

MON 1/11/16 MIN MAG: MANATEES

FOR MINUTE MAGAZINE, I'M EZRA MARCUS.  
THE U-S FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE HAS  
PROPOSED REMOVING FLORIDA MANATEES FROM  
THE FEDS' ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST...  
AND RE-CLASSIFYING THEM AS THREATENED.  
MANATEES WERE FIRST ADDED AS AN ENDANGERED  
SPECIES BACK IN 1972.

THERE WERE FEWER THAN 13-HUNDRED OF THEM  
SPOTTED DURING AERIAL SURVEYS NEARLY 20  
YEARS LATER.

TODAY, THERE ARE 63-HUNDRED MANATEES IN  
FLORIDA.

WILDLIFE OFFICIALS SAY THE 5-HUNDRED  
PERCENT INCREASE IS A RESULT OF SIGNIFICANT  
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MANATEE POPULATION AND  
HABITAT.

F-W-C OFFICER BOBBY DUBE SAYS THE NUMBERS  
ARE ENCOURAGING...

[ :31] KUDOS TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR DOING THAT  
FILE #75401

A 90-DAY COMMENT PERIOD IS OPEN,  
DURING WHICH THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO  
SUBMIT FEEDBACK TO HELP THE FEDS REACH  
A FINAL DECISION ON THEIR PROPOSAL.  
IF APPROVED, THE NEW CLASSIFICATION  
ISN'T EXPECTED TO TAKE EFFECT UNTIL  
20-17.

FOR MINUTE MAGAZINE, I'M EZRA MARCUS  
ON THE US-1 RADIO NEWS NETWORK.