

# **Big Cypress Watersheds Restoration Coordination Team**

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Friday, February 9, 2007 Meeting Minutes  
Meeting was held 9:30 – 12:30 at Rookery Bay

## **1. Welcome/Call to Order – Sarah Davis**

The meeting was open at 9:35 AM.

## **2. Introductions of members**

Members introduced themselves. In attendance were:

- Sarah Davis BCW/FGCU
- Clarence Tears BCB/SFWMD
- Liz Abbott SFWMD
- Kirk Otto Edison/FGCU
- Christina Panko DEP – Rookery Bay
- Mike Savarese FGCU
- Mac Hatcher Collier County ESD
- Keith Laakkonen DEP – Rookery Bay
- Joe Bozzo FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- David Cooper CREW Lands and Water trust
- Ian Bartoszek Conservancy of Southwest Florida
- Bob Sobczak Big Cypress National Park
- Ed Hanlon UF/IFAS-SWFREC

- ◆ We reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. They were accepted.
  
- ◆ **Annual report**  
Sarah Davis presented our annual report for 2006, giving an overview of our mission and accomplished goals for last year. Our group has continued with its quarterly meeting schedule and acting as a networking forum for science coordination in the area. The website has been a successful tool between meetings to keep the group updated on hydrology data and watershed news. Thanks to FGCU we were able to purchase comprehensive web software that will give us more autonomy for future web design.
  
- ◆ **Big Cypress Watersheds Vision**  
The group had an extended discussion on our next steps, and what our vision for the future should be. This discussion began with a look back on what we've accomplished over the past six years since Mike Savarese started the group. Bob recalled the day when he present at the Big Cypress Basin Board meeting when Mike presented the idea of a multi-agency watershed team for the Big Cypress area, in tandem with Clarence Tears, Gary Lytton, and

others. Mike commented that the group originally formed to tie together the loose strings on the Big Cypress Science plan, and to cultivate a dialogue on restoration issues in our area. The Big Cypress Watersheds group also became loosely affiliated with the Calusa watershed group to the north, but in more recent times has focused on efforts at the local level of intra-coordination within the team. The group agreed that we've settled into a productive and reliable routine of quarterly meetings. This is a time frequency that is spaced out far enough that most members can find time to attend, yet is also frequent enough to provide a valuable update on hydrologic conditions and other news. The group also agreed that it has made great strides in its web site. However, there was also a consensus that there was still work to be done to improve our efforts and turn the corner on institutionalizing our multi-agency efforts. Several ways to improve our efforts were presented by the group.

Bob shared the updated vision and the next step for the watershed group in terms of expanding our data networking and restoration coordination. He presented his idea of a weekly on-line journal and web-enabled set of watershed tools which will offer a vital news and information outlet and web forum for the watersheds of the Big Cypress Basin and the adjacent Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades ecosystem. This re-designed web site will not only improve our group's ability to meet its mission, it will also provide an exciting opportunity to more formally integrate our efforts with FGCU's environmental communication and journalism curriculums, and collaborate with the student body to achieve our shared university and agency missions of environmental stewardship and awareness.

- ◆ Ed Hanlon commented on how data would be presented and it would be a good non-controversial way to present research and keep people in touch with the watershed.
- ◆ Ananta Nath commented it would be good to have greater participation from other agencies and updates from all group members.
- ◆ Mike Savarese shared that it would also be a good opportunity for members to contribute articles and restoration issues.
- ◆ Kirk Otto shared as an educator this would be an excellent and relevant tool to develop lecture material on hydrologic processes, what we do to the environment and how we can help it.
- ◆ Clarence Tears brought up the focus of the group to discuss research and restoration coordination and working together trying to solve regional issues. He would like to see the group revisit some of these issues in future meetings and how the journal can also facilitate dialogue about those restoration

actions and issues, especially in areas that fall between the cracks of agency lines or are especially complex.

- ◆ Our next meeting will take a more progressive format where we will present restoration issues and then open them for discussion as a collective group. The next meeting will focus on the freshwater flows to Belle Meade issue.

### 3. Hydrologic Update – Bob Sobczak

- ◆ Bob indicated that we are experiencing a fairly “dry” dry season, similar to last year. Our rainy season ended early in the first part of October, so the dry season got an early start out of the gate, and its been pretty dry ever since. On average we normally receive 11-12 inches of rain from November through April. So far this year we are at four inches.
- ◆ Keith Laakonen shared about the KBDI-Keith Byrim Drought Index which helps calculate burn seasons based on rainfall.
- ◆ We are four inches below our five year average, 8-10 inches below where we were last year. By conditions at the same level we were in March.

### 4. Presentation – Ian Bartoszek from the Conservancy of Southwest Florida

#### **“Conservancy Overview and Science Department Research”**

#### **“Pre-Restoration Wildlife Surveys in the Southern Golden Gate Estates 2001-2004”**

Ian Baroszek presented to the group an overview of the Conservancy and its research projects. He then gave a detail overview of the baseline survey done in the Southern Golden Gate Estates (SGGE). “The purpose of our study was to survey wildlife species (small mammals, fish, aquatic and terrestrial macroinvertebrates, anurans, avians, and other incidental observations) in SGGE to provide baseline information that could be used to assess the future effects of hydrologic restoration. The objectives were to analyze each of the aforementioned wildlife groups relative to the primary biotopes (cypress strands, pine flatwoods, hardwood hammocks, freshwater wetlands, and transitional wetlands) in the study area using species compositions, relative abundances, diversity measures, and graphical multivariate methods (SGGE Report p 6-7).” Ian shared the findings of this study in the Picayune and the numerous exotic and native species encountered. The full report can be accessed on the Conservancy website [www.conservancy.org](http://www.conservancy.org) click on the everglades link under core initiatives.

### 5. Other Watershed News

- ◆ Keith Laakonen from Rookery Bay shared that they are in the design stage for hydro-restoration on Shell Island road. They are planning 120 feet of bridge to allow for tidal flushing which has not happened since the road was built.

- ◆ Bob Sobczak from Big Cypress shared that the preserve is moving forward on a project to redesign Loop Road and the adjacent canal to lessen instances of water overtopping the roadway and improve freshwater flow to adjacent water starved wetlands.
- ◆ Ananta Nath from the Big Cypress Basin shared that the district is building a different type of water control balloon structure to work on air bladders near the new I-75 interchange for Gold Gate Parkway. Get in touch with Ananta if you are interested in visiting the site.
- ◆ The meeting was adjourned at 12:15

6. Our next meeting will be Friday May 4, 2007 at 9:30 AM, meeting location to be announced.

## Meeting Minutes

### Big Cypress Watersheds Restoration Coordination Team

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Friday, May 4, 2007 Meeting Minutes  
Meeting was held 10:00 – 12:30 at Big Cypress National Preserve

#### AGENDA

##### 1. Welcome/Call to Order – Sarah Davis

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM

##### 2. Introductions of members

Members introduced themselves. In attendance were:

Sarah Davis, BCW/FGCU	Ian Bartoszek, Conservancy of SW Florida
Roger Jacobsen, City of Naples	Daryl Thomas, USFWS
Mike Bauer City of Naples	William H. Hilbrands, Hydrogage, Inc.
Mike Duever, SFWMD	Stan Hudson, Hydrogage, Inc.
Vicki McGee, Rookery Bay/ DEP	Ed Hanlon UF/IFAS
Tad Bartareau, Rookery Bay/DEP	Jennifer Nelson, DEP
Tim Howard Big Cypress Basin/SFWMD	Natalya Apostolou, DEP
Bob Sobczak, Big Cypress National Preserve	Molly Meadows, SFWMD
Brenda Brooks, CREW Land and Water Trust	Mac Hatcher, Collier County
Erin Dykes, DEP	Jason Lauritsen, Audubon of Florida
Melinda Schuman, Conservancy of SW Florida	David Ceilley, FGCU
	Brenda Thomas, FGCU
	Joffre Castro, NPS
	Dilip Shinde, NPS
	Gregg Reynolds, NPS
	Guoqing He, NPS

◆ We reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. They were accepted.

##### 3. South Florida Watershed Conditions Update – Bob Sobczak

- Bob indicated that we are experiencing still a fairly “dry” dry season, similar to last year. He went over new additions to the website – including an additional graph for viewing rainfall at stations in southwest Florida and a Florida-wide interactive icon

for viewing air temperatures. Bob commented that when night-time lows in Naples consistently break above 70 degrees, it is a good indicator of the onset of the summer rainy season atmospheric conditions. Bob used the rainfall site to highlight that the Big Cypress area has received over 50 inches over the past 365 years in comparison to under 35 inches for the Lake and Kissimmee Valley. Bob emphasized that this aspect of the web page was developed to bring watershed information to our fingertips, to make us all smarter, and help us connect the dots between different parts of our interconnected watersheds. Numbers don't make sense unless you compare them to other numbers – in terms of historical data, averages, relevant landscape features, other sites, and other watersheds. Our web site definitely isn't the end all of web sites, but hopefully it points us in the right direction and contributes to the greater goal of helping us see through the curtain of numbers to the underlying trends that otherwise may elude us.

#### **4. WatershEDITORIALS – Group Review and Open Discussion**

##### **◆ “Returning headwater flows to Belle Meade”**

The group reviewed and discussed the issue paper on Belle Meade. Following are comments made by the group that have been incorporated into a revised version of the Belle Meade WatershEDITORIAL.

- \* The group discussed other studies and funding sources that overlap with one another in the Belle Meade area. They include the CERP Henderson Creek project, the CERP-authorized Southwest Florida Feasibility Study, and mitigation for onsite and off-site development activity.
- \* Mike Bauer emphasized that the new Belle Meade plan, and the watershEDITORIAL – can and should be used to inform and market the Belle Meade efforts.
- \* The role of modeling was discussed. Daryl raised the question of whether the storm-water modeling is adequate to answer all the questions. A Mike She model was not used to consider alternatives – but should it and how can it be used. Tad and Vicki informed the group of an estuary mixing model they are developing for downstream Rookery Bay, through USF. The model is being modified from an estuarine mixing model developed by Bob Weisberg for Tampa Bay, and it incorporates tides, evaporation, rainfall, and flow. Vicki McGee will send out Model report and circulate it once received.
- \* The role of historical salinities, salinity targets, and flow data crucial to better understanding the current state and desired condition were discussed, both with respect to Naples Bay and Rookery Bay. Diversion of flows down Henderson Creek was discussed. Tad indicated that proposed flows will help sustain middle flows, but extreme floods and droughts will likely not be as manageable to change.

- \* Alternative options for routing flow through Belle Meade were discussed, including routing water east down I-75 and the role that ASR may hold for storing excess flows. It's unclear how much water the canal could handle, under current conditions and with retrofits.
- \* Marketing plan was discussed. Ed Hanlon inquired about 6L agricultural folks were being involved. How can we work with growers to ensure best solutions? Appears to be no incentive for AG lands, but as land converts to development, flow ways will be addressed in the ERP applications and conservation easements.
- \* Tad emphasized that everything is a moving target. Naples Reserve is already being developed. Money allocated will go to implement elements Naples Reserve development. And other monies are also on the table, such as the \$6 million being earmarked for the CERP Henderson Creek project. How is that money best used to connect to the big sum of things?
- \* The group discussed how flows and project plans may impact panther and red-cockaded woodpecker populations.
- \* Perfect indicator, what county loses at flooding area ponded durations looked at 80-90
- \* South Belle Meade focus of project, modeling not flooding residential and water quality
- \* The group discussed if and how sheetflow can be re-established in the area, especially given existence of many inholders. Mike Duever suggested that strategic replumbing of I-75 canal might be required to keep sheetflow moving south. I-75 modifications are not a part of the Belle Meade stormwater plan.
- \* Mike Duever, Picayune Restoration can flood private land ownership. Currently drained Golden Gate system, west Picayune housing area. Inholding where Belle Meade cannot increase flooding, taking lands for mitigation, trade out plans, well lines, mile during wet season. Any part includes acquisition/easements, inholdings large, lots of incentives, mitigation.
- \* The group discussed the importance of not letting this plan or our efforts to connect the dots on it stay alive. We have to keep each other informed and make sure everyone in the community is moving together on this – in the regulatory community so they can be proactive and informed on what's at stake and how to steer mitigation moneys there.
- \* Collier County environmental group needs to be brought up to speed, with county stormwater. Collier County Environmental advisory committee, needs to be aware, maybe a good idea to present before council.

These comments are incorporated into a revised Watershed EDITORIAL.

### ◆ “Hydrologic monitoring across the Big Cypress”

The group reviewed and discussed the issue paper on hydrologic monitoring. Following are comments made by the group have been incorporated into a revised version of the hydrologic monitoring Watershed EDITORIAL.

- \* Bob emphasized that we in south Florida are fortunate to work in a data rich area, and that the technology, spatial coverage, and history of data available is among the best on the planet. The past few years has been a revolution in terms of the technology being employed to telemetrically transmit data to our fingertips. Bob stated that the District was taking the lead on this and really needs to be commended for it.
- \* The group discussed areas where telemetry could be added to existing stations with long periods of data. They include Camp Keais Strand at 846, OK Slough at 858 and OK Slough at SR29.
- \* The group discussed coverage of existing rainfall stations, and where new ones could be added, or where existing non-telemetered ones could be telemetered. Tad commented that rainfall can change dramatically near the coast, and that more stations along the coastal transect could enhance modeling efforts. Bob commented that the District also provides radar derived coverage for south Florida, which fills in those gaps. It's unclear to what degree that sort of information could be fed into modeling efforts.
- \* It was emphasized that so often we focus on data collection for historical purposes, but with the advent of telemetry we can blend the historical data with instantaneous data flowing for a particular event horizon.
- \* Vicki raised the topic of nutrient loading? To what degree can that type of monitoring be tracked in real time, or at least season by season. Bob commented that the Big Cypress Basin is working on a model that will handle real-time data, not only for optimizing system operations, but seeing problem areas. This sort of data would calculate flows, and may be able to derive nutrient loads, and/or combined with a model for doing so.
- \* Tim and Mac suggested that it is timely to take a comprehensive look at where and how we are monitoring, given the recent advent of telemetry, the new TMDLs, and the fact that southwest Florida isn't in the main CERP footprint that RECOVER is focusing on. We need to know who and what agency is doing what, how to store the data, and justification for it.
- \* Water quality is in the plan for Lely
- \* William Hilbrands shared that for any surface water site, the price to retrofit is not expensive – and has the advantage of fitting into the rest of the system.
- \* Mike and Tad led a discussion on the importance of knowing what the data will be used for, and not simply collecting data. Modelers

know where the holes are, and they are often not just the geographic gaps.

- \* David Ceilley commented that water quality data is missing an eco-hydrologic model, what does all this water mean ecologically? What is going on across the landscape? What is it going to do to RCW, exotic fishes, ecological effects, if we do what will the outcome be for the resident critters?
- \* HSIs were discussed. They are ecological assessments based on hydrologic model output, but they are not true ecological models. ATLSS models were also discussed. Are HSIs and ATLSS models what we need in terms of hydro-ecological models, or is there a next generation out there that provides a more dynamic tool for understanding the ecology end of the hydrologic equation?
- \* David Ceilley, discussed that an eco-hydrologic model, is field calibrated and is cost effective in monitoring. The critters help indicate the hydroperiod. By taking into consideration these hydro-trophic levels and the ecology of an area we can get a fuller hydrologic view.
- \* Ed Hanlon with TMDLs online there is more pressure for sampling, water indicators. Small business grants available—most new sensors deal with indirect measurements. Confirmation ASTM, make measure meaningful. Not validated, not under indicators, Info on sensor? Is it really measuring what they say they are?
- \* Daryl commented on the FWS refugia, and the fact that ecological monitoring is being drastically reduced
- \* Evapo-transpiration is a large hole in the system. 90% rainfall = 90% evapo-transpiration, how can we account for this in our modeling? How much water losing by evaporation in ponds, understanding this big hole in hydrology is important.
- \* Mike emphasized that telemetry great, but it is expensive. We should not view it at a barrier to collecting data and getting out in the field to collect and observe hydro-ecological processes. Mike alluded to the 1959 corkscrew system staff gage and rain stage gage which was hand collected for 13 years by Ed Carlson prior to Mike's arrival in 1973. That was 14 years of data without telemetry.
- \* Ed Hanlon commented that permit required monitoring may use equipment or standards that are sub-par for long-term use. It was also commented that surrogate parameters can often be used to monitor continuously at a cheaper cost than collecting actual targeted parameters. An example would be monitoring TDS to track phosphorus, the former of which would be collected by a hydro lab at a telemetered station.
- \* Ed Hanlon mentioned a website with access on web to 22 locations in South FL, Here is the link: <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- \* David, Daryl, and Jason led a discussion on the importance of using models to better understanding the ecology, and/or using

ecologic parameters to calibrate and feed into models. There was a concern that the Habitat Suitability Indices may not raise ecological criteria on par with hydrologic criteria, and that spanning that chasm between the hydrology and ecology is the next generation that we really need to cross and encourage.

## **5. Update on Web page Redesign**

- ◆ We are in the process of transitioning the web site into more of a community building tool. We will incorporate the weekly narrative with the hydrology data, but also create a forum of exchange where our partners in the watershed can post abstracts, issue papers, comments, news, etc.
- ◆ Brenda commented on the value of being able to retrieve archived narratives and incorporating them into the site.
- ◆ We met with the FGCU web team and will be making the transition over the summer

## **6. Other Watershed News**

- ◆ David Ceilley mentioned that the Coastal ecosystem division is developing a region wide South Florida Science Plan. We should forward any science plans, etc to their group.

## **7. Set next meeting date and adjourn meeting**

- ◆ The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 and everyone continued on to view the new resource management lab. Our next meeting will be Friday September 7, 2007, location to be determined.

## **8. Open House**

- ◆ The Open House was a success. The Big Cypress National Preserve staff dedicated their New Resource Management Field Laboratory and recognized the key partners in making this possible.

# Big Cypress Watersheds Restoration Coordination Team

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Friday, September 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes  
Meeting was held 9:30 – 12:30 at SFWMD Big Cypress Basin office

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM

### 2. Introductions of members

Members introduced themselves. In attendance were:

Joe Bozzo, FFWC

Vicki Mcgee RBNERR

Mac Hatcher, CCESD

Tim Howard, SFWMD

Brenda Brooks, CREW

Molly Meadows, SFWMD

Kirk Otto, Edison, FGCU

Tad Bartareau, RBNERR

Christina Gwaltney RBNERR

Katie Fuhr, City of Naples

Ananta Nath, SFWMD

Sarah Davis, FGCU

Ed Hanlon, UF/IFAS

Bob Sobczak, Big CypressNP

Jill Trubey, FWC-FWRI

Clarence Tears, SFWMD

Adrienne Ruga FWC-FWRI

- ◆ We reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. They were accepted. Ananta Nath highlighted that 50 real time telemetry stations were added in the area and there is a direct web link to the data.

### 3. South Florida's Watershed Journal Update

- ◆ Bob discussed the web site redesign and updated the group on the elements of the new integrated blog and watershed data celebrating and illuminating the hydrology of our watersheds. All the news that's wet we post. He would like to encourage others to include abstracts or papers they have written on related topics and ask members to consider becoming editors for different sections of the journal and increase collaboration. Brenda suggested we add a comment section, so users can post comments or questions. Tad suggested we add a science bibliography of things that have been reported

and perhaps some ecological notes or interesting observations of things going on in research (Tree frogs had two breeding events this year.).

- ◆ There are many opportunities to expand the south Florida Watershed journal online, Sarah and Bob will be working at integrating the news blog format with the FGCU site and integrate the site to be more user friendly and accessible to many different community members of our watersheds.
- ◆ Bob discussed the low levels of rainfall in southwest Florida. The Miami area had fairly consistent rainfall for June and July. Ananta mentioned that there is a severe drought issued in Lee and Collier county by the National Weather Service.

#### **4. WatershEDITORIAL – Group Review and Open Discussion**

##### **“Watershed Management Plans for Collier County” – Mac Hatcher**

- ◆ Mac Hatcher presented the Collier County Watershed Management Plans and discussed the processes of prioritization, evaluation and assessment. He also highlighted the schedule. The attached WatershEDITORIAL outlines the plans.

##### **“Research Projects of the Big Cypress Watersheds – Metadata Tool” - Jill Trubey <http://ocean.floridamarine.org/bcw/>**

- ◆ Jill Trubey presented the metadata tool, an online database of research in the Big Cypress Watersheds. Researchers are to log into the system and fill out the electronic form about their ongoing research. The records kept are data compliant. Jill showed the group how to access the online tool and handed out key word lists. She asked the group to review the key word lists and mark off keywords that were repetitive or unneeded. She urged the group to take a look at the site and update the metadata tool with their research

#### **5. Other Watershed News**

RRCT Brief Discussion and upcoming meeting – The next meeting for the RRCT is Thursday October 4, 2007.

#### **6. Set next meeting date and adjourn meeting**

- ◆ The next meeting will be Friday November 30, 2007, 9:30 – 12:30 at Big Cypress Basin office.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30

# Big Cypress Watersheds Restoration Coordination Team

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Friday, November 30, 2007 Meeting Minutes  
9:30 – 12:30

1. Welcome/Call to Order The meeting was opened at 9:30.
2. Introductions of members

In Attendance

Brenda Brooks, CREW Land and Water Trust

Joe Bozzo, FFWCC

Mac Hatcher, Collier County

Kirk Otto, Edison College and FGCU

Tad Bartareau RBNERR

Vicki McGee RBNERR

Ananta Nath SFWMD

Shawn Liston, Audubon

Bob Sobczak BCNP

Daryl Thomas USFWS

The minutes were reviewed from the last meeting and were accepted and approved. Ananta gave an update on the Meta data project – Jill Trubey is no longer in Florida, her replacement will have a survey form to fill out updates on research projects, Ananta will send this out.

### 3. South Florida's Watershed Journal Update

- ◆ Bob gave an update on the watershed journal. It is designed to create a forum of different aquatic professionals, connecting the dots to give a more holistic picture of our interconnected watershed and hydrologic systems. Bob showcased the different aspects of the website, watershed news, data dashboard, team pages, calendar of events and contributing editors Shawn and Tad.

- ◆ Bob opened the floor for discussion on how we can further contribute to this forum and keep the momentum going between meetings. Tad suggested the member list be updated. Bob showed the member page and how we can have bios available for each member on the page. Tad suggested adding links to the different agencies. Restoration notepad, Tad- Big Cypress Basin Area, Daryl, SWFL database. Having this information more accessible and available helps connect all the dots.
- ◆ Group agreed to send a bio and photo to Sarah to upload on the members page. Kirk Otto mentioned how this information is helpful with classes and a valuable educational component.
- ◆ Tad – Collier County Watershed Management Plan - Big thing, need more details, people waiting for details. Use web format to get word out, provide feedback, visuals what are basins, how does one get worked out.
- ◆ Mac suggested setting up a link to Collier County Watershed Management, Website invaluable and public input is very helpful to the plans.
- ◆ Daryl – Naples Daily News Blogs of the articles, can find inside scoop and links
- ◆ Front page narrative updated, once a week. Anytime blog updated, people notified.
- ◆ Roundtable, watershed editorials, have everyone write column or summary of activities, start with what projects each are working on.
- ◆ Ananta connecting to community, MAP, County watershed management plan, good turnout, 2010 deadline
- ◆ Hydrology – Lake O at two feet, Oil 85 million barrels/day, over year fill Lake O in a year, 2015 6 million acre feed. Data dashboard, temperature.
- ◆ The website builds a forum to connect the group with hydrologic issues, providing the whole picture of the connected watersheds.

#### 4. Watershed EDITORIAL – Presentation and Discussion - Comparative Studies of the Biology and Ecology of *Osteopilus septentrionalis* and *Hyla femoralis* Tad Bartareau, RBNERR

- ◆ Tad Bartareau gave an engaging and interesting presentation on his work with tree frogs. He shared his research of Cuban Treefrogs, *Osteopilus septentrionalis*, and their impact on native species. “Determining whether a particular species is declining or experiencing natural fluctuations requires effective inventory and monitoring methods for long-term population monitoring. In southwest Florida very little information exists on treefrog distribution, abundance, biology and ecology. This is unfortunate because this region is experiencing rapid land development that has led to significant loss of upland and wetland communities on which treefrogs depend. The establishment of invasive non-native biota in natural areas is considered a major environmental impact. The widespread distribution and high relative abundance of *O. septentrionalis* compared to *H. femoralis* is of concern. *Osteopilus septentrionalis* may have a number of impacts on this and other native treefrogs. Work is continuing on a georeferenced database using ArcView for mapping habitat types, assessing community condition, impact assessment, trends analysis, and strategic planning for resource management projects such as prescribed fire, hydrologic restoration, invasive plant and animal control (Bartareau 2006).”

#### 5. Other Watershed News

##### RRCT October meeting briefing and Working group presentation

- ◆ We discussed the feasibility study and the possibility of it being cut. Daryl gave an update with the feasibility study. The RRCT sent a letter and everything is back in order and intact with the SWFL feasibility study. Sub teams up to speed, projects completed. Stella model surface water where store moderate water, put projects into set.
- ◆ Ananta talked about Northern Everglades project, with state funding in place, but federal dollars decreasing. WARDA passed, next step is 2009 appropriations, Picayune, pumps to plug canals.
- ◆ Ananta to present SWFL watershed journal at American Society of Engineers, environmental water institute Water Congress in Honolulu in May
- ◆ Daryl – Restoration news, Southern CREW critical restoration project, 4,300 acres Lee/Collier line above Bonita Beach Road, 3000 acres acquired taken out birms. Funding issues, district imposing by 1000 acres in line with 951 extension. Reevaluate boundary modification.

#### 6. Next meeting Friday February 22, 2008 at Edison College