Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council

PUBLIC COMMENT
*PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION CLEARLY

Name: Walter Kirchner  Organization: Concerned Citizen

Email: [Redacted]

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

Ecosystem Protection

PUBLIC COMMENT

Trying to divide a finite amount of coral reef among an infinite number of users is incomprehensible to me. There must be a limit somewhere. Even meager use by an unlimited public translates into unsustainable use to the resource! The coral needs time to recover from the use. We can not continue to exploit every square inch of the reef everyday and expect it to stay viable. Limiting the access gives time for the resource to regenerate.

It can also put people on the water who can be onboard with the ideas of the sanctuary and can help with education. To be allies rather than adversaries.
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
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PUBLIC COMMENT

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Name: Richard Gomez
Organization: President
Key West Charterboat Assoc.

Email: [Redacted]

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I am already added

TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

Close All Closures

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tad Burke and Joe Weertbey said it all I echo there sentiments and emphasize that pollution is our main problem and your time should be used towards fighting big industry who are not only partly or fully responsible for global warming and water quality and the slow but steady demise of our reefs! THAT'S A BIG NUT TO CRACK ISN'T IT!

Fisherman feel that we have endured the brunt of all consequences due to water quality and fish decline, and as far as water quality we are the least intrusive (divers). As I sit in on this meeting it seems that the majority of your members are against these zones I hope common sense prevails for a change, but I have seen time and time again the opposite! By the way by what authority do you make these rules? Not the Magnuson Act!
Name: Anthony Soldano
Organization: Key West Charterboatmen's Assoc

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TOPIC TO BE ADDRESSED

WATER QUALITY / CLOSURES / FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT

The number one problem in the sanctuary is the water quality. Yet it seems nothing is being done about it. Why?

Water quality should be the FKNSM's main focus. If this problem is not corrected, there will not be anything left to manage in the future.

On the issue of area closures, we already have enough. If areas continue to be closed at some point, the economic engine of the Florida Keys will be shut down.

The FKNSM does not need to get into fisheries management as there are already enough fishery management groups now. It is not and should not be the FKNSM's job to manage fisheries.