

FOR HIRE DIVE/SNORKEL OPERATIONS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION

1. Authorizations to Collect the Information

The National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 USC 1431, et seq.) authorizes the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary to establish regulations to protect sanctuary resources or resolve user conflicts. This act also authorizes the Sanctuary to do research and collect information necessary for evaluating new regulations or monitoring the effects of existing and new regulations.

2. How the Information Will Be Used

The Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary has developed a public process to evaluate and revise its current management plan and regulations. Through this public process and in consultation with the Sanctuary Advisory Council, the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary has revised its regulations to include a prohibition on spear fishing. In addition, alternatives have been evaluated a preferred alternative submitted to review and clearance in the regulatory process to create a research only area. The information will be used in monitoring and evaluating the socioeconomic impacts of Sanctuary management strategies and regulations.

3. Statement of Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average about three hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden, to Dr. Vernon R. (Bob) Leeworthy, Chief Economist, National Ocean Service, office of National marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East West Highway, SSMC 4, 11th floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Reference OMB Control Number 0648-xxxx, Expiration Date: xxxxxxxx.

4. Your Participation and Protections of Proprietary Information

Your participation is voluntary. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

The information in this survey will be treated as sensitive and protected to the extent that it satisfies the criteria for exemption under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. §552, and the Trade Secrets Act, 18 U.S.C. §1905. Any identifying information (name, name of business, address and telephone number) will be viewed only by the contractor while collecting and compiling the data. The contractor will destroy the identifying information when the databases are transmitted to NOAA.

Date of Interview _____ OMB No. 0648-xxxx Exp. Date: xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Location of Interview: _____

Recreational For Hire Dive Operations in the Georgia and GRNMS (Part 1)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name _____

Telephone _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

1. Which of the following includes your age?

18-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 over 60

2a. Are you Hispanic or Latino YES ___ NO ___

2b. What is your race? (Mark one or more)

___ White ___ Black or African American ___ American Indian or Alaska Native

___ Asian ___ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

3. How many family members do you support (including yourself)?

Myself only 2 3 4 5 6 7 Greater and 7

4. Are you a member of any of the following groups?

a. NAUI YES ___ NO ___

b. PADI YES ___ NO ___

c. SSI YES ___ NO ___

d. Chamber of Commerce YES ___ NO ___

e. An Environmental Group YES ___ NO ___

f. Other (specify) _____ YES ___ NO ___

5. What is your primary port/marina? _____

6. Do you have a secondary port/marina, from where you dive part of the year? YES ___ NO ___

- If YES, then which one? _____

7. How many years have you been a dive/snorkel operator? ___ (number of years)

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8. How many years have you been a dive/snorkel operator in the ocean & coastal areas off Georgia? ____ (number of years)

9. Have you ever taken dive/snorkelers to the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary? (Interviewer—Please show map) YES ___ NO ___

- If YES, how many years have you taken dive/snorkelers to the Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary? ____ (number of years)

10. What approximate percentage of your total business income is derived from the dive/snorkel operation? ____%

11. What approximate percentage of your TOTAL personal income is derived from the dive/snorkel operation? ____%

12. What approximate percentage of your TOTAL household income is derived from the dive/snorkel operation? ____%

13. How would you describe your dive/snorkel operation? (Mark one or more)

___ Full-time dive/snorkel operation ___ Part-time dive/snorkel operation

___ Seasonal dive/snorkel operation If seasonal, what months

___ Full-time Combination dive/snorkel, fishing, and wildlife observation operation

___ Part-time Combination dive/snorkel, fishing, and wildlife observation

___ Seasonal Combination dive/snorkel, fishing, and wildlife observation If seasonal, what

Months for dive/snorkel _____

Months for fishing _____

Months for wildlife observation _____

ECONOMIC INFORMATION

14. Number of boats/vessels at the operation: ____ (number of vessels)

15. Capacity of dive/snorkelers per vessel in operation:

Vessel 1: ____ divers/ ____ snorkelers Vessel 2: ____ divers/ ____ snorkelers

Vessel 3: ____ divers/ ____ snorkelers Vessel 4: ____ divers/ ____ snorkelers

16. Capacity of fishers per vessel in operation:

Vessel 1: ____ fishers Vessel 2: ____ fishers

Vessel 3: ____ fishers Vessel 4: ____ fishers

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17. Capacity of wildlife observes per vessel in operation:

Vessel 1: _____ wildlife observers Vessel 2: _____ wildlife observers

Vessel 3: _____ wildlife observers Vessel 4: _____ wildlife observers

18. Number of employees at the operation:

a. Full time _____ b. Part time _____ c. Seasonal _____

19. Please provide your best estimate of the replacement value of the following items that you used last year (fill in year _____).

a. Vessel(s) and electronic equipment: \$ _____
b. Diving and snorkeling gear: \$ _____
c. Compressors \$ _____
d. Rods/Reels \$ _____
e. Other gear (specify) _____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____

20. Outstanding balance on loan amounts for vessels and equipment \$ _____

21. Please provide your best estimate for the following expenses last year:

Permits/Licenses: \$ _____
Docking fees: \$ _____
Interest payments on vessel(s): \$ _____
P&I insurance on vessel(s) \$ _____
Maintenance/repair on vessel/electronic equipment: \$ _____
Maintenance/repair on dive/snorkel gear: \$ _____
Maintenance on rods/reels: \$ _____
Maintenance/repair on compressors: \$ _____
Maintenance/repair on other equipment: \$ _____
Other Dive equipment costs: \$ _____
Advertising: \$ _____
Office rent/mortgage: \$ _____
Office utilities (electric, water, telephone, Internet): \$ _____
Depreciation of vessels and equipment: \$ _____
Business Taxes: \$ _____
Other: _____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____

Date of Interview _____

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22. Please provide your best estimate for the following trip related expenses last year:

Dive equipment costs:	\$ _____
Fuel/oil:	\$ _____
Ice:	\$ _____
Food/Supplies:	\$ _____
Bait:	\$ _____
Captain wages & salaries (if not owner-captain):	\$ _____
Crew wages & salaries Number: _____	\$ _____
Other (specify) _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

23. Please provide your best estimate of your total business revenues last year:

\$ _____

24. Please provide your best estimate of your total revenues and/or percent of total revenues (from Question 23) last year by each geographic area: (See map for definitions of each area)

All Areas	\$ _____	% _____
Georgia and GRNMS	\$ _____	% _____
Georgia outside GRNMS	\$ _____	% _____
Inside GRNMS	\$ _____	% _____

PERSON DAYS AND TRIP COSTS

25. Please provide your best estimate of the number person days by type of activity for last year and the percentage of person days by activity and area. (Interviewer – show map of areas). A person day is one person for a whole day or any part of a day. 10 people on-board for an overnight trip would be 20 person days.

Activity	Total Person-days	All Areas (%)	Georgia Outside GRNMS (%)	Inside GRNMS (%)
SCUBA diving				
Snorkelers				
Fishing				
Wildlife Observation				
All Activities				

26. Please provide your best estimate of the cost per day for a typical day of operation by activity.

Activity	Fuel/Oil	Ice	Bait	Food/Supplies	Other	Crew	Captain (if not owner)
SCUBA diving							
Snorkeling							
Fishing							
Wildlife Observation							

27. Please provide the percentage of your person days of operation across each 1-minute by 1-minute grid cell for each activity. This is a forward looking rather than just your past activity patterns. We want to know where you expect you will conduct your activities in the future. This will be used to assess the possible impacts of any future zoning of areas by GRNMS.

Coding sheet attached.

For Hire Dive/Snorkel Operators in Georgia Part 2.
SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND PERCEPTIONS

1. Please check the sources of information that you have received in the past on the GRNMS and score them to your level of trust. Score level of trust 1= No trust at all, 2=very little trust, 3=neither trust nor distrust, 4=trust very much, and 5=completely trust.

SOURCE	Sources Used	Trust Sources
a. GRNNMS website	_____	_____
b. GRNMS Staff	_____	_____
c. Sanctuary Advisory Council	_____	_____
d. GRNMS brochures/literature	_____	_____
e. Internet	_____	_____
f. Information in newspapers	_____	_____
g. Radio	_____	_____
h. TV	_____	_____
i. Social Media (Twitter, You Tube)	_____	_____
j. Word of mouth	_____	_____
k. SCUBA diving magazines/newsletters)	_____	_____
l. Others (specify, including people like a dive shop owner, other divers, a local community leader, family member, friend, etc>)	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

For the next set of questions, please provide your answer on a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means **Strongly agree**, 2 means **Moderately agree**, 3 means **Neutral**, 4 means **Moderately disagree**, and 5 means **Strongly disagree**

2. The process that NOAA has used to develop rules and regulations for the GRNMS was open and fair to all groups.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

3. The process has used by NOAA to develop boundaries and regulations for the GRNNMS zones was open and fair to all groups.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

4. It has not mattered whether the average person participated in the workshops and meeting on the GRNMS because the average person could not influence the final decisions.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

5. NOAA has not addressed the concerns of other federal and state governments in developing rules and regulations for the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

6. NOAA has not addressed the concerns of individual citizens in developing rules and regulations for the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

7. Once that the GRNMS regulations have been in effect, there has been no way that the average person to voice his/her opinion on the usefulness of the regulations.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

8. The procedures that NOAA has established to deal with violations of GRNMS regulations have been fair and just.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

NOTES

ATTITUDES ABOUT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND REGULATION

In this section, we want to know what you think about current and proposed management strategies in the GRNMS, the effects of those management strategies and regulations, and how you think the GRNMS management has performed.

In management plan review public scoping and Sanctuary Advisory Council meetings, GRNMS has recently expanded its regulations to include a prohibition on spear fishing. In addition, in consultation with the Sanctuary Advisory Council and public meetings, GRNMS has evaluated several alternatives for a research only area in which all activities would be prohibited, except research and education.

For the next set of questions, please provide your answer on a 1 to 5 scale, where 1 means **Strongly agree**, 2 means **Moderately agree**, 3 means **Neutral**, 4 means **Moderately disagree**, and 5 means **Strongly disagree**

9. I support the GRNMS as it is currently established.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

10. I support the establishment of a research only area in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

11. A research only area in the GRNMS would have a positive impact on the marine environment.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

12. There should be more areas set aside as a research only area in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

13. I support the prohibition of spear fishing in GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

14. There has been a net economic benefit to the coastal Georgia economy from the establishment of the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

15. Dive Operators have benefited from the establishment of the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

16. GRNMS regulations have had no effect on my business.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

17. I support the no anchoring regulations in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

18. I support the current no discharge regulations in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

19. I support the current no harvest of bottom formations or taking of invertebrates inside the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

20. I support the rod-and-reel and hand line only fishing regulation in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

21. I support the no taking of marine mammals and turtles in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

22. I support the requirement of using a mooring buoy instead of anchoring in the GRNMS with the limit of vessel size for mooring use of 100 feet or less.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

23. I support stricter regulations on discharging of pollutants in the GRNMS.

1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

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24. Please rate the status/condition of the following resources at the GRNMS by their status/condition since the implementation of the GRNMS (1981), where 1 is much better and 5 is much worse.

RESOURCE	Better ←-----→ Worse					
a. Water quality	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
b. Sea-based pollution/marine debris	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
c. Live bottom	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
d. Other bottom habitat	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
e. Fish populations (bottom fish)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
f. Fish populations (other fish)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
g. Fish population (diversity)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
h. Other sea life (abundance)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
i. Other sea life (diversity)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
j. Mooring buoys	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
k. Invasive species (lionfish)	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

25. The GRNMS is mostly responsible for the status/condition of the resources that you rated in the previous question.

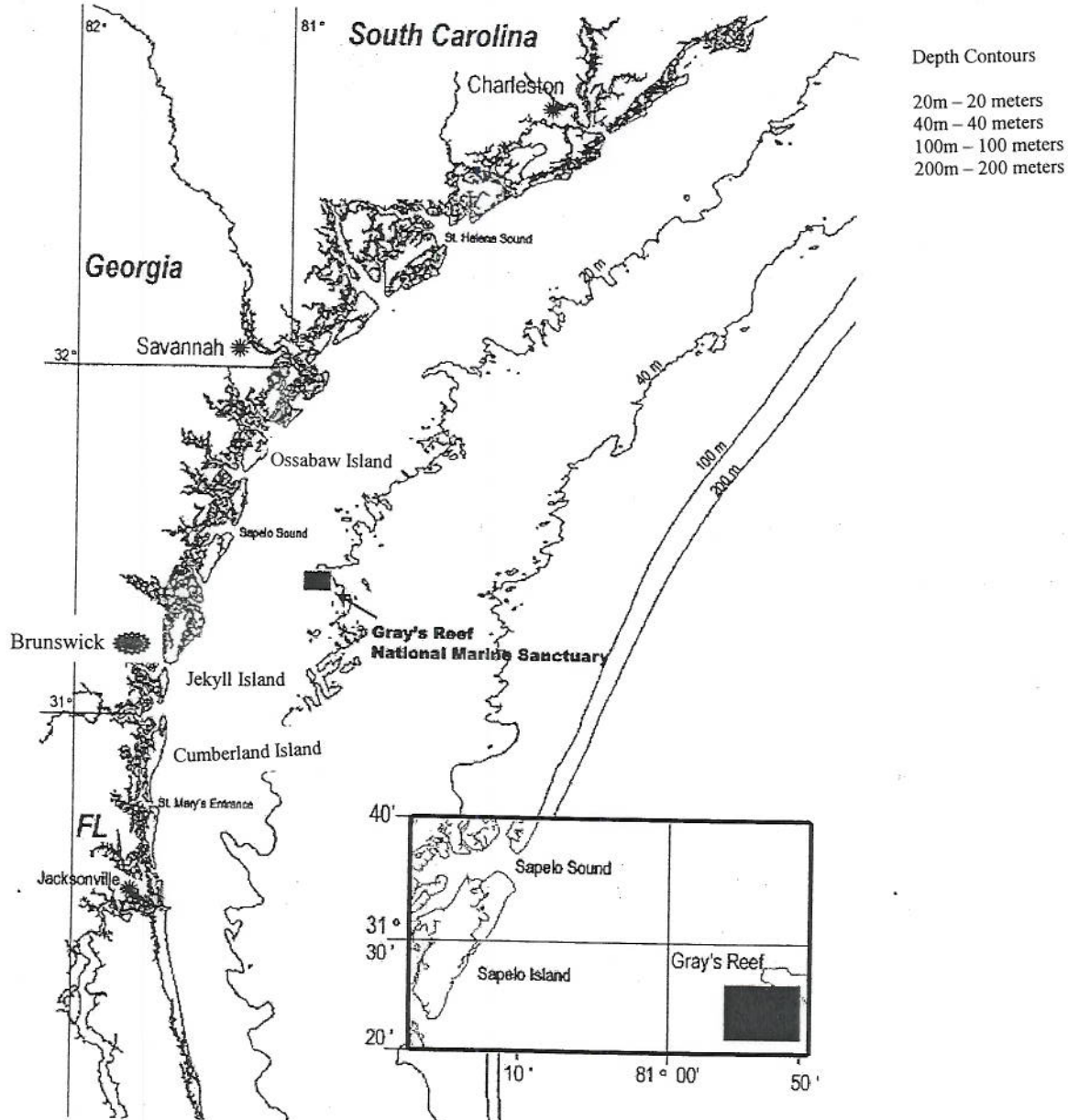
1 2 3 4 5 I don't know

26. In which area(s) has the GRNMS been most successful?

27. In which area(s) has the GRNMS been least successful?

Definition. Ocean areas include the Atlantic Ocean and coastal areas include inland bays, estuaries and tidally influenced portions of rivers where fresh and saltwater mix.

Map of Coastal & Ocean Georgia and GRNMS



- Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary (GRNMS) is located 16 miles offshore of Sapelo Island, Georgia.
- GRNMS is 22-square miles and contains rocky ledges and sandy flats.
- GRNMS is a popular recreational fishing site with some diving.
- No commercial fishing currently takes place in GRNMS, but it is not prohibited.