



# Preliminary Permitting Approach for Fishing in the Biscayne National Park Proposed Special Recreation Zone



Under Alternative 6 as described in the General Management Plan (GMP), two permits would be required for fishing and harvest in the Special Recreation Zone (SRZ), one from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and one from the National Park Service (NPS) as described below. To implement this program, the NPS and FWC will work together to eliminate redundancies between these two permits and develop streamlined approaches for securing these necessary permits.

## Special Activity License (SAL): Issued by FWC

*The creation of this license program would require FWC rulemaking.*

*Therefore, the details and requirements of this license program are preliminary, pending consideration for adoption by the Commission.*

SAL Details	SAL Requirements and Conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Each SAL would be issued for one calendar year (January-December)</li><li>A Florida saltwater fishing license would be required to receive the SAL:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recreational (Florida)</li><li>For-hire (up to a 6-pack charter license)</li><li>License exempt (Resident 65+)</li></ul></li><li>SALs would be issued via a random-draw lottery<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>500 awarded: 430 private anglers/70 licensed guides</li><li>Selected via the FWC’s license vendor system</li><li>No-cost to apply</li></ul></li><li>Applications would need to be received during the two week open application period in the fall</li><li>Each SAL would be linked to the permit holder’s vessel</li><li>SALs would not be issued to anyone with resource violations within the last 3 years*</li><li>SALs would be subject to revocation due to violations of the terms of the permit or for violations of FWC/BNP regulations*</li><li>SALs would be non-transferable*</li></ul> <p>*Note: These terms are common to all currently issued SALs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SAL holder would need to be present on the vessel when fishing<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SAL holder would be able to bring additional anglers on board as desired, with potential limit of 4 total anglers per vessel</li><li>All anglers would need to hold an appropriate fishing license or be exempt from recreational license requirements</li><li>SAL would need to be carried when fishing in the SRZ</li></ul></li><li>Permit education requirement (completed online or in person):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fish identification</li><li>“How to” for logbooks</li><li>Park fishing regulations</li></ul></li><li>Permit holders would receive:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monthly logbook (paper and electronic version)</li><li>Area map</li><li>Regulations</li></ul></li><li>Monthly logbook entries would include:**<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The number of fish by species caught and/or released each day</li><li>The length of each fish kept and length of any released fish that was measured (size categories would be provided)</li><li>The reason for releasing any fish not harvested</li><li>All activities participated in while on trip (fishing, other non-fishing activities)</li><li>Daily trip information including the date and number of anglers</li><li>Anglers who did not fish during a given month would report “Did not fish”</li></ul></li></ul> <p>**Note: Failure to comply with reporting requirements would make the angler ineligible for the SAL the following year.</p>



## Biscayne National Park Special Use Permit (SUP): Issued by BNP

- SAL holders would be required to obtain a Biscayne National Park Special Use Permit (SUP) and pay the associated fee to be determined by BNP
- BNP would provide a mechanism (sticker, flag, or other) for the SAL holder to identify their permitted vessel