

CONSERVATION ELEMENT

Goal 13.0. Conserve, and protect the beneficial use of the natural resources of Broward County so as to provide and maintain a level of environmental quality that ensures the public health, safety, and sustainable environmental communities including factors that affect energy conservation.

Objective 13.1. To protect and improve the air quality throughout Broward County by 2015, to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) contained in the Clean Air Act.

Policy 13.1.1. Broward County shall continue to maintain and operate an improved system of synchronized traffic signals along arterial roads and major collector roads in order to minimize localized Carbon Monoxide (CO) emissions produced by motor vehicles.

Policy 13.1.2. Broward County shall promote the reduction of volatile organic compounds by continuing to require Stage I and Stage II gasoline vapor recovery equipment at gasoline stations.

Policy 13.1.3. Broward County shall continue to develop transit operations and service plans to decrease the number of automobiles on the highways by increasing ridership on the Broward County Transit System from 36 million trips in 2005 to 40 million trips by 2011.

Policy 13.1.4. Broward County shall continue to participate actively in the planning for feeder/shuttle bus services within Broward County.

Policy 13.1.5. Broward County will continue to pursue efforts to increase the use of alternative fuels.

Policy 13.1.6. Broward County will promote the use of electric powered vehicles by continued participation in electric vehicle (EV) programs.

Policy 13.1.7. Broward County shall continue to monitor the ambient air quality in Broward County in accordance with state and federal requirements contained in 40 CFR 58.

Policy 13.1.8. Broward County shall continue to implement and verify compliance with federal, state and local air quality regulations.

Policy 13.1.9. Broward County will continue to make public outreach one of its top priorities by increasing awareness of air quality issues through public outreach efforts including publication of informational brochures, development of the Broward County

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home page on the Internet, maintenance of an air quality informational center, and organization of workshops aimed at major employers and schools.

Policy 13.1.10. Broward County shall designate non-smoking areas in all County facilities in order to provide a relatively clean and smoke-free indoor environment.

Policy 13.1.11. Broward County shall encourage air quality management issues to be addressed on a regional airshed basis as means of providing effective air quality solutions to specific regional problems through active participation in regional transportation/air quality planning efforts.

Policy 13.1.12. Broward County shall periodically update the Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) emission inventory as required by the State of Florida, State Implementation Plan (SIP) 10-Year Ozone Attainment/Maintenance Plan for Southeast Florida.

Policy 13.1.13. Broward County will promote activities leading to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions generated by Broward County government facilities.

Policy 13.1.14. Broward County will promote activities that will result in strengthening the coordination and understanding of the linkage between land use and transportation planning for air quality by participating in planning processes by local and regional planning agencies.

Policy 13.1.15. Broward County will continue to investigate the effects of long-term and short term VOC and/or NOx controls on ozone formation specific to Southeast Florida conditions.

Policy 13.1.16. Broward County shall develop a county-wide Climate Change Program to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change in coordination with other local governments, private businesses, other governmental agencies and the State of Florida. This program will focus on mitigating the causes and consequences of greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective and efficient manner that preserves the County's economic competitiveness.

Objective 13.2. To protect and improve the water quality throughout Broward County, to maintain a sustainable environment, to maintain or improve the water quality of current and projected water sources, including surface waters, ground waters, and waters that flow into estuarine water or oceanic waters, as measured by the standards of Article V, Chapter 27, Broward County Code of Ordinances.

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Policy 13.2.1. Broward County shall continue to protect water quality by maintaining and enforcing a licensing and compliance program for hazardous materials facilities, solid waste facilities, hazardous material and sewage haulers, solid waste transfer stations, filling of surface water bodies, storage tanks and utility electrical equipment; and maintaining an inspection program to abate potential threats to groundwater.

Policy 13.2.2. Broward County shall continue to maintain, implement and enforce the County Wellfield Protection Ordinance (Wellfield Protection, Article XIII, Chapter 27, Broward County Code of Ordinances) and will conduct wellfield inspections to locate possible contamination sources and insure abatement of identified sources.

Policy 13.2.3. Broward County shall continue to monitor FDEP's and EPA's activities as they maintain, oversee and enforce water quality standards for effluent disposed of through ocean outfall.

Policy 13.2.4. Broward County shall continue to monitor the quality of waters flowing into the County's estuarine system and implement strategies to maintain or improve the viability of the system.

Policy 13.2.5. Broward County shall continue to maintain land development regulations allowing the construction, use, maintenance and repair of septic tanks in those areas where a centralized wastewater system is not available provided such meets all legal requirements. Where a centralized wastewater system is available, the land development regulations shall continue to require the property to connect to the wastewater line unless exempted. Exemptions from the connection requirement may be granted where the connection charge is not just and reasonable and for residential uses within areas designated Rural Ranches and Rural Estates, provided such exemption does not endanger the public health, safety, and welfare.

Policy 13.2.6. Broward County will maintain a Comprehensive Pollution Prevention Program which emphasizes waste minimization and reduction and focuses on public education programs, and development and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for licensed facilities that have a high potential for contamination or a history of compliance problems.

Policy 13.2.7. Broward County shall maintain an emergency response program with the capacity to rapidly respond to discharges of hazardous materials or solid waste and to investigate environmental complaints. Broward County shall also maintain a response network for hurricane emergencies or other declared emergency situations under Broward County Emergency Support Functions 8 and 10.

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Policy 13.2.8. The Board of County Commissioners, through its land use and zoning authority, shall continue to ensure that recreational uses and activities in the water conservation areas as defined in the Future Unincorporated Area Land Use Element are compatible with and protect the natural character of the areas.

Policy 13.2.9. Broward County shall continue to encourage the South Florida Water Management District's and other governmental entity's efforts to acquire private property and mineral rights in the water conservation areas as defined in the Future Unincorporated Area Land Use Element.

Policy 13.2.10. No new solid-fill transportation facilities or similar structures, which contradict the efforts of the Federal Water Resources Development Act of 2000 and the Florida Everglades Forever Act, shall be permitted within Broward County's water conservation areas, as defined in the Future Unincorporated Area Land Use Element, without provisions for maintaining the freshwater sheet flow.

Objective 13.3. Broward County shall maintain or reduce the average daily per capita water demand as reflected in the South Florida Water Management District's consumptive use permits. The consumptive use permits provide for the following per capita water demand: 141 gallons per capita per day for District 1; 152 gallons per day for District 2; 255 gallons per capita per day for District 3A; and 117 gallons per day for District 3BC.

Policy 13.3.1. Broward County shall encourage the reuse of reclaimed water as an integral part of its wastewater management program, where economically, environmentally, and technically feasible.

Policy 13.3.2. Broward County shall encourage increased waste water reuse from North Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant where feasible.

Policy 13.3.3. Broward County shall continue to plan and develop new well fields and water supplies in accordance with state rules and water policy.

Policy 13.3.4. Broward County shall continue to implement the Water Conservation Plan as required in their consumptive use permit from the South Florida Water Management District as well as other utility specific water conservation efforts which include water use audits, education and support for the NatureScape Irrigation Service operations within the WWS service area.

Policy 13.3.5. Broward County shall continue to develop and implement County-wide water conservation programs and initiatives including the Water Matters education and outreach program, the NatureScape Broward, and the NatureScape

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Irrigation Service (NIS).

Policy 13.3.6. Broward County shall maintain specific landscape irrigation measures urging the public to conserve water resources prior to declaration of an emergency water shortage by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and shall implement all water use restrictions applicable to Broward County in accordance with Chapter 40E-21, Florida Administrative Code (FAC).

Policy 13.3.7. Broward County shall continue to enforce Chapter 39, "Zoning," Article VIII, "Functional landscaping and Xeriscaping," of the Broward County Code of Ordinances, which reflects the NatureScape Broward program principles.

Policy 13.3.8. Broward County will continue to require installation of water conservation flow devices as required by the Florida Energy Code as a condition for the receipt of Certificates of Occupancy.

Policy 13.3.9. Broward County shall pursue the use of reclaimed water as an integral part of regional water development strategies for potential application in landscape irrigation, aquifer recharge, and environmental enhancement where technically, environmentally, and economically feasible.

Policy 13.3.10. Broward County, in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the SFWMD, shall continue to monitor the extent of salt water intrusion into the Biscayne Aquifer.

Policy 13.3.11. Broward County shall work with the SFWMD, municipalities, independent drainage districts, and neighboring counties to plan and develop additional surface water storage including the water preserve areas in western Broward County.

Policy 13.3.12. In order to protect and conserve the Biscayne Aquifer, and support Everglades restoration, Broward County shall pursue projects that enhance aquifer recharge and investigate utilization of alternative water resources to supplement and broaden the county's future water supply sources. These potential sources include the Floridian Aquifer, Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR), desalination, capture and storage of excess storm water and other technologies addressed in the Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan 2005-2006 Update of the SFWMD.

Policy 13.3.13. Broward County shall explore additional opportunities to conserve water by targeting industries and areas characterized by high rates of water consumption and develop industry specific water conservation strategies.

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Policy 13.3.14. Broward County will work expeditiously to apply the County-wide hydrologic model in support of water resource planning and management.

Policy 13.3.15. Broward County will work with local governments, including municipalities and drainage/water control districts to apply the County-wide integrated Water Resources Plan principles.

Policy 13.3.16. Broward County shall pursue a geotechnical analysis of the upper Floridan Aquifer to identify layers of permeability and enhanced hydraulic conductivity to help guide regional development of the Floridan Aquifer as an alternative water supply.

Policy 13.3.17. Broward County shall work with water managers to review water supply planning efforts and consider opportunities for coordination in alternative water resource development, such as desalination, the development of Floridan wells, ASR, and reuse.

Objective 13.4. Broward County shall conserve and protect its mineral resources by maintaining and enforcing land development and environmental regulations on mining and excavation activities.

Policy 13.4.1. The Planning and Redevelopment Division shall review the future land use designation of existing commercial mining operations. Those operations that are inappropriately designated shall be redesignated to an appropriate future land use category on the Future Unincorporated Area Land Use Element Map Series.

Policy 13.4.2. Broward County shall continue to regulate lake excavation through existing ordinances that address safety, water quality, reclamation of inactive mining excavations, and the lake's compatibility with the surrounding land uses.

Objective 13.5. Broward County shall conserve and protect its soils resources by maintaining land development regulations governing soil erosion and shall appropriately use its soils by enforcing existing land development regulations limiting the use of septic tanks to those soil associations suitable for such usage.

Policy 13.5.1. To minimize soil erosion on new construction sites, land development regulations shall be maintained which require measures consistent with Chapter 27, Broward County Natural Resource Protection Code and the Best Management Practices of the United States Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Policy 13.5.2. Plans for the construction or expansion of arterial and collector

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roadways with steep embankments shall include appropriate landscaping and design to minimize soil erosion.

Policy 13.5.3. Broward County will continue to maintain and implement programs concerning the conservation and protection of beach resources. These programs shall ensure that activities along the coast do not promote beach erosion.

Objective 13.6. Broward County shall conserve and protect native vegetative communities as depicted on the computerized geographic information system (GIS) maps of County Commission designated properties of ecological concern.

Policy 13.6.1. Broward County shall continue to maintain a computerized map of County Commission designated properties of ecological concern to include those areas designated as Local Areas of Particular Concern, Natural Resource Areas, Environmentally Sensitive Lands, Urban Wilderness Areas and those lands on the Urban Wilderness Inventory.

Policy 13.6.2. Broward County shall continue to require compliance with the provisions of the Broward County Zoning Code, Functional Landscaping, prior to site plan approval in the Unincorporated Area in accordance with the Broward County Land Development Code Functional Landscaping and Tree Preservation.

Policy 13.6.3. Broward County shall continue to implement the Broward County Land Development Code, Greenspace, as it relates to review of site plans in the Unincorporated Area.

Policy 13.6.4. Broward County shall continue to make recommendations for designation of land as a Local Area of Particular Concern (LAPC) in the Native Vegetation Category. Lands should be recommended for designation if the criteria of the Native Vegetation Category has been met. If any designated LAPC's in this Category no longer meet the criteria for designation as an LAPC, the designation should be removed.

Policy 13.6.5. The County shall pursue opportunities for the conservation and/or preservation of native vegetative communities, including fee simple acquisition, dedication in lieu of park impact fees, provision of greenspace at the time of site plan review, and reduction in property taxes.

Policy 13.6.6. Broward County shall make information from the map of County Commission designated properties of ecological concern of native vegetative communities available to municipalities and other interested parties in order to coordinate natural resource planning and management activities.

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Policy 13.6.7. Broward County shall continue to implement regulations pertaining to the clearance of land designated as a Natural Resource Area in the Unincorporated Area.

Policy 13.6.8. Broward County shall continue to implement the Broward County Land Development Code on Natural Resource Areas, as it relates to the review of site plans in the Unincorporated Area.

Policy 13.6.9. The map of County Commission designated properties of ecological concern should be used for selecting resources for preservation as Urban Wilderness Areas (UWA). The UWAs recommended for acquisition should include cost estimates and be financially feasible.

Policy 13.6.10. UWAs, ESLs and other appropriate publicly owned lands should be designated as natural reservations on the Broward County Land Use Plan Map under the Conservation land use category.

Policy 13.6.11. Broward County shall continue to maintain and implement regulations that protect and preserve trees, including those in areas of native vegetative communities and promote the use of native vegetation.

Policy 13.6.12. Broward County shall continue to implement land clearance regulations within the Unincorporated Area and jurisdictional municipalities consistent with the NatureScape Broward Program requiring the removal of invasive exotics plants and the preservation and reestablishment of native vegetative communities to the greatest extent practicable, thereby enhancing wildlife habitat.

Policy 13.6.13. If a site is on the map of County Commission designated properties of ecological concern, the proposed site plan should incorporate the natural vegetative community to the greatest extent possible.

Policy 13.6.14. Broward County shall continue to implement regulations which shall preserve and enhance trees and Natural Forest Communities. Broward County shall also ensure that all municipalities have consistent regulations which protect tree resources.

Policy 13.6.15. Broward County shall have street trees in unincorporated county rights-of-way inventoried to provide a database of trees and available planting spaces. This information will be utilized to prepare planting plans for Tree Trust projects and to implement a tree maintenance program.

Policy 13.6.16. Broward County shall continue to implement regulations which shall

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promote proper pruning and penalize those who conduct improper pruning. Broward County shall also require that all municipalities have consistent regulations regarding Tree Abuse.

Policy 13.6.17. The County shall continue to provide a balance between recreational and municipal needs and natural resource preservation with due respect for the environmental sensitivity of the natural system present.

Policy 13.6.18. The County shall appropriate adequate funds to provide for the enhancement, maintenance and conservation of publicly-owned natural lands, wetland mitigation areas and water recharge areas.

Policy 13.6.19. The County shall pursue opportunities for the restoration and/or enhancement of degraded natural areas, including but not limited to, reforestation, restoration of shorelines or dunes, restoration of natural hydrology, or removal of non-native vegetation.

Objective 13.7. Broward County shall maintain or increase the functions and values of wildlife habitats and marine habitats.

Policy 13.7.1. Broward County shall update its site plan design regulations to include guidelines to promote viable habitats for nongame wildlife populations.

The Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission's Nongame Wildlife Program should be utilized as a source for the guidelines to promote viable habitats for nongame wildlife populations.

Policy 13.7.2. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Nongame Wildlife Program should be utilized as a source for the guidelines to promote viable habitats for nongame wildlife populations.

Policy 13.7.3. The County shall protect and conserve, using the LAPC and UWA Programs, those areas known to be reproduction, nesting and feeding areas for endangered and threatened animals.

Policy 13.7.4. The EPGMD shall apply for state and/or federal grants to fund programs for the conservation of wildlife and/or marine habitat.

Policy 13.7.5. The County Land Development Code will continue to give priority to establishing and protecting public beach access points.

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Policy 13.7.6. Estuarine Areas known to be habitats for juvenile marine fishes shall be recommended for protective status as LAPC's or UWA's. These areas shall include, but will not be limited to, mangroves forests, tidal marshes and sea grass beds.

Policy 13.7.7. The EPGMD shall continue to implement the sea turtle conservation programs using, when feasible, less manipulative conservation techniques.

Policy 13.7.8. The Permitting, Licensing, and Consumer Protection Division shall continue to implement regulations that require outside lighting for developments near sea turtle nesting areas to be appropriately shielded.

Policy 13.7.9. The County will continue to maintain and implement regulations and monitoring techniques to protect and conserve beaches and marine resources.

Policy 13.7.10. Broward County will continue to enhance offshore marine habitat through the Artificial Reef Program.

Policy 13.7.11. Broward County shall continue to ensure the protection of natural communities and listed endangered or threatened animal species and their habitats.

Objective 13.8. Increase the quality and connectivity of regionally significant wetland resources.

Policy 13.8.1. Optimize siting of mitigation projects to enhance their relationships with other wetlands.

Policy 13.8.2. Integrate wetlands into regional stormwater drainage/water management practices to provide necessary hydrology.

Policy 13.8.3. Participate in land acquisition/greenway programs to improve connectivity of effective size of wetland/upland systems.

Policy 13.8.4. In cooperation with local, regional, state, and federal regulatory agencies and the private sector, develop scientifically valid, minimum acceptable criteria for mitigation projects, including design; (minimum) size; configuration; location; hydrology; functions; and maintenance requirements by 1998.

Policy 13.8.5. In cooperation with the private sector, site entrepreneurial mitigation banks in the most appropriate locations.

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Policy 13.8.6. When feasible, lands where activities could impact areas essential to Everglades restoration, as identified by the SFWMD, shall not be designated in future land use categories that would increase density or intensity.

Objective 13.9. Ensure through effective management, the long-term functions of wetlands.

Policy 13.9.1. Provide for adequate hydrology for protected wetlands by establishing minimum water flows and levels for protected wetlands during license application review.

Policy 13.9.2. In cooperation with the SFWMD, FDEP, and the Broward County Parks and Recreation Division shall continue to develop government-sponsored mitigation banks or similar mechanisms to provide publicly-owned repositories for required mitigation by 2010.

Policy 13.9.3. When feasible the future land use designation for wetlands that are to be preserved should be changed to Conservation, Park, or Open Space.

Policy 13.9.4. Develop, adopt, and fund long-term management plans for publicly-owned or protected wetlands.

Policy 13.9.5. Broward County through the provisions in Broward County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 27, Article XI., Aquatic and Wetland Resource Protection, shall continue to protect and conserve wetlands and the natural functions of wetlands through implementation of the Environmental Resource License Process, seeks to avoid and minimize impacts to wetland function, and where impacts are unavoidable, requires replacement of lost function through mitigation.

Policy 13.9.6. Broward County shall distribute land uses in a manner that avoids or minimizes, to the greatest degree practicable, the effect and impact on wetlands. Those land uses identified in Table 13-A as being incompatible with the protection and conservation of wetlands and wetland functions shall be directed away from wetlands, or when compatible land uses are allowed to occur, shall be mitigated or enhanced, or both, to compensate for loss of wetland functions.

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TABLE 13-A
Compatibility of Land Uses
Relative to the Wetland Benefit Index

WETLAND BENEFIT INDEX	LAND USE COMPATIBILITY
Wetlands with a Wetland Benefit Index (WBI) value greater than or equal to 0.80	There is a rebuttable presumption that all land uses, except for conservation uses, are incompatible.
Wetlands with a WBI value less than 0.80	All land uses are compatible, provided that the wetland impact compensation requirements of Chapter 27, Article XI, are satisfied.

SOURCE: Broward County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 27, Article XI, Aquatic and Wetland Resource Protection.

Objective 13.10. Create/acquire additional wetlands in Broward County.

Policy 13.10.1. Participate in land acquisition initiatives, greenway programs, park expansions, and other programs for increasing acreage of wetlands.

Policy 13.10.2. Develop and implement programs for protecting and expanding existing wetland areas such as Transfer of Development Rights, conservation easements, restrictive covenants, and tax incentives.

Policy 13.10.3. Prepare a basin study for Indian Trace Basin 2 to evaluate future land use designations and develop an implementation plan that will contribute to the success of the Water Preserve Areas in western Broward County.

Policy 13.10.4. Maintain a Wetland Resource Plan that will ensure flexibility over time as to the approaches to wetland protection, enhancement, and creation.

Goal 13-A. Maintain or increase levels of protection for the West Indian Manatee and increase boating safety within Broward County’s waterways.

Objective 13-A.1. Restrict access and activities in designated Manatee Essential Habitat Areas and maintain existing speed regulations in and around Manatee Travel Corridors.

Policy 13-A.1.1. Broward County shall continue to support State designation of the FPL Port Everglades and Lauderdale Power Plants’ discharge canal and cooling lakes as No Entry Zones for unauthorized vessels.

Policy 13-A.1.2. Broward County shall continue to support State designated Idle

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Speed Zones, Low Speed Zones and Slow Speed Buffer Zones in Manatee Travel Corridors.

Policy 13-A.1.3. Broward County shall continue to prohibit land-based fishing in the Port Everglades Jurisdictional Area and fishing, diving and swimming in the State-designated No Entry Zone.

Policy 13-A.1.4. Broward County shall support local restrictions for speed regulations on municipal waterways for manatee protection and boating safety.

Objective 13-A.2. Increase levels of vessel operator compliance with appropriate laws pertaining to manatee protection.

Policy 13-A.2.1. Broward County shall continue to provide funding for marine law enforcement personnel, add an additional law enforcement officer and develop a law enforcement taskforce by January, 2009 to promote compliance with manatee protection regulations.

Policy 13-A.2.2. The Broward County Marine Advisory Committee, along with the Florida Inland Navigation District, shall annually inspect and maintain all manatee speed zone signs.

Objective 13-A.3. Ensure that new marinas/boat facilities and boat ramps will, through proper facility siting and construction techniques, be located on sites that would minimize potential manatee/boat overlap, injury to manatees and disturbance of manatee habitat.

Policy 13-A.3.1. Broward County shall adopt an ordinance, pursuant to Section 8.04 of the Broward County Charter, to prohibit the construction of new or expansion of existing marinas, docking facilities and boat ramps, except those related to law enforcement, within Manatee Essential Habitat Areas.

Policy 13-A.3.2. Broward County shall adopt an ordinance pursuant to Section 8.04 of the Broward County Charter requiring any new or expanded marina, docking facility or boat ramp to demonstrate that it will not have any significant, adverse environmental impacts on manatee habitat or Manatee Travel and Migration Corridors, and will not adversely affect rare, threatened or endangered flora or fauna and existing sea grass beds.

Policy 13-A.3.3. Beginning in 2009, Broward County shall require benthic surveys for seagrass and natural resources when reviewing an application for an Environmental Resource License.

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Policy 13-A.3.4. Marinas, docking facilities or boat ramps shall be located so as to require minimal or no dredging and have good tidal flushing. In instances where dredging is required, both initial and maintenance dredging shall be minimized.

Policy 13-A.3.5. Utilize grates over culverts and other construction methods or standards for all docks, mooring pilings or other structures which do not entrap or injure manatees; and reduce or eliminate their impact on manatees and the resources on which manatees depend.

Policy 13-A.3.6. Existing marinas within Manatee Essential Habitat Areas, except those related to law enforcement, shall be legal nonconforming uses pursuant to adoption of the ordinance described in Policy 13-A.3.1.

Policy 13-A.3.7. The boundary of the FPL Port Everglades Power Plant Discharge Canal Manatee Essential Habitat Area shall be expanded to include the Mangrove Lagoon located north of the turning notch, south of the discharge canal and west of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

Policy 13-A.3.8. The extension of docks, mooring pilings or other such structures located in a federal navigation project channel, as defined in subsection 253.03 (10), F.S., or in a channel marked by any governmental agency, shall be in compliance with appropriate regulations.

Policy 13-A.3.9. In waterways, other than federal navigation project channels and channels marked by any governmental agency, a sufficient width of the waterway should remain free of docks and other structures to ensure safe navigation.

Policy 13-A.3.10. Ensure that new marine facilities which have 10 or more moorings provide educational signage and ones which have 30 or more moorings provide educational programs.

Objective 13-A.4. Increase public awareness of manatees and manatee protection efforts.

Policy 13-A.4.1. By 2013, all new and existing public and private marinas, boat ramps, and non-residential boat docks, as well as appropriate public parks are required to have posted manatee signs or educational displays or informational kiosks that raise manatee awareness.

Policy 13-A.4.2. Broward County, with assistance from its local governments, shall identify all areas where manatees have been regularly sighted and post Caution Manatee signs which feature a manatee likeness.

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Policy 13-A.4.3. Broward County shall request that all diving certification classes include information regarding manatees with emphasis on their endangered species status and the penalty for manatee harassment and/or injury.

Policy 13-A.4.4. Broward County shall encourage marine business organizations, such as the Marine Industries Association of South Florida, Inc., to continue to publish the *Broward Safe Boating Guide*, a comprehensive booklet outlining Manatee Protection Zones within Broward County's waterways.

Policy 13-A.4.5. Broward County shall request that the Center for Environmental Education and Research, Inc., include in its Educator's Guide an insert regarding manatee habitat and distribution.

Policy 13-A.4.6. Broward County shall request the Pompano Beach Power Squadron, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the publisher of the Waterway Guide to South Florida include information in their various programs and publications addressing manatee habits and protective regulations specific to Broward County.

Policy 13-A.4.7. Broward County's Marine Advisory Committee shall work with volunteer organizations to provide manatee and boating safety information at tourist outlets, public buildings, public parks and through the media.

Policy 13-A.4.8. Broward County shall encourage any interested parties to prepare and promote radio, television and newspaper announcements alerting boaters of areas frequented by manatees and advising boaters to avoid and/or operate at idle speed through these areas.

Policy 13-A.4.9. Broward County will disseminate the results of manatee aerial surveys to marine law enforcement, port pilots, tug operators, and boaters on a monthly basis during the season.

Policy 13-A.4.10. The Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department will participate in the Manatee Monitoring Advisory Group (MMAG) as established by the Manatee Protection Plan (MPP).

Policy 13-A.4.11. Broward County shall create and maintain a manatee website for the purpose of providing information regarding the projects associated with the MPP by 2009.

Objective 13-A.5. Increase knowledge of safe boating operations.

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Policy 13-A.5.1. Broward County shall continue to support vessel operator education as specified in Section 327.395 F.S.

Policy 13-A.5.2. At the time of vessel registration, Broward County shall provide information regarding the legal requirement to report boating accidents and the procedures for filing such reports in compliance with Section 327.30 F.S.

Objective 13-A.6. Initiate or maintain speed restrictions within waterways where hazardous navigational conditions exist.

Policy 13-A.6.1. Broward County shall support existing State and municipal speed designations and encourage continued enforcement of Idle, Slow and 25 MPH Speed Zones on Broward County's waterways.

Policy 13-A.6.2. Local governments shall designate a year-round Idle Speed Zone within 100 yards of the ocean shoreline, excluding the inlets and the entrance/exit channels therein, and except where more restrictive regulations apply.

Objective 13-A.7. Promote enforcement of speed restrictions and safe boating operation.

Policy 13-A.7.1. Broward County shall encourage the State to develop regulations providing for enforcement actions against the vessel in addition to existing enforcement actions against the operator for non-criminal violations.

Policy 13-A.7.2. Broward County shall encourage law enforcement agencies to establish a multi-agency task force to reduce the number of boaters Operating Under the Influence (OUI) and to ensure that patrolling of regulated areas and zones provides full and efficient coverage.

Policy 13-A.7.3. Broward County's Marine Advisory Committee shall support increased levels of funding through the Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant (EMLEG) Program for additional marine law enforcement personnel to ensure compliance with boating safety regulations.

Policy 13-A.7.4. Boating safety regulations shall be accompanied by adequate funding for implementation.

Policy 13-A.7.5. Broward County's Marine Advisory Committee shall continue to implement Broward County's Enhanced Marine Law Enforcement Grant Program utilizing the Local Option Vessel Registration Fee (Section 327.22 F.S.)

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Policy 13-A.7.6. Broward County shall annually collect and analyze statistical information on boating accidents and shall pursue marine-related grants and monitor marine-related policies and legislation.

Policy 13-A.7.7. Broward County shall propose legislation to change the allocation of the salt water fishing license revenues and salt water products license revenues, that are deposited in the Motorboat Revolving Trust Fund, to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) from the current up to 30% of such revenues to not less than 30%, and up to 15% of such revenues to not less than 15%, respectively; said revenues to be returned on a pro rata basis to the county from which it was collected.

Objective 13-A.8. Increase the effectiveness of boating safety signage.

Policy 13-A.8.1. Broward County shall request the placement of State-authorized speed restrictive signage on Federal navigational aids in the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway to increase visibility and standardize location of signage.

Policy 13-A.8.2. The Broward County Marine Advisory Committee shall develop a plan for illumination of selected speed restrictive signs in the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

Policy 13-A.8.3. Broward County shall request the placement of permanent speed restrictive zones on local navigational charts.

Policy 13-A.8.4. The Broward County Marine Advisory Committee shall annually inspect all non-manatee speed zone signs and maintain same in conjunction with the appropriate local government.

Objective 13-A.9. By 2009, Broward County shall establish a dual-fee program to fund the MPP in order to maintain and increase the protection of the West Indian Manatee in Broward County.

Policy 13.A.9.1. In accordance to Section 6.3.3 of the Manatee Protection Plan Component (MPPC) of the Conservation Element, the dual-fee funding program will consist of a combination of new-slip fees and an annual manatee mitigation slip fee for existing facilities managed by the MPP.

Policy 13.A.9.2. In accordance to Section 6.3.3. of the MPPC, a portion of the funds collected will be used to support an additional EPGMD staff member to implement the MPP licensing fee and perform inspections of existing facilities.

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Post Adoption Revisions

1. This Element was amended pursuant to a Stipulated Settlement Agreement with the Florida Department of Community Affairs through Ordinance Number 2000-07 adopted on February 1, 2000.
2. This Element was amended in Cycle 01-1 by Ordinance Nos. 2001-26, 2001-28 and 2001-30 adopted on June 26, 2001. Ordinance 2001-30 adopted the Manatee Protection and Boater Safety Goals, Objectives and Policies.
3. This Element was amended in Cycle 01-2 by Ordinance 2001-53 adopted on November 13, 2001. The amendment added policies 13.6.19 and 13.7.10 to enhance to County's ability to acquire grant monies for the preservation of open spaces and natural areas.
4. This Element was amended in Cycle 2006-2 through Ordinance No. 2006-69 adopted on December 12, 2006.
5. This Element was amended in Cycle 2009-1 through Ordinance No. 2009-62 adopted on September 22, 2009.