

Monroe County
Proposed Boating Restricted Area,
Rule 68D-24.144, F.A.C.



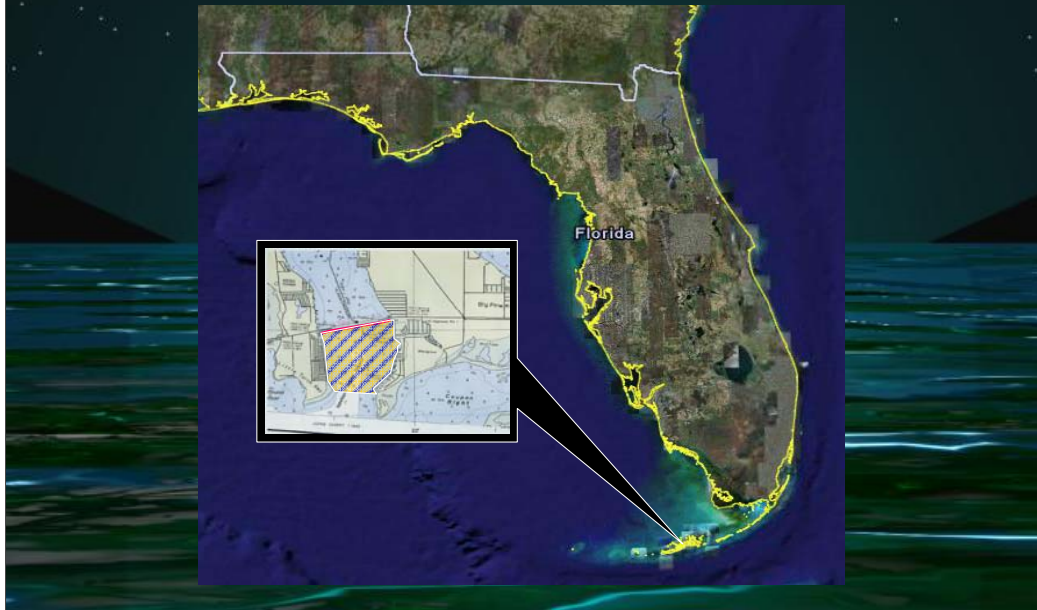
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Division of Law Enforcement
Major Paul Ouellette (10-16-2006)

Introduction

The Monroe County Commission and Utility Board of the City of Key West passed resolutions petitioning the FWC to initiate rulemaking creating a "No Anchoring" zone for sailboats and other vessels with masts in the area between Pine and Little Torch Key south of US 1.

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This picture denotes the proposed "No Anchor" zone requested by Monroe County.

The distance from the US 1 bridge south to the termination of the zone is approximately 1 mile and would encompass the entire hashed area.

A provision was also provided should the overhead power lines be removed the zone would no longer be in force or effect.

The magenta line is representative of the location of the Keys Energy Overhead Power Line which runs parallel and approximately 1000 feet from the south side of US 1.

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Stakeholder Comment:

- ☞ A workshop was held in Marathon with 11 people in attendance with a majority of the participants in support of a proposed "No Anchoring" rule.
- ☞ We consulted with U. S. Coast Guard, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Keys Energy Power Company
- ☞ Endorsed by the Florida National Marine Sanctuary

A "No Anchoring" proposal was presented at the public workshop in Marathon on July 26.

Private citizen participation consisted of 11 people along with Monroe County government, power company representatives, USCG, and FWC staff.

Of the seven people that provided comment on the proposal, 3 were opposed and 4 were in support of the rule. One person believed we did not have the authority to promulgate this proposed action. One person recommended establishing a mooring field, and another person believed the proposal would not solve the problem.

Staff also consulted and coordinated with the United States Coast Guard, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and the Keys Energy Service. All are in agreement with this proposal.

A notice of proposed rule appeared in the Florida Administrative Weekly on October 27, 2006. A copy of the notice of proposed rule was transmitted to our stakeholders and comments were requested.

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Staff requests Commission to approve adoption of Rule 68D-24.144.

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Any Questions?