

# Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Rules Pertaining to Our Canals: \*

Any vessel operating in a speed zone posted as "Slow Speed or **Minimum Wake**" must operate fully off plane and **completely settled** in water. The vessel's wake must not be excessive nor create a hazard to other vessels. (This includes our seawalls.)

Completely settled means that if you slow your boat speed and the bow of your boat settles downward, you are exceeding the allowed speed in our canals.

Our Burnt Store Isles canals are all designated as a Manatee Zone.

Police Volunteers are now authorized to issue Boating Violation Citations.

Anchoring in Burnt Store Isles canals is prohibited except during a hurricane.

\*Verified by the Punta Gorda Police Marine Division

## Florida Vessel Speed Restrictions

### Slow Speed Minimum Wake (Rule 68C-22.002 (4) F.A.C.)

Slow Speed or Minimum Wake requires that a vessel be fully off plane and completely settled into the water. The vessel must then proceed at a speed which is reasonable and prudent under the prevailing circumstances so as to avoid the creation of an excessive wake or other hazardous condition which endangers or is likely to endanger other vessels or other persons using the waterway.

Due to the different speeds at which vessels of different sizes and configurations may travel while in compliance, there is no specific numeric speed assigned to Slow Speed or Minimum Wake.