



Florida Fish  
and Wildlife  
Conservation  
Commission

September 29, 2009

TO: Chairperson, Board of County Commissioners  
County Manager  
Chairperson, City Council  
Mayor  
City Manager

RE: Solicitation of Participants for Mooring Field Pilot Program

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*Managing fish and wildlife  
resources for their long-  
term well-being and the  
benefit of people.*

620 South Meridian Street  
Tallahassee, Florida  
32399-1600  
Voice: (850) 488-4676

Hearing/speech impaired:  
(800) 955-8771 (T)  
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Dear Potential Participants:

The 2009 Legislature directed the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to explore options for regulating the anchoring or mooring of non-liveaboard vessels outside of legally permitted mooring fields. Because your municipality/county currently operates or has applied for permits to operate a permitted mooring field, the FWC is soliciting your partnership in this program.

If your municipality/county is interested in being considered, please send a letter of interest to the letterhead address no later than October 30, 2009. This letter should include a statement of your municipality/county's willingness to collect all necessary data during the study period along with its willingness to engage stakeholders in all aspects of the pilot program. If you have a legally established and permitted mooring field, please complete the enclosed questionnaire. If you are in the process of receiving permits for a mooring field, or believe you can obtain the necessary permits by March 1, 2011, please complete the enclosed questionnaire. Data collection for both existing mooring fields and those engaged in the process must begin no later than March 1, 2010.

The goals of the program are to explore regulatory options that promote public access, enhance navigation safety, protect maritime infrastructure, protect the marine environment, and deter improperly stored abandoned or derelict vessels.

As specified in the law, FWC will coordinate the review of any proposed ordinance with associations or organizations representing vessel owners or operators, the DEP, United States Coast Guard (USCG), applicable Inland Navigation Districts, and your municipality/county government. The FWC will monitor and evaluate the pilot program based on the monthly submission of data from your municipality/county government. The FWC, with the assistance of the municipality/county, will submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and legislative leadership by January 1, 2014.

FWC is directed to select a total of five sites, two (2) locations on the east coast, two (2) locations on the west coast, and one (1) location in Monroe County. A municipality/county that our Commissioners select for participation will be authorized to adopt an ordinance regulating anchoring outside of its mooring field. The five sites must be selected by July 1, 2011.

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The program and associated ordinances will expire on July 1, 2014, unless reenacted by the Legislature.

We appreciate your consideration to partner with us. If interested, please submit your letter of interest no later than October 30, 2009 to: Ms. Tara Alford, Boating and Waterways Section, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399. Any questions on this program can be sent to [anchoring.mooring@myfwc.com](mailto:anchoring.mooring@myfwc.com)

If you require more information about this program, please contact Ms. Alford at 850-410-0656, extension 17169.

Sincerely,

Major Paul R. Ouellette, Section Leader  
Boating and Waterways  
Division of Law Enforcement

/PRO  
Attachments

cc: Mr. Bud Vielhauer, FDEP

Anchoring and Mooring Pilot Program Questionnaire

**9-29-09**

Thank you for your interest in being a part of the Anchoring and Mooring Pilot Program.

This questionnaire is designed to gather data on existing conditions for those municipalities/counties with permitted mooring fields, as well as those who are engaged in the permitting process and whose mooring fields are permitted in time to participate in the project.

If your municipality/county expects to have a permitted mooring field on or before March 1, 2011, please also use this questionnaire and answer as many questions as are applicable at the time of preparing the questionnaire. You will be asked to respond more fully, if necessary, after the mooring field is permitted.

In order to be considered for the anchoring and mooring pilot program, the required information should be provided to FWC by the following dates:

- *LETTER OF INTEREST RECEIVED BY:* **OCTOBER 30, 2009**
  - *DATA COLLECTION BEGINS:* **MARCH 1, 2010**
  - *COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE & FIRST 12 MONTHS OF DATA COLLECTION RECEIVED BY:* **MARCH 1, 2011**
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**A. DEFINITIONS:**

1. "Abandoned Vessel" – A vessel that does not have an identifiable owner and that has been disposed on public property in a wrecked, inoperative, or partially dismantled condition or has no apparent intrinsic value to the rightful owner. The term also includes derelict vessels as defined.
2. "Boating Facility" – A marina, mooring field, or special anchorage area. Special anchorage areas are listed in 33 C.F.R. Part 110, subpart A.
3. "Boating Infrastructure" – The fundamental facilities, systems, services, and installations serving the needs of the resident and transient boating communities within a country or municipality.
4. "Derelict Vessel" – Any vessel that is left, stored, or abandoned:
  - a. In a wrecked, junked, or substantially dismantled condition upon any public waters of this state.
  - b. At any port in this state without the consent of the agency having jurisdiction thereof.
  - c. Docked or grounded at or beached upon the property of another without the consent of the owner of the property.
5. "Live-aboard Vessel" – Any vessel:
  - a. Used solely as a residence and not for navigation,
  - b. Represented as a place of business or a professional or other commercial enterprise, or
  - c. For which a declaration of domicile has been filed pursuant to section 222.17, Florida Statutes.
6. "Marina" – A licensed commercial facility which provides secured public moorings or dry storage for vessels on a leased basis.
7. "Mooring" –
  - a. The act of securing a vessel so that it remains in a particular place by attaching it with ropes or cables to a permanently fixed object such as a dock, a wharf, a piling, the shore, or a mooring buoy.
  - b. The permanently fixed object to which a vessel is secured.
8. "Mooring Buoy" – A buoy serving as a permanently installed fixed mooring point. Mooring buoys are cylindrical or spherical; they are white with a blue horizontal stripe midway between the buoy's top and its waterline. Mooring buoys must

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meet the requirements of 33 C.F.R. § 62.35, Fla. Admin. Code R. 68D-23.109(8), and the United States Coast Guard Aids to Navigation – Technical Manual (COMDTINST M16500.3A).

9. "Mooring Field" – An area of water set aside for the mooring of vessels to mooring buoys. To be a mooring field, the area of water must have delineated boundaries that are marked with permitted uniform waterway markers and must have permitted mooring buoys installed in a planned array. In planning the buoy array, the following must be among the factors taken into consideration: vessel lengths and swing radii; vessel drafts and available water depths; vessel sizes, weights, and wind-loading characteristics; buoy sizes and types; anchor sizes and types; and holding characteristics of the bottom.
10. "NOAA Chartlet" – An 8.5 inch by 11 inch excerpt from a navigation chart published by the National Ocean Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The chart excerpt may be reproduced by color photocopy of printed charts or by printout from digital navigation charts, and may be enlarged or reduced in scale as necessary.
11. "Non-motor Powered Vessel" – A vessel that is equipped with neither motor nor sail and is designed to move only by being towed or manually propelled. (This term does not include vessels with missing or inoperable motors or sails.)
12. "Stored Vessel" – A vessel anchored or moored on waters of the state.
13. "Zone of Impact" – The area of a water body influenced by the placement of a mooring field and/or ordinance regulating anchoring.

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**B. MUNICIPALITY/COUNTY CONTACT INFORMATION:**

1. Municipality/County Name:

2. Please include copies of all local, state and federal permits

a. Florida Department of Environmental Protection Permit

b. United States Coast Guard

c. United States Army Corps of Engineers

d. FWC Uniform Waterway Marker Permit

3. Division/Department:

4. Address/Phone/E-mail:

5. Person responsible for completing this questionnaire:

a. Name and Title:

6. Contact person responsible for Mooring Field Operation Information (*if different from 5.*):

a. Name and Title:

b. Address/Phone/E-mail:

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**C. INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO PERMITTED MOORING FIELD:**

1. When was your mooring field created?
  - a. If engaged in the permitting process, when will it be created?
  
2. Why was your mooring field created?
  
3. Provide copies of agenda items and meeting minutes where creation of the mooring field was discussed and/or approved.
  
4. Provide a copy of your operations manual.
  
5. Provide a copy of your tenant rules.
  
6. Provide a copy of ordinance pertaining to use of the mooring field.
  
7. Provide a copy of any anchoring ordinance within your local government's jurisdiction.
  
8. How and by whom are these ordinances enforced?

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**D. INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO MOORING AREAS:**

1. How many moorings do you have currently permitted? How many of these permitted moorings are installed?
  - a. If engaged in permitting process, how many moorings are you applying for a permit?
  - b. When permitted, how many of the moorings do you anticipate installing immediately?

2. Is there sufficient area to expand your current mooring field?

Yes

No

If yes, do you anticipate doing that?

3. What geographic area does your mooring field service?

Attach one or more NOAA chartlets or chart excerpts and indicate the following:

- a. The geographic area the mooring field services.
- b. Your jurisdictional boundaries.
- c. The areas within one (1) mile where vessels anchor outside of your mooring field.
- d. The "zone of impact" of mooring field.
- e. Public or private marinas by name and location within one (1) mile proximity of your mooring field.
- f. Indicate the boundaries of your mooring field.
- g. Does your mooring field support a public or private marina?
- h. Where do boats anchor in your jurisdiction?

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4. What plans have your municipality/county made for accommodating boaters who want to stay in your area when they find your mooring field full?

5. Explain what factors led to your decision to place the mooring field in its current location. Circle all that apply:

- a. Boats already anchored in this location.
- b. Deter improperly stored, abandoned or derelict vessels.
- c. Only area available to our local government.
- d. We have an adjacent upland facility to support the mooring field site.
- e. To provide a well organized, environmentally sensitive way to serve vessels within your jurisdiction.
- f. Located close to amenities required by boaters.
- g. It fits with facilities close to the proposed mooring site.
- h. Protect the marine environment.
- i. Protect maritime infrastructure.
- j. Enhance navigational safety.
- k. Other (*explain*):

6. When the mooring field was created, what activities were/are occurring and where did the boats anchored there go?

If engaged in the permitting process, where do you believe boats will go? Circle all that apply.

- a. Other jurisdiction (Identify)
- b. Another location in your municipality/county (*identify on NOAA Chartlet*)
- c. Other (identify)
- d. Unknown

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7. Did you or do you believe you will hire any additional employees for the mooring field operation?

Yes                  No

If yes, how many employees?

8. What services are or will be offered on-site by your mooring field? Circle all that apply:

Sewage pump-out at local marina

Mobile sewage pump-out boat

Dinghy dock. What is the capacity of dinghy dock?

On shore restrooms

On shore showers

On shore laundry facilities

Trash collection

Ice

Grocery Store

Restaurant

Fuel Type: Diesel    Gasoline

Boat to ferry vessel occupants between their vessel and shore

Other: *(identify)*

9. What is the nearest distance to shopping and other services from the mooring field?

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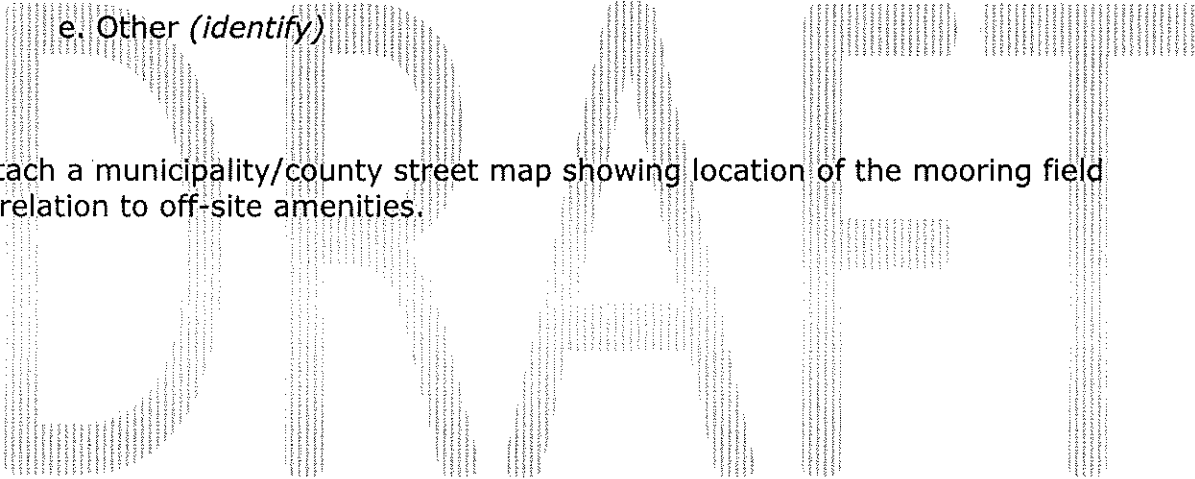
10. Is public transportation from the mooring field to shopping and other services readily accessible?

Yes                      No

If yes what type? Circle all that apply:

- a. Bus
- b. Private transportation (*car rental*)
- c. Taxi
- d. Water Taxi
- e. Other (*identify*)

11. Attach a municipality/county street map showing location of the mooring field in relation to off-site amenities.



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**E. MOORING FIELD FEES:**

1. Is there an adjacent upland marina that supports your mooring field?

Yes                  No

2. What is the rate or proposed rate for mooring in your mooring field?

Daily                  \$

Weekly                \$

Monthly              \$

Annually             \$

3. Does your local government anticipate increasing these rates?

Yes                  No                  N/A

a. If yes, why?

b. How will the increased rate be determined?

c. What will the new rates be?

4. If you charge a fee, how did you determine the fee for using the mooring field? Circle all that apply:

a. Compared it to cost of building a marina slip.

b. It's what we determined to be its value to the boating public.

c. Other (*identify*)

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**F. LEGISLATIVE GOALS OF THE MOORING PILOT PROGRAM:**

- ✓ Encourage the establishment of additional public mooring fields,
- ✓ Develop and test policies and regulatory options that promote the establishment and use of public mooring fields,
- ✓ Promote public access to the waters of the state,
- ✓ Enhance navigational safety,
- ✓ Protect maritime infrastructure,
- ✓ Protect the marine environment and
- ✓ Deter improperly stored, abandoned, or derelict vessels.

1. Please help us understand how your participation in this program will further each of these goals. [Use additional sheet if necessary.]

2. Why should the Commission select your site to participate in this mooring pilot program? [Use additional sheet if necessary.]

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**G. CERTIFICATION OF INTEREST:**

By applying for acceptance into this pilot program, the municipality/county acknowledges the statutory requirements to work with FWC to accomplish the goals within this questionnaire. In addition, the municipality/county understands it must coordinate the review of any proposed ordinance with FWC, associations, or other organizations representing vessel owners and operators, and with all interested stakeholders, the United States Coast Guard, Florida Inland Navigation District and/or the West Coast Inland Navigation District.

The municipality/county agrees to submit required data via electronic mail or facsimile to [anchoring.mooring@myfwc.com](mailto:anchoring.mooring@myfwc.com) same day of each month as required in the application.

**NAME OF INDIVIDUAL COMPLETING QUESTIONNAIRE:**

**SIGNATURE OF INDIVIDUAL COMPLETING QUESTIONNAIRE:**

**AUTHORITY TO COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE GIVEN BY:**

**DATE:**

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**H. CHECK LIST OF ATTACHMENTS FOR QUESTIONNAIRE:**

1. State, Federal and Local Permits.
2. Mooring field operational management plan.
3. Mooring field tenant rules and regulations.
4. Mooring field rates.
5. Applicable ordinance(s).
6. NOAA chartlet of area into which mooring field could be expanded.
7. NOAA chartlet for mooring field service area.
8. NOAA chartlet for jurisdictional boundaries of your municipality/county.
9. NOAA chartlet showing the areas served by existing or proposed mooring field.
10. NOAA chartlet showing the area of the proposed new ordinance.
11. NOAA chart for "zone of impact" of mooring field.
12. NOAA chart showing mooring field and marina(s) in the area.
13. Map of municipality showing location of mooring field in relation to on-land amenities.
14. NOAA chartlet showing the area of the proposed new ordinance.
15. NOAA chartlet showing area into which mooring field might/will be expanded.
16. NOAA chartlet showing where boats can anchor in your jurisdiction.
17. NOAA chartlet showing where boats may go if anchoring restrictions were approved.
18. Twelve consecutive month data survey of boats in mooring field (summarized on survey).
19. Twelve consecutive month data survey of anchored boats (summarized on survey).

**I. SURVEY OF VESSEL TYPE CURRENTLY ON YOUR MOORINGS OR IN THE AREA OF YOUR PROPOSED MOORING:**

The purpose of this survey is to obtain and analyze data prior to full implementation of any regulatory option. This will assist us with making recommendations (what worked and what didn't) to the Governor and Legislative Leadership.

Please send this data to: Ms. Tara Alford, FWC, Boating and Waterways Section, Division of Law Enforcement, via electronic mail to [anchoring.moorings@myfwc.com](mailto:anchoring.moorings@myfwc.com) no later than the last business day of the month in which data is collected.

**DATA COLLECTION MUST BEGIN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2010  
AND CONTINUE FOR 12 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS,  
WITH DATA GATHERED ON THE SAME DAY OF EACH CONSECUTIVE MONTH**

Copy this sheet and use for months 1 through 12

SUMMARIZE THE <b>VESSEL TYPE CURRENTLY ON YOUR MOORINGS OR IN THE AREA OF YOUR PROPOSED MOORING</b> GATHER THIS DATA ON THE SAME DAY OF EACH MONTH						
12 Month Summary	Date Data Collected	Florida Registration	Foreign Registration	Other State Registration	Port of Call	Unknown
Stored Boats - Power						
Stored Boats - Sail						
Transient Cruiser - Power						
Transient Cruiser - Sail						
Liveaboard - Power						
Liveaboard - Sail						
Liveaboard - Domicile						

**J. SURVEY OF TYPE & QUANTITY OF VESSELS ANCHORED UP TO 1 MILE OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARY OF YOUR MOORING FIELD(S):**

The purpose of this survey is to explore types of vessels that are using the waters within the area of up to one (1) mile outside your mooring field.

Please send this data to: Ms. Tara Alford, FWC, Boating and Waterways Section, Division of Law Enforcement, via electronic mail to [anchoring.mooring@myfwc.com](mailto:anchoring.mooring@myfwc.com) no later than the last business day of the month in which data is collected.

**DATA COLLECTION MUST BEGIN NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 2010  
AND CONTINUE FOR 12 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS,  
WITH DATA GATHERED ON THE SAME DAY OF EACH CONSECUTIVE MONTH**

*Copy this sheet and use for months 1 through 12*

SUMMARIZE AND SHOW TYPES & QUANTITY OF EACH TYPE VESSEL ANCHORED UP TO 1 MILE OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARY OF YOUR MOORING FIELD(S) GATHER THIS DATA ON THE SAME DAY OF EACH MONTH						
12 Month Summary	Date Data Collected	Florida Registration	Foreign Registration	Other State Registration	Port of Call	Unknown
Stored Boats - Power						
Stored Boats - Sail						
Transient Cruiser - Power						
Transient Cruiser - Sail						
Liveaboard - Power						
Liveaboard - Sail						
Liveaboard - Domicile						