



FIO Reactivation of Research and Educational Activities Post-COVID19 Crisis

Revised January 2022

FIO Operations: Keys Marine Laboratory Phase III Reopening Guidelines Summary

Dr. Monty Graham, FIO Director

This is a summarized guideline meant to outline the return to full operations at Keys Marine Laboratory for all research and education activities. The following COVID-19 precautions are supplementary to the FIO Operational Guidelines. The Infection Control Advisory Committee (ICAC) will advise FIO on matters relating to maintaining a safe working environment during this phase of operations.

FIO is committed to providing our staff and members of the visiting parties with a safe and healthy environment. The guidelines provided herein will, with your cooperation and participation, greatly enhance our ability to safely complete critical research and student instructional activities.

General responsibilities of all FIO staff, visiting scientists and students:

- Any visiting party member with a newly diagnosed COVID infection **MUST** report this to FIO management and the ICAC within 24 hours to facilitate timely contact tracing within FIO.
- If fully vaccinated, properly worn masks or face coverings are not required indoors or outdoors but are encouraged (or as directed by USF policies) to help prevent viral transmission.
- Adhere to CDC recommended social distancing and hygiene practices to the greatest extent possible.
- Stay home when sick, or if exposed to COVID-19 (COVID-positive household member), or if diagnosed with COVID-19 by Doctor or PCR test. Under no circumstances should a visiting party arrive on site with the possibility of a SARS-CoV-2 patient. If symptoms of COVID -19 develop the activity will be terminated.
- Each member of the visiting party shall assist and play an active role with the cleaning/safety team to support increased environmental disinfection and monitor for soiled areas that require cleaning.
- Each member of the visiting party shall encourage social distancing guidelines and the use of facial coverings as recommended.

FIO at Keys Marine Laboratory

COVID-19 Timeline

January 2022

- *modified KML Phase III: full capacity with precautions*

28 June 2021 to December 2021

- *KML Phase III COVID Reopening Plan: Resumption of All Operations (USF Summer B Session).*

13 May 2021

- *The CDC announced they no longer recommend face coverings indoors or outdoors for fully vaccinated individuals. Face coverings are recommended for those not fully vaccinated.*

01 October 2020

- *KML Phase II COVID Reopening Plan: Return to Near-Normal Operations with Ongoing Restrictions*

10 July 2020

- *KML Phase I COVID Reopening Plan: Resumption of Limited Field Operations*

01 June 2020

- *Monroe County and US 1 reopened to visitors.*

20 March 2020

- *Monroe County closed to all visitors, including barricades and check points on US 1.*

13 March 2020

- *Emergency closure: Keys Marine Laboratory (KML) closed under 'safer at home' directives, to all visiting research and education groups.*
- *KML staff implemented rotating schedules to maintain this FIO asset while minimizing staff contact, with the remainder of staff working from home.*

Phase III: Resumption of All Operations with Ongoing Monitoring and Precautions

KML will return to full operational status with 100% capacity in dorms and on vessels. Phase III will focus on activities that meet the below criteria based upon FIO risk assessment.

Mission or Activity Selection

- Routine research and educational activities will be permitted with caution.
- Foreign travel will require additional risk assessment by FIO Director & ICAC.

Health Screening for Dorm Use or Daily Access (regardless of vaccination status)

- Contact us for our current policies regarding COVID-19 testing, masking and social distancing.

- For all KML guests, health monitoring will take place upon arrival at KML and logged twice daily by KML staff (am & pm) throughout the duration of their stay.
- Health Status Survey completed 24-hours prior to arrival.
- No access to KML property without prior approval.
- Daily temperature & health status checks.
- Daily Access groups (not staying in dorms)
 - Call or Text KML staff prior to arrival each day

COVID-19 Illness Contingency Plan (all groups staying on site)

- Group leader/PI must submit COVID Illness Contingency Plan for review and approval prior to confirmation of visit (page 2 of Health Status Survey)

Personal Protective Equipment

- Refer to current CDC guidelines & USF Campus policies
- If fully vaccinated, properly worn masks or face coverings are not required indoors or outdoors but are encouraged (or as directed by USF policies)
- Face coverings are recommended for those not fully vaccinated.
 - When indoors
 - If proper social distancing cannot be maintained outdoors
- Social distancing – six (6) feet is encouraged between all individuals.
- Frequent hand washing or use of hand sanitizer is recommended.

Onsite at KML field station

- Dormitories at full capacity
 - multiple groups may be booked within each dorm
- Continued attention to hand-washing and sanitizing practices
- Common areas and shared spaces (Dry Labs, Classroom, Offices, etc)
 - Social distancing & use of face masks recommended (or as directed by USF policies)

Cleaning

- Normal contact with routine cleaning procedures in place
- Continued attention to hand-washing and sanitizing practices.
- Each group will be responsible for maintaining cleanliness of their housing unit while on site

Vessels and Scientific Diving

- Vessels – resume normal operations
- Scientific Diving – resume normal operations
 - If you have tested COVID-positive you must submit an updated and approved diving medical evaluation

Suspected COVID-19 Illness at KML

- Report to Group Leader/PI and KML staff immediately

- All group activities will be terminated
- Follow direction provided by USF Covid-19 Task Force
 - Isolate sick person(s)
- Follow your COVID-19 Illness Contingency Plan
- The group will be sent home to self-isolate.
- FIO/KML Leadership & ICAC will determine what other groups may also be required to leave and self-isolate at home, based on inter-group contact.
- KML Staff testing and/or self-isolation based on contact with the group or person of concern
- Possible closure of KML and cancellation of pending groups

KML Capacity Considerations

KML Dormitory capacity:

KML Dormitories (1 group/kitchen)	kitchens	bathrooms	Total capacity	Phase III bed capacity		
				room 1	room 2	room 3
Admin Dorm	1	2	16	8	4	2
Marina Dorm	1	1.5	8	8	na	na
Bay House	1	2	6	4	2	na

KML Field Lab capacity:

KLM Labs common space	bench space: 3 ¹ /person			Phase III total capacity
	bench-1	bench-2	bench-3	
Dry Lab: main	8	4	3	15
Lab 1: walk-thru	6	2	na	8
Lab 2: wet-dry	3	2	na	5
Classroom	na	na	na	30

KML Vessel capacity:

KML vessels (no enclosed cabins)		operating capacity Phase III	
		Snorkeling	diving
30' Island Hopper	Diodon 2 captains	22	10
25' Parker	Opah 1 captain	8	5
25' Parker	Mola 1 captain	8	5
18' Parker	Nari 1 captain	4	2