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*Managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people.*

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November 6, 2014

Mr. Calvin L. Burney, Sr.  
City of Jacksonville  
Planning and Development Department  
214 North Hogan Street, Suite 300  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Re: Manatee Protection Plan for the City of Jacksonville (previous editions were titled Duval County Manatee Protection Plan)

Dear Mr. Burney:

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) received the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition of the Jacksonville Manatee Protection Plan (MPP) that was adopted by the Jacksonville City Council on August 14, 2014. I understand that the City's adoption of this MPP is the result of a concerted multi-agency effort between the City, our agency, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This partnership led to a plan that has the consensus of all three agencies. Knowing this MPP will serve as a useful planning document and help balance the need for manatee protection and watercraft access to Jacksonville's waterways, I am pleased to provide FWC approval of the MPP.

This MPP represents a significant accomplishment for manatee protection in Jacksonville. The revisions to the plan incorporate updated data and analysis, language clarifications, and improvements in the boat facility siting recommendations. These revisions increase the usefulness of the Jacksonville MPP for stakeholders and governmental entities when planning and permitting projects.

The success of this effort resulted from the cooperation and hard work of many people and agencies. We recognize that the City invested a great deal time into revising the MPP and I appreciate the hard work of all City staff. I would like to express our thanks to the City Planning and Development Department, especially Jody McDaniel who worked diligently to complete these revisions.

We look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with the City to implement the provisions outlined in the MPP. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Kellie Youmans or Ms. Mary Duncan of my staff at (850) 922-4330.

Sincerely,

Nick Wiley  
Executive Director

NW/ky

cc: Mr. Heath Rauschenberger, USFWS, Jacksonville