

The Flow

October 2014 Newsletter
John Capece, Editor

Special Events & Meetings

- Nov 2: [Streets Alive](#) in downtown Ft. Myers
- Nov 5: [CRCA Meeting](#) at Bridge St Coffee Shop in LaBelle
- Nov 6: [Open House](#) at Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium in Ft. Myers
- Nov 9: [18th Annual River Ride](#) in Alva
- Nov 15: [LaBelle Nature Park Clean-up](#)

Editorial Disclaimer
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crca.caloosahatchee.org
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Death of a River artwork by Sara Truman, FGCU student.

Attorney General Candidates



Attorney General candidates differ on environmental law issues. Libertarian Bill Wohlsifer & Republican Pam Bondi want to curb federal action on water quality while Democrat George Sheldon opposes Bondi's lawsuit to block EPA's clean-up efforts. [\[Libertarian Bill Wohlsifer\]](#)

[\[Republican Pam Bondi\]](#) [\[Democrat George Sheldon\]](#)

Red Tide Reports



Water samples have confirmed the presence of low to moderate concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) offshore and in the bay regions of northern Lee County. The potential exists for some respiratory problems. [\[Details\]](#) [\[HAB Condition Reports\]](#) [\[Local Observations\]](#)

Gov vs Gov on Issues

Crist	Scott	Environmental Issue
Yes	No	Humans Cause Climate Change?
Yes	No	Regulatory Reduction of GHGs?
Yes	Yes	Govt Subsidy of Renewables?
Yes	No	Build High Speed Rail in Florida?

The non-partisan Campus Election Engagement Project assembled and compared the positions of candidates on a range of issues. This

included Florida's two main candidates for governor and how they view environmental issues. [\[Compare\]](#)

Crist Visits Caloosahatchee



CRCA Directors John Scott (Clean Water Initiative) and Ray Judah (Coastal and Ocean Coalition) hosted Charlie Crist for a campaign press conference highlighting the gubernatorial candidate's support for cleaning up the Caloosahatchee River. [\[News Press\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#)

Amendment 1, Land & Water Conservation



On Oct 27 Riverwatch President Mary Rawl & Secretary John Capece represented CRCA at the Terry Tempest Student Dialogue "Talking on Water: Transforming Education into Action" at FGCU. Speakers focused on Florida's Constitutional Amendment Referendum #1, Florida Land & Water Conservation. [\[Pic 1\]](#) [\[Pic 2\]](#) [\[Pic 3\]](#) [\[Program\]](#)

Caloosahatchee River Ride 2014



On Sunday, November 9, join Riverwatch for the 18th Annual River Ride, the recreational bike ride around the Caloosahatchee. Routes for 15, 30, 40, and 62 miles. Register in advance or on the morning of the event at Caloosahatchee Regional Park. [\[Register with Form\]](#) [\[Brochure\]](#) [\[Register Online\]](#) [\[Park Map\]](#)

Wharf Walk on Caloosahatchee



Go for a stroll along LaBelle's downtown Caloosahatchee waterfront and enjoy food, beer & wine, Jazz music, and art exhibits on Saturday, Nov 8 from 4pm to 9pm. It's part of the LaBelle downtown revitalization program. [\[Flier\]](#) [\[Downtown Walking District Plan\]](#) [\[Previous LaBelle Walking District\]](#) [\[Web Page\]](#)

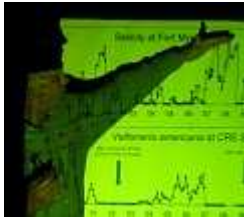
[\[Facebook\]](#)

CRCA Nov Meeting Program



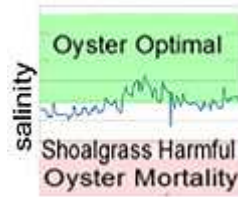
CRCA's Nov 5 meeting program will be a presentation by Dr. John Capece who will describe the history of Riverwatch activities and restoration efforts for the Caloosahatchee oxbows. Presentation begins at 7pm at Bridge Street Coffee Shop in LaBelle. Business meeting is at 6:30pm. [\[Map\]](#)

Seagrass Partnership



David Ceilley invited CRCA to join his seagrass restoration coalition. The plan is to plant enough Vallisneria so that overgrazing does not cause it to again disappear. Years ago bad water quality devastated thousands of acres of our estuary seagrasses. [\[Presentation Photo\]](#)

Caloosahatchee (Oct 21-27)



Flows to the estuary at S79 averaged 1,047 cfs over the past week with 53% of flow originating from the watershed. The salinity at Iona (18 psu) this week is in the optimal range for oysters. It's great to have good news to report from time to time. [\[SCCF Caloosahatchee Condition Report\]](#) [\[Graphic\]](#) [\[SCCF Web Site\]](#)

Ft. Myers Stormwater Project



On Oct 14 DEP and City of Fort Myers announced a \$1.7 million project designed to reduce pollutants reaching the Carrell Canal and the Caloosahatchee River by building filter marshes and control structures at a city golf course. [\[News Press\]](#)

Hunting Sawfish in Caloosahatchee



Sometimes you just don't catch the fish you're looking for. Three Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission fish biologists were hunting smalltooth sawfish in the Caloosahatchee River but instead caught a 3.5-foot female bull shark. [\[News Press\]](#)

Cooperative Funding Program



The SFWMD looks forward to partnering with local governments and other water users on projects that offer solutions to our shared restoration, flood control, water quality and water supply challenges. The application process will start Oct 16, 2014. [\[Details\]](#) [\[Just the Facts\]](#) [\[Cooperative Funding Program\]](#)

CNCP Open House



Calusa Nature Center & Planetarium is having an OPEN HOUSE on Nov 6th from 5pm-7pm, FREE and open to the public. Sierra Club, Calusa Herpetological Society and Southwest Florida Astronomy Society are meeting that night! Come and join us! [\[Press Release\]](#) [\[Flier\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#)

Pushing for Solar Freedom in FL



Debbie Dooley, co-founder of the Atlanta Tea Party and national coordinator for Tea Party Patriots, plans to push for more solar in Florida as she has in Georgia. Her ultimate goal is to challenge the monopoly control of Florida's major utilities. [\[Tampa Bay Times\]](#) [\[Photo\]](#)

Monopoly Customers Pay



Environmental advocates want the Public Service Commission to reject a request by FPL to use the monopoly's income from electricity ratepayers to lobby against new federal clean-water rules. [\[The Tampa Tribute\]](#)

Global Choke Point



Circle of Water's symposium on global choke points shows how journalists documenting a nation's water, food, & energy dramatically capture that country's overall economic & social situation and point out future bottlenecks to sustainability. [\[Symposium Video\]](#)

Death of a River Exhibit



On display in the reading room of FGCU Library is "Death of a River," a set of individual and large-scale collaborative prints showcases artists responding to the ecological impact of water releases from Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchee River. [\[Prof. Andy Owen\]](#) [\[Nicole Klebosis artwork\]](#)

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.