

RESOLUTION 97 - 169

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TAKE ALL MEASURES NECESSARY TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF SECURING THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC AGENCY'S FINAL DESIGNATION OF THE GUANA/TOLOMATO/MATANZAS NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE (GTM/NERR).

WHEREAS, the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida, acting as the trustees of the State of Florida, have approved the nomination of both phases of the GTM/NERR; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissions of both St. Johns and Flagler Counties have passed Resolutions endorsing the GTM/NERR; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissions of both St. Johns and Flagler Counties have passed Resolutions in support of locating the GTM/NERR Offices at Whitney Laboratory in Marineland; and

WHEREAS, the closing of shellfish harvesting areas and the appearance of diseased fish in Northeast Florida are urgent indicators of increasing water contamination in the proposed GTM/NERR study area; and

WHEREAS, the need for research and education is greater now than ever before; and

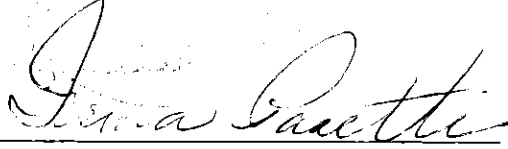
WHEREAS, Federal funds and some State appropriations have already been provided for implementation of some elements of the GTM/NERR project; and


WHEREAS, any delay in using these funds and implementing research and community education programs constitutes a threat to present and future public health and safety and frustrates the will of the governments and citizens of St. Johns and Flagler Counties.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of St. Johns County, Florida, that the Commission requests that the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection take all necessary actions to expedite the formal designation for the GTM/NERR so that such designation by NOAA occurs as soon as possible.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, State of Florida, this 14th day of October, 1997.

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland

By: 
Deputy Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: 
Chairman