



Minutes

WATER RESOURCES ANALYSIS COALITION

Recreation Issues Forum

October 22, 2018, 5:00 PM

Fort Myers Service Center - SFWMD

2301 McGregor Boulevard

Fort Myers, FL 33901

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Introductions and Purpose - Newton Cook

Mr. Cook opened the meeting at 5:01 PM. An around-the-table discussion took place, wherein stakeholders introduced themselves.

**2. Solicitation of Public Input –
Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) Recreational Access:**

Janet Starnes presented on the Southern Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) Wetland Restoration Project.

Joe Bozzo followed with the CREW Area and Land Management Activities.

Dan Cotter, SFWMD Section Leader and Kathleen Smith, FWC Lead Biologist provided an overview of recreational access, hunt management programs, and partnerships with the District to expand recreational opportunities and assist with the management of this area. These partnerships are with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the CREW Land & Water Trust.

Comments are recorded at:

<http://sfwmd.igm2.com/Citizens/SplitView.aspx?Mode=Video&MeetingID=1924&Format=None>

3. Overview of the CREW Land & Water Trust

Brenda Brooks, Executive Director of CREW Land and Water Trust provided an overview of the non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the land and water resources in and around the corkscrew regional ecosystem watershed. The presentation included information on public outreach and land management assistance provided by CREW Trust.

4. Recreation Program Updates - Jerry Krenz, Land Stewardship Section

Jerry Krenz, Senior Planner, Land Stewardship Section provided an update on future recreation opportunities in SW Florida. The overview included recreational planning for the 10,700 acre C-43 reservoir site located in Hendry County, and the 670 acre Lake Hicpochee Flow Equalization Basin located in Glades County.

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7. Recreational Discussion, Updates and Future Meeting Topics

Participants inquired about the new gate installation at the L8 levee adjacent to Southern Boulevard that provides access to an earthen boat ramp. Staff stated that the referenced boat ramp is not a public boat ramp and access to the levee would require installation of a turning lane on Southern Boulevard. Due to these issues vehicular access has been restricted.

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8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.