

April 21, 2025

Melissa Meisenburg IRC Senior Lagoon Environmental Specialist

RE: Pump-out Boat

Dear Ms. Meisenburg,

The Clean Water Coalition of Indian River County would like to express our strong support for the implementation of a pump-out boat service for the IRC portion of the Lagoon. The elimination of direct discharge of vessel waste into our lagoon has been an ongoing CWC concern. We have been advocating for effective regulation and enforcement for mandatory pump-out requirements for vessels in our waterways since our inception.

We appreciate your effort to locate grants which will cover the bulk of the cost to purchase and operate a pump-out boat that would serve the entire county.

To help move this process forward, the Clean Water Coalition of IRC's Board of Directors has agreed to commit up to \$10,000 to help provide the required 25% match for the operation and maintenance of the pump-out boat for its first year of service. If the pump-out boat program is not funded or will not commence by October 1, 2026, the CWC Board of Directors may retract or modify this financial commitment accordingly.

We are also appreciative that the Indian River Land Trust is committed to providing support toward the purchase of the vessel. Their partnership, along with our contribution toward the operational costs, shows the strong community support for this essential and needed service.

The Clean Water Coalition stands ready to assist in any way possible to make this pump-out boat successful in Indian River County. Please let us know how we can further support this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Judy Orcutt, President

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Clean Water Coalition of Indian River County