

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 7, 2007
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LEGENDARY MARINE EARNS *CLEAN MARINA* DESIGNATIONS

--DEP recognizes marina for environmental commitment --

PENSACOLA – Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Secretary Michael W. Sole today joined DEP Northwest District Director Dick Fancher and *Clean Boating Partnership* Chair John Naybor to welcome Legendary Marine to Florida's *Clean Marina* program. Legendary Marine is the 12th *Clean Marina* and the first *Clean Marine Retailer* in DEP's Northwest District and the 133rd and second in the state, respectively.

"Protecting Florida's aquatic resources requires more than just the professionals at DEP; we need the assistance of concerned citizens and private industry to truly accomplish our environmental priorities," said DEP Secretary Sole. "In addition to celebrating Legendary Marine's commitment as a great environmental steward, I would like to thank the private industry that is devoting untold extra hours to protect, preserve and restore our waterways."

Located at the southern end of the Mid-Bay Bridge of Choctawhatchee Bay, the Legendary Marine facility provides marina as well as retail sales and service support. The eight-acre facility accommodates 750 boats in a 'dry stack only' storage building with the single largest square footage in the United States at 170,000 ft². By reducing dock moorings and providing a clean, organized service center, Legendary eliminates many potential impacts to the environment and water resource. To facilitate responsible boating practices the marina provides pump out services to their customers as well as the public. Additionally, landscaping with native plants reduces the need for pesticides, fertilizers and irrigation.

"The DEP Division of Law Enforcement is pleased to designate Legendary Marine as a *Clean Marina* and the first *Clean Marine Retailer* in the Northwest District," said DEP Division of Law Enforcement Director Henry Barnet. "Legendary Marine staff should be proud of this recognition and the example of environmental stewardship they are setting for marine facilities in the Panhandle as well as throughout Florida."

With more than one million registered motorized vessels in Florida, environmental education within marine industries is the first step towards safeguarding the state's natural resources. In response, the *Clean Boating Partnership* developed the *Clean Marina*, *Clean Boatyard*, *Clean Marine Retailer* and

Clean Boater Programs to protect Florida's waterways. The *Clean Marina Program* to date has designated 136 *Clean Marinas*, 25 *Clean Boatyards*, and three *Clean Marine Retailers*.

"The *Clean Boating Partnership* congratulates *Legendary Marine* for their commitment to Florida's environment," said the Partnership's Chair John Naylor. "Their dedication and hard work in becoming a *Clean Marina* and *Clean Marine Retailer* is an accomplishment this facility can be proud of and we welcome them to our growing *Clean Marina* family."

The *Clean Boating Partnership* includes DEP, marina and boatyard owners and operators, Marine Industries Association of Florida, Florida Sea Grant Program, and the United States Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary. By providing 'green' education and alternatives, the *Clean Boating Partnership* helps ensure a sustainable future for the environment and the billion-dollar marine industry.

For more information about the *Clean Boating Partnership*, visit <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/law/clean/default.htm>.