

# The Flow

December 2007 Newsletter  
Marti Daltry, President

## Special Events & Meetings

- Dec 15 - River Roots & Ruts Trail Run
- Jan 10/13 - Everglades Coalition Conference
- Feb 9 - Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Second Annual Conference

For more river news visit the CRCA web site at [crca.caloosahatchee.org](http://crca.caloosahatchee.org)  
Also, you can renew your membership online



Artist Caroline Krieger Comings Caloosahatchee Oxbow Painting

## Riverwatch Gift Sales



This holiday season choose gifts from Riverwatch. Artist Caroline Krieger Comings has offered RIVERWATCH oil painting images for notecards and prints for sale. All profits support the continued efforts of CRCA.

[Note Cards] [Gallery] [Email for Gift Purchase]

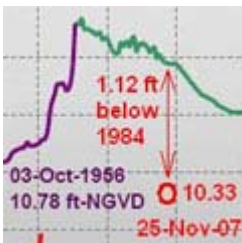
## Lee Take Positive Direction



A coalition of groups is encouraging Lee County Commissioners to adopt a stronger fertilizer ordinance for homeowners and landscaping professionals. At their Dec 4 meeting commissioners sent the weak draft ordinance back to staff for revision.

[Letter]

## Lake Continues Record Lows



Lake Okeechobee water levels continue to shatter the record lows of the past 76 years that record havekeepi been kept. At 10.33 ft, the end of Nov levels are more than a one foot below the previous Nov low of 1984. [Lake Hydrograph]

[Record Lows]

## Trial Trail Run



Mark your calendars for a traditional, Trial Trail Run on Saturday, December 15th. This practice run is open to all, registered or not. The group will meet at 11:00 am at the Caloosahatchee Regional Park campground parking lot.

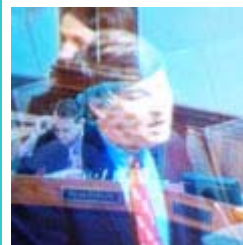
[Details] [Web site]

## The Judge Says, Stop!



Fort Myers Councilmember Levon Simms voted that the City of Fort Myers not appeal the court ruling halting The Vue tower project on Centennial Park land. He, like CRCA, doesn't want public access or enjoyment of the park diminished by the tower. [Mailbag Letter]

## Grove Bought for Clean Water



SFWMD & Lee Co. have purchased a grove for \$37 million (\$21,000/ac). 1335 acres will be used for water quality treatment, 440 acres for recreation & commercial. The nitrogen removal system will cost \$100+ million more. [NewsPress] [Map1] [Map2]

## Corps to FL: Clean up your act!



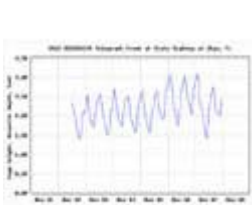
In a May 2007 memo, a Corps General recommended not funding Lake O projects unless Florida takes proper actions to meet water quality standards...while at the same time the Corps continues to approve development projects that degrade FL waters. [\[Peer Press Release\]](#) [\[Corps Memo\]](#)

## First Override for Pres. Bush



By a vote of 361 to 54 on the evening of Nov 6, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to override President Bush's veto of the Water Resources Development Act authorizes several projects in Florida. The Senate voted to override on Nov 8 by 79-14. [\[Roll Call\]](#) [\[Mahoney Statement\]](#) [\[AP\]](#)

## Telegraph Creek



A real-time data web site for the Telegraph Creek monitoring station is now operational. Parameters include water level, flow velocity, salinity, and temperature. Check out the link! [\[NWISWeb\]](#)

## FM Riverfront Redevelopment



People like William P. Mitchell hopes a workshop with city leaders set for Dec 10 will lead to a plan to bring those crowds downtown every week along 3 blocks of redeveloped riverfront that will offer nearly 10 acres of retail shops & restaurants. [\[News-Press.com\]](#)

## CRCA Joins Coalition



At its recent meeting in late October, the Everglades Coalition approved CRCA's application for membership. The addition of Riverwatch and Audubon of SW Florida brings EC membership to 50 organizations. [\[Web Site\]](#)

## Hendry County Planning



Hendry County Planner is performing an Evaluation and Assessment Report (EAR) project for its Comprehensive Land Use Plan that will chart a direction for the county and watershed for the coming decades. [\[Outline Letter\]](#)

## CHNEP Nature Festival



CRCA officers Marti Daltry and John Capece joined dozens of other community groups to make the Charlotte Harbor Nature Festival another great family fun & educational event. Student interns Mihee from S. Korea and Monyo from Bulgaria helped. [\[Photo\\_1\]](#) [\[Photo\\_2\]](#) [\[Photo\\_3\]](#) [\[Photo\\_4\]](#) [\[Photo\\_5\]](#)

## Nature Park Questions Linger



CRCA and other interested parties agree that a park on the 176-acre parcel on the north bank of the Caloosahatchee River, across from Barron Park, would be a good thing. However, a number of details have yet to be confronted. [\[NewsZap.com\]](#)

## Proper Waterfront Design



How should Ft. Myers' riverfront be developed? The world's premier urban planners assert that it is best to set tall towers back from the water's edge and use the waterfront lands for support activities open to all, a design Ft. Myers should adopt. [\[Design Video\]](#) [\[CRCA Letter\]](#) [\[Waterfront Mistakes\]](#)

## Again, Routing Dirty Water!



An EPA official was reassigned after overheard saying, "Once again, we're routing dirty water" in opposition to a Corps proposal to pipe Lake O water to Miami canals. The agency is intolerant of revealing a history of acquiescence to flawed programs. [\[St. Pete Times\]](#) [\[Miami Herald\]](#) [\[Orlando Sentinel\]](#)

## Regional Restoration Plan



SFWMD has released a Northern Everglades draft technical plan to protect and restore the Lake O watershed and improve the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie watersheds. The public comment period will conclude on Dec 13, 2007. [\[News Release\]](#) [\[Technical Plan 2.2MB\]](#) [\[Post Comment\]](#)

## Changing Caloosahatchee



"The hydrology of the river has been altered so significantly that we can't recreate the original river now," says Bill Hammond, a retired professor of environmental sciences at FGCU. "It's operating as a series of lake pools with weir structures." [\[Article\]](#)