CS/HB 1061 2020

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to aquatic preserves; creating s. 3 258.3991, F.S.; creating the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve; designating the preserve for inclusion in 4 5 the aquatic preserve system and as an Outstanding 6 Florida Water; describing the boundaries of the 7 preserve; providing an effective date. 8 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 10 Section 1. Section 258.3991, Florida Statutes, is created 11 12 to read: 13 258.3991 Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve.-14 (1) DESIGNATION.—The area described in subsection (2) which lies within Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco Counties is 15 16 designated by the Legislature for inclusion in the aquatic 17 preserve system under the Florida Aquatic Preserve Act of 1975 18 and as an Outstanding Florida Water pursuant to s. 403.061(27) 19 and shall be known as the "Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve." It is 20 the intent of the Legislature that the Nature Coast Aquatic 21 Preserve be preserved in an essentially natural condition so 22 that its biological and aesthetic values may endure for the 23 enjoyment of future generations. 24 BOUNDARIES.—For the purposes of this section, the 25 Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve consists of the state-owned

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submerged lands lying west of a meandering line following the westernmost shorelines of Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco Counties, excluding artificial waterways, canals, inland rivers, and tributaries. Such state-owned submerged lands include all those lands seaward of the mean high water line and tidally connected to the Gulf of Mexico lying south of a line extending westerly 4 miles along northerly coordinate 1663693 feet, Florida West Zone (NAD83) from the mean high water line of the corresponding shoreline at Fort Island Gulf Beach Park, Latitude 28.91°N and Longitude -82.69°W, and lying westward of a line extending north from Latitude 28.91° and Longitude -82.75° to the eastern shoreline of the southern boundary of the Big Bend Seagrasses Aquatic Preserve, and continuous with the eastern shoreline of the northern boundary of the Pinellas County Aquatic Preserve, respectively. The boundary of the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve designated as the shoreline is the mean high water line along such shoreline unless otherwise stated and does not supersede the boundaries of currently designated Outstanding Florida Waters, state parks, national wildlife refuges, or aquatic preserves.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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