



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection**

# **FDEP Artificial Reef Permitting**

**November 1, 2016**





# Environmental Resource Permits

- An Environmental Resource Permit is required prior to any project occurring in, over, or under surface waters within the State of Florida.
- FDEP has two permit options for artificial reefs:
  - General Permit
  - Individual Permit



# General Permit

- Chapter 62-330.600, F.A.C. - General Permit for the Construction of Artificial Reefs.
- This general permit allows the following to be installed as artificial reefs:
  - Clean concrete / rock
  - Clean steel boat hulls
  - Clean heavy gauge steel products ( $\geq 1/4$ " thickness)
  - Pre-fabricated structures containing the above material



# General Permit

- The General Permit Requires that:
  - A survey be conducted to insure no resources are in the deployment area.
  - No white goods, tires, or asphalt be used.
  - The artificial reef be installed no taller than  $\frac{1}{2}$  the depth of the water body.
  - At no time, the distance between the top of the reef and surface of the water body be less than 6 feet.
  - Minimum of water body is 12 feet in depth.
  - The reef be smaller than a  $\frac{1}{4}$  nautical mile on all sides.
  - The reef may not be installed in shipping lanes.
  - Permittee must notify the NOAA & FWC.



# Individual Permit

- If you do not meet one or more of the conditions found in the general permit, an individual permit will be required to install an artificial reef.
- Individual permits have a higher level of review and allow other agencies to comment on the proposed work.
- Specific conditions are added to the permit stating how the artificial reef shall be installed.
  - Specific conditions will require submittals to FDEP.
- Required pre and post notifications to the FDEP.



# Post Permit Issuance

## Individual Permits:

- Pre-Construction Meeting (2 weeks before start)
- Construction Commencement Notice (48 hrs. before start)
- Pre-Deployment Submittals:
  - Surveys, cargo manifest, stability analysis, etc...
- As-Built Certification (within 30 after completion)

## Vessel Deployments:

- FDEP will be working with the USCG to inspect vessels before the vessel is sunk as artificial reefs.
- The inspection is to ensure the vessel is clean and free of all oils and/or other hazardous substances.



# Questions?

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