

# The Flow

March 2015 Newsletter  
John Capece, Editor

## Special Events & Meetings

- **Mar 31:**  
[Caloosahatchee Visioning Workshop](#) in LaBelle
- **Apr 6-7:** [Everglades Action Day](#) in Tallahassee
- **Apr 12:** [Groundswell Rising](#) Film Screening & Discussion in Ft. Myers
- **Apr 15:** [CRCA BOD Meeting & Indian Riverkeeper Presentation](#) in Ft. Myers

**Editorial Disclaimer**  
Visit the CRCA web site  
[crca.caloosahatchee.org](http://crca.caloosahatchee.org)  
Join us at [Facebook](#)



*Kayla Koszela & other FGCU students help at CRCA annual meeting.*

### Caloosahatchee Basin Visioning



Don't forget to RSVP for the Caloosahatchee Basin Visioning Workshop on Mar 31. It's at the UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension Office, 1085 Pratt Boulevard, LaBelle from 1-4pm. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Flyer\]](#)

### Florida Banning Words?



Florida Times Union investigative reporting uncovered evidence in several state agencies that Gov Rick Scott is making climate change denial state policy by banning the use of these words for state employees. Absolutely shocking! [\[Korten Article\]](#) [\[Times Union\]](#) [\[Huffington Post\]](#) [\[Bart Bibler Case\]](#) [\[Scott Denial\]](#)

### Jimmy Buffett For The Everglades



Everglades Coalition announced that Jimmy Buffett will join the Everglades Action Day on Apr 7 in Tallahassee. Buffett is a long-time Florida environmental supporter. Buffett will do a brief acoustic performance in addition to speaking on the issues. [\[Jimmy Buffett Performance\]](#) [\[Announcement\]](#)

### Amendment 1 Flouted



The FL Senate's Mar 19 spending proposal was particularly disappointing since it was less than the House's and Gov. Rick Scott's. Only 2 million to fund land purchase or approximately 1% of historic funding. The Amendment 1 mandate seems forgotten by the Senate. [\[Miami Herald\]](#) [\[Tallahassee Democrat\]](#) [\[Miami Herald Cartoon\]](#)

### Study Says Buy the Land!



The UF study that Sen. Negrón commissioned to guide state policy concludes, "Given the limited opportunity and the uncertainty of any future similar opportunities to purchase large acreages of lands in the EAA, the state should consider this time-limited option." This is academic-speak for "DO IT!" [\[Full UF Report\]](#) [\[Key Excerpts\]](#)

### Indian Riverkeeper Presentation



The Indian Riverkeeper, Marty Baum, delivers a presentation to Caloosahatchee Riverwatch at 7pm on Wednesday, April 15, at the Calusa Nature Center in Ft Myers. He will describe his experience as the local member of the national Waterkeeper Alliance. [\[Indian Riverkeeper\]](#) [\[Waterkeeper Alliance\]](#)

## Scientists Support Land Purchase



NATIONAL ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCES

Scientists from across the country are joining environmental activists in advocating purchase of EAA land for water storage. Their petition, signed by more than 200 scientists, has been sent to several officials in order to counter US Sugar assertions and to pressure the state to buy the land. [\[WGU\]](#) [\[Petition Letter\]](#) [\[Scientist Petition Signatories\]](#)

## Young On Legislative Session



Advocate Linda Young describes the current Legislative session. Her analysis includes water bills, fracking bills, EPA rule about wetlands, polluted waters clean-ups, a lawsuit linked to Florida resources, and the Clean Water event. [\[Linda Letter\]](#) [\[Florida Clean Water Network\]](#)

## Thanks Nature Center Team



Nature Center team members William Faris, Kayla Koszela, Seth Carvell, Genai Santos, Diana Santos, and Louise Miller helped make the CRCA trip to Rock Lake Resort and Billy's Creek a great day of food and fun. Thanks to all who attended. [\[Genie Santos\]](#) [\[Seth Carvell\]](#) [\[Louise Miller\]](#) [\[William Faris takes to the creek\]](#) [\[Diana Santos\]](#) [\[Kayla Koszela Karries Kanoes & Kayak Kit\]](#)

## Rally To Buy Sugar Lands



On Mar 12 more than 100 protesters rallied outside the SFWMD governing board meeting room while others made their voices heard to the SFWMD decision makers in the meeting. Citizens continue to march in the face of state intransigence. [\[WPEC CBS12\]](#) [\[WBBH NBC2\]](#) [\[CBS Miami\]](#)

## Riverwatch at Billy's Creek



Billy's Creek was the setting for CRCA's annual members meeting and picnic. 30 attended and elected the 2015-2016 board of directors then took to kayaks and canoes to explore the creek. [\[2015-2016 Board Of Directors\]](#) [\[Group Photo\]](#)

## The Purchase Choice



CRCA Director Ray Judah states the US Sugar land is the key to Everglades restoration. These 46,800 acres could control Lake O stage and manage harmful nutrients. The deadline is near; the approaching vote may decide the state's future. [\[Land Critical Situation\]](#) [\[Support Land Purchase\]](#)

## Roadblock to Land Purchase



In a Mar 12 meeting Jim Moran, SFWMD governing board member and Palm Beach attorney at Reed, Griffith & Moran, asserted counter-arguments to the proposed EAA land purchase. He cites current incapacity for moving large volumes of water and other issues. [\[Palm Beach Post\]](#)

## Pine Island Overcrowding



Pine Island Civic Association held a meeting to discuss the effects of population density. Without proper action from Lee County, inhabitants are concerned that further growth may threaten the environment and could endanger people in the event of a traffic jam. [\[Meeting Debriefing\]](#) [\[Pine Island Land Plan\]](#)

## At Least 400 Years



On the verge of absolutely vanishing due to human activities and climate change, Florida's coral needs dedication, money and time if we want it to grow again. If the recovery team's plans all go well, a total restoration will take 400 years, maybe longer. Odd of this happening may be even longer. [\[Los Angeles Times\]](#)

## Jeb In The Wilderness



As Jeb Bush campaigns for the Republican presidential nomination, Politico.com explores his environmental record as FL governor from 1999 to 2007. In spite of tremendous efforts on Everglades resurrection, the River of Grass is still in great danger. [\[Politico.com\]](#)

## Carl Hiaasen on Sugar Puppets



In a Miami Herald commentary, famed author/humorist Carl Hiaasen calls out Florida House Speaker Steve Crisafulli for becoming a puppet of big sugar by quashing the EAA land purchase needed for a southern flow way. [\[Miami Herald\]](#) [\[Carl Hiaasen Commentary\]](#) [\[DoinMyToons Puppets\]](#)

## Caloosahatchee & Lake O Status



Lake O level was 14.27ft on Mar 23. Flows to the estuary at S79 averaged 2,421 cfs from Mar 17 to 23. The salinity was in a lethal range for oysters at the downstream of the Colonial Bridge and below the optimal range at Iona (10 psu). [\[Caloosahatchee Conditions\]](#) [\[Salinity Graphic\]](#) [\[Lake O Water Level\]](#) [\[SCCF Web Site\]](#)

See CRCA web page for more details on each of the newsletter articles <http://crca.caloosahatchee.org/>

**Editorial Disclaimer:** Views or opinions expressed in the CRCA web site & newsletter are solely those of the author(s) & do not necessarily represent those of "Riverwatch." Direct comments & questions to John Capece, CRCA Newsletter Editor.