

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  
 4           Preserve; designating the preserve for inclusion in  
 5           the aquatic preserve system and as an Outstanding  
 6           Florida Water; describing the boundaries of the  
 7           preserve; providing an effective date.

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 9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 11           Section 1.   Section 258.3991, Florida Statutes, is created  
 12   to read:

13           258.3991 Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve.-

14           (1) DESIGNATION.-The area described in subsection (2)  
 15 which lies within Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco Counties is  
 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. This section may not be  
 24 construed to impose additional permitting requirements for  
 25 county or state projects under the Resources and Ecosystems

26 Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of  
27 the Gulf Coast Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) that are funded  
28 pursuant to 33 U.S.C. s. 1321(t)(3).

29 (2) BOUNDARIES.—For purposes of this section, the Nature  
30 Coast Aquatic Preserve consists of the state-owned submerged  
31 lands lying west of a meandering line following the westernmost  
32 shorelines of Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco Counties, excluding  
33 artificial waterways, canals, inland rivers, and tributaries.  
34 Such state-owned submerged lands include all those lands seaward  
35 of the mean high-water line and tidally connected to the Gulf of  
36 Mexico, lying south of a line extending westerly approximately  
37 4.5 miles along Latitude 28.910000°, Florida West Zone (NAD83)  
38 from the mean high-water line of the corresponding shoreline at  
39 Fort Island Gulf Beach Park, Latitude 28.910000°, Longitude -  
40 82.690000°, and lying westward of a line extending north  
41 approximately 1.8 miles from Latitude 28.909402°, Longitude -  
42 82.764° to Latitude 28.9355°, Longitude -82.764°, lying  
43 southward of a line extending westerly approximately 2.0 miles  
44 to Latitude 28.9355°, Longitude -82.798214°, lying westward of a  
45 line extending north approximately 4.5 miles to the easternmost  
46 point of the southern boundary of the Big Bend Seagrasses  
47 Aquatic Preserve at point Latitude 29.001614°, Longitude -  
48 82.798921°, and will be continuous with the eastern shoreline of  
49 the northern boundary of the Pinellas County Aquatic Preserve,  
50 respectively. The boundary of the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve

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51 designated as the shoreline will be the mean high-water line  
52 along such shoreline unless otherwise stated and will not  
53 supersede the boundaries of currently designated Outstanding  
54 Florida Waters, state parks, national wildlife refuges, or  
55 aquatic preserves.

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