



## RESOLUTION

Commending the Dedicated Service of

# Colonel Bob Brantly

**WHEREAS**, Colonel Robert M. 'Bob' Brantly was born in Jacksonville, Florida in November 1935 – the same year that the Florida Department of Game and Fresh Water Fish became the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, he attended the University of Jacksonville in the 1950s, was a 'walk-on' football player for Florida State University, was a competitive rodeo cowboy, and served in the United States Air Navy Reserve from June 1955 to June 1957; and

**WHEREAS**, he began his esteemed career with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission as a Wildlife Officer in September 1957, and worked his way through the ranks in increasingly responsible positions as an Education Officer, Regional Manager in the Lake City office, as Regional Operations Administrator and Deputy Director for Operations at the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission headquarters in Tallahassee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colonel was promoted to the position of Executive Director of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission on April 1, 1977 and retired in 1993, where he earned the admiration and respect of his fellow colleagues by the manner in which he carried out his responsibilities in a calm, smooth, fair and deliberate fashion; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1982 Bob Brantly provided the leadership in the Commission's decision to conduct an emergency deer hunt in the Everglades due to extreme high water that became a global issue among the anti-hunting community and prevailed in demonstrating the role hunting plays in sound wildlife management; and

**WHEREAS**, his genuine concern for wildlife and fisheries conservation and recognition of the importance of wildlife, its management and protection ensures that these treasured resources will be available for future generations to enjoy; and

**WHEREAS**, he has served as an able and efficient administrator and humanitarian who when hearing the Florida legislature called for the elimination of funding for five regional Public Information Coordinators, asked five of his division directors to each donate and reclassify a position in order to retain the currently employed Coordinators; and

**WHEREAS**, he has received many prestigious awards from conservation and international groups such as the 1981 Florida Wildlife Federation's **State Conservationist of the Year Award**, the 1983 **Ernest Thompson Seton Award**, an award from **Safari Club International** in 1985, the 1989 **Seth Gordon Award**, and the 1991 **Guy Bradley Award**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Colonel used the \$1,000 cash prize received from his 1991 Guy Bradley Award to initially establish and fund the SEAFWA Wildlife Officer of the Year Award and continued to personally fund this important award; and

**WHEREAS**, he served as the President of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) in 1980 and as Executive Secretary of SEAFWA for nearly twenty-one years; and has served as President of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, as it was then known, from 1986-1987; and

