

Diving at the Keys Marine Lab

KML Administrative Requirements for Scientific Diving

For any dive-related activity involving the use of Keys Marine Lab property (this includes but is not limited to diving from KML shores, off KML vessels, the use of KML Scuba equipment, and any air fills obtained at KML) the divers must dive under the auspices of an AAUS Organization Member's (OM) Scientific Diving program and be approved to dive with KML through the University of South Florida/Florida Institute of Oceanography (USF/FIO) Scientific Diving Safety Office.

Divers under the auspices of an AAUS OM Scientific Diving Program must have their program's DSO send a current Letter of Reciprocity (LOR) and a Release & Waiver of Liability for each diver wishing to participate in the dives, as well as a completed Dive Plan for approval. The DSO **MUST** use the supplied USF/KML LOR forms as well as the USF/KML Dive Plan form. **ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPEDITION.**

All LOR's, Release & Waiver of Liability, and Dive Plans must be submitted to both the KML as well as the USF/FIO DSO. A new LOR for each diver, as well as a new dive plan, is required for each visit to the KML.

All visiting divers are required to comply with the diving regulations set forth in the [USF Standards for Scientific Diving Manual](#).

KML Air Management Policy for Scientific Diving

Any diver diving under KML's supervision is expected to return to the vessel (or back to shore) with no less than 300 PSI in their scuba cylinder. It is **recommended** that they return with no less than **500 PSI**. KML reserves the right to prohibit a diver from continuing to dive if it is found that the diver has ignored this policy. In addition, both the USF/FIO DSO as well as the participating AAUS OM DSO will be notified of this policy violation. **Any cylinder with less than 100 psi will be subject to additional charges for cylinder inspection.**

For more information on Scientific Diving at KML go to:
<http://www.keysmarinelab.org/diving.html>



Florida Institute of Oceanography
Florida Fish and Wildlife
Conservation Commission