

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ANY MOTOR VEHICLE ON, OVER, ACROSS OR THROUGH THE DUNES AND BEACHES IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS, PENALTIES AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES ON THE SUBJECT.

ORDINANCE 01-08

FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Franklin County, Florida is blessed with beautiful beaches and offshore islands, which are enjoyed by the people of Franklin County and visitors, and

WHEREAS, increased vehicular traffic on the beaches, shorelines and barrier islands in Franklin County, has damaged the beaches and dunes, and caused a hazard to the safety of persons who may be on the beaches or dunes in the County, and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the beaches and dunes in Franklin County, Florida, which beaches and dunes the Board of county Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida finds to be necessary to prevent erosion and destruction of property, and to be valuable and beautiful recreational resources, it is necessary to prohibit the operation of motor vehicles on, over, through or across the dunes and beaches of Franklin County, and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida now regulates traffic on coastal beaches and dunes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Franklin County, Florida:

1. The beaches and barrier islands of Franklin County, Florida are valuable natural resources in the County, and the beaches and dunes are necessary for the protection of waterfront areas of the County and are recreational sites of inestimable value:

2. Vehicular traffic on the beaches and dunes in the County causes wind erosion and wave erosion, and constitutes a danger to persons in these areas. In order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Franklin County, it is necessary to prohibit vehicular travel on the beaches and dunes in the County;

3. St. Vincents Island, Little St. George Island, and St. George Island West of Bob Sikes Channel are owned by the Federal and State Governments, have no vehicular access by public road or ferry, and are therefore excepted and exempted from this Ordinance;

4. Vehicular traffic of any kind is prohibited on, in over, across, and through the beach and dunes in the following described areas in Franklin County, Florida;

St. George Island East of Bob Sikes Channel; Dog Island; Carrabelle Beach South of U.S. 98, including all South of U.S. 98 from the West line of Section 2, Township 8 South, Range 5 West, Northeasterly to State Road 376; All of Alligator Point, including Peninsular Point, Light House Point, and Bald Point, including Sections 21, 28, and 33, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, and Sections 4, 5, and 6, Township 7 south, Range 2 West, and all of Alligator Point West of the West line of said Section 6.

It shall be unlawful to operate any motor vehicle of any kind, specifically including motorcycles, on the beaches, dunes or vegetation in and around the said beaches and dunes within the described area.

It shall not be a violation of this ordinance to operate motor vehicles on the public roads within the described area, and on private roads and driveways where permitted by the owner of same.

It shall not be a violation of this ordinance for soft shell crab producers to operate motor vehicles to access salt water across the beaches of Franklin County.

It shall not be a violation of this ordinance to operate a motor vehicle on the beaches and dunes when necessary for cleanup, repair or public safety.

5. It shall not be a violation of this ordinance to operate a motor vehicle on beaches and dunes which are coastal beaches and dunes on which such operation is regulated by the State of Florida.

6. All prior ordinances regulating the operation of motor vehicles on beaches and dunes are repealed.

Violation of this Ordinance shall be a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days in the County Jail, or by fine not to exceed \$500.00, nor less than \$50.00.

This Ordinance adopted in open regular meeting this 20th day of March, 2001, and shall take effect May 1, 2001.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA.

BY: Eddie Creamer
EDDIE CREAMER, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kendall Wade
KENDALL WADE, Clerk

