Your Name

Your Address

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2023

Janet Coit – NMFS Director

National Marine Fisheries Service

1315 East-West Highway

Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

**Re: Development of Broward Pointe Peninsula Jacksonville, Florida**

Dear Ms. Coit,

On behalf on Broward Point Preserve, Inc. ([www.browardpointpreserve.com](http://www.browardpointpreserve.com)) and its members I am contacting you to request that the National Marine Fisheries Service take all necessary actions to designate the area of Jacksonville, Florida known as Broward Pointe Peninsula as “critical habitat” under the Endangered Species Act to protect the endangered and threatened species that are located on that property.

The Broward Pointe Peninsula property is currently designated Low-Density Residential on the Future Land Use Map (“FLUM”) pursuant to the City of Jacksonville 2030 Comprehensive Plan (the “Comprehensive Plan”). The Peninsula Property is zoned RLD-90, which allows residential lots at a minimum of ninety (90) feet in width and 9,900 square feet in size. The Peninsula Property and adjacent waterways are home to the following species:

Florida Manatee (Endangered)

American Bald Eagles (Protected)

Gopher Tortoise (Endangered)

Red Fox

Coyote

Osprey

Brown Owls (Endangered)

Great Horned Owls

Racoon

Heron

Armadillo

Egrets

Cormorant

Roseate Spoonbills

Wood Stork (Endangered)

Red-Cockaded Woodpeckers (Endangered)

The designation of Low Density Residential undermines and violates the fundamental purpose of the ESA which is “to provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be considered [and] to provide a program for the conservation of such species and threatened species …” 16 U.S.C. § 1531(b). Any subsequent future development of the Peninsula Property would result in the destruction of natural resources such as wetlands, protected trees, exceptional specimen trees and endangered and protected trees. Designation of this land as “critical habitat” is essential to and would support to continued protection of the imperiled species. We request that the National Marine Fisheries Service take whatever steps are necessary to designate the Broward Pointe Peninsula as critical habitat for the identified species.

Respectfully,