



Florida Coastal Islands Sanctuaries
410 South Ware Boulevard, Suite 702, Tampa, FL 33619
813/623-6826

September 4, 2018

Commissioner Justice
cjustice@pinellascounty.org

Dear Commissioner Justice,

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation for and support of the Shell Key Management Plan produced by the Pinellas County Environmental Program staff, specifically Pam Leasure and Dr. Steve Harper. I served as an Advisory Panel member both for this reiteration of the Plan and the first Plan produced years ago. I was also on the Florida Birding and Nature Festival planning committee when we suggested using funds raised for the Festival to partially purchase the private lands on Shell Key, which led to the possibility that the Key could be managed through a joint State-County partnership.

Management of Shell Key is an important role and Pinellas County has appropriately taken the leadership for this work. The County's partnership with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection through the Pinellas Aquatic Preserve has obviously been key. As the human population of Pinellas County continues to increase, the value of the open space and the undeveloped habitat resources that remain in Pinellas County, as are at Shell Key, increases, for the people of our region and also the wildlife that rely on these critical environments.

Please let me know if you have any questions about my participation in the Management Plan or this letter expressing my opinion on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann Paul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Paul
Regional Coordinator