Our Biscayne Bay is more than a body of water. It is an ever-improving, nurturing ecosystem, a canvas for the moon’s reflections, a vista to soothe our meditations, a sound stage for the sweet songs of tropical breezes. It is a mirror image of south Florida. For like south Florida, Biscayne Bay represents a diversity of life, growing communities and of course, change.

Within the last fifteen years progressive changes have taken place in south Florida and at the same time, substantial progress has been made toward improving the health and general state of our Bay.

This guide is your invitation to become better acquainted with Biscayne Bay and its amenities. Additionally, it suggests what you can do to become more involved in Bay preservation. There is an interdependent relationship that exists between the people of south Florida and Biscayne Bay. But it is not automatic and must never be taken for granted. We must continue to act responsibly in protecting and caring for our living resource.

Remember... **What a difference the Bay makes** in each of our lives and the lives of future generations.

Sincerely,

Harvey Ruvin

Commissioner Harvey Ruvin, Chairman
Biscayne Bay Management Committee
BISCAYNE BAY
YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Prior to the 1900’s, Biscayne Bay was a large, shallow, partially enclosed body of water. With the development of Miami and Miami Beach, north Biscayne Bay (the area north of Rickenbacker Causeway) underwent massive environmental changes.

Since 1890, over 20% of the north Bay area was filled, to be replaced by 30 islands and 6 causeways. Another 20% of the once shallow north Bay was dredged into deeper channels, cuts, waterways and borrow pits to improve navigation and provide fill material. Vast areas of the Bay’s mangroves and marsh communities were destroyed. These plant communities filtered overland runoff, buffered the coast against storm tides and provided nursery grounds for aquatic organisms and wildlife habitats. Dredge and fill activities disrupted the natural bay bottom, degrading water quality and destroying the seagrass bed habitats that supported hundreds of fish and invertebrate species.

Recognizing the need to counteract these substantial losses of the Bay’s resources, the Florida Legislature established the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve in 1974. Also in 1974, the Dade County Commission declared the Bay an “Aquatic Park”. In 1981, the Biscayne Bay Management Committee was created by the Board of County Commissioners. Representatives from all of the major decision-making agencies of government with jurisdiction over the Bay are included in this coordinating body, which oversees the implementation of Biscayne Bay’s Restoration and Enhancement program. The goals of the Restoration and Enhancement Program are to restore, improve and enhance the aesthetic, recreational and ecological values of Biscayne Bay.

Despite past alterations, today Biscayne Bay is host to diverse and dynamic communities of living resources. One can find everything from planktonic plants and animals, seagrasses, pink shrimp, and stone crabs, to brown pelicans, manatees, dolphins and mangrove forests. The wildlife communities are part of one natural system, where each species interacts with or depends upon another. Let us not forget that we too, are part of this natural system, and that Biscayne Bay belongs to all living things.
SETTING SAIL FOR THE 90'S

Biscayne Bay Management Committee Goals

Resource Enhancement

- Continue Biscayne Bay restoration and enhancement projects
- Continue the activities of pollution control officers who work along the Miami River and its watershed
- Expedite removal and proper disposal of contaminated Miami River sediments
- Work with DNR to ensure that saltwater fishing license revenues are used to fund appropriate local resource management programs
- Establish a stormwater utility fee that will fund the elimination of positive outfalls, the maintenance of stormwater systems, and the maintenance dredging of sediments from the Bay's tributaries
- Continue the Bay Artificial Reef Program
- Using the funds provided by the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Act,
  - improve or eliminate the most detrimental stormwater outfalls that empty into the Bay and its tributaries
  - continue the long-term water and sediment quality and bottom community monitoring programs
  - develop a Card Sound management plan
  - identify and eliminate sources of sewage contamination in the Miami River and its tributaries
  - expand the programs to clean up the tributaries and especially the Miami and Little Rivers, that discharge into Biscayne Bay
Resource Protection
- Install markers to protect fragile submerged communities
- Identify and establish special management areas in the Bay
- Identify and mark critical habitats of the West Indian manatee and impose appropriate restrictions on boat speeds and access within such critical habitats
- Establish a marina operating permit
- Increase code enforcement activities along the shoreline
- Establish management zones around the artificial reefs located in State waters

Resource Management
- Develop a manatee protection plan for Dade County
- Streamline permitting processes to encourage environmentally desirable projects while discouraging others
- Seek appointment of a DNR staff person located in Dade County to facilitate coordination of aquatic preserve activities
- Support activities of the Miami River Coordinating Committee

Public Safety
- Maintain and improve navigation aids marking idle-speed and no wake zones along the Intracoastal Waterway and Bay’s tributaries
- Establish a maximum 30mph boat speed limit in Biscayne Bay’s channels
- Increase Marine Patrol presence in the Bay and its tributaries
- Evaluate the necessity to license or more effectively regulate boat and jet ski operators

Public Access and Awareness
- Continue the successful annual BAYMANZA and Bay Cleanup Day events that celebrate the aesthetic, recreational, economic, and natural values of the Bay
- Continue public environmental outreach programs, including workshops, tours, and other activities
- Support an environmental education center that provides all of Dade’s school aged children with “hands-on” exposure to the Bay
- Establish an “adopt an island and shoreline park” program to facilitate year-round Bay and shoreline clean-up

EXPERIENCE BISCAYNE BAY!
Special Guide to Biscayne Bay
Nautical Charts for Biscayne Bay
(available at bait/tackle shops and marine supply stores).
- Chart Numbers: 11467 (September, 1987) and 11451 (April, 1986)
- Local Notice to Mariners-(weekly updates on bridge regulations and obstructions, navigational aids established/discontinued/relocated/changed) - to get on the mailing list write the U.S. Coast Guard at: Seventh Coast Guard District, Aids to Navigation Branch, 51 SE First Avenue, Miami, Florida 33130 (536-5621)

Bay Guides:
(available at bait/tackle shops, marine supply stores, bookstores and newstands)

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS
Marine Patrols . . . . . . . Emergencies, Dial 911
Florida Marine Patrol (FDNR) . . . . . . . . . . . . .325-3346
Florida Marine Patrol Hot Line . . . . . . . . 1-800-DIAL-FMP
Coral Gables Marine Patrol . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .442-2300
Miami Marine Patrol . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .579-6910
Miami Beach Marine Patrol . . . . . . . . . . . . .673-7959
Metro-Dade Marine Patrol
(Pelican Harbor) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . North 757-8567
(Matheson Hammock) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Central 667-3886
(Black Point) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . South 258-3886
Metro-Dade Police Department . . . . . . . . . . . . .595-6263
U.S. Coast Guard (District Office) . . . . . . . . . . . .536-5611
Marine Emergency . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 535-4314,5
Search and Rescue . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .535-4314,5
U.S. Customs (Seaport Office) . . . . . . . . . . . . .536-5261
Recompression Chamber . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .361-4224
National Weather Service
(24 hour recording) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .661-5065
(24 hour service) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .665-0429
Biscayne National Park Rangers . . . . . . . . . . . . .247-PARK
DERM Pollution Hot Line . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .375-DERM
WHERE TO RENT A BOAT

Note: (P) = Powerboats (S) = Sailboats (C) = Catamarans (W) = Windsurfers (K) = Canoes

NORTH BAY
(P) — Action Bay Marine ............... 945-BOAT
100 Sunny Isles Boulevard
(P) — Beach Boat Rentals ............... 534-4307
2380 Collins Avenue
(P) — Club Nautilco of Miami Beach
300 Alton Road ............... 673-2502
[Miami Beach Marina]
(P) — Sun Splash Boat Rental ............... 374-7611
555 NE 15 Street
[Plaza Venetia Marina]
(W,S,C) — O’Leary Sailing School ............... 865-7245
1819 79 Street Causeway
[Inn on the Bay]

CENTRAL BAY
(S) — Castle Harbor Sailboats ............... 858-3212
Dinner Key Marina
(P) — Club Nautilco of Coconut Grove
2560 South Bayshore Drive ............... 858-6258
[Monty Trainer’s Marina]
(S) — Easy Sailing ............... 858-4001
Dinner Key Marina
(W) — Sailboards Miami ............... 361-SAIL
Rickenbacker Causeway
(W) — A Windsurfing Place ............... 361-1225
3501 Rickenbacker Causeway
[in front of Miami Marine Stadium]
(W,C) — Club Paradise ............... 361-2021
[Sonesta Beach Hotel] ............... ext.7937
(W,S,C) — Miami Sailing School, Inc. ............... 858-1130
Dinner Key Marina Pier 7, Slip 37
(W,S,C) — Adventurers Yacht & Sailing
2480 South Bayshore ............... 854-3330
[next to Kennedy Park]
(W,S,P) — Tom Collins Yacht Charter
400 S Hibiscus Drive ............... 255-2222
(W) — Sea Windsurfing ............... 271-0863
9610 Old Cutler (Matheson Hammock)

SOUTH BAY
(K) — Biscayne Aqua Center ............... 247-2400
East end of S.W. 328 Street
[Biscayne Park Headquarters]
SAILING CLASSES

- Broward Community College
  Central Campus ............... 1-475-6600
  - Coconut Grove Sailing Club . 444-4571
    (Adult and Advanced Children’s Pram)
  - Miami Yacht Club ............. 377-9877
    (Adult Sailing and Children’s Pram)
  - Miami-Dade Community
    College .................. 347-2140
  - Miami Sailing School ....... 858-1130
  - O’Leary Sailing School ...... 865-SAIL
  - Adventurers Yacht & Sailing .... 854-3330
  - Florida Yacht Charters ........ 532-8600
    (Adult Cruising) ....... or 1-800-537-0050

BOATING SKILLS CLASSES

- U.S. Power Squadrons and U.S. Coast Guard
  Auxiliary Boating Hot Line .... 1-800-336-BOAT
  (Boating Safety Courses)
- Broward Community College ... 1-475-6600
  Central Campus
  (Motorboat License Prep,Celestial
  Navigation, Basic Local Navigation)
BOAT BUILDING CLASSES
- Merrick Education Center .......... 448-1639
  39 Zamora Avenue, Coral Gables

SWIMMING CLASSES
- Miami-Dade Community .......... 347-2161
  College-Continuing Ed. Dept.
- Dick Cutrerza School .......... 361-5441
- Stingray Swim Club .......... 386-8835
- Swim Gym .................. 444-5968
- Gulliver Swimming .......... 596-0949
- Michael Ann Russell JCC .......... 932-4200
- At a public pool in your area call:
  - Metro-Dade Parks ............. 666-5885
    (Special Activities Office)
  - Dade County Chapter of the .. 326-8888
    American Red Cross
  - The YMCA Dade Office .......... 576-9622

SIGHTSEEING BOAT TOURS
- Biscayne National Park Boat Tours .... 247-2400
  Homestead Bayfront Park-North Side
  - Reef Rover III
  - Offshore Island
  - Picnic Tours (seasonal)
  - Reef Rover IV-Glassbottom Boat Tours
- Tropic Sailing Cruises
  Bayside Market Place/Miamarina .. 888-3002
- Island Queen .................. 379-5119
  400 SE 2nd Avenue (Hyatt Dock)
  5 Street, E. Biscayne Blvd. (Bayside Dock)
- Nikko-Gold Coast Cruises .......... 945-5462
  10880 Collins Avenue
  (Haulover Park Marina)
- Show Queen Dinner Cruises .......... 361-9418
  4400 Rickenbacker Causeway
  (Crandon Marina)

WATERFRONT PARKS

For the location of the closest waterfront parks
and facilities, call:

Metro-Dade Park and Recreation Department
(Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00pm)
- North Div. (Flagler St. North) .... 556-0477
- Central (Key Biscayne) .......... 662-3824
- South Div. (Flagler South) ....... 223-7070
- Office of Public Information .... 579-2676
**SHORELINE RESTAURANTS**

*See the Water While You Eat*

(* = Free Boat Dockage Available)

**NORTH BAY**

- Kokomo's on the Bay* ............ 940-3833
  17201 Biscayne Boulevard
- Lagoon Restaurant and Lounge* .... 947-6661
  488 Sunny Isles Boulevard
- Sunday's On the Bay*             (at Haulover) ............ 945-6065
  10880 Collins Avenue
- Shooters*                        ............ 949-2855
  3969 NE 163 Street
- Mike Gordon Seafood*             Restaurant ............ 751-4429
  1201 NE 79 Street
- The Crab House Seafood Restaurant ............ 868-7085
  1551 79 Street Causeway
- Shuckers                          ............ 865-7100
  1819 79 Street Causeway
- Billy's on the Bay*              ............ 866-9038
  1601 79 Street Causeway
- Bayview Restaurant               ............ 374-3900
  (Biscayne Bay Marriott Hotel)
  1633 North Bayshore Drive
- The Peacock Cafe*                ............ 579-2020
  (Plaza Venetia) 555 NE 15 Street
- Ashley's By the Bay              ............ 373-6000
  (Sheraton Brickell Point)
  495 Brickell Avenue
HOW CAN YOU MAKE WAVES TODAY

DO NOT SPLASH YOUR TRASH!
By Center for Environmental Education, 1988

Plastic debris is more than an unsightly litter problem in Biscayne Bay. Marine animals sometimes confuse plastic items for real food. Ingested plastic can cause internal injury, intestinal blockage or starvation. Seabirds are known to ingest everything from small plastic pellets to plastic lighters. Sea turtles, which are endangered and threatened in south Florida, often mistake plastic bags and sheeting for jellyfish—normal food source. Additionally, thousands of marine animals die every year from entanglement in plastic trash, such as six-pack rings and fishing line. But plastic debris is not just a threat to wildlife. It poses a safety threat to navigation. Plastic debris fouls propellers and clogs seawater intakes and propellers, causing engine failure.

You can help tackle the plastic problem...
- While boating, store trash on board and dispose of it upland
- At the beach and at bayshore parks, place plastic waste in trash facilities and break or cut loops of six-pack holders to ensure that if the ring escapes into the Bay it will not entangle an animal
- At home, do not dispose of plastics in a sewer system
- Observe the new state law which prohibits the release of 10 or more helium filled balloons
- Request paper bags instead of plastic
- Recycle your plastics

KEEP THE WATER FLOWING
Biscayne Bay's water quality rates good to excellent in comparison to other coastal water bodies in south Florida and the United States. Evidence shows that water clarity is improving in portions of the Bay, but there are problems that cannot be seen.
Water contaminants can enter the Bay. Urban runoff carries litter, toxic metals, organic materials, bacteria, oil and grease. Homes and businesses often contribute pesticides and fertilizers to the canals, lakes and water bodies feeding Biscayne Bay. There are a number of things that can be done to help protect water quality.

Here’s what you can do... there’s no time to "waste”

- **DO NOT** allow any discharge of wastes to enter any surface waters, including: cans, bottles, kitchen garbage, waste oils and fuel, solvents, cleaners, sewage, yard trash, fertilizers and pesticides, paper products, paint chips, sandblasting material, swimming pool backwash
- Use the least amount of fertilizer and pesticides as possible on your lawn
- Use and dispose of all paint, solvents, oil, and other hazardous materials properly. **DO NOT** place these in the toilet, the sink or on the ground. These substances can alter the state of the Bay.
- Keep dumpsters away from surface water
- Remove boat from water when making repairs which would cause discharges to enter the water.

![Photo: Florida Department of Natural Resources
West Indian Manatee](image-url)
"WAKE" UP!

No wake zones have been established throughout Biscayne Bay for public safety reasons. Exceeding the idle speed is potentially harmful to you and those around you, but it is also a threat to our environment.

Excessive boat wakes cause mangroves along the bayshore to become undermined and fall. Mangroves are especially important to Biscayne Bay and south Florida because they protect the coast against storm tides and provide habitats and nursery grounds for many aquatic animals. The Bay shoreline, as well as spoil island shorelines, can become severely eroded as a result of excessive boat wake.

In shallow areas of Biscayne Bay, powerful motorboats have scarred the Bay bottom, harming marine vegetation. Speeding boats have hurt and killed marine animals, in particular the endangered West Indian manatee. You can reduce the chances of hurting a manatee while boating by:

- Wearing polarized glasses while operating a boat. This makes it easier to see the "swirling" that occurs when a manatee surfaces for air.
- Stay in the center of marked channels.
- Stay out of seagrasses! Grass beds are prime habitats for manatees. Additionally, the beds are host to numerous aquatic creatures.
- Slow down! Reducing your boat speed gives you greater maneuverability to avoid a manatee when you see one and gives the manatee more time to avoid your boat.

To report manatee deaths, injuries, harassment or radio tagged manatees call the Florida Marine patrol at 1-800-DIAL-FMP.

And to protect all aspects of the Bay, Obey all laws and "WAKE" UP!

There are living things in the Bay, don’t destroy what you can’t see.

* (from: State of Florida Department of Natural Resources)
SAFETY ON THE WATER

Taken from Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats 1988, U.S.CCaste Guard.

KNOW...

- The stability and handling of the boat you are using.
- How to use the equipment on the boat.
- The waters you will be using, tides, currents, sand bars and other hazards.
- The weather conditions.
- The safety devices and emergency equipment; make sure that life jackets fit properly.
- The navigation rules and observe the courtesies of safe boating.
- Your personal limitations and responsibilities; exposure to sun, wind and cold water all affect your ability to react.
- That it is illegal to operate a vessel while intoxicated. If you add alcohol or drugs to boating, the results can be fatal.

...BEFORE YOU GO!

OTHER HELPFUL BOATING TIPS

If you:

- Find an injured Pelican or seabird, contact the Pelican Harbor Seabird Rescue Station at 751-9840.
- Are boating and need assistance, call the Coast Guard on channel 16 (VHF, FM).
- Have a boating accident or medical emergency, radio the Coast Guard on channel 16 or frequency 2182 single side band.
- Need to place a phone call from a boat via VHF radio, hail the marine operator on channel 16.
- Spot an oil spill or pollution in the water, call the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office (MSO) at 536-5691 and 375-DERM.
- Spot a navigational or public health hazard, call the Coast Guard at 535-4314, 5.

- There are sewage pump-out facilities for boaters’ use along the Biscayne Bay shoreline at the following marinas. Please call first to verify that the facilities are operating.

**North Bay**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haulover</td>
<td>947-3525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriot</td>
<td>374-4900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Beach</td>
<td>673-6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunset Harbour</td>
<td>673-0044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterways</td>
<td>935-4295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winston Towers</td>
<td>932-0720</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Central Bay**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crandon Park</td>
<td>361-1281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner Key</td>
<td>579-6980</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**South Bay**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Point</td>
<td>258-4092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homestead Bayfront Park</td>
<td>245-2273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matheson Hammock</td>
<td>661-4010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**THE MOTORBOAT EXCLUSION ZONE**

A Motorboat Exclusion Zone was established by the Dade County Board of County Commissioners. Motorboats and jet-skis are prohibited from operating in this area. The exclusion zone includes all waters within 400 feet of the south side of Rickenbacker Causeway from the West Bridge bulkhead to the William M. Powell Bridge bulkhead and all waters within 400 feet of the Southwest side of Rickenbacker Causeway from the William M. Powell Bridge to the Seaquarium property bulkhead. See the enclosed map for the exact location of this zone.
READY, GET SET, GO!

It's October 7, 1989, the Columbus Day Regatta kicks off watch as a wave of colors sails by you... This event marks the start of BAYANZA '89, the 8th year of this annual, week long celebration of Biscayne Bay, which focuses on the recreational, aesthetic, economic, historic, scientific and environmental values of the Bay. BAYANZA features something for everyone. There are snorkeling and wading tours, bird walks, boat trips, historical ventures, eating excursions and many shoreline sights to see throughout the week. For more information call 662-4124.

Endling the celebration with a mad splash against trash, Bay Clean-up Day will have thousands of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H members and other community organizations cleaning up Bay islands and shorelines from Greynolds park in North Miami to Homestead Bayfront Park, including the Miami River, the causeways and Biscayne National Park as well. For more information call 375-DERM.

So come on! Get your feet wet!
And celebrate the Bay everyday...
Within Biscayne Bay a treasure goes unseen. Dade County’s Biscayne Bay Restoration and Enhancement Program, coordinated by the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), highlights this living treasure, and brings it to the public by accenting and enriching the Bay’s hidden values and by renewing vulnerable and degraded areas.

In September 1988, the Bay Island Enhancement Project was completed. This project, funded by the Florida Inland Navigation District, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation and Dade County, revitalized a man-made island that was created during construction of the Intercostal Waterway and was part of Christo’s “Surrounded Islands” project. Before the restoration, the island was overgrown in exotic vegetation, suffered with an eroding shoreline and was not easily accessible to boaters. By placing limestone rip-rap around the island, erosion and the resulting cloudy water were minimized; in addition, this provided habitat for various marine animals. Also, after the selective clearing of exotic vegetation, native trees, shrubs and grasses were planted. Lastly, the construction of picnic shelters and a boat dock has helped to provide the public with more water-oriented, recreational activities. The island is located just north of the 79th street causeway. A similar project took place at the second island south of Broad Causeway (near Quayside Condominiums). Both islands will be further enhanced in the coming year.

If you are boating in the area, check it out...it’s there for you.

Other large-scale restoration projects have taken place at:

⊙ Oleta River State Recreation Area (located along Sunny Isles boulevard), where mangrove planters and rip-rap were added
⊙ David Kennedy Park (located in Coconut Grove), where mangrove planters and rip-rap were added, and a boardwalk was constructed
⊙ North Bayshore Park (located at N.E. 123rd Street), where shoreline debris was removed, rip-rap was added, a multi-use pier, which serves as a nature trail and fishing facility was con-
A saltwater fishing license (SFL) will be required beginning January 1, 1990. A license will not be required for:
- those under 16 years old
- Florida residents over 65 years old
- Florida residents fishing in saltwater from land or from a structure fixed to land
- any person fishing from a charter boat that has its own license
- any Florida resident who is member of the armed forces, stationed out of state and home on leave
- any person who has been accepted by the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services for developmental services
- any person who holds a valid Saltwater Products License

An annual license will cost $12.00 for residents and $30.00 for nonresidents. A ten day license for residents will cost $10.00 and a seven day license for nonresidents will cost $15.00. It will also be necessary to have a stamped license if fishing for Snook and/or Crawfish. The cost of each stamp will be $2.00. Funds collected will be used to enhance marine enforcement, research, habitat restoration and environmental education.

For more information contact:
The Florida Marine Patrol
1275 N.E. 79th Street
P.O. Box 381906
Miami, Florida 33138-1906
or call (305) 325-3346 or 1-800-DIAL-FMP
A Saltwater Products License (SPL)
- is required to sell saltwater products. The SPL is also required to harvest or take saltwater products by any of the following methods: trapping crawfish or exceeding the bag limit (also requires crawfish license), trapping blue crabs with more than 6 traps, trapping stone crabs with 1 or more traps, trawling commercially for shrimp, certain sponge fishing and commercial netting of finfish.
- The taking of more than 100 pounds per person, per day of species having no bag limit requires a Saltwater Products License.

Other General Saltwater Fishing Laws
- Use of firearms or explosives in the water to kill food fish is prohibited. Possession of fish damaged by explosives is also prohibited.
- Placing chemicals which are deleterious to fish into marine waters is illegal.
- It is unlawful to take Redfish with live or dead natural bait in conjunction with a treble hook. Snatching prohibited.
- Bonefish and Snook may be taken by hook and line only. Snook may be taken only with a treble hook if artificial lures are used.
- It is unlawful to sell, buy or transport for sale Bonefish, Permit, Snook, Tarpon, Sailfish, Blue Marlin and White Marlin.
- Long lining for Snapper and Grouper is prohibited.
- Snapper, Grouper, and Snook must be landed in whole condition to ensure proper identification and measurement.
- Power netting of Spanish Mackerel is prohibited in Dade County.
- Use of fish traps is prohibited in State waters except as provided in Section 370.1105, F.S. It is unlawful to possess or molest any licensed trap belonging to another.
- Seines and nets may not be used in the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve, except for taking Shrimp and Mullet. Cast nets, bully nets and landing nets are permitted.
- Use of nets exceeding 100 feet in length and 3/8 inch mesh for noncommercial taking of finfish must be registered with the Department of Natural Resources.
- There are minimum lengths, bag limits and/or closed seasons for the following species: Bass (Sea), Billfish, Bluefish, Bonefish, Clams (Hard), Cobia, Flounder, Grouper, Mackeral (King and Spanish), Mullet (Black), Oysters, Permit, Pompano, Redfish, Scallops, Shad, Snapper, Snook, Spiny Lobster (Crawfish), Spotted Sea Trout, Stone Crab, and Tarpon. Please call the Florida Marine Patrol office at 325-3346 or 1-800-DIAL-FMP for the regulations on any of the species listed above.

ADDITIONAL SHELLFISH LAWS

Spiny Lobster (Crawfish)
- Closed Season: April 1 - August 5
- Trapping under license only.
- Lobsters may not be taken at all in Biscayne Bay, the mainland creeks, or the creeks between the islands, south of a theoretical line running from Matheson Hammock to the Cape Florida Lighthouse (see enclosed map of the Biscayne Bay Card Sound Spiny Lobster Sanctuary, or call Biscayne National Park at 247-PARK for details).
- Possession or taking of egg bearing females is prohibited.
- It is illegal to use spears, gigs, grins, lances, hooks or other similar devices which could puncture or crush the lobster shell.
- Any net other than a handheld net is illegal. Simple tail snares and blunt “tickler” sticks are permitted.
- Size limit: carapace (hard shell) must measure more than 3” (from the depression between the horns to rearmost portion of the shell). Legally separated tails must measure 5-1/2 inches.
- Lobsters must be kept whole while being transported on or below the water (do not separate tail from body).
- All divers harvesting lobsters must possess a carapace measuring device, and each measurement shall occur in the water.
- During regular season, the limit is 6 legal-size lobsters daily, per person or 24 per boat, which ever is greater; possession of more than 24 lobsters is illegal unless you have a commercial license.
- During the special two-day sport season (the last full weekend prior to August 1), the limit is 6 legal-size lobsters per person on the first day whether on or off the waters of the state and not more than 12 per person cumulatively for both days once the harvester has landed and departed the waters.

Shrimp
- Non-commercial trawl nets are limited to a corkline measurement of 1/6 feet or less and
must be registered with the Department of Natural Resources.
- Non-commercial possession of shrimp is limited to 25 pounds while on the water.
- A saltwater products license (SPL) is required to take more than 25 pounds of shrimp with a trawl net. Boats trawling for shrimp at night must display a green over white light above the masthead light.

**Blue Crabs**
- It is illegal to use more than five traps for the taking of Blue Crabs without a permit and a Saltwater Products License (SPL) from the Department of Natural Resources.
- Traps may be worked during daylight hours only.
- No egg bearing females may be taken

**Stone Crabs**
- Closed season: May 15 - October 15
- No trapping without a permit and a Saltwater Products License (SPL) from the Department of Natural Resources.
- All crabs must be returned to the water alive after removal of legal-size claw.
- It is illegal to possess a whole (live or dead) stone crab body at any time.
- It is illegal to harvest claws from or possess egg-bearing females.
- It is illegal to use any device which can puncture, crush or injure crab body, such as spears, gigs, grins, grabs, hooks, lances or other similar devices.
- Size limit: forearm must measure at least 2-3/4 in length (from the elbow to the tip of the lower immovable finger).
- Traps may be worked during daylight hours only.

**Queen Conch**
- It is illegal to take, harass, molest, harm, mutilate, possess or transport any Queen conch from the land or waters of the State of Florida.

**Spearfishing**
- Spearfishing is unlawful in any body of water under the jurisdiction of the Division of Recreation and Parks of the Florida Department of Natural Resources. Possession of spearfishing equipment is also prohibited in these areas.
- It is illegal to spearfish in all saltwaters and saltwater tributaries:
- within 100 yards of all public bathing beaches, commercial or public fishing piers, bridges and causeways where public fishing is permitted.
• within 100 feet of any jetty except along the last 500 yards of a jetty extending more than 1,500 yards from the shoreline.
• for the taking of any species where taking by spear is prohibited (such as Spiny Lobster and Stone Crab).
  – In Biscayne National Park, spearfishing must conform to the State of Florida regulations.
  – “Divers Down” flag must always be displayed.
  – The taking of fish by spearfishing is limited to the same bag and other limits set forth by the Florida statutes for other sport fishermen.

OTHER INFORMATION
• All saltwater fishing regulations are under the direction of the Florida Department of Natural Resources, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida. The rules and regulations for saltwater sport fishing do change. Call the Florida Marine Patrol at 325-3346 for up-to-date and detailed local information.
• It is illegal to annoy, molest, take, injure or kill manatees, sea turtles or their nests, and porpoises. It is unlawful to destroy, cause to be destroyed, sell, offer for sale or transfer any marine turtle, nest or egg. Marine turtles accidentally caught must be returned alive to the water immediately. All marine mammals are also protected by Federal law. If any marine mammal or turtle is found injured, beached or dead, report it to the Florida Marine Patrol at 325-3346.
• It is illegal to take, possess or destroy sea fans, hard corals or fire corals.
• If you observe any violation of the marine fishery laws, please call the FLORIDA MARINE PATROL HOTLINE, toll free 1-800-DIAL-FMP.
STATE OF THE BAY 1989-90
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
BISCAYNE BAY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
SPECIAL GUIDE TO BISCAYNE BAY

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Notes:
All of the information contained in the Bay Guide has been verified prior to publication. The County cannot, however, assume responsibility for any errors, changes or omissions. If you have any additional information regarding Biscayne Bay, call Metro-Dade Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) at 375-DERM.