

Purpose of the Management Plan

The purpose of the management plan will be to provide guidance and direction for the management of Clam Pass and its associated estuary system by identifying the goals and objectives necessary to avoid or minimize impacts to the natural resources and biological integrity of the system. This plan will form the basis by which future management decisions can be made by identifying the appropriate management techniques necessary to preserve, enhance, restore, maintain and monitor the uses and resources within the system.

The plan will attempt to balance resource protection with passive recreational use. It should consider Clam Pass monitoring and maintenance, restoration needs, water quality, listed species protection education and other issues as identified in the Plan's formulation process.

The management plan shall be submitted to the Collier County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for its approval. When approved, this plan will form the basis for future permitting and other management activities within the system.

Based on Stakeholder input received to date we would respectfully submit the following topics as priorities to consider in the formulation of the new Clam Pass Inlet and Estuary Management Plan.

Protect and enhance environmental health of the System

- **Improve native floral and faunal communities (biodiversity) throughout entire system**
 - Mangroves
 - Seagrasses
 - Dune
 - Benthic
 - Offshore Hardbottom

- **Maintain sufficient flow through the Pass to maximize benefits to the System**
 - Minimize dredging to the least damaging practicable alternative
 - Not for navigation (by product only)
 - Not for beach nourishment (by product only)
 - Material compatible with beach should remain in the system
 - Disposal of incompatible beach material
 - Dredge only those areas necessary to achieve the flow benefits based on conditions at time of dredging
 - Historical basis
 - Modeling
 - Establish metrics to determine when dredging for system health is needed
 - Tidal
 - Survey
 - Biological

- **Improve Water Quality**
 - Maintain flushing capability of the system through pass maintenance
 - Coordinate with upland developments to improve upstream inputs
 - BMPs to reduce surface water pollutant loading
 - Copper sulfate and other in-water treatments
 - Insure adequate freshwater inputs, quality and timing necessary for long-term conservation of the system

- **Protect Listed Species**
 - Manatee
 - Sea Turtle
 - Gopher Tortoise
 - Smalltooth Sawfish
 - Shorebirds

- **Address existing and historical recreational uses within the system**
 - Fishing
 - Beach activities
 - Swimming
 - Sunbathing
 - Nature appreciation
 - Boating
 - Non-motorized
 - Motorized
 - Speed zone enforcement
 - Access issues to the north of the pass

- **Monitor System to insure health and success of management activities**
 - Surveying
 - Pass
 - Tidal creeks
 - Biological
 - Mangroves
 - Seagrasses
 - Wildlife
 - Birds
 - Fish
 - Benthic communities
 - Tidal
 - Range
 - Phase Lag
 - Water Quality
 - Nutrients
 - Fecal coliforms
 - Dissolved Oxygen
 - Copper

- **Additional Items that should be addressed in the Management Plan**
 - Educational Opportunities
 - Eco-tourism
 - Protection of Cultural Resources
 - Stakeholder Representation
 - Ability to modify Plan to take into account changing conditions or monitoring results