

Peace River Resource Management Plan Stakeholder Meeting Summary November 9, 2006

This was the fifth Peace River Resource Management Plan Stakeholder Meeting. It was held at the Hardee County Health Department in Wauchula, Florida. Richard W. Cantrell opened the meeting at 9am.

It was determined that a sixth meeting of the stakeholders was necessary. The stakeholders decided on December 12. The location of the meeting would be determined later and the stakeholders would be informed by email.

As stated at the previous meeting, the resource management plan tables would be discussed. The tables that were discussed were as follows:

Table 1 – Existing cumulative impacts to water resources of the Peace River Basin as identified in the Cumulative Impact Study.

Table 2 – Identified impacts to water resources of the Peace River Basin in relation to stressors as identified in the Cumulative Impact Study.

Table 3 – Current and proposed regulatory and nonregulatory programs to address cumulative impacts to water resources of the Peace River Basin.

Table 1 was discussed at length by the stakeholders. Several changes were made to the table. It was determined that the tables would be revised by department staff and the revised tables would be emailed to all the attendees for comments.

An executive summary of the cumulative impact study was to be distributed to the stakeholders at the meeting. However, after initial review, it was determined that the summary would be sent out by email or posted on the department's website for stakeholder review. Stakeholders could also email comments to department staff.

The meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Richard Cantrell – DEP
Phil Coram- DEP
Orlando Rivera - DEP
Kevin Claridge – DEP
Janine Callahan – DEP
Michelle Harmeling - DEP
Thu-Huong Clark - DEP
Ron Basso – SWFWMD
Rand Frahm - SWFWMD
Tony Janicki – Janicki Environmental
Mike Britt – City of Winter Haven
Tom Myers – Mosaic
Richard Ghent – CF Industries
Rob Birrenkott – Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker, and Manson
Charles Fletecher – de La Parte and Gilbert
Tim King – FFWCC
Don Ross – EarthBalance

Nick Staszko – Hardee County
Jim Sampson – CH2M Hill
Ralph Montgomery – PBS&J
Ed Hanlon – UF/IFAS
Sam Stone - PRMRWSA
Josh Schmitz – WRA
Bill Byle – Charlotte County
David DeLoach – Ardaman & Associates
Marian Ryan – Sierra Club
Ruth Bromberg – Sierra Club
Sue Reske – Sierra Club
Roger Sims – Holland & Knight/Mosaic
Susan Stephens – Hopping, Green and Sams/CFI

Table 1. Existing cumulative impacts to water resources of the Peace River Basin as identified in the Cumulative Impact Study.

Water Resources Parameters	Identified Impacts
Surface Waters	Loss of streams and floodplains Concerns regarding surface water quality in southern basins (Joshua, Shell/Prairie, Lower Horse creeks) due to increased mineralization Reduced base flow in northern Peace River primarily above Fort Meade Loss of flow from Kissengen Spring to river Reduced water clarity in upper river (more tannic colored) Concerns regarding disruptions of watershed Relative improvements of water quality in northern Peace River, with continuing concerns regarding poor water quality discharges from Lake Hancock Concerns regarding increasing conductivity levels in Payne Creek basin during dry seasons Basin-wide increase in potassium concentrations
Groundwaters	Reduced Floridan aquifer level Loss of base flow in northern sub-basin (Kissengen Spring)
Wetlands	Decrease in total wetland acreage from original 25.4% to 15.6% (vast majority pre-regulations) Concerns for continuing loss of wetlands under regulation
Fisheries	Increased number of exotic fish species ⁽¹⁾ Loss of spring species Species shift due to mineralization Population shifts from loss of streams as habitat
Aquatic Habitats	Lack of emphasis on stream function replacement under reclamation Loss of streams and floodplains Loss of spring habitat Reduced base flow (northern sub-basin) of wetted stream channel
Water Supplies	Peace River Water Supply – concerns for dry season base flow relating to days of flow below pumping limits of 130 cfs Mineralization of Shell/Prairie Creeks (Punta Gorda water supply) Limitations on groundwater supplies

⁽¹⁾ Releases of exotic fishes to streams by public

Table 2. Identified impacts to water resources of the Peace River Basin in relation to stressors as identified in the Cumulative Impact Study.

Water Resources Parameters - Identified Impacts	Stressors			
	Agriculture	Mining	Urbanization	Climate
Surface Waters				
Loss of streams and floodplains	*	*	*	
Concerns regarding surface water quality in southern basins (Joshua, Shell/Prairie, Lower Horse creeks) due to increased mineralization	*			
Reduced base flow in northern Peace River Primarily above Fort Meade	*	*	*	*
Loss of flow from Kissengen Spring to river	*	*	*	
Reduced water clarity in upper river (more tannic colored)	*	*	*	
Concerns regarding disruptions of watershed	*	*	*	
Relative improvements of water quality in northern Peace River, with continuing concerns regarding poor water quality discharges from Lake Hancock		*		
Concerns regarding increasing conductivity levels in Payne Creek basin during dry seasons		*		
Basin-wide increase in K concentrations	*			
Groundwaters				
Reduced Floridan aquifer level	*	*	*	*
Loss of base flow in northern sub-basin (Kissengen Spring)	*	*	*	
Wetlands				
Decrease in total wetland acreage from original 25.4% to 15.6% (vast majority pre-regulations)	*	*	*	
Concerns for continuing loss of wetlands under regulation	*	*	*	
Fisheries				
Increased number of exotic fish species ⁽¹⁾			*	
Loss of spring species	*	*	*	
Species shift due to mineralization	*	*		
Population shifts from loss of streams as habitat	*	*	*	
Aquatic Habitats				
Lack of emphasis on stream function replacement under reclamation	*	*	*	
Loss of streams and floodplains	*	*	*	
Loss of spring habitat	*	*	*	
Reduced base flow (northern sub-basin) of wetted stream channel	*	*	*	
Water Supplies				
Peace River Water Supply – concerns for dry season base flow relating to days of flow below pumping limits of 130 cfs			*	
Mineralization of Shell/Prairie Creeks (Punta Gorda water supply)	*			
Limitations on groundwater supplies			*	*

⁽¹⁾ Releases of exotic fishes to streams by public

Table 3. Current and proposed (°) regulatory and nonregulatory programs to address cumulative impacts to water resources of the Peace River Basin.

	Programs	Surface Waters	Ground-waters	Wetlands	Fisheries	Aquatic Habitats	Water Supplies
FDEP	Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) – for mining	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Integrated Habitat Network (IHN) and Floodplain Preservation	*		*	*	*	
	Upper Peace River/ Saddle Creek Restoration Project (UPR/SCRP)	*					
	Nonmandatory Lands Reclamation Trust Fund (NMLRTF)	*		*	*	*	
	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	*			*	*	
	Florida Forever	*		*		*	
	Special Basin Rule (°)	*		*	*	*	
SWFWMD	Shell Creek and Prairie Creek Watersheds Management Plan	*			*		*
	Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs)	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Upper Peace River Watershed Initiative	*					
	Water Use Permit (WUP)	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems Program (FARMS) (with FDACS)	*	*	*			*
	Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA) Recovery Strategy	*	*				*
FDACS	Best Management Practices (BMPs)	*	*	*			*
	FARMS Program (with SWFWMD)	*	*	*			*