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Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
2590 Executive Center Circle East
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Tallahassee, Florida 32301

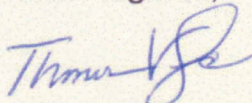
RE: Letter of Endorsement for the Use of Artificial Reefs, Inc.
Fish Haven Reef System for Reef Restoration and Development Projects

I have had the opportunity to observe and monitor Fish Haven artificial reef systems for marine life productivity and resident species diversity. In Pinellas County, Fish Haven units have significantly enhanced the production of reef fishes and are covered with growth. Resident species of Snapper, Trigger and Grouper are abundant while Cobia and Amberjack are frequently found hovering in the pelagic zone.

Additionally, I have had the opportunity to observe reef systems placed west of here in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Water temperatures are typically cooler during the winter months, but I have been extremely impressed with the amount of biomass development that has taken place on the newer units in such a short period of time.

Artificial Reefs, Inc. has an excellent system for habitat complexity by placing smaller units inside of larger units. I believe their research and patented process holds up very well in arguments on reef productivity. I have observed these reef systems in different environments and found this design to be an essential fish habitat (EFH). Design and durability of these units has delivered exceptional environmental benefits to the long term objectives. The recreational and commercial fish of interest, Red Snapper, Black Snapper and Gag Grouper are abundant on these reef systems. In fact, these complex systems reflect strong marine diversity and enhance the production of reef fishes.

Best regards,



Thomas J. Volpe
President