

DATE: _____



Keys Marine Laboratory

68486 Overseas Highway
Long Key, FL 33001-0968
305.664.9101

Self-Captained Vessel Agreement

CUSTOMER NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

BOAT: _____ **13' WHALER** _____ **18' PARKER**

For the consideration of KEYS MARINE LABORATORY (hereinafter "KML") furnishing the undersigned (hereinafter "Captain") with the services and equipment to allow and enable Captain to participate in Self-Captained Boat Use agrees as follows:

1. I agree there will be *no alcoholic beverages* allowed on any KML vessel at any time.
2. I understand that all Operators and Occupants of KML vessels **are required to wear Coast Guard approved PFDs** during operation of KML vessel, including boarding and leaving any vessel. Wearing PFDs is optional while vessel is anchored and motor is turned off.
3. I will file a **KML Float Plan** in the front office prior to each day of intended use. I will notify KML staff upon my safe return to dock each day. If returning after normal business hours or operating the KML vessel on weekends, I will contact pre-designated KML staff upon my safe return to dock.
4. I agree that one member of my team will be designated as 'emergency surface support' and remain topside on the boat at all times during snorkel and dive ops.
5. I will stay in marked channels at all times unless in open water.
6. If I run into shallow water, I will stop the motor immediately and push the boat by hand into deeper water. I understand if I am observed running the motor in the sand, I acknowledge the use is terminated at full rate and without refunds.

7. I understand and agree I am responsible for any damages done to the vessel or motor resulting from improper operation.
8. I understand and agree I will not operate the KML vessel in a reckless manner (ie: bow-riding, excessive speed, boat wakes, dangerous sea conditions, etc.) and I am responsible for the safety of all passengers on board.
9. I will check all required Coast Guard safety equipment.
10. I will return the boat on time and if not, agree to incur additional charges per hour returned after the designated time.
11. I agree that the "safety kill-switch" will be attached to the vessel operator any time the vessel is under way.
12. I understand the vessel must be returned in the same condition it was in upon checkout. I will remove all trash and sampling debris (soap, brush, water will be provided at the dock) or a cleaning fee may be assessed and added to the total charge.
13. I understand the KML vessel is not allowed to pull or tow anything at any time.
14. I understand the area of operation of the self-captained vessel is limited to a _____ mile radius of KML (see attachment for individual boat boundaries).
15. I will anchor the KML vessel in a responsible manner to minimize impact to the marine habitat. I understand and agree the vessel must never be anchored off the stern of the boat.
16. I understand if I am anchored I will always start the motor before lifting the anchor.
17. I will be aware of my location at all times. (If there is a problem, KML cannot help you if we can't find you.)
18. The KML vessel is full of fuel. I will not add fuel to the KML vessel unless I have pre-arranged with KML staff and have permission to do so.
19. The self-captained user contract is signed for a specific number of people. If the boat is observed at any time with more than the contracted number of people, the vessel use agreement will be terminated immediately and I am solely responsible for any citations, fines, or action by any Law Enforcement Agency.

It is so agreed.

Captain's Signature: _____