

Monroe County Hurricane Irma Debris Removal Updates WQPP Canal Restoration Advisory Subcommittee Meeting – February 23, 2018



Rhonda Haag
Monroe County



Trey Fuzzell
DRC



MARINE AND VESSEL DEBRIS REMOVAL MOU

Unincorporated Monroe County

- FDEP and Monroe County executed an MOU on February 6 for removal of marine debris in private and public waterways
- Focus on Canals
- Separate MOU's for Marathon and Islamorada
- FDEP issued PO's with DRC and Tetra Tech to start the removal



MARINE AND VESSEL DEBRIS REMOVAL MOU

Unincorporated Monroe County

- FEMA only reimburses for removal / disposal of debris for navigation hazards
 - Normally 2 feet below the low-tide draft of largest vessel
 - FEMA agreed to an average depth of 5 deepest draft vessels instead
 - Waiting for FEMA to accept the the average 14.72 feet



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Rick Scott
Governor

Carlos Lopez-Cantera
Lt. Governor

Noah Valenstein
Secretary

February 14, 2018

Carter Mack
State Public Assistance Officer
Florida Division of Emergency Management
Carter.mack@em.myflorida.com

Dear Mr. Mack:

Pursuant to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide 2.0 (2018), applicants for Public Assistance dollars are legally responsible only to the "maximum depth of 2 feet below the low-tide draft of the largest vessel that utilized the waterway prior to the incident." Therefore, for purposes of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection ("the State"), chooses to not go beyond this limitation for its mutual aid agreements with Monroe County and those with the individual municipalities within Monroe County.

Furthermore, because of the numerous waterways that need to be cleaned up and the lack of data on each waterway concerning which vessels, it is impossible to carry out this maximum depth analysis for each waterway the State will clean-up in accordance with FEMA instructions. Therefore, upon consultation with FEMA's lead legal advisor, Michael C. Hill, the State proposed an alternative measurement to be used. This alternative measurement documents with identification numbers and photographs five (5) of the deepest-draft vessels within the given jurisdiction and then averages their depth. This average of the deepest-draft vessels is then added to the two (2) foot provision in the rule to determine the depth that FEMA will reimburse for the given jurisdiction's waterway clean-up operations.

In light of these new instructions and calculations, Monroe County has compiled a list of the five (5) vessels, their identification information, and photographs for the purposes of this calculation. It has been attached to this letter as Exhibit A. Additionally, the calculations of these vessel's depths and the two (2) foot addition have been summarized in the table below.

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- ▶ Debris removal activities began on February 16, 2018 in the Avenues of Big Pine Key
- ▶ Former Big Pine Prison site being used as a temporary debris management area
 - ▶ Coordination with DEP on environmental monitoring

