

## Manatee conservation recommendations (June 1 – December 31)

The following conditions are recommended for any in-water work occurring between June 1 and December 31.

1. All on-site personnel will be responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of manatees.
2. If a manatee is spotted within a 50-foot radius (buffer zone) of the action area, all work, equipment, and vessel operation **must** cease. Manatees must not be herded or harassed into leaving the active work area. Once the manatee has left the buffer zone on its own accord, and after 30 minutes have passed without additional sightings of manatee(s) in the buffer zone, in-water work can resume under careful observation for manatee(s).
3. If a manatee(s) is sighted outside of, but near to the action area, all vessels associated with the project should operate at “no wake/idle” speeds within the action area; and at all times while in waters where the draft of the vessel provides less than a 4-foot clearance from the bottom. Vessels should follow routes of deep water whenever possible.
4. If used, siltation or turbidity barriers should be properly secured and be monitored to avoid manatee entrapment or obstruction to their movement.
5. Temporary signs concerning manatees **must** be posted prior to and during all in-water project activities and then removed upon completion of in-water activities. Each vessel involved in construction activities **must** display a temporary sign at the vessel control station or in a prominent location, visible to all employees operating the vessel. The temporary sign must be at least 8½" x 11" reading language similar to the following: “CAUTION: MANATEE AREA. IDLE SPEED IS REQUIRED IN ACTION AREA AND WHERE THERE IS LESS THAN FOUR-FOOT BOTTOM CLEARANCE WHEN MANATEE IS PRESENT”. A second temporary sign measuring 8½" x 11" **must** be posted at a location prominently visible to all personnel engaged in water-related activities and should read language similar to the following: “CAUTION: MANATEE AREA. EQUIPMENT **MUST** BE SHUTDOWN IMMEDIATELY IF A MANATEE COMES WITHIN 50 FEET OF VESSEL OPERATION”.
6. Collisions with, injury to, or sightings of manatees **must** be immediately reported to the USFWS’s Mobile, AL (251-441-5181) Ecological Services Office. Please provide the nature of the call (i.e., report of an incident, manatee sighting, etc.); time of incident/sighting; and the approximate location, including the latitude and longitude coordinates, if possible.



# **CAUTION: MANATEE HABITAT**



**IDLE SPEED IS REQUIRED IF OPERATING A VESSEL IN  
THE CONSTRUCTION OR EVENT AREA**

All equipment must be **SHUTDOWN** if a manatee comes  
within **50 FEET** of operation

Report any collision with and/or injury to a manatee immediately to:

**Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Manatee Sighting Network:**

**1-866-493-5803**

and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Daphne, AL:

(251) 441-5839 or (251) 441-5181