

JAN 25 1991



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AMENDED RESOLUTION NO. 91-ENV-02

WHEREAS, the Econlockhatchee River (Econ River) is a diverse and unique ecosystem of regional and statewide significance; and

WHEREAS, the Econ River traverses three counties, including Orange County, and is within the jurisdiction of four local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Econ River provides exceptional habitat for fish and wildlife, including endangered and threatened species, and contains a wide variety of biological communities, including rare upland habitats; and

WHEREAS, the Econ River provides unique recreational opportunities for Central Florida, including designation as a Florida Recreational Canoe Trail, and contains a portion of the Florida Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Econ River corridor contains significant archaeological and historical resources from its headwaters to its confluence with the St. John's River; and

WHEREAS, the Econ River Task Force, comprised of representatives from state agencies, local governments and private citizens, recommended that the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation designate the Econ River as an Outstanding Florida Water; and

WHEREAS, Orange County was the first government agency to regulate development impacts in the Econ River basin to protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) of Orange County has expended significant public monies to reduce direct discharges of wastewater and stormwater to the Econ River and has installed major integrated reclaimed water reuse systems including supplying such water for cooling water, groundwater replenishment and wetlands enhancement; and

Whereas, the County has provided significant planning documentation to provide for properly managed growth in the area by expanding said reuse systems to protect and enhance the Econ River; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the public health, safety, and welfare may be benefited by the additional protection that is afforded the Econ River by designation as an Outstanding Florida Water, in addition to the managed growth in the area through the County's land use requirements and utilities capital improvement plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida, that:

1. Orange County recommends the Environmental Regulation Commission determine whether the Econ River is of exceptional ecological and recreational significance as defined in Florida Administrative Code Rule 17-302.700(3); and
2. Orange County recommends the Environmental Regulation Commission determine whether the environmental, social and economic benefits resulting from the Outstanding Florida Water designation outweigh the environmental, social and economic costs with due consideration to all factors including enhancements afforded by the County's present and planned integrated reclaimed water reuse system for wastewater, solid waste and stormwater facilities; and
3. Orange County recommends the Department of Environmental Regulation in cooperation with the County conduct the necessary studies and data collection to establish the existing ambient water quality of the Econ River, taking into account daily, seasonal and other cyclic fluctuations including the effects of allowable discharges for which the Department permits or wetland exemptions that are outstanding; and
4. Orange County recommends the Environmental Regulation Commission after full public input, satisfaction of all applicable criteria including economic impacts to essential to public systems and establishment of the existing ambient water quality of the Econ River, designate the Econ River as an Outstanding Florida Water.

DONE AND ORDERED this 15th day of January, 1991.

  
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LINDA W. CHAPIN, ORANGE COUNTY CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:  
MARTHA O. HAYNIE, Comptroller  
As Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners

  
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Assistant Deputy Clerk