

# Tortugas

## Ecological Reserve

### SANCTUARY AREAS

- Research Only
- Ecological Reserve
- Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
- Sanctuary Preservation Area (SPAs)
- Wildlife Management Area

- Shallow Rubble
- Sea Grass
- Shallow
- Coral
- Very Shallow
- Island



18" Mooring Buoy



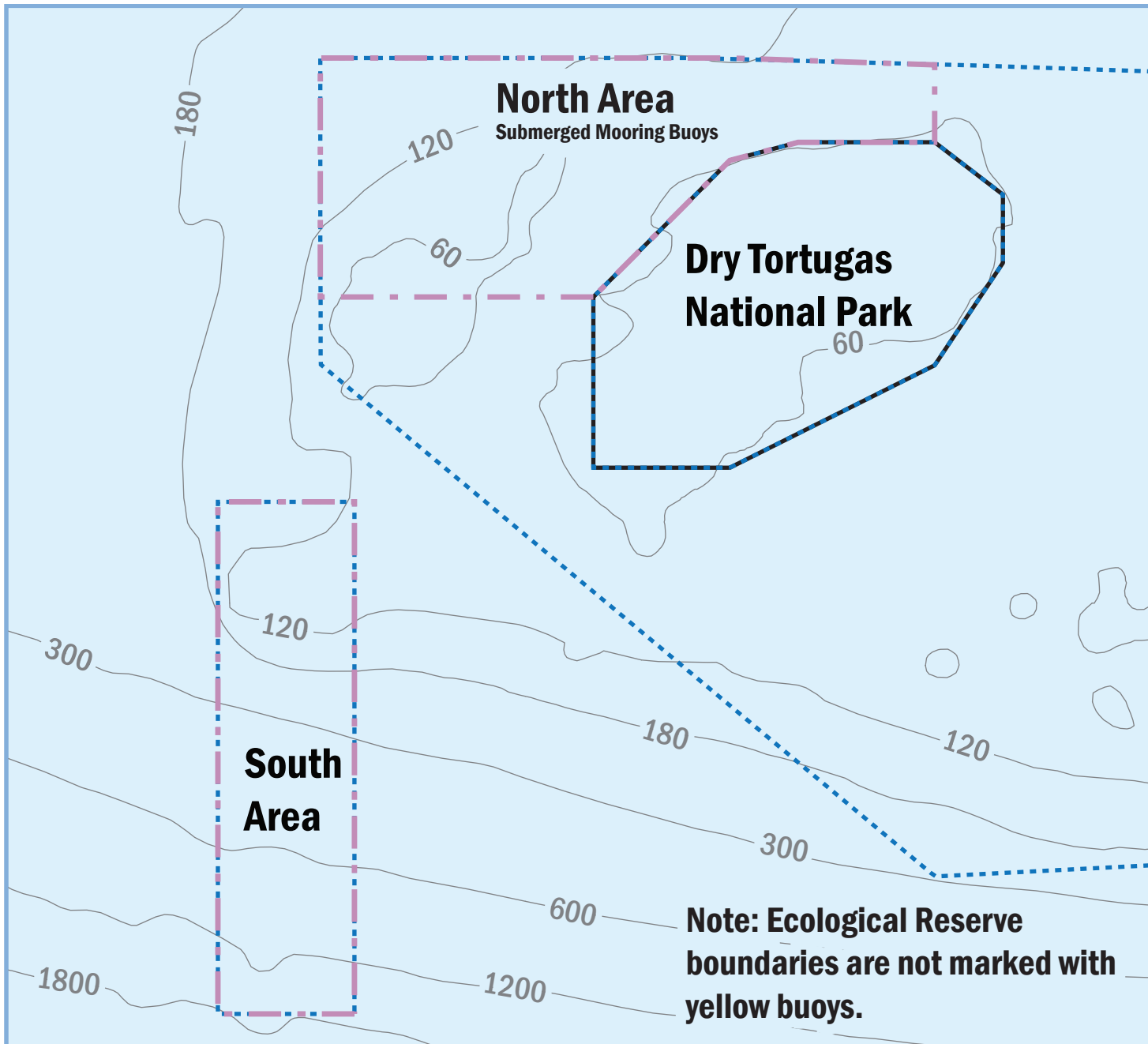
3 - 5ft. Spar Buoy



30" Yellow Sanctuary Buoy



FKNMS Shipwreck Trail





## **Tortugas Ecological Reserve (North and South)**

**With certain exceptions, the following activities are prohibited Sanctuary-Wide:**

- Moving, removing, taking, injuring, touching, breaking, cutting or possessing coral or live rock.
- Discharging or depositing treated or untreated sewage from marine sanitation devices, trash and other materials
- Dredging, drilling, prop dredging or otherwise altering the seabed, or placing or abandoning any structure on the seabed.
- Operating a vessel in such a manner as to strike or otherwise injure coral, seagrass, or other immobile organisms attached to the seabed, or cause prop scarring.
- Having a vessel anchored on living coral in water less than 40 feet deep when the bottom can be seen. Anchoring on hardbottom is allowed.
- Except in officially marked channels, operating a vessel at more than 4 knots/no wake within 100 yards of residential shorelines, stationary vessels, or navigational aids marking reefs.
- Operating a vessel at more than 4 knots/no wake within 100 yards of a "divers down" flag.
- Diving or snorkeling without a dive flag.
- Operating a vessel in such a manner which endangers life, limb, marine resources, or property.
- Releasing exotic species.
- Damaging or removing markers, mooring buoys, scientific equipment, boundary buoys, and trap buoys.
- Moving, removing, injuring, or possessing historical resources.
- Taking or possessing protected wildlife.
- Using or possessing explosives or electrical charges.
- Harvesting, possessing or landing any marine life species except as allowed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Rule (68B-42 F.A.C.).

**With certain exceptions, the following activities are prohibited in Tortugas Ecological Reserve (North and South):**

- Discharging any matter except cooling water or engine exhaust.
- Touching or standing on living or dead coral.
- Fishing by any means; removing, harvesting, or possessing any marine life.

**With certain exceptions, the following activities are prohibited in Tortugas North Ecological Reserve:**

- Access permit required to stop or use a mooring buoy.
- No access permit necessary if vessel remains in continuous transit with fishing gear stowed
- Anchoring is prohibited
- Mooring vessel(s) more than 100 feet in total or combined length overall is prohibited.

**With certain exceptions, the following activities are prohibited in Tortugas South Ecological Reserve:**

- Vessels may only enter if they remain in continuous transit with fishing gear stowed.
- Diving and snorkeling are prohibited.

