

ORDINANCE NO. 564

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RULES REGARDING THE CITY OF MEXICO BEACH CITY PIER, REPLACING ORDINANCE NO. 166 AND ORDINANCE NO. 555, AND REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR SECTIONS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the people of the City of Mexico Beach that this ordinance be enacted, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The following rules shall apply to the City of Mexico Beach City Pier:

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to dive from, launch boats from, or throw/push any articles, items, or other paraphernalia, other than fishing tackle, from the pier.
2. It shall be unlawful for any person to swim, ride surf boards, operate boats of any kind, or otherwise occupy the waters within a fifty foot (50') area of the pier.
3. Non-official motorized vehicles, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, and similar modes of transportation are prohibited from the pier. Wheelchairs and motorized vehicles for handicapped individuals are exempt from this rule.
4. Dogs, cats, and other pets are prohibited from the pier.
5. Open flames are prohibited.
6. Glass bottles are prohibited.
7. Sleeping or camping on the pier is prohibited.

Section 2. In addition to the above rules, the following wildlife protection rules shall apply regarding sea turtles:

1. Do not cast your line where sea turtles are surfacing to breath.
2. If you hook or entangle a sea turtle on your line, contact the City of Mexico Beach City Hall immediately at (850) 648-5700 or, if outside regular operating hours, contact Jay Jecha at (850) 625-2782.
3. The Code Enforcement/Animal Control Officer should gently attempt to retrieve the turtle in accordance with the approved marine turtle protection

plan. If required, cut the line close to the hook and remove line that has become entangled around the turtle. Avoid the turtle's mouth and flipper claws; use blunt scissors/knife to cut line.

4. Do not lift the turtle above the water by pulling the line (this will result in further injury). If the distance to the pier from the water is too large to bring the turtle up safely, cut the line as short as possible to release the turtle.
5. Turtles with serious cuts and/or ingested or deeply imbedded hooks need veterinary care.
6. Injured sea turtles shall be kept wet and in the shade and a qualified veterinarian (or other permitted and qualified person as determined by the FWC) shall be immediately notified. In this situation, please contact Barbara Ells at (850) 647-8238.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances thereof in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

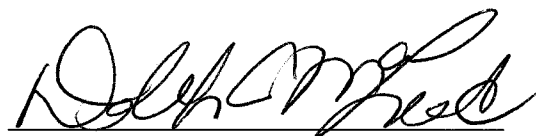
INTRODUCED at the Regular Meeting of the City Council on the 9th day of September, 2008. Adopted at the Regular Meeting of the City Council on the 14th day of October, 2008.

CITY OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA



William A. Cathey, Mayor

ATTEST:



Deborah McLeod, City Clerk