

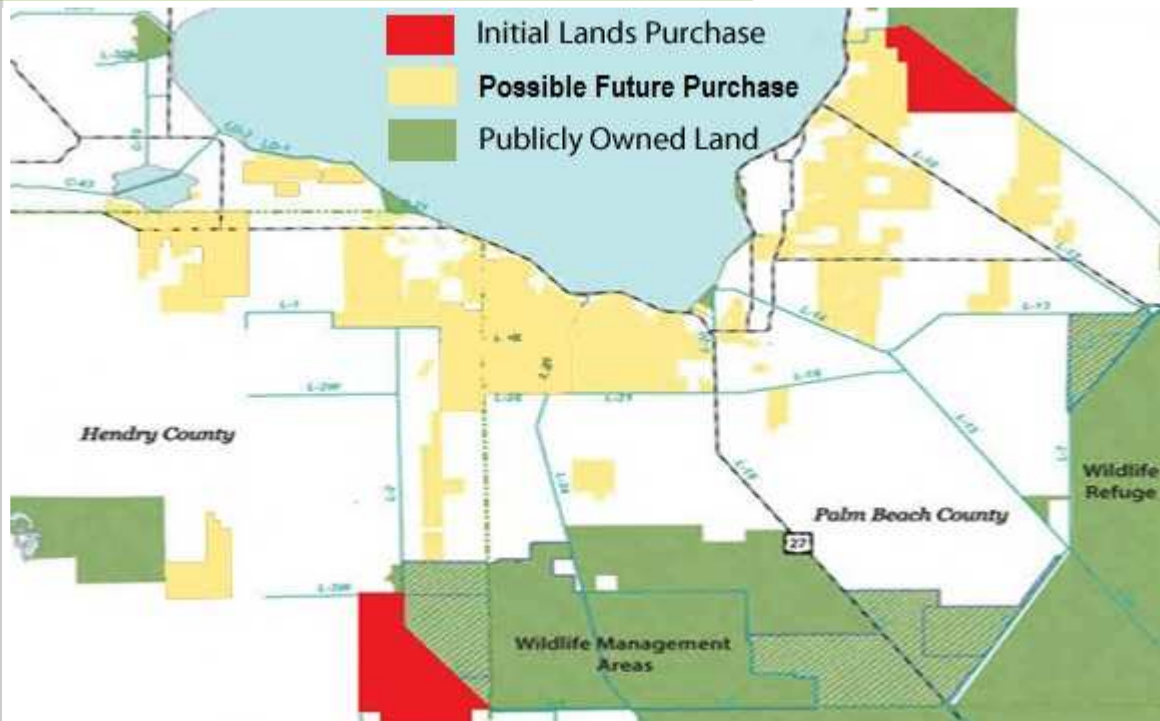
The Flow

August 2010 Newsletter
Dr. Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Sep 1 - CRCA Board Meeting
- Sep 6 - LaBelle Riverside Retreat Family Day
- Sep 18 - The Call of the Creek
- Sep 25 - CHNEP National Estuary Days

For more river news visit the CRCA web site at crca.caloosahatchee.org
Also, you can renew your membership online



SFWMD will buy 26,000 acres of citrus & sugarcane from US Sugar.

Fisheating Creek Controversy



Some locals say creating a canoe trail through Cowbone Marsh in Fisheating Creek has resulted in lower creek levels and excess flows to Lake Okeechobee. Others say the project was limited to vegetation clearing and is not causing excess drainage. [\[Order to Halt\]](#) [\[Feasibility\]](#) [\[TrailIssues\]](#)

CRCA Votes for Spreader Canal



On Aug 4 directors of CRCA-Riverwatch voted unanimously that the Cape Coral proposed NEBs were an insufficient substitute for a properly managed spreader canal system with a boat lift or lock near Ceitus. Upland water management is also essential. [\[CRCA Letter\]](#)

Majority Vote for Ceitus



A majority of the 20 stakeholders have voted to reconstruct the Spreader Canal barrier: Andress, Audubon, Buchanan, Calusa Land Trust, GPICA, PURRE, RGMC, Riverwatch, SCCF, Snook Foundation and Watershed Council. [\[Details\]](#) [\[CLT\]](#) [\[SCCF\]](#) [\[Andress\]](#)

River Hit with Algal Bloom



A blue-green algal bloom has spread out in the Caloosahatchee River. High water temperatures and a low salinity support the growth of the bacteria causing the bloom that looks like algae. If the extent increases, many fish could be killed. [\[Details\]](#)

Rivers Coalition Complains



The Rivers Coalition is disappointed that the state's newly reduced plan to purchase two properties in the Everglades Agricultural Area will not provide the needed flowway to move water from Lake Okeechobee into the Everglades to reduce discharges. [\[TCPalm\]](#) [\[River Coalition\]](#)

Restore C43 Project to WRDA



Area groups are asking Congressmen Connie Mack and Tom Rooney to restore the C-43 West Reservoir project back to the WRDA authorization list. Mack previously supported the project. The project can be added in House-Senate Conference. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Action\]](#) [\[The Process\]](#)

Everglades Restored to List



After being removed by the Bush administration a few years ago, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee has restored the Everglades' proper place on the "in danger" list of World Heritage Sites. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Background\]](#)

Hottest Jan-July on Record



At 1.93°F (1.07°C) above the 20th century average of 55.9 °F (13.3°C) land temp, June 2010 was the hottest June on record. The first 7 months of 2010 (Jan-July) were the 3rd hottest on record. NASA titles their web site on the data "What Global Warming Looks Like." [\[Global Warming House Committee\]](#) [\[Blog\]](#) [\[NASA Data\]](#)

Start of Alligator Hunt



The statewide alligator hunt begins an hour before sunset Sunday, August 15th. During four weeks hunters are given the possibility to seek a true trophy kill - an alligator more than 9-foot-long. The alligator population is in good shape this season. [\[TCPalm\]](#)

LaBelle Heritage Museum



Riverwatch has written a letter supporting the LaBelle Heritage Museum grant application to purchase the Jennings Hardware building on Bridge St. Relocation of the museum will help revitalize the downtown river district of LaBelle. [\[Details\]](#)

Not Yet Good Enough



According to SCCF, the Conservancy, and other groups, the stated policy in the Adaptive Protocols for Lake Okeechobee Operations is unacceptable to the citizens of Southwest Florida. The Governing Board is requested to revise the document. [\[SCCF to Gray\]](#) [\[SCCF to SFWMD Board\]](#)

Fool Me Once...



After almost a decade of work, The Southwest Florida Feasibility Study has been downgraded. It is no longer the federal/state-funded component of CERP for SW FL; it is now just a list of good project ideas...suggestions really. [\[Details\]](#)

Protest Ceitus Delay



Phil Buchanan writes in opposition to the continued delays by Cape Coral and DEP in concluding the EMA process. What was to be a 1 year process is now at 2.3 years and counting. The outcome of the Ceitus Boat lift vote is known, but delays continue. [\[Delay Protest\]](#) [\[Obfuscation Cartoon\]](#)

Mimi Drew Heads FDEP



Mimi Drew has been appointed by Gov. Crist to become interim head of Florida Dept of Environmental Protection. Mike Sole resigned the post after many years of service. Drew was deputy to Sole. [\[Miami Herald\]](#) [\[TampaBay.com\]](#)

Purple Martins in Fort Myers



Although the purple martin is small bird, it inspires huge admiration among those who house them. Hendry Street in Fort Myers is a favorite haunt. The Bar Association's owner, Ron Kopko, now offers free bird whistles and a free drink to spectators. [\[NewsPress\]](#)

North Fort Myers Utility Sold



According to the Florida Governmental Utility Authority the \$55 million purchase of the North Fort Myers Utility Inc. System has been completed. From now on customers will have to pay on average \$20 a month more for purchase, upgrades and operations. [\[Details\]](#)

SCCF Shows Damage



The SCCF has six sensors that have been monitoring the Caloosahatchee River. Since the releases from Lake Okeechobee began, the salinity of the Caloosahatchee dropped to zero and remains there today. The Corps will reevaluate conditions on July 23. [\[NBC-2\]](#) [\[Video\]](#) [\[Readings\]](#)

September Board Meeting



The September CRCA Board meeting will take place in LaBelle on September 1 (the first Wednesday of the month), at 6:30pm in the Bridge Street Coffee Shop, 23 E. Thompson Avenue, LaBelle, FL 33935. [\[Map\]](#)