

RESOLUTION No. 2015-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF CINCO BAYOU, FLORIDA EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA ESTUARIES AND WATERSHEDS PROJECT THAT WILL ESTABLISH ESTUARY PROGRAMS FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT, RESTORATION, AND PROTECTION OF SEVEN NORTHWEST FLORIDA ESTUARIES; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Northwest Florida Estuaries and their associated natural resources provide boating, fishing, hunting, tourism, and other outdoor recreational and economic opportunities for citizens and visitors of Florida; and

WHEREAS, mismanagement of Northwest Florida Estuaries may exacerbate flooding and property loss, negatively impact water quality and estuarine habitat, negatively affect the local economy and tourism, and threaten the health, safety and welfare of Florida's citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State of Florida are seeking funding to "stand up" and establish Estuary Programs in seven Northwest Florida Estuaries, including Perdido, Pensacola, Choctawhatchee, St. Andrew, Apalachicola, Ochlockonee, and St. Marks, in order to comprehensively coordinate the management and improvement of these estuaries and their natural resources; and

WHEREAS, elected officials, local, state and federal government staffs, The Nature Conservancy, citizens, academia, and other stakeholders from the Northwest Florida Estuaries have been actively participating in meetings for the past two years to identify and coordinate estuary management issues and efforts; and

WHEREAS, all involved stakeholders support the establishment of Estuary Programs for the seven Northwest Florida Estuaries in order to comprehensively manage and improve water quality, habitat, natural resources, and economic benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF CINCO BAYOU TOWN COUNCIL THAT:

1. That the TOWN COUNCIL finds the above recitals to be true and correct and incorporate them herein by reference.
2. That the TOWN COUNCIL hereby expresses its support for the Northwest Florida Estuaries and Watersheds Project that will establish Estuary Programs for the comprehensive management, restoration and protection of seven Northwest Florida Estuaries, including Perdido, Pensacola, Choctawhatchee, St. Andrew, Apalachicola, Ochlockonee, and St. Marks.

3. That this resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

4. That the TOWN COUNCIL shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Secretary Jonathan P. Steverson of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in Tallahassee; Director Shawn Hamilton of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Northwest District in Pensacola; Executive Director Brett Cyphers of the Northwest Florida Water Management District in Havana; Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Chair and Secretary of the Department of Commerce Penny Pritzker in Washington, DC; Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council Executive Director Justin R. Ehrenwerth in Washington, DC; USEPA Secretary Gina McCarthy in Washington, DC; and USEPA Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water Ken Kopocis in Washington, DC.

DONE AND ADOPTED by the TOWN OF CINCO BAYOU TOWN COUNCIL
this 10 day of SEPTEMBER 2015.

MAYOR: 
JEAN HOOD

Attest:



KEITH WILLIAMS, TOWN MANAGER/CLERK

