

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, estuaries are some of the most productive Ecosystems providing critical habitats for a variety of plants and animals including many species that are listed as threatened or endangered; and

**WHEREAS**, estuaries provide critical Ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization, erosion prevention, and the protection of coastal communities during extreme weather events; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida estuaries are vital to our State's jobs, tourist industry and economy, with more than 75 percent of the nation's commercial and recreational fish species spending part or all of their lives in an estuarine habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, celebrating National Estuaries Week highlights critical habitats within Northwest Florida's vibrant ecosystems, provides scientific education about estuarine environments, and offers collaboration opportunities for resource management; and

**WHEREAS**, Escambia County recognizes that estuaries provide social, environmental and economic benefits to our community; and

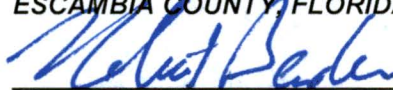
**WHEREAS**, National Estuaries Week is an annual celebration of the vibrant coastal areas where the rivers meet the seas, and celebrating this week presents an opportunity to learn more about these Coastal Ecosystems and how to protect them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Escambia Board of County Commissioners, joins other cities and Counties throughout the State of Florida in proclaiming September 18-25, 2021, as

**"National Estuaries Week"**.

**BE IT FUTHER PROCLAIMED**, the Board encourages the citizens of Escambia County to engage in activities to help protect and restore our estuaries and to learn more about these wondrous natural resources.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**



Robert Bender, Chairman, District Four

Jeff Bergosh, Vice Chairman, District One

Douglas Underhill, District Two

Lumon J. May, District Three

Steven Barry, District Five

**ATTEST: Pam Childers  
Clerk of the Circuit Court**

  
Deputy Clerk

Adopted: September 16, 2021

