Lands
  - Coastal Zone Management Program
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- NOAA Fisheries
  - Endangered Species Act
  - Marine Mammal Protection Act
  - Essential Fish Habitat
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Historic Preservation Act & State Historic Preservation Officer
- US Coast Guard
- Monroe County & municipalities
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Others