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## FWC unveils new Florida manatee license plate

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) unveiled a new look for an old favorite today at Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. FWC Regional Director Greg Holder unveiled the new design for the Florida manatee license plate.

“This is an exciting day for the FWC and the Florida manatee,” Holder said. “With the sales from this plate, we hope to generate revenues that will sustain valuable manatee research and conservation for years to come.”

The new manatee plate features the work of Nancy Blauers, Margaritaville Merchandising Senior Artist. Blauers designs products depicting “the Margaritaville lifestyle” for Margaritaville stores.

Patrick Rose, executive director of the Save the Manatee Club, also spoke at the unveiling.

“The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s research and species management staffs are among the most committed and capable in the world,” Rose said. “I urge all Floridians to support them by purchasing the newly designed manatee tag so these dedicated and caring individuals can be given the tools necessary to save the manatees and their aquatic habitats from the ever

increasing threats manatees must face as Florida's human population continues to grow.”

Proceeds from the sale of the plate are a major source of funding for Florida's manatee research and conservation. The state's manatee programs also receive money from the sale of manatee decals, boat registration fees and donations.

To purchase the new manatee plate, visit your local tax collector's office or log on to [www.buyaplate.com](http://www.buyaplate.com). As a unique gift idea, manatee plate gift certificates are available at any authorized tax collector's office.

Additional information on the manatee plate and a graphic of the new design are available at <http://research.MyFWC.com/manateeplate>.