

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Note: Local contacts below

Lee County Parks & Recreation hosts national television show

Fort Myers, FL, April 2, 2018 – Heliconia, producers of Facing Waves, is pleased to announce that filming for an episode of “Facing Waves” featuring the Great Calusa Blueway in Lee County, Florida, will run from April 7-13, 2018.

“Facing Waves” is an adventure travel TV series that showcases top paddling destinations around the world. Each 30-minute episode features paddling adventures while telling the story of the region and people of the area.

The Great Calusa Blueway episode will follow hosts Luke Hopkins and Anne Pagano of Body Glove as they and their two young daughters explore the variety of amazing paddlesport activities Lee County is known for. Adventures will include the Calusa Palooza Paddle Race at Koreshan State Park; a family paddle and day at Bunche Beach; stand up paddleboard and kayak fishing at Tarpon Lodge; camping at Cayo Costa State Park; and visits to the Calusa Heritage Trail, Randell Research Center, and Sanibel and Captiva Islands.

“We’re really excited that ‘Facing Waves’ is coming to the Calusa Blueway for one of their episodes,” said Mike Hammond, Calusa Blueway Coordinator for Lee County Parks & Recreation. “They film the top paddling destinations around the world.”

“‘Facing Waves’ is all about sharing the magic that surrounds our oceans, rivers, lakes or ponds, and inspiring travelers to visit these magnificent destinations,” says Heliconia President and “Facing Waves” guest host, Ken Whiting. “Paddlesports simply provide a unique and spectacular means of exploring and learning about a region.”

Now in its sixth season of filming, “Facing Waves” is currently broadcast on FOX Sports Networks, Outside TV, and Nautical Channel - reaching 90 million households, in four languages and 40 countries.

Learn more about the series at www.facingwaves.com. To showcase your top paddling destination or brand, contact Brendan Mark at 613-582-7154 or brendan@helipress.com.

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Note: Heliconia Productions release with same content is attached.

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About Facing Waves

The *Facing Waves* TV series features stand up paddling, sea kayaking, canoeing, rafting, whitewater kayaking, and surf adventures from around the globe. Each 30-minute TV episode is broadcast in the U.S. through Outside TV and FOX Sports Network, and internationally in more than 40 countries on Nautical Channel. For video and information on past episodes please visit www.facingwaves.com.

About The Great Calusa Blueway: The Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail is a 190-mile marked canoe and kayak trail that meanders through the coastal waters and inland tributaries of Lee County, Florida. It attracts everyone from first-time kayakers to advanced paddlers and is home to abundant marine life, shore birds and crustaceans. The trail has been developed by Lee County Parks & Recreation and is funded by tourist development tax dollars specifically dedicated to shoreline enhancement projects. Trail information is at www.calusablueway.com or www.leeparks.org/blueway. Find Calusa Blueway on Facebook. Visit the iTunes store or Google Play to download the free smartphone app. Visitors can find information at www.fortmyers-sanibel.com.

About Heliconia Productions: Heliconia is an award-winning video production company that specializes in outdoor productions. For 21 years Heliconia has helped industry-leading brands, and some of the world's top tourism authorities, communicate their marketing message in a unique, inspiring, and cost-effective way. Heliconia offers custom video production services and produces five unique television series which air on such networks as Sportsman Channel, FOX Sports, Outside TV, Nautical Channel, and World Fishing Network. Heliconia is also a leader in online video productions, with more than 225,000 YouTube subscribers and 56 million views. See all Heliconia's work at www.helipress.com.