RESOLUTION
URGING PROTECTION OF FRESHWATER INFLOWS

WHEREAS;   freshwater inflows to the Sabine Lake system are important to commercial and recreational fisherman, bird watchers and other citizens living and working in Orange County, and

WHEREAS;   the sportfishing industry makes a tremendous contribution to the economy of Orange County through the tourism it attracts, and

WHEREAS;   the commercial fishing industry provides many jobs in Orange County and supplies fresh fish to local restaurants and markets around the area, and

WHEREAS;   Orange County is an international birding destination because of the tremendous diversity of birds occurring here, and

WHEREAS;   the sport and commercial fishing industries, birdwatching, and other nature-related tourism activities help support a variety of businesses in Orange County, including hotels and restaurants, tour guide operators, marinas and boat dealers, fishing equipment and supply outlets, and bait dealers and fish houses, and

WHEREAS;   sport and commercial fishing and other tourism industries can be harmed by the failure to ensure that sufficient freshwater flows reach the Sabine Lake system, and

WHEREAS;   in light of the foregoing, it is important for our governing body to speak out strongly in favor of the Texas Legislature taking steps to protect freshwater inflows.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Orange County Commissioners' Court that:

   We respectfully urge Governor Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, Senator Tommy Williams, and Representatives Mike "Tuffy" Hamilton and Joseph D. "Joe" Deshotel to develop and enact legislation to protect freshwater inflows.

   PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the 12th day of March, A.D. 2007.
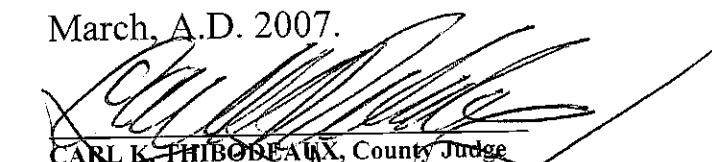
CARL K. THIBODEAUX, County Judge
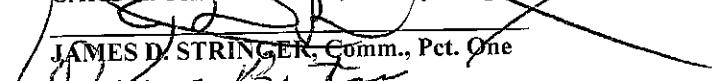
JAMES D. STRINGER, Comm., Pct. One
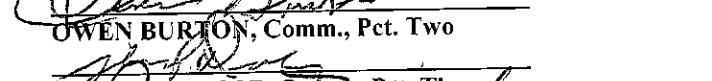
OWEN BURTON, Comm., Pct. Two

JOHN P. DUBOSE, Comm., Pct. Three

BEAMON MINTON, Comm., Pct. Four

ATTEST:

By: _____ DEPUTY
KAREN JO VANCE, County Clerk