

Donnie:

Monroe County and the City of Marathon have had the absolute pleasure of working with Capt. Donnie Brown and Pump Out USA for nearly a decade and a half . Within the Keys and Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary we have collectively succeeded in approving a No Discharge Zone for both state and federal waters. Key to implementation of this 2,900 nautical square mile zone has been the ability to provide adequate pump out facilities and service to those vessels and boaters that don't have immediate pump-out services at dockside. In part, this has been facilitated by the \$1 B dollar construction of centralized wastewater improvements throughout the Keys. It's all about reducing the nutrient impacts to our nutrient limited nearshore waters.

The services of Pump-Out USA have been invaluable over the years to reducing the wastewater and resulting nutrient impacts to the nearshore waters of the Florida Keys. Notably, in the first year after acquisition of the Donnie Brown's first pump-out platform, we pumped over 100,000 gallons of vessel effluent from those boats located in Boot Key Harbor, Marathon. That was twelve years ago. The improvements in water quality and clarity in the harbor today are marked. The County continues to use Pump-Out USA services to pump-out vessel throughout the Keys. I cannot speak highly enough about Donnie Brown, Pump-out USA, and the impacts that his entrepreneurial business have had toward improving water quality in the Florida Keys.

Best

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