

Manatee Voted State Marine Mammal

In early April, fourth graders at St. Ignatius Catholic School in Mobile successfully promoted a bill that designates the West Indian manatee as Alabama's official state marine mammal. The students enlisted the help of Representative Jim Barton, who sponsored the bill that nominated the manatee for the state symbol. Students said they chose the manatee because they wanted the public to know more about the endangered animal. **Congratulations St. Ignatius** and **thank you** for helping the manatees!

Support a LOCAL Manatee, Buy a TAG

<u>You</u> can help support research about these gentle, charismatic creatures by purchasing a distinctive Mobile Manatees license plate. The cost of the plate is \$50; \$41 is tax-deductible and will go directly to fund research by the Mobile Manatees Sighting Network. Before the state will produce our tag, they have to

receive 1,000 commitments by April 30, 2010. You can commit to purchase a plate by simply filling out the form on the back of this newsletter and mailing it in to us with your check made out to Dauphin Island Sea Lab. MMSN will visit the DMV for you. We do the work, you get the plate! You can also commit to purchase a tag at any local DMV or go to http://manatee.disl.org and download the application. Thank you for your SUpport!





Welcome Back Ellie!

Be on the look-out this summer for our visiting manatee known as "Ellie." She is from Crystal River, FL and was sighted in Dog River (Mobile Bay) in summer 2007, 350 miles from Crystal River. After her visit to Alabama, "Ellie" was seen back in Crystal River in December 2007. "Ellie" was recently fitted with a belt and tag so that she can be tracked if she returns to Alabama waters.



REPORT MANATEE SIGHTINGS

Manatee season is here and we need <u>your</u> help! If you see a manatee, please contact the Mobile Manatees Sighting Network <u>immediately</u>. We are always available.

Report sightings 24 hours a day:

- On-line at manatee.disl.org
- ☆ Call toll-free: 1-866-493-5803
- Email <u>manatee@disl.org</u>

Please help us protect manatees. Learn more about our study at: http://merl.disl.org

MMSN OUTREACH

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2009 Event Participation:

*DISL Discovery Day
*Dog River Dog Paddle
*Mobile Bay Earth Day
*Environmental Studies Center
* St. Ignatius Catholic School

*To schedule us at an event or for flyers/fact sheets, please call MMSN at:



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COUNTY OF				
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I hereby app	oint Dauphin Island Sea Lab's	Mobile Manatees Sighting Networ	rk	
	nville Blvd. Dauphin Island, AL	NAME	Zip 36	528
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If a business firm or corporation is appointed, the signature shall be of an authorized representative of the firm who will perform as attorney-in-fact for the owner.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Any alterations or strikeovers shall void this Power of Attorney. Original signatures are required on all Power of Attorneys.

LEGAL NOTICE: A person acting for the motor vehicle owner under this Power of Attorney should be aware of the statute under the *Alabama Uniform Certificate of Title and Antitheft Act* as follows: Code of Alabama 1975, §32-8-11. "Aiding, abetting, etc., in violations. A person who, whether present or absent, aids, abets, induces, procures or causes the commission of an act which if done directly by him, would be a felony or a misdemeanor under provisions of this chapter, is guilty of the same felony or misdemeanor. (Acts 1973, No. 765, p. 1147, §43.)"

Please Initial to Indicate Preference:	
	Checks payable to: Dauphin Island Sea Lab
If 1,000 commitments are not made, MMSN may keep \$48.75(tax deductible) as a charitable dona- tion.	Mail to: Mobile Manatees Sighting Network c/o Dr. R. Carmichael
If 1,000 commitments are not made, please	101 Bienville Blvd.
RETURN my funds. I will forfeit my tax deduction.	Dauphin Island, AL 36528
\$1.25 is retained by AL DMV.	