

# FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



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October 19, 2005

Mr. Stephen S. Kintner  
Volusia County  
Department of Environmental Management  
123 West Indiana Avenue  
Deland, FL 32720-4612

Dear Mr. Kintner:

In response to the submittal of Phase II of the Volusia County Manatee Protection Plan (MPP), as approved by the Volusia County Council on September 8, 2005, we are pleased to provide our approval of your MPP. We coordinated our review with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who have also provided comments and concurrence.

We are in receipt of a revised Phase I of the MPP previously approved by the state in February 2001. The Phase I submittal represents an update of the pertinent manatee data, but other portions of the document are still in the process of being updated per county comprehensive plan revisions. It is our opinion that the submittal of Phase I and Phase II meets the requirements of Chapter 370.12(t)(2), F. S., and as such, Volusia County now has a state-approved Manatee Protection Plan. We look forward to assisting the County and the municipalities with implementing the MPP by incorporating these policies into the respective comprehensive plans, as required by Chapter 370.12(t)(3), F. S. We are available to assist you with developing and finalizing the memorandums of agreement concerning the conservation fund and law enforcement.

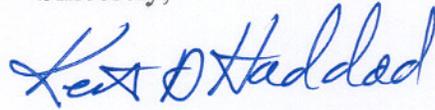
The MPP includes two new and innovative conservation measures: (1) a fund for increasing law enforcement efforts and education, and (2) an option for slip pools in municipalities in coastal Volusia County. We believe that the increased law enforcement and education efforts that result from the Manatee Conservation Fund will greatly enhance manatee protection in Volusia County waters. We plan to monitor the effects of these measures before considering this approach in other MPPs.

We commend the Volusia County Council and its staff for their efforts and hard work on completing a Manatee Protection Plan for Volusia County and for working with the

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municipalities. We look forward to working with you to implement the MPP for Volusia County. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Mary Duncan or Ms. Terri Calleson of my staff at (850) 922-4330.

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Haddad  
Executive Director

kdh/md

cc: Honorable Frank Bruno Jr., Chairman, County Council  
Ms. Kelli McGee, Volusia County  
Ms. Georgia Zern, Volusia County  
Ms. Colleen Castille, Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Ms. Towanda Anthony, Florida Department of Community Affairs  
Mr. Dave Hankla, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mr. Kirby Green, St. Johns River Water Management District  
Mr. Dennis David, FWC-Ocala