

## **Caloosahatchee Estuary Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)**

### **Webinar Summary**

*Monday, March 25, 2019*

*1:00 pm – 1:35 pm*

#### **Participants**

William Baker, MacVicar Consulting Inc.  
Nathan Beals, Lee County  
Carmela Bedregal, SFWMD  
Vanessa Bessey, FDACS  
Richard Bobletz, Scalar Consulting Group  
Andrea Browning, Lee County  
Emily Canney, SFWMD  
John Cassani, SW FL Watershed Council  
Stacy Cecil, DEP  
David Ceilley, Johnson Engineering  
Vikram Chhabra, Citizen  
Cheryl Clark, DEP  
Breanna Crowell, DEP  
Debbie Culp, Citizen  
Sara Davis, DEP  
Jill Davis, Environment One  
Karl Deigert, Citizen  
Rebecca Elliott, FDACS  
Kate English, Pavese Law Firm  
Stephanie Erickson, DEP  
James Evans, City of Sanibel  
Kim Fikoski, SFWMD  
Cathy Foerster, ATM  
Alyssa Freitag, DEP  
Marcy Frick, Tetra Tech  
Stan Ganthier, DEP  
Scott Garth, DRMP  
Kathleen Greenwood, FDACS  
Chris Guth, Federico & Associates  
Kurt Harclerode, Lee County  
Kenny Hayman, DEP  
Janet Hearn, ATM  
Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP  
Eric Hinton, DEP  
Jodie Hutchins, SFWMD  
Anura Karuna-Muni, Lee County  
Wes Kayne, Barraco and Associates  
Steven Kelly, FDOT  
Keith Kibbey, Lee County

Lisa Kreiger, Lee County  
Grant Lanham, SCGC  
Ernesto Lasso de la Vega, LCHCD  
Donald Lees, Citizen  
Mary Beth Litrico, FDACS  
Debbie Madden, Gunster  
Ansley Marr, SFWMD  
Linda McCarthy, Lykes  
Kelly McNab, Conservancy of SW FL  
Dee Ann Miller, DEP  
Justin Nelson, DEP  
Kevin O'Donnell, DEP  
Stacey Ollis, SFWMD  
Roland Ottolini, Lee County  
Ximena Pernet, SFWMD  
Jon Perry, Janicki Environmental  
Jason Pim, Citizen  
Paul Pinault, CDM Smith  
Nico Pisarello, ATM  
Paul Powers, Citizen  
Irene Quincey, Pavese Law  
Maya Robert, City of Cape Coral  
Raulie Raulerson, FDACS  
Daniel Rutland, Royal Consulting  
Mark Serrahn, Landon Companies  
Gerald Smith, Citizen  
Marc Stonehouse, CDM Smith  
Amy Thibaut, Pavese Law  
Richard Thompson, City of Fort Myers  
Andrew Tilton, Johnson Engineering  
Katie Tripp, Save the Manatee  
Diana Turner, DEP  
Jonathan Turner, DEP  
Kaye Vaughn, Citizen  
Bill Walker, LA-MSID  
Kevin Williams, DEP  
Kalina Warren, DEP  
Kirby Wolfe, DEP  
Wayne Zahn, U.S. Sugar

The full webinar recording and supporting materials are posted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) file transfer protocol (FTP) site at [http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/BMAP/Caloosahatchee/Meetings/2019\\_03\\_25\\_PathForward/](http://publicfiles.dep.state.fl.us/DEAR/BMAP/Caloosahatchee/Meetings/2019_03_25_PathForward/).

### **Questions and Answers**

**Question:** Where exactly is the C-43 canal?

**Answer:** There is a small graphic later in the presentation that shows this location. It is near the Lehigh Acres area just south of the river. This will be discussed in more detail later in the presentation.

**Question:** When will the Chief Science Officer start?

**Answer:** We do not know yet. The position has been posted and advertised by the state, but we do not know the latest updates on whether they are currently reviewing applications or in interviews.

**Stakeholder Comment:** Construction delays are predicted at 5 years; cleansing components will have time to now be implemented. [Note: In reference to C-43 reservoir water quality treatment discussion.]

**Question:** What are 'algal data'?

**Answer:** Any type of samples that were taken during the bloom event. If you have any questions, you can send Erin Rasnake an email and her information is shown in the presentation.

**Question:** What are specific requisites to be considered a stakeholder within the categories listed here?

**Answer:** Right now, DEP has a boundary of where we want to expand the BMAP. We have used the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity search engine to identify special districts. We have some questions that we will reach out to the districts about to see whether they would qualify as a stakeholder in this BMAP. Once we do some of the allocation work, we will see where counties and cities lie within that realm, as well. We do look at the loading coming from the various potential stakeholders and we evaluate the percentage of contribution. Typically, cities and towns and especially counties contribute enough loading to be considered a stakeholder for allocations but there are also stakeholders who just participate without having an allocation.

**Question:** When will loading and allocation updates occur?

**Answer:** DEP is still working those details out and hope to have something to present by the next tentatively scheduled meeting. Between now and that time we will be working on that effort.

**Question:** When will water quality sampling locations be established for upstream of S-79? When will the boundary officially be expanded?

**Answer:** For the boundary expansion, that will come with the revised BMAP that will be implemented after DEP Secretary approval. For the water quality monitoring, we are in the beginning of updating the BMAP. The Executive Order came out in January and we have been looking at the recommendations from the 5-Year Review and are trying to come up with the best approach to do this within one year from January. If you are an entity that has some monitoring going on upstream of S-79 in that expanded area, please let Kevin Williams and Sara Davis know. As we reach out to stakeholders in that area, we will be asking that question probably in the next couple of months. As far as establishing the expanded monitoring network, we do not have an exact timeline, but we will start to collect that information over the next couple of months and present it at one the meetings that were mentioned in the presentation.

**Question:** Will BMAP project load reductions be adjusted if water quality data verifies the projects are not actually meeting the load reduction credits given for the projects/best management practices (BMPs) in previous years/cycles?

**Answer:** As of right now, the way that DEP credits reductions in the BMAP is based on the long-term average modeled loading and then we apply agreed upon efficiencies based on the project type. For some projects with specific monitoring, either upstream and downstream or inflow and outflow, we use those data to determine the credits. Otherwise, the credits provided are more of a general long-term averaged credit versus an actual reduction. This is why DEP likes to look at the data in the monitoring network to track progress of the BMAP overall. If in the future we feel that we estimated 389,000 pounds per year of total nitrogen (TN) reductions, but the water quality is not showing that, then at that point we would look back and see what adjustments need to be made and how we can adaptively manage to continue to progress.

**Question:** Will DEP be holding meetings in areas that are not within total maximum daily load (TMDL) waterbody identification (WBID) numbers and not within BMAP boundaries before the Caloosahatchee BMAP boundaries are changed? This possibility was not included at the TMDL tributary meeting and those affected need to be given an opportunity to provide input before the boundary is changed.

**Answer:** Even with other BMAPs, we try to spread out the meeting locations to accommodate different sets of stakeholders. With the boundary being expanded, we will be including more people and a larger area, so we will be looking to host meetings in different areas and possibly take advantage of the webinar format, as well. This way everyone can participate that wants to without having to incorporate travel into their participation. For the new stakeholders that we are looking into, DEP is individually reaching out to those stakeholders. There is the potential that we will have one-on-one meetings with them or phone calls. Then, for public meetings, we are trying to take advantage of the webinar so that everyone can participate. We will be having in-person meetings, but the locations are not set yet.

**Question:** Will you be taking suggestions for additional stakeholders?

**Answer:** We definitely welcome that type of input and you can email Kevin Williams and Sara Davis with that information.

**Question:** Modeled loading is currently based on loading from 2004 land use. When will it be updated?

**Answer:** That is part of what we are working on for allocations. There is a newer model that the dissolved oxygen (DO) tributaries TMDL was based on. We are trying to work on a methodology for using that for the revised allocations, but we are still in the early part of that evaluation, so we cannot give a specific date right now.

**Question:** Any slide showing where the C-43 reservoir is located? Also, are there any proposed regional ponds near the Lee Civic Center?

**Answer:** We have some visuals that we shared at the annual meeting and those can be added to the FTP site for this meeting. Stakeholders can email Kevin Williams if they have questions about the FTP site. This is not a project that we manage in the BMAP program, so we will probably have to get some additional images to answer those questions.

**Question:** Are the slides posted online?

**Answer:** They will be after the conclusion of this meeting. We will send out a GovDelivery email with the link to all the materials.

**Question:** Can individuals/citizens be considered stakeholders?

**Answer:** In the sense that "stakeholders" is used for anyone who participates, absolutely. Sometimes we use the word "stakeholders" to distinguish the entities that have allocations, but "stakeholders" really does encompass anyone who is participating in the process.

**Question:** Why are Townsend Canal and C-43 reservoir not included in the BMAP?

**Answer:** The initial estuary BMAP was drawn based on WBIDs 3240A, 3240B, and 3240C that were impaired so that BMAP area was based on those WBIDs. Now that we have included the DO TMDLs in the watershed we have the opportunity to include those now and expand the boundary to Lake Okeechobee.

**Question:** Will the revised BMAP include total phosphorus (TP) in addition to TN?

**Answer:** The TMDL is for DO but the parameters that will be monitored are TN, TP, and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD). We are still working out those allocations because the estuary TMDL only requires TN reductions, but the new ones have some additional parameters. It is a little bit complex, but we are working through that right now.