

***DRAFT***  
**Lake Belt Mitigation Committee**

Meeting Summary

South Florida Water Management District  
West Palm Beach, Florida

January 12, 2001

The following committee members were in attendance:

**Terri Bates**, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD); **Jean Evoy** (alt.), Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM); **Veronica Fasselt** (alt.) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA); **Richard Harvey**, USEPA; **Steve Lau**, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC); **Janet Llewellyn**, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP); **Paul Larsen** (non-voting member), mining industry; **Spencer Simon** (alt.) USFWS.

**Call to Order**

Janet Llewellyn called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. She welcomed the group to the teleconferenced meeting.

**Opening Comments**

Ms. Llewellyn explained the formation and function of the committee. She stated the committee was created by statute to approve appropriations from the trust fund established to collect mitigation fees associated with limestone mining. The mitigation fees are transferred to SFWMD from the Florida Department of Revenue. The committee will also make an annual report to the SFWMD Governing Board, evaluating the mitigation costs and revenues generated by the mitigation fees.

Ms Llewellyn said that the purpose of the meeting was to approve the *Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Annual Report for 2000*.

**Organizational Issues**

Minutes of the November 16, 2000 meeting were unanimously approved.

Ms. Llewellyn said that the USEPA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the US Army Corps of Engineers had been invited in writing to join the committee and name representatives to the group. She emphasized that the committee members and alternates need to know the membership so that they may speak appropriately to each other and not violate the Sunshine Law.

**Draft, Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Annual Report for 2000**

Jim Jackson explained that the format of the Report and Ms. Llewellyn led the committee in editing each page. The *Draft* was unanimously approved as amended.

The committee agreed to include the *Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Annual Report for 2000* as a discussion item on the SFWMD Governing Board agenda for February. Ms. Llewellyn thanked Mr. Jackson for his work in compiling the report.

**Status of Rock Mining Permits**

Ms. Llewellyn said that negotiations regarding rock mining permits were continuing between the rock mining industry and agencies, FDEP, USACE, and Miami-Dade County. The agencies are considering shorter-term permits (than 50 years) with conditions regarding unresolved issues, timing, and future decision points as to allowable mining.

Jean Evoy said that Miami-Dade County has received industry comments regarding mining and a map of the 3-in-10 year mining. She said a meeting is scheduled between the County and mining industry on Jan. 25 at Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department.

**Status of Acquisition of the Pennsuco Wetlands**

Jim Jackson said that SFWMD has acquired 1722 acres within the Pennsuco. The land has been reimbursed with non-mining mitigation funds. Additionally, the District has closed on 1838 acres and agreed to buy, but has not closed on, 193 acres.

Mr. Jackson also stated that there are an additional 3658 acres of land in private, non-government, non-rockmining ownership. This land includes property owned by the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians.

**Public Comment**

Shawn Komlos asked if the Miccosukee Tribe has expressed any willingness to sell their holdings within the Pennsuco to the State. Eugene Duncan indicated that the Tribe had not.

**Next Meeting**

Janet Llewellyn suggested that the next meeting date be left open until permitting comes to closure.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.