## B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute

Keeping Our Beaches Bare

## B.E.A.C.H.E.S. 2021 Year-end Report: Phase III – Department of Environmental Protection Rule Promulgation 62D and more

The official kick-off to Phase III — Our projected three-year project was designed to reclaim the historic nude beaches on state parklands that we lost in the mid-1980s when the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP), Division of Parks enacted the blanket anti-nudity Rule 62D.2014(7)(b). This portion of the Phase III DEP challenge requires modifying the rule to comply with both the legislative intent (which goes back to the early 1900s) and the Florida Supreme Court's interpretation dating back to 1971, of the Florida Indecent Exposure law FS 800.03. This requires a Rule Petition and promulgation by way of the Florida Administrative Hearing Process to secure public lands for safe nude recreation use.

The welcome collaboration of naturist/nudist organizations that the B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation assembled for Phase I and II has continued to expand and help with funding our efforts. The Free Beach Unity Coalition plus others have now signed on as petitioners to the DEP Rule Challenge and most have donated funds. They are in alphabetical order:

- ° AMERICAN ASSOCIATION for NUDE RECREATION-FLORIDA (AANR-FL)
- ° AMERICAN EXPRESS FOX TRAVEL (FOX TRAVEL)
- ° B.E.A.C.H.E.S. FOUNDATION INSTITUTE (B.E.A.C.H.E.S.)
- ° LAKE COMO FAMILY NUDIST RESORT (LCNR)
- ° NATURIST ACTION COMMITTEE (NAC)
- ° NATURIST EDUCATION FOUNDATION (NEF)
- ° SOUTH FLORIDA FREE BEACHES / FNA (SFFB)
- ° TAMPA BAY FREE BEACHES (TBFB)
- ° TREASURE COAST NATURISTS (TCN)
- ° UNITED NATURISTS (UN)

B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation has retained Jeff Kottkamp, Esq., as lead Counsel. AANR's Executive Director, Erich Schuttauf, Esq. will lend his legal acumen pro bono as co-Counsel and his paralegal services will serve in the role of Collector and curator of records who will gather documents, cataloging exhibits that will accompany OUR petition.

On Thursday, December 2, 2021, the Legal Team (Kottkamp and Schuttauf), Ramon Maury, and Shirley Mason met to discuss details of the petition challenge process and the need to gather historical documents regarding Florida's nude beaches and the history of American Naturism. Jeff Kottkamp, in consultation with Erich Schuttauf, will be working on the petition and legal format (documents similar in style to an appeal) in the coming weeks to determine what should be included in the petition and what is required to provide us with a realistic implementation timeline. Please note this project is expected to be ready for submission to the Administrative Hearing Court by late Spring 2022.

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Among other historic facts in our favor that will be featured, our legal team will highlight the situation at Blind Creek Beach for three main reasons:

- 1. Blind Creek's designated nude use was actually on state-owned land located in St. Lucie County and safe nude use occurred for several years without a problem;
- 2. Both the local business community and government derived a positive reputation and economic benefit from the users of this beach and;
- 3. St. Lucie County found no injurious or negative fall-out to the residents and visitors there. In fact, their findings found naturists to be responsible stewards and an asset for the care and preservation of its natural environment. The Commission officially designated Blind Creek Beach clothing-optional by County resolution and ordinance on June 2, 2020.

Once completed, this case will be the blueprint for virtually all naturists groups to establish new clothing-optional beaches, shorelines, and hot springs and also reclaim the beach sites we have lost. This is a BFD!

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## 2022 Winter Marketing Campaign —

Earlier in the year, a marketing campaign was planned and scheduled to launch for Unity's educational outreach to both lawmakers and the hospitality/tourism industry. It was to launch over the summer prior to the two-hour presentation with video and slide conducted by Ramon Maury, Shirley Mason, and Eric Shuttauf. The presentation called "The Skinny on Clothing Optional Beaches in Florida" presented at the Florida Recreation Parks Association's annual educational conference attended by park employees around the state was well received based on the evaluations we



each received. The other event was **Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism** in early September at the Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood, FL. Representatives from NAC/NEF, SFFB, Sun Coast Naturists, and AANR-FL who participated, along with B.E.A.C.H.E.S. leadership had a strong showing and made quite an impression. Special thanks to the SFFB volunteers who manned B.E.A.C.H.E.S.' Hospitality Suite.

We are happy to share that AANR-FL commissioned the first professional prototype advertisement for what will now be the 2022 Winter Marketing Campaign. It is beautiful, informative, and tasteful. B.E.A.C.H.E.S. will distribute the campaign via social media and email to its compiled database of state lawmakers, select counties officials, and key people and organizations in the hospitality/tourism industry. Look for it also on nude recreations' social media pages and groups in the near future.

B.E.A.C.H.E.S. and its sponsored Free Beach Unity Coalition continue its progressive programs to make to government, the hospitality-tourism industry and the public aware of the features and benefits of social clothes-free recreation as a largely untapped market and viable, valuable asset.

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Senator Jason Pizzo re-files his Clothing Optional Locations Bill —To date, SB 176 has not been referred to Criminal Justice in the Senate <a href="https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2022/176">https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2022/176</a>. We were unable to secure a House Sponsor to carry the companion. Last year's House Sponsor did not wish to file the bill and other options are being considered with House Leadership are in the works. Naturists are fortunate to a friend in Sen. Pizzo who understands that skinny-dipping is worth preserving and has a place in our recreation options. Email your thanks to our Senator.

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Help save Little Beach (Maui, Hawaii) — B.E.A.C.H.E.S.'s Board of seasoned free beach leader-activists are assisting with experience and funds to help save the historic, beautiful and world-renowned Little Beach, along with other naturist/nudist organizations lending their support. It is in imminent threat of closure to nude use. "At least 20 nudity citations are known to have been issued since March. Harassment has also occurred on other Maui County beaches which we have defended, so far successfully. We are bringing back Friends of Little Beach to make sure you have a voice. We need your help. Please join FoLB for free. The more members we have, the louder our collective voice", states Bill Watts, Treasurer FoLB.



This young 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization "Friends of Little Beach Maui" (FoLB) was formed to fight its demise. FoLB's Board has done the research. They are grounded, smart, and politically savvy and in need of more volunteers to help in a few key areas including financial assistance and informing users on the beach of the real political threats and what beach users can do to help. We encourage you to review the website (littlebeachmaui.org) and become a member for free and also consider a financial contribution.

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**Your tax-deductible donations at work** — If you feel our volunteers are working to better the fate, acceptance, and opportunities for naturist/nudists, <u>it is not too late</u> to send B.E.A.C.H.E.S. Foundation Institute a generous contribution and <u>get a tax-deduction for 2021</u>. PLUS, your donation now will be counted for B.E.A.C.H.E.S.'s upcoming 2022 Annual Unity Raffle. See an example of the quality of raffle prizes at <u>2021 Raffle prizes</u>

It is only with your support and partnership that we are able to do these invaluable projects and programs.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.