

HB 1423

Signed by Governor May 28, 2009

Effective July 1, 2009

Preservation of Seagrasses

A person operating a vessel outside a lawfully marked channel in a careless manner that causes seagrass scarring within an aquatic preserve commits a noncriminal infraction, punishable as provided in s. 327.73. Each violation is a separate offense.

Any violation shall be charged on a uniform boating citation.

\$50-first offense, \$250-2nd, \$500-3rd, \$1000-4th

Boating Safety ID Cards

A person born on or after January 1, 1988 may not operate a vessel powered by a motor of 10 horsepower or greater unless such person has in his/her possession aboard the vessel photographic identification and a boater safety identification card issued by the commission

A person who operates a vessel in violation of this section commits a noncriminal infraction

Boating Restricted Areas

Municipalities and counties have the authority to establish the following boating-restricted areas by ordinance:

An ordinance establishing an idle speed, no wake boating-restricted area, if the area is:

- a. Within 500 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of any boat ramp, hoist, marine railway, or other launching or landing facility available for use by the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width.

Boating Restricted Areas

Municipalities and counties have the authority to establish the following boating-restricted areas by ordinance:

An ordinance establishing an idle speed, no wake boating-restricted area, if the area is:

- b. Within 500 feet of fuel pumps or dispensers at any marine fueling facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways more than 300 feet in width or within 300 feet of the fuel pumps or dispensers at any licensed terminal facility that sells motor fuel to the general boating public on waterways not exceeding 300 feet in width.
- c. Inside or within 300 feet of any lock structure.

Boating Restricted Areas

Municipalities and counties have the authority to establish the following boating-restricted areas by ordinance:

An ordinance establishing a slow speed, minimum wake boating-restricted area if the area is:

- a. Within 300 feet of any bridge fender system.
- b. Within 300 feet of any bridge span presenting a vertical clearance of less than 25 feet or a horizontal clearance of less than 100 feet.
- c. On a creek, stream, canal, or similar linear waterway if the waterway is less than 75 feet in width from shoreline to shoreline.
- d. On a lake or pond of less than 10 acres in total surface area.

Boating Restricted Areas

Municipalities and counties have the authority to establish the following boating-restricted areas by ordinance:

An ordinance establishing a vessel-exclusion zone if the area is:

- a. Designated as a public bathing beach or swim area. 598
- b. Within 300 feet of a dam, spillway, or flood control 599 structure.

Also-

If the area is reserved exclusively as a canoe trail or otherwise limited to vessels under oars or under sail, or for a particular activity and user group separation must be imposed to protect the safety of those participating in such activity.

Boating Restricted Areas

678

...a county or municipality shall not enact, continue in effect, or enforce any ordinance or local regulation:

- (c) Regulating any vessel upon the Florida Intracoastal Waterway;
- (f) Regulating the anchoring of vessels other than live-aboard vessels outside the marked boundaries of mooring fields permitted as provided in s. 327.40;

Certificate of Title Required

919

Each vessel that is operated, used, or stored on the waters of this state must be titled & registered by this state pursuant to this chapter

Anchoring/Mooring Pilot Program

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, is directed to establish a pilot program to explore potential options for regulating the anchoring or mooring of non-live-aboard vessels outside the marked boundaries of public mooring fields.