

# Notes from the Quarterly Meeting of the Everglades Technical Oversight Committee (TOC)

January 31, 2017

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

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## TOC Representatives:

Julianne LaRock, TOC Chair, SFWMD	Frank Powell, FDEP
John Barkett, Special Master ( <i>by phone</i> )	Lori Miller, Refuge
Daniel Crawford, USACE	Donatto Surratt, ENP

**Note:** *This meeting was recorded by a court reporter and copies are available for purchase. For more information, contact Florida Court Reporting (561-689-0999). Handouts and presentations are available on the TOC website ([www.sfwmd.gov/toc](http://www.sfwmd.gov/toc)). A video of the meeting is available online at <http://sfwmd.igam2.com/Citizens/Media.aspx>.*

10:00 a.m. **1. TOC Opening Business** – Julianne LaRock, SFWMD

### **1A. Welcome, Announcements, and Identification of Phone Participants**

Julianne LaRock called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. Phone participants introduced themselves. Donatto Surratt introduced Lori Miller as the new TOC representative for the Refuge (replacing Yongshan Wan) and Daniel Crawford as the new TOC representative for the USACE (replacing Mark Shafer).

### **1B. Agenda Modifications and Documents Available on the TOC Website**

Julianne LaRock reviewed the agenda and the list of files recently posted on the TOC website or sent by email, and noted that the format of the QA report has changed slightly and is generally more succinct than previous versions. There were no requests for changes to the agenda.

### **1C. Approval of Meeting Summary for October 18, 2016**

Donatto Surratt requested several minor edits to the draft meeting summary for October 18, 2016, and the TOC approved finalizing the summary with these changes.

#### **Associated Online Documents:**

- [Final Agenda for January 31, 2017](#)
- [Draft Meeting Summary for October 18, 2016](#)

10:15 a.m. **2. Third Quarter 2016 Settlement Agreement Report** – Jonathan Madden, SFWMD

Jonathan Madden presented results for the third quarter of 2016 (July–September), including provisional water year 2016 results for tracking Shark River Slough (SRS). As previously requested, provisional SRS data that appear in the TOC presentations have been added to the executive summary in the quarterly report. Detailed SRS figures will be added once the data are finalized for the S-12 structures and final flow data are received from the USGS.

Refuge geometric mean TP values for the 12-month periods ending July, August, and September 2016 remained below the long-term levels. The number of samples collected each month varied based on water levels at the 14 stations. Samples were not collected where the water depth was less than 10 cm.

SRS flow-weighted mean TP values for SRS for the 12-month periods ending July, August, and September 2016 were below the long-term limits for each period, and the percent of sampling events greater than 10 ppb was below the guideline for the three periods.

SRS results in the executive summary table of the report and the presentation are presented as pairs of values representing two methods of calculation. Method 1 (values on the left) incorporate historic structures (S-12s, S-333, and S-334) as documented in Appendix A. Method 2 (values on the right) indicate a calculation that includes the historic structures along with the flow from S-355A, S-355B, and S-356, using data from biweekly sampling events. Results for the 12-month periods ending July, August, and September 2016 were very similar between the two methods. Donatto Surratt expressed appreciation for the additional information provided by the two methods, requested that the Method 1 and Method 2 values be shown without the word “to” between them to make it clear that they do not represent a range, and suggested values for each method be presented in two sub-columns with sub-headings to distinguish them. For the figure showing daily flows at individual inflow structures to SRS on slide 10 of the presentation, Donatto requested that the S-356 flows be shown separately from the S-355A/B flows in the future.

Taylor Slough and Coastal Basins flow-weighted mean TP values for the 12-month periods ending July, August, and September 2016 remained below the long-term limit for each period, and there were no sampling events greater than 10 ppb during these periods.

**Associated Online Documents:**

- [Quality Assessment Report for Water Quality Monitoring, Third Quarter 2016](#)
- [Quality Assessment Report for Water Quality Monitoring, Third Quarter 2016 Data](#)
- [Refuge TP Compliance Table, Third Quarter 2016](#)
- [Settlement Agreement Report, Third Quarter 2016 \(July–September 2016\)](#)
- [Settlement Agreement Report, Third Quarter 2016 \(July–September 2016\) Presentation](#)
- [Shark River Slough TP Tracking Report, Water Year 2016](#)

10:45 a.m. **5. Update on Appendix A Sub-team** – Stuart Van Horn, SFWMD

Stuart Van Horn gave a brief update on the Appendix A sub-team, and noted that the District has completed a thorough review of the spreadsheet demonstration of the modeling output data and test evaluation of the federal methodology proposal for incorporating S-356 into the existing Settlement Agreement calculation for Shark River Slough. Stuart indicated that District staff are ready to discuss the path forward regarding what to do with S-356 and what the methodology might be. Frank Powell said Paul Julian will take the lead on coordinating to schedule the next sub-team meeting with February as the target. On behalf of the District, Stuart thanked Donatto Surratt and his contributors for the incredible amount of time and effort they put into development of the spreadsheet. Daniel Crawford requested preliminary discussion with FDEP and SFWMD on compliance related to Florida Bay Initiative changes that are proposed with the new structure G-737 from the Frog Pond Detention Area down into Taylor Slough consistent with consideration of a new inflow location under the Settlement Agreement. The permit for this has not been issued yet but should be available by the time

the sub-team meets. Daniel would also like to discuss the potential operations of S-328, which is currently included in the USACE draft operational strategy for the Increment 1 field test and slated to be implemented before the end of February 2017.

10:50 a.m. **6. Public Comment (as requested)**

Drew Martin thanked the group for all their work and expressed that he would like to see more about what is happening with Florida Bay, how it is benefitting, and whether it is improving.

Gene Duncan asked why so few samples were collected for the Refuge in August 2016, when stages were very similar to those in May and June 2016, where twice as many samples were collected. Julianne LaRock said staff will look into it and follow up.

TOC member Donatto Surratt asked for an update on S-140, and Julianne said she will check on it and follow up.

10:55 a.m. **TOC Closing Business** – Julianne LaRock, SFWMD

The next quarterly meeting was confirmed for May 23.

Julianne LaRock adjourned the meeting.