

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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June 27, 2002

Mr. Russ Blackburn
Martin County Administrator
2401 S. E. Monterey Road
Stuart, Florida 34996

Dear Mr. Blackburn:

As Executive Director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), I am approving your Manatee Protection Plan (MPP) and directing my staff to begin using it to assist us in our day-to-day activities in Martin County. The text revisions received from Dr. Ross Wilcox by the FWC on June 17, 2002, complete the necessary revisions to the Martin County Manatee Protection Plan. I appreciate the hard work and countless hours that Martin County staff put into this Plan. I believe it represents a good tool that will provide a benefit to the citizens of Martin County and allow the continued recovery of the manatee.

As discussed with Dr. Wilcox, we would appreciate receiving three copies of the revised document with the new text incorporated. We would also like to be advised when you submit revisions to the Martin County Comprehensive Growth Management Plan to incorporate the Manatee Protection Plan. Finally, we would like to follow up as soon as possible on the status of the adoption of the applicable portions of the Manatee Protection Plan by the City of Stuart and the towns of Sewall's Point, Jupiter Island, and Ocean Breeze Park.

Please pass along my thanks to your Commissioners and to your staff for working with us to reduce the risk of human-related harassment, injury, and death to manatees, and protect manatee habitat in Martin County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth D. Haddad".

Kenneth D. Haddad
Executive Director

KDH/DWA/crb
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