

LAKE BELT MITIGATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road, (B-1, Storch Conference Room)
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

This meeting was conducted as a teleconference call at (561) 682-6700

Meet-me number (866) 433-6299 - Meeting ID #2636

Friday September 30, 2011 – 9:00 AM

1. Call to Order by Terrie Bates, Acting Chair
 - a) Meeting began at 09:00 AM.
2. Attendees
 - a) Committee Members
 1. Terrie Bates, Vice Chair, SFWMD
 2. Eric Hughes, USEPA (Teleconference)
 3. Howard Hayes, BMMR (Alternate DEP - Teleconference)
 4. Leah Oberlin, USACE
 5. Jeff Rosenfeld, MDLPA, Ex Officio
 6. Allen Webb, USFWS
 6. Matt Davis, DERM (Teleconference)
 7. Tim King, FFWCC (Teleconference)
 - b) Other meeting attendees
 1. Shannon Estenoz, DOI
 2. Dan Kimball, ENP
 3. Jonathan Taylor, ENP
 4. Alicia Logalbo, ENP
 5. Roy Sonenshein, ENP
 6. Jeff Needle, SFWMD
 7. Marjorie Moore, SFWMD
 8. Joan Lawrence, USDOJ
 9. Lourdes Elias, SFWMD

10. Ron Peekstok, SFWMD
11. Les Bromwell, AMEC-BCI
12. Tom MacVicar, MDLPA
13. Scott Burns, SFWMD
14. Steve Krupa, SFWMD
15. Bob Progulske, USFWS

c) Other teleconference attendees

1. Alan Whitehouse, DEP
2. June Mirecki, ACOE
3. Virginia Walsh, MDWASD
4. Tom Lodge, Lodge Ecological Advisors
5. Chris Ryan, Geo-Solutions

3. Review minutes from 7/29/11 Committee meeting – Terrie Bates

Minutes were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes, with no changes. Motion passed.

4. Opening Comments – None

5. Review & Accept Pending Invoice – Marjorie Moore

Marjorie reviewed the following pending invoice for acceptance:

- 1) 1 Dade-Broward Levee invoice totaling \$11,900 which closes the drilling project

The invoice was accepted by the Committee.

6. L-31N Seepage Barrier Test Project – Tom MacVicar

Tom presented a proposal to construct a 2-mile long, 35-foot deep seepage barrier to the Committee as the next phase of the L-31N Seepage Control Project. Since the July 29th Committee meeting, two meetings have been held with the WRAP scoring group and one meeting on the modeling results with the technical team. Tom's presentation included:

1. Summary of model results
2. WRAP Scoring / Mitigation Credits
3. Construction Approach / Quality Control Plan
4. Hydrologic Monitoring Plan
5. Cost estimate

Considerable discussion followed concerning the various topics that were presented:

A. WRAP scoring – Leah Oberlin indicated that the scoring group was comfortable with the updated scoring. A risk factor (from UMAM scoring) was included in the WRAP scoring approach to account for the uncertainty in the project’s constructability and effectiveness, but a time lag factor was not needed. If the 2-mile project is deemed successful and a decision is made to proceed with the full 7-mile project, a reduced risk factor (or no risk factor) might be appropriate in future scoring. The WRAP score and modeling results indicated 262 and 1467 WRAP habitat units for the 2-mile and 7-mile deep barriers, respectively. The 1.75 risk factor reduced the mitigation units for the 2-mile project to 150 units.

B. Exotic vegetation treatment – the proposed project and WRAP scores do not include treatment of approximately 300 acres of exotic vegetation within the model footprint for the 7-mile project. Most of the exotic vegetation is not within the model footprint for the proposed 2-mile project. Terrie Bates said that the vegetation treatment is a different enhancement component beyond the proposed seepage control and that it could be considered for additional credit as part of the full 7-mile project.

C. Monitoring Plan – Additional background paired monitoring wells and additional coring were suggested. **Action 1** - Jeff Rosenfeld will provide an updated monitoring plan and cost estimate.

D. Reduction in L-31N canal flow – modeling results indicate a reduction in L-31N canal flow. Terrie Bates indicated that the potential impact of reduced flows on users and water deliveries will need to be reviewed as part of the full project evaluation. Tom MacVicar mentioned that it was wet season flows, not deliveries, that were being reduced and that the goal of Federal project

plans has always been to keep more of the water currently seeping into the L-31N Canal in the Park.

D. Project cost estimate – since this project is not being competitively bid, the SFWMD construction group will be asked to review the cost estimate prior to the next Committee meeting. Les Bromwell mentioned that a second estimate was sought from a contractor who had the necessary equipment available at the time for the 1000’ pilot project and their cost estimate was twice as high as the Geo-Solutions estimate. He also said that this was not a standard construction project and the selected vendor, Geo-solutions had extensive experience in constructing slurry walls in different parts of the country. **Action 2** – the SFWMD Construction group will review the project cost estimate prior to the next Committee meeting.

E. Department of Interior support letter – Shannon Estenoz, DOI Director of the Everglades Restoration Initiative, discussed the project support letter provided to the Committee and Dan Kimball, ENP Superintendent, discussed the importance of seepage management for the Park and the relationship of this project to the Tamiami Trail bridge project.

7. Public comment – None.

8. Next Meeting Date

Friday, October 21, 2011, 9:00 AM at SFWMD

9. Meeting Adjourned

Action Items For The Next Meeting:

Action 1 - Jeff Rosenfeld will provide an updated monitoring plan and cost estimate.

Action 2 – the SFWMD Construction group will review the project cost estimate prior to the next Committee meeting.