

# The Flow

January 2009 Newsletter  
Mary Ruth Prouty, President

## Special Events & Meetings

- Jan 27 - Save Our Creeks BOD Meeting
- Jan 29 - CRCA Director Presentation
- Jan 29 - NS-EMA Stakeholder Group Meeting
- Jan 29 - Everglades Technical Oversight Committee Meeting
- Feb TBA - Nature Park Cleanup

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



*Brenda Brooks & Wayne Daltry congratulate River Run participants.*

## Cape Coral Fertilizer Ordinance



Mary Ann Parsons of Cape Water Action, Mary Ruth Prouty, CRCA-Riverwatch and Marti Daltry, Sierra Club wrote a letter to City of Cape Coral Mayor and Council Members strongly urging them to vote "yes" in adopting a strong fertilizer ordinance. [\[Letter\]](#)

## We Thought It Died Last Year



Arisen from the dead is the State Fertilizer Bill that could restrict what local ordinances can be adopted to curb landscape fertilizer pollution to our waterways. We will keep everyone informed on its status. [\[Comments\]](#) [\[Draft\]](#)

## Name That Governing Member

- ✓ Mary Ann Martin
  - ✓ Joe Collins
  - ✓ Edward Elkowitz
  - ✓ Robert Hatton
  - ✓ Joseph Spratt
- Now that the U.S. Sugar vote is behind him, will Governor Crist finally name a Lake O region representative to the SFWMD Governing Board? Candidates are: Mary Ann Martin, Joe Collins, Edward Elkowitz, Robert Hatton, & Joe Spratt.

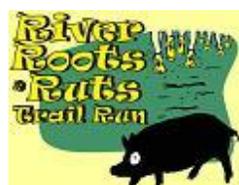
[\[The Ledger\]](#) [\[Naples News\]](#)

## All This We Can Do



We will restore science to its rightful place,...We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories. And we will transform our schools and colleges and universities to meet the demands of a new age. All this we can do. And all this we will do. [\[Inauguration\]](#)

## River Run 2009



The River Roots & Ruts Trail Run at Caloosahatchee Regional Park held on January 11 was fun for all. The annual event helps support Riverwatch, Watershed Council, and local recreational groups.

[\[Runner Comment\]](#) [\[RRRTR\]](#)

## Pulse Releases to Estuary

Date	S-79 Q(cfs)
1/20/09	1000
1/21/09	1350
1/22/09	600
1/23-26/09	400
Average	650

On Jan 20 water managers began a week-long pulse release of water to the Caloosahatchee Estuary. It began at a high level (1000 cfs) as measured at S-79 Franklin Lock & gradually reduced to 400 cfs. This flow helps maintain proper salinity levels. [\[Corps of Engineers\]](#)

[\[Corps of Engineers\]](#)

## Caloosahatchee Restoration



On Jan 12 Bill Hammond and Greg Rawl presented concepts for restoring some of the historic functions of the Caloosahatchee River. These include restoration of Lake Hicpochee. [\[Presentation\]](#)

## Back to the Drawing Board



A \$3,000,000 project by SFWMD & Hydromentia attempted to remove phosphorus from Lake O water by growing and harvesting algae. The goal was to remove 4000 lbs of P, but only 150 lbs was achieved. [\[Palm Beach Post\]](#) [\[2007 Kickoff\]](#)

## Why Boats and Animals Collide



Researchers at FAU have laid the groundwork for a sensory explanation for why manatees and other animals are hit repeatedly by boats. Marine authorities have responded to deaths from boat collisions by imposing low speed limits on boats. [\[Press Release\]](#)

## Babcock Ranch Preservation



A few weeks after laying off almost half its employees in Port Charlotte, Syd Kitson, the would-be builder of a new city of 50,000 straddling the Lee-Charlotte county line has offered to sell 2,250 acres for conservation. [\[Details\]](#)

## Biofuels in the Glades



The 24th Annual Everglades Coalition Conference held Jan 9-11 in Miami included a presentation by John Capece on the science and social issues of biofuels production on sugarcane lands to be purchased from U.S. Sugar Corporation by SFWMD. [\[Capece on Biofuels\]](#) [\[Program\]](#)

## Federal Water Quality Changes



EPA says that it intends to set water quality standards for all Florida inland waterways within 12 months and coastal waters within 24 months. Jerry Phillips of PEER says the joint DEP/EPA announcement is an attempt to put lipstick on a pig. [\[Press Release\]](#)

Jerry Phillips  
PEER's  
Field Director

## The Other Shoe



SFWMD staff counseled against layoffs or a tax increase Jan 12, despite the dour economic outlook and plans to spend an unprecedented \$1.34 billion land deal. SFWMD initially said that no new taxes would be required to buy the U.S. Sugar lands. [\[Palm Beach Post\]](#) [\[Map\]](#) [\[Sugar Deal\]](#)

[\[Palm Beach Post\]](#) [\[Map\]](#) [\[Sugar Deal\]](#)

## Smalltooth Sawfish



The government is concerned that removal of seagrass or mangroves for docks, affecting shading could impact the endangered sawfish. Contractors fear a critical habitat designation could severely limit what can be constructed along canals/waterways. [\[Flyer\]](#) [\[NP1\]](#) [\[NP2\]](#)

## Fish & Greenhouse Gas Control



A new report describes how fish regulate ocean pH and carbon. Dr. Villy Christensen says that fish ingest lots of calcium containing sea water and excrete it as calcium carbonate, removing CO2 from the ocean and thus from the atmosphere. [\[Reuters\]](#) [\[Animation\]](#)



**Favorite Recipes** Caloosahatchee Cookbook invites you to share your favorite recipes, including picnic & boating favorites. Include your culinary secrets in the fundraiser cookbook. The sooner you submit, the better your chances of being included. [\[Form\]](#) [\[Online Form\]](#)

## FYN Conference 2009



The Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Conference will be held Feb 28 at Edison College in Ft. Myers. Other FYN events and classes are scheduled in Jan 20 & Feb 20 at Ruttenberg Park eco-living Center to educate home owners on better management of landscaping. [\[Conference\]](#) [\[Classes\]](#) [\[Flyer\]](#)

## Watch For Agenda Hijacking



Clean Water Network says activists should guard against bad projects & promote good projects as green infrastructure or water efficiency projects. The upcoming stimulus program is vulnerable to hijacking by unsustainable development interests. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Nat.Rev.\]](#) [\[Obey\]](#) [\[Stimulus\]](#)