

ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION NO. 92-157

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE INCLUSION OF
THE LOWER ST. JOHNS RIVER BASIN IN THE
NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the lower St. Johns River is a significant national and state resource, functioning as a nursery and breeding area for marine life, a thoroughfare for national and international commerce, and otherwise providing economic, recreational, and aesthetic benefits to the citizens of the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, scientific and public concern has arisen due to declining water quality, increased sedimentation, loss of submerged and emergent vegetation, reductions in productivity and diversity of wildlife, and the loss of important habitats, within the estuary of the St. Johns River Lower Basin, and

WHEREAS, studies have concluded that approximately 30% of the surface waters of the lower basin of the St. Johns River no longer meet Class III designation, and

WHEREAS, the National Estuary Program provides funding for a management conference composed of local, state, and federal levels of government, including industry, educational institutions, and general public interests, in assessing the River's condition and developing through consensus, programs for addressing the identified problems, and

WHEREAS, the St. Johns River estuary meets the qualification for inclusion in the National Estuary Program, and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Florida has submitted the nomination of the lower St. Johns River basin to the National Estuaries Program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners supports the designation of the lower St. Johns River basin estuary as an estuary of national significance, and subsequently, the inclusion of the estuary into the National Estuary Program; based on the following conditions that the membership of the policy and management committees be established and accepted by each participating county prior to inclusion.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of September, 1992 by the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: J. S. Bell
Its Chairman

ATTEST: CARL "BUD" MARKEL, CLERK

By: Irma Gaeth
Deputy Clerk