

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DESIGNATION OF THE
MARCO ISLAND BEACH AS A
CRITICAL HABITAT FOR THE PIPING PLOVER**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has proposed the designation of the entire length of the Marco Island beach as critical habitat for the piping plover pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act); and

WHEREAS, the impact of the designation of the Marco Island beach under the Act as critical habitat could result in adverse impacts to the use and enjoyment of the beach by Marco Island residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the designation could result in the restriction or elimination of activities vital to the community of Marco Island, such as: beach nourishment, stabilization and cleaning; dredging; recreational activities including passive access and use; and

WHEREAS, the USFWS has not performed an economic analysis of the impact of this designation on the community; and

WHEREAS, the beach, its use and enjoyment are crucial elements of the human and natural environment of Marco Island; and

WHEREAS, restriction of access, use and enjoyment of the beach would have a severely detrimental effect on the citizens and businesses of Marco Island; and

WHEREAS, the USFWS is soliciting comments from municipalities as to the impact of the designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Marco Island, Florida, that the City is in strong opposition to the designation of the beaches on Marco Island as critical habitat for the piping plover, whether said beaches are publicly or privately held.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Marco Island, Florida endorses the efforts of the various non-governmental groups and organizations that are opposing the designation of the beaches as critical habitat.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Marco Island, Florida shall take measures to insure that this resolution and the fact of the City's opposition shall be transmitted to the USFWS and appropriate legislative and executive branch members.

Passed in open and regular session of the City Council of Marco Island, Florida, this 21st day of August, 2000.

Attest



A. William Moss
City Manager/City Clerk



Harry Cowin
Chairman