

Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Bill Passes House

Congressman Mahoney's Bill Brings Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse National Designation

(March 4, 2008)

(Jupiter, FL) - After this morning's Press Conference outside the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse, Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) is pleased to announce that H.R. 1922, the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area Act of 2007, passed the House of Representatives this afternoon by a voice vote.

"Today is a victorious day for the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and surrounding community. This lighthouse and the surrounding area are much more than a historical marker. It has become a symbol of this community, woven into the fabric of our culture, even appearing on the Town of Jupiter's seal," said Congressman Mahoney. "I want to thank everyone in the community who worked tirelessly to make this day a reality. The Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area Act is an example of what local governments working together can do. I look forward to working to pass this bill through the Senate and getting it signed into law."

Congressman Mahoney Held a Press Conference at Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse with Jamie Stuve (Loxahatchee River Historical Society), and Rep. Ron Klein

H.R. 1922, the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area Act of 2007, would designate the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and the surrounding 126 acres as an "Outstanding Natural Area" (ONA). This designation was established to protect federal lands. The designation has been used for conservation sites of approximately 100 acres in size that include a lighthouse. Jupiter Inlet would be the second ONA in the nation. The first is at Yaquina Head in Oregon.

The ONA designation would:

- Provide long-term protection to a site of cultural and biological resources in a highly urbanized part of Florida.
- Promote tourism.
- Create an eastern/Atlantic counterpart to Yaquina Head on the Oregon coast.
- Elevate the visibility of the local community and help it compete for environmental grants.

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