



Statewide Conference

Agenda Program

Agenda Program – Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Main Room

Keynote presentation

Presenter: Doug Fry, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: An overview of some lessons learned over the past 35 years, where we've been, and where we're headed, from the perspective of an old fossil.

"Picayune Strand Restoration Project: Permitting Challenges and Solutions" (Main)

Presenter: Jordan Pugh, DEP-OEP

Abstract: The Picayune Strand Restoration Project is a project component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and is being implemented to restore 55,000 acres of wetlands located between Alligator Alley and Tamiami Trail in southwestern Collier County. In partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has faced a number of permitting complexities, including land acquisition, threatened and endangered species, cultural/historical features, contaminated soils and remediation, multiple stakeholders and land managers, flood protection, and more. This presentation will discuss these challenges and solutions, and describe overall restoration goals and progress to date.

"Florida Aquaculture: A One-Stop Regulatory Program"

Presenters: Paul Zajicek, Environmental Administrator and Serina Rocco, Environmental Supervisor, DACS

Abstract: Florida Aquaculture is an extraordinarily diverse farming sector across the species, production systems and geographic locations found in the state. There are an estimated 1,500 species or varieties of fish, plants, mollusks, crustaceans, and reptiles with a farm-gate value of \$69 million during 2012 from approximately 950 facilities. Florida aquafarms culture products for food and non-food markets that include seafood (fish and shellfish), freshwater and marine aquarium hobbyists, high fashion leather, water gardening, bait, biological control, biofuels, or as "seed" for national and international aquaculturists. As established in the Florida Aquaculture Policy Act, aquaculture is agriculture and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is the lead aquaculture agency. The Act directs the Department to coordinate and assist in the development of aquaculture and to regulate aquafarms with the objectives of protecting or conserving Florida's natural resources.

"The Sinkhole Formation Vulnerability Mapping Project and Implications for Stormwater Management."

Presenter: Clint Kromhout, Professional Geologist, FGS

Abstract: Florida is no stranger to tropical storms or sinkholes, and for many who live in the state their primary natural disaster focus is on the state's yearly exposure to tropical storms. Sinkholes have become a storm of their own in recent years. Several well publicized outbreaks of sinkholes in Florida combined with the well document insurance industry troubles have brought the natural karst process to

the fore-front for the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) as a serious natural hazard in Florida. In June of 2012, Tropical Storm Debby dropped record amounts of rain upon Florida during a time of extended drought which triggered hundreds, likely thousands, of sinkholes all across the state causing immense damage. Those sinkholes acted as a catalyst for DEM's Mitigation Section to contract with the Florida Geological Survey to provide a statewide map exhibiting the state's vulnerability to sinkhole formation. The resulting map has broad implications for the Florida's environmental health, such as stormwater management, while attempting to strike balance between the State's growth and safety.

"Corals and Nearshore Hardbottom Communities of Florida, and their Protection"

Presenter: Cindy Lott, DEP – SED

Abstract: This presentation will provide a brief overview of 403.93345 Coral reef protection, also known as the "Florida Coral Reef Protection Act." This act applies to the sovereign submerged lands that contain coral reefs as defined in this act off the coasts of Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach Counties. The presentation will include coral identification of particular coral species of concern, coral reef damages and restitution using coral restoration & relocation techniques, and mitigation. Water quality issues effecting coral reef health and the local city/county/community initiatives embarking to manage upland influences on these nearshore environs will also be discussed.

"Assessing Seagrass Habitat"

Presenter: Maria Merrill, Biological Scientist, FWC Division of Habitat and Species Conservation

Abstract: An overview of seagrass monitoring and assessment techniques will be presented, specifically those relevant to an ERP review for impacts and mitigation.

"Permitted Seagrass Mitigation and Restoration Activities in Florida – Creating a State-Wide Database"

Presenters: Margaret O. Hall, PhD, and Robin Jung, FWC/FWRI

Abstract: During the past two years, we have performed a comprehensive data-mining effort to create a State-wide database of permitted seagrass mitigation and restoration activities. This database currently includes several hundred permits stretching back to the late 1980's, and over 400 project locations. Due to overlapping legal and jurisdictional authorities, permits were issued by federal, state and local governmental agencies, making the data-mining effort quite time-consuming. Our ultimate goal is to use this database to target specific projects for follow-up field research to assess the success of various mitigation and restoration techniques.

"Mangrove Protection and Reef Fisheries: Adaptation to Climate Change"

Presenters: Janet A. Ley, PhD, FWC/FWRI

Abstract: Under global climate change, coral reefs are naturally vulnerable, while mangroves are more resilient. Coral reef fish populations that specialize in using living coral throughout their lives are likely to suffer drastic declines. Many coral reef fishery species (e.g. snappers, grunts, groupers) benefit from using mangroves as nursery habitats. Thus, conserving mangrove habitat features associated with nursery functions is increasingly important to fisheries sustainability. Mangroves also protect property and infrastructure against hazards from rising global sea levels. Permitting decisions regarding shoreline

hardening and mangrove alteration should consider property protection, public safety, and fisheries conservation among the functions that must be maintained to protect Florida's resources.

Climate Change & Sea Level Rise: An Informal Panel Discussion

Moderators: Andy May & John Humphreys – DEP-SLERC; Tori White – USACE; Janet Ley – FWC/FWRI; Lisa Spadafina – DERM

Abstract: This will informal, “round-table” style panel discussion and open forum for attendees. We will briefly touch upon the current state of our knowledge (and its limitations), including the range of sea level rise scenarios, publicly-available modeling tools, and the most recent IPCC report. We will also hear accounts from our south Florida colleagues, who are at the front of this issue. However, the main purpose for this panel discussion is to brainstorm the implications for our regulatory and proprietary management programs. There are no “wrong” answers here, and the conversation should *be fun!*

Breakout Room 1

“What are Other Surface Waters?”

Presenter: Eric Hickman, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: Non-wetland surface waters and how they are defined, identified and delineated per Chapter 62-340.600.

“Introduction to the Certified Wetland Delineator program”

Presenters: Eric Hickman and Camille Beasley, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: What the CWD program is, how it is going to work, and examples of test questions.

“ERP Stormwater 101 – The Basics”

Presenter: Lee Marchman, State Stormwater Coordinator, DEP-EHG

Abstract: An impassioned and amusing trip through time, from the very first attempts to control stormwater to a hazy glimpse into its future, with commentary on why we do it and how we've gone about it.

“Dam, Embankment, and Levee safety features; Embanked Stormwater Ponds”

Presenter: Art Sengupta, Dam Safety Officer, DEP-EHG

Abstract: As the nation's dam age and population increases, the potential for deadly dam failures grow. From Jan 1, 2005 through June 2013, there have been 193 failures and 587 incidents or episodes that without intervention would have resulted in a failure. This presentation is to highlight the various causes of dam failures and highlight dams and levees in our backyard that can cause catastrophe in the event of a breach. Herbert Hoover Dike is rated as DSAC 1 or one of the riskiest dams in the country. Levees that contain seasonal high water levels can also fail with tremendous losses in human life and property. A case history of New Orleans is being shown as an example. Note that there is over 2000 miles of levees under the jurisdiction of South Florida Water Management District that is being actively managed.

“Reviewing Dewatering Projects and DMMA’s”

Presenter: Richard Musgrove, PE Administrator, DEP-EHG

Abstract: It is important that large dredging projects have adequately engineered spoil disposal areas (DMMA’s) with properly designed embankments that can be maintained over their useful life, not just during the period that the actual dredging disposal occurs. The design of these facilities should also provide for adequate hydraulics, both during actual disposal and during periods of major storm events, to prevent the discharge of unacceptable water quality and prevent system failure. The presentation provides for the basic technical information on adequate designs for proper operations and maintenance of these DMMA facilities and what to look for when reviewing post-construction, post-dredging and disposal as-built drawings, as well as, monitoring reports.

Hydrographic Review: Issues and Criteria

Presenter: Mariano Guardo, PhD, PE, D.WRE, DEP-EHG

Abstract: Projects that involve the potential discharge of pollutants, or alterations to the geometry or hydrologic conditions of surface waters that may result in adverse impacts to water quality must provide reasonable assurance that those standards will not be violated. Such activities are governed by the SWERP rules, including the Joint Application form, procedures, and criteria for submittal of an application or notice. This presentation will help ERP permit reviewers determine whether a Hydrographic Analysis, Study or Assessment (**HASA**) will have to be submitted by the applicant and subsequently reviewed by the Engineering, Hydrology and Geology (**EHG**) Program. It also includes general descriptions about hydrographic data requirements to appropriately perform a **HASA**.

“Discharges to Impaired Waters: Evaluating “Net Improvement””

Presenters: Deb Laisure, PE, DEP-CD

Abstract: This is a presentation of the steps involved in evaluating net improvement analyses for projects discharging to waters that are impaired for nutrients. Using both real and simulated case studies, the following will be discussed:

- Determining whether or not a receiving water body is impaired for nutrients;
- What is considered a “direct discharge”;
- Hand calculations of average annual nutrient loads and nutrient removal efficiencies using the method presented in the Draft Applicant’s Handbook for the Statewide Stormwater Rule;
- A brief look at the Nitrogen and Phosphorous Loading Calculator in the PONDS 3.3 Application Suite
- A brief look at BMPTRAINS Stormwater Best Management Practices Analysis Model available from UCF’s Stormwater Management Academy

“New Concepts in Conceptual Permitting”

Presenter: Michelle Hopkins, PE, ERP Bureau Chief, SWFWMD

Abstract: This presentation will provide an overview of conceptual permitting under SWERP, with an emphasis on Conceptual Approval for Urban Infill or Redevelopment. Two cases studies, the original project that led to the new Urban Infill or Redevelopment Conceptual and one with wetland considerations, will be highlighted.

Breakout Room 2 – CAP Track

“Introduction to the ERP and SSL Programs and Determining Significant Noncompliance”

Presenters: Donna Kendall and Andy May, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: Presenters will provide simple summary of the origins and missions of the programs, as well as what they protect and – as importantly – why. Presenters will also provide a brief overview of the CAP-related functions and services provided by the SLERC Program and the Division of Water Resource Management.

“Introduction to Sovereignty Submerged Lands Lease and Easement Inspections”

Presenter: Gerald “J.J.” Loesch, DEP-SWD

Abstract: The presentation includes a brief introduction to State Lands, a review of some pertinent vocabulary, and covers steps taken before, during, and after an inspection. In addition, some important lease conditions are discussed and commonly found non-compliance issues. The presentation is directed towards inspectors new to State Lands.

“SLERC Operations and Procedures Manual - CAPS Overview”

Presenter: Allyson Minick, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: SLERC maintains an online Operations and Procedures Manual that contains current and historic guidance covering all things ERP. The presentation will cover accessing and navigating the OPM, organizational structure and general content of the OPM, as well as highlights of each section from a CAPS perspective.

“Implementing Codes in ERPCE”

Presenter: Linda Hodges, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: Have fun and anonymously test your ERPCE knowledge and learn valuable new information playing ERPCE JEOPARDY.

“Review of As-Built Drawings of SWMSs, DMMAs and Other ‘Engineered Stuff’”

Presenters: Lee Marchman, State Stormwater Coordinator, DEP-EHG & Deb Laisure, PE, DEP – CD

Abstract: Insights and musings regarding the as-built drawings we receive to determine if a system is in “substantial compliance” with the permit. And what does that mean?

“What is a Wetland?”

Presenter: Eric Hickman, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: Basic introduction to how wetlands are defined, identified and delineated under Chapter 62-340.

“SPGP coordination with USACE: Data sharing, compliance”

Presenters: Andy May, DEP-SLERC and Tori White, USACE

“Enforcement 101: Tips and Strategies for CAP staff”

Presenter: Bonnie Malloy & Krystle Hoenstine, DEP-OGC

Abstract: Presenters will provide an overview of formal enforcement for ERP cases. Topics will include tips for building a case, litigation options and support, and post-judgment issues.

“Compliance Assurance Program Updates: LOS, Disciplines, CATTs, and more”

Presenter: Jennifer Smith, Assistant Director, DEP-SED

Abstract: It’s been over 18 months since the Compliance Assurance Program was created and we have had many accomplishments in that time: Level of service, Cross-training, disciplines, outreach, and multi-media inspections. Presentation will cover where we were, where we are now, and where we are going.

Agenda Program – Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Main Room

“Large-Scale Water Quality Improvement Projects: An Everglades Perspective”

Presenter: Paul Julian, DEP- Office of Ecosystem Projects

Abstract: The greater Everglades is recognized both nationally and internationally as one of the world’s most unique natural and cultural resources. To protect the Everglades resources, large scale water quality related projects are needed. These projects include storm-water treatment areas, hybrid wetland treatment systems, flow equalization basins, reservoirs, and others. Paul Julian will discuss treatment wetlands and other technologies used in the Everglades system and the mechanism used by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Office of Ecosystem Projects to permit Everglades water quality projects from constructions to operations.

“Florida’s NNC: Of Poison Pills and Imbalance”

Presenter: Daryll Joyner, Program Administrator, DEP-DEAR-Water Quality Standards Program

Abstract: Over the last three years, Florida has adopted the most comprehensive Numeric Nutrient Criteria (NNC) in the nation, covering all lakes, springs, estuaries, and coastal waters, and the vast majority of streams (not including South Florida canals). The presentation will provide the current status of the NNC rulemaking, describe the basic concept and hierarchical approach used by the Department, review the adopted NNC, and cover the exclusions in the “streams” definition, which impacts whether many “stream-like” waters are covered by NNC or the narrative nutrient criterion.

“Florida’s Revised DO Criteria: New Science for the 21st Century”

Presenter: Russ Frydenborg, President, Frydenborg EcoLogic

Abstract: Florida’s Dissolved Oxygen Criteria were originally derived in the 1970s and remained unchanged until recently. The new freshwater DO criteria were derived using the regression relationships between the daily average DO saturation and a measure of stream aquatic life health (the Stream Condition Index), coupled with an evaluation of DO concentrations in minimally disturbed reference sites. The USEPA Virginian Province approach was employed to derive the marine criteria, using fish and invertebrate species known to inhabit Florida’s waters. The Virginian Province method utilizes observed laboratory responses of species sensitive to low DO levels to calculate DO concentrations and durations that will protect against acute and chronic effects to aquatic life. Other components of the new DO criteria are discussed, including protection of threatened species and implementation issues.

“The FWC Aquatic Habitat Restoration & Enhancement Program – Projects and Permitting Challenges”

Presenter: David Douglas, FWC - Aquatic Habitat Restoration/Enhancement Sub-Section

Abstract: The Aquatic Habitat Enhancement/Restoration Sub-Section (AHRES) is part of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. AHRES activities include fish and wildlife habitat enhancement in all public freshwater resources, including marshes and wetlands, both associated with lake systems and standalone resources. Current habitat enhancement techniques include: the use or modification of water control devices and landscape modification for hydrological restoration; organic sediment

removal in lakes and marshes; controlling exotic, noxious, and invasive plants via mechanical aquatic plant harvesting or herbicide application; and re-establishing native aquatic plants through planting. The diversity and number of projects conducted each year requires considerable permitting and inter-agency coordination, often within short timelines.

“Regulatory Process for Aquatic Restoration Projects”

Presenter: Beacham Furse, FWC - Aquatic Habitat Restoration/Enhancement Sub-Section

Abstract: As a component of the Statewide Environmental Resource Permitting (SWERP) process, the Department of Environmental Protection is developing a General Permit (GP) for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission that simplifies the ERP process for environmental restoration and enhancement activities similar to the reciprocal GP provided to the Water Management Districts (62-330.485, F.A.C.). A condition of GP development was compilation of a Best Management Practices (BMP) manual for aquatic restoration activities. The BMP manual may also be used for aquatic restoration activities authorized under the ERP Individual Permit process and in development of GPs for other federal, state and local agencies.

“Coordination with FWC on Manatee and Marine Turtle Impacts”

Presenter: Kristen Nelson-Sella, FWC – Division of Habitat and Species Conservation

Abstract: This presentation will go over what permit reviewers in FWC are interested in when it comes to projects that may impact marine turtles and manatees. I will also discuss current changes in staff and organization of these two programs. Additionally, a brief status update on marine turtles and manatees and recent impacts to their populations in Florida will be discussed.

“Florida’s NPDES Stormwater Program Overview”

Presenter: Borja Crane-Amores, Ken Kuhl, DEP – NPDES Stormwater Program

Abstract: Presenters will provide an overview of the Department’s NPDES Stormwater Program components, including the Construction Generic Permit (CGP), the Multi-Sector Generic Permit (MSGP), and the Phase I and Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits.

“Understanding Koontz: Implications for Permit Reviewers”

Presenters: Matt Leopold & Jack Chisolm, DEP-OGC, Susan Martin, SFWMD

Abstract: The attorneys will provide a brief recap of takings law; discuss the Koontz case and its implications for permit processors; and provide guidance designed to help permit processors avoid a “Koontz” type claim in the future. They will also give the audience a first look at draft guidance to be finalized and released in the near future.

“International Paper Case Study”

Presenters: Tony Greco, WNA

Abstract: Per sub section 62-660.300(1)(a)1 F.A.C. International Paper was required to affirmatively demonstrate that the wetland ecosystems may reasonably be expected to assimilate the waste water discharge without “significant adverse impact on the biological community of the receiving waters”. Further (a)7 required “Scientifically valid experimental controls are provided by the applicant and approved by the Department to monitor the long term ecological effects”, come hear how I.P.,

Wade Nutter and Associates, and FLDEP Wetland Evaluation and Delineation section did it regarding terrestrial plant habitats. Wetland creation, enhancement, and restoration along with litigation are just part of this presentation.

“SAJ-111 and SPGP in SJRWMD: Progress and Findings”

Presenters: Jeff Collins, USACOE, Michelle Reiber and Barbara Hatchitt, SJRWMD

Abstract: In December of 2013, the St. Johns River Water Management District assumed responsibility for Statewide Programmatic General Permit (SPGP) IV-R1. Presenters will discuss the history of the SPGP in Florida, District implementation procedures, and provide examples of applications that were processed under the SPGP. An overview and status of the SAJ-111, and considerations in developing programmatic general permits, will also be presented.

“Implementing Permit Requirements: an Industry Perspective”

Presenter: W. Michael Dennis Ph.D., President, Breedlove Dennis and Associates, Inc.

Abstract: Efficient permitting requires effective communication between regulators and the applicant. Means of effectively communicating permitting requirements and understanding the ecological context of a requested permit will be discussed.

Breakout Room 1

“Submitting a Delegation of Authority Package to the Division of State Lands”

Presenter: Jimmy Wright, DEP - Division of State Lands

Abstract: - This presentation will give a brief overview of when a DOA is necessary, where to locate guidance and forms on the OPM, what is necessary to be in the package and directions for submission. **This will be directed towards the Water Management staff that perform State Lands functions.**

“Determining What Constitutes ‘Sufficient Upland Interest’”

Presenter: Nick Campanile, Program Administrator, DEP – DSL, Office of Survey and Mapping

Abstract: Chapter 18-21.003 Definition of “Satisfactory evidence of sufficient upland interest” What we look for when requested to review a specific parcel for SUI. Documents reviewed to determine having or not having SUI. Checklist Examples of parcels having or not having SUI.

“Navigating the SUPRS and ILMS Databases”

Presenters: Susan D. Riggs, DEP - Office of Operations & Jimmy Wright, DEP - DSL

Abstract: The presentation will give an overview of the data systems and describe their beneficial functions to district staff, verifying information, checking the status of DSL projects, and access to updated contact information. This presentation will be directed towards district staff that performs state lands functions.

“Crafting Effective Mitigation Success Criteria”

Presenters: Matt Wilson and Connie Bersok, DEP - Mining and Mitigation Program

Abstract: Establishment of effective mitigation success criteria is critical to assure that mitigation success equates to ecological success. We surveyed dozens of large-scale mining and mitigation bank permits to assess the success criteria currently in use. We also surveyed the literature on performance standards for mitigation and ecological restoration projects in other states. Success criteria should be clear, measurable, attainable, and should reflect the goals of the mitigation project. Success criteria typically will need to be tailored to the target community type and account for biogeographic variation. Success criteria recommendations and examples for specific target communities will be presented.

“Coastal Management, Federal Consistency Review, and ERP permitting”

Presenter: Ann Lazar, DEP - Florida Coastal Office

Abstract: The Florida Coastal Management Act was put in effect in 1978 as a network of state agencies. Part of the powers within the program is federal consistency review of federal activities, federal funded activities, outer continental shelf activities, and projects that require a federal license or permit. Some of this review goes through the Florida Clearinghouse, but the activities that require a federal permit, such as a USACOE permit, the ERP permit review is also the coastal consistency review. The presenter will explain the procedures and checkpoints within the coastal consistency process within ERP.

“Elimination and Reduction of Impacts for Permit Reviewers”

Presenters: Doug Fry, DEP-SLERC and Lisa Prather, DEP-CD

Abstract: An overview of the statutory and rule requirements, case law, and practical implementation of the ERP requirements for reducing and eliminating adverse impacts prior to considering mitigation.

“Review and Assessment of Secondary Impacts to Wetlands and Other Surface Waters”

Presenters: Mark Brandenburg, SJRWMD and Mindy Parrott, SFWMD

Abstract: During the review of an Individual or Conceptual ERP, a reviewer must evaluate potential impacts to wetland and surface water functions, water quality, upland habitat for bald eagles and aquatic or wetland dependent listed species, and historical and archaeological resources. Several factors, including the design, location, and use of a project, will affect what secondary impacts may occur. During this interactive session, types of secondary impacts and design modifications to eliminate and reduce secondary impacts will be discussed along with the presentation of two case studies.

“Cumulative Impacts Evaluations – Why and How?”

Presenters: Anita Bain, Chief, SFWMD - ERP Bureau and Albert Gagne, SWFWMD

Abstract: This discussion will focus on the requirements of Section 373.414(8) F.S. and Subsection 62-330.302(1)(b) F.A.C. regarding the potential for cumulative impacts to occur to wetlands and surface waters within a drainage basin if mitigation is proposed outside the drainage basin or if the impacts are not fully offset. Explanation of the rule language along with demonstration of practical applications of the rule will be provided.

“Turtle Ramps, County Upland Buffers, and Other Shoreline Shenanigans”

Presenters: Matt Kershner, DEP-NED

Abstract: Waterfront property developers are creatively responding to the requirements for an upland buffer to satisfy the local building code. There has been an increasing demand for bulkhead permits, we believe in an effort to obtain a waiver from the county for this buffer requirement. This can be the difference between a property being buildable or not. Our staff is seeking creative solutions from our consultant and marine contractor friends in order for us to support responsible property improvement

plans. Concurrently we are also seeking creative solutions to situations where hard armoring is desired due to significant erosion where the client is asserting that living shoreline options are not viable. Can we have our cake and eat it too?

“Addressing Difficult Permitting Scenarios in a Post-Koontz, Inside-Out, Upside-Down Universe (aka ‘Money for Nothing’)”

Presenters: John Emery, Strategic & Technical Support Manager, SWFWMD and Marti Moore, Assistant General Counsel, SWFWMD

Abstract: Regulation and Legal review of an ERP application where the applicant presents a development scenario with maximum wetland impacts within a coastal location without any proposed wetland mitigation. A summary is provided of the application process that lead to a denial of the ERP application and subsequent judicial process used to develop an inverse condemnation claim. Additionally, the lessons learned and the future effects on potential developments of this and other similar projects in light of the recent Koontz ruling will be discussed.

Breakout Room 2

“Why Florida’s natural communities don’t follow classical successional theory”

Presenter: John Humphreys, DEP- SLERC

Abstract: Classical ecological succession theory posits that natural communities undergo a graduated transition from systems at disequilibrium to systems at equilibrium or “climax;” however, succession in Florida’s natural communities is often mediated by cyclic disturbance processes that perpetuate disequilibrium conditions. John will briefly discuss areas of discrepancy between disturbance-mediated and classic models of succession and then offer a conceptual tool for identifying successional trajectory in Florida’s communities.

“Chapter 62-340.750 Exemption for Surface Waters or Wetlands Created by Mosquito Control Activities”

Presenter: Eric Hickman, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: The most common application of this exemption is coastal mosquito control ditches. This presentation will explain how they are evaluated and what the exemption means.

“Altered Sites Delineations”

Presenter: Eric Hickman, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: What qualifies as an altered site, how altered sites are classified, and how Chapter 62-340 is applied in both legally and illegally altered landscapes.

“Delineation of Surface Waters in Sand hill Landscapes in SJRWMD”

Presenters: Eric Hickman, DEP - SLERC and Lance D. Hart, SJRWMD

Abstract: Section 62-340.600, F.A.C., establishes that the landward extent of non-tidal surface waters are delineated by either the limits of wetlands using the wetland delineation methodology of section 62-340.300, F.A.C., or by the ordinary high water line, whichever is the more landward. The presenters will

discuss resources and considerations in applying this section of the delineation rule using several examples related to sites located within the St. Johns River Water Management District boundary.

“Wetland Hydrology Data and Modeling”

Presenters: Eric Hickman, DEP-SLERC, Lance Hart, SJRWMD

Abstract: This presentation will cover the interpretation of section 62-340.550 and some required considerations before it can be used to refute a field delineation.

“The Latest, Greatest, and Most Useful Delineation Booklet Produced to Date!”

Presenter: Eric Hickman, DEP – SLERC

Abstract: Fourteen years in research and development are in this latest version of the field delineation booklet; come hear all about it.

“Introduction to Basic NRCS Hydric Soil Field Indicators of Florida”

Presenters: Lisl Hinrichs, DEP - SLERC and Travis Richardson, SJRWMD

Abstract: This presentation will cover basic principles, types, and characteristics of the most common hydric soils.

“How to do a Soil Profile Description”

Presenters: Lisl Hinrichs, DEP - SLERC and Travis Richardson, SJRWMD

Abstract: This will be a tutorial on how you describe, photograph, and document a soil profile in the field.

“Common Wetland Trees and Shrubs”

Presenter: Camille Beasley, DEP - SLERC

Abstract: Tips, strategies, and helpful hints on how to identify these plants in the wetland landscape.

Test Your Mangrove Act Knowledge

Presenters: Daniel Sensi, Mangrove Coordinator, DEP-SLERC and Allyson Minick, DEP-SLERC

Abstract: An interactive presentation for SLER staff to obtain a better understanding of the Mangrove Act by reviewing frequently asked questions gathered from the District Offices. Real life questions and potential scenarios that will help you diagnose any mangrove situation you find yourself in.

“Modeling the Integrity of Florida’s Wetlands”

Presenters: Amir Mahjoor and John Humphreys, DEP - SLERC

Abstract: In September of 2013, the Department of Environmental Protection was awarded an EPA Wetlands Program Development Grant to develop an ecosystem model that evaluates the condition and health of wetlands in Florida. Presenters will discuss the project’s conceptual framework, limitations, goals, and work performed to date.

“USACE Dredging for Civil Works Projects”

Presenter: Jim McAdams, USACE

Agenda Program – Thursday, June 12, 2014

Main Room

“Ports, Pipelines, Trains, oh my! - Big Projects in Florida”

Discussion of large scale projects occurring in Florida; ports, pipelines, and high speed trains. What roles do the State and Federal agencies play in reviewing and permitting these projects? Coordination and communication throughout the process is both beneficial to the applicant and the reviewing agencies. Process, roles, lessons learned, and interesting aspects of some recent or on-going projects will be discussed.

Presenters: Tim Rach, Program Administrator, DEP-SLERC; Marty Seeling, Program Administrator, DEP-BIP; Tori White, Deputy, USACE JAX-Regulatory

“Creating and Restoring Wetlands: from Olentangy to Everglades”

Several case studies of wetland creation/restoration on long-term and/or large-scale are reviewed. Conclusions are made from 35 years of developing and observing ecological engineering and ecosystem restoration related to wetlands and aquatic ecosystems in the academic and professional worlds.

- The fields need to become more transdisciplinary and visible in universities.
- Restoration ecology, as currently practiced, needs to provide more allowance for emerging ecosystems.
- Design and problem solving on mega-ecological problems are needed more than ever.
- Ecological engineering controlled only by engineers alone will ultimately fail.
- Engineers and scientists both need to recognize the importance of Mother Nature (self-design) and Father Time in designing functional ecosystems.

Presenter: Dr. William Mitsch, Florida Gulf Coast University

OPTIONAL OFFSITE EXCURSION - MITIGATION BANK