

Seagrass Protection and Restoration Steering Committee Meeting #6

June 11, 2014 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve Office

700-1 Fisherman's Wharf, Fort Myers Beach, Florida 33931

Participants: Dr. Eric Milbrandt (Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation), Thea Holting (University of Florida), Jon Meyer (Florida State Parks), Heather Stafford and Melynda Brown (Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves), Al Durrett (Fish-Tale Marina), Karen (Lee County), Kevin Cuniff and Julie Drevenkar (Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve), (Cheryl Clark (Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve)

- Update on Water Quality data in Estero Bay - Karen Bickford
- Review map of suitable areas for seagrass protection and restoration based on light, depth, sediment requirements and protection needs – Althea
- Sediment maps – Cheryl
- BMP discussion
 - Basin Filter Bags of various sizes are available through Karen if needed/wanted.
 - Bags need maintenance every month(?)
 - Bags last 3-5 years
 - Seagrass habitat near Coon Key could be improved through water treatment on FMB
 - Reuse water is a problem
 - Treating water
 - Look into creating Reasonable Assurance Plan
 - Talk with Beth Alvi (Who will do this?)
 - CHNEP could be good contact for facilitation and grant writing assistance
- Create seagrass protection and restoration map and priority list
 1. NICMZ's
 - Group should support NICMZs being put in as soon as possible
 2. Estero R Mullock Cr
 3. Mound Key
 4. Chili Pepper
 5. Northern Portion of New Pass not included in NGP
 6. Matanzas Pass
 7. SW of Mullock and Hendry Creek (not on Map)
 8. Coon Key (not on Map)(Water quality improvements - Restoration)
- Rental boat surveys are being initiated