

United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge Complex 4055 Wildlife Way Vero Beach, Florida 32963

February 6, 2018

Kendra Cope Sea Turtle Coordinator/Environmental Specialist Indian River County Public Works <u>1801 27th Street</u> Vero Beach, FL 32960 772-538-0616

Indian River County sea turtle monitoring assistance for 2018.

Dear Ms. Cope,

The Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge is willing to commit to assist in the 2018 gap year of sea turtle research and data collection along the north Indian River County turtle nesting beach for the duration of March 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018.

Coordination with staff at Sebastian Inlet State Park, Indian River County, and Ecological Associates Inc. will occur to fulfill requirements of Indian River County's Habitat Conservation Plan. We are prepared to offer up to 3 days per week of collecting crawl data, marking nests, and monitoring disturbance. This includes our equipment, materials, and other supplies required during our survey days. Although we intend to fulfill the HCP requirements, human safety will be highest priority and we will not survey when conditions are not safe to do so.

In order to deliver the support, we will need to be provided with appropriate training, permitting, and other requirements needed to fulfill the HCP survey needs. In addition we support Indian River County serving as primary point of contact for the efforts requested.

Sincerely,

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Jeremy Edwardson Deputy Project Leader Everglades Headwaters NWR Complex