

# **LAKE BELT MITIGATION COMMITTEE**

## **Meeting Summary**

South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road, (B-2, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Training 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 #2873

**Friday, August 8, 2008**

1. Call to Order by Terrie Bates
  - a) Meeting began at 9:00 AM.
2. Opening Comments / Attendees
  - a) Committee Members
    1. Terrie Bates, Vice Chair SFWMD
    2. Veronica Fasselt, U.S. E.P.A
    3. Mike Spinelli, Alternate DERM (Teleconference)
    4. Leah Oberlin, Alternate USACE
    4. Howard Hayes, Alternate DEP (Teleconference)
    5. Jeff Rosenfeld, MFL
  - b) Other meeting attendees
    1. Lee Chitty, Contractor SFWMD
    2. Barbara Katz, SFWMD
    3. Tom MacVicar, MFL
    4. David Black, SFWMD
    5. Maura Merkal, SFWMD CERP
    6. Tom Lodge, MDLPA
    7. Anita Bain, SFWMD
    8. Dewey Worth, SFWMD
    9. Lucy Perez, SFWMD
  - c) Other teleconference attendees
    1. Donna Fries, Miami-Dade Water & Sewer

3. Review and Approve minutes from 05/02/08 meeting – T. Bates

Minutes were reviewed with no corrections. Motion to pass minutes as prepared, was approved.

4. Update on Survey of Southern Glades – David Black

David discussed the draft restoration plan of the South and North portions of Southern Glades Parcel #1. Parcel #1 South is approximately 100 acres of moderately dense exotics with no scraping recommended. Parcel #1 North is approximately 240 acres of dense exotics where scraping would be beneficial to the proposed restoration. David discussed elevations throughout the Parcel and various vegetation outcomes based upon these elevations.

Dewey Worth stated that it may be possible to use the excess soil removed from the scraping of the Southern Glades for a CERP project within the area.

5. Update on Land Ownership & Acquisition – Barbara Katz

Barbara to do a current appraisal of the land acquisition costs in the Southern Glades so that the LBM Fund could potentially reimburse the District for the cost of the land. The District purchased the land approximately 20 years ago. Terrie suggested looking at a Present Value computation of the current cost vs. the District's original purchase price. **Action 1:** Terrie to meet with Barbara to discuss land costs and method of determining a fair value for the land purchase within the Southern Glades Parcel.

6. Update on WRAP scoring and Mitigation Plan for Southern Glades – Leah Oberlin

Preliminary scoring was included in the draft mitigation plan. The subcommittee members will provide comments on the preliminary scoring so the scores can be finalized for the October meeting. **Action 2** – Leah to report back to the Committee at the next meeting with the final WRAP scores.

7. Southern Glades Mitigation Options and Costs – David Black

David presented the estimated restoration and long-term management costs per acre as presented below:

Parcel #1 – South (100 Acres)

Restoration & Associated Costs	\$ 7,767
Perpetual Management	<u>3,477</u>
Total Cost / Acre	<u>\$ 11,244</u>

Parcel #1 – North (240 Acres)

Restoration & Associated Costs	\$ 14,855
Perpetual Management	<u>3,476</u>
Total Cost / Acre	<u>\$ 18,331</u>

**Action 3:** Terrie and David to follow up with Land Management & Construction Department to finalize estimated restoration and maintenance costs for the Southern Glades Parcel.

8. Status of Land Management plan for 8.5 Square Mile Area – Maura Merkal

Maura stated that the District and Corps are developing an updated management plan for 8.5 SMA. They are discussing removing the rock-plowed areas from the Corps project, so that mitigation funds could be used to restore those areas. Once the Management Plan has been completed, Dewey indicated that he should be able to come back to the Committee with a better idea of the amount of mitigation that might be available.

9. Associated Costs as a Component of Land Acquisition Expenditures – Jeff Rosenfeld

The Committee had previously approved the transfer of restoration and long-term management costs from the Lake Belt Mitigation Fund whenever there was an authorization for the acquisition of land. However, the Committee previously had not been requested to approve the transfer of the associated acquisition costs (title fees, filing fees, appraisal, etc. - approximately \$397/acre for Pennsuco acquisitions).

**Motion by Leah Oberlin:** Recommend that funds (\$ 49,774) for the associated costs of the 135.16 Pennsuco acres purchased in 2007, and the 10 acres purchased in 2008 be transferred from the Lake Belt Mitigation Fund (Fund 219) to the District’s Pennsuco mitigation fund (Fund 211). Recommend that when the Committee authorizes the acquisition of land henceforth that the committee also authorizes the transfer of funds for the associated costs from the Lake Belt Mitigation Fund (Fund 219) to the District’s mitigation fund (Fund 211). – Motion approved by committee.

10. Public comment – None.

11. Next Meeting Dates

Friday, October 24, 2008, 9:00 AM at SFWMD

12. Meeting Adjourned

**Action Item Summary:**

**Action 1:** Terrie to meet with Barbara to discuss land costs and method of determining a fair value for the land purchase within the Southern Glades Parcel.

**Action 2:** Leah to report back to the Committee with the final WRAP scores.

**Action 3:** Terrie and David to follow up with Land Management & Construction Department to finalize estimated restoration and maintenance costs for the Southern Glades Parcel.

**Action 4:** Leah to contact Fish & Wildlife regarding possible Panther habitat in the Southern Glades Parcel.