

RESOLUTION 93- 80

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA ENDORSING THE DESIGNATION OF THE MATANZAS RIVER ESTUARY AS A NATIONAL ESTUARINE MARINE RESEARCH RESERVE.

WHEREAS, the Matanzas River Estuary is a relatively pristine and unique biologically productive system that is a valuable resource to both St. Johns County and Flagler County within the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Matanzas National Monument is located on the Matanzas River Estuary; and

WHEREAS, the Matanzas River Estuary provides storm and flood protection and pollution control; and,

WHEREAS, the Matanzas Inlet is a naturally occurring inlet which has not been subject to dredging or other manmade disturbances; and

WHEREAS, Pellicer Creek constitutes a portion of the border between St. Johns County and Flagler County and is a tributary of the Matanzas River Estuary; and

WHEREAS, significant portions of the Matanzas River Estuary are protected under the Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve Management Plan adopted by the Governor and Cabinet; and

WHEREAS, three state parks are on or in the vicinity of the estuary (Favor-Dykes, Fort Matanzas and Washington Oaks), providing additional acreage in protected public ownership; and

WHEREAS, the University of Florida maintains the C.V. Whitney laboratory on the estuary that engages in marine biomedical research; and

WHEREAS, Marineland operates the world's original oceanarium park located on the estuary, and also is distinguished by its listing on the National Registry of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the Tolamato-Guana River site in St. Johns County is also under consideration as a Marine Research Reserve, the Board of County Commissioners recommends that it be combined with the Matanzas to form one Reserve.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA acting in regular session does hereby resolve the following:

1. St. Johns County strongly supports the designation of the Matanzas River Estuary and the Tolomato-Guana River as a National Estuarine Marine Research Reserve;
2. Copies of this resolution shall be directed to the proper authorities to support the designation effort.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of May,

1993.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Simon Balsavage  
Its Chair

ATTEST: CARL "BUD" MARKEL, CLERK

By: Yvonne Carter  
Deputy Clerk

