

RESOLUTION 2002 - 027

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE INTENDED CHANGES TO THE MANAGED HUNT PROGRAM PROPOSED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CUMBERLAND ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE.

WHEREAS, the legislation founding the Cumberland Island National Seashore as part of the National Park System provided that hunting by the public should be allowed; and

WHEREAS, this hunting provides both a cost-effective method of controlling hog and deer herds that would otherwise require the taxpayers to pay commercial hunters to control, as well as a recreational opportunity for more than four hundred (400) hunters a year; and

WHEREAS, moving the present two (2) hunt camp locations from where they are currently located on the fringe of the designated wilderness area, into the center of the wilderness area, will concentrate more than four hundred (400) hunters a year into a single camp location with no sanitary facilities or safe drinking water, and thereby have an unhealthy effect on both the wilderness and the hunters; and

WHEREAS, moving the present two (2) hunt camps, which are located within one hundred (100) yards of the boat landings, to a new camp location will require hunters to

carry their gear and four (4) days worth of food about 1-1/4 miles into the wilderness during daytime temperatures in the 70-80 degree range, thereby preventing many older hunters from being physically able to participate in the hunts; and

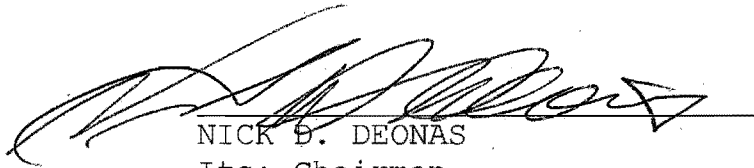
WHEREAS, discontinuing the present practice of having the Park Rangers pick up, by vehicle, the game hunters drag to the road, would result in the hunters having to drag their game inordinate distances, thereby discouraging them from dispersing into the more remote areas of the wilderness and, in turn, causing a potential safety problem.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2002, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, as follows:

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously opposes the proposed changes to the managed hunt program on Cumberland Island National Seashore and prevails on the National Park Service and the Superintendent of Cumberland Island National Seashore to cancel the pending changes to the hunt program and leave the present hunt camps located outside the designated wilderness area, and to continue the practice of Park Rangers picking up the game that hunters


have dragged to the road, and have an open dialogue with the hunters concerning any future changes.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA




NICK D. DEONAS  
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/Cumberland-island-hunts