

Manatee Construction Conditions¹:

June 1, 2001

1. The permittee shall instruct all personnel associated with the project of the potential presence of manatees and the need to avoid collisions with manatees. All construction personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of manatee(s).
2. The permittee shall advise all construction personnel that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing manatees which are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the Florida Manatee Sanctuary Act of 1978.
3. Siltation barriers shall be installed and shall be made of material in which manatees cannot become entangled, shall be properly secured, and shall be monitored regularly to avoid manatee entrapment. Barriers shall not block manatee entry to or exit from essential habitat.
4. All vessels associated with the project shall operate at "no wake/idle" speeds at all times while in the construction area and while in water where the draft of the vessel provides less than four feet clearance from the bottom. All vessels shall follow routes of deep water whenever possible.
5. If manatee(s) are seen within 100 yards of the active daily construction/dredging operation or vessel movement, all appropriate precautions shall be implemented to ensure protection of the manatee. These precautions shall include the operation of all moving equipment no closer than 50 feet of a manatee. Operation of any equipment closer than 50 feet to a manatee shall necessitate immediate shutdown of that equipment. Activities will not resume until the manatee(s) has departed the project area of its own volition.
6. Any collision with and/or injury to a manatee shall be reported immediately to the "Manatee Hotline" at 1-888-404-FWCC (1-888-404-3922). **Collision and/or injury should also be reported to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Jacksonville (1-904-232-2580) for north Florida or Vero Beach (1-561-562-3909) in south Florida.**
7. Temporary signs concerning manatees shall be posted prior to and during all construction/dredging activities. All signs are to be removed by the permittee upon completion of the project. A sign measuring at least 3 feet by 4 feet which reads *Caution: Manatee Area* will be posted in a location prominently visible to water-related construction crews. A second sign should be posted if vessels are associated with the construction, and should be placed visible to the vessel operator. The second sign should be at least 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches which reads:

Caution: Manatee Habitat. Idle speed is required if operating a vessel in the construction area. All equipment must be shutdown if a manatee comes within 50 feet of the operation. Any collision with and/or injury to a manatee shall be reported immediately to the FWC Hotline at 1-888-404-FWCC (1-888-404-3922). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should also be contacted in Jacksonville (1-904-232-2580) for north Florida or in Vero Beach (1-561-562-3909) for south Florida.

¹At this time manatee construction precautions #3 and #7 are not required in Escambia Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, Franklin, Wakulla, or Jefferson Counties except for the St. Marks and Wakulla River areas.

CAUTION

MANATEE HABITAT

IDLE SPEED is required if operating a vessel

in the construction area.

All Equipment must be SHUT DOWN if a manatee comes within 50 feet of operation.

Any collision with and/or injury to a manatee shall be reported immediately

to the **FWC** at:

1-888-404-FWCC

(1-888-404-3922)



Permanent Manatee Sign Information

(Revised June 2001)

There are two types of approved permanent manatee signs that may be required by permit or lease: educational signs and awareness signs (see page 2 for detailed descriptions). These educational signs are non-regulatory in nature.

The permit/lease holder should forward a project site plan to the Bureau of Protected Species Management (620 South Meridian Street, OES-BPS, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600) with the type, number, and location of signs indicated on the site plan. The applicant should also include a location map of the facility in relation to waterways, a county location map, and the permit and/or lease number associated with the project. BPSM will review the sign placement proposed for the project and notify the applicant within 30 days of receiving the plan if the signs and locations are unacceptable. Correspondence may be sent to offer suggestions on the type, number, and location of the signs. If the applicant has not received a response within 30 days, the proposed signs and their locations should be considered approved. Letters indicating approval of a sign site plan are available upon request.

The educational signs must be placed in a prominent location for maximum visibility, such as near walkways, dockmaster offices, restrooms, or foot traffic access points to piers/docks. The awareness signs should be placed facing land on walkways or docks. Permanent manatee signs should not be installed on pilings in the water nor be attached to navigational markers. If a facility has multiple docks with separate walkways, signs should be installed near each walkway or dock. These signs should be oriented so that boaters using the facility will be reminded of the presence of manatees. The signs are not required to be in view of the general boating public. If approved signs and their locations are found to be out of accordance with these guidelines, the permit/lease holder will have to relocate or install additional signs.

The following specifications should only be considered guidelines for typical projects. Project locations near manatee important habitat, or involving other special circumstances may warrant additional signs.

Facility (wet, dry, temporary, or permanent)	Recommended Signs
Residential with less than 10 slips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site by site determination required
Boat ramps, charters or cruises, boat rental or restaurant facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Signs • Awareness Signs (may require multiple signs - site by site determination for quantity)
Facilities with greater than 10 slips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Signs (may require multiple signs - site by site determination for quantity) • Awareness Signs (may require multiple signs - site by site determination for quantity)

Manatee Awareness Sign

CAUTION



**MANATEE
AREA**

The "Caution: Manatee Area" sign is 3' by 4' and is available from all of the companies listed on the sign supplier list. These caution signs are intended to remind boaters using the facility of the presence of manatees while on the water. This sign will meet the manatee awareness display condition required by lease/permit.

Manatee Educational Signs



These signs are 2' by 3' and are available only through Wilderness Graphics. "Protecting the Gentle Giant" lists the potential threats to manatees and what the public can do to help protect them. "The Florida Manatee" provides a general description of manatees and their behavior. These two signs must be displayed as a pair to meet the manatee educational display condition required by lease/permit.



The "Manatee Basics for Boaters" sign is 3' by 4' and is available from all of the companies listed on the sign supplier list. This educational sign provides information on the characteristics of manatees and the potential threat to this endangered species from boat operation. This sign will meet the manatee educational display required by lease/permit.

Manatee Basics for Boaters



Approved Sign Suppliers for Manatee Signs

Revised June 2001

Permanent manatee educational and awareness signs are available through the companies listed below or from other local suppliers throughout the state. Permit/lease holders, marinas, and boat docking/launching facilities should contact the sign companies directly to arrange for shipping and billing of the signs.

- **ASAP Signs & Designs**
624-B Pinellas Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone: (727) 443-4878
Fax: (727) 442-7573
- **Wilderness Graphics, Inc.**
P. O. Box 1635
Tallahassee, FL 32302
Phone: (850) 224-6414
Fax: (850) 561-3943
www.wildernessgraphics.com
- **Municipal Supply & Sign Co.**
1095 Fifth Avenue, North
P. O. Box 1765
Naples, FL 33939-1765
Phone: (800) 329-5366 or
(941) 262-4639
Fax: (941) 262-4645
www.municipalsigns.com
- **Universal Signs & Accessories**
2912 Orange Avenue
Ft. Pierce, FL 34947
Phone: (800) 432-0331 or
(561) 461-0665
Fax: (561) 461-0669
- **Cape Coral Signs & Designs**
1311 Del Prado Boulevard
Cape Coral, FL 33990
Phone: (941) 772-9992
Fax: (941) 772-3848
- **United Rentals Highway Technologies**
309 Angle Road
Ft. Pierce, FL 34947
Phone: (561) 489-8772
or (800) 489-8758 (FL only)
Fax: (561) 489-8757
- **New City Signs**
1829 28th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
Phone: (727) 323-7897
Fax: (727) 323-1897