



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Dry Tortugas National Park was established in 1935 as Fort Jefferson National Monument in recognition of the rich cultural heritage of the Civil War era fort that defended the coast line and shipping lanes of the United States in the 19th century; and

WHEREAS, the park was expanded in 1992 and renamed Dry Tortugas National Park to protect “a pristine subtropical marine ecosystem including an intact coral reef community;” and

WHEREAS, Dry Tortugas National Park provides the citizens of Key West and visitors to the Florida Keys with the opportunity to experience and enjoy the abundant wildlife and natural resources of the Dry Tortugas and learn about the rich history of this remote cluster of islands, located 70 miles west of Key West; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service and its non-profit partner the South Florida National Parks Trust are celebrating the 75th anniversary of Dry Tortugas National Park with a series of special events in Key West and at the park this fall; and

WHEREAS, the 75th anniversary celebration culminates this week with a reception at the Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center in Key West on Friday November 5 and a special day of ranger-guided programs at Dry Tortugas National Park on Saturday November 6 to highlight the history and natural resources of this unique national park;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Cates, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim
Saturday, November 6, 2010 as

Dry Tortugas National Park Day

in the “Southernmost City of the Continental United States” I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to join the National Park Service and the South Florida National Parks Trust in celebrating this milestone.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 5th day of November 2010.

Craig Cates, MAYOR