CONSERVATION ELEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL E – THE CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH WILL PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND ENHANCE THE CITY'S NATURAL RESOURCES, ENCOURAGING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND BEST LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

OBJECTIVE E.1 - THE CITY WILL CONTINUE TO PROTECT, CONSERVE OR ENHANCE WILDLIFE HABITATS.

Policy E.1.1
The City will continue to provide standards necessary to protect any identified areas which are habitats for species, both flora and fauna, classified as endangered, threatened or a species of special concern, by the Department of the Interior, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Policy E.1.2
The City will continue to require the preparation and implementation of a habitat management plan as a prerequisite to the approval of any development proposed on a site containing areas designated as Conservation on the Future Land Use Map Series or on land designated by the FFWCC as habitat for threatened or endangered species.

Policy E.1.3
The City will continue to require that any lands included as part of a proposed development site which are to be preserved for use as habitat for flora and fauna classified as endangered, threatened or a species of special concern by the Department of the Interior, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be located adjacent to existing viable habitat, a significant wetland system, floodplain or a wildlife corridor.

OBJECTIVE E.2 – THE CITY WILL PROTECT AND, WHERE POSSIBLE, PROVIDE FOR RESTORATION OF JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS.

Policy E.2.1
The City will protect and conserve the natural functions of wetlands and water bodies. In furtherance of this policy, wetlands in the City of Fort Walton Beach will not be removed, altered, or destroyed, except as permitted, mitigated, or provided a *de minimus* exemption by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Northwest Florida Water Management District, and US Army Corps of Engineers. The definition and delineation methodology for wetlands will be that established pursuant to § 373.019(25) and § 373.421, F.S. Map 1-6 depicts wetland data obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (2010), identifying potential jurisdictional wetlands; however, data is not field verified and final wetland delineation must be determined by an independent survey agreed to by the City.

Policy E.2.2
The City will continue to prohibit developments from channeling stormwater runoff directly into designated wetlands and water bodies.

COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

GOAL EE – THE CITY OF FORT WALTON BEACH WILL PRESERVE, PROTECT, CONSERVE, AND WHEN POSSIBLE, RESTORE THE RESOURCES OF THE CITY'S COASTAL PROTECTION AREA, ALLOW THE USE OF COASTAL RESOURCES AFTER CONSIDERATION OF AESTHETIC, ECOLOGICAL, CULTURAL AND HISTORIC FACTORS, AND UPON CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTON OF PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY.

OBJECTIVE EE.1 – The CITY WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC CRITERIA AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS WHICH PRIORITIZE SHORELINE USES, GIVING WATER-DEPENDENT USES AND WATER RELATED USES TOP PRIORITY.

Policy EE.1.1
The City will allow development of shoreline property while ensuring that shoreline erosion is minimized and natural resources are adequately protected.

Policy EE.1.2
The City will:

a) Encourage mixed-use water dependent and water-related uses along the City's water bodies; and
b) Include provisions that permit marinas, docks, piers, and recreation facilities along the Sound.

Policy EE.1.3
The City will continue to protect and preserve its working waterfronts for use by commercial fishermen, aquaculturists, and/or business entities that support these interests.

Policy EE.1.5
The City will continue to monitor development and redevelopment for compliance with the Coastal Zone Protection Act of 1985.

OBJECTIVE EE.2 – THE CITY WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE STANDARDS WHICH MINIMIZE THE IMPACTS OF MAN-MADE STRUCTURES ON AND RESTORE ESTUARINE SYSTEMS.

Policy EE.2.1
The City will preserve and restore, where feasible, the native sand-stabilizing vegetation of estuarine shorelines.

Policy EE.2.2
The City will continue to prohibit public or private activities that would increase erosion beyond the natural estuarine erosion cycle or would otherwise deteriorate the estuarine system.

Policy EE.2.3
The City will require that development and redevelopment conserve, and if needed, restore