

**EXCERPT FROM DRAFT MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2009 MEETING OF THE
FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION
August 18, 2009**

Whereas the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) is widely recognized as the aquatic jewel of the Southeast United States, and

Whereas the FKNMS's superintendent, staff and Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) are charged with maintaining and improving the marine habitat along with improving the visitor experience and balancing local economic impacts, and

Whereas the FKNMS has long managed this resource by adaptive management and marine spatial planning with the help and assistance of many other federal and state agencies and partners, and

Whereas one of these partners over the past decade, Florida Institute of Oceanography and the SEAKEYS program has worked with the FKNMS and NOAA staff with furnishing information and data from their offshore buoy and fixed monitoring stations that has been indispensable for safety, science and local economy, and

Whereas at the present time there appears to be no funding available to allow Florida Institute of Oceanography to continue the SEAKEYS monitoring system.

Therefore, be it resolved, the Advisory Council of the FKNMS recommends the superintendent of the FKNMS seeks funding for this all too important program by whatever method and means might be available to him, including, but not limited to requesting assistance of the Director of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, Mr. Dan Basta, and NOAA Administrator, Dr. Jane Lubchenco.

Passed unanimously on this date: August 18, 2009.

The Council is an advisory body to the sanctuary superintendent. The opinions and findings of this publication do not necessarily reflect the position of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.