

Take as a subcommittee of the Florida Manatee Recovery Team.

(5) We have initiated a status review of the Florida manatee pursuant to section 4(c)(2) of the ESA.

(6) We will be revising the Florida manatee stock assessment to reflect our determination that the four regional populations of Florida manatees are separate stocks, as defined by the MMPA. The stock assessment will build

from and complement the status review to include a summary of the most recent data that provides the biological basis for separating the population into four stocks.

#### References Cited

A complete list of all references cited in this rule is available upon request from the Jacksonville Field Office (*see* **ADDRESSES** section).

#### Author

The primary author of this document is Pete Benjamin (*see* **ADDRESSES** section).

Dated: May 3, 2003.

**Craig Manson,**

*Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.*

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