

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GREEN SWAMP AND WITHLACOOCHEE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Green Swamp is located in Central Florida, is 800 plus square miles, and is headwaters for the Peace, Hillsborough, Oklawaha and Withlacoochee Riverine Systems; and

WHEREAS, approximately 80% of surface water discharge exits the Green Swamp via the Withlacoochee River System; and

WHEREAS, major portions of the Green Swamp/Withlacoochee River System are now in public ownership and can be restored for water retention and conservation; and

WHEREAS, large amounts of water are recharged into the aquifer within the interior portions of the watershed by maximum flood storage and time duration; and

WHEREAS, the Floridian Aquifer underlying Southwest Florida and all of Manatee County receives recharge from the Green Swamp ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and interested citizens are working on the Green Swamp and Withlacoochee River Ecosystem Management Program; and

WHEREAS, the Board has been asked to express support for this effort.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners hereby urges and requests the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to instigate and coordinate any conceivable means for maximum aquifer recharge, surface water conservation, wetland restoration, artificial reservoirs for stormwater storage, and whatever actions can be visualized from a task force of State and Federal agencies through the Ecosystem Management Program.

SECTION 2. The Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County supports the Green Swamp and Withlacoochee River Ecosystem Management effort and encourages all counties within the Green Swamp aquifer recharge area to support this program. The Board also requests that the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the appropriate Soil and Water Conservation Districts, water management districts and all appropriate State agencies work together to protect environmental benefits within the subject area and to ensure an adequate and clean supply of water.

SECTION 3. A copy of this Resolution shall be furnished to Congresswoman Karen Thurman, the Jacksonville District Army Corps of Engineers, Hernando County and other appropriate agencies as requested.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 18th day of November, 1997, A.D.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: [Signature]
Chairman

Attest: R. B. Shore
Clerk of the Circuit Court

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[Signature]
By: [Signature]

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