

## MAP KEY

-  Boat Launch
-  Canoe/Kayak Launch
-  Channels
-  No-Motor Zones
-  No-Wake/Idle Speed Zone
-  Grass Bed Area



## DETAIL OF PERDIDO PASS

Gulf of Mexico

## SAVE OUR SEAGRASS

- A vital marine ecosystem in the Gulf of Mexico, underwater meadows of seagrass in bays and estuaries serve as valuable nurseries and habitat for many species, including shrimp, crabs and other shellfish. Sport fish (such as redfish and sea trout) prized by anglers, birds (including ducks, shorebirds and wading birds) and sea turtles also depend on thriving seagrasses. Declining in both expanse and health along the Gulf Coast, loss of seagrass habitat represents a serious threat to marine wildlife, recreation and the economy.

- A number of projects are being conducted to promote seagrass conservation and restoration, and to raise awareness about the importance of healthy seagrass habitats across the Gulf of Mexico by several partners, including government agencies, non-profit organizations, municipalities and research institutions.

## MARINE MAMMALS

- Our coastal bays provide natural habitat for bottlenose dolphins. Dolphins are wild animals that should be treated with caution and respect. Federal law dictates that it is illegal to feed, pursue or harass dolphins.

- Endangered West Indian manatees are slow-moving, curious creatures that rely on our coastal waters for their favorite food: aquatic plants. On average, manatees travel at 3-4 mph, making it difficult to avoid a fast-moving boat, especially in shallow waters. Watercraft collisions and other human-related activities (such as fishing with monofilament lines, nets, and hooks, littering and poaching) are some of the leading causes of manatee deaths. Please report manatee injuries and violations to the Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Manatee Sighting Network: 1-866-493-5803.

\*All marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), which carries a fine of \$20,000 and one year in jail. Report injured or dead dolphins to the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies at 1-888.767.3657. Report injured or dead manatees to FWC at: 1-888.404.3922

## WITH YOUR HELP



- Running boats in shallow waters can damage your boat and destroy seagrass beds. Prop scars not only damage the plants, but also destabilize sediments, inhibiting seagrass growth and impacting critical habitat. Obey no-motor and no-wake/idle speed zones. When you come to shallow water, stop your engine, lift your prop and pole to your favorite spot.

- This guide provides information to enhance your boating experience and to help you safely navigate the waters of the Lower Perdido Basin and Perdido Pass, while protecting our valuable marine resources.



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Photos courtesy of Dottie Byron, Dauphin Island Sea Lab.



# A MAP AND GUIDE TO BOATING GREEN

Help Protect Our Marine Environment  
**PERDIDO PASS**

# MAP KEY

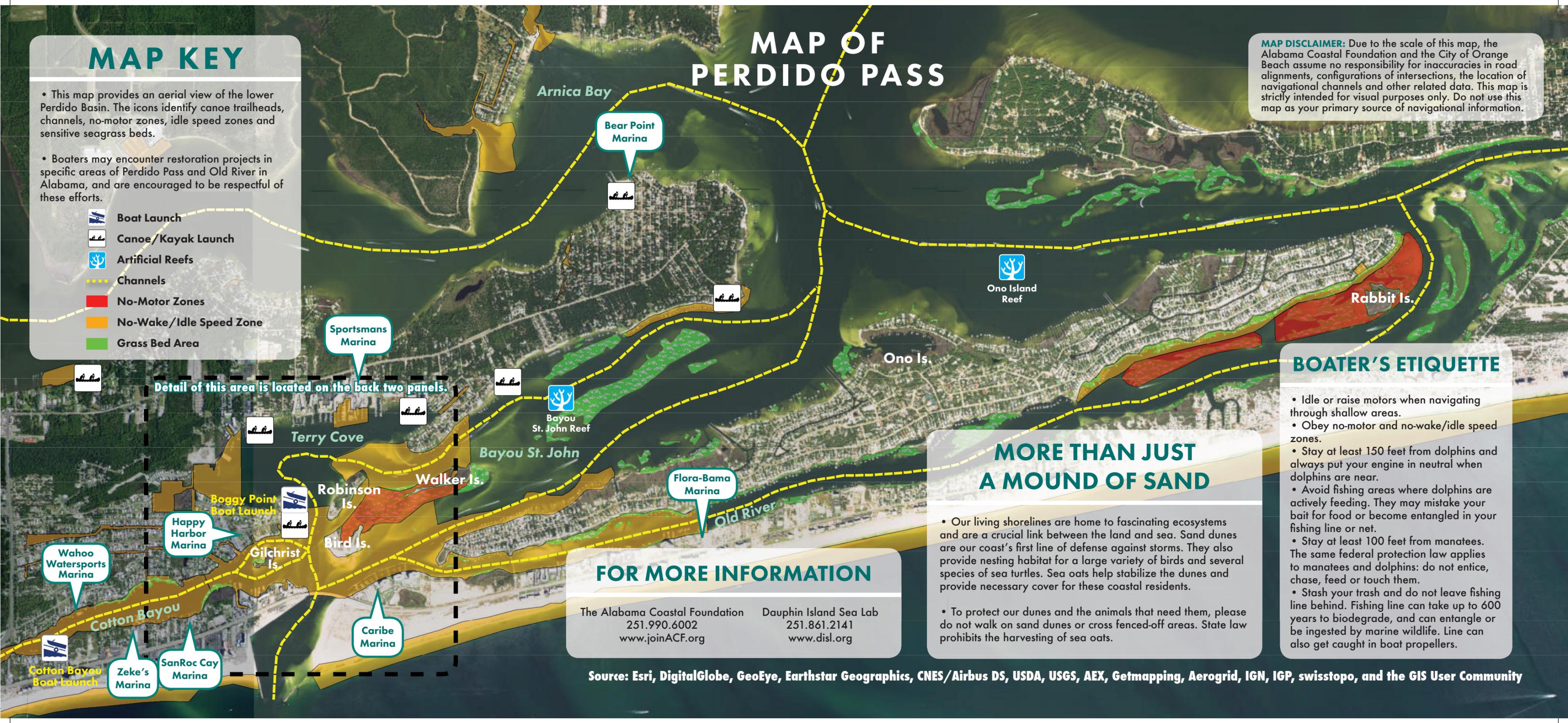
• This map provides an aerial view of the lower Perdido Basin. The icons identify canoe trailheads, channels, no-motor zones, idle speed zones and sensitive seagrass beds.

• Boaters may encounter restoration projects in specific areas of Perdido Pass and Old River in Alabama, and are encouraged to be respectful of these efforts.

-  Boat Launch
-  Canoe/Kayak Launch
-  Artificial Reefs
-  Channels
-  No-Motor Zones
-  No-Wake/Idle Speed Zone
-  Grass Bed Area

# MAP OF PERDIDO PASS

**MAP DISCLAIMER:** Due to the scale of this map, the Alabama Coastal Foundation and the City of Orange Beach assume no responsibility for inaccuracies in road alignments, configurations of intersections, the location of navigational channels and other related data. This map is strictly intended for visual purposes only. Do not use this map as your primary source of navigational information.



Detail of this area is located on the back two panels.

## BOATER'S ETIQUETTE

- Idle or raise motors when navigating through shallow areas.
- Obey no-motor and no-wake/idle speed zones.
- Stay at least 150 feet from dolphins and always put your engine in neutral when dolphins are near.
- Avoid fishing areas where dolphins are actively feeding. They may mistake your bait for food or become entangled in your fishing line or net.
- Stay at least 100 feet from manatees. The same federal protection law applies to manatees and dolphins: do not entice, chase, feed or touch them.
- Stash your trash and do not leave fishing line behind. Fishing line can take up to 600 years to biodegrade, and can entangle or be ingested by marine wildlife. Line can also get caught in boat propellers.

## MORE THAN JUST A MOUND OF SAND

- Our living shorelines are home to fascinating ecosystems and are a crucial link between the land and sea. Sand dunes are our coast's first line of defense against storms. They also provide nesting habitat for a large variety of birds and several species of sea turtles. Sea oats help stabilize the dunes and provide necessary cover for these coastal residents.
- To protect our dunes and the animals that need them, please do not walk on sand dunes or cross fenced-off areas. State law prohibits the harvesting of sea oats.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Alabama Coastal Foundation    Dauphin Island Sea Lab  
 251.990.6002    251.861.2141  
 www.joinACF.org    www.disl.org

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community