

# The Flow

September 2011 Newsletter  
Pete Quasius, President

## Special Events & Meetings

### Events Calendar

- Oct 5: [CRCA Meeting in LaBelle](#)
- Oct 27: [Eco-Breakfast in Ft. Myers](#)
- Nov 3-6: [Blueways Paddling Festival](#)
- Nov 13: [River Ride](#)
- Nov 18: [Water Resources 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



CRCA recruited student volunteers at the FGCU Service Learning Fair.

## It Will Be Really Bad!



Corps of Engineers Col. Alfred Pantano told the Lee County BOCC that this next year will be really bad relative to Lake O water levels. He also restated the Corps' support for moving water south when there is too much, benefiting the Caloosahatchee. [\[Video\]](#)

## Lake - Estuary Trade?



At the Sep 15 Watershed Council NGO water issues summit, a discussion with agricultural representatives led to the idea of creating a Caloosahatchee Estuary water reservation in exchange for agreeing to higher Lake O littoral water stages. [\[Photo\]](#)

## Send Us Your Logo Ideas



Riverwatch is exploring the possibility of adopting a new logo. Our current logo is actually a graphic from the 1994 NewsPress "River At Risk" series of articles and community forum, led to the creation of CRCA. Send in your ideas for a new logo. [\[Logo Memo\]](#) [\[Current Logo\]](#) [\[Map Concept Logo\]](#)

## 15th Annual River Ride



On Sunday, November 13, join us for the 15th 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. [\[Registration\]](#) [\[Web Site\]](#)

## Lake Bed Burning Has Benefits



Audubon chief scientist Dr. Paul Gray says that the Lake Okeechobee fires actually have some benefits. The fire can burn away ragweed, torpedo grass and other out-of-place plants. As in 2007, the Indian Prairie area is burning in 2011. [\[Sun-Sentinel\]](#) [\[Global Fires\]](#)

## October CRCA Meeting Speaker



Mr. Tommy Strowd of SFWMD will be the speaker at the Oct 5 Riverwatch meeting at 6:30 pm in the LaBelle Beef O'Brady's. Mr. Strowd will talk about the C-43 West Reservoir (Berry Groves) & its potential to provide storage for the Caloosahatchee Basin. [\[Strowd\]](#) [\[Map\]](#)

## Help With Manatee Safety



Boaters can be active participants in manatee protection by holding aloft Save the Manatee Club's public awareness banner whenever a manatee is sighted in areas where boats are motoring close by. Request for the free banners today! [\[Details\]](#)

## The Less Deadly Fish



The mercury problem has gotten so bad that Martin County has released a list of the fish that are less likely to kill you if eaten. It's part of a booklet designed to promote better health among pregnant women and the rest of the population. [\[TCPalm\]](#) [\[Get the Booklet\]](#)

## 2011 RedSnook Tournament



Save the Date! 2011 RedSnook Tournament on October 21-23. Great fishing relies on clean water! Join local angler's & guides for a fabulous weekend of fishing and at the same time raise money to help protect our local waters & juvenile game fish! [\[Details\]](#)

[\[Web Site\]](#) [\[Register\]](#)

## Unexpected Consequences



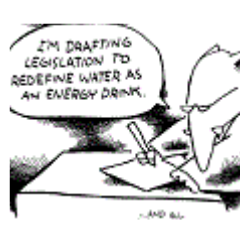
Sierra Club is suing University of Florida for violation of public records law because UF won't provide all information about its publication titled "Unintended Consequences" - a report used by some to fight against local fertilizer ordinances. [\[Gainesville Sun\]](#) [\[Sierra\]](#) [\[IFAS Pub\]](#)

## Oxbow Survey Continues



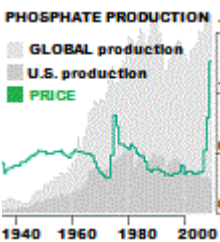
On Sep 15 Robert Neal, civil engineer with Lee Co. Natural Resources Dept, assisted USF student Chloe Delhomme in her Caloosahatchee oxbows thesis research. The data collection trip was joined by Chloe's supervisors Kamal Alsharif & John Capece. [\[Photo1\]](#) [\[Photo2\]](#)

## Obama EPA Caves In



Both Republicans & Democratic administrations are doing very little for water quality & the environment. In the latest capitulation, the Obama EPA approved Florida's reclassification of water bodies to avoid cleaning them up. How disheartening! [\[Linda Young\]](#) [\[Cartoon\]](#)

## No Substitute for Phosphorus



Globally, farmers use more than 17 million tons of mined P, costing nearly 30% of their budget. And with current minable P deposits are running out, it raises the question of why we allow so much of it to be wasted to pollution.

[\[Details\]](#) [\[Future\]](#) [\[Foreign Policy\]](#) [\[USGS Stats\]](#) [\[Minerals\]](#)

## FGCU Service Learning



On Sep 22, CRCA directors Margaret England & Marti Daltry signed up FGCU student volunteers interested in doing their "service learning" hours with Riverwatch. Helping with the table were Intelligentsia International interns Cedric, Mickael & Lutz. [\[Photo\]](#)

## SFWMDC Surplus Land



For sale...SFWMDC surplus lands! These are SFWMDC properties that are not needed for mission-related projects and may be (a) sold by public bid; (b) given to another governmental entity; or (c) swapped for needed land. [\[Lee County\]](#) [\[Hendry County\]](#) [\[Glades County\]](#)

## Destruction Is Necessary



Pine Tarr, Inc. (Publix shopping center developers on Pine Island) say destruction of mangroves is necessary. That's nonsense! Lee Co. staff statistics show Pine Island has 754 acres of commercially zoned properties, 56% of which is vacant. [\[Details\]](#)

## Conflict of Interest Debate



The News Press says SFWMDC must revisit awarding \$21 million to Lykes Bros, Inc. over the next 10 years for water storage. Storage is a good idea. The problem is the governing board's chairman Joe Collins also happens to be vice president of Lykes. [\[News-Press\]](#) [\[Watery\]](#) [\[Audubon Disagrees\]](#)

## No Red Tide All Year



The Sep 2 status report of FWS shows that *Karenia brevis*, the Florida red tide organism, was not detected in waters of SW Florida nor has it been a problem throughout 2011. This may be due to the relatively low rainfall & runoff during the past year. [\[Red Tide summary report\]](#)