A RESOLUTION TO BAN BEACH VITEX [VITEX ROTUNDIFOLIA]

Whereas,
• The Beach is one of Kiawah Island’s most valuable assets
• Beach Vitex destroys plants which protect dunes, provides no protection from dune erosion, and, therefore, significantly increases the likelihood of damage to the dunes and island infrastructure
• Beach Vitex negatively impacts the federally endangered plant, sea-beach amaranth, as well as sea oats, seashore elder and beach grass
• Beach Vitex has been found in the interior of Kiawah Island
• Seeds of Beach Vitex are salt resistant and can readily migrate from inland or any of the other 125 coastal sites in the Carolinas, where it has been identified
• Beach Vitex poses a significant threat to the habitat of nesting turtles and hatchlings.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Beach Vitex is declared to be a public nuisance;
Planting of Beach Vitex is prohibited;
Guidelines shall be established for the eradication and disposal of any Beach Vitex on Kiawah Island; and
The Town of Kiawah Island shall adopt Resolution 2006-2.

WITNESSED this ______ day of March, 2006.

________________________________
The Honorable William G. Wert, Mayor

ATTEST:

________________________________
Pat M. Wallis, Town Clerk