

Southwest Florida Regional Restoration Coordination Team

Accomplishments & Priorities

**Lisa B. Beever, Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
Bob V. Sobczak, Big Cypress National Preserve**

SWFRRCT Organization

- **Two sub-regional teams: Big Cypress & Calusa**
- **Each follows the organizational guidelines defined in SWFL RRCT charter.**
- **Two teams unite to form the SWFL RRCT**
- **RCT Chairpersons:**
 - **Lisa Beever (CHNEP)**
 - **Bob Sobczak (NPS)**
- **Geographic scope of each RCT.**

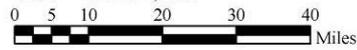


Legend

Restoration Coordination Team

- Big Cypress Basin-Estero Bay
- Charlotte Harbor-Caloosahatchee
- NEP Study Area
- Southwest Florida Feasibility Study

Source: Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
U.S. Census Bureau
South Florida Water Management District
Date: October 1, 2002



Partnering In the Regional Science and Restoration Plans Leads to Accomplishments

- Resource Maps and Databases
 - Past Land Cover
 - Existing Land Use
 - Future Land Use Maps
 - Charlotte Harbor Information Center
- Restoration Plan
 - Maps developed of combined land acquisition efforts and gaps in resource protection by CCCP
 - Predisposes effective restoration planning

Regional Science and Restoration Plan Database

- **A combined regional science and restoration plan database for all entities working in Southwest Florida**
- **Combines efforts of :**
 - SWFRRCT
 - Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
 - Estero Bay Agency On Bay Management
 - Southwest Florida Watershed Council
 - South Florida Water Management District
 - Southwest Florida Water Management District
 - Lee County

Restoration Science Plan

- **Science Subcommittee**
- **60 participants, including FWS, EPA, COE, USGS, NRCS, DEP, FWC, IFAS, SFWMD, SWFRPC, CHNEP, FGCU, SCCF, CHEC, Conservancy of SWF, Lee, Charlotte, Hendry, Ft. Myers, Cape Coral, Sanibel, SWF Watershed Council, Private Firms**
- **Developed Master Database**
- **71 restoration research project needs id'd**

Southwest Florida Restoration Science Priorities

- **Estuarine Flows and Mixing Model**
- **Regional/Subregional Water & Nutrient Budgets**
- **Functional Ecology of Ephemeral Wetlands (interpretation of SWANCC)**
- **Water Flows and Quality in Marshes of Southern Golden Gate Estates**

Critical Restoration Needs

Identified 4 projects of critical need for each of our 4 principal watersheds.

- Charlotte Harbor
- Caloosahatchee River
- Estero Bay
- Big Cypress

Charlotte Harbor Basin

- Yucca Pens/Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods
- Charlotte Harbor State Buffer Preserve
- Hydrological Restoration of Sanibel Causeway Effects
- Restoration of Historic Oyster Bars

Caloosahatchee River Basin

- Acquire and Restore Babcock Ranch
- Restore Estuarine Oxbows
- Remove C-43 Spoil Deposits And Restore Underlying Areas
- Restore Lake Hicpochee

Estero Bay Basin

- Agripartners Acquisition and Restoration
- Corkscrew Woodstork Flow-ways Acquisition and Restoration
- Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Acquisition and Restoration
- Restoration of Natural Tributaries to Estero Bay

Big Cypress Basin

- Camp Keais Strand Protection and Restoration
- Naples Bay Restoration Initiative
- Lake Trafford Restoration
- Southern Golden Gate Estates Restoration

Summary of the 16 RRCT Priority Restoration Projects

- Acquire and Restore Yucca Pens/Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods
- Complete Acquisition and Restoration of Charlotte Harbor State Buffer Preserve
- Hydrological Restoration of Sanibel Causeway Effects
- Restoration of Historic Oyster Bars
- Acquire and Restore Babcock Ranch
- Restore Estuarine Oxbows
- Remove C-43 Spoil Deposits And Restore Underlying Areas
- Restore Lake Hicpochee

Summary of the 16 RRCT Priority Restoration Projects (Continued)

- Agripartners Acquisition and Restoration
- Corkscrew Woodstork Flow-ways Acquisition and Restoration
- Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Acquisition and Restoration
- Restoration of Natural Tributaries to Estero Bay
- Camp Keais Strand Protection and Restoration
- Naples Bay Restoration Initiative
- Lake Trafford Restoration
- Southern Golden Gate Estates Restoration

Future Agenda

1. Maintain Momentum.
2. Expand and Update Restoration Project Plans.
3. Issue of water reservations for natural systems and their restoration.
4. Coordinate our projects with RECOVER, and meta-regional networks .