

**Quarterly Meeting of the
Technical Oversight Committee (TOC)**

Tuesday, August 28, 2007

South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

TOC Representatives:

Garth Redfield, TOC Chair, SFWMD Ken Weaver, FDEP
Nick Aumen, NPS/ENP Mike Waldon, USFWS/Refuge
Trent Ferguson, USACE (phone)

Note: This meeting was recorded by a court reporter and copies are available for purchase; contact Rufino Osorio in the District's Office of Counsel (561-682-6261). Handouts and presentations are also available on the TOC website (<http://www.sfwmd.gov/org/ema/toc/index.html>).

10:05 a.m. **TOC Meeting began. There were no changes to the agenda (Attachment 1)** – Garth Redfield, SFWMD (TOC Chair)

Agenda Item 1. Approval of TOC Meeting Notes from the May 22 and June 19, 2007 Meetings – Garth Redfield, SFWMD

The meeting notes from the May and June 2007 meetings were approved without changes.

10:10 a.m. **Agenda Item 2. Presentation of the Settlement Agreement Report** – Pam Lehr, SFWMD

Pam Lehr, SFWMD, presented an update on the 2nd Quarter 2007 Settlement Agreement report. Copies of the report (**Attachment 2**) and presentation (**Attachment 3**) were distributed. Discussion and questions followed primarily concerning the total period flow in the Refuge monthly inflow load table.

→ **Action Item 1:** The District will revise the Refuge inflow load table for clarification. (*Note: The load table was modified to indicate "Monthly Inflow" and posted on the TOC website.*)

10:26 a.m. **Agenda Item 3. Update on Lake Okeechobee Programs and Projects**– Susan Gray, SFWMD

Susan Gray, SFWMD, presented her report on Lake Okeechobee programs and projects. Copies of her presentation (**Attachment 4**) were distributed. Extreme drought conditions resulted in a record low Lake level of 8.82 feet NGVD 29. Total suspended solids (TSS) improved during the drought but sediments could easily be resuspended. Discussion and questions followed concerning the drought, muck removal, phosphorus loading, and water needs and storage.

10:59 a.m. **Agenda Item 4. TOC Updates**

11:00 a.m. **A. Update on STAs and Related Projects** – Tracey Piccone, SFWMD

Tracey Piccone, SFWMD, presented an update on the STAs and Related Projects. Copies of the presentation were made available on the TOC website (**Attachment 5**). Discussion and questions followed concerning how water flows through the STAs and into the Everglades Protection Area, permits for ECART and Total Period Flow. (*Note: Tables 2 and 3 in the Settlement Agreement report were revised to show the beginning and ending dates for the Total Period Flow.*)

→ **Action Item 2:** Tracey Piccone will send slides for the Long-Term Plan meeting to Bill Walker.

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11:30 a.m. **B. Update from Working Group on the Water Needs of the Refuge – Mike Waldon, USFWS**

Mike Waldon, USFWS, reported on a teleconference meeting for the Refuge Water Needs Work Group on August 17th with about 12 attendees to discuss the preliminary draft report. Review comments were received from the District and FDEP. The Refuge held its second Modeling Workshop on August 27th with about 35 attendees.

11:20 a.m. **Agenda Item 5. Public Comment**

Kelly Brooks (Miccosukee Tribe) requested the status of the Settlement Agreement policy issues identified in the TOC meeting on June 19, 2007. She stated that she could not locate the document, *Issues Regarding the Load Reductions of the Settlement Agreement* by Gary Goforth and Bill Walker (June 25, 2007) on the TOC website.

- **Action Item 3:** The District will post the document *Issues Regarding the Load Reductions of the Settlement Agreement* on the TOC website. (Note: The load reduction document was posted on the TOC website on August 29, 2007.)

11:37 a.m. **Agenda Item 6. 2007 TOC Meeting Dates**

Upcoming meeting dates are posted on the TOC website.

Special TOC meeting dates were tentatively reserved for September 21st and October 23rd but no agenda items were identified. Ken Weaver/FDEP commented that State and Federal agency representatives are facing travel budget restrictions and special TOC meetings should only be scheduled if a full agenda is anticipated. Nick Aumen/USFWS suggested a possible technical presentation and video conference in conjunction with the Sigma Xi meeting in September 2007. (Note: No special TOC meetings were scheduled in September or October 2007.)

The next quarterly TOC meeting was scheduled for November 27th. (Note: The November 27th quarterly TOC meeting was rescheduled for December 18, 2007.)

11:41 a.m. **Meeting Adjourned**