

The Flow

February 2010 Newsletter
Dr. Annette Snapp, President

Special Events & Meetings

- Feb 24 - SCCF Annual Conservation Forum 7:30pm on Sanibel Island
- Feb 27-28 - CRCA at Swamp Cabbage Festival in LaBelle
- Feb 27 - Leadership Cruise 1pm, Sat.
- Feb 27 - Educational Cruise 2:30pm Sat.
- Feb 28 - Canoe Drawing 3pm, Sun.

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



Sunset Fisherman on the Orange River (by Matthias Boehm)

Manatees In Florida Cold



This year's manatee count was 33 percent higher than last year. Cold weather is forcing more manatee inshore, bunched up at warm-water refuges where they can be counted. The manatee population has been growing the last 15 or 20 years.

[[News Press](#)] [[Manatee WebCam](#)]

EPA Limits Will Not Affect Ag



Proposed EPA numeric standards for water quality are not likely to have a great effect on agriculture. Florida Watershed Restoration Act (FWRA) of 1999 states that BMPs administered by FDACS determine agricultural water quality actions/compliance.

[[UF-IFAS](#)]

Corps Begins Estuary Flows



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began a water pulse release from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee Estuary on Sat, Feb 13. This pulse release is needed because the last release did not fully achieve the desired benefits to the estuary.

[[Corps Announcement](#)] [[Flow Graph](#)] [[Spreadsheet](#)] [[USACOE Page](#)] [[2009](#)]

Feeling Generous? Donate!



If you've decided its time to get rid of a boat, car or other large item then consider a donation to Riverwatch. CRCA now has a program that makes it easy. We handle pickup and you get a maximum value tax deduction.

[[Contact Us To Donate](#)]

CRCA at Swamp Cabbage



Join Riverwatch in LaBelle for the Swamp Cabbage Festival on Sat, Feb 27 for the river cruise and Sun, Feb 28 for the canoe contest drawing. There's so much to do at the Festival that you're sure to have fun. [[Festival Page](#)] [[River Cruise](#)] [[Canoe Contest](#)]

Pieces of the Water Puzzle



The SCCF Annual Conservation Forum is at Big Arts on Sanibel Island on Feb 24 at 7:30 pm. Speakers include Army Corps of Engineer's Col. Pantano, Everglades Foundation's Kirk Fordham & Dr. Tom Van Lent, and SCCF's Rae Ann Wessel. [[Announcement](#)]

Water Pollution Not a Taking



Judge Lynn J. Bush of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington ruled pollution in the St. Lucie Estuary caused by the discharges do not amount to a "taking" of riparian rights from the 22 landowners on whose behalf the coalition filed the lawsuit. [\[TC Palm\]](#) [\[Editorial\]](#)

Collins Center for Public Policy



Collins Center, dedicated to advancing the important social and economic public policy issues facing Florida, is a co-sponsor of the 2010 Riverwatch Swamp Cabbage Cruise. Special thanks to Michael Maidenberg and Phillip Bacon. [\[Website\]](#)

ECT, Inc.



Riverwatch thanks Ron Edenfield of Environmental Consulting & Technology, Inc., co-sponsor of the 2010 Swamp Cabbage Cruise. ECT specializes in the resolution of complex environmental issues, designing such projects as Billy Creek mitigation park. [\[Website\]](#)

Rivers Coalition Appeals



The Rivers Coalition Defense Fund board of directors is appealing a federal court judge's ruling rejecting the organization's attempt to make the Army Corps of Engineers stop dumping polluted Lake Okeechobee water in the St. Lucie River estuary. [\[TC Palm\]](#)

Estero River Outfitters



Second place in the canoe contest is a guided kayak tour for 4 people on Estero Bay valued at \$140, courtesy of Estero River Outfitters. The Outfitters also provided a \$230 discount on the price of the first place prize canoe from \$780 to \$550. [\[Web Site\]](#)

Hands Across the Sand



People gathered against Florida offshore oil drilling. Cheryl Anderson lived along the Texas coastline; there was tar all over the beach. Anderson said there will be oil on Florida beaches. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[For & Against\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#)

Patel, Rothschild & Associates



CRCA would like to thank Ajit Patel of Patel, Rothschild and Associates, Investment Bankers for the co-sponsorship of the 2010 Riverwatch Swamp Cabbage Cruise. Ajit is also an active cooperator on Caloosahatchee oxbows restoration projects. [\[President Association Profile\]](#)

Careening Weather



With the 2000's the warmest on record and this winter's snow deep and getting deeper, is our weather fishtailing around from climate instability? Or is it just the weather? Experts say its El Nino + Arctic Oscillation. [\[Feb 13 Temps\]](#) [\[NASA on 2000s\]](#) [\[El Nino\]](#) [\[NASA Records\]](#)

Whose Side Are You On?



DEP is siding with lobbies criticizing proposed EPA numerical nutrient limits for Florida waters. If they succeed then roles will switch & DEP will have to defend their own numerical limits against the same opposition lobbies. Opponents don't dispute the problem, but say a solution is too expensive. [\[DEP Objections\]](#) [\[Cartoon\]](#)

Watershed Council, Inc.



Once again the Watershed Council of Southwest Florida has donated to the 2010 Swamp Cabbage Festival Cruise. Special thanks to James Evans, chair of the council. Watershed Council takes a lead role on many of the important issues of the region. [\[Website\]](#)

Rock Enterprises, Inc.



CRCA would like to thank Rock Aboujaoude, David Rolls, & Alberto Betancur of Rock Enterprises, Inc. for co-sponsorship of the 2010 Riverwatch Swamp Cabbage Cruise. Rock's team delivers engineering services in the Hendry County region.

Action...Reaction, No Surprise



Cape Coral's removal of the Ceitus Boat Lift has resulted in a sand bar forming at the outlet of the Spreader Canal system, blocking boat traffic. Riverwatch opposed removal of the lift. Putting it back should help alleviate the sedimentation and solve this and other problems. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[Video\]](#)