



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

May 21, 2008

**To Whom It May Concern**

I hold a permit from the National Park Service to conduct research and education at the Stiltsville property, currently known as the Biscayne Learning Center. I am writing to confirm that those of us with current and future programs based from Biscayne Learning Center request the services of the SeaStar Foundation. Specifically we request that SeaStar provide research and education program services in the form of vessels, vessel operators and hands-on assistance with field activities. Research and education will be conducted within a 2-mile radius of the complex of passes known as the Safety Valve, which borders the northeastern boundary of Biscayne Bay, Florida.

Activities for which we request SeaStar's assistance include:

- Biological survey excursions to coral reef habitats as well as to adjacent seagrass and mangrove communities.
- Collection and management of water quality data for all marine habitats visited
- Assist Biscayne National Park personnel with coral rescue and nursery activities
- Identifying, measuring, tissue sampling and tagging of local sharks
- Transportation of equipment and participants to and from the research and education facility at Stiltsville.

Please let me know if you require any further information

Sincerely,

Joseph E. Serafy  
Research Fishery Biologist  
NOAA/NMFS/SEFSC  
75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149 USA.  
305.361.4255 (office), 305.361.4562 (fax)  
[joe.serafy@noaa.gov](mailto:joe.serafy@noaa.gov)

