



Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review Update and Next Steps: Artificial Habitat

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Process & Timeline



April – present plan to advisory council

Goal: Opportunity for input on workshop invitees

July – host two-day workshop

Goal: Convene artificial habitat experts to discuss and clarify the interests, research needs, and policies surrounding the use of artificial habitats in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

August – provide update to advisory council

Goal: Review workshop outcomes and provide recommendations to Sanctuary Superintendent

Workshop Objectives



Convene user groups, researchers, and Sanctuary managers to discuss and clarify interests, research needs, and policies surrounding the use of artificial habitats in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary:

1. Review history of artificial habitat use in FKNMS.
2. Define the purpose of artificial habitat use in FKNMS.
3. Review science and identify remaining research and management needs.
4. Discuss and identify next steps to:
 - Clarify the permit process and improve permit compliance
 - Identify and address funding and liability issues

Workshop Invitees



Potential Sectors / Areas of Expertise to Include:

- Advisory Council members
- Federal and State Agency representatives
- Local and County Agency representatives
- Non-Governmental Organization representatives
- Artificial reef/habitat managers
- Scientists – natural and social
- Recreational and charter fishers
- Divers
- Economists
- Other?

How to keep engaged and where to find more information:

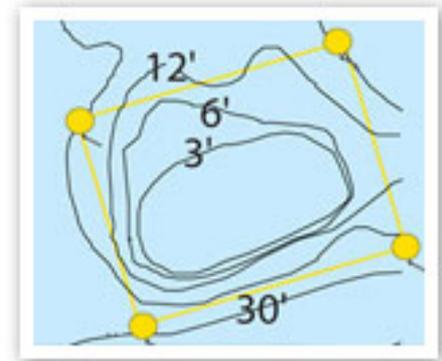


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Contact your Sanctuary Advisory Council Member:
<http://floridakeys.noaa.gov/sac/members.html?s=sac>

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