

**Minority Report:**  
**C-4 Dollar Bay / Nancy Anderson**

**Minority Opinion:** I believe FWC's Option 2 is the best choice. Change all or part of the existing zone to a shore-to-shore Slow Speed zone *during the warm season only or year round, for continuity.*

A slow speed zone shore to shore would provide greater protection of the manatees as well as a food source, the documented continuous seagrass beds.

**Information to support opinion:**

1. It is clear manatees are in this area.

FWC identified this area as 1) a "Potential higher risk area", 2) having "High Fast Overlap," and 3) "Moderate manatee density during the warm season." Specifically, the "manatee density for this area was moderate (1.1 times the overall mean density) during the warm season and low in the cold season. Fast Overlap was high (4.4 times the overall mean) during the warm season but low in the cold season. A boat operator reported striking a manatee in April 2015 while traveling at about 25 mph just north of Dollar Bay."

2. Seagrasses in this area form continuous beds thus providing a food source for manatees.

References for statements referring to reason #2  
Ecology and Conservation of the Sirenia / Dugongs and Manatees Helen March, Thomas J. O'Shea and John E. Reynolds III; p. 141

Seagrass communities are important habitats for the West Indian manatee. Seagrasses are limited to coastal waters and are highly vulnerable to human impacts because the coastal zone supports a high proportion of the world's human population, a proportion that is increasing.

Ecology and Conservation of the Sirenia / Dugongs and Manatees Helen March, Thomas J. O'Shea and John E. Reynolds III; p. 141

Refer to Seagrass Study (Preliminary Data Benthic Habitats) Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, presented by Nancy Anderson on 4/22/16