

Recommendations to Principals for Water Management Activities Relating to Water Quality

1. The TOC recommends that a feasibility study be conducted to address the potential for constructing a project similar to that described in the briefing paper contributed by Patrick Martin of the Lake Worth Drainage District (LWDD) (**Attachment 1**). This project would involve the construction of a low-level berm and a downstream structure and would allow the delivery of a minimum of 100,000 gallons per minute of water to be used for water supply purposes. The basic value of this project would be to allow water supply deliveries with potentially little impact to ecological resources of the Refuge and there may be ancillary benefits as well. Such a pre-feasibility study should include:
 - Consideration of the legal issues involved with the use of lands within the Everglades Protection Area for these purposes.
 - The quantitative benefit of such waters for the management and operations of the stormwater treatment areas.
 - The impacts on overall Refuge hydrology.
 - Environmental impacts – estimation of direct and indirect impacts to the Refuge from the construction and operation of the project.
 - Exploration of potential costs and funding sources for construction, operation and maintenance.
 - The effects of the operation of the project of the Regulation Schedule on the Refuge.
 - The project should examine various alternatives of structural length and height and the terminal location of the project.
 - Recreational use impacts and impediment of navigation, including those currently used by the Refuge areas east of the proposed levees.