

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT

FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY 15 C.F.R. Part 922, Subpart P

VIOLATION	VIOLATION HISTORY -- PENALTY AMOUNT		
	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary			
Anchoring a vessel on coral other than hard bottom in water depths less than 40 feet	Verbal Warning/ Written Warning - \$150	Written Warning - \$300	\$300+
Operating a vessel in a manner which unreasonably or unnecessarily endangers life, limb, marine resources, or property	Determine penalty on a case-by-case basis	Determine penalty on a case-by-case basis	Determine penalty on a case-by-case basis
Operating a vessel at a speed greater than 4 knots or in a manner which creates a wake in designated areas	Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500
Damage or removal of markers	Written Warning - \$2,000	\$2,000 - \$4,000	\$4,000+
Moving, removing, taking, harvesting, damaging, disturbing, breaking, cutting, or otherwise injuring, or possessing (regardless of where taken from) any living or dead coral, or coral formation, or attempting any of these activities, except as permitted by regulation	Written Warning - \$5,000	\$100 - \$20,000	\$500+

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VIOLATION	VIOLATION HISTORY -- PENALTY AMOUNT		
	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
Operating a vessel in such a manner as to strike or otherwise injure coral, seagrass, or any other immobile organism attached to the seabed	Written Warning - \$5,000	\$500 - \$50,000	\$2,500+
Discharge or deposit of materials or other matter except as authorized	Written Warning - \$25,000	\$500 - \$50,000	\$2,500+
Release of exotic species	Written Warning - \$25,000	\$500 - \$50,000	\$2,500+
Drilling into, dredging, or otherwise altering the seabed of the Sanctuary, or engaging in prop dredging; or constructing, placing or abandoning any structure, material, or other matter on the seabed of the Sanctuary	Written Warning - \$25,000+	\$50,000 +	Statutory Max.

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Harvesting, or attempting to harvest, any live rock from the Sanctuary, or possessing (regardless of where taken from) any live rock within the Sanctuary, except as authorized by a permit for the possession or harvest from aquaculture operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone	\$1,500 - \$10,000 Permit Sanction: 0-30 days	\$3,000 - \$20,000 Permit Sanction: 45 - 60 days	\$5,000+ Permit Sanction: 60-90 days/revoke
Possession or use of explosives or electrical charges	\$3,000 - \$10,000 Permit Sanction: 0-30 days	\$5,000 - \$20,000 Permit Sanction: 45 - 60 days	\$10,000+ Permit Sanction: 60-90 days/ revoke
Movement of, removal of, injury to, or possession of Sanctuary historical resources	\$500+	\$5,000+	\$10,000+
Exploring for, developing, or producing minerals or hydrocarbons within the Sanctuary	\$25,000 - \$109,000	\$50,000 - \$109,000	Statutory Max.
Interference with law enforcement	Refer to Magnuson Stevens Act Domestic Penalty Schedule		

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Operating a vessel in such a manner as to injure, take or cause disturbance to wading, roosting, or nesting birds or marine mammals	Marine mammals - refer to MMPA penalty schedule. Birds - refer case to DOI		
Take or possession of protected wildlife	Endangered or threatened species or marine mammals - refer to ESA and MMPA penalty schedules; Birds - refer case to DOI		
Harvest or possession of marine life species except in accordance with Chap. 46-42 of the F.A.C.	Refer case to State		
Areas To Be Avoided			
Operating a tank vessel or a vessel greater than 50 meters in registered length in all areas to be avoided	\$500 - \$10,000	\$2,500 - \$75,000	\$5,000 - Statutory Max.
Existing Management Areas			
Key Largo and Looe Key Management Areas			
Taking any tropical fish	Written Warning - \$1,000	\$250 - \$10,000	\$750+

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Fishing with, carrying or possessing, except while passing through without interruption or for law enforcement purposes: pole spears, air rifles, bows and arrows, slings, Hawaiian slings, rubber powered arbaletes, pneumatic and spring-loaded guns or similar devices known as spearguns	Written Warning - \$3,000	\$500 - \$5,000	\$1,000+
Removing, taking, damaging, harmfully disturbing, breaking, cutting, spearing or similarly injuring any coral or other marine invertebrate, or any plant, soil, rock, or other material, except commercial taking of spiny lobster by hand or by hand gear	Written Warning - \$5,000	\$100 - \$15,000	\$500+
Fishing with wire fish traps, bottom trawls, dredges, fish sleds, or similar vessel-towed or anchored bottom fishing gear or nets	\$500 - \$10,000 Permit Sanction: 0-30 days	\$2,500 - \$20,000 Permit Sanction: 45 - 60 days	\$5,000+ Permit Sanction: 60 - 90 days

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Great White Heron and Key West National Wildlife Refuge Management Areas			
Operating a personal watercraft, operating an airboat, or water skiing except within Township 66 South, Range 29 East, Sections 5, 11, 12 and 14; Township 66 South, Range 28 East, Section 2; Township 67 South, Range 26 East, Sections 16 and 20, all Tallahassee Meridian.	Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500
Wildlife Management Areas			
In idle speed/no wake zone, operating a vessel at a speed greater than idle speed only/no wake.	Verbal Warning/ Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500
In “no-motor” zone, using internal combustion motors or engines for any purposes.	Verbal Warning/ Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500
In “no-access buffer” zone, entering the area by vessel.	Verbal Warning/ Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500

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In those marine portions of any area designated as closed, entering or using the area.	Verbal Warning/ Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500
Ecological Reserves and Sanctuary Preservation Areas			
Touching living or dead coral, including but not limited to, standing on a living or dead coral formation.	Verbal Warning/ Written Warning - \$150	Written Warning - \$300	\$300+
Violate a temporary access restriction.	Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500
Except for catch and release fishing by trolling the Conch Reef, Alligator Reef, Sombrero Reef, and Sand Key SPAs, fishing by any means.	Written Warning - \$5,000	\$100 - \$10,000	\$500+

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Possessing, moving, harvesting, removing, taking, damaging, disturbing, breaking, cutting, spearing, or otherwise injuring any coral, marine invertebrate, fish, bottom formation, algae, seagrass or other living or dead organism, including shells, or attempting any of these activities.	Written Warning - \$5,000	\$100 - \$10,000	\$500+
Discharging or depositing any material or other except cooling water or engine exhaust.	Written Warning - \$25,000	\$500 - \$50,000	\$2,500+
Special-Use Areas			
Enter a Special-Use Area except as authorized.	Written Warning	Written Warning - \$1,000	Written Warning - \$2,500