

# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2006 ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Provided funds to track rehabilitated manatees with a history of monofilament entanglements in the Florida Keys.
- Facilitated timely rescues of injured manatees by acting as a clearinghouse and fielding calls from the public.
- Provided expert testimony and helped to build a successful legal case to require developers to include adequate protections when a mega-project threatened manatees, right whales, and sea turtles in coastal Georgia.
- Provided over \$5,600 to purchase a manatee stretcher, centrifuge, and other vital equipment to assist with the care of manatees at Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park.



- Worked with state and federal agencies to strengthen Manatee Protection Plans for Palm Beach and Broward Counties and to create Plans for other counties where manatee mortality is high.
- Distributed new manatee public service announcement featuring Carl Hiaasen and Wil Shriner, of the movie *Hoot*, to national television stations.
- Advocated successfully for the Florida Legislature to require studies to better determine the need for additional planning for growth and protection of coastal areas where boating access is likely to increase.
- Influenced the Legislature to offer financial incentives to local governments to implement comprehensive planning efforts regarding future development projects.
- Led a national coalition that filed a legal petition with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to ensure better protection for manatees.
- Worked to ensure that the state's Manatee Management Plan is as strong as possible.
- Advocated for the highest level of federal manatee protection based on the best available science as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) conducted its 5-year review of the federal status of manatees.
- Met quarterly with government agencies, recreational user groups, and the marine industries to resolve conflicts and to reach consensus on vital manatee and habitat issues.

- Provided funds for a text on conservation issues affecting manatees and dugongs in developing countries to be used as a guide by both field scientists and students.
- Backed the creation and adoption of contingency plans and sought alliances with the regulated community to prevent large manatee die-offs at artificial warm water refuges critical to manatee survival.
- Filed a legal petition with the USFWS to increase manatee protection efforts in the vicinity of a Riviera Beach power plant's warm water effluent canal where hundreds of manatees winter.
- Worked in tandem with the Outdoor Arts Foundation on their display of fabricated life-sized manatees to raise public awareness in the Tampa Bay, Florida, area.

- Participated in successful negotiations with the USFWS, the FWC, and the city for FWC's adoption of federal boat speed zones in downtown Jacksonville to enhance on-water enforcement efforts.
- Fought the FWC's adoption of a high-speed corridor through a slow speed zone in Charlotte County.
- Campaigned for six additional safe havens around the state to protect manatees from boat strikes.
- Generated more citizen comments to the St. Johns River Water Management District than the agency had ever received on a single issue regarding their adoption of an inadequate minimum flow level for Blue Spring. Continue to press the District to return spring flow to historic levels a full eleven years before schedule.
- Organized an effort to stop a dredging project in Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve, which would destroy many of the preserve's features.
- Filed a sixty-day letter of intent to sue against federal agencies involved in the permitting of underwater blasting activities at the Port of Miami.
- Provided funding to the Caribbean Stranding Network for care of orphaned manatees in Puerto Rico.



**Save the Manatee® Club**

500 N. Maitland Ave. • Maitland, FL 32751  
800-432-JOIN (5646) • [www.savethemanatee.org](http://www.savethemanatee.org)