

*Approved Minutes
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration
Working Group Meeting
September 18, 2003*

Administrative Announcements

Rick Smith called meeting called to order at 1:05 PM. He noted the Broward County presentation on the agenda (Encl. 1) for the following day was removed. Minutes (Encl. 2) will be presented for approval the following morning. Rock Salt noted COL May will be Director of the Task Force effective October 1, 2003 enabling him to spend his time working on DOI policy coordination issues. He introduced John Benjamin, Acting Superintendent of Everglades National Park while Maureen Finnerty is on a 120-day detail at the regional office in Atlanta. He recommended the group select a new Vice Chair. Rick Smith welcomed COL Carpenter and opened the floor for nominations. Wayne Daltry asked to have it reserved until the following morning. There were no questions on the Working Group (WG) status update items (Encl. 3).

Working Group Members	Sep. 18	Sep. 19	Alternates
Ernie Barnett – FL Dept of Environmental Protection			
John Benjamin – National Park Service	√	√	
Frank Bernardino – South Florida Water Management District	√	√	
G. Ronnie Best – U.S.G.S.	√		
COL Robert M. Carpenter - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	√	√	
Billy Causey – NOAA, FL Keys Nat'l Marine Sanctuary	-	-	Dave Score
Wayne Daltry – Southwest FL Regional Planning Council	√	√	
Essie Duffie – NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service	√	√	
Gene Duncan – Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of FL	√		
Roman Gastesi, Jr. – Miami Dade County		√	
Joanna Goger, U.S. Department of Justice	-		
George Hadley – U.S. Dept of Transportation			
Thaddeus Hamilton - U.S. Department of Agriculture	√	√	
Richard Harvey – Environmental Protection Agency			
Norman Hemming – U.S. Attorney's Office	√	√	
Chris Katzenmiller – Bureau of Indian Affairs	√	√	
Peter B. Ortner – NOAA	√	√	
Donna Pope - FL Dept. of Transportation	-	-	Marjorie Bixby
Fred Rapach – Palm Beach County Water Utilities Dept			
Terry Rice – Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida	-	√	
W. Ray Scott - FL Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services	√	√	
Jay Slack – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	√	√	
Rick Smith – Office of the Governor of Florida	√	√	
Ron Smola – U.S. Department of Agriculture			
Steve Somerville - Broward County Department of Natural Resource Protection	-	-	Patti Webster
Craig Tepper - Seminole Tribe of Florida	√	√	
Kenneth S. Todd – Palm Beach County Water Resources Manager	√	√	
Joe Walsh - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	√	√	
Vacant - Department of Community Affairs			
Rock Salt, Special Advisor	√	√	
Garrett Wallace, Special Advisor			

Whiparound

Jay Slack provided a status update (Encl. 4) and announced that two Avian Ecology workshops were scheduled. These workshops are intended to add to the scientific foundation for multi-species management. Frank Bernardino announced that he would represent the SFWMD on the WG from now on. He noted that the draft 2004 Everglades Consolidated Report is available on the web. Workshops will be held on September 23 - 24 at the Airport Hilton in Palm Beach. Input can also be made through the web until September 29. All comments will be forwarded to the peer review panel before the report is finalized. Wayne Daltry thanked the Corps for EIS for SW Florida. Lee County will be developing a comprehensive update of its groundwater resources to determine the effectiveness of its management scheme. The

Regional Restoration Coordination Team has developed a list of restoration projects and that will be brought to the WG. Ron Smola noted that the agricultural workshop held the prior day was very successful and that a written report will be generated. The report will identify research needs and funding. He thanked Rock and his staff for the support that they provided.

Peter Ortner said that the PMC for Florida Bay will have a retreat in December to develop its next Strategic Plan. He was pleased that the Governing Board approved a cooperative effort to do education and outreach in the Keys. Dave Score reported Billy Causey was in Tallahassee presenting their five-year report. Joe Walsh asked the members to encourage their scientific staff to look into the Society of Ecological Restoration International. They are currently soliciting information on monitoring efforts in Florida. COL Carpenter said that he looked forward to the challenge and was honored to work on such a noble endeavor. COL May said that he was delighted to have a second once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and that he looked forward to continue working with everyone.

Rock Salt presented the meeting schedule (Encl. 5) and noted that the Working Group would have an abbreviated session immediately following the Task Force meeting in October. The next regular WG meeting is scheduled for January.

Ray Scott reiterated that Florida has statutes and a process concerning *Arundo donax*. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has completed an initial risk assessment based on current conditions in Florida. Based on this assessment, the risk has been deemed to be low to moderate, but that this was not a final determinant as to whether the species would be listed or not. He was not aware any planting plan at this time. Ronnie Best said the SCT had accomplished what it had set out to do and that was to raise awareness. The SCT believes this is currently in the right hands. Rock added the dilemma is that they can't put in on the list until it has become a problem. Gene Duncan said that he went to the meeting and the group has every intention to move ahead with this. Jay Slack said this is an important issue for FWS and asked if there were other opportunities to provide input. Ray Scott stated that the Commissioner has the authority to deal with any species he determines to be a risk. Rick Smith urged them to consider the common reed versus the giant reed. He suggested they keep working the issue and hoped to have a letter by the next meeting. Joe Walsh suggested the pig weed could be used instead, since it is already here. Ronnie Best reminded everyone of the possibility of any species becoming more aggressive.

Executive Director's Report

Rock reported Biscayne Bay RRCT is actively working on a coordination plan that should be ready soon. He has provided the team with a letter (Encl. 6) in response to questions from the Team. The Kissimmee RRCT is also working on their workplan and will make a full report in January. A proposed timeline (Encl. 7) for the next Annual Report as well as the Biennial Report was provided. Key accomplishments and information should be provided to Linda Friar. A summary matrix (Encl. 8) for the annual update of the 2003 Coordinating Success was also distributed for review.

Rock Salt noted as a follow-up to the July Task Force meeting that the draft charter for the Science Coordination Group has been streamlined. The current version of the CSOP Advisory Team Charter (Encl. 9) includes the Task Force's clarifying guidance as well as the addition of three residents to the membership. The Miccosukee Tribe will have the opportunity to make a presentation on the LTP at the October meeting. Task Force members will be surveyed in advance of Tenth Anniversary celebration and meeting in December. A Prairie Canal groundbreaking ceremony may take place in conjunction with the October meeting.

CERP Implementation Update:

Dennis Duke provided an update (Encl. 10) reviewing the hot topics. The Special PIR (SPIR) and Supplemental EIS (SEIS) are being prepared for the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) to address WRDA 2000 requirements that are not included in the Feasibility Report. The draft documents will be circulated in December and followed by public meetings. The final PIR and SEIS will be submitted to HQ in March 2004 for review and approval. The District intends to repackage the SPIR and SEIS into one report. This will be the first of many reports, first of its kind, formulation of a national policy addressing technical and long-term policy issues. The draft will also go to the state for its 1501 review, which will be a part of the

process. The District is also working on a Value Engineering Report on the C-44 portion of the IRL and is working with the WMD on the final location of the project features. The District and the WMD are conducting additional modeling to better define the benefits and identify potential impacts for the Southern Golden Gates Estates (SGGE). The draft SPIR should be ready by early next year and will include all of the analysis, formulation and WRDA 2000 requirements. In the meantime the WMD is pursuing the contract for the Prairie Canal portion of the SGGE. While the Corps is working to ensure that the two efforts are compatible, there is no guarantee that the WMD's early work will be included in the recommended plan. Acquisitions for the Modified Water Deliveries and design of the S-357 pump station are underway. Contract awards for construction are expected in the summer 2004. The Tamiami Trail GRR has been reinitiated and is scheduled for HQ consideration in early 2004. IOP/CSOP is currently operating under column 1 with no bypass. Miami Dade County passed a resolution supporting lower canal levels. Operational tweaks will take place as additional facilities come online. The CSOP Purpose and Objectives paper has been presented to the Governing Board and they are seeking guidance from the WRAC. The Initial CERP Update (ICU) will incorporate modeling with an additional period of record, the STAs constructed in EAA as well as other physical changes in the throughout the system. Full implementation of IMC continues with two spaces being held for ENP technical folks at the "boot camp." The Corps and WMD are working to identify improvements to the implementation process. PIRs, for example, should fit the size and scale of the project especially for programmatic projects. They are also looking for opportunities to maximize the relative strengths of the agencies like the WMD contract for the Prairie Canal.

Critical Projects Update:

Bids for the Ten-Mile Creek have been received and will be awarded this coming week. The second contract for C-11 may be awarded by the end of the month. The Taylor Creek portion for Lake Okeechobee is being re-advertised. The Corps is seeking ways to lower costs for Lake Trafford while the WMD is proceeding with construction of containment area for dredged material. Plans and specs have been completed for the Tamiami Trail Culverts. The WMD is considering non-critical project alternatives for a portion of the project to alleviate concerns with the \$75M spending cap. Lake Okeechobee levels are receding and now in zone C. The District is working with the WMD on a temporary deviation to the WSE schedule in the short term and potential changes to the schedule for the long term.

Public Comment

Madeleine Fortin (8.5 square mile area resident) stated that it was difficult to listen to the discussion affecting her home. She said that the Corps update left out the fact that they were ordered by Congress to provide relocation within the community for every displaced homeowner. She said Congressman Diaz Balart was very angry that his attendance at a homeowners meeting was being characterized as a public meeting. She said he showed up at the meeting because of a request. The Corps has closed on seventeen properties before demonstrating they are able to follow the relocation requirements. Someone from the Corps' real estate division said the Corps would not provide relocation property and that the homeowners would have to find it themselves. She said that the Corps is trying to "skirt the law" and that the canal should have been dug a years ago. She ended by saying that she hoped to work together on these issues, although she doubted that would happen since it has not been done in the last ten years.

Tom McVicar said the CSOP Purpose and Objectives paper as a problem, but that he didn't want the CSOP process to be delayed. He asked when the Corps planned to talk to the public. Dennis responded that they are close to getting a plan together and will talk to WMD about public input.

Mary Munson (NPCA) voiced her approval of the schedule for IRL. She noted that as the first PIR through it would demonstrate that CERP can be successful.

PRO REGS and RECOVER

Stu Appelbaum provided a power point presentation (Enclosure 11) noting the regulations were submitted to OMB on July 10. Since then they have met with environmentalists, utilities, the Seminoles, and others as well as a letter from Cong Shaw. The Army will prepare the final rule and request concurrence from the Secretary of Interior and the Governor. The Rule will become effective 30 days after it is published.

Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP): The scientific and technical development process for MAP has been completed. The last version went out for a 60-day public review. These comments have been incorporated and the editorial team is going through revisions. The target is to complete the final revisions by November 2003. Part I will deal with monitoring and Part II with assessment.

Adaptive Management Workshop: A series of workshops have been scheduled to develop the strategy. The first workshop was held in June for RECOVER members. The next workshop is scheduled for October 22 – 23 and will focus on integrating management and science.

Interim Goals: An indicator list has been finalized after public comments and the development team is finalizing the metrics. The plan assumes that existing monitoring programs will continue. If that assumption is incorrect, there are some issues. Rock noted the Programmatic regulations call for consultation with the Task Force and the Working Group and this group needs to think about how it will handle that.

Working Group and Science Coordination Group Charters

Rock Salt reviewed the charters for the Working Group (Encl. 12) and Science Coordination Group (Encl. 13). He explained that the Executive Director would have the same relationship with the Science Coordination Group as with the Working Group. He noted the Task Force would designate the chairs and co-chairs both charters reflect streamlined membership and duties. An improved draft will be prepared for the Task Force to review at its October meeting.

Peter Ortner noted that NOAA is still discussing their representation and suggested amending that section. Rock Salt noted that there would be three representatives from NOAA on the Science Group but only one on the Working Group. Frank Bernardino provided an amendment which recommended deleting sections 3, b, c and d and replacing them with the text in his handout (Encl. 14). He noted that the WMD recommended limiting the number of meetings. They also believe that the Task Force needs to provide specific direction to the Working Group with the goal of simplify what the Working Group is doing to assist the Task Force. The WMD would like to see the group follow up on specific directions from the Task Force. The draft charter is good and some of the redundancies have been eliminated, however, it does not go far enough. The WG should be given an assignment with a deadline. Rock Salt said he had no problem with Frank's proposal and asked that it be opened up for discussion.

Peter Ortner removed his amendment. Gene Duncan said this was counter to the issue he wanted to raise. He questioned how the Task Force could be in charge of overseeing restoration when the role of RECOVER was not clear. Rick clarified that RECOVER is just for CERP and added that the WMD amendment tries to implement what the TF has stated previously. Rock added that the WMD amendment is closer to what the Task Force stated. Ronnie Best moved and Ray Scott seconded the amendment. Frank Bernardino asked to amend his amendment by deleting, "to coordinate scientific and other research, and". Thaddeus Hamilton read an excerpt from WRDA and said the WG tasks are defined. He said the WG would not sustain ecosystem restoration by following someone's direction and doing nothing else. The amendment takes away the ability for leeway. Rick clarified that 3a would remain and it would do just what Thaddeus was stating. Jay Slack agreed to the removal of the section on coordinating scientific and other research. He asked for an inclusion on both charters on how both groups would interface. Frank Bernardino said he supported the idea. Craig Tepper asked what "other research" meant. Rock Salt said it came from the law. Frank clarified that the amendment as it stands takes that phrase out of the WG charter but it will remain the responsibility of the SCG unless the Task Force makes a specific request. Ronnie suggested the WG Chair serve on the SCG and vice versa.

Frank Bernardino added that if there is an interagency/intergovernmental conflict and it is important, the TF could assign the WG to look at that issue. Joe Walsh clarified that his agency does not have a TF representative and would not be able to identify a problem at that level that would be tasked to the WG. Rick Smith said there are ways to have things communicated to the TF and that the local reps also have the WG Chair. Patti Webster said she was not comfortable with diminishing the group's role since it is the only place where they have an opportunity to raise issues that relate to the 16 counties. Rick clarified that the state reps on the TF represent all of them and there are fewer members by design enabling the group to

be more manageable. Frank Bernardino said that it was always intended that the TF would identify the role of this group. Patti Webster said she would feel more comfortable with 3g remaining.

Public Comment

April Gromnicki (Audubon of Florida) said she was surprised by the District's amendment and suggested adding the science section as "g" since the science coordination should be utilized to help in the process.

Frank Bernardino restated his motion to delete section 3b, 3c and 3d and insert the amendment as drafted absent the clause "to coordinate scientific and other research, and". **Action: Motion passed with three members (Gene, Essie and third unidentified) opposed. Frank Bernardino withdrew a second amendment.** Joe Walsh made a motion to add a reference in e (taken from b) "including problems of differing agency positions that matter or are relevant". **Action: Motion passed, none opposed.** Jay Slack noted that the WG involvement on science has been removed and a valid interface between the SCG and WG is needed. He provided specific language to Rock Salt and made a motion to accept. Patti Webster seconded the motion. Ronnie Best said the science group charter should have a similar statement. Jay Slack made an amendment that rather than have it in the duties section, it be added as number 7. Ronnie Best seconded. Wayne said if group didn't talk about science they would get to goal 3 and the SP. **Motion passed without objections.**

Thaddeus Hamilton recommended that public outreach be put back in. Frank Bernardino seconded motion. Rock Salt noted this has been dormant for awhile and said he was not certain the TF sees this as a role it wants for the WG. Ray Scott said that if the group believes this is relevant, then this charter provides the ability to bring it to the Task Force's attention. Jay Slack agreed. Rick said there has been a tremendous amount of progress made by the District and the Corps in educating the public. COL May noted that the agencies have public meetings and that attendance at these meetings varies depending on the level of controversy and/or interest. **Action: Ten voted in favor and seven were opposed to putting the public outreach language back in, motion passed.**

Patti Webster noted her concern that the Working Group was the only vehicle the local governments have. She made a motion to allow for 7 local government representatives instead of 5. Frank Bernardino said that historically, local government would outnumber those agencies responsible for the restoration and reminded the group that the Task Force wanted fewer members. He also said the WMD would object to having more members from any agency. Rock added that each TF member would appoint one member to the Working Group. **Action: Motion did not pass with 3 voting in favor and the remainder against.**

COL Carpenter encouraged the group to "get on with business" and take a hard look and determine the minimum number of people needed to get the job done. Ronnie Best made a motion to add a section 3g in the science charter that would state the WG would bring matters including conflicts to the TF and that similar language would also be included in the WG charter. **Action: Motion passed, no one opposed.** Ronnie also made a motion for the leadership of the SCG to parallel the structure of the WG. Wayne Daltry seconded. **Action: Motion passed, none opposed.** Rick Smith asked to strike the Governor's Office from membership on SCG. Frank Bernardino made a motion to eliminate "CERP and ... shall review RECOVER technical reports that provide advice to the Task Force" in 3e and to include separately "shall review CERP reports as directed by the Task Force". Ray Scott seconded. Jay Slack suggested they broaden it beyond CERP. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment

Dan Clark (Cry of the Water) presented a video taken in the spring depicting the bleaching event as well as stag horn disease noting cyanobacteria prolific in areas near the outfall pipes. He asked why this occurred in isolated areas near inlets and outfalls. He stated that scientists will be looking into the possibility that it is coming from some of the deep well injections. He asked for a website to see where the deep well injections sites are in Broward County. Rick Smith said that DEP and EPA have the information on deep well injection as well as the UIC program.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM.

*Approved Minutes
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration
Working Group Meeting
September 19, 2003*

Welcome and Administrative Announcements

Rick Smith called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM and the June minutes were approved.

Long Term Plan Update

Gary Goforth provided a power point presentation (Encl. 15) noting the plan has undergone extensive public, agency and stakeholder review and has been revised to reflect the comments received. A public workshop is scheduled for Sep. 25th at the District Headquarters and comments will be received until Sep. 30th. The Governing Board will be briefed at their November meeting. He reviewed the comments received and noted the single biggest issues dealt with questions regarding how the Long Term Plan will influence the schedules and cost of CERP. He noted that there is an opportunity for significant costs savings through integrating projects. Additional water quality features could be added to address state WQ concerns while the cost share could be adjusted so that the federal government would not incur additional costs. He noted that interagency meetings have been conducted in an attempt to jump start projects in the C-139 and L 128 area. The goal statement was revised to achieve the phosphorus criterion in the Everglades. The WMD will implement a \$6 million PSTA demonstration project and the results will be tracked and monitored. The District will be working with Broward County to reduce phosphorus levels. Phrases such as “maximum extent practicable” and “earliest practicable date” have been replaced with specific dates or with the intent to do them as soon as the science is available. Cost estimates based on new information have been revised and industry-standard software will be used to track expenditures. A web site is being developed to allow people to monitor the progress of the plan and the plan is already being implemented. Patti Webster thanked Gary on behalf of Broward County. Craig Tepper said the Seminole Tribe would provide comments and coordinate where they could. Rock said that working together is key and encouraged everyone to work towards making the plan work.

Vice Chair Nominations

Ron Smola nominated Jay Slack and his nomination was seconded. Craig Tepper noted that this would be an interim appointment since the Task Force would appoint the Chair under the new charter. Rock Salt agreed that until the rules are changed, they should go ahead. **Action: None opposed to Jay Slack serving as Vice Chair.**

Public Comment

Mary Munson (NPCA) said the state has been open in the review of the Long Term Plan and the criticism from the environmental community has been with the legislation and the standards that were just passed.

Panther Recovery Update

Cindy Schulz reported (Encl. 16) on the recovery of the panther as well as some background information on the panther’s origin and range. She explained the function of the Ecological Services Office is to administer the regulatory aspects. MERIT was formed to implement the Multi Species Recovery Plan that is undergoing peer review and the final report is expected in November 2003. Eighty-seven panthers remain and mortality on highways has been reduced but continues in other places. Jay Slack said the cameras show they are using the underpasses. The Habitat Conservation Assessment Tool was developed to help agencies and private landowners contribute to habitat conservation. The new Panther Recovery Team is updating the 1985 Recovery Plan and the draft is expected in 2004. Ron Smola said one of the consistent messages from the Agro Ecology Workshop was the need to identify the value of the habitat and private landowners need to be compensated for providing that habitat. Cindy said they are working on a relative value based on size and type of habitat. Ron said the Task Force needs to look at this issue as it could provide options for acquiring interests without having to purchase all the lands needed. He encouraged looking into opportunities to combine existing federal and state programs. Jay Slack said the tool could help with that goal by helping the landowner to sell a conservation easement.

Draft Land Acquisition Strategy

Mark Musaus noted that reported the revisions to the Strategy (Encl. 17) were underlined on the current draft. Rock Salt said the base document was approved by the Task Force at the February meeting and the WG recommended an annual update. Part of this update included incorporating lands being acquired and used at the county and local level under Goal 3. Discussion on payment in lieu of taxes program has been included and explains the state program. He reviewed the three objectives taken from the Strategic Plan dealing with additional greenways and trails, Farm Bill and open space. The team had a representative from each of the 16 counties who helped get the needed input. Craig Tepper said the border west of Seminole reservation needs correcting on the map. All members were asked to provide comments. Rock said the report would be provided to the WRAC with the group's concurrence. Rick Smith asked that corrections be made prior to presenting the draft to the WRAC. He noted that the amount of lands set aside for conservation was an incredible accomplishment.

Florida Keys Water Quality Improvement Program

Dave Score provided an overview of the program. It was implemented as a result of the National Marine Sanctuary Protection Act of 1990 which directed EPA to establish a water quality protection program for the Florida Keys. The program includes: recommending priority actions with timelines, identifying point and non-point sources of pollution, and establishing a water quality monitoring program in the Keys. The program includes a Management Team, Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee and includes citizens. He reviewed the program's results which include the Monroe County Wastewater and Stormwater Master Plan and the Master Plans for Islamorada and Key West. He noted that the long-term status and trends conducted by FIU and other detailed reports are available at www://serc.fiu.edu.

Rick Smith recognized Steve Hart from Congressman Diaz Balart's office. Mr. Hart said that during the public comment period the prior day, the Congressman was said to be angry. He wanted to correct the record and stated that the Congressman is not angry with the Corps and WMD. The Congressman has a good working relationship with both agencies as well as constituent groups and is pleased to help out with the agreement regarding the 8.5 square mile area.

WRAC Update

Frank Bernardino reported on the group's activities to date. The WRAC has been asked to identify recreational opportunities for the public on lands that are acquired as part of the CERP process. He noted that Mr. Dean believes that land purchased with public dollars should be available for multiple purposes. Using fishing along the L-67 levees as an example he noted that one alternative is to back fill the entire canal which is also one of the most productive fishing areas. Public meetings have begun on the Upper East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan. Those interested in participating were asked to contact him. The WRAC is also working on the impacts of consumptive use permits on CERP and future permit renewals. The Lake Okeechobee Protection Workshop conducted its first meeting on August 25 and covered a myriad of issues associated with the health of the lake. The next WRAC meetings are scheduled for September 22 and October 2, 2003.

CROGEE Update

Peter Ortner reported the next meeting scheduled for October 23 – 24, 2003 at the Westin in Ft. Lauderdale. They will discuss storage options, the water quality implications of the storage options, the legal framework for water quality issues, CERP and non-CERP water quality activities, storage issues and tradeoffs, and recent changes to the 2 x 2 model. A field trip to the Lakebelt is also planned.

Litigation Update

Joan Lawrence provided an update (Encl. 18) on ongoing litigation.

Public Comment

Ms. Stephanie Clark (Reef Team) asked how to get on the various mailing lists and Rick Smith suggested she check on the evergladesplan.org and sfwmd.gov for meeting schedules and calendars. She commented that the CERP siting tool would cause the reefs in Broward County to lose value because of the surrounding areas. Jay Slack said that this was an excellent observation. He explained that the tool is

currently only used in the Lake Okeechobee watershed. It is a regional tool that provides a relative analysis of a parcel within a region. All of the parcels in the region would be affected in a similar manner.

Mr. Dan Clark provided a copy of the Executive Summary of the Pew Oceans Report (Encl. 19) and read EPA's recommendations found on the bottom of page 26 regarding nitrogen levels. He said he was pleased to see the work going on in the Keys and hoped to see similar work in Broward County. He commented on the various projects that are underway on Broward beaches. He said he would prefer to not spend his time in court challenging decisions.

April Gromnicki (Audubon of Florida) said that there aren't many options in the system and that storage is needed. She suggested thinking about the 15,000 acres in EAA and about what things can be done cooperatively.

Mary Munson (NPCA) said she supported April's comments as well as the Long Term Plan process. She remains concerned about achieving 10 ppb by 2006 and about the twenty-year permits. She wants to ensure that they are not giving away water for the environment. She invited members to attend the Everglades Coalition Conference in January 2004.

Wrap Up Discussions on Science Coordination Group Charter

Rock Salt said paragraph 5f in the Science Charter and 5e in Working Group notes that both groups strive to achieve consensus. Frank Bernardino made a motion to end after "among its members." Ron Smola seconded and motion passed. Rock Salt said that would send both documents as amended with the group's comments to the TF. He said it was his intent to recommend that the section on public outreach not be included. Rick said that he would represent the group's views regarding outreach. Thaddeus Hamilton encouraged the group to be holistic in their approach adding that the problem is non-point source pollution. He said he saw the same people at all the meetings and asked everyone to work together to get the public involved. Rock clarified that the issue is not whether it is important but rather what the group's role is. Ron Smola made a motion to approve both charters as amended that was seconded. **Action: Motion passed to approve both charters as amended.**

Open Discussion

Jay Slack commended the Corps and the WMD for their work and said that the Avian Ecology Workshops would compliment these efforts. Roman Gastesi reported there was a Miami River restoration meeting the previous day and the RFP was let. It called for bank to bank dredging to begin next spring or early summer. The city will pay the difference for the portion outside the federal project boundaries. Joe Walsh announced that the Commission closed hunting areas due to high water. Frank Bernardino noted that a large chunk of the money from the county came from the Legislature and Mario Diaz Balart was personally responsible.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda
2. June 2003 meeting minutes
3. Working Group status updates
 - a. 2003 WG Workplan
 - b. Actions/Issues Tracking Chart
 - c. Issue Team Tracking Chart
4. Avian Ecology Workshop Update
5. Meeting Schedule
6. Letter to Biscayne Bay RRCT
7. Timeline for Annual Report and Biennial Report
8. Summary matrix for 2003 Coordinating Success
9. Draft CSOP Charter
10. Corps' Hot Topics Power Point Presentation
11. Programmatic Regulations Power Point Presentation
12. Draft 2003 Working Group Charter
13. Draft 2003 Science Coordination Group Charter

14. Water Management District amendment 1 and 2
15. Long Term Plan Power Point Presentation
16. Panther Recovery Power Point Presentation
17. Draft revisions to the Land Acquisition Strategy
18. Litigation Update
19. Pew Oceans Commission (Summary Report: May 2003)