

RESOLUTION 2001 - 176

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE ST. MARYS RIVER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S PRIORITY STRATEGIES LISTED HEREIN.

WHEREAS, the St. Marys River Management Committee was formed in 1993 by the four (4) Counties via an Interlocal Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Counties have supported the work of the St. Marys River Management Committee to produce a management plan for the St. Marys River, as stated in the Interlocal Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has held four (4) public workshops, envisioning exercises, and two (2) workshops with the Boards of the four (4) Counties specifically on the river management plan, and the input from those meetings has been incorporated into the plan; and

WHEREAS, the scenic, natural, recreational, and economic values of the St. Marys River may be adversely affected by the rapid growth taking place in the River corridor; and

WHEREAS, the St. Marys River Management Committee strives to conserve the River's attributes for present and future generations under local efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 10th day of December, 2001, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, as follows:

The Board endorses the priority strategies listed below, accepts the plan as a direction-setting tool, understands that the plan is not self-executing, in that each Board will have to approve actions of a legislative nature, and directs the St. Marys River Management Committee to work with County employees and others to recommend specific measures for implementation:

1. Establish consistent and adequate septic system setbacks on both the Florida and the Georgia sides of the River.

2. Promote bank-to-bank legislation to unify recreation and wildlife management laws.

3. Evaluate each County's land use pattern as reflected in their Comprehensive Plans, and encourage consistency with River protection using Best Management Practices (BMPs), and similar measures.

4. Encourage proper maintenance of septic systems within the River corridor.

5. Design shoreline guidelines/incentives (i.e. - river corridor, vegetative buffers, and setbacks).

6. Promote conservation easements and/or less-than-fee acquisitions that maintain a forest-based economy, and protect River resources by continuing compatible agricultural uses, such as tree farming.

7. Continue and expand annual river cleanups.

8. Continue and expand publications programs (i.e. - River Guide, POSM newsletter, and website).

9. Integrate the St. Marys River Management plan into other natural resource management plans, comprehensive plans, and conservation programs on an on-going basis.

10. Hire cost effective Committee administrative assistance to enhance effectiveness and communication that emphasizes outsourcing.

11. Establish a St. Marys River museum/library/information clearinghouse/database for use by the Committee, citizens, and local government agencies.

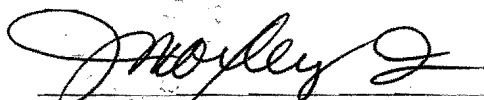
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



MARIANNE MARSHALL

Its: Chairman

ATTEST:



J. M. "CHIP" OXLEY, JR.

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the
Nassau County Attorney



MICHAEL S. MULLIN

h/anne/res/st-marys-river-management