# Public Comments and Staff Responses Concerning Proposed Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems

Documents Received, Sent or Developed Following
Release of the July 15, 2012 Draft Reports on
Recommended Minimum Flows for the River Systems

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

October 18, 2012

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Brad Rimbey |
| **To:** | Brad - CRRC Rimbey |
| **Cc:** | mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith |
| **Subject:** | Chaz Headspring Restoration Project |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06:19 PM |
| **Attachments:** | Rejection_Letter.pdf |

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All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Whitey Markle |
| **To:** | Brad Rimbey |
| **Cc:** | Brad - CRRC Rimbey; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith |
| **Subject:** | Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 16, 2012 9:18:32 PM |

Brad:
How pathetic. How typical!
Whitey

On Mon, Jul 16, 2012 at 8:06 PM, Brad Rimbey <brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com> wrote:

> All,
>
> As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.
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>
> Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
> Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | hope |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith |
| **Subject:** | Thank You for Rejecting the Chassahowitzka Headspring Project as proposed. Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, July 17, 2012 1:15:00 AM |

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Hello All,

I am delighted that the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project is off the docket this year.

There is an active Manatee Mom and calf presently utilizing the main spring as refugia (and the poor little baby ALREADY has prop scars). Geeze....what's it going to take to give Chassahowitzka Manatees some legal protection and meaningful sanctuary here in Chassahowitzka?

I digress.

The more I researched the proposed Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration process, the more flawed and environmentally unsustainable it seemed.

Virtually ALL of the other water body restoration projects in the District have been successfully completed without the use of chemical additives like the "superfloc" polymer binding agent proposed for our environmentally sensitive Chassahowitzka headspring restoration.

While I have thus far been unable to find non-vendor reviews or environmental impact studies regarding Superfloc or similar coagulants, the concern expressed by potential landowners who had originally been willing to accept Chassahowitzka sediments/sludge, but were reticent upon reviewing potential heavy metals and contaminants that could potentially leach into their land and underlying aquifer, makes me wonder if it is largely the Superfloc or the sediments which pose the hazard. Either way, it seems that our fragile Chassahowitzka spring and its aquatic wildlife may be put at risk during the dredging and sediment reduction process. Someone else's land, aquifer, and wildlife may additionally be contaminated in the sludge's disposal.

Further, in discussing the larger proposed "3 Phase Plan" to restore the Chassahowitzka Springs and River, the three proposed steps seem "out of order" in the present proposed order which I understand to be:

1. Dredge Headspring;
2. Create settling ponds or natural habitat treatment areas to reduce toxic pollution and sediment before it reaches the main spring and river;
3. Stormwater Management Plan and re-engineering (to mitigate all of the existing drainage canals that basically take runoff from Hwy. 19 and surrounding roads and direct them, with virtually NO treatment, out to Chassahowitzka's main spring complex).

Would it not be more prudent to mitigate the polluting and sedimenting contributors FIRST? Wouldn't lasting restoration of the main spring be more viable and cost-effective *after* the majority of road pollutants, chemical contaminants and sediment contributors have been mitigated in an environmentally sustainable way?

Dredging the main spring without ending or mitigating many of the polluting and sedimenting contributors seems wasteful and unsustainable.

- While nutrient loading continues, and County & State aquatic plant management continues to pump toxic herbicides onto the resulting submerged aquatic plants, and said hazardous chemicals and decaying plant matter continues to flow untreated, daily, into the main spring;
- While untreated Stormwater runoff full of petrochemicals and heavy metals continues to flow from Hwy. 19 and area roadways into the Chassahowitzka springs complex;
- While water extraction permits continue to be granted in our spring-shed aquifer to placate greedy developers to our East and South;
- While golf-course and deed restricted communities (like Sugarmill Woods) are allowed to continue to use excessive amounts of fertilizer, herbicides, and WATER to keep their unsustainable, un-natural landscapes green;
- While the price of fresh water via Citrus County Utilities system is so unfairly distributed (with the poorest residents, in Chassahowitzka, paying 2.5 times the rate that water-guzzling wealthy communities, like Sugarmill Woods, are charged for water coming out of the SAME aquifer)

Until ALL of the above contributors to the pollution, sediment, nutrient-loading, and fresh water restricting elements are addressed,
REAL restoration to the Chassahowitzka Headspring and surrounding natural system seems unlikely.

THANK YOU, Anita Hoover, Philip Rhinesmith, and all of the conscientious Environmental Scientists and fiscal watchdogs at SWFWMD who reigned in a potentially wasteful and environmentally unsustainable project before it got underway.

Please also consider rejecting the proposed destruction of natural habitat to provide additional parking for the Chassahowitzka Campground and Boat Ramp. WE do NOT need more parking or impermeable surface in this extremely environmentally fragile and archeologically rich site. The increase in cost to park vehicles and trailers has already substantially reduced parking demand at the boat ramp. My husband and I recently launched our little skiff on the weekend with NO waiting, and there were AMPLE parking spaces available.

If ONE really wanted to procure more parking area for the Chassahowitzka Campground or Boat Ramp, there is an existing commercial property virtually right across the street from the Chassahowitzka campground, that already has more than sufficient paved area (and appropriate zoning) for parking. Why not preserve the environmentally rich SWFWMD parcel with its Grandfather Oaks and mature canopy, and simply purchase or lease parking space from the existing commercial property (the Betty Long site) virtually "across the street" from the Chassahowitzka Campground and Chassahowitzka Hotel? The Betty Long site also has tons of

waterfrontage, block cottages, and its own boat ramp which may offer additional opportunities for fully accessible camping, recreation, and natural habitat restoration.

The Chassahowitzka Spring-fed River, the Coastal Swamp, and the surrounding greater Chassahowitzka ecosystem remains one of Florida's and the Nature Coast's last, and perhaps most pristine (least developed) examples of an intact Florida Natural Habitat.

I appreciate the District's research and care in approaching all proposed restoration efforts in this rare, environmentally sensitive Chassahowitzka system.

It is only when State and municipal environmental agencies, regulatory bodies,and citizen-taxpayers work together that lasting and environmentally sustainable habitat restoration can be successful.

Thank you again for rejecting the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Plan as it was originally put out to bid. A more sustainable, least toxic approach is clearly the more logical and fiscally responsible way to go.

Concerned resident,
Hope Corona
hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Brad Rimbey
> To: Brad - CRRC Rimbey
> Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us ; Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us ; Veronica.Craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us ; Philip.Rhinesmith@swfwmd.state.fl.us
> Sent: Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
> Subject: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
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**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53:13 PM

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Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode. SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

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> Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
> Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
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> Mr. Rimbey,
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> The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.
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needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

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**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

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**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46:31 PM

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Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

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> Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> This project never received funding from the Legislature.
>
> The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).

The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Doug Leeper; Kevin J Grimsley
**Subject:** Unusually High Specific Conductance SE Fork
**Date:** Tuesday, June 26, 2012 8:21:44 AM
**Attachments:** June 23 24 SE Fork High Spec C data.xls

---

Doug and Kevin,
Certainly pleased there is some rainfall, but would have hoped for better control of the faucet by Mother Nature!

But, quickly to my point as I am sure you have many other things to deal with…and I do not expect an immediate answer to this.

In reviewing the data for the Homosassa Gage Sites yesterday I noticed something rather unusual…Specific Conductance readings at the SE Fork site have some high readings, so high it is difficult to attribute these to waters reaching the gage site by reverse flow from the Blue Water. As you will see in the attached spreadsheet the water from the main springs has lower readings. Although readings in the first highlighted timeframe are higher at the Halls River Site; for the second highlighted interval the readings at Halls River are also lower. It is a real stretch to believe flow from the springs is so low that waters from this section of the river *'not specifically Halls River but the main body getting reverse flow from MacRaes'* are reaching all the way to the SE Fork.

This same phenomena can also be seen in the readings from last night to now.

Any thoughts about how this is possible?

I am speculation that one of the vents in the SE Fork is discharging some high Specific Conductance water and further speculate it is the vent only some 20 feet upstream of the Fishbowl Bridge on the right bank. Flow from the various other springs in the SE Fork must be almost zero under these high stage conditions. I have previously commented/observed this referenced vent opening at high stage and the water discharge being similar to the main springs, but this is unusual.. Is this subterranean seawater ingress big time? I am further puzzled as to why run off waters are not reducing the figures; you can see where rainwater run off dropped the readings to the 400's.

Another point that I have been watching is the frequency of higher specific conductance readings at Halls River Gage. When this site first came on-line in March, the readings indicated water from the main springs and SE Fork were most likely the water passing the site under reverse flow. As time progressed there has been more water which appears to be from the reverse flow at MacRaes. The recent increases of water level in the aquifer (at Weeki Wachee) does not appear to have increased spring flow to a point that was in March. The graphs on sheet 3 of the attachment help illustrate.

Velocity data from the SE Fork meter may help understand this.

When you get a chance would appreciate your thoughts on these points/unusual situations. Great coffee break conversation!

I trust that you have personally weathered Debby without too many problems.

Martyn

**From:** Kevin J Grimsley
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Unusually High Specific Conductance SE Fork
**Date:** Sunday, July 01, 2012 11:50:16 AM

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Hi Martyn,

There's no way to say conclusively if the higher conductance water came from a spring vent without having a meter directly at the vent. However, it's much more likely that the higher conductance water came from the surface-water since that's obviously the "path of least resistance". It makes sense that this would be different at the main spring because there's much more flow from the spring and the conductance meter is closer to the vents.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

On Jun 26, 2012, at 8:21 AM, "Alan Martyn Johnson" <martynellijay@hotmail.com> wrote:

> Doug and Kevin,
> Certainly pleased there is some rainfall, but would have hoped for better control of the faucet by Mother Nature!
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<June 23 24 SE Fork High Spec C data.xls>

**From:** Doug Leeper

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| **Subject:** | Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update |
| **Date:** | Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46:00 PM |

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).

- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

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**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 10:58:06 AM

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Doug,

Please post the Appendices for these reports on SWFWMD's website. The posted reports are not complete without the Appendices.

Since it has taken over two years for SWFWMD's staff to produce the revised MFL reports for these rivers, it is grossly unfair to stipulate that the public has only two weeks to digest and comment on these revised reports. Many of us have jobs which prevent us from devoting 100% of our time to reviewing and commenting on SWFWMD's MFL proposals in the arbitrarily established time period which you suggest. In any event, the fact that SWFWMD's staff intends to present the revised MFL proposals to SWFWMD's GB one month after the public was notified of their completion makes it abundantly clear that SWFWMD's staff has no serious interest in considering further public input.

By copy of this email, I am inviting SWFWMD's GB members to come to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa to see the Rivers which they will be voting to protect or degrade in next month's GB meeting. I hope the GB members will take this offer seriously. I realize there are Sunshine Laws which prohibit group "meetings" of more than two GB members unless the meeting is publicly noticed. If necessary we can show you these Outstanding Florida Waters individually. It is important that all of SWFWMD's GB members know what is at stake before they vote. If any of SWFWMD's GB members are interested in seeing these rivers before you vote, please contact me ASAP. SWFWMD's staff has set the timeframe and time is short.

I am particularly interested in showing these rivers to the GB members who have seen them in the past. If you have not seen these rivers in recent years, you need to see them now. Anyone who claims that these Outstanding Florida Water have not already been "Significantly Harmed" needs a reality check.

Brad W. Rimbey, PE for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

cell 813-417-9453

> ----- Original Message -----
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lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses

are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on

fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).

- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272

352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
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Southwest Florida Water Management District
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Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
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352-796-7211, ext. 4272
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**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Fw: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 11:35:26 AM

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Ms. Craw,

Perhaps you did not receive this email. In any event, I have received no response. Please answer my questions.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Veronica Craw
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: 2buntings@comcast.net ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ;

rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

This project never received funding from the Legislature.

The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).

The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

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**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode.

SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Veronica Craw
To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********
Veronica Craw

Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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**From:** hope
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 1:44:14 AM

---

Hi Doug,

Could you send me 3 poster-size (large font) Notices (of Governing Board Meeting Date, Time, Location, and phone number / address / email to send comments regarding Chassahowitzka Minimum Flow) to put in the Chassahowitzka Community Bulleting Board for all those citizens in Chassahowitzka who do not have access to internet.

A basic, "what, when, where" type thing that lets the Community know that the District still intends to seriously reduce flow to our already ailing river, by 9%; and the dates/times/places where the meeting will be held, and a phone number for additional questions comments.

Citrus County made me the volunteer "custodian" of the Chassahowitzka community bulletin board at the Fire House, and gave me keys, but no money for ink, paper, printer, etc.....geeze. I don't know your public information officer, but would appreciate it if you ask him/her to please make up some "drive by and read" size notices to send me for the bulletin board.

I think SWFWMD should also post Notices in the Chassahowitzka Boat Ramp and Campground areas (District Owned Parcels where numerous Stakeholders frequent regularly).

My mailing address for the 3 Notices to put in the Chassahowitzka Community Bulletin Board is:
Hope Corona
10024 S. Riviera Pt.
Homosassa, FL 34448

Thank you,
hope

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell

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Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page.

Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).

- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Alan Martyn Johnson |
| **To:** | Kevin J Grimsley |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 30, 2012 8:28:30 AM |

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Kevin,
Sorry to trouble you again.

Some months ago I had used Monthly Discharge Data to derive some 5 year moving average discharges. For months where no data had been reported I avergaed between the adjacent months; not exactly scientific but it gave me a general picture. I would now like to better understand the blank fields in the monthly data.

The monthly discharge data shown on the Water Information web site are titled as Daily Mean data. I assume the monthly data is a simple arithmetic mean of the daily data. But, when discharge data missing e.g. for 2 hours, is a daily mean still calculated; or how much missing data before a daily mean is not calculated?

Guess that may not be the best way to ask my question as I am interested in the months that show as blank. So to put it another way, when the monthly data field is blank what are the criteria for it to be blank?

Kevin,
This is a general question and not associated with the SE Fork during the time velocity meter data has been collected once each hour; but having raised that, how is the data going to be handled at the end of the water year?

Martyn

**From:** Ron Miller
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Priscilla Watkins; Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman; Dan Hilliard
**Subject:** Fw: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:05:15 PM

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Hi Doug,

The Homosassa River Alliance agrees with Brad. The Appendices are missing and it is grossly unfair to give us only 2 weeks in August to respond. As you may guess many of our members are out of town in the middle of Summer. And believe it or not some of our folks live without the Internet.

Accordingly I would like to request:
1. Please make the appendices available.
2. Please move the Comment and Governing Board dates back one month... into Sept.
3. Please Provide 5 copies of the modified report to the Homosassa River Alliance and 5 copies to the Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee. We will pick up these copies as soon as possible at your office.

Thank You,
Ron Miller

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**Sent:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 10:58 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** judyw1@tampabay.rr.com ; dtharp@embarqmail.com ; senft1hp2u@aol.com ; todd@pressmaninc.com ; rsmaggard@gmail.com ; info@conservationfoundation.com ; hgramling@tbwg.org ; neilcombee@yahoo.com ; bkbeswick@aol.com ; margoh@medallionhome.com ; michael@2riversranch.net ; jadams@abbeyadams.com ; jclosshey@ideas-innovations.com ; Craig@sptimes.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Todd Kincaid ; bknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Doug,

Please post the Appendices for these reports on SWFWMD's website. The posted reports are not complete without the Appendices.

Since it has taken over two years for SWFWMD's staff to produce the revised MFL reports for these rivers, it is grossly unfair to stipulate that the public has only two weeks to digest and comment on these revised reports. Many of us have jobs which prevent us from devoting 100% of our time to reviewing and commenting on SWFWMD's MFL proposals in the arbitrarily established time period which you suggest. In any event, the fact that SWFWMD's staff intends to present the revised MFL proposals to SWFWMD's GB one month after the public was notified of their completion makes it abundantly clear that SWFWMD's staff has no serious interest in considering further public input.

By copy of this email, I am inviting SWFWMD's GB members to come to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa to see the Rivers which they will be voting to protect or degrade in next month's GB meeting. I hope the GB members will take this offer seriously. I realize there are Sunshine Laws

which prohibit group "meetings" of more than two GB members unless the meeting is publicly noticed. If necessary we can show you these Outstanding Florida Waters individually. It is important that all of SWFWMD's GB members know what is at stake before they vote. If any of SWFWMD's GB members are interested in seeing these rivers before you vote, please contact me ASAP. SWFWMD's staff has set the timeframe and time is short.

I am particularly interested in showing these rivers to the GB members who have seen them in the past. If you have not seen these rivers in recent years, you need to see them now. Anyone who claims that these Outstanding Florida Water have not already been "Significantly Harmed" needs a reality check.

Brad W. Rimbey, PE for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

cell 813-417-9453

> ----- Original Message -----
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Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal

impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).

- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting

agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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**From:** Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:52:35 PM

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Doug,

Just to be clear, can you give me the deadline to get comments back to you? Thanks very much!

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Refuge Manager
Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
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(P) 352-563-2088
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Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

**Doug Leeper**
**<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>**

07/27/2012 04:47 PM

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Subject Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently

no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
· Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
· Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River**

**System**

· Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
· Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
· Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
· Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
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IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"
**Subject:** RE: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:56:00 PM
**Attachments:** image003.png
image004.png

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Hi Boyd:

You can use the comments button on the web page through August 15, 2012. After that date and up to the Board meeting date, which is August 28, 2012, written comments should be submitted by letter or e-mail.

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**From:** Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:49 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Doug,

Just to be clear, can you give me the deadline to get comments back to you? Thanks very much!

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
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07/27/2012 04:47 PM

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cc

Subject Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
· Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14

through 11.18).

· Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.

· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).

· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).

· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).

· Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).

· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).

· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).

· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).

· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).

· Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).

· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)

· Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist

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**PHONE LOG**

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

**Issue:** Minimum flows development for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems.

**Caller:** Ann Hodgson, 813-220-1666

**District Representative:** Doug Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Water Resources Bureau

**Date:** July 30, 2012

**Notes:** Doug Leeper spoke with Ann Hodgson about major updates to the minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems by telephone on July 30, 2012.Ms. Hodgson offered the following suggestions regarding stakeholder interaction and the schedule for the minimum flows development process.

1. Allow 90 days (3 months) for stakeholder review of the updated reports and minimum flow recommendations. This should be a reasonable time-frame for review of the updates by all stakeholders, including agency staff who may have a difficult time compiling an agency opinion in a one month period.

2. Consider scheduling a public workshop to present and describe the minimum flow updates and to solicit additional public comment. Follow this meeting with a second public workshop a month later to address the District's response to stakeholder concerns.

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23:25 PM

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Doug,

Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther

(barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ;

lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

-

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Veronica Craw
**To:** Brad Rimbey
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 5:08:30 PM

---

Mr. Rimbey,

I apologize for the delayed response, I had several meetings last week that took me out of the office.

The original engineers dredging and disposal estimate provided in the Feasibility Study for the restoration project was between $147,282 and $285,189. However, that cost did not include several additional services (ex: polymer addition) that were determined to be needed during the design/permitting phase. The revised engineers estimate provided by MACTEC in May 2012 was $682,155 and included archaeological services, dewatering processes, etc. I think the $1.3M estimate stems from prebid meeting conversations however, I've not found documentation supporting that.

I am unable to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified bid responses. They are considered confidential until such time as the project is awarded or one year after originally received. This is done to protect the respondents and allow them to participate again in the competitive bid process. This is done pursuant to Section 119.071(1)(3), Florida Statute.

The District is pursuing this project as part of an overall springs restoration effort. We do not know if this project will result in an increase in the discharge from the main vent. The purpose of the project is to restore the benthic habitat to be suitable for recruitment of native vegetation which will, in turn, improve water quality/clarity.

Sincerely,
Veronica

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Veronica Craw
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-

properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: 2buntings@comcast.net ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com
> Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> This project never received funding from the Legislature.
>
> The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).
>
> The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode. SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw

To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really

pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 9:43:19 PM

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Ms. Craw,

Thank you again for your reply and the additional information.

I'm not really sure how the confidentiality of the two qualified bids meshes with Florida 119 FS "Public Records" but that seems ultimately irrelevant.

What is relevant is the fact that SWFWMD cannot assure Florida's taxpayers that the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project will do anything to restore any spring flow to the Chassahowitzka River. Please correct me if I am mistaken but it is my understanding that the Weeki Wachee and Homosassa River headspring restoration projects were complete failures. It is my understanding that any cosmetic restoration resultant from these projects was completely unnoticeable within one year of their completion. If the SWFWMD has any data which indicates that these projects restored any flow to Weeki Wachee or Homosassa after completion, I would like to receive that data.

Regarding SWFWMD's aspirations of restoration to the benthic habitat in Chassahowitzka's Headspring, please correct me if I am mistaken but it is my understanding that SWFWMD is currently proposing to destroy 15% of the benthic community in the Chassahowitzka River via spring flow reduction under the auspices of the MFL program.

While I would like to see the sandy bottom of Chassahowitzka's Headspring once more in my lifetime, I think the money for this project would be better spent pursuing alternative water supplies. The District should be focusing its energy and resources to pursing AWS's to reduce the Consumptive Use Permits which are currently being issued with complete indescression to any requestor in Chassahowitzka's Springshed. SWFWMD's continued issuance of these CUP's is killing this Outstanding Florida Water.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: Dan Hilliard ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; Brent Whitley ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper
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A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********
Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode. SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
> Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
> Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States

Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** croomwalker@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 10:19:22 AM

## Hi Lucille,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not lower the MFLs for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers -- both are suffering from extensive pollution due to many anthropogenic causes, and have lost their 1993 designation as Outstanding Florida Waters. I also urge you to consider the invitation from Citrus County Audubon and other environmental organizations for SWFWMD decision-makers to visit these rivers. Seeing the damage that has already been done to Florida's heritage would help bring understanding as to why we oppose the proposed change in MFLs. Thank you. Lucille Lane*

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** judyw1@tampabay.rr.com; dtharp@embargmail.com; senft1hp2u@aol.com; todd@pressmaninc.com; rsmaggard@gmail.com; info@conservationfoundation.com; hgramling@tbwg.org; neilcombee@yahoo.com; bkbeswick@aol.com; margoh@medallionhome.com; michael@2riversranch.net; jadams@abbeyadams.com; jclosshey@ideas-innovations.com; Craig@sptimes.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Todd Kincaid; bknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 10:58:06 AM

---

Doug,

Please post the Appendices for these reports on SWFWMD's website. The posted reports are not complete without the Appendices.

Since it has taken over two years for SWFWMD's staff to produce the revised MFL reports for these rivers, it is grossly unfair to stipulate that the public has only two weeks to digest and comment on these revised reports. Many of us have jobs which prevent us from devoting 100% of our time to reviewing and commenting on SWFWMD's MFL proposals in the arbitrarily established time period which you suggest. In any event, the fact that SWFWMD's staff intends to present the revised MFL proposals to SWFWMD's GB one month after the public was notified of their completion makes it abundantly clear that SWFWMD's staff has no serious interest in considering further public input.

By copy of this email, I am inviting SWFWMD's GB members to come to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa to see the Rivers which they will be voting to protect or degrade in next month's GB meeting. I hope the GB members will take this offer seriously. I realize there are Sunshine Laws which prohibit group "meetings" of more than two GB members unless the meeting is publicly noticed. If necessary we can show you these Outstanding Florida Waters individually. It is important that all of SWFWMD's GB members know what is at stake before they vote. If any of SWFWMD's GB members are interested in seeing these rivers before you vote, please contact me ASAP. SWFWMD's staff has set the timeframe and time is short.

I am particularly interested in showing these rivers to the GB members who have seen them in the past. If you have not seen these rivers in recent years, you need to see them now. Anyone who claims that these Outstanding Florida Water have not already been "Significantly Harmed" needs a reality check.

Brad W. Rimbey, PE for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

cell 813-417-9453

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle

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lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses

are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on

fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).

- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
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1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
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352-754-6885 (Fax)
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No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5146 - Release Date: 07/21/12

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**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Fw: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 11:35:26 AM

---

Ms. Craw,

Perhaps you did not receive this email. In any event, I have received no response. Please answer my questions.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Veronica Craw
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: 2buntings@comcast.net ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ;

rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

This project never received funding from the Legislature.

The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).

The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode.

SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Veronica Craw
To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********
Veronica Craw

Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
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352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

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**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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**From:** hope
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 1:44:14 AM

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Hi Doug,

Could you send me 3 poster-size (large font) Notices (of Governing Board Meeting Date, Time, Location, and phone number / address / email to send comments regarding Chassahowitzka Minimum Flow) to put in the Chassahowitzka Community Bulleting Board for all those citizens in Chassahowitzka who do not have access to internet.

A basic, "what, when, where" type thing that lets the Community know that the District still intends to seriously reduce flow to our already ailing river, by 9%; and the dates/times/places where the meeting will be held, and a phone number for additional questions comments.

Citrus County made me the volunteer "custodian" of the Chassahowitzka community bulletin board at the Fire House, and gave me keys, but no money for ink, paper, printer, etc.....geeze. I don't know your public information officer, but would appreciate it if you ask him/her to please make up some "drive by and read" size notices to send me for the bulletin board.

I think SWFWMD should also post Notices in the Chassahowitzka Boat Ramp and Campground areas (District Owned Parcels where numerous Stakeholders frequent regularly).

My mailing address for the 3 Notices to put in the Chassahowitzka Community Bulletin Board is:
Hope Corona
10024 S. Riviera Pt.
Homosassa, FL 34448

Thank you,
hope

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell

(Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ;

studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page.

Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).

- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Gus Krayer"
**Subject:** RE: Request for email list inclusion
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 7:11:00 AM

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Mr. Krayer:

Thank you for your interest in the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. I have added you to my Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels mailing list per your request.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Gus Krayer [mailto:guskrayer@gmail.com]
**Sent:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 3:50 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Request for email list inclusion

Please include me in future emails to interested parties:

g.krayer@ieee.org

Thank you.

***May God bless you, & may God bless America!***

***Gus Krayer, Chairman***
***Citrus County Council's***
***Environment & Natural Resources Cmte.***

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Alan Martyn Johnson |
| **To:** | Kevin J Grimsley |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 30, 2012 8:28:30 AM |

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Kevin,
Sorry to trouble you again.

Some months ago I had used Monthly Discharge Data to derive some 5 year moving average discharges. For months where no data had been reported I avergaed between the adjacent months; not exactly scientific but it gave me a general picture. I would now like to better understand the blank fields in the monthly data.

The monthly discharge data shown on the Water Information web site are titled as Daily Mean data. I assume the monthly data is a simple arithmetic mean of the daily data. But, when discharge data missing e.g. for 2 hours, is a daily mean still calculated; or how much missing data before a daily mean is not calculated?

Guess that may not be the best way to ask my question as I am interested in the months that show as blank. So to put it another way, when the monthly data field is blank what are the criteria for it to be blank?

Kevin,
This is a general question and not associated with the SE Fork during the time velocity meter data has been collected once each hour; but having raised that, how is the data going to be handled at the end of the water year?

Martyn

**From:** Ron Miller
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Priscilla Watkins; Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman; Dan Hilliard
**Subject:** Fw: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:05:15 PM

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Hi Doug,

The Homosassa River Alliance agrees with Brad. The Appendices are missing and it is grossly unfair to give us only 2 weeks in August to respond. As you may guess many of our members are out of town in the middle of Summer. And believe it or not some of our folks live without the Internet.

Accordingly I would like to request:
1. Please make the appendices available.
2. Please move the Comment and Governing Board dates back one month... into Sept.
3. Please Provide 5 copies of the modified report to the Homosassa River Alliance and 5 copies to the Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee. We will pick up these copies as soon as possible at your office.

Thank You,
Ron Miller

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**Sent:** Saturday, July 28, 2012 10:58 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** judyw1@tampabay.rr.com ; dtharp@embarqmail.com ; senft1hp2u@aol.com ; todd@pressmaninc.com ; rsmaggard@gmail.com ; info@conservationfoundation.com ; hgramling@tbwg.org ; neilcombee@yahoo.com ; bkbeswick@aol.com ; margoh@medallionhome.com ; michael@2riversranch.net ; jadams@abbeyadams.com ; jclosshey@ideas-innovations.com ; Craig@sptimes.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Todd Kincaid ; bknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Doug,

Please post the Appendices for these reports on SWFWMD's website. The posted reports are not complete without the Appendices.

Since it has taken over two years for SWFWMD's staff to produce the revised MFL reports for these rivers, it is grossly unfair to stipulate that the public has only two weeks to digest and comment on these revised reports. Many of us have jobs which prevent us from devoting 100% of our time to reviewing and commenting on SWFWMD's MFL proposals in the arbitrarily established time period which you suggest. In any event, the fact that SWFWMD's staff intends to present the revised MFL proposals to SWFWMD's GB one month after the public was notified of their completion makes it abundantly clear that SWFWMD's staff has no serious interest in considering further public input.

By copy of this email, I am inviting SWFWMD's GB members to come to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa to see the Rivers which they will be voting to protect or degrade in next month's GB meeting. I hope the GB members will take this offer seriously. I realize there are Sunshine Laws

which prohibit group "meetings" of more than two GB members unless the meeting is publicly noticed. If necessary we can show you these Outstanding Florida Waters individually. It is important that all of SWFWMD's GB members know what is at stake before they vote. If any of SWFWMD's GB members are interested in seeing these rivers before you vote, please contact me ASAP. SWFWMD's staff has set the timeframe and time is short.

I am particularly interested in showing these rivers to the GB members who have seen them in the past. If you have not seen these rivers in recent years, you need to see them now. Anyone who claims that these Outstanding Florida Water have not already been "Significantly Harmed" needs a reality check.

Brad W. Rimbey, PE for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

cell 813-417-9453

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David

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Sent: Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal

impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).

- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting

agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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**From:** Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:52:35 PM

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Doug,

Just to be clear, can you give me the deadline to get comments back to you? Thanks very much!

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Refuge Manager
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(P) 352-563-2088
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Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

**Doug Leeper**
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07/27/2012 04:47 PM

To"Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com)" <grubman1@gmail.com>, "Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us)" <bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us>, "Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com)" <bill.pouder@myfwc.com>, "Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov)" <Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>, "Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com)" <BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com>, "Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com)" <brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com>, "Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us)" <abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us>, "Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com)" <Dennis3ds@aol.com>, "Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov)" <administration@inverness-fl.gov>, "Greenwood, Kathleen" <Kathleen.Greenwood@dep.state.fl.us>, Helen Spive <manatees2@gmail.com>, "Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net)" <2buntings@comcast.net>, "Hoehn, Ted" <ted.hoehn@MyFWC.com>, "Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com)" <hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com>, "Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com)" <jfarley682@aol.com>, "Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org)" <ktripp@savethemanatee.org>, "Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org)" <norman@amyhrf.org>, "Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us)" <rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us>, "Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov)" <rkane@usgs.gov>, "Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us)" <rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us>, "Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com)" <rmille76@tampabay.rr.com>, "Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com)" <cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com>, "Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com)" <jsullivan@carltonfields.com>, "Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us)" <Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us>, "Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com)" <whmarkle@gmail.com>, " (janicehowie@aol.com)" <janicehowie@aol.com>, Abdon Sidibie

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cc

Subject Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently

no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
· Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
· Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River**

**System**

· Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
· Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
· Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
· Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"
**Subject:** RE: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:56:00 PM
**Attachments:** image003.png
image004.png

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Hi Boyd:

You can use the comments button on the web page through August 15, 2012. After that date and up to the Board meeting date, which is August 28, 2012, written comments should be submitted by letter or e-mail.

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**From:** Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 12:49 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Doug,

Just to be clear, can you give me the deadline to get comments back to you? Thanks very much!

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Refuge Manager
Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge Complex
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(F) 352-795-7961
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**Doug Leeper**
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07/27/2012 04:47 PM

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cc

Subject Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
· Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14

through 11.18).

· Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.

· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).

· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).

· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).

· Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).

· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).

· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).

· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).

· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).

· Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).

· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)

· Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist

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Southwest Florida Water Management District
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**From:** 2buntings
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 2:09:54 PM

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Good golly Ms. Molly.....my download digits are sore!

Thanks for putting that up though.

Dan

PS: Lawyers: They don't think lawyer jokes are funny and the rest of us don't think they're jokes.

On 7/30/2012 12:16 PM, Doug Leeper wrote:

> Greetings:
>
> I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:
>
> http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php
>
> Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.
>
> Douglas A. Leeper
> Chief Environmental Scientist
> Water Resources Bureau
> Southwest Florida Water Management District
> 2379 Broad Street
> Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
> 1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
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> 352-754-6885 (Fax)
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>
> IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

--
Dan Hilliard
Director
W.A.R. Inc.(501.C3)
352/447-5434
www.warinconline.com

**From:** chris safos
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 2:21:41 PM

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thank you for the information.

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace,

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Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
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**PHONE LOG**

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

**Issue:** Minimum flows development for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems.

**Caller:** Ann Hodgson, 813-220-1666

**District Representative:** Doug Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Water Resources Bureau

**Date:** July 30, 2012

**Notes:** Doug Leeper spoke with Ann Hodgson about major updates to the minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems by telephone on July 30, 2012.Ms. Hodgson offered the following suggestions regarding stakeholder interaction and the schedule for the minimum flows development process.

1. Allow 90 days (3 months) for stakeholder review of the updated reports and minimum flow recommendations. This should be a reasonable time-frame for review of the updates by all stakeholders, including agency staff who may have a difficult time compiling an agency opinion in a one month period.

2. Consider scheduling a public workshop to present and describe the minimum flow updates and to solicit additional public comment. Follow this meeting with a second public workshop a month later to address the District's response to stakeholder concerns.

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23:25 PM

---

Doug,

Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther

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Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

-

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | hope |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | GB Meeting on Chassahowitzka & Homosassa MFL definitely needs to be in Citrus or Hernando County |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 30, 2012 5:06:58 PM |

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HI Doug,

We just received the forwarded email from Brad regarding your conversation about the proposed Governing Board meeting dates to discuss the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs.

In my opinion:

The Governing Board Meeting regarding the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River MFLs **definitely** needs to be in the affected county and aquifer region (Citrus - Hernando Nature Coast area), thus, Lecanto Government Complex or Brooksville (SWFWMD Headquarters).

A public forum of this magnitude (like a wake for a beloved - or a discussion of how you plan to execute/kill/destroy the last of an endangered species - something so rare and irreplaceable as one of Florida's most pristine and least developed spring-fed River ecosystem) should be in a Nature Coast location that can handle the crowds of concerned citizens, and is not a burdensome driving distance (or expensive public transportation commute) for the citizens and stakeholders most affected.

Per the forwarded email I received from Brad, it looks like the next available Brooksville meeting will be in December?

Please let me know when you guys have firmed up the date so I can update the Blog and Community Bulletin Boards.

Thank you,
Hope Corona
hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com

**From:** Veronica Craw
**To:** Brad Rimbey
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 5:08:30 PM

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Mr. Rimbey,

I apologize for the delayed response, I had several meetings last week that took me out of the office.

The original engineers dredging and disposal estimate provided in the Feasibility Study for the restoration project was between $147,282 and $285,189. However, that cost did not include several additional services (ex: polymer addition) that were determined to be needed during the design/permitting phase. The revised engineers estimate provided by MACTEC in May 2012 was $682,155 and included archaeological services, dewatering processes, etc. I think the $1.3M estimate stems from prebid meeting conversations however, I've not found documentation supporting that.

I am unable to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified bid responses. They are considered confidential until such time as the project is awarded or one year after originally received. This is done to protect the respondents and allow them to participate again in the competitive bid process. This is done pursuant to Section 119.071(1)(3), Florida Statute.

The District is pursuing this project as part of an overall springs restoration effort. We do not know if this project will result in an increase in the discharge from the main vent. The purpose of the project is to restore the benthic habitat to be suitable for recruitment of native vegetation which will, in turn, improve water quality/clarity.

Sincerely,
Veronica

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
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Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Veronica Craw
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-

properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: 2buntings@comcast.net ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com
> Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> This project never received funding from the Legislature.
>
> The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).
>
> The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

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**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode. SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw

To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really

pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | cathyharrelson@gmail.com on behalf of Cathy Harrelson |
| **To:** | Brad Rimbey |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 30, 2012 5:12:40 PM |

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Doug,
I agree with Brad that the meeting should be held in proximity to the affected locations, although I believe those in the Tampa Bay area should be made more aware of what is happening with our springs and springsheds. It looks like the December meeting in Brooksville makes the most sense. Likewise, an interim workshop would generate additional public education and comment.

Thank you,

*Cathy Harrelson*
**Florida Organizer**

**Gulf Restoration Network**
**cathy@healthygulf.org**

**727-415-8805**

**http://healthygulf.org/**

On Mon, Jul 30, 2012 at 4:23 PM, Brad Rimbey <BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com> wrote:

> Doug,
>
> Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.
>
> For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.
>
> Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB

on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos

(Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the “Appendix” column for each

system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper

Chief Environmental Scientist

Water Resources Bureau

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)

352-796-7211, ext. 4272

352-754-6885 (Fax)

doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Jos Tar
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 5:43:20 PM

---

thank you, Doug

--- On **Mon, 7/30/12, Doug Leeper** *<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>* wrote:

> From: Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
> Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
> To: "Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com)" <grubman1@gmail.com>, "Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us)" <bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us>, "Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com)" <bill.pouder@myfwc.com>, "Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov)" <Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>, "Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com)" <BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com>, "Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com)" <brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com>, "Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us)" <abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us>, "Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com)" <Dennis3ds@aol.com>, "Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov)" <administration@inverness-fl.gov>, "Greenwood, Kathleen" <Kathleen.Greenwood@dep.state.fl.us>, "Helen Spive" <manatees2@gmail.com>, "Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net)" <2buntings@comcast.net>, "Hoehn, Ted" <ted.hoehn@MyFWC.com>, "Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com)" <hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com>, "Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com)" <jfarley682@aol.com>, "Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org)" <ktripp@savethemanatee.org>, "Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org)" <norman@amyhrf.org>, "Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us)" <rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us>, "Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov)" <rkane@usgs.gov>, "Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us)" <rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us>, "Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com)" <rmille76@tampabay.rr.com>, "Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com)" <cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com>, "Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com)" <jsullivan@carltonfields.com>, "Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us)" <Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us>, "Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com)" <whmarkle@gmail.com>, " (janicehowie@aol.com)" <janicehowie@aol.com>, "Abdon Sidibie" <asidibe@chronicleonline.com>, "Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com)" <aamcpherson@msn.com>, "Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com)" <ahodgson@gmail.com>, "Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org)" <ahodgson@audubon.org>, "Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com)" <bfberauer@aol.com>, "Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com)" <boverly@tampabay.rr.com>, "Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com)" <wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com>, "Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com)" <Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com>, "Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com)" <brack154@msn.com>, "Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com)" <thebabesmimi@gmail.com>, "Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net)" <fcnwr@atlantic.net>, "Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov)" <dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov>, "Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com)" <katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com>, "Chris Safos

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Date: Monday, July 30, 2012, 4:16 PM

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the “Appendix” column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper

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**From:** Jos Tar
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 5:46:44 PM

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thank you for this information Doug,well done---jct

--- On **Fri, 7/27/12, Doug Leeper** *<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>* wrote:

> From: Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
> Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
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Date: Friday, July 27, 2012, 8:46 PM

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "...the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow  additional reductions of 8% for the

Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.

- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).

- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).

- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).

- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).

- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).

- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).

- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).

- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).

- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).

- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).

- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

## Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper

Chief Environmental Scientist

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Andy & Terri Auner |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | "Brad Rimbey" |
| **Subject:** | MFL Input Meeting |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 30, 2012 5:53:03 PM |

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Mr. Leeper,

In order to allow the residents of Citrus and Hernando Counties to attend, please choose a site that is somewhere in these two counties.

I would hope and guess the attendance will be high, so perhaps a large enough place, such as one of the Auditoriums or at Central Florida College in Lecanto.
Also perhaps pick a date separate from a regular SWFWMD meeting and allocate all the time to this issue.

Thank You,

Andy & Terri Auner
Old Homosassa and Weeki Wachee

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | 2buntings |
| **To:** | Brad Rimbey |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper; Steve Edmonds |
| **Subject:** | Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports |
| **Date:** | Monday, July 30, 2012 6:50:03 PM |

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Wow, this thing goes in more directions than a 3 legged cat chasing a mouse on a pogo stick.

Doug,

In my occasionally humble opinion, a GB hearing of this matter in venues other than Brooksville would be viewed as a District duck 'n cover maneuver by the public/stakeholders. Reality is not the issue here, but rather perception. I do not know for certain that the attention given to the Springs Coast MFL by the public has set any records, but it has at least garnered a lot of focus and precipitated a tremendous amount of energy expenditure on the part of the stakeholders and subsequently the District Staff. Though perhaps tedious and even "painful" at times, the end product will benefit.

The input provided by WAR in this affair was prompted in large part by our continuing involvement in the review for the Withlacoochee River. Though our participation has been tempered by that exercise we find common elements in these processes with which our membership has substantial concerns. It has been a long road to be sure, but it is far from over.

I emailed Brad earlier today indicating that WAR would meet the then existing deadline for comments on this process. Given the file sizes of the recommendations for the Chaz and Homosassa Rivers and (psychotic giggle) the Appendices, I had no doubt when I forwarded such input that it would be far short of the standard we try to meet in public participation for such affairs. Digesting the recommendations and many appendices in two weeks is a tall order, even for one talented at slight of hand. I'm not, but I know a few good jokes.

End of the day we will abide by the District's decision on this, but I would recommend Brooksville for the GB hearing and if that takes it to December, so be it.

Tampa has but two redeeming virtues from where I sit. One is Bern's Steakhouse and the other is the expressway network which allows quick exit to the north.

Best Regards,

Dan

On 7/30/2012 4:23 PM, Brad Rimbey wrote:

> Doug,
>
> Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry

Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ;

crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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--
Dan Hilliard
Director
W.A.R. Inc.(501.C3)
352/447-5434
www.warinconline.com

**From:** Elaine Moore
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** mtg on MFLs
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 6:54:03 PM

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Please postpone the SWFWMD GB mtg until December in Brooksville. Also please hold a MFL workshop in Lecanto before then. Thanks.

*Elaine B. Moore*
**Moore & Moore Realty, Inc.**
**dba Chassahowitzka River Campground**
**9820 W. Yulee Drive**
**Homosassa, FL 34448**
**800 660-8850 352 621-3004**

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2012 9:43:19 PM

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Ms. Craw,

Thank you again for your reply and the additional information.

I'm not really sure how the confidentiality of the two qualified bids meshes with Florida 119 FS "Public Records" but that seems ultimately irrelevant.

What is relevant is the fact that SWFWMD cannot assure Florida's taxpayers that the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project will do anything to restore any spring flow to the Chassahowitzka River. Please correct me if I am mistaken but it is my understanding that the Weeki Wachee and Homosassa River headspring restoration projects were complete failures. It is my understanding that any cosmetic restoration resultant from these projects was completely unnoticeable within one year of their completion. If the SWFWMD has any data which indicates that these projects restored any flow to Weeki Wachee or Homosassa after completion, I would like to receive that data.

Regarding SWFWMD's aspirations of restoration to the benthic habitat in Chassahowitzka's Headspring, please correct me if I am mistaken but it is my understanding that SWFWMD is currently proposing to destroy 15% of the benthic community in the Chassahowitzka River via spring flow reduction under the auspices of the MFL program.

While I would like to see the sandy bottom of Chassahowitzka's Headspring once more in my lifetime, I think the money for this project would be better spent pursuing alternative water supplies. The District should be focusing its energy and resources to pursing AWS's to reduce the Consumptive Use Permits which are currently being issued with complete indescression to any requestor in Chassahowitzka's Springshed. SWFWMD's continued issuance of these CUP's is killing this Outstanding Florida Water.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: Dan Hilliard ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; Brent Whitley ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper
> Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 5:08 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> I apologize for the delayed response, I had several meetings last week that took me out of the office.
>
> The original engineers dredging and disposal estimate provided in the Feasibility Study for the restoration project was between $147,282 and $285,189. However, that cost did not include several additional services (ex: polymer addition) that were determined to be needed during the

design/permitting phase. The revised engineers estimate provided by MACTEC in May 2012 was $682,155 and included archaeological services, dewatering processes, etc. I think the $1.3M estimate stems from prebid meeting conversations however, I've not found documentation supporting that.

I am unable to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified bid responses. They are considered confidential until such time as the project is awarded or one year after originally received. This is done to protect the respondents and allow them to participate again in the competitive bid process. This is done pursuant to Section 119.071(1)(3), Florida Statute.

The District is pursuing this project as part of an overall springs restoration effort. We do not know if this project will result in an increase in the discharge from the main vent. The purpose of the project is to restore the benthic habitat to be suitable for recruitment of native vegetation which will, in turn, improve water quality/clarity.

Sincerely,
Veronica

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Veronica Craw
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Veronica Craw
To: Brad Rimbey
Cc: 2buntings@comcast.net ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

This project never received funding from the Legislature.

The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).

The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********
Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode. SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
> Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
> Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States

Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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**From:** Bob Knight
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 8:20:06 AM

---

# Doug

# Thank you for sending this information. Please keep me in the loop concerning any board meetings for discussion or approval of these MFLs.

# Best wishes,

# Bob

---

**From:** Doug Leeper [mailto:Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us]
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2012 4:46 PM
**To:** Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com); Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us); Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com); Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov); Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com); Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com); Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us); Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com); Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov); Greenwood, Kathleen; Helen Spive; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net); Hoehn, Ted; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com); Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com); Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org); Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org); Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us); Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov); Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us); Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com); Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com); Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com); Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us); Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com); (janicehowie@aol.com); Abdon Sidibie; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com); Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com); Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org); Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com); Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com); Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com); Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com); Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com); Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com); Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net); Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov); Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com); Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com); Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com); Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com); Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com); Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com); Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com); Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com); Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com); Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com); George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com); George McClog (classof47@gmail.com); Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com); Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com); Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us); jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net); Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com); Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com); Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com); Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov); Joe Calamari; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com); John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com); Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net); Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com); Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org); Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com); Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com); Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com); Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com); Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net); Amber Breland; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org); Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us); Ben Weiss; Beth Hovinde; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us); Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org); Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com); Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us); Darrell Snedecor; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us); David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov); Don Wright (wright@sura.org); Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov); Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com); Eric Nagid

(eric.nagid@MyFWC.com); FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com); J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us); Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us); Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us); Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov); Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com); Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov); Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov); Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net); Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us); Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov); Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com); Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com); Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us); Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us); Tracy Colson; Wallace, Traci; Adkins, Jim; Bitter, Jim; Bryant, Richard; Cantero, Vince; Carpenter, Paul; Cheek, Ken; Daniels, Chase; Dueker, Duane; Gordon, Lisa-Perras; Gramling, Hugh; Harrelson, Cathy; Hubbell, Pete; Johnson, Eric; Johnson, Martyn; Keim, Robert; Kincaid, Todd; Kline, Allen; Knight, Bob; Knudson, Ross; Overa, Tom; Owen, Rick; Parrow, Liz; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com); Rusnak, Teddi; Tarochinoe, Joseph; Watkins, Priscilla; Watrous, Russell; Weber, Ken; Wilson, Roger; WRWSA; aquahab@gmail.com; bocacatlover@gmail.com; bruceseaman@zoho.com; btrfly21@msn.com; casabianca@live.com; celesteas@gmail.com; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com; citizen@fsmail.net; dancross@bellsouth.net; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com; ecocosm@bellsouth.net; egarvett@gmail.com; gmorotti@gmail.com; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com; Gulf Restoration Network; heylady1948@yahoo.com; jjinabnw@att.net; jumby8@yahoo.com; karensmith187@gmail.com; licy75@aol.com; linda@perry.net; llbalaw@gmail.com; mccunesfla@aol.com; mejides@yahoo.com; mshargel@gmail.com; mwalker13fr@gmail.com; pete22roc@aol.com; prunemstr@aol.com; rebeccaruby@msn.com; riverguide2000@yahoo.com; robertadever@yahoo.com; robsand@bellsouth.net; ronm430@aol.com; rrriley71@att.net; rst333@hotmail.com; salleeba@me.com; ssiegmann@gmail.com; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org; sunpreston@gmail.com; sunwrent@aol.com; tonytke@yahoo.com; warrior_red@hotmail.com; zeroggirl@gmail.com; ahlers.karen@gmail.com; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com; cattleya@comcast.net; dan-lesley@att.net; detororachel@yahoo.com; gunnhonican@aol.com; jackyboy86@gmail.com; jehallh20@aol.com; jimbrunton@yahoo.com; kbolomey@aol.com; l.j.travers@gmail.com; lazygin@bellsouth.net; lfurgal@yahoo.com; lrdevine@yahoo.com; lrpm2@yahoo.com; lrpm22@gmail.com; meem4822@aol.com; melissa.allen@hotmail.com; missyno@bellsouth.net; obyrnen@bellsouth.net; pjtpowers@hotmail.com; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com; rfay808700@aol.com; rhinopias@comcast.net; scott.logan@aon.com; segnbora@gmail.com; snorklmike@yahoo.com; studio8@infionline.net; tabdolphins@yahoo.com; tno2007@aol.com; vaughan@fireflyclay.com; youelyoga@gmail.com; ziffel1@bellsouth.net; aairis@aol.com; babij204@msn.com; ban260zz@yahoo.com; bv@wvmlaw.com; crmcglone@moose-mail.com; dirgis3@aol.com; dougpowless@hotmail.com; facwetkat@hotmail.com; faithoogs@aol.com; firewaterair@gmail.com; gomerlu@yahoo.com; jacketchmson@hotmail.com; jnovotny@comcast.net; jrzjr@yahoo.com; keth@awakening-healing.com; lbedinger@yahoo.com; long5892@bellsouth.net; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net; masonfamily@centurylink.net; morgan@cc-events.org; navistar@wildmail.com; parneixr@cfl.rr.com; quehoraes7@aol.com; rantala.mervi@gmail.com; robin@greenerpixels.com; saralee.lem@gmail.com; scooke1107@hotmail.com; segocl@aol.com; sharonbrich@yahoo.com; skeiser@dadeschools.net; slnofear@aol.com; tcglover58@hotmail.com; tcsmith57@hotmail.com; terry@awakening-healing.com; treehugger52768@gmail.com; vinnymullins@live.com
**Subject:** Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8, Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are

97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**

*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).

- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
- Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
- Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

- Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
- Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
- Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
- Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
- Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
- Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
- Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
- Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
- Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
- Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
- Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
- Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the

following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** MAD MAX
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 8:28:02 AM

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I still feel it is immoral and Not cool to send Other folks email addresses out to EVeryone. Man dude.. ur list is over 50! Doesn]t anyone else complain?

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** croomwalker@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 10:19:22 AM

## Hi Lucille,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not lower the MFLs for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers -- both are suffering from extensive pollution due to many anthropogenic causes, and have lost their 1993 designation as Outstanding Florida Waters. I also urge you to consider the invitation from Citrus County Audubon and other environmental organizations for SWFWMD decision-makers to visit these rivers. Seeing the damage that has already been done to Florida's heritage would help bring understanding as to why we oppose the proposed change in MFLs. Thank you. Lucille Lane*

**From:** Beverly Overa
**To:** "Brad Rimbey"; Veronica Craw
**Cc:** "Dan Hilliard"; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; "Brent Whitley"; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 11:02:34 AM

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Brad,

Thank you for your tenacity in understanding and furthering this issue. The BoCC's refusal to take a stand for our waterways will surely destroy the very ecosystem that makes our County so desirable to visitors and new retirees who seek escape and solace from the results of the timidity, incompetence and greed of their leaders.

Dr. K.C. Nayfield framed the opinion of many, if not most, people when he wrote in the July 29 Chronicle piece, "I have no problems with people making money. I do have a problem with people making huge profits at the expense of the environment or my quality of life."

Quality of life – it does mean different things to different people, but water is basic, not just quantity, but quality. Just ask the folks in Cedar Key whose faucets deliver undrinkable salt water. No gardening now, unless they have roof-fed cisterns for the rainwater like my family did when I was young. And property values? Well yes, it is nice to live by the sea, but not when it's coming out of your faucets.

You and other concerned, very well informed and educated citizens made an effort (at their own expense) to educate the BoCC on the flawed science being used to defend the MFL reductions – to no avail. Yes, Citrus County is open for business, but it must be only new businesses they are interested in, not the multi-million dollar tourist industry that has sustained us during this economic downturn.

So look for an Adena Ranch or something like it soon – slaughterhouse or just more houses and golf courses. The 1% of wealth will come to take the remainder of the 1% of fresh, potable water.

Beverly Overa
boverly@tampabay.rr.com

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**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 9:43 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** Dan Hilliard; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; Brent Whitley; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you again for your reply and the additional information.

I'm not really sure how the confidentiality of the two qualified bids meshes with Florida 119 FS "Public Records" but that seems ultimately irrelevant.

What is relevant is the fact that SWFWMD cannot assure Florida's taxpayers that the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project will do anything to restore any spring flow to the Chassahowitzka River. Please correct me if I am mistaken but it is my understanding that the Weeki Wachee and Homosassa River headspring restoration projects were complete failures. It is my understanding that any cosmetic restoration resultant from these projects was completely unnoticeable within one year of their completion. If the SWFWMD has any data which indicates that these projects restored any flow to Weeki Wachee or Homosassa after completion, I would like to receive that data.

Regarding SWFWMD's aspirations of restoration to the benthic habitat in Chassahowitzka's Headspring, please correct me if I am mistaken but it is my understanding that SWFWMD is currently proposing to destroy 15% of the benthic community in the Chassahowitzka River via spring flow reduction under the auspices of the MFL program.

While I would like to see the sandy bottom of Chassahowitzka's Headspring once more in my lifetime, I think the money for this project would be better spent pursuing alternative water supplies. The District should be focusing its energy and resources to pursing AWS's to reduce the Consumptive Use Permits which are currently being issued with complete indescression to any requestor in Chassahowitzka's Springshed. SWFWMD's continued issuance of these CUP's is killing this Outstanding Florida Water.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey
> Cc: Dan Hilliard ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; Brent Whitley ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper
> Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 5:08 PM
> Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project
>
> Mr. Rimbey,
>
> I apologize for the delayed response, I had several meetings last week that took me out of the office.
>
> The original engineers dredging and disposal estimate provided in the Feasibility Study for the restoration project was between $147,282 and $285,189. However, that cost did not include several additional services (ex: polymer addition) that were determined to be needed during the design/permitting phase. The revised engineers estimate provided by MACTEC in May 2012 was $682,155 and included archaeological services, dewatering processes, etc. I think the $1.3M estimate stems from prebid meeting conversations however, I've not found documentation supporting that.
>
> I am unable to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified bid responses. They are considered confidential until such time as the project is awarded or one year after originally received. This is done to protect the respondents and allow them to participate again in the

competitive bid process. This is done pursuant to Section 119.071(1)(3), Florida Statute.

The District is pursuing this project as part of an overall springs restoration effort. We do not know if this project will result in an increase in the discharge from the main vent. The purpose of the project is to restore the benthic habitat to be suitable for recruitment of native vegetation which will, in turn, improve water quality/clarity.

Sincerely,
Veronica

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Veronica Craw
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 4:46 PM
Subject: Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Just a few more and I will quit bothering you about this.

Last year Mike Wright published an article in the Citrus County Chronicle about this project. That article can be found here.
http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/chassahowitzka-challenge-water-management-district-restoring-river-thing-beauty

Mr. Wright indicated the total cost of this project was to be $1.3 million. Can you confirm that figure? Also, are you able to release the dollar amounts of the two qualified but over-budget bids you received?

One last thought and question. I have to wonder if this project would be necessary if the Chaz Main Spring was flowing anywhere near its historic first magnitude levels. It seems the spring would clear its own throat (and the spring pool) of muck if it was flowing as it did in years past. I doubt we will see those flow rates ever again. The currently proposed MFL flow reduction of 11% will certainly not help in this regard. Does the SWFWMD believe that cleaning the muck out of the main spring pool will increase the spring flow or is this project strictly about enhancing the aesthetics of the spring pool by temporarily restoring it to a white sandy bottom?

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the

Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Veronica Craw
To: Brad Rimbey
Cc: 2buntings@comcast.net ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; Philip Rhinesmith ; Mike Heyl ; Doug Leeper ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; mwright@chronicleonline.com
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2012 2:50 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

This project never received funding from the Legislature.

The project was initiated through a cooperative funding agreement between the District and Citrus County. Citrus County was the lead and hired BCI Engineers & Scientists to perform a feasibility study. The work performed included conceptual design plans and sediment surveys for which they were paid $49,643.44 (the Coastal Rivers Basin Board funded $24,821.72 and the County contributed an equal amount).

The next phase of the project was led by the District and included final design and permitting activities. The District selected Mactec Engineering and Consulting, Inc. and paid $75,000. These funds were budgeted by the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and were fully reimbursed through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

A sediment characterization study was performed as part of the feasibility study that determined the physical and chemical characteristics of the sediment. Organic matter in various forms represents about 20% of the total sediment mass, and includes wood chips, leaves, and other vegetative matter. However, the exact source of the material was not determined.

I appreciate your concern and share your desire to see the spring system restored. The District is committed to the completion of this project.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

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**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012 6:53 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Cc:** 2buntings@comcast.net; phubbell@wraconsultants.com; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com;

rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com; Philip Rhinesmith; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; mwright@chronicleonline.com
**Subject:** Re: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Ms. Craw,

Thank you for your response. At this point, I am in the "believe it when I see it" mode. SWFWMD has put this project on the back burner for so many years that it has become something of a standing (bad) local joke. By any chance, would you happen to know when this project was funded by the legislature? Anecdotally, I am told it was at least ten years ago.

Also, I would be interested in knowing how much money was paid to MACTEC (Project # 60631001050) and BCI (Project # 03-13653.7) to produce a set of restoration procedures which were ultimately unaffordable.

Add to this SWFWMD's proposed further degradation of the Chassahowitzka River via the MFL program. To say the least, we are not impressed with SWFWMD's efforts to protect and restore this Outstanding Florida Water (designated on January 5, 1993).

If you have any thoughts regarding Citrus County's continuing practice of spraying toxic herbicides (with FWC's blessing) into the canals which are tributary to this OFW, I would like to hear them. No doubt these cheap-and-dirty invasive aquatic plant management practices have contributed greatly to the muck which must now be removed at considerable expense to the tax payer.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Veronica Craw
To: Brad Rimbey ; Brad - CRRC Rimbey
Cc: mwright@chronicleonline.com ; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com ; Doug Leeper ; Mike Heyl ; Philip Rhinesmith ; rasjudy@tampabay.rr.com ; rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us ; brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com ; phubbell@wraconsultants.com ; 2buntings@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2012 3:40 PM
Subject: RE: Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

Mr. Rimbey,

The District is committed to completing the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project and to using taxpayer dollars wisely. The District advertised a Request for Bids (RFB) and received two qualified responses. However, these bids exceeded the District's budget for the project and, in addition, the bidders could not complete the project within the permitted construction window this year due to manatee restrictions mandated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as specified in the United States Army Corps of Engineers permit for the project.

In response to Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit conditions, the District also conducted extensive sediment quality tests that determined that the material that will be removed during the restoration can be beneficially used in agricultural operations rather than needing to be disposed of in a Class I landfill. This new information will likely reduce the cost of the project significantly and save taxpayer dollars. We anticipate reissuing another RFB this fall that will allow for greater disposal options and are confident the project will be

conducted next spring/summer. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
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veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:brimbey3@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2012 8:06 PM
**To:** Brad - CRRC Rimbey
**Cc:** mwright@chronicleonline.com; Charlene.Stroehlen@amec.com; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Veronica Craw; Philip Rhinesmith
**Subject:** Chaz Headspring Restoration Project

All,

As expected, the long awaited (and long ago legislatively funded) Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project has once again failed to launch this year.

In short, the SWFWMD has wasted so much money studying the "no brainer" problem that they have no money remaining to implement the obvious solution. Your tax dollars at work?! Really pathetic!

How was the Weeki Wachee main spring restoration completed? How was the Homosassa main spring restoration completed? Why is the Chassahowitzka main spring restoration project too complex and expensive to complete?! This is not rocket science folks!! Suck out the mud, haul it away, and dump it in an approved landfill!!

The SWFWMD's rejection letter for all bids is attached. The attached and other relevant documents to the "Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project" can be found at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/contproc/solicitations.php .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

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Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2012.0.2195 / Virus Database: 2437/5133 - Release Date: 07/15/12

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Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5160 - Release Date: 07/28/12

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**From:** JaniceHowie@aol.com
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Board of Governors Meeting for the revised MFL Proposals for Homosassa and Chas
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 3:56:17 PM

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I would prefer waiting until December for the proposals to be presented to the Board in Brooksville, but would be able to attend a meeting in Tampa earlier as well. Jan Howie

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | FLkrakr@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, July 31, 2012 8:43:01 PM |

## Hi Diane,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear Board Members, I am appalled to learn to that you are STILL recommending that minimum flow levels be reduced for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. This is not acceptable. Isn't it your job to SAVE our waters, not destroy them? As a 5th generation Florida native I have slowly watched the decline of my beautiful home state along with the quality of our waters. We cannot continue to suck our aquifer dry of our precious waters. I have to ask if you have a plan in place in the eventuality that our aquifer is unable to support the number of people in this state? What happens then? Where do we find the money to build desalinization plants to begin pumping the Gulf of Mexico dry? Why are we not working to find ways to conserve our water? Please view this video that I shot on Chassahowitzka River earlier this year: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ijk_9afmhQY&list=UUJ4ISAaCiOGxclP2CbS6Gng&index=1&feature=plcp If we continue to allow more and more of our waters to be destroyed I no longer will able to view this kind of wildlife from my kayak on this beautiful river. Please....SAVE our waters! Respectfully, Diane Lewis*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Nancy Kost |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Brad Rimbey@CRRC; Darrell |
| **Subject:** | FW: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, August 01, 2012 11:00:11 AM |

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In response to Brad Rimbey's email, on behalf of Citrus County Audubon Society I am requesting that the Springs Coast MFL proposals be presented in Brooksville in December with a public workshop in Lecanto prior to that time in order to afford our membership/supporters a better opportunity to participate in both events.

Nancy Kost
Citrus County Audubon Society

-----Original Message-----
**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 1:23 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Doug,

Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
> Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
>
> Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5160 - Release Date: 07/28/12

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Veronica Craw |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl |
| **Cc:** | Jerry Mallams; Eric DeHaven; Mark Hammond; Kenneth R. Herd; Christopher Pettit; Chris Zajac |
| **Subject:** | FW: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, August 01, 2012 4:26:27 PM |
| **Attachments:** | 2012 Feb letter to Mr. Newberger.pdf |
| **Importance:** | High |

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FYI. See message below from EPA to FDEP.

Daryll Joyner is going to tell EPA to coordinate with Janet Llewellyn, FDEP.

Chris Pettit has already passed this on to Laura and Karen West.

**********

Veronica Craw
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---

**From:** Joyner, Daryll [mailto:Daryll.Joyner@dep.state.fl.us]
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2012 2:04 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw
**Subject:** Fw: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Fyi
---
Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

*Please take a few minutes to share your comments on the service you received from the department by clicking on this link DEP Customer Survey.*

**From**: Lisa-Perras Gordon
**To**: Joyner, Daryll; Bartlett, Drew
**Cc**: Joanne Benante ; Annie Godfrey ; Lauren Petter ; Michele Wetherington
**Sent**: Wed Aug 01 10:55:16 2012
**Subject**: Fw: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Drew, Daryll,

Checking back in with you now that the revised MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa are out for comment and review. In our February 23, 2012 letter to Mr. Newberger (below), we committed to working with FDEP "to ensure that any CWA concerns are addressed."

We heard from Mr. Newberger as soon as the revision came out and he is very interested in the results of a review which compares the proposed MFL with the CWA. I'm planning on sending him an email later today (and cc you) that we'll be looking at the revised documents and working with FDEP as

planned.

If we have any comments, they are due by August 15. SWFWMD is going to their Governing Board by August 28. Quite a quick turnaround. I'll be doing the review in the next couple of days. Who should I work with at FDEP on any comments or questions that I may have? Was there someone at FDEP who may have worked with SWFWMD on the revisions?

Thanks,
Lisa G.

Lisa Perras Gordon, Environmental Scientist
Water Quality Planning Branch
Water Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta, Georgia
(404) 562-9317

*(See attached file: 2012 Feb letter to Mr. Newberger.pdf)*
----- Forwarded by Lisa-Perras Gordon/R4/USEPA/US on 08/01/2012 10:41 AM -----

From: Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
To: "Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com)" <grubman1@gmail.com>, "Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us)" <bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us>, "Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com)" <bill.pouder@myfwc.com>, "Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov)" <Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>, "Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com)" <BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com>, "Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com)" <brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com>, "Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us)" <abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us>, "Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com)" <Dennis3ds@aol.com>, "Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov)" <administration@inverness-fl.gov>, "Greenwood, Kathleen" <Kathleen.Greenwood@dep.state.fl.us>, Helen Spive <manatees2@gmail.com>, "Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net)" <2buntings@comcast.net>, "Hoehn, Ted" <ted.hoehn@MyFWC.com>, "Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com)" <hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com>, "Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com)" <jfarley682@aol.com>, "Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org)" <ktripp@savethemanatee.org>, "Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org)" <norman@amyhrf.org>, "Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us)" <rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us>, "Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov)" <rkane@usgs.gov>, "Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us)" <rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us>, "Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com)" <rmille76@tampabay.rr.com>, "Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com)" <cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com>, "Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com)" <jsullivan@carltonfields.com>, "Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us)" <Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us>, "Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com)" <whmarkle@gmail.com>, " (janicehowie@aol.com)" <janicehowie@aol.com>, Abdon Sidibie <asidibe@chronicleonline.com>, "Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com)" <aamcpherson@msn.com>, "Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com)" <ahodgson@gmail.com>, "Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org)" <ahodgson@audubon.org>, "Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com)" <bfberauer@aol.com>, "Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com)" <boverly@tampabay.rr.com>, "Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com)" <wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com>, "Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com)" <Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com>, "Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com)" <brack154@msn.com>, "Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com)" <thebabesmimi@gmail.com>, "Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net)" <fcnwr@atlantic.net>, "Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov)" <dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov>, "Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com)" <katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com>, "Chris Safos (chrissafos@embargmail.com)" <chrissafos@embargmail.com>, "Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com)" <mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com>, "Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com)" <2cetechnology21@gmail.com>, "Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com)" <president@citruscountyaudubon.com>, "Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com)" <dhiers3@gmail.com>, "Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com)" <doug_dame@yahoo.com>, "Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com)" <barneyandcap@hotmail.com>, "Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com)" <ecasey21@hotmail.com>, "Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com)" <eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com>, "George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com)" <gharbin@tampabay.rr.com>, "George McClog (classof47@gmail.com)" <classof47@gmail.com>, "Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com)" <gorgon_o@yahoo.com>, "Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com)" <harry109@aol.com>, "Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us)" <calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us>, "jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net)" <jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net>, "Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com)" <JerrMorton@aol.com>, "Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com)" <gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com>, "Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com)" <jimmiekey22@yahoo.com>, "Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov)" <Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov>, Joe Calamari <jcalamari@coastal-engineering.com>, "John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com)" <jclord109@yahoo.com>, "John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com)" <freedomway1@gmail.com>, "Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net)" <kjohns213@sbcglobal.net>, "Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com)" <caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com>, "Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org)" <kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org>, "Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com)" <tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com>, "Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com)" <hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com>, "Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com)" <mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com>, "Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com)" <mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com>, "Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net)" <rhinesmith@webtv.net>, Amber Breland <amber_breland@fws.gov>, "Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org)" <ahouston@crystalriverfl.org>, "Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us)" <Art.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us>, Ben Weiss <Benjamin_weiss@fws.gov>, Beth Hovinde <bethse@gmail.com>, "Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us)" <brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us>, "Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org)" <cedwards@savethemanatee.org>, "Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com)" <Jones@MyFWC.com>, "Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us)" <dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us>, Darrell Snedecor <darrell@snedecors.com>, "David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us)" <countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us>, "David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov)" <david_hankla@fws.gov>, "Don Wright (wright@sura.org)" <wright@sura.org>, "Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov)" <mcdevitt@usgs.gov>, "Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com)" <marvin.call@MyFWC.com>, "Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com)" <eric.nagid@MyFWC.com>, "FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com)" <fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com>, "J. 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"Harrelson, Cathy" <cathyharrelson@gmail.com>, "Hubbell, Pete" <phubbell@wraconsultants.com>, "Johnson, Eric" <eric.johnson@myfwc.com>, "Johnson, Martyn" <martynellijay@hotmail.com>, "Keim, Robert" <rbkeim@gmail.com>, "Kincaid, Todd" <kincaid@geohydros.com>, "Kline, Allen" <pastoralfarm@netsignia.net>, "Knight, Bob" <bknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com>, "Knudson, Ross" <rosssef@aol.com>, "Overa, Tom" <tovera1@tampabay.rr.com>, "Owen, Rick" <richard.owen@dep.state.fl.us>, "Parrow, Liz" <eparrow@pjp2.net>, "Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com)" <rauerman@tampabay.rr.com>, "Rusnak, Teddi" <tcrusnak@tampabay.rr.com>, "Tarochinoe, Joseph" <tarkie38@yahoo.com>, "Watkins, Priscilla" <priswat@tampabay.rr.com>, "Watrous, Russell" <russselljwatrous@yahoo.com>, "Weber, Ken" <ken@weberandassociates.com>, "Wilson, Roger" <rogerseminole@tampabay.rr.com>, WRWSA <wrwsa@wrwsa.org>, "aquahab@gmail.com" <aquahab@gmail.com>, "bocacatlover@gmail.com" <bocacatlover@gmail.com>, "bruceseaman@zoho.com" 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Date: 07/27/2012 04:47 PM
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

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Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has developed revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems. Minimum flows identify "…the the limit at which further withdrawals would be significantly harmful to the water resources or ecology of the area" (Section 373.042, Florida Statutes), are adopted by the District Governing Board into Chapter 40D-8,

Florida Administrative Code, and are used for regulatory purposes, including the review and issuance of water use permits.

The revised, recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River System are 91% of its natural flow and the revised, recommended minimum flows for the Homosassa River System are 97% of its natural flow. Natural flow is defined as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawals. There are currently no surface-water withdrawals from either system permitted by the District and flow reductions in each that can be attributed to groundwater withdrawals are approximately 1% of the natural flows. When expressed from a water-use perspective, the revised minimum flow recommendations correspond with allowable flow reductions of up to 9% for the Chassahowitzka system and 3% for the Homosassa system. What this means is that compared to the existing conditions, the proposed minimum flows would allow additional reductions of 8% for the Chassahowitzka system and 2% for the Homosassa system.

The currently recommended minimum flows differ from those previously proposed for the river systems and outlined in draft technical reports that were developed in 2010. The previously recommended minimum flows required that 89% of the natural flow in the Chassahowitzka system and 95% of the natural flow in the Homosassa system must be maintained, i.e., not removed as a result of water withdrawals.

Differences between the previously recommended and currently recommended minimum flows for the river systems can be attributed to analyses that were completed based on scientific peer review and stakeholder review of the previously recommended minimum flows. The analyses are summarized in updated technical reports that are posted on the *River Systems and Springs* tab on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Reports* page of the District web site. Updated appendices for the reports will soon be posted to the same web page. Report titles and a link to the web page are provided below. Major report revisions, including those associated with development of the revised recommended minimum flows are also summarized below.

**Report Titles and Link to the Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page**
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka River System, July 15, 2012*
*Recommended Minimum Flows for the Homosassa River System, July 15, 2012*
http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reductions in natural flow from 11% to 9%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapters 9 and Section 11.18).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Sections 2.3.1.1.1 and 8.2).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Sections 3.2 and 8.3).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 7.1).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Sections 5.5 and 7.5).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Sections 7.1 and 11.16).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 4.3, 8.4 and 11.17).
· Updated long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 8.2).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Sections 11.14 through 11.18).
· Added an additional model for predicting submerged aquatic vegetation density as a function of

salinity (Section 7.2).

**Major Report Updates Addressing Changes to Minimum Flow Recommendations for the Homosassa River System**

· Recommended changing allowable reduction in natural flow from 5% to 3%.
· Included discussion of independent scientific peer review findings and stakeholder input received through July 15, 2012 (Chapter 6 and Appendices S, T, U, V, and W).
· Used an adjusted flow record for modeling purposes to account for existing withdrawal impacts (Section 7.3).
· Evaluated impacts of future sea level change on salinity-based habitats (Section 7.3).
· Enhanced discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled flow impacts on fish/invertebrate abundance (Section 5.5).
· Added discussion regarding confidence and use of modeled impacts on habitats associated with salinities of 2 or less (Sections 5.3.3, 5.5 and 7.3.1 ).
· Evaluated effects of potential flow reductions on primary productivity (Section 7.2).
· Added discussion regarding blue crab response to flow (Section 6.3).
· Revised discussion of water quality issues and expanded discussion of minimum flow impact on water quality (Sections 2.8.1, 2.8.3, 2.8.10 and 7.4).
· Developed long-term hydrologic statistics that may be used to support minimum flow compliance evaluations (Section 7.4).
· Incorporated and updated additional supporting documents in report appendices (Appendices A, D through Z, AA, and AB)
· Evaluated effects of flow reductions ranging from 1 to 4% on salinity-based habitats; previous lowest evaluated flow reduction was 5% (Section 7.3).

Staff plans to present rule amendments associated with the revised minimum flow recommendations to the District Governing at the Board meeting scheduled to be held on August 28, 2012 at the District Headquarters in Brooksville. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

The District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, August 15, 2012**, on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

FEB 23 2012

Mr. Mitchell A. Newberger
820 Newberger Road
Lutz, Florida 33549

Dear Mr. Newberger:

Thank you for your patience as we continue to review your concerns regarding the Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) being set on the Chassahowitzka River. We have discussed this issue with both the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

It is our understanding that the SWFWMD is revising the proposed MFL for Chassahowitzka River based on concerns expressed at the public hearings, and that the new MFL is scheduled to be released at the end of February. Once it is released, we will follow-up with FDEP to ensure that any Clean Water Act concerns are addressed.

We will contact you after the review of the new MFL is complete. If you have any questions prior to that time, please contact Lisa Perras Gordon of my staff at 404-562-9317 or gordon.lisa-perras@epa.gov.

Again, thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Joanne Benante, Chief
Water Quality Planning Branch
Water Protection Divsion

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** Jason A. Drane
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, August 02, 2012 8:08:00 AM

Hi Jason,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** Jason A. Drane
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, August 02, 2012 8:24:48 AM

Hi Jason,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Fw: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports
**Date:** Thursday, August 02, 2012 7:24:49 PM

---

Doug,

Has SWFWMD made a decision regarding the date/location when the Chassahowitzka/Homosassa MFL proposals are to be presented to the GB? Any decision on the suggestion for another Springs Coast workshop to discuss current MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa?

Brad

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Doug Leeper
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23 PM
Subject: Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Doug,

Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan

(2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ;

rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5160 - Release Date: 07/28/12

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

**From:** hope
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Friday, August 03, 2012 11:42:42 PM

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Thank you Doug.

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: hope
> Sent: Friday, August 03, 2012 4:56 PM
> Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
>
> Hope –
>
> Sorry to take so long in getting back to you. Just wanted to let you know that we are reviewing options concerning Board meeting schedules and the accommodation of stakeholder desires for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa minimum flows development process. I expect to be able to provide additional information early next week.
>
> Thanks for your patience,
>
> Douglas A. Leeper
> Chief Environmental Scientist
> Water Resources Bureau
> Southwest Florida Water Management District
> 2379 Broad Street
> Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
> 1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
> 352-796-7211, ext. 4272
> 352-754-6885 (Fax)
> doug.leeper@watermatters.org
>
> ---
>
> **From:** hope [mailto:hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com]
> **Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 1:44 AM
> **To:** Doug Leeper
> **Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
>
> Hi Doug,
>
> Could you send me 3 poster-size (large font) Notices (of Governing Board Meeting Date, Time, Location, and phone number / address / email to send comments regarding Chassahowitzka Minimum Flow) to put in the Chassahowitzka Community Bulleting Board for all those citizens in Chassahowitzka who do not have access to internet.
>
> A basic, "what, when, where" type thing that lets the Community know that the District still intends to seriously reduce flow to our already ailing river, by 9%; and the dates/times/places where the meeting will be held, and a phone number for additional questions comments.

Citrus County made me the volunteer "custodian" of the Chassahowitzka community bulletin board at the Fire House, and gave me keys, but no money for ink, paper, printer, etc.....geeze. I don't know your public information officer, but would appreciate it if you ask him/her to please make up some "drive by and read" size notices to send me for the bulletin board.

I think SWFWMD should also post Notices in the Chassahowitzka Boat Ramp and Campground areas (District Owned Parcels where numerous Stakeholders frequent regularly).

My mailing address for the 3 Notices to put in the Chassahowitzka Community Bulletin Board is:
Hope Corona
10024 S. Riviera Pt.
Homosassa, FL 34448

Thank you,
hope

---

*Remainder of e-mail string deleted by D. Leeper on 03 August 2012.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** RAS0902@AOL.COM
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Sunday, August 05, 2012 5:23:38 PM

## Hi Richard,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Respectfully, from a 5th generation Floridian, after many, many years of enjoyment of the Chass, as my family before me, it would be wrong to take a chance on any negative thing affecting it such as reducing any of its flow. It needs to be left for future generations as it is. The tests and knowledge of now could be proven wrong in the not so far off future. Think of the damage the Cross Fl. Barge Canal would have done. It was proposed with the knowledge of the day and as time goes, not that long ago. 10 years before reevaluation would let irreversible damage be done, and as we know, could not be undone in our life time, if ever. And, as history proves once a flow reduction is approved, it will and can not be undone. Thank you for reading this, Rick Storman*

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**To:** RAS0902@AOL.COM
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**Date:** Sunday, August 05, 2012 5:23:38 PM

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**PHONE LOG**

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

**Issue:** Minimum flows development for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems

**Caller:** Dan Hilliard, Withlacoochee Area Residents, Inc.

**District Representative:** Doug Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Water Resources Bureau

**Date:** August 3, 2012

**Notes Prepared by D. Leeper:** Dan Hilliard called to discuss the reports/updates to the minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River and the Homosassa River systems. He noted that the District appears to have put much effort into the development of the reports, and had some questions regarding the measurement of flows in the Chassahowitzka system.

We discussed flow measurement for the system and classification of springs based on the magnitude of flows. I noted that historical flow records for the system included contributions from Crab Creek, while more recent records do not.

**From:** Kevin J Grimsley
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites
**Date:** Monday, August 06, 2012 6:13:58 PM

---

Martyn,

Sorry it took me a while to get back to you. Daily means are not calculated for days where too much data is erroneous or missing to calculate an accurate mean. That varies depending on how variable the data for each stations is. A tidally influenced station is much more variable than a larger inland stream for example.

When loading the monthly data from NWISWeb, there is check box labeled "Use incomplete data for statistics calculation". If you check that box, it will calculate a monthly mean even if some of the days are missing.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

From: Alan Martyn Johnson <martynellijay@hotmail.com>
To: Kevin J Grimsley <kjgrims@usgs.gov>
Cc: Doug Leeper <doug.leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Date: 07/30/2012 08:28 AM
Subject: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites

---

Kevin,
Sorry to trouble you again.

Some months ago I had used Monthly Discharge Data to derive some 5 year moving average discharges. For months where no data had been reported I avergaed between the adjacent months; not exactly scientific but it gave me a general picture. I would now like to better understand the blank fields in the monthly data.

The monthly discharge data shown on the Water Information web site are titled as Daily Mean data. I assume the monthly data is a simple arithmetic mean of the daily data. But, when discharge data missing e.g. for 2 hours, is a daily mean still calculated; or how much missing data before a daily mean is not calculated?

Guess that may not be the best way to ask my question as I am interested in the months that show as blank. So to put it another way, when the monthly data field is blank what are the

criteria for it to be blank?

Kevin,
This is a general question and not associated with the SE Fork during the time velocity meter data has been collected once each hour; but having raised that, how is the data going to be handled at the end of the water year?

Martyn

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Kevin J Grimsley
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites
**Date:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 8:26:19 AM

---

Kevin,
Absolutely no problem on the delay, I am not in any rush for such answers and very much appreciate you responding.

I had noted and used the check box regarding incomplete data, it was that which lead me to think there may be some specific 'command line' that resulted in the blank fields i.e. defining 'too much'.
I understand your point about different stations having different characteristics, makes sense; it is a point I had not thought of due to my focus on data from the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka stations.

Is there a specific 'command line' defining "too much" for SE Fork 02310688, Homosassa Springs 02310678 and Chassahowitzka 02310650?
If there is, but it will take a lot of time to specifically identify a simple yes/no answer will be fine.

Thanks again,
Martyn

---

To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
CC: doug.leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Subject: Re: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites
From: kjgrims@usgs.gov
Date: Mon, 6 Aug 2012 18:13:55 -0400

Martyn,

Sorry it took me a while to get back to you. Daily means are not calculated for days where too much data is erroneous or missing to calculate an accurate mean. That varies depending on how variable the data for each stations is. A tidally influenced station is much more variable than a larger inland stream for example.

When loading the monthly data from NWISWeb, there is check box labeled "Use incomplete data for statistics calculation". If you check that box, it will calculate a monthly mean even if some of the days are missing.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

From: Alan Martyn Johnson <martynellijay@hotmail.com>

To: Kevin J Grimsley <kjgrims@usgs.gov>
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This is a general question and not associated with the SE Fork during the time velocity meter data has been collected once each hour; but having raised that, how is the data going to be handled at the end of the water year?

Martyn

**From:** Kevin J Grimsley
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites
**Date:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 9:15:52 AM

---

Martyn,

No, there's not a hard and fast rule on what is "too much" missing data. The general rule is that they should still have 20 hours worth of valid data, but that can vary depending on what part of the hydrograph that data is missing on.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

On Aug 7, 2012, at 5:26 AM, "Alan Martyn Johnson" <martynellijay@hotmail.com> wrote:

> Kevin,
> Absolutely no problem on the delay, I am not in any rush for such answers and very much appreciate you responding.
>
> I had noted and used the check box regarding incomplete data, it was that which lead me to think there may be some specific 'command line' that resulted in the blank fields i.e. defining 'too much'.
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>
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> To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
> CC: doug.leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
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Date: Mon, 6 Aug 2012 18:13:55 -0400

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To: Kevin J Grimsley <kjgrims@usgs.gov>
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Martyn

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | 2buntings |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Chris Zajac; Christopher Pettit; Darcy A. Brune; Dave Dewitt; Eric DeHaven; Gary E. Williams; Jay Yingling; Jerry Mallams; Karen West; Kenneth R. Herd; Laura Donaldson; Lou Kavouras; Mark Barcelo; Mark Hammond; Michael Molligan; Mike Heyl; Robyn O. Felix; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Tammy Hinkle; Veronica Craw; Virginia Singer; Xinjian Chen; Yassert Gonzalez |
| **Subject:** | Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:35:27 PM |

Doug,

Thanks very much, we do appreciate the schedule change.

Dan

On 8/7/2012 3:30 PM, Doug Leeper wrote:

> Greetings:
>
> We had originally planned to present our revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems to our Governing Board this month. However, multiple public participants requested more time to review our recommendations and backup materials, including the additional analyses completed in response to public comment.
>
> To accommodate these requests, we are delaying our Governing Board presentation until the October 30 meeting. This change will provide the additional time requested to review the materials and provide comment to the District.
>
> Also, the October 30 Governing Board meeting location has been changed to Brooksville for the convenience of those who may wish to travel to the Board meeting to provide comment. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.
>
> As a reminder, the District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:
>
> WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL
>
> Please submit all comments on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems through this web page. The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, October 17, 2012**. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.
>
> Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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--
Dan Hilliard
Director
W.A.R. Inc.(501.C3)
352/447-5434
www.warinconline.com

**From:** Lisa-Perras Gordon
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:37:10 PM

---

Doug,

Can't tell you how happy we are to see this note! We've been scrambling to get the right folks to do a review since we got this last week - and with summer schedules, it was quite challenging. We were just discussing asking for an extension...so thanks for giving everyone time to do a thoughtful review! It is much appreciated!

Lisa Gordon

Lisa Perras Gordon, Environmental Scientist
Water Quality Planning Branch
Water Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta, Georgia
(404) 562-9317

-----Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us> wrote: -----

To: Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
From: Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Date: 08/07/2012 03:31PM
Cc: Chris Zajac <Chris.Zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Christopher Pettit <Christopher.Pettit@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Darcy A. Brune" <Darcy.Brune@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Dave Dewitt <Dave.Dewitt@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Eric DeHaven <Eric.Dehaven@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Gary E. Williams" <Gary.Williams@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Jay Yingling <Jay.Yingling@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Jerry Mallams <Jerry.Mallams@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Karen West <Karen.West@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Kenneth R. Herd" <Ken.Herd@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Laura Donaldson <Laura.Donaldson@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Lou Kavouras <Lou.Kavouras@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Mark Barcelo <Mark.Barcelo@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Mark Hammond <Mark.Hammond@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Michael Molligan <Michael.Molligan@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Mike Heyl <Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Robyn O. Felix" <Robyn.Felix@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Ron Basso <Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Sid Flannery <Sid.Flannery@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Tammy Hinkle <Tammy.Hinkle@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Veronica Craw <Veronica.Craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Virginia Singer <Virginia.Singer@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Xinjian Chen <Xinjian.Chen@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Yassert Gonzalez <Yassert.Gonzalez@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

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response to public comment.

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Douglas A. Leeper

Chief Environmental Scientist

Water Resources Bureau

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**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:58:35 PM

---

Thanks Doug. BTW, I am supposed to give a presentation on the Springs Coast MFLs to the Citrus County Council http://citruscountycouncil.org/ tomorrow morning starting at 9:00 AM. Come up and help keep me honest ;-). I'll try to give an accurate and fair overview of where we are and how we got here the allotted 20 minutes. I will definitely be interested in finding out how many of the attendees bothered to attend any of the eight workshops which SWFWMD sponsored. Brad

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Doug Leeper
> Cc: Chris Zajac ; Christopher Pettit ; Darcy A. Brune ; Dave Dewitt ; Eric DeHaven ; Gary E. Williams ; Jay Yingling ; Jerry Mallams ; Karen West ; Kenneth R. Herd ; Laura Donaldson ; Lou Kavouras ; Mark Barcelo ; Mark Hammond ; Michael Molligan ; Mike Heyl ; Robyn O. Felix ; Ron Basso ; Sid Flannery ; Tammy Hinkle ; Veronica Craw ; Virginia Singer ; Xinjian Chen ; Yassert Gonzalez
> Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:30 PM
> Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
>
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>
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Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5176 - Release Date: 08/04/12

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**From:** Ron Miller
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
**Date:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 6:41:31 PM

---

Hi Doug,

Thank you for shifting the Governing Board presentation date.

Ron

**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:30 PM
**Subject:** Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Alan Martyn Johnson |
| **To:** | Kevin J Grimsley |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | RE: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, August 08, 2012 7:20:04 AM |

Kevin,
Thanks,
Martyn

---

To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Tue, 7 Aug 2012 09:38:45 -0400
From: kjgrims@usgs.gov
Subject: Re: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites
CC: doug.leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us

Martyn,

No, there's not a hard and fast rule on what is "too much" missing data. The general rule is that they should still have 20 hours worth of valid data, but that can vary depending on what part of the hydrograph that data is missing on.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

On Aug 7, 2012, at 5:26 AM, "Alan Martyn Johnson" <martynellijay@hotmail.com> wrote:

> Kevin,
> Absolutely no problem on the delay, I am not in any rush for such answers and very much appreciate you responding.
>
> I had noted and used the check box regarding incomplete data, it was that which lead me to think there may be some specific 'command line' that resulted in the blank fields i.e. defining 'too much'.
> I understand your point about different stations having different characteristics, makes sense; it is a point I had not thought of due to my focus on data from the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka stations.
>
> Is there a specific 'command line' defining "too much" for SE Fork 02310688, Homosassa Springs 02310678 and Chassahowitzka 02310650?
> If there is, but it will take a lot of time to specifically identify a simple yes/no answer will be fine.
>
> Thanks again,
> Martyn
>
> ---

To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
CC: doug.leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Subject: Re: Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites
From: kjgrims@usgs.gov
Date: Mon, 6 Aug 2012 18:13:55 -0400

Martyn,

Sorry it took me a while to get back to you. Daily means are not calculated for days where too much data is erroneous or missing to calculate an accurate mean. That varies depending on how variable the data for each stations is. A tidally influenced station is much more variable than a larger inland stream for example.

When loading the monthly data from NWISWeb, there is check box labeled "Use incomplete data for statistics calculation". If you check that box, it will calculate a monthly mean even if some of the days are missing.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

| | |
|---|---|
| From: | Alan Martyn Johnson <martynellijay@hotmail.com> |
| To: | Kevin J Grimsley <kjgrims@usgs.gov> |
| Cc: | Doug Leeper <doug.leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us> |
| Date: | 07/30/2012 08:28 AM |
| Subject: | Monthly Discharge Data Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Gage Sites |

---

Kevin,
Sorry to trouble you again.

Some months ago I had used Monthly Discharge Data to derive some 5 year moving average discharges. For months where no data had been reported I avergaed between the adjacent months; not exactly scientific but it gave me a general picture. I would now like to better understand the blank fields in the monthly data.

The monthly discharge data shown on the Water Information web site are titled as Daily Mean data. I assume the monthly data is a simple arithmetic mean of the daily data. But, when discharge data missing e.g. for 2 hours, is a daily mean still calculated; or how much missing data before a daily mean is not calculated?

Guess that may not be the best way to ask my question as I am interested in the months that show as blank. So to put it another way, when the monthly data field is blank what are the criteria for it to be blank?

Kevin,
This is a general question and not associated with the SE Fork during the time velocity meter data has been collected once each hour; but having raised that, how is the data going to be handled at the end of the water year?

Martyn

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** J Weaver
**Cc:** jdweaver@gsvaresh01.er.usgs.gov; vhines@usgs.gov; R Rodriguez; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Mike Heyl
**Subject:** Florida Coastal Springs Streamflow Review March 2, 2012 Discharge Accuracy
**Date:** Wednesday, August 08, 2012 8:10:48 AM

---

Mr. Weaver,
You may recall my message from March 20, 2012 shown below. You did not acknowledge receipt or choose to answer. There is the possibility you did not receive the e-mail.

The March 2, 2012 memorandum/report from the team has recently been published in both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Recommended Minimum Flow Reports, in the Sections: Cited Documents. Presumably this is to help justify the accuracy of discharge data in these reports. As the memorandum does not name either of these rivers it appears to fall short of being a valuable document.

Having noted inclusion of the memorandum I thought I would share some Field Measurements from key Gage Sites in the hopes you may see fit to have the team review these and/or provide additional detail from their review regarding;

- Homosassa Springs 02310678,
- Homosassa River at Homosassa 02310700,
- SE Fork Homosassa 02310688 and
- Chassahowitzka 02310650

Discharge data from the 15 minute interval record of calculated discharge does not match the Field Measurement exact times and these have been hand matched; I have double checked to assure the matches are as accurate as possible.

Thanks in anticipation you will have the team look at this and add to the memo.

Homosassa Springs
02310678

| Meas. Number | Date | Time | Measuring Agency | Stream flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated as % of Measured |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 201 | 2012-06-13 | 09:01 | USGS | 79.5 | 63 | 79% |
| 200 | 2012-04-10 | 13:19 | USGS | 68.0 | 73 | 107% |
| 199 | 2012-02-03 | 10:07 | USGS | 101 | 92 | 91% |
| 198 | 2011-12-16 | 15:29 | USGS | 83.3 | 85 | 102% |
| 197 | 2011-12-16 | 15:20 | USGS | 78.9 | 84 | 106% |
| 196 | 2011-10-05 | 14:39 | USGS | 97.0 | 91 | 94% |

Homosassa River At Homosassa 02310700

| Meas. Number | Date | Time | Measuring Agency | Stream flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated as % of Measured |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 424 | 2012-04-12 | 08:58 | USGS | 452 | -63 | Note 1 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 423 | 2012-02-09 | 10:04 | USGS | 732 | 928 | 127% |
| 422 | 2012-02-09 | 09:34 | USGS | 731 | 993 | 136% |
| 421 | 2012-02-09 | 09:04 | USGS | 692 | 902 | 130% |
| 420 | 2012-02-09 | 08:35 | USGS | 670 | 914 | 136% |
| 419 | 2012-02-09 | 08:05 | USGS | 641 | 771 | 120% |
| 418 | 2012-02-09 | 07:34 | USGS | 632 | 731 | 116% |
| 417 | 2012-02-09 | 07:04 | USGS | 608 | 825 | 136% |
| 416 | 2012-02-09 | 06:34 | USGS | 562 | 731 | 130% |
| 415 | 2012-02-08 | 18:03 | USGS | -459 | -369 | 80% |
| 414 | 2012-02-08 | 17:33 | USGS | -622 | -550 | 88% |
| 413 | 2012-02-08 | 17:05 | USGS | -648 | -642 | 99% |
| 412 | 2012-02-08 | 17:01 | USGS | -601 | -642 | 107% |
| 411 | 2012-02-08 | 16:33 | USGS | -596 | -484 | 81% |
| 410 | 2012-02-08 | 16:04 | USGS | -456 | -391 | 86% |
| 409 | 2012-02-08 | 15:33 | USGS | -378 | -339 | 90% |
| 408 | 2012-02-08 | 15:05 | USGS | -113 | -164 | 145% |
| 407 | 2012-02-08 | 15:00 | USGS | 3.61 | -164 | -4543% |
| 406 | 2012-02-08 | 14:34 | USGS | 309 | 461 | 149% |
| 405 | 2012-02-08 | 14:30 | USGS | 352 | 461 | 131% |
| 404 | 2012-02-08 | 14:07 | USGS | 587 | 876 | 149% |
| 403 | 2012-02-08 | 13:33 | USGS | 707 | 1000 | 141% |
| 402 | 2012-02-08 | 13:01 | USGS | 713 | 1100 | 154% |
| 401 | 2012-02-08 | 12:33 | USGS | 753 | 1110 | 147% |
| 400 | 2012-02-08 | 12:04 | USGS | 781 | 1020 | 131% |
| 399 | 2012-02-08 | 11:34 | USGS | 785 | 1090 | 139% |
| 398 | 2012-02-08 | 11:04 | USGS | 848 | 1160 | 137% |
| 397 | 2012-02-08 | 10:39 | USGS | 858 | 1250 | 146% |
| 396 | 2012-02-08 | 10:04 | USGS | 854 | 1120 | 131% |
| 395 | 2012-02-08 | 09:33 | USGS | 870 | 1120 | 129% |
| 394 | 2012-02-08 | 09:04 | USGS | 840 | 1110 | 132% |
| 393 | 2012-02-08 | 08:33 | USGS | 793 | 1110 | 140% |
| 392 | 2012-02-08 | 08:03 | USGS | 724 | 1030 | 142% |
| 391 | 2012-02-08 | 07:34 | USGS | 700 | 922 | 132% |
| 390 | 2012-02-08 | 07:05 | USGS | 574 | 613 | 107% |
| 389 | 2011-10-20 | 12:09 | USGS | 1080 | 803 | 74% |
| 388 | 2011-10-20 | 11:44 | USGS | 1140 | 810 | 71% |
| 387 | 2011-10-20 | 11:21 | USGS | 1120 | 578 | 52% |
| 386 | 2011-10-20 | 10:53 | USGS | 1100 | 690 | 63% |
| 385 | 2011-10-20 | 10:46 | USGS | 1250 | 875 | 70% |
| 384 | 2011-10-20 | 10:22 | USGS | 1160 | 789 | 68% |
| 383 | 2011-10-20 | 09:52 | USGS | 1250 | 735 | 59% |
| 382 | 2011-10-20 | 09:20 | USGS | 1240 | 707 | 57% |
| 381 | 2011-10-20 | 08:38 | USGS | 1340 | 658 | 49% |
| 380 | 2011-10-20 | 08:08 | USGS | 1400 | 647 | 46% |
| 379 | 2011-10-20 | 07:46 | USGS | 1380 | 838 | 61% |
| 378 | 2011-10-20 | 07:07 | USGS | 1470 | 906 | 62% |
| 377 | 2011-10-20 | 06:33 | USGS | 1420 | 974 | 69% |
| 376 | 2011-10-19 | 14:03 | USGS | 1190 | 894 | 75% |
| 375 | 2011-10-19 | 13:31 | USGS | 1090 | 1070 | 98% |
| 374 | 2011-10-19 | 13:22 | USGS | 1120 | 949 | 85% |
| 373 | 2011-10-19 | 13:15 | USGS | 942 | 949 | 101% |
| 372 | 2011-10-19 | 12:42 | USGS | 1000 | 996 | 100% |
| 371 | 2011-10-19 | 12:14 | USGS | 800 | 815 | 102% |

Note 1 Problem with no Stream Velocity data collection from Gage Site may be cause

SE Fork Homosassa 02310688

| Meas. Number | Date | Time | Measuring Agency | Stream flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated as % of Measured |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 228 | 2012-06-13 | 12:50 | USGS | 52 | 32 | 62% |
| 227 | 2012-06-13 | 12:37 | USGS | 49.3 | 28 | 57% |
| 226 | 2012-04-10 | 10:09 | USGS | 55.1 | 55 | 100% |
| 225 | 2012-02-09 | 09:08 | USGS | 58.4 | 69 | 118% |
| 224 | 2012-02-09 | 08:34 | USGS | 60 | 68 | 113% |
| 223 | 2012-02-09 | 08:04 | USGS | 57.5 | 63 | 110% |
| 222 | 2012-02-09 | 07:33 | USGS | 55.9 | 63 | 113% |
| 221 | 2012-02-09 | 07:21 | USGS | 55.6 | 67 | 121% |
| 220 | 2012-02-09 | 06:46 | USGS | 54.9 | 66 | 120% |
| 219 | 2012-02-09 | 06:21 | USGS | 55.7 | 66 | 118% |
| 218 | 2012-02-08 | 18:06 | USGS | 40.4 | 38 | 94% |
| 217 | 2012-02-08 | 18:02 | USGS | 33.7 | 38 | 113% |
| 216 | 2012-02-08 | 17:33 | USGS | 35.9 | 38 | 106% |
| 215 | 2012-02-08 | 17:05 | USGS | 31.1 | 35 | 113% |
| 214 | 2012-02-08 | 17:00 | USGS | 35.3 | 35 | 99% |
| 213 | 2012-02-08 | 16:34 | USGS | 33.4 | 36 | 108% |
| 212 | 2012-02-08 | 16:04 | USGS | 38.4 | 37 | 96% |
| 211 | 2012-02-08 | 15:30 | USGS | 38.3 | 42 | 110% |
| 210 | 2012-02-08 | 15:04 | USGS | 41.4 | 51 | 123% |
| 209 | 2012-02-08 | 15:02 | USGS | 46.2 | 51 | 110% |
| 208 | 2012-02-08 | 14:34 | USGS | 54.2 | 64 | 118% |
| 207 | 2012-02-08 | 14:03 | USGS | 61.4 | 68 | 111% |
| 206 | 2012-02-08 | 13:30 | USGS | 60.6 | 67 | 111% |
| 205 | 2012-02-08 | 13:02 | USGS | 67 | 71 | 106% |
| 204 | 2012-02-08 | 12:33 | USGS | 62.3 | 70 | 112% |
| 203 | 2012-02-08 | 12:03 | USGS | 65.7 | 74 | 113% |
| 202 | 2012-02-08 | 11:32 | USGS | 64.6 | 69 | 107% |
| 201 | 2012-02-08 | 11:03 | USGS | 65.2 | 68 | 104% |
| 200 | 2012-02-08 | 10:32 | USGS | 66.3 | 72 | 109% |
| 199 | 2012-02-08 | 10:05 | USGS | 65.6 | 71 | 108% |
| 198 | 2012-02-08 | 09:33 | USGS | 61.9 | 70 | 113% |
| 197 | 2012-02-08 | 09:07 | USGS | 64.9 | 69 | 106% |
| 196 | 2012-02-08 | 08:33 | USGS | 61.8 | 69 | 112% |
| 195 | 2012-02-08 | 08:00 | USGS | 57.8 | 64 | 111% |
| 194 | 2012-02-08 | 07:41 | USGS | 55.5 | 64 | 115% |
| 193 | 2011-12-16 | 13:07 | USGS | 58.6 | 73 | 125% |
| 192 | 2011-10-20 | 11:44 | USGS | 72 | 64 | 89% |
| 191 | 2011-10-20 | 10:38 | USGS | 72 | 63 | 88% |
| 190 | 2011-10-20 | 09:50 | USGS | 68 | 58 | 85% |
| 189 | 2011-10-20 | 09:13 | USGS | 71.5 | 62 | 87% |
| 188 | 2011-10-20 | 08:20 | USGS | 74.5 | 62 | 83% |
| 187 | 2011-10-20 | 07:45 | USGS | 76.3 | 61 | 80% |
| 186 | 2011-10-20 | 07:18 | USGS | 75.5 | 65 | 86% |
| 185 | 2011-10-20 | 06:45 | USGS | 76.4 | 60 | 79% |
| 184 | 2011-10-20 | 06:18 | USGS | 79.3 | 60 | 76% |
| 183 | 2011-10-20 | 05:51 | USGS | 76.2 | 64 | 84% |
| 182 | 2011-10-20 | 05:24 | USGS | 75.4 | 55 | 73% |
| 181 | 2011-10-19 | 14:46 | USGS | 68.2 | 51 | 75% |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 180 | 2011-10-19 | 14:18 | USGS | 59 | 51 | 86% |
| 179 | 2011-10-19 | 13:46 | USGS | 59.8 | 55 | 92% |
| 178 | 2011-10-19 | 13:25 | USGS | 55.8 | 46 | 82% |
| 177 | 2011-10-19 | 12:54 | USGS | 50.6 | 50 | 99% |
| 176 | 2011-10-19 | 12:26 | USGS | 55.8 | 49 | 88% |
| 175 | 2011-10-19 | 11:59 | USGS | 52.9 | 45 | 85% |
| 174 | 2011-10-19 | 11:25 | USGS | 49.8 | 49 | 98% |
| 173 | 2011-10-19 | 10:51 | USGS | 43.8 | 44 | 100% |
| 172 | 2011-10-19 | 10:24 | USGS | 45.2 | 52 | 115% |

Chassahowitzka 02310650

| Meas. Number | Date | Time | Measuring Agency | Stream flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated as % of Measured |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 212 | 2012-06-19 | 15:16 | USGS | -28.7 | 21 | Difference 49.7cfs |
| 211 | 2012-04-13 | .12:35 | USGS | 49.4 | 63 | 128% |
| 210 | 2012-02-03 | 12:57 | USGS | 54.2 | 50 | 92% |
| 209 | 2011-12-21 | .15:15 | USGS | 69.3 | 72 | 104% |
| 208 | 2011-12-21 | .15:08 | USGS | 62.3 | 72 | 116% |
| 207 | 2011-10-07 | 11:52 | USGS | 10.9 | No data available | |
| 206 | 2011-10-07 | 11:47 | USGS | 13.4 | No data available | |
| 205 | 2011-10-07 | 11:42 | USGS | 8.38 | No data available | |
| 204 | 2011-10-07 | 11:38 | USGS | 13.5 | No data available | |
| 203 | 2011-08-10 | 11:30 | USGS | 13.4 | 13 | 97% |
| 202 | 2011-08-10 | 11:25 | USGS | 11.9 | 13 | 109% |
| 201 | 2011-08-10 | 11:20 | USGS | 9.4 | -5.3 | Difference 14.7cfs |
| 200 | 2011-08-10 | 11:15 | USGS | 12 | -5.3 | Difference 17.3cfs |
| 199 | 2011-06-17 | 13:35 | USGS | 9.81 | -8 | Difference 17.81cfs |
| 198 | 2011-06-17 | 13:26 | USGS | 15.3 | -8 | Difference 23.3cfs |
| 197 | 2011-06-17 | 13:19 | USGS | 17.6 | 11 | 63% |
| 196 | 2011-06-17 | 13:06 | USGS | 37.9 | 20 | 53% |
| 195 | 2011-06-17 | 12:57 | USGS | 37.7 | 20 | 53% |
| 194 | 2011-04-12 | 10:09 | USGS | -5.02 | -7.7 | 153% |
| 193 | 2011-02-11 | 13:33 | USGS | 60.6 | 68 | 112% |
| 192 | 2010-12-08 | 12:10 | USGS | 64 | 69 | 108% |
| 191 | 2010-10-07 | 13:54 | USGS | 21.6 | -28 | -130% |
| 190 | 2010-10-07 | 13:49 | USGS | 30.9 | 0.61 | 2% |
| 189 | 2010-10-07 | 13:40 | USGS | 36.9 | 0.61 | 2% |
| 188 | 2010-10-07 | 13:28 | USGS | 48.2 | 28 | 58% |
| 187 | 2010-08-17 | 10:09 | USGS | 88.9 | 79 | 89% |
| 186 | 2010-06-22 | 13:25 | USGS | 59.4 | 70 | 118% |
| 185 | 2010-06-22 | 13:18 | USGS | 59.4 | 60 | 101% |
| 184 | 2010-06-22 | 13:12 | USGS | 50.8 | 60 | 118% |
| 183 | 2010-06-22 | 13:06 | USGS | 65.8 | 51 | 78% |
| 182 | 2010-06-22 | 12:59 | USGS | 44.5 | 51 | 115% |
| 181 | 2010-06-22 | 12:53 | USGS | 66 | 51 | 77% |
| 180 | 2010-06-22 | 12:47 | USGS | 30.3 | 42 | 139% |
| 179 | 2010-06-22 | 12:40 | USGS | 47.9 | 42 | 88% |

From: martynellijay@hotmail.com
To: jdweaver@usgs.gov
CC: jdweaver@gsvaresh01.er.usgs.gov; vhines@usgs.gov; rrodrigu@usgs.gov
Subject: RE: Florida Coastal Springs Streamflow
Date: Tue, 20 Mar 2012 09:24:57 -0400

Mr. Weaver,
Thanks for sharing the memorandum about the review.

This memorandum appears to be an executive summary, there are no details about which gage sites were visited, or about what data was reviewed.

In your October 26 e-mail you indicated that the review would address the questions I had posed.

Quote
Each of these entities is uniquely positioned to provide an unbiased review of the data, consider your concerns and to respond to the questions you are asking. The OSW and OGW provide technical leadership and serve quality assurance and quality control functions for USGShydrologic science.

The review being undertaken is a big investment of time and effort on our part. As such, I would anticipate it may require a few months to finish. We will share our findings with you and respond to the questions you previously asked as soon as the review is complete.
Unquote

Given this review took 3 days (agreed Jan 22 was a Sunday), and included 1.5 days in the Tampa office in addition to 6 site visits there must be more details in a separate report.

Within the memorandum is the comment:
"The stations under review typically have measurable and significant tidal flow. A tidal signal is prominent in both the water level and flow records."
It is not apparent which stations under review have significant tidal flow other than Homosassa River at Homosassa 02310700, but I am sure this will become clear in the full report, and may serve to add to the understanding of the very general note about "many tidal records".
Rivers fed by significant spring flow (1 st magnitude springs) will naturally show asymmetry between in flow and out flow in the sections that expreience tidal flow such as Homosassa River 02310700; spring discharge adds to the outflow. For other sites (presumably) in the review the Homosassa Main Spring 02310678 and SE Fork 02310688 do not have reverse flow and are essentially 'uni-directional'.

Regarding the four stations where discharge is calculated it is not clear which stations these are, but I find it interesting that the review questioned what data was used to regress/develop the equations currently in use "the newer regression equations that are currently in use are not as well documented.
Additional documentation of the data and methods used in developing new regression equations should be included in the station files."

In point 4 of the memorandum comment is made about the installation of velocity measuring equipment. This adds to the comment in point 2 about index velocity measurement. No doubt the reviewers were told about the instrument installed a the SE Fork location that has been operating since last September.
Did they have any comments/suggestions regarding its location (immediately after a bend in the river and possible turbulence at the location) or any 'preliminary' comparison to the calculated

data? As you may recall the SE Fork is the site I was most concerned about, as this site is the main source of better quality water entering the Homosassa River. The relative quantities, and quality, of these waters is critical to the future of the river and to SWFWMD efforts to model/understand the river.

Given the expense of this review, both at 'head office' in reviewing the request and preparing for the on site/office activity in Florida, I trust there is more detail than in this memorandum.

The concerns about updating given all the additional data (from Field Measurements) and accuracy during the high aquifer levels in 2004/5 (for Weeki Wachee Well 22 feet) are laudable, but the major concern is current levels in the aquifer (for Weeki Wachee Well 12 feet) which are approaching record lows. And did the team consider Weeki Wachee Well the best primary predictor of hydraulic head determining the flows at these springs?

Martyn

> To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
> CC: jdweaver@gsvaresh01.er.usgs.gov; vhines@usgs.gov; rrodrigu@usgs.gov
> Subject: Florida Coastal Springs Streamflow
> From: jdweaver@usgs.gov
> Date: Tue, 13 Mar 2012 09:39:11 -0400
>
> Mr. Johnson,
>
> Following my last correspondence with you Oct. 26, I requested an outside
> review of Florida coastal springs streamflow stations and the work being
> done by the USGS Florida Water Science Center. That review, taken on by
> representatives from the USGS Office of Surface Water, Office of
> Groundwater, and the National Research Program, is now complete. The team
> focused on two main topics: handling of tides and calculations of record
> at stations with regression-based rating curves. Their report is attached
> for your reference, but the bottom line is the reviewers expressed
> confidence in the work being done by the Florida Water Science Center, and
> I share their confidence.
>
> I hope the results of this thorough review answer the questions you had
> and close out this issue.
>
>
> Jess D. Weaver
>
>
>
>
>
> **********
> Jess D. Weaver
> Regional Executive, Southeastern Region
> U.S. Geological Survey
> 3850 Holcomb Bridge Road, Suite 160
> Norcross, Georgia 30092-2202
> (770) 409-7701
> Cell: (678) 523-6030
> Fax: (770) 409-7725
> jdweaver@usgs.gov
> **********

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bludog@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, August 08, 2012 11:36:58 AM |

## Hi Terri,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *We have already surpassed the flow level that would damage the environment. The decline in the water quality over the past few years is proof of that. The Homosassa River in particular, is dead, no vegetation, no fish. I am not overstating this. As a 32 year resident of Homoassa the decline had been slow and steady until about 36 months ago. Since then it has dropped off the ledge. Realizing there has been lower rainfall until very recently, may be a part of problem, but continuing to use more and more water is NOT the answer. There should be a moratorium on new development until a percentage of the vacant homes and retail building in the state are occupied. Example: Dozens of old oak trees were cut on US19 to build a Dollar Store in Homosassa Springs, when just across the street are two large shopping centers with lots of empty square feet. Build, build, build. Pave, pave, pave. I know SWFWMD's goal is to find water for the Governor. But at what risk? What happens when we have a muddy stream left where the rivers used to be? We may as well put up the for sale signs now. Please consider this as an economical disaster if not just an ecological disaster? BEFORE we run out of water.*

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto
**Date:** Thursday, August 09, 2012 11:54:21 AM

---

Doug,

I appreciate your email dated Tuesday (Aug 7, 2012) indicating SWFWMD's decision to postpone its revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations to SWFWMD's Governing Board. The decision to present the revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations at the October 30 SWFWMD GB meeting in Brooksville is much more reasonable and we appreciate your efforts to make that happen.

At yesterday's Citrus County Council meeting, I was asked if SWFWMD intended to hold another Springs Coast MFL meeting to explain the basis for the revised Springs Coast MFLs. I had requested this workshop in my email below, but your email on Tuesday did not address this.

For those of you who are being copied on this, please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Doug Leeper
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23 PM
Subject: Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Doug,

Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August 28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Doug Leeper
To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ;

Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau

Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

No virus found in this message.
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Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5160 - Release Date: 07/28/12

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Beverly Overa |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Brad Rimbey@CRRC |
| **Subject:** | Springs MFL"s |
| **Date:** | Thursday, August 09, 2012 12:25:56 PM |

---

Mr. Leeper,

We would appreciate another look at the science behind the proposed MFL's for Chassahowitzka and the Homosassa River here in Citrus County. While many of us are dismayed at the proposed MFL's, a presentation explaining these positions could be helpful to us all.

Beverly Overa
boverly@tampabay.rr.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | JaniceHowie@aol.com |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | (no subject) |
| **Date:** | Thursday, August 09, 2012 1:13:30 PM |

---

Dear Mr. Leeper:

We appreciate your efforts to keep the public informed so far of your work in determining the MFL levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers, but we would like to have one more meeting to discuss your revised MFL proposals. Thank you for your consideration. Jan Howie, Conservation Chairman of the Nature Coast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

**From:** Ron Miller
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Brad Rimbey
**Subject:** Fw: Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto
**Date:** Thursday, August 09, 2012 2:49:28 PM

---

Hi Doug,

I agree with Brad. A workshop to explain to the public how you came to your final conclusions would be useful.

Ron

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**Sent:** Thursday, August 09, 2012 11:54 AM
**To:** Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
**Subject:** Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto

Doug,

I appreciate your email dated Tuesday (Aug 7, 2012) indicating SWFWMD's decision to postpone its revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations to SWFWMD's Governing Board. The decision to present the revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations at the October 30 SWFWMD GB meeting in Brooksville is much more reasonable and we appreciate your efforts to make that happen.

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Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Doug Leeper
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23 PM
Subject: Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

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Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max

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Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM

Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

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Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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**From:** Andy & Terri Auner
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Comment about MFLs
**Date:** Thursday, August 09, 2012 4:39:17 PM

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Mr. Leeper,

**We have already surpassed the flow level that would damage the environment**. The decline in the water quality over the past few years is proof of that. The Homosassa River in particular, is dead, no vegetation, no fish. I am not overstating this.

As a 32 year resident of Homosassa the decline had been slow and steady until about 36 months ago. Since then it has dropped off the ledge. Realizing there has been lower rainfall until very recently, may be a part of problem, but continuing to use more and more water is NOT the answer. There should be a moratorium on new development until a percentage of the vacant homes and retail building in the state are occupied.

Example: Dozens of old oak trees were cut on US19 to build a Dollar Store in Homosassa Springs, when just across the street are two large shopping centers with lots of empty square feet. Build, build, build. Pave, pave, pave.

We know SWFWMD's goal is to find water for the Governor. But at what risk? What happens when we have a muddy stream left where the rivers used to be? We may as well put up the for sale signs now. Please consider this as an economical disaster if not just an ecological disaster?

Andy & Terri Auner
Old Homosassa
352 628 7969

**From:** hope
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto
**Date:** Thursday, August 09, 2012 4:54:06 PM

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Hello Doug,

Great idea! Some of the new data is pretty complex. We, the lay public, and the Governing Board (I'm sure, who may similarly not be professional biologists, hydrologists, climatologists, etc.), would appreciate hearing the experts who did the new research and drafted the reports explain their findings.

Blue Crab life cycle, the interdependence of multiple (and imperiled) species on fresh water and low salinity habitat, the seemingly accelerated loss of forested wetlands, and succession to marsh.....there's a lot going on in our complex Chassahowitzka spring to estuary ecosystem, and the surrounding forested wetland communities. How many keystone species can we "afford" to lose before the entire system collapses functionally as a true spring-fed freshwater system? 15% loss may not really be "acceptable" if our system is as close to a tipping point as it seems.

Did you by any chance read the reprint of Fred Guterl's "Climate Change's Tipping Point" article in the Tampa Bay Times last weekend (July 29)? (Here's the link to its original publication in the New York Times July 20, 2012 http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/21/opinion/the-climate-change-tipping-point.html?_r=3) It discussed, among other things, Marten Scheffer's "dynamical systems" theory, and his work restoring lowland ponds in the Netherlands. His observation that natural systems often have difficulty recovering from sudden changes, and that "once you've reached a tipping point, it's very difficult to return things to how they used to be" seemed eerily relevant.

It certainly feels like our Nature Coast spring-fed systems are nearing a tipping point, and locals worry and wonder why the "scientists" at the Water Management District can't likewise see the rapid changes taking place that are obvious to those living in the ecosystem. (Perhaps, we conclude, because one cannot SEE them from a desktop in Brooksville, or accurately "predict" them with an algorithm).

In addition to a Public Workshop to discuss findings in the new report, could we possibly schedule a "ground truthing" site visit to Chassahowitzka so that SWFWMD staff and interested Governing Board Members could come out and SEE some of the observations that Public keeps bringing up at the Workshops and Meetings? Not just a cruise straight down the channel, but one that would also afford some time to travel up one of the spring runs presently showing signs of rapid succession to higher salinity, marsh-like (not freshwater forested wetland or hydric hammock) conditions. Potter Creek to Ruth Springs, for example.

How many staff members and Governing Board Members do you think would attend? It would be ideal if we could all go out on one pontoon or one large, broad skiff, but if we need a small flotilla, I'm sure we could find Chasshowitzka residents with boats who would be happy to volunteer "captain."

Your thoughts?

I met an empathetic District scientist at a recent Native Plant Society meeting who

assured me that there were still some staff at SWFWMD that cared as much about preserving Florida's last remaining natural habitats as we (the public living in and around the endangered resources and imperiled habitats) do. That was reassuring, and I hope it is true. If true, I am hoping that a ground-truthing site visit, and direct observation will help District scientists to take another look at the MFL data, and compare it to what they observe in "real life."

That's my two cents.

Thanks again for all of your diligence and for keeping all of us up to date on new developments in the continuing MFL saga.

Hope

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2012 11:54 AM
Subject: Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto

Doug,

I appreciate your email dated Tuesday (Aug 7, 2012) indicating SWFWMD's decision to postpone its revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations to SWFWMD's Governing Board. The decision to present the revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations at the October 30 SWFWMD GB meeting in Brooksville is much more reasonable and we appreciate your efforts to make that happen.

At yesterday's Citrus County Council meeting, I was asked if SWFWMD intended to hold another Springs Coast MFL meeting to explain the basis for the revised Springs Coast MFLs. I had requested this workshop in my email below, but your email on Tuesday did not address this.

For those of you who are being copied on this, please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Doug Leeper
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23 PM
Subject: Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Doug,

Thanks for the phone call earlier today. I have talked to a few people since we spoke and it seems more people are concerned about driving to Tampa for a GB meeting than I thought.

For those of you who are being copied on this, Doug is trying to get a feel for when/where we would prefer to have the MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa presented to SWFWMD's GB. It seems Doug's suggestion that the MFL proposals would be presented to the GB on August

28 in Brooksville was based primarily on SWFWMD's desire to choose a meeting location which would be convenient for Springs Coast residents to attend. Unfortunately, the logistics of this time choice would make it impossible for SWFWMD to receive and reply to the input they will be likely be receiving on these revised proposals. The September and October SWFWMD GB meetings will be held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

I would also ask that SWFWMD considers presenting one more MFL public workshop (possibly in Lecanto) to explain the basis for the substantive changes which are being proposed to the previously proposed MFLs for these Outstanding Florida Waters. One workshop for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers would be fine.

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
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Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water

Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

-

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Nancy |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Darrell; bjhurley@comcast.net |
| **Subject:** | GB Meeting-Brooksville and Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto |
| **Date:** | Saturday, August 11, 2012 5:17:31 PM |

---

Per Brad Rimbey's request, this is to advise you that Citrus County Audubon Society agrees that the revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations be presented during the October 30th SWFWMD Governing Board meeting in Brooksville. Please let us know the date and details of the proposed MFL public workshop in Lecanto. Thanks! Nancy Kost for Citrus County Audubon Society

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Thursday, August 09, 2012 11:54 AM
**To:** Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
**Subject:** Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto

Doug,

I appreciate your email dated Tuesday (Aug 7, 2012) indicating SWFWMD's decision to postpone its revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations to SWFWMD's Governing Board. The decision to present the revised Springs Coast MFL recommendations at the October 30 SWFWMD GB meeting in Brooksville is much more reasonable and we appreciate your efforts to make that happen.

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For those of you who are being copied on this, please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us .

Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

----- Original Message -----
From: Brad Rimbey
To: Doug Leeper
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 4:23 PM
Subject: Re: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

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held in Tampa. The November SWFWMD GB meeting will be in Haines City. The December SWFWMD GB will be back in Brooksville.

Please take a moment to let Doug know your thoughts on this. His email address is Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us . I hate to put this off until December but perhaps that is the best option to allow local input to be heard by SWFWMD's GB on this important issue. August 28 is off the table.

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Brad W. Rimbey, P.E. for the
Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address

(fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
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Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**PHONE LOG**

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

**Issue:** Minimum flows development for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems.

**Caller:** Hope Corona, 10024 South Rivieria Point, Homosassa, FL 34448

**District Representative:** Doug Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Water Resources Bureau

**Date:** August 13, 2012

**Notes:**

1. Hope Corona called Doug Leeper to request a printed copy of the District's minimum flows report for the Weeki Wachee River system. Mr. Leeper offered to send Ms. Corona a copy of the document via the U.S. Mail.

2. Ms. Corona asked questions about the methods used to establish minimum flows for freshwater and estuarine portions of the Weeki Wachee River system. Mr. Leeper explained how the methods used by the District for establishing minimum flows for freshwater river segments may not be used for tidally influenced rivers such as the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa systems.

3. Ms. Corona asked about a column included in one of the tables in the District report addressing proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka River system, and Mr. Leeper was able to address her question.

**From:** L Ness
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** October 30 SWFWMD GB meeting in Brooksville
**Date:** Monday, August 13, 2012 10:36:21 PM

---

Dear Doug Leeper,
I don't think it is fair to have a meeting about the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers in Tampa, and it certainly makes it harder for working folks like myself to take a day off to attend. Thank you for motioning to have a meeting in Brooksville, which is closer. Is there any way to hold the meeting in a Citrus County venue, since they are Citrus County rivers? It would be even better for Citrus folks to be involved. I agree that one meeting for both rivers would be fine, but if that meeting is held on a work day, working folks may not get to attend if it is held in another county. Just feedback from a citizen on the Chassahowitzka. Thanks for all you are doing to allow us to be involved in the decisions made about our own back yards.
~Laura Nessola, ffl.ness@gmail.com

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Fw: Additional Springs Coast MFL Workshop in Lecanto
**Date:** Wednesday, August 15, 2012 2:51:15 PM

---

Doug,

I did not receive a reply to this email. Are you thinking about it or just ignoring me ;-). Is SWFWMD intending to hold another Springs Coast MFL meeting to explain the basis for the revised Springs Coast MFLs?

Brad

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Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2012 11:54 AM
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> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Doug Leeper
> To: Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com) ; Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com) ; Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov) ; Brad Rimbey (BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com) ; Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com) ; Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us) ; Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com) ; Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov) ; Greenwood, Kathleen ; Helen Spive ; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net) ; Hoehn, Ted ; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com) ; Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com) ; Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org) ; Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org) ; Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov) ; Richard Radacky (rradacky@cityofbrooksville.us) ; Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com) ; Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com) ; Sulllivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com) ; Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us) ; Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com) ; (janicehowie@aol.com) ; Abdon Sidibie ; Alex McPherson (aamcpherson@msn.com) ; Ann - 2 Hodgson (ahodgson@gmail.com) ; Ann Hodgson (ahodgson@audubon.org) ; Bernard Berauer (bfberauer@aol.com) ; Beverly Overa (boverly@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bill Garvin (wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Bob Caldwell (Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com) ; Brack Barker (brack154@msn.com) ; Carl Mattthai (thebabesmimi@gmail.com) ; Casey, Emily (fcnwr@atlantic.net) ; Charles Dean (dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov) ; Charles Stonerock (katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com) ; Chris Safos (chrissafos@embarqmail.com) ; Czerwinski, Mike (mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com) ; Darlene Herth (2cetechnology21@gmail.com) ; Darrell Snedecor (president@citruscountyaudubon.com) ; Don Hiers (dhiers3@gmail.com) ; Douglas Dame (doug_dame@yahoo.com) ; Elaine Luther (barneyandcap@hotmail.com) ; Emily Casey (ecasey21@hotmail.com) ; Emma Knight (eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com) ; George Harbin (gharbin@tampabay.rr.com) ; George McClog (classof47@gmail.com) ; Gorgon O'Connor (gorgon_o@yahoo.com) ; Harry Steiner (harry109@aol.com) ; Jack Calbeck (calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us) ; jane Perrin (jcsperrinmd@sbcglobal.net) ; Jerry Morton (JerrMorton@aol.com) ; Jessie Gourlie (gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com) ; Jim Collins (jimmiekey22@yahoo.com) ; Jimmie Smith (Jimmie.Smith@myfloridahouse.gov) ; Joe Calamari ; John Lord (jclord109@yahoo.com) ; John Mayo (freedomway1@gmail.com) ; Karen Johnstone (kjohns213@sbcglobal.net) ; Kim Caldwell (caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com) ; Kim Dinkins (kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org) ; Linda Pierce (tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com) ; Linda Vanderveen (hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com) ; Mary Anne Lynn (mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com) ; Matthew Corona (mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com) ; Max Rhinesmith (rhinesmith@webtv.net) ; Amber Breland ; Andy Houston (ahouston@crystalriverfl.org) ; Art Yerian (Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us) ; Ben Weiss ; Beth Hovinde ; Brad Thorpe (brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us)

; Courtney Edwards (cedwards@savethemanatee.org) ; Dale Jones (Jones@MyFWC.com) ; Dana Bryan (dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us) ; Darrell Snedecor ; David Hamilton (countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us) ; David Hankla (david_hankla@fws.gov) ; Don Wright (wright@sura.org) ; Dusty McDevitt (mcdevitt@usgs.gov) ; Ed Call (marvin.call@MyFWC.com) ; Eric Nagid (eric.nagid@MyFWC.com) ; FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address (fwcconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com) ; J. J. Kenney (jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Jennene Norman-Vacha (jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us) ; Joyce_Kleen@fws.gov ; Kandi Harper (kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us) ; Keith Ramos (Keith.Ramos@fws.gov) ; Kent Smith (kent.smith2@myfwc.com) ; Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov) ; Michael Lusk (Michael_Lusk@fws.gov) ; Mitchell Newberger (mnewberger@verizon.net) ; Nick Robbins (Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us) ; Nicole Adimey (Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov) ; Paul Thomas (paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com) ; Ron Mezich (ron.mezich@MyFWC.com) ; Shelly Yaun (shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us) ; Toby Brewer (Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us) ; Tracy Colson ; Wallace, Traci ; Adkins, Jim ; Bitter, Jim ; Bryant, Richard ; Cantero, Vince ; Carpenter, Paul ; Cheek, Ken ; Daniels, Chase ; Dueker, Duane ; Gordon, Lisa-Perras ; Gramling, Hugh ; Harrelson, Cathy ; Hubbell, Pete ; Johnson, Eric ; Johnson, Martyn ; Keim, Robert ; Kincaid, Todd ; Kline, Allen ; Knight, Bob ; Knudson, Ross ; Overa, Tom ; Owen, Rick ; Parrow, Liz ; Rolf Auermann (rauerman@tampabay.rr.com) ; Rusnak, Teddi ; Tarochinoe, Joseph ; Watkins, Priscilla ; Watrous, Russell ; Weber, Ken ; Wilson, Roger ; WRWSA ; aquahab@gmail.com ; bocacatlover@gmail.com ; bruceseaman@zoho.com ; btrfly21@msn.com ; casabianca@live.com ; celesteas@gmail.com ; christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com ; citizen@fsmail.net ; dancross@bellsouth.net ; dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net ; dreandvicki@bellsouth.net ; earthy_wolf@hotmail.com ; ecocosm@bellsouth.net ; egarvett@gmail.com ; gmorotti@gmail.com ; gregatourhouse@hotmail.com ; Gulf Restoration Network ; heylady1948@yahoo.com ; jjinabnw@att.net ; jumby8@yahoo.com ; karensmith187@gmail.com ; licy75@aol.com ; linda@perry.net ; llbalaw@gmail.com ; mccunesfla@aol.com ; mejides@yahoo.com ; mshargel@gmail.com ; mwalker13fr@gmail.com ; pete22roc@aol.com ; prunemstr@aol.com ; rebeccaruby@msn.com ; riverguide2000@yahoo.com ; robertadever@yahoo.com ; robsand@bellsouth.net ; ronm430@aol.com ; rrriley71@att.net ; rst333@hotmail.com ; salleeba@me.com ; ssiegmann@gmail.com ; staceydaniels@shellpoint.org ; sunpreston@gmail.com ; sunwrent@aol.com ; tonytke@yahoo.com ; warrior_red@hotmail.com ; zeroggirl@gmail.com ; ahlers.karen@gmail.com ; apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com ; catsandcrocs@yahoo.com ; cattleya@comcast.net ; dan-lesley@att.net ; detororachel@yahoo.com ; gunnhonican@aol.com ; jackyboy86@gmail.com ; jehallh20@aol.com ; jimbrunton@yahoo.com ; kbolomey@aol.com ; l.j.travers@gmail.com ; lazygin@bellsouth.net ; lfurgal@yahoo.com ; lrdevine@yahoo.com ; lrpm2@yahoo.com ; lrpm22@gmail.com ; meem4822@aol.com ; melissa.allen@hotmail.com ; missyno@bellsouth.net ; obyrnen@bellsouth.net ; pjtpowers@hotmail.com ; popcomic@tampabay.rr.com ; rfay808700@aol.com ; rhinopias@comcast.net ; scott.logan@aon.com ; segnbora@gmail.com ; snorklmike@yahoo.com ; studio8@infionline.net ; tabdolphins@yahoo.com ; tno2007@aol.com ; vaughan@fireflyclay.com ; youelyoga@gmail.com ; ziffel1@bellsouth.net ; aairis@aol.com ; babij204@msn.com ; ban260zz@yahoo.com ; bv@wvmlaw.com ; crmcglone@moose-mail.com ; dirgis3@aol.com ; dougpowless@hotmail.com ; facwetkat@hotmail.com ; faithoogs@aol.com ; firewaterair@gmail.com ; gomerlu@yahoo.com ; jacketchmson@hotmail.com ; jnovotny@comcast.net ; jrzjr@yahoo.com ; keth@awakening-healing.com ; Krayer, Gus ; lbedinger@yahoo.com ; long5892@bellsouth.net ; lori_mccraney@yahoo.com ; mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net ; masonfamily@centurylink.net ; morgan@cc-events.org ; navistar@wildmail.com ; parneixr@cfl.rr.com ; quehoraes7@aol.com ; rantala.mervi@gmail.com ; robin@greenerpixels.com ; saralee.lem@gmail.com ; scooke1107@hotmail.com ; segocl@aol.com ; sharonbrich@yahoo.com ; skeiser@dadeschools.net ; slnofear@aol.com ; tcglover58@hotmail.com ; tcsmith57@hotmail.com ; terry@awakening-healing.com ; treehugger52768@gmail.com ; vinnymullins@live.com
Sent: Monday, July 30, 2012 12:16 PM
Subject: Appendices for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flow Reports

Greetings:

I am writing to inform you that appendices associated with updated Southwest Florida Water

Management District reports on proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now available from the District web site. The appendices are posted under the "Appendix" column for each system on the *Minimum Flows and Levels (Environmental Flows) Documents and Report Page* at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php

-

Thank you for your continued interest and support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Alan Martyn Johnson |
| **To:** | Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl |
| **Subject:** | Where would all the water flow according to the NDM |
| **Date:** | Thursday, August 16, 2012 8:05:05 AM |

I have diligently been reading the Revised Reports for both Chassahowitzka and Homosassa. Overall I note the change of focus to natural flow, a term which does not appear in the Statute. I have pages of questions and comments, so many, I thought it best to take a step back for a moment and look at the big picture.

I came up with this question.

Where would all the water flow with no pumping of groundwater (the non pumping scenario)?

Two Memorandums focused my attention;

- December 1, 2008 from Ron Basso - Predicted Groundwater Withdrawal Impacts to Chassahowitzka Springs based on Numerical Model Results
- February 15, 2010 from Ron Basso - Predicted Groundwater Withdrawal Impacts to Homosassa Springs based on Numerical Model Results

Both predict a decrease of spring flow of 0.7 cfs for the respective springs. But the big picture is the 438.1 mgd pumping for 2005 referenced in the Homosassa memo for the entire NDM and/or the 458 mgd in the Chassahowitzka memo. I suspect the difference is simply a typographical error; so assuming the figure is 450 mgd, this is about 670 cfs. That is six first magnitude springs.

So in the NDM non pumping scenario where would all this water go?

Would the Peace River still be flowing; just a thought.

As I read these memos, they very specifically identify 'groundwater pumping' not surface water.

If you have time I would be interested to see the big picture of where all this water would go in the non pumping scenario, and you may be able to update it for 2011 pumpage.

*Just as a commentary: I am pleased to see how the recent rains have improved the waters entering both these rivers;*

- *Specific Conductance readings are lower, presumably due to either less seawater ingress, or higher discharge of the better quality water from the aquifer,*
- *Discharge cfs increased immediately Weeki Wachee Well levels increased, according to the calculated discharge data, which implies pumpage in the Weeki Wachee locale does influence the two referenced rivers.*

Weeki Wachee MFL report includes comment about the 450 mgd reducing discharge from the spring by 9.7 cfs; not much of the 670 cfs.

Martyn

**From:** Brad Rimbey
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Fw: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar
**Date:** Thursday, August 16, 2012 5:04:07 PM
**Attachments:** ATT00001.png

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Doug,

This is the email that I was referencing during our telephone conversation today. Since an ADVM was previously funded and installed at Chassahowitzka Main, maybe it should get some priority for reinstallation. I think it could yield some useful information during the Chassahowitzka Main Spring Restoration Project. If you can think of a way I can help make this happen, please let me know.

Brad

----- Original Message -----
From: Kevin J Grimsley
To: Brad Rimbey
Cc: Chris.Zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us ; Martyn Johnson ; Veronica.Craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2012 4:35 PM
Subject: Re: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar

Hi Brad,

I'm sorry, but I can't really answer your immediate question about whether the CFI workshop is the proper forum for this or not. Someone from SWFWMD would have to address that. You are correct that it would probably take up to a year to "calibrate" the velocity meter after installation in order to produce discharge. However, once the rating is developed the resulting discharge is available back to the date of installation of the velocity meter.

**********
Kevin Grimsley, P.E.
Hydrologic Data Chief, Tampa
USGS, Florida Water Science Center
10500 University Center Drive, Suite 215
Tampa, FL 33612
kjgrims@usgs.gov
813-498-5064
**********

From: "Brad Rimbey" <BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com>
To: <Veronica.Craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, <kjgrims@usgs.gov>
Cc: "Martyn Johnson" <martynellijay@hotmail.com>, <Chris.Zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Date: 08/13/2012 11:31 AM
Subject: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar

---

Hi Kevin,

Some time ago, we had discussed the potential of installing an Acoustic Doppler Velocity Meter at Chassahowitzka Main (USGS 02310650). Is SWFWMD's Cooperative Funding Initiative workshop the appropriate forum to present such a proposal (see email below)?

As you may know, SWFWMD has been trying to launch the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project for several years. There are multiple spring vents in the headspring area which have silted in over the years and they no longer flow. Also, the main spring has accumulated several logs down in the crevice. As the restoration project proceeds and spring vents are cleared of muck and logs, it would be helpful to see if there is a net increase in flow coming from the Chassahowitzka Main Spring group.

It seems an ADVM would be the preferred tool for detecting any net increase in spring flow. The pressure transducer currently being used to gather data for stage-based calculated flows really needs to be replaced with modern technology. Based on the installation of ADVM's at Homosassa's SE Fork and Halls River, it takes quite awhile to get the ADVM's calibrated. Assuming you agree with my assessment, an ADVM really needs to be installed at Chassahowitzka Main now so that it will be ready to report changes in flow when the headspring restoration project begins next spring/summer.

Please let me know your thoughts on this. Thanks.

Brad Rimbey

----- Original Message -----
**From:** Chris Zajac
**Sent:** Thursday, August 02, 2012 2:42 PM
**Subject:** FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions/concerns about the application due dates.

During the webinar District staff will discuss changes in the application deadline (***October 5, 2012 at 5 p.m.***) and project guidelines. Please make plans to join us in Brooksville or online on August 17, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Chris Zajac
Government Affairs Manager
Northern Planning Region
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604
(352) 796-7211 ext. 4413
Cell # 352-299-5538
chris.zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us

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**From:** Veronica Craw
**To:** Brad Rimbey; kjgrims@usgs.gov
**Cc:** Martyn Johnson; Chris Zajac
**Subject:** RE: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar
**Date:** Tuesday, August 21, 2012 4:23:23 PM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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Hello all,
I'd like to chime in a bit on this topic.

The Cooperative Funding Program was established to assist local governments to implement projects they would otherwise not be able to fund themselves. Typically, the District and USGS partner outside of that program.

District staff are currently examining the potential to fund this ADVM at Chassahowitzka using existing funds. This would allow us to proceed with this project as soon as an agreement with USGS is executed. We'll let you know the outcome of our examination of remaining available funds.

Sincerely,
Veronica Craw

**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Monday, August 13, 2012 11:31 AM
**To:** Veronica Craw; kjgrims@usgs.gov
**Cc:** Martyn Johnson; Chris Zajac
**Subject:** FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar

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Please let me know your thoughts on this. Thanks.

Brad Rimbey

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Ron Miller |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman |
| **Subject:** | Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update |
| **Date:** | Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:37:10 PM |

---

Hi Doug,

What time & where does the Gov Board meet on Oct 30?
If we want to have the stakeholders attend the MFL discussion can it be made "time certain" on the agenda?

Ron

**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:30 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

We had originally planned to present our revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems to our Governing Board this month. However, multiple public participants requested more time to review our recommendations and backup materials, including the additional analyses completed in response to public comment.

To accommodate these requests, we are delaying our Governing Board presentation until the October 30 meeting. This change will provide the additional time requested to review the materials and provide comment to the District.

Also, the October 30 Governing Board meeting location has been changed to Brooksville for the convenience of those who may wish to travel to the Board meeting to provide comment. Board meetings are open to the public and individuals or group representatives may address the Board concerning any meeting agenda item or other water management issue.

As a reminder, the District has established a web site for accepting comments on the proposed minimum flows at:

WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL

Please submit all comments on the revised recommended minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems through this web page. The District is accepting comments via this web page through **Wednesday, October 17, 2012**. Comments submitted after this date should be submitted in writing via e-mail or letter, using the following contact information.

Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | "Ron Miller" |
| **Bcc:** | Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw; Eric DeHaven; Kenneth R. Herd; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Lou Kavouras |
| **Subject:** | RE: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 27, 2012 5:26:00 AM |

Hi Ron –

The District Governing Board meeting on October 30, 2012 will be held in the Board Room of the District Headquarters at 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. I'll have to check with other staff regarding your inquiry about "time-certain" scheduling for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa minimum flows and levels agenda item. I'll get back to you on this issue.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:37 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

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**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2012 3:30 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

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Email: executive@watermatters.org

Address: 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604, ATTN: Governing Board

Thanks for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rdugek@vcykrx.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, August 27, 2012 7:45:57 AM |

## Hi izxkpoff,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*89Gc52 wpvkfvlloqrs, [url=http://pjweobwqjgjn.com/]pjweobwqjgjn[/url], [link=http://pzwlusioqtzz.com/]pzwlusioqtzz[/link], http://zzfeyvveuwew.com/*

**From:** Ron Basso
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Cc:** Jerry Mallams; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
**Subject:** RE: Where would all the water flow according to the NDM
**Date:** Monday, August 27, 2012 9:51:12 AM

---

Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your interest and continued support for the development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems.

The revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are scheduled to be presented to the Southwest Florida Water Management District's (District) Governing Board **9 a.m., Tuesday, October 30, 2012.** The meeting will be held at the District Headquarters in Brooksville**.** Click here for directions.

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A webpage is established at *WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL* to accept public comments on the proposed minimum flow recommendations for these river systems. The District is accepting comments via this webpage through **Wednesday, October 17, 2012**. After this date, comments may be submitted in writing via email at *executive@watermatters.org* or by mail to:

ATTN: Governing Board
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604

Ron Basso, P.G.
Senior Professional Geologist
Resource Evaluation Section
Southwest Florida Water Management District
ph 1-800-423-1476 (in state)
ph 352-796-7211, ext. 4291 (outside state)
FAX 352-797-5799
*The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones. - William Faulkner*

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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Thursday, August 16, 2012 8:05 AM
**To:** Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
**Subject:** Where would all the water flow according to the NDM

I have diligently been reading the Revised Reports for both Chassahowitzka and Homosassa. Overall I note the change of focus to natural flow, a term which does not appear in the Statute. I have pages of questions and comments, so many, I thought it best to take a step back for a moment and look at the big picture.

I came up with this question.

Where would all the water flow with no pumping of groundwater (the non pumping scenario)?

Two Memorandums focused my attention;

- December 1, 2008 from Ron Basso - Predicted Groundwater Withdrawal Impacts to Chassahowitzka Springs based on Numerical Model Results
- February 15, 2010 from Ron Basso - Predicted Groundwater Withdrawal Impacts to Homosassa Springs based on Numerical Model Results

Both predict a decrease of spring flow of 0.7 cfs for the respective springs. But the big picture is the 438.1 mgd pumping for 2005 referenced in the Homosassa memo for the entire NDM and/or the 458 mgd in the Chassahowitzka memo. I suspect the difference is simply a typographical error; so assuming the figure is 450 mgd, this is about 670 cfs. That is six first magnitude springs.

So in the NDM non pumping scenario where would all this water go?

Would the Peace River still be flowing; just a thought.

As I read these memos, they very specifically identify 'groundwater pumping' not surface water.

If you have time I would be interested to see the big picture of where all this water would go in the non pumping scenario, and you may be able to update it for 2011 pumpage.

*Just as a commentary: I am pleased to see how the recent rains have improved the waters entering both these rivers;*

- *Specific Conductance readings are lower, presumably due to either less seawater ingress, or higher discharge of the better quality water from the aquifer,*
- *Discharge cfs increased immediately Weeki Wachee Well levels increased, according to the calculated discharge data, which implies pumpage in the Weeki Wachee locale does influence the two referenced rivers.*

Weeki Wachee MFL report includes comment about the 450 mgd reducing discharge from the spring by 9.7 cfs; not much of the 670 cfs.

Martyn

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Ron Miller"
**Bcc:** Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw; Eric DeHaven; Kenneth R. Herd; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Robyn O. Felix; Virginia Singer; Lou Kavouras
**Subject:** RE: Time-Certain Request
**Date:** Monday, August 27, 2012 3:56:00 PM

---

Ron –

I'm following up on the e-mail you sent yesterday and the reply I sent this morning.

I spoke with Lou Kavourus, our Board & Executive Services Bureaus Chief about your "time-certain" request and she indicated that staff will ask the Governing Board Chair to make the Resource Management Committee, which is the committee that will be discussing the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs agenda item, the first committee meeting of the day.

If the Chair agrees to this request, the Resource Management Committee will follow the Convene Public Hearing and Meeting items (call to order, employee recognition, etc.) and the Consent Agenda items, and will likely begin within the first half-hour or so of the Board meeting.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:37 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Hi Doug,

What time & where does the Gov Board meet on Oct 30?
If we want to have the stakeholders attend the MFL discussion can it be made "time certain" on the agenda?

Ron

*Remainder of e-mail string deleted by D. Leeper*

**From:** Ron Miller
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Time-Certain Request
**Date:** Monday, August 27, 2012 9:38:04 PM

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That sounds good.
Thank You,
Ron

**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Monday, August 27, 2012 3:56 PM
**To:** Ron Miller
**Subject:** RE: Time-Certain Request

Ron –

I'm following up on the e-mail you sent yesterday and the reply I sent this morning.

I spoke with Lou Kavourus, our Board & Executive Services Bureaus Chief about your "time-certain" request and she indicated that staff will ask the Governing Board Chair to make the Resource Management Committee, which is the committee that will be discussing the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs agenda item, the first committee meeting of the day.

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*Remainder of e-mail string deleted by D. Leeper*

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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Ron Basso
**Cc:** Jerry Mallams; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
**Subject:** RE: Where would all the water flow according to the NDM
**Date:** Tuesday, August 28, 2012 8:37:07 AM

---

Ron and 'Staff',
Thanks for the e-mail. Reading between the lines it sounds like there is a SWFWMD policy to not respond to questions regarding the Revised MFL Reports; and allow public comment to accumulate on the web site.

You have to admit it was an interesting question I asked and I a feeling you did discuss it some!

I have read the reports in detail out of concern for the future of these Outstanding Florida Waters and given the relentless pursuit by SWFWMD (the total entity) to justify sucking more water from the aquifer. Given the present and planned withdrawals there is only a legal perception for 'natural flow' to become so important in the revised reports. 'Natural flow' was mentioned twice in the original report for Chassahowitzka and 11 times in the Revised Report; for Homosassa it went from 4 to 16.

Let me point to a few of the many questions/comments, but there is no need to reply.
Chassahowitzka (only because it was the most recent read)
I note on page xviii reference to Section 3.1.3; I am not able to find this, possibly the intended reference was to Chapter 3.2. On the same page there is reference to Section 1.4.3; again I am not able to find this.

On the same subject, correcting the flow record (mentioned on that same page) I am not able to find the origin of the correction factors of 1.011 for the gage site, 1.0147 for Crab Creek, 1.0073 for Potter etc as presented specifically on page 18: Where did these originate? Basso 2008 Section 11.2 (in the appendices) does not include these figures. Comment: If there is an impact by groundwater withdrawals on the considerably more saline springs such as Crab and Potter I would have thought it much different to the springs yielding lower salinity water such as in the unnamed tributary Bubba Spring. These correction factors give the impression of accuracy that appears to be scientifically lacking validity.

Martyn

---

From: Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
CC: Jerry.Mallams@swfwmd.state.fl.us; Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us; Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Date: Mon, 27 Aug 2012 09:51:10 -0400
Subject: RE: Where would all the water flow according to the NDM

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | martynellijay@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, August 28, 2012 5:40:22 PM |

## Hi Martyn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*SUBJECT: ACCURACY OF DISCHARGE DATA HOMOSASSA RIVER 18 months ago I raised questions regarding the accuracy of discharge data calculated for the USGS stations on the Homosassa River. Most specifically I expressed interest in the SE Fork gage station 02310688, somehow this resulted in a velocity meter being installed at considerable expense. Data from the meter has been collected every hour since installation September 9, 2011. USGS and SWFWMD senior executives should be asking why this data is not available to either confirm or correct the 'calculated' discharge data which is directly related to the level in the Weeki Wachee Well. If the calculated discharge data is correct (or close) when averaged over a meaningful timeframe, this adds credibility to the argument that withdrawals in the Weeki Wachee area do influence flow at the Homosassa Springs. The Revised MFL Report appears to argue only local withdrawals are changing the flow from the springs. The arguments appear to lack consistency. So when will the data be available. A USGS head office review conducted in January 2012 recommended the equations be updated (this could also mean reviewed) given all the data since the equations were implemented.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | Ron Basso; Mike Heyl |
| **Cc:** | Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw |
| **Subject:** | FW: Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, August 28, 2012 6:02:00 PM |

**From:** WaterMatters.org [mailto:info@WaterMatters.org]
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 28, 2012 5:35 PM
**To:** martynellijay@hotmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Alan Martyn Johnson |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Ron Basso; Mike Heyl |
| **Subject:** | Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River |
| **Date:** | Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:34:31 AM |

Doug,
I was pleased to receive a confirmation and Thank You e-mail, regarding comment I posted on the web site; and noted that you are copied. Good job by whoever organized this; I was concerned comments were going to accumulate both unread as well as unanswered.

This e-mail is not directly about the MFL Reports, but about funding/investments.

We are within 10 days of the anniversary of the start of operation of the velocity meter at the SE Fork station (September 9 @ 12:15 hour). The most recent Field Measurements only add to the concerns I have previously expressed. I have copied the specific data below for ease of reference, but my concern is data collected from these investments, SE Fork and Halls River Velocity Meters, is not being made available . This is troubling as USGS is going to discontinue monitoring of some wells in the area due to lack of sponsorship, yet data from these recently funded projects is 'intentionally' hidden. I am sure you are aware that velocity data from the Halls River 'new' site (installed March 2012) was on line for a few months before being 'hidden'. What is the sense in spending these scarce resources and not getting any value from them?

I would appreciate if you can share the timeframe for velocity data to be made available from these two sites in the Homosassa River. I appreciate there is more involved in converting velocity to discharge (determining stage area and how it changes with stage, plus verification by field measurements), but velocity as seen by the instrument is raw data and meaningful raw data.

FYI I have spoken to the manufacturer's technical personnel regarding location of these meters and how quickly meaning full data can be obtained, both velocity and discharge. Let's just say one year is difficult to understand and the SE Fork location is not ideal as it is at a location where flow direction changes significantly.

On a more positive note, the delay has at least given the chance to observe a range of conditions with Weeki Wachee Well starting around 15 ft. last September/October, dropping to a low of 10.86 ft. in May, and to the high of 18.84 ft. in July.

On a personal note I am pleased to see the significant increase in levels in the aquifer, due to tropical storm Debby, have resulted in improved quality of water emanating both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs. I will be in Homosassa the next two weeks and plan on monitoring the springs as I have in the past. Really interested to see if strong flow has reestablished at some of the smaller vents.

Doug, SWFWMD and us folks that pay the taxes which make all this possible need a timeframe for data from these investments with USGS.

Martyn

Recent Field Measurements Stream flow and ‘as close as possible time’ Calculated flow from USGS 02310688 SE Fork.

| Meas. Number | Date | Time | Stream flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated flow ($ft^3/s$) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 234 | 2012-08-16 | 14:49:08 | 74.3 | 37 |
| 233 | 2012-08-16 | 14:40:53 | 78.4 | 37 |
| 232 | 2012-08-16 | 14:23:38 | 78.7 | |
| 231 | 2012-08-16 | 14:16:06 | 70.7 | |
| 230 | 2012-08-16 | 14:09:03 | 77.8 | 43 |
| 229 | 2012-08-16 | 10:30:23 | 90.7 | 76 |

Time series observations from USGS 02310688 SE Fork

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08/16/2012 10:15 EST | 1.17[P] | 76[P] | 960[P] | 24.5[P] | 0.55[P] |
| 08/16/2012 10:30 EST | 1.15[P] | **76**[P] | 970[P] | 24.4[P] | 0.53[P] |
| 08/16/2012 10:45 EST | 1.13[P] | 76[P] | 950[P] | 24.3[P] | 0.51[P] |
| 08/16/2012 11:00 EST | 1.11[P] | 77[P] | 930[P] | 24.1[P] | 0.49[P] |
| 08/16/2012 11:15 EST | [P] | [P] | 980[P] | 24.3[P] | [P] |
| 08/16/2012 11:30 EST | 1.12[P] | 64[P] | 980[P] | 24.4[P] | 0.50[P] |
| 08/16/2012 11:45 EST | 1.15[P] | 55[P] | 980[P] | 24.5[P] | 0.53[P] |
| 08/16/2012 12:00 EST | 1.21[P] | 42[P] | 970[P] | 24.5[P] | 0.59[P] |
| 08/16/2012 12:15 EST | [P] | [P] | 1,040[P] | 24.5[P] | [P] |
| 08/16/2012 12:30 EST | 1.28[P] | 37[P] | 960[P] | 24.7[P] | 0.66[P] |
| 08/16/2012 12:45 EST | 1.34[P] | 41[P] | 1,240[P] | 24.3[P] | 0.72[P] |
| 08/16/2012 13:00 EST | 1.37[P] | 53[P] | 1,130[P] | 24.4[P] | 0.75[P] |
| 08/16/2012 13:15 EST | [P] | [P] | 1,330[P] | 24.5[P] | [P] |
| 08/16/2012 13:30 EST | 1.47[P] | 23[P] | 1,300[P] | 24.5[P] | 0.85[P] |
| 08/16/2012 13:45 EST | 1.52[P] | 43[P] | 1,180[P] | 24.6[P] | 0.90[P] |
| 08/16/2012 14:00 EST | 1.57[P] | **43**[P] | 1,100[P] | 24.5[P] | 0.95[P] |
| 08/16/2012 14:15 EST | [P] | [P] | 950[P] | 24.8[P] | [P] |
| 08/16/2012 14:30 EST | 1.68[P] | **16**[P] | 1,250[P] | 24.6[P] | 1.06[P] |
| 08/16/2012 14:45 EST | 1.74[P] | **37**[P] | 1,050[P] | 24.7[P] | 1.12[P] |
| 08/16/2012 15:00 EST | 1.79[P] | 40[P] | 1,210[P] | 24.6[P] | 1.17[P] |

Blue colored data is using a 30 minute stage change and is not comparable.

**From:** Veronica Craw
**To:** Mike Heyl; Philip Rhinesmith; Sid Flannery
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** FW: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar
**Date:** Wednesday, August 22, 2012 5:24:06 PM
**Attachments:** image001.png

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**********

Veronica Craw
Environmental Section Manager
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604
352-796-7211 ext. 4267
veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us

---

**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 21, 2012 7:00 PM
**To:** Veronica Craw; kjgrims@usgs.gov
**Cc:** Martyn Johnson; Chris Zajac
**Subject:** Re: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar

Thanks Veronica. I'm not sure if you are aware that an ADVM was installed at Chassahowitzka Main sometime in the past. Reportedly, aquatic vegetation caused it to malfunction and it was subsequently removed. Since an ADVM was previously funded and installed at Chassahowitzka Main, maybe it could get some priority for reinstallation. The aquatic vegetation should no longer be an issue. I think it could yield some useful information during the Chassahowitzka Main Spring Restoration Project. If you can think of a way I can help make this happen, please let me know.

Brad W. Rimbey

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: Veronica Craw
> To: Brad Rimbey ; kjgrims@usgs.gov
> Cc: Martyn Johnson ; Chris Zajac
> Sent: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 4:23 PM
> Subject: RE: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar
>
> Hello all,
> I'd like to chime in a bit on this topic.
>
> The Cooperative Funding Program was established to assist local governments to implement projects they would otherwise not be able to fund themselves. Typically, the District and USGS partner outside of that program.
>
> District staff are currently examining the potential to fund this ADVM at Chassahowitzka using existing funds. This would allow us to proceed with this project as soon as an agreement with USGS is executed. We'll let you know the outcome of our examination of remaining available funds.
>
> Sincerely,
> Veronica Craw
>
> **********
> Veronica Craw
> Environmental Section Manager
> Southwest Florida Water Management District
> 2379 Broad Street
> Brooksville, FL 34604
> 352-796-7211 ext. 4267
> veronica.craw@swfwmd.state.fl.us
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
> **Sent:** Monday, August 13, 2012 11:31 AM
> **To:** Veronica Craw; kjgrims@usgs.gov
> **Cc:** Martyn Johnson; Chris Zajac
> **Subject:** FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar
>
> Hi Kevin,
>
> Some time ago, we had discussed the potential of installing an Acoustic Doppler Velocity Meter at Chassahowitzka Main (USGS 02310650). Is

SWFWMD's Cooperative Funding Initiative workshop the appropriate forum to present such a proposal (see email below)?

As you may know, SWFWMD has been trying to launch the Chassahowitzka Headspring Restoration Project for several years. There are multiple spring vents in the headspring area which have silted in over the years and they no longer flow. Also, the main spring has accumulated several logs down in the crevice. As the restoration project proceeds and spring vents are cleared of muck and logs, it would be helpful to see if there is a net increase in flow coming from the Chassahowitzka Main Spring group.

It seems an ADVM would be the preferred tool for detecting any net increase in spring flow. The pressure transducer currently being used to gather data for stage-based calculated flows really needs to be replaced with modern technology. Based on the installation of ADVM's at Homosassa's SE Fork and Halls River, it takes quite awhile to get the ADVM's calibrated. Assuming you agree with my assessment, an ADVM really needs to be installed at Chassahowitzka Main now so that it will be ready to report changes in flow when the headspring restoration project begins next spring/summer.

Please let me know your thoughts on this. Thanks.

Brad Rimbey

----- Original Message -----
From: Chris Zajac
Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2012 2:42 PM
Subject: FY 2014 Cooperative Funding Initiative Webinar

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions/concerns about the application due dates.

During the webinar District staff will discuss changes in the application deadline (***October 5, 2012 at 5 p.m.***) and project guidelines. Please make plans to join us in Brooksville or online on August 17, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Chris Zajac
Government Affairs Manager
Northern Planning Region
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604
(352) 796-7211 ext. 4413
Cell # 352-299-5538
chris.zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us

No virus found in this message.
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5160 - Release Date: 07/28/12

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Checked by AVG - www.avg.com
Version: 2012.0.2197 / Virus Database: 2437/5207 - Release Date: 08/18/12

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Brad Rimbey |
| **To:** | Ralph Kerr; Mark Hammond; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper |
| **Cc:** | Brent Whitley |
| **Subject:** | Fw: SLR v. Groundwater pumping |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, September 05, 2012 7:03:14 AM |
| **Attachments:** | Pokhrel et al sealevel rise paper12.pdf |

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All,

Dan Hilliard with W.A.R., Inc. recently forwarded the attached paper which relates groundwater withdrawals to sealevel rise. I thought you guys might find it interesting.

Brad Rimbey

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | Mike Heyl; kwatson@hsweng.com; Jerry Mallams; Sid Flannery |
| **Subject:** | FW: SLR v. Groundwater pumping |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, September 05, 2012 7:41:00 AM |
| **Attachments:** | Pokhrel et al sealevel rise paper12.pdf |

---

-----Original Message-----
From: Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 7:03 AM
To: Ralph Kerr; Mark Hammond; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
Cc: Brent Whitley
Subject: Fw: SLR v. Groundwater pumping

All,

Dan Hilliard with W.A.R., Inc. recently forwarded the attached paper which relates groundwater withdrawals to sealevel rise. I thought you guys might find it interesting.

Brad Rimbey

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Brad Rimbey"
**Subject:** RE: SLR v. Groundwater pumping
**Date:** Wednesday, September 05, 2012 7:43:00 AM

---

Thanks Brad.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----
From: Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2012 7:03 AM
To: Ralph Kerr; Mark Hammond; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
Cc: Brent Whitley
Subject: Fw: SLR v. Groundwater pumping

All,

Dan Hilliard with W.A.R., Inc. recently forwarded the attached paper which relates groundwater withdrawals to sealevel rise. I thought you guys might find it interesting.

Brad Rimbey

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Ron Basso |
| **To:** | Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl |
| **Cc:** | Jerry Mallams |
| **Subject:** | FW: SLR v. Groundwater pumping |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, September 05, 2012 8:30:24 AM |
| **Attachments:** | Pokhrel et al sealevel rise paper12.pdf<br>ATT00001.htm |

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FYI

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**From:** Brent Whitley [mailto:BrentWhitley@Sierra-Properties.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 05, 2012 7:55 AM
**To:** Ron Basso
**Subject:** Fwd: SLR v. Groundwater pumping

Ron,

See the attachment. Just curious but isn't this study a bunch of BS? It seems to assume that withdrawals are never fully replaced by any source.

.77 mm a year. Is that even measurable with any degree of certainty?

Hope things are well with you.

Brent

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Brad Rimbey" <BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com>
> **To:** "Ralph.Kerr@swfwmd.state.fl.us" <Ralph.Kerr@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Mark.Hammond@swfwmd.state.fl.us" <Mark.Hammond@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us" <Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, "Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us" <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
> **Cc:** "Brent Whitley" <BrentWhitley@Sierra-Properties.com>
> **Subject: Fw: SLR v. Groundwater pumping**
>
> All,
>
> Dan Hilliard with W.A.R., Inc. recently forwarded the attached paper which relates groundwater withdrawals to sealevel rise. I thought you guys might find it interesting.
>
> Brad Rimbey

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | udawcn@wrgnur.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, September 08, 2012 9:47:49 PM |

## Hi qzmcue,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*nxsNY3 efxinlvcvfns, [url=http://hdzlxshtnhdq.com/]hdzlxshtnhdq[/url], [link=http://imkwzufjefxp.com/]imkwzufjefxp[/link], http://hkxgegsfdkuw.com/*

**From:** Bryan, Dana
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL question
**Date:** Thursday, September 13, 2012 4:05:33 PM

---

Hi, Doug!

I was doing fine understanding the technical document until I got to the end. Table 7-6 shows 131 cfs as the moving 5-year median value for Homosassa Spring and the NW Fork combined, and this is supposed to represent 97% of the natural flow. But on pp. 49-50, the combined mean daily discharges from HS and the NW Branch equaled 150 cfs (89 cfs plus 61 cfs). Thus this proposed 131 cfs is a 9% reduction, not a 3% reduction.

What am I not seeing right?

**Dana C. Bryan**
**Environmental Policy Coordinator**
**Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources**
**Florida Park Service**
**Florida Department of Environmental Protection**
**Douglas Building - MS 530**
**3900 Commonwealth Blvd.**
**Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000**
**850-245-3104; inter. ext. 53612; dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us**

**Visit The *Real Florida*sm at http://www.floridastateparks.org**

*Please take a few minutes to share your comments on the service you received from the department by clicking on this link. DEP Customer Survey.*

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Bryan, Dana"
**Cc:** Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw
**Subject:** RE: MFL question
**Date:** Friday, September 14, 2012 3:46:00 PM

---

Hi Dana –

The long-term hydrologic statistics presented in Table 7-6 of the draft, revised Homosassa MFLs report are based on an allowable three percent reduction in a long-term synthetic flow record that was created by combining flow estimates for the Homosassa Main Springs and SE Fork of the Homosassa River. The long-term flow estimates for the Homosassa Main Springs and SE Fork gage sites were developed for the period from 6/15/1966 through 2/6/2012 based on recent flow records reported by the USGS and historical values predicted for each gage using linear regressions between measured flows and Weeki Wachee Well stage. Note that the synthetic record only includes values for days with measured data and days with well data that could be used to predicted flows.

The long-term estimates were developed for calculating five and ten-year mean and median values that could then be used to identify the *lowest* five or ten-year values that would have been expected if a three percent reduction in natural flows were to have occurred for the entire period of record in the Homosassa Main Springs run and the SE Fork. So, given this "historical" look at low five and ten-year hydrologic statistics, we may expect that future five and ten-year flow statistics should not be any lower than the values reported in Table 7-6, if natural flows are not reduced by more than three percent. The occurrence of lower five and ten-year values would be expected to prompt a look at factors such as rainfall and water use that could account for the occurrence of such low values.

Hope this helps. If you have additional questions, please call.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Bryan, Dana [mailto:Dana.Bryan@dep.state.fl.us]
**Sent:** Thursday, September 13, 2012 4:05 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL question

Hi, Doug!

I was doing fine understanding the technical document until I got to the end. Table 7-6 shows 131 cfs as the moving 5-year median value for Homosassa Spring and the NW Fork combined, and this is supposed to represent 97% of the natural flow. But on pp. 49-50, the combined mean daily discharges from HS and the NW Branch equaled 150 cfs (89 cfs plus 61 cfs). Thus this proposed 131 cfs is a 9% reduction, not a 3% reduction.

What am I not seeing right?

**Dana C. Bryan**
**Environmental Policy Coordinator**
**Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources**
**Florida Park Service**
**Florida Department of Environmental Protection**
**Douglas Building - MS 530**
**3900 Commonwealth Blvd.**
**Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000**
**850-245-3104; inter. ext. 53612; dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us**

**Visit The *Real Florida*sm at http://www.floridastateparks.org**

*Please take a few minutes to share your comments on the service you received from the department by clicking on this link. DEP Customer Survey.*

**From:** SWFWMD Daily Media Report
**To:** All_Users
**Subject:** SWFWMD Daily Media Report
**Date:** Friday, September 14, 2012 3:22:23 PM

---

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
**DAILY MEDIA CONTACTS**
**9/14/2012**
**As of 3:30 p.m.**

**Reporter's Name:** Peter Linton-Smith
**Media Outlet:** WTVT-TV FOX 13
**Reason for Call:** Prescribed Burns
**Agency's Response:** Reporter visited a prescribed burn today at Starkey Wilderness Park. Reporter learned about the District's prescribed burning program and interviewed staff. Story is scheduled to air tonight at 6 p.m.

**Reporter's Name:** Prakash Gandhi
**Media Outlet:** The Florida Specifier
**Reason for Call:** Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Revised Minimum Flows
**Agency's Response:** Reporter contacted staff yesterday to get information and quotes on the revised minimum flows for the Chassahowizka and Homosassa river systems. Staff provided the information today.

**Reporter's Name:** Kevin Wiatrowski
**Media Outlet:** Tampa Tribune
**Reason for Call:** Lower Hillsborough River
**Agency's Response:** Reporter contacted staff yesterday to find out if the District has done any scientific studies on the lower Hillsborough River. Yesterday staff provided the reporter with basic information on the minimum flows for the lower Hillsborough River. Reporter also wanted to know whether the District takes sediment samples of the river. Reporter was referred to the Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission, which takes water quality and sediment samples of the river.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Mcwethy37818@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, September 15, 2012 7:44:30 PM |

## Hi xNWnhBKVwYUO,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*buy viagra viagra from india fake - can you buy viagra in qatar*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bfwzxo@kggtfg.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, September 16, 2012 12:02:57 AM |

## Hi htsrwtekkx,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*WJPPTU txgoqsahmmfw, [url=http://hlorksrqmpxv.com/]hlorksrqmpxv[/url], [link=http://yyywygbehtam.com/]yyywygbehtam[/link], http://xdtmaufijzru.com/*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** godcvc@xethlx.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Sunday, September 16, 2012 4:15:46 AM

## Hi vbkbinrgss,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*A7kr5G daeqvtwopesz, [url=http://gexskiyefrjv.com/]gexskiyefrjv[/url], [link=http://lhggeukqgefl.com/]lhggeukqgefl[/link], http://gubvtpjnlqxn.com/*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** drsu@ymail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, September 17, 2012 8:10:40 AM

## Hi susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I strongly urge NO reduction in the current flows and levels in order to help restore the health of these Outstanding Florida Waters, and not cause them further harm. Both rivers and their springs are seriously impaired from pollution from leaking septic tanks, direct discharge of sewerage, run-off from roads and parking lots, fertilizer and lawn chemicals, loss of native sea grasses and fish, proliferation of lyngbya, and salt water intrusion, etc. We should be working toward restoring these rivers, not reducing their flow! PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Two very*

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw
**Subject:** FW: Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Wednesday, September 19, 2012 2:49:00 PM

FYI – comment from the web page.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

**From:** WaterMatters.org [mailto:info@WaterMatters.org]
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2012 7:48 AM
**To:** drsu@ymail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments

## Hi susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I strongly urge NO reduction in the current flows and levels in order to help restore the health of these Outstanding Florida Waters, and not cause them further harm. Both rivers and their springs are seriously impaired from pollution from leaking septic tanks, direct discharge of sewerage, run-off from roads and parking lots, fertilizer and lawn chemicals, loss of native sea grasses and fish, proliferation of lyngbya, and salt water intrusion, etc. We should be working toward restoring these rivers, not reducing their flow! PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Two very*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | boverly@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, September 20, 2012 10:26:40 AM |

## Hi Beverly,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *(Submitted by M.Heyl on behalf of Beverly Overa) From: Beverly Overa [mailto:boverly@tampabay.rr.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:52 PM To: Executive Subject: MFL's Dear Executive Members: I am totally against any drawdown of water from our spring fed OFW's. The degradation of these rivers is obvious to any observer from even a short 10 years ago, not to mention folks who have lived here all their lives. MFL's should be set at 'ZERO', no more, no less, since the 'science' of the MFL's is so recent. ZERO MFL's. Beverly Overa, Florida Master Naturalist boverly@tampabay.rr.com*

**From:** Mike Heyl
**To:** boverly@tampabay.rr.com
**Date:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 10:23:37 AM

---

Ms. Overa -

Thank you for your interest in development of the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa minimum flows. Your email dated September 18 was forwarded to me, and I want to make you aware of several upcoming meetings pertinent to the minimum flows for these two systems.

On October 2, 2012 the District will be holding a public meeting to discuss development of minimum flows. The location is the Citrus County Lecanto Government Center (Room 166) located at 3600 W. Sovereign Path in Lecanto (34461). The meeting will be held from 5:30 until 7:30 pm.

On October 30, 2012, the District Governing Board will consider establishment of minimum flows for these two systems. The meeting will be held at the District Headquarters at 2379 Broad Street in Brooksville, Florida. The Governing Board meetings are open to the public and brief oral comments are permitted on meeting agenda items.

Earlier this year, the District held a series of stakeholder workshops. Agendas, presentations and minutes of those meetings may be viewed at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/springs-coast-mfl.php This site also provides an avenue to submit comments to the Governing Board regarding the proposed minimum flows. All comments submitted will be made available to the Governing Board members. In order to ensure that the content of your September 18 email is included, I took the liberty of submitting the email text as a comment and asked that you be notified of any further activities related to these minimum flows.

The respective technical reports for these two systems can be downloaded from the same site. If you have additional comments after review of the reports or the results of the stakeholder meetings, I encourage you to submit those comments through the url previously listed.

*MGH*


*==========*
*Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist*
*Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org*
*==========*
*Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau / SWFWMD (7:00 am - 3:30 pm )*
*7601 U.S. Highway 301 1-813-985-7481 Ext 2211*
*Tampa, Fl. 33637-6759 1-813-987-6747 (Fax)*
*--------- Note : District Limit for Incoming Email is 5 Megabytes -------*
*An ftp site is available for larger attachments : http://ftp.swfwmd.state.fl.us/*
*This email consists of 100% recycled electrons. Consider the environment before printing*
*==========*



*Please Note: All e-mail sent to and from this address is automatically archived for records retention purposes in accordance with Florida's Public Records laws and is available for inspection by the public upon request.*

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw
**Subject:** FW: Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Wednesday, September 19, 2012 2:49:00 PM

FYI – comment from the web page.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

**From:** WaterMatters.org [mailto:info@WaterMatters.org]
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2012 7:48 AM
**To:** drsu@ymail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments

## Hi susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I strongly urge NO reduction in the current flows and levels in order to help restore the health of these Outstanding Florida Waters, and not cause them further harm. Both rivers and their springs are seriously impaired from pollution from leaking septic tanks, direct discharge of sewerage, run-off from roads and parking lots, fertilizer and lawn chemicals, loss of native sea grasses and fish, proliferation of lyngbya, and salt water intrusion, etc. We should be working toward restoring these rivers, not reducing their flow! PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Two very*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Gwen Brown |
| **To:** | Mike Heyl |
| **Cc:** | Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw; Jet Houser; Jennifer D. Noland; Doug Leeper; Darcy A. Brune |
| **Subject:** | FW: Comments on Revised MFL Proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers |
| **Date:** | Monday, September 24, 2012 9:42:50 AM |
| **Attachments:** | Comments on revised MFL proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.docx |

---

Mike,

Please respond as appropriate and cc: Dianna Brass.

Marcy,

FYI---See email below regarding the SWFWMD on-line form space restrictions.

Thank you,

Gwen

---

**From:** Executive
**Sent:** Monday, September 24, 2012 9:30 AM
**To:** Gwen Brown
**Cc:** Jet Houser; Lou Kavouras
**Subject:** FW: Comments on Revised MFL Proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

For your information and appropriate handling. Thank you.

Dianna Brass, Adm. Spvr.
SWFWMD Board & Exec. Svcs.
352-796-7211, Ext.4604

---

**From:** Nancy [mailto:nkost@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2012 9:01 PM
**To:** Executive
**Subject:** Comments on Revised MFL Proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Citrus County Audubon Society respectfully submits comments (attached) on your revised MFL proposals for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers. We were unable to submit these comments via your on-line form due to space restrictions. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Nancy Kost for
Citrus County Audubon Society
11851 W. Waterway Dr.
Homosassa FL 34448
352/628-0698

# Citrus County Audubon Society

*Dedicated to the conservation of our wildlife and natural resources through education and community support*

Date: October 18, 2012

To: SWFWMD

From: Citrus County Audubon Society Board of Directors

RE: COMMENTS ON SWFWMD REVISED MFL PROPOSALS FOR CHASSAHOWITZKA AND HOMOSASSA RIVERS

---

The SWFWMD Governing Board will soon be considering approval of revised recommendations for Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers in Citrus County.

**The Board of Directors, Officers and members of Citrus County Audubon Society strongly urge you to not reduce the current flows and levels and thereby help restore the health of these Outstanding Florida Waters and not cause them further harm.**

Once crystal-clear, these two rivers are now seriously impaired by pollution from leaking septic tanks, direct discharge of sewerage, run-off from roads and parking lots, fertilizer and lawn chemicals, loss of native sea grasses, proliferation of lyngbya, and salt water intrusion, etc.

Aquatic life of these river ecosystems is clearly endangered. In far too many locations, the flow of the springs in these rivers is gravely reduced or stopped altogether, and in some areas the river bottoms, devoid of grasses and covered by smothering layers of slime, cannot even hold an anchor. Trees are dead or dying along the rivers, and barnacles well upstream from the gulf are proof of salinity. Fresh water bass, once prolific, are now rarely seen.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers were both designated as Outstanding Florida Waters and Special Waters on January 5, 1993 when they each met the necessary water quality standards. They are now both listed as "impaired" on the State's Integrated Water Quality Assessment and an enormous amount of work needs to be done in order to bring them back.

You may not be fully aware of the seriousness of the situation; therefore, we again offer to arrange for a tour so you can see first-hand the serious impairments to these rivers. As the decision makers for SWFWMD, we feel a personal awareness of this situation is essential prior to your decision on MFL of our rivers.

Sincerely,


| **CCAS Directors** | **CCAS Officers** |
|---|---|
| Jean Freidner | Darrell Snedecor, President |
| Thomas Gulley | Ginger Privat, Vice President |
| Nancy Kost | Fred Hileman, Secretary |
| Diane Moseley | Sue Albertson, Treasurer |

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Mike Heyl |
| **To:** | nkost@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Dianna Brass; Lou Kavouras |
| **Subject:** | Comments on Revised MFL Proposals for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers |
| **Date:** | Monday, September 24, 2012 10:55:39 AM |

---

Dear Ms. Kost,
Thank you for your interest in development of the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa minimum flows. Your email dated September 21 was forwarded to me, and I want to make you aware of several upcoming meetings pertinent to the minimum flows for these two systems.

On October 2, 2012, the District will be holding a public meeting to discuss development of minimum flows. The location is the Citrus County Lecanto Government Center (Room 166) located at 3600 W. Sovereign Path in Lecanto (34461). The meeting will be held from 5:30 until 7:30 pm.

On October 30, 2012, the District Governing Board will consider establishment of minimum flows for these two systems. The meeting will be held at the District Headquarters at 2379 Broad Street in Brooksville, Florida. The Governing Board meetings are open to the public and brief oral comments are permitted on meeting agenda items. Please make the other members of the Citrus County Audubon Society aware of these meetings.

Earlier this year, the District held a series of stakeholder workshops. Agendas, presentations and minutes of those meetings may be viewed at http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/springs-coast-mfl.php This site also provides an avenue to submit comments to the Governing Board regarding the proposed minimum flows, but as you have noted in your email, comments submitted via this site are limited to 1,500 characters. All comments submitted will be made available to the Governing Board members and I will see that members of the Governing Board have a copy of the letter attached to your September 21 email.

The respective technical reports for these two systems can be downloaded from the same site. If you have additional comments after review of the reports or the results of the stakeholder meetings, I encourage you to submit those comments through the URL previously listed.

*MGH*

*==========*
*Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist*
*Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org*
*==========*
*Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau / SWFWMD (7:00 am - 3:30 pm )*
*7601 U.S. Highway 301 1-813-985-7481 Ext 2211*
*Tampa, Fl. 33637-6759 1-813-987-6747 (Fax)*
*--------- Note : District Limit for Incoming Email is 5 Megabytes -------*
*An ftp site is available for larger attachments : http://ftp.swfwmd.state.fl.us/*
*This email consists of 100% recycled electrons. Consider the environment before printing*
*==========*
*Please Note: All e-mail sent to and from this address is automatically archived for records retention purposes in accordance with Florida's Public Records laws and is available for inspection by the public upon request.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** cknight@tampabay.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Sunday, September 30, 2012 10:34:20 PM

## Hi Cathy,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am against the MF's proposed by SWFWMD for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers. Additional withdraws from these rivers cannot bring any benefit to them. Florida needs to quit treating water like an infinite resource and make due with levels that are in use now.*

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** Adrienne Vining; Chris Zajac; Christopher Pettit; Darcy A. Brune; Dave Dewitt; Doug Leeper; Eric DeHaven; Gary E. Williams; Jay Yingling; Jerry Mallams; Karen West; Kenneth R. Herd; Laura Donaldson; Lou Kavouras; Mark Barcelo; Mark Hammond; Michael Molligan; Mike Heyl; Robyn O. Felix; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Tammy Hinkle; Veronica Craw; Virginia Singer; Xinjian Chen; Yassert Gonzalez
**Subject:** FW: Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:06:00 AM

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**From:** WaterMatters.org [mailto:info@WaterMatters.org]
**Sent:** Sunday, September 30, 2012 10:34 PM
**To:** cknight@tampabay.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments

## Hi Cathy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am against the MF's proposed by SWFWMD for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers. Additional withdraws from these rivers cannot bring any benefit to them. Florida needs to quit treating water like an infinite resource and make due with levels that are in use now.*

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:11:28 AM

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Doug,
I hope to be at the meeting tomorrow evening and intent to raise a number of questions. No doubt the number of loopholes to defining a specific minimum flow will be center stage. But, I have some specific questions and thought it fair to give you a heads up so you are able to provide thoughtful answers and not be relying totally on memory/immediate thoughts. The questions are regarding the validity of HWS Engineering's work/report and the USGS calculated discharges.

HSW

1. **Please explain why HSW ignored the flow from Halls River when running the salinity regression analyses**.
   The reason I ask this question is in Table 2-1 and the explanation "Based on the average daily data, spring flow and Halls River flow are about 53 and 47 percent of the total flow at the Homosassa gauge." (page 2-7 Appendix A…both original and revised). And in the main report Table 2-4 (adapted from Basso 2010 on page 66) the flow from Halls River represents 50% of the total springs flow.

2. **Please explain on why HSW have different summary results regarding the salinity RKM, Volume and Area as presented in the revised report Tables 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5 (Appendix A). However, the regression analyses presented in Table 2-3, 2-4, 2-4, 2-5 are the same in both the original and revised reports.**

3. In the main report Tables 5-2 thru 5-10 address the same salinity changes with flow reductions (some described as adapted from HSW Engineering (2011)). **Please explain why and who made these changes/adaptations.** Particularly consider some of these Tables are titled as benchmark period 2007, others as benchmark period 1995 to 2009 based on modeling daily values. Regression coefficients shown in Tables 2-10 indicates the regression analyses were done with **70 observations or less** and Table 2-3 in Appendix A for the 2000-2009 has observations from **625-1389 observation**. It is not clear where these observations for the regression analyses originate from (it may be the random sampling of the 15 minute data or the synoptic survey by USF (look carefully at the median Figure 2-42)).

To highlight the concerns with HSW's work I would point to a correlation Appendix A on page 2-15 and Figure 2-23 concluding levels in Weeki Wachee Well lag rainfall in Inglis by 40-70 days. The logic for HWS linking rainfall in Inglis to the level in the Weeki Wachee Well is difficult to find. This conclusion is so far off it was not used in the main report. Rainfall and its influence on the level in Weeki Wachee Well, not Lecanto as presented in the main report, is a concern as Weeki Wachee Well level is the predominate factor in the calculated discharge for Homosassa Main and the SE Fork.

Note: Water levels at the observation well in Inglis are typically about 10 feet lower than the Weeki Wachee well, water does not flow uphill. Data shows Weeki Wachee Well reacts very quickly to rainfall (the data regarding rainfall, Brooksville Station, from recent tropical storms show Weeki Wachee Well level increased 4 feet in 6 days).

USGS

**There are concerns about the calculated discharge data for a number of the USGS Gage Sites**. I have shared with USGS and SWFWMD differences between calculated and Field Measurements to support the concerns. Accuracy of the tidal filtered data from Homosassa River presumably is of so much concern, HSW and SWFWMD have ignored Halls River flow in the regression analyses. **It is incomprehensible how it has taken over a year for any data to come from the velocity meter installed at the SE Fork and nearly 6 months from the velocity meter installed in Halls River.** I would have thought everyone would want to verify the basis of all this work urgently. The Governing Board should not make any decision on these MFL's before these investments bear some fruit to indicate the accuracy of the calculated discharge. Recent Field Measurements (particularly February 8 and 9) at the Homosassa R at Homosassa gage do tend to support accuracy concerns I raised well over a year ago about the bias resulting from squaring of the velocity (during inflow squaring the negative velocity results in an addition).

I look forward to an interesting and productive meetin.

Martyn.

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

**From:** Ron Miller
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Time-Certain Request
**Date:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 2:02:01 PM

---

HI Doug,

Hope all is well with you.

Has the Chass/Homosassa MFL discussion been set as 9 am time certain (or close to it) for the Oct 30 Governing Board meeting?

Ron

**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Monday, August 27, 2012 3:56 PM
**To:** Ron Miller
**Subject:** RE: Time-Certain Request

Ron –

I'm following up on the e-mail you sent yesterday and the reply I sent this morning.

I spoke with Lou Kavourus, our Board & Executive Services Bureaus Chief about your "time-certain" request and she indicated that staff will ask the Governing Board Chair to make the Resource Management Committee, which is the committee that will be discussing the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs agenda item, the first committee meeting of the day.

If the Chair agrees to this request, the Resource Management Committee will follow the Convene Public Hearing and Meeting items (call to order, employee recognition, etc.) and the Consent Agenda items, and will likely begin within the first half-hour or so of the Board meeting.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:37 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Hi Doug,

What time & where does the Gov Board meet on Oct 30?
If we want to have the stakeholders attend the MFL discussion can it be made "time certain" on the agenda?

Ron

*Remainder of e-mail string deleted by D. Leeper*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** "Ron Miller"
**Bcc:** Jerry Mallams; Veronica Craw; Lou Kavouras
**Subject:** RE: Time-Certain Request
**Date:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:52:00 AM

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Hi Ron:

The agenda for the October Governing Board meeting has not yet been finalized. Staff is developing a draft agenda for the meeting, with the Resource Management Committee being the first committee meeting of the day. The final decision regarding the meeting schedule will be made by our Executive Director and the Board Chairperson. Once finalized, the agenda will be posted on our web site at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/calendar.php

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 2:02 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Re: Time-Certain Request

HI Doug,

Hope all is well with you.

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Ron

**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Monday, August 27, 2012 3:56 PM
**To:** Ron Miller
**Subject:** RE: Time-Certain Request

Ron –

I'm following up on the e-mail you sent yesterday and the reply I sent this morning.

I spoke with Lou Kavourus, our Board & Executive Services Bureaus Chief about your "time-certain" request and she indicated that staff will ask the Governing Board Chair to make the Resource Management Committee, which is the committee that will be discussing the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs agenda item, the first committee meeting of the day.

If the Chair agrees to this request, the Resource Management Committee will follow the Convene Public Hearing and Meeting items (call to order, employee recognition, etc.) and the Consent Agenda items, and will likely begin within the first half-hour or so of the Board meeting.

Douglas A. Leeper
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1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Sunday, August 26, 2012 9:37 PM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Brad Rimbey; Jim Bitter; Al Grubman
**Subject:** Re: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Hi Doug,

What time & where does the Gov Board meet on Oct 30?
If we want to have the stakeholders attend the MFL discussion can it be made "time certain" on the agenda?

Ron

*Remainder of e-mail string deleted by D. Leeper*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** catja_cat@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 01, 2012 9:32:53 AM

## Hi Judy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*It is not in our citizens best interests to ignore water quality or to let rivers die. They are our future. We must have quanity, yes, but if it is not potable, we and our wildlife are in bad shape. Our spirngs and rivers are a huge tourist attraction, also. Without water, we have very little to attract tourists or provide citizens recreation. It is unexcusable to even consider sending our water (remember all your restricitns we have had to endure) to a bottler to make private money. Many people are upset about all aspects of this potential decision. I hope you are smart enough to make some changes and good decisions for the public.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | info@riversafaris.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 01, 2012 8:37:27 PM |

## Hi Alicia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I had hoped to attend the meeting tomorrow at the Citrus County Government Building in Lecanto but will be unable to. Being a business owner that relies on the health and well being of the Homosassa River is cause enough for me to comment but I am also a Florida native who moved to this area as a teenager and spendt countless hours on the river system. What we have noticed the most is the intrusion of salt water. It is seen in the barnacles we have to scrape off of our rental and tour boats constantly even though we are only 2 miles from the spring head. The mangroves that have taken hold just one mile west of us heading towards the Gulf is another sure sign. We are very concerned that any draw down of any river along the Gulf coast is setting up our fresh water aquifer for disaster. Please know that we rely on you, the supposed caretakers of our waters, to do the right thing and DO NOT allow any additional drawdown of the Homosassa River. The only solution we can suggest to keep the freshwater and maintain the integrity of the springs and river systems is to get desalination processers up and running as soon as possible. Sincerely, Dennis and Alicia Lowe River Safaris & Gulf Charters, Inc.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | chrislaughlin@tampabayl.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:15:10 AM |

## Hi chris,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Interpretation of collected data in relation to living things requires direct observation for accurate interpretation. The observation need not just be subjective, it can also be objective. Drastically decreased fish counts, the presence of barnacles in a first magnitude spring, and the presence of only algae and muck where there was once sandy bottom and abundant river grasses constitutes factual, hard evidence and is more informative of the state of the river and easier to defend than complex mathematical theories. It is obvious that the Homosassa River has already suffered significant harm and can not tolerate any more reduction of its flow.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** cdlaughlin@tampabay.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:47:59 AM

## Hi Charles,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I attended the meeting at the Citrus County government center last night (10/2) with my wife. Thank you for having this public forum. Thank you for presenting the rationale for your recommendations related to MFL's for the Chass and Homosassa Rivers. Thank you for making the data available online for review. And thank you for being willing to sit and listen to our comments, some which were more pointed than others, yet you listened, took notes, answered questions, and demonstrated that you were there not to arrogantly tell us what is best for us, but you were there to gauge the hearts of those who will actually be impacted by the decisions you make. From speaking with others who live along the Homosassa River, I can tell you that you heard an excellent representation of the passion we have for this part of God's creation. My wife, Chris Laughlin, rather than speak to the data directly - which she did carefully read prior to writing her "speech" - decided to speak from her heart related to her history with the River. Her family purchased property on the river for weekend getaways in the early 50's then built a retirement home on that property in the mid-70's. We inherited that home in the early 90's making it our primary residence two years ago. In other words, we have almost 60 years of experience with this river. THE DECLINE IS EMOTIONALLY & PHYSICALLY DISTRESSING. PLEASE Protect this River.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bfberauer@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 03, 2012 12:36:05 PM |

## Hi Bernard,

### Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series. Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I have had a home in the village of Chassahowitzka since 2004, and have seen changes on the river, and heard about much greater change that has occurred over the past several decades from the old timers that have lived, recreated, fished here. We know that there has already been great decline in the ecology of both the Chass and Homosassa Rivers and their springs and creeks. These are Outstanding Florida Waters, which we are supposed to be protecting. I have yet to see that change analyzed and quantified, but I believe it would be greater than a 50% loss of habitat, species, or other. And that is with just 1% flow reduction, water pollution due to nutrient loading, and severe climate/drought. How can we "plan" for the taking of up to 8% more under the current river conditions? Given what has already occurred, and with no remediation or analysis of how to stem the trends in decline, I find it unbelievable, despite the data and science put into SWFWMD studies and reports, that we will not see 15% further reduction well before we withdraw another 8%. My fear is that we will withdraw much less and see much greater than a 15% reduction in environmental factors. I see no evidence that we have in place the needed recovery plans, science, instrumentation, etc. to do so. The only plan I would support is a plan for recovery that does not include further flow reductions, but first determines how to stop current degrations, and puts into place a plan for recovery.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** krantz@mindspring.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:59:38 AM

## Hi Nancy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage Florida's water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for your consideration.*

**From:** Doug Leeper
**To:** Adrienne Vining; Chris Zajac; Christopher Pettit; Darcy A. Brune; Dave Dewitt; Doug Leeper; Eric DeHaven; Gary E. Williams; Jay Yingling; Jerry Mallams; Karen West; Kenneth R. Herd; Laura Donaldson; Lou Kavouras; Mark Barcelo; Mark Hammond; Michael Molligan; Mike Heyl; Robyn O. Felix; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Tammy Hinkle; Veronica Craw; Virginia Singer; Xinjian Chen; Yassert Gonzalez
**Subject:** FW: Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:03:00 AM

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**From:** WaterMatters.org [mailto:info@WaterMatters.org]
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:59 AM
**To:** krantz@mindspring.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments

## Hi Nancy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage Florida's water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for your consideration.*

October 4, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: File

FROM: Douglas A. Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Ecologic Evaluation Section, Southwest Florida Water Management District

SUBJECT: Documentation of October 4, 2012 telephone conversation with Norman Hopkins regarding minimum flows development for Chassahowitzka/Homosassa/Crystal systems

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This memorandum documents an October 4, 2012 telephone conversation between Mr. Norman Hopkins and Mr. Doug Leeper, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, concerning development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems and the planned minimum flows work for the Crystal River/Kings Bay system.

***Phone Log***

**Who called**: Mr. Norman Hopkins
e-mail: norman@amyhrf.org
Phone: 352-795-9517
**Staff contact:** Doug Leeper, Water Resources Bureau, SWFWMD
**Issue:** Chassahowitzka/Homosassa/Crystal River/Kings Bay minimum flows
**Date:** October 4, 2012

**Notes:**
Questions/comments

1. Are you confident that you have established a cause and effect relationship between changes in flows and changes in the environment?
2. If the environmental change that has occurred is associated with a 1% change in flows what effects will 2 or 3% or higher percentage changes have?
3. Change in salinity in the rivers is a function of changes in incursion of Gulf water and changes in salinity of water coming from the springs.
4. Have seen substantial changes in vegetation and fish over the past 15 years at Kings Bay.
5. Ecosystems are too complex to try to make predictions based on a single parameter.
6. Relationships of pollutants and toxics to flows in the rivers have not been well studied and integrated into the minimum flows work.
7. Should implement a hiatus on withdrawals unless it can be determined that a withdrawal will benefit a water resource. This can be accomplished given the economic downturn.
8. The implementation/development of MFLs has been "corrupted" from its original intent.
9. Economy of Springs Coast region will not support funding requirements for future needed recovery projects.
10. Must consider economic effects of setting MFLs.

11. Must consider the effects of pollutants when setting MFLs.

DAL

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | auwerter@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:04:09 AM |

Hi Deborah,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I also wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Water is our most valuable resource in Citrus County and should be protected at all costs.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lilaanded@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:05:13 AM |

## Hi Lila,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I also wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | joemoye@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:05:18 AM |

Hi Joe,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | johnromer@mac.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:12:17 AM |

Hi john,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not allow any more reductions in flow to the Homossassa or Chashowitzka Rivers. These rivers are already stressed as seen by increasing numbers of dead trees and reduction of aquatic plants due to salt water intrusion and these plants are essential for the manatees survival.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Davidmiannotti@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:14:26 AM |

## Hi David,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers MFL's should be set at 0% ( no further reduction from current level). At what point does it end? Little by little we imperil our way of life. Do more to reduce water waste and we don't need to damage our waterways. Thank you, David*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | joyrabon@embarqmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:15:34 AM |

Hi Joyce,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | CPANNELLI@HOTMAIL.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:16:06 AM |

## Hi Cheryl,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | elise.isaacson@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:21:11 AM |

Hi Elise,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear Sirs, I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Best regards, Elise Isaacson*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cbdb69@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:17:00 AM |

Hi Carole,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | oldcrow35@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:22:09 AM |

Hi shirley,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*All waters frequented by the manatees should be protected and any methods necessary to insure this should be taken. I think the manatees were here long before man and his "toys" and are being exploited for man's pleasure. Their decline in many area are a testimony to this. Please consider the manatees first in any of your decisions. Thank you, shirley walter*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** melissa@fcreporting.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:20:04 AM

## Hi Melissa,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that you wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | professorshiggins@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:22:30 AM |

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*No flow reduction should be alLowed. Please.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** gurl_nena@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:23:42 AM

Hi jessica,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dhiggins@golfchannel.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:23:56 AM |

Hi dan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*0% MFL*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ThePlantGoddess@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:26:09 AM |

## Hi Patricia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I would like you to know that I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. It is practices like these that are ruining Florida and it has got to stop!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | painterbob@mac.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:27:05 AM |

Hi rob,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am opposed to any tampering to the water flow of these rivers. We humans have done enough to suck the springs dry in this state. Seeing how much water is wasted daily with our use of this precious resource tells me that we must do more to conserve and find better ways to reuse the amount we currently use. The ecology that thrives from these rivers should not be the victims of our greed by taking more than what nature provides.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jdimercurio@trcww.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:27:11 AM |

Hi Jerome,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). SWFWMD should manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Bicyclecowboy@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:28:10 AM |

## Hi Ronald,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction).*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** fbwagner9@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:28:21 AM

Hi Fran,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to see our waters managed more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank You*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Bevo.and@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:30:29 AM |

Hi Bev,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not change mfls.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | organicgardens@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:31:47 AM |

Hi kelly,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. The springs are one of the most special things about Florida. We should be doing everything in our power to protect them for future generations of humans and wildlife. Thank you for your attention to this pressing matter, Kelly Johnson*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | marissa@garonegroup.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:33:58 AM |

Hi marissa,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please help protect manatees. I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We wish to see management of our water more wisely for manatees and wildlife and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | butta2329pd@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:35:46 AM |

## Hi Amanda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I am writing to express that I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see managemenet of our water more wisely and more done to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | JKeller411@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:38:35 AM |

Hi Judy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear sir/madam - I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I would like to see your organization manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you - Judy Keller*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | kbdempsey@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:40:38 AM |

## Hi Kathleen,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I would very much like to see SFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | stef51@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:42:50 AM |

Hi Steffi,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | amlinlans@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:43:07 AM |

## Hi Linda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please do whatever you can to support and aid the habitats of manatee. Please do not adopt or support any proposals or actions that will endanger manatee or infringe upon their habitats. Thank you very much.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | pegandrews12@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:43:41 AM |

## Hi Peggy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe there should be no flow reduction which harms the health of the rivers and therefore the manatees as well as other wildlife and vegetation. Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** laylasmom@cfl.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:44:27 AM

Hi Shirley,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*( oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa river system.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lrccaldwell@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:46:38 AM |

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please reconsider the proposed changes for water flow on these rivers. the water flow has to remain as is to protect the environment of these waters. Manatees rely on the vegetation as their only food source and decreased flow will result in inadequate amounts of vegetation. It will also make the water.more.brackish resulting in more harm to fresh-water vegetation.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** ariel66@aol.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:47:59 AM

## Hi Angela,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that you wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** donnasym@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:51:27 AM

## Hi Donna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I also wish to see SFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state! The SFWMD could use community service hours to educate schoolchildren and their households.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dnh103@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:53:17 AM |

## Hi Darci,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please help the manattees and other aquatic species by not allowing further flow reduction.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | skipmax1999@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:53:32 AM |

## Hi crystal,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please do not allow the proposed revised MFL's. There is already too much stress on our aquatic animals and plants. These precious resources cannot and should not be threatened because of human expansion. Just because you can do it, doesn't mean you should. Leave our waters alone!!*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** ali1011@tampabay.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:56:24 AM

Hi Alicia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I do not support anything that may cause harm to Manatees!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ed_olafolson@bellsouth.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:56:38 AM |

## Hi Edward,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that you wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bibbity@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:58:02 AM |

Hi Toni,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I understand the Southwest Florida Water Management District is implementing Minimum Flows and Levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers on Florida's west coast. In so doing, ecological damage could occur significantly impacting wildlife, etc. Both rivers already exhibit signs of environmental stress, including dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. A steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline, has also been observed. Any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves. Manatees, as well as other wildlife, are not expendable - they are not tradeable commodities - i.e., I'll trade a pod of manatees, three pairs of osprey, a piesir of nesting eagles for water to a new housing development or marina. This is acceptable. I thought the water districts in the State of Florida were supposed to be be the guardians of our water and our environment. Perhaps I misunderstood.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** vakelly1@cfl.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:04:19 PM

Hi Virginia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lynnegoodman@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:06:51 PM |

## Hi Lynne,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose MFLs for Chassahowitzka & Homosassa rivers. No further flow reductions should be allowed...it should remain @ the current rate of 0%. SWFWMD must create better standards and criteria to ensure better management of water and reduce waste of the current water supply. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mdlovesanimals@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:07:08 PM |

## Hi Marisol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Hi I wanted to say I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. ALso the the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). And that I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | betonylauren@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:08:25 PM |

## Hi Betony,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I also would like to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | tomhsouthern@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:09:56 PM |

Hi Tom H,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bbowen32@verizon.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:11:21 PM |

## Hi Barbara,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*As an avid paddler, I have noticed environmental stress on the Chassahowizka River/spring system. When water flows are low the brown algae covers the aquatic plants choking them from valuable sunlight. SWFTMD Engineers/permitting agents should be using the minimum flow rates of the Springs during our winter dry season as a reference point. When we use peak or avg flows, we stress the rivers and aquatic plants to the point of loss and the systems do not seem to recover during the rainy season. Anymore it takes and El nino summer like this year and 2004 before the springs are back looking healthy again. Big business needs to put up funds for a desalinization plant or look for ways to conserve water.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | chanell222@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:19:08 PM |

## Hi Chanell,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Good afternoon, I'm writing to let you know that I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for your time*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cveaux@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:19:26 PM |

## Hi Carl,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We need minumum flows to protect the Manatees*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lbaldwin76@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:20:20 PM |

## Hi Lindsay,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | manatee1944@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:21:57 PM |

Hi Leora,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*It is very important to set MFLs and protect our water bodies from harm, but we can only ensure protection when appropriate MFLs are set. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** AngelSchae@aol.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:23:11 PM

## Hi Barbara and John R,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *We are writing to respectfuloy request that you allow no further flow reduction in either the Homosassa or Chassahowitzka Rivers. To do so would impact on the health and welfare of the Manatees who have such limited habitat left in Florida. We also urge you to regulate our waters wisely and keep within the ecological standards of our Florida waters. Thank you very much for your assisstance in this matter.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lynnmariewest@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:23:39 PM |

Hi Lynn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** Skimokis32@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:27:35 PM

## Hi Krista,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also i wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | drtoots@rocketmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:31:06 PM |

Hi Dr. E,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Any reduction in the level of water flow on these river systems will negatively affect not only the wildlife, but also the integrity of the rivers. Think of the tourist dollars that would be lost if we lose the largest attraction in this part of the state - our waterways with the ability to see abundant wildlife close up and not behind a glass wall.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dennige@ufl.edu |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:32:39 PM |

## Hi Gudrun,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). WFWMD please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. In recent decades, both rivers have shown signs of environmental stress. Among the observed changes are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. Residents in both rivers have observed a steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Even though SWFWMD's models have indicated that the proposed MFLs will not cause significant ecological harm, logic suggests that any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on this matter. Best regards, Gudrun Dennis*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | saljones57@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:37:56 PM |

Hi Sarah,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | maijapedro@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:39:29 PM |

Hi maija,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*please don't lover the level of the rivers. I'm a graeat manatee lover and protector . I hope you will help them to surviveeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee. thank you maija gadient*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | basketcase7232@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:41:19 PM |

## Hi Ssue,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *FIRST OF ALL STAY OUT OF THE MANATEES HABITAT! IF YOU THINK YOUR GREED AND POOR ACTIONS ARE GOING TO DESTROY NATURE,...THINK AGAIN...WE HAVE ALL HAD IT. WAKE-UP & GET THE BLINDERS OFF.IF YOU THINK MONEY & THE SO CALL ...POWER...YOU ..THINK...YOU...HAVE....THINK AGAIN.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dmixon01@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:43:05 PM |

## Hi Debra,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am a resident of Homosassa and operate a charter tour business on the Homosassa River. The rivers in the area are not only dear to me for their intrinsic value, but my business depends them. The springs and rivers in Florida may be in better shape than they were in, say, 1985 - but we all know they are suffering and that includes the Chass and the Homosassa. I agree with the argument from Save the Manatee Club that,"In recent decades, both rivers have shown signs of environmental stress. Among the observed changes are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. Residents in both rivers have observed a steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline." My boats are docked in the Old Homosassa area and barnacles are indeed an issue. We need to protect our resources. MFLs changes are not necessary. I strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Rather, SWFMD should be spending time and resources on managing our water more wisely and doing more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mommacass3@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:46:12 PM |

Hi Katherine,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | crholmes@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:47:13 PM |

Hi Craig,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | 2kbeach@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:47:20 PM |

## Hi Kathleen,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *We oppose the MFL's for Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers. No further flow reduction should be allowed. Please manage our water wisely and do all you can to cut back on wasteful water use in Florida. Thank you*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | patriotpets@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:50:40 PM |

Hi Dawn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*As a resident of Florida, I believe the conservation and preservation of manatees and their habitat is a plus for this great state of ours. Please do not impose any regulations that may harm the manatees! Thank you.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** ybhagwan@fau.edu
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:54:39 PM

## Hi Yash,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear SWFWMD and Governing Board Members: I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed, and that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). It is critical to manage our water resources more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you, Yash A concerned citizen*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | marie_pisani@att.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 12:57:14 PM |

## Hi Marie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I want to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | knoxberries@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:03:26 PM |

Hi knox,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The "science-baised" knowldge of continuing dead water tree along the Chaz and changing make up of water plants along the Homo, tells knowledgeable scientist that "sigificant harm" has already occurred and water levels/flows must be raised to "bring back a level" of nature that has already been destroyed by inadequate protections by the State. Just as other Districts choose to ignore obvious signs of sound science from over water use/pumping...the same has already taken place on these water bodies. When IT'S GONE...IT'S GONE !!!*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** juliesee@comcast.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:06:12 PM

## Hi Julie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to see SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for your*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | EDJCUBERO@LIVE.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:07:39 PM |

## Hi EDWARD,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *DO ALL YOU CAN TO KEEP THESE CREATIONS ALIVE FOR YEARS TO COME. SAVE MANATEES NOW..*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | singer90@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:12:12 PM |

Hi Lynne,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose your proposed MFL's for the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be alowed. The MFL's should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage out water mose wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in Florida.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dzigatoo@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:14:47 PM |

## Hi Sarah,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please take into consideration that thriving manatees and other wildlife and plenty of flowing, clear water makes economic sense and is therefore good for Florida.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** jjinabnw@att.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:15:17 PM

Hi Andrea,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see our water managed more wisely and more done to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ahooper56@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:22:36 PM |

Hi Audrey,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to see the SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mitch.whiskers@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:28:21 PM |

## Hi Tracy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see our water managed more wisely and for more to be done to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Please be aware that Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cadillack9@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:33:04 PM |

## Hi Marlynn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *There are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. There is also steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mmsearch@midasmgt.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:33:15 PM |

## Hi Elaine & Joel,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We would also like to see SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cmerkey@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:34:20 PM |

## Hi Cynthia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose any reduction of flows for either the Homosassa or Chassahowitzka Rivers to accomodate more water for people. If we con't begin to conserve our resources what will be left in this state for people to enjoy. This is the way the states of the West took, and we are going down the same road. Do some critical thinking.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | moostradamoose@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:34:33 PM |

Hi Joseph,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*There are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. There is also steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** skyblu@cfl.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:35:20 PM

## Hi john,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers, and allow no further flow reductions. Also, please manage our water resources more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | amberleigh131@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:35:48 PM |

## Hi Amber,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see the SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state of Florida. By proposing a 9% flow reduction for the Chassahowitzka River and a 3% reduction for the Homosassa River, manatee habitat and manatees themselves will be threatened. Both rivers provide refuge to the manatees year round with critical warm water during the winter months. Enviromental changes such as flow reduction will negatively affect their food supply and water quality. Protecting manatee habitat helps to ensure that my children and someday their children, will have the chance to enjoy these magnificent creatures that we are so fortunate to co-exist with. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | just_ticketyboo@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:36:00 PM |

## Hi Rita and Steve,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We want you to manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. People travel to our state to see places like the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers and you should do everything in your power to keep these rivers healthy. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and they utilize both of these rivers year round. Florida relies on tourism. People will not travel here to see concrete buildings. Please, we need your help to keep Florida beautiful. Thank you.*

October 4, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: File

FROM: Douglas A. Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Ecologic Evaluation Section, Southwest Florida Water Management District

SUBJECT: Documentation of October 4, 2012 telephone conversation with Norman Hopkins regarding minimum flows development for Chassahowitzka/Homosassa/Crystal systems

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This memorandum documents an October 4, 2012 telephone conversation between Mr. Norman Hopkins and Mr. Doug Leeper, the Southwest Florida Water Management District, concerning development of minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems and the planned minimum flows work for the Crystal River/Kings Bay system.

***Phone Log***

**Who called**: Mr. Norman Hopkins
e-mail: norman@amyhrf.org
Phone: 352-795-9517
**Staff contact:** Doug Leeper, Water Resources Bureau, SWFWMD
**Issue:** Chassahowitzka/Homosassa/Crystal River/Kings Bay minimum flows
**Date:** October 4, 2012

**Notes:**
Questions/comments

1. Are you confident that you have established a cause and effect relationship between changes in flows and changes in the environment?
2. If the environmental change that has occurred is associated with a 1% change in flows what effects will 2 or 3% or higher percentage changes have?
3. Change in salinity in the rivers is a function of changes in incursion of Gulf water and changes in salinity of water coming from the springs.
4. Have seen substantial changes in vegetation and fish over the past 15 years at Kings Bay.
5. Ecosystems are too complex to try to make predictions based on a single parameter.
6. Relationships of pollutants and toxics to flows in the rivers have not been well studied and integrated into the minimum flows work.
7. Should implement a hiatus on withdrawals unless it can be determined that a withdrawal will benefit a water resource. This can be accomplished given the economic downturn.
8. The implementation/development of MFLs has been "corrupted" from its original intent.
9. Economy of Springs Coast region will not support funding requirements for future needed recovery projects.
10. Must consider economic effects of setting MFLs.

11. Must consider the effects of pollutants when setting MFLs.

DAL

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dward2236@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 1:41:41 PM |

Hi Diana,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jimloveland52@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:02:43 PM |

Hi Jim,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | biagvela@verizon.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:04:34 PM |

## Hi lori,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFL's for the Chassahowitzka and the Homasassa rivers and believe no further flow reduction should be allowed. Lori Biagini*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | gomerlu@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:06:24 PM |

Hi Elsy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear Sir/Madadm: I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you,*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mari471@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:08:42 PM |

## Hi Mari,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would also to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bwatkin4@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:12:56 PM |

## Hi Bill,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *If you could see the loss of vegetation and wild birds, the severe drop in the numbers of fish you would vote to reject any further change to the MFL as now assessed, one percent for the Homosassa and 0,07 percent for the Chassahowitzka.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | barbaramuzeni@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:14:18 PM |

## Hi Barbara,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please protect the manatee and enact legislation that will provide them with the required MFL levels as determined by the Save the Manatee organization*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | sunshine648@juno.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:15:07 PM |

Hi Ruthann,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*protect the environment and it's inhabitants*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | hlbjr@bellsouth.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:17:54 PM |

Hi Harvey,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lotsofringlets@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:20:55 PM |

Hi vicki,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*do not drop the water levels*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | pamelarainsong@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:21:03 PM |

## Hi Pamela,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I'm very concerned about wildlife and the environment. I'm an advocate for my planet. River flow will be reduced to meet future human water demand. In recent decades, both the Chassahowitzka River and the Homosassa River are showing signs of environmental stress. It's logical to assume that any further reduction of groundwater flows would only heighten existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** rls444@hotmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:28:09 PM

Hi Tina,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please let it be known that I vehemently oppose the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers, and also believe that no further flow reduction should be permitted. MFLs should be set at their current flows, i.e. 0% reduction. I would also like to see you cut back on water waste,and better manage resources. We have a fragile ecosystem to protect and preserve for future generations, and your part in this is both valuable and essential. Please do what is right for our environment, not your own self-interests.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jgsaks@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:34:09 PM |

Hi Jane,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa Rivers. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive & use these rivers.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** bworthy@cfl.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:34:41 PM

Hi Bonnie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. We entrust you to manage our water, both as a supply and a natural resource. I implore you to be more prudent in your management practices, and ask that you require new development to implement more conscientious efforts to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Respectfully submitted,*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | manatee.randy@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:35:15 PM |

Hi Randy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | alynnnotarnicola@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:40:03 PM |

## Hi Alynn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Determining significant ecological harm based on models that ignore the current strain on the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers is irresponsible. Teaching better water conservation and imposing water restrictions to people who live in the affected areas would be more productive that damaging the rivers beyond repair.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | haydoug_linda@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:10:35 PM |

## Hi Douglas,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Having paddled these river systems, I do not see how it can help the waterways to further reduce minimum flows to the levels proposed. In fact, it would seem wiser to increase the minimum flows to improve water quality and the ecology for manatees and all forms of wildlife. The recent rains may help to improve conditions that have evolved during the recent drought, but there is no guarantee that the wet spell will last. Now is the time to increase minimum flow levels, not reduce them. Thanks for considering.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ruthannfurst@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:40:25 PM |

## Hi Ruth,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to see our water managed more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ANNA_MAIL27@YAHOO.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:53:09 PM |

## Hi ANNA,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** samllama-pip@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 2:57:12 PM

Hi Mary,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Manatees are a Florida treasure. Every thing possible should be done to help them.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | eagleyachts@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:05:58 PM |

## Hi Eric,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*It makes no sense to set minimum flow levels a lower levels than exist today since the flow levels and contamination have already been altered. If anything, the MFL's should be increased. Considering also that the WMD's came up with the asignation of Priority Water Caution Areas in the '90's, it is obvious that they were already allowing more water to be removed from the aquifer than was sustainable. It's really time to do your job and, instead of reducing the MFL's, reduce the already existing CUP's you have issued until the MFL's are back to what they were in 1972 when you were supposed to have set the MFL's to begin with.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ljones1501@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:06:11 PM |

## Hi Linda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; also the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. This is important not only for the manatees, but for the humans as well. Thank you. Linda Jones*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | gilland@ufl.edu |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:08:54 PM |

Hi David,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | eugenesued@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:19:27 PM |

## Hi Susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Dear Board Members, Please protect what little manatee habitat Florida has left by opposing the propsoed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa Rivers. Thank you, Susan Dietrick*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** K9gra@aol.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:27:22 PM

## Hi Gerald,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Haven't the flows of the springs been varied enough by the increases usage already. Please let nature take its course without the outside influences of greedy people who are only interested in themselves.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** cadesq@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:34:08 PM

## Hi Claire,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear SWFWMD: I am writing to you to tell you that I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers, and that I believe no further flow reduction should be allowed. It is my request that the MFLs be set at the current. I beg you to manage our water more wisely and to do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our beautiful state of Florida. Though I live in Palm Beach County, as a small business owner, I am constantly driving to all areas of the state, including the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa areas, and the natural native beauty of the west coast of Florida is the most important thing that brings people to our state and gives them the opportunity to shop at my business. Maintaining Florida's natural water flow is good business to me, personally, and for our beautiful state as a whole. Thank you, best regards, Claire Dumas*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | tahenize@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:35:43 PM |

Hi Tina,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We oppose your proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. No further flow reduction should be allowed, and therefore the MFLs should be set at current flows, i.e. 0% flow reduction. We need wiser management of our water resources, including doing more to reduce wasteful water use in Florida. We are very aware of SWFWMD staff and budget reductions as part of the increasing pressures from Tallahassee, but none of that should mean our water resources for our wildlife and human population should be compromised. The goal is the same. Maintaining and providing in our part of the State clean, plentiful fresh water is a basic requirement for a healthy and economically stable Florida with a high quality-of-life for us all. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | allietennant@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:38:13 PM |

## Hi Allie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *If your intent is to force the manatees into extinction, you are doing a great job. However, if you are on the side of keeping a healthy ecosystem in these two rivers, might I suggest you stop interfering with the water flow, as even 3% will do great harm.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | michwilltwo@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:43:23 PM |

## Hi Michele,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear Southwest Florida Water Management District Board, The MFLs you are purposing for the Chassahowitzka River,9% flow reduction, and a 3% reduction for the Homosassa River mean that for each river, flows could be reduced by these percentages to meet future human water demand. In recent decades, both rivers have shown signs of environmental stress. Among the observed changes are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. Residents in both rivers have observed a steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Even though SWFWMD's models have indicated that the proposed MFLs will not cause significant ecological harm, logic suggests that any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habit at and manatees themselves. I urege to to consider making those MFLs higher to accomadate the Florida manatee and help maintain a healthy river system. Thank you for your consideration. Michele King*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bomracer@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:44:58 PM |

Hi Stephen,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | phvmaddog@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:47:41 PM |

Hi Pamela,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | kathymporter@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:49:30 PM |

## Hi Katrhryn M,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. I believe that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | giraff1000@ail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:51:33 PM |

## Hi brooke,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *manatees need healthy waters so please make a big effort to make our waters clean, and healthy for our FL manatees! thanks!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | fredbarb1@verizon.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:57:16 PM |

## Hi Barbara,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the reducing of the MFL's on both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers in order to protect the wildlife and ecosystem.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | maryl@marylsworld.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:04:28 PM |

## Hi Maryl,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Do not change anything related to the springs except to preserve them!! stop boats and do not redirect or touch in any way. What purity do we have left if not our springs.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | stephfla954@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:06:11 PM |

## Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not kill the manatees or take measures that will lead to their death. They are part of the State of Florida and deserve to be protected.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | goldiched@ymail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:18:30 PM |

Hi Edwin,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I would like to see no reduction in flow of the Homosassa & Chassahowitska rivers before there are written regulations made into law. We MUST protect our rivers! Sincerely, Edwin Goldich*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | apfrecker@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:23:35 PM |

Hi alicia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | satoskarvv@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:27:54 PM |

Hi Vijay,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Florida's eco-system depends upon a proper management of its' water resources.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | freya109@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:29:25 PM |

Hi Karen,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, I wish to see SWFMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** tnagilday@roadrunner.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:33:16 PM

## Hi Amanda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you very much for your time and attention to this serous matter.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | leeulbing@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:37:19 PM |

Hi Lee,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I believe the MFLs for any water system in this state SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED at this juncture. Yes we've had some rain this summer, but we and our water systems have been suffering from drought over a number of years now. Let it all try to recover naturally as nature intended before taking any action. Please consider the wildlife that depends on our rivers for habitat like the manatee. They and the other wildlife can not fight against mankind and their loss would diminish our quality of life enormously. Remember, they were here long before we were. Lee Ulbing*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | wcbryan@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:50:21 PM |

Hi Karol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for Chassahowitzka & Homosassa Rivers. No further flow reduction should be allowed. Please manage our waters more wisely. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mikasunny@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 4:55:07 PM |

## Hi David and Judy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*To The Southwest Florida Water Management District: We are writing to you today to urge you to oppose the proposed "Minimum Flows and Levels" (MFLs)on the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. No further reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at the current flow level (0% flow reduction). In addition, we urge the Southwest Florida Water Management District to manage our water more wisely and to do everything possible to cut back on wasteful water management and water flow uses and practices. Thank you for your time and attention.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mao15@bellsouth.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:07:54 PM |

Hi a m,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cgula@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:12:09 PM |

## Hi Carol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I think SWIFTMUD should manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Beaniepbg@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:14:14 PM |

Hi Jill,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*PLEASE consider the manatees before lowering the MFLs in Chassahowitzka & Homosassa rivers! Do not lower the levels at all! You will be negatively effecting the quality of the water which in turn, effects the food supply for the gentle giants! Don't be another cause of harm to these harmless creatures! THINK BEFORE YOU ACT!! Thank you for your consideration!*

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** Mary Ellen Aliberti **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** 352-794-3111 10/2/12

**Comments:** I care, show that you care, please.

This information is a public record and may be disclosed to anyone requesting a copy for any purpose pursuant to the Florida Public Records Act, Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity.

Chassahowitzka and
Homosassa River Systems
# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** Darrell Snedecor, President Citrus Co. Audubon

**Date** 10/21/12

**Email Address or Phone Number** darrell@snedecors.com

**Comments:**

Zero reduction is the only way to save the future.

This information is a public record and may be disclosed to anyone requesting a copy for any purpose pursuant to the Florida Public Records Act, Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity.

Chassahowitzka and
Homosassa River Systems
# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** Kathy Dobronyi **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** Kdobronyi@intergate.com 10 12 12012

**Comments:**

Water temperature addressed for manatees, but how will the flow change effect food source for them?

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Chassahowitzka and
Homosassa River Systems

# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** KARL SCHULZ **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** (352) 621-1664 OCT 12 / 2012

**Comments:** Nice scientific data. No matter how you slice it, removing more water from the Homosassa will not be good for the rivers. Frogs are gone from our canal, barnacles have moved in.
The major concept omitted from your comments is "common sense" what is practical, what do the citizens want? Removing rivers water for bottle water is a very bad idea if you know it.
Do the right thing, remove NO water.
Vote the way you would want if you did not work for "Swiftmud"

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BLUE CARD = COMMENTS MEETING

-DOUG- 6.8° Manatee

- Frogs
= Barnacle
- Drought
- Mind made up
- Common sense
- Science panels

91% CHAZ
97% HOMO
} FROM RECOMMEND

Chassahowitzka and
Homosassa River Systems
# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** Joan Schulz **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** jaschulz@tampabay.rr.com 10/12/12

**Comments:** I don't think your 100% natural flow is accurate as we have now few fish, crab, and natural grasses that used to exist in the river. The river is already sick and a 3% reduced flow will make it much sicker (Homosassa River). Removing more water will concentrate the pollution more. You should be doing all you can to make this river healthy instead of inflicting more harm.

This information is a public record and may be disclosed to anyone requesting a copy for any purpose pursuant to the Florida Public Records Act, Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Under Florida law, email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity.

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** HOPE CORONA **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com 10 / / 2012

**Comments:**

(1) If Chassahowitzka spring flow strongly correlates with Weeki Wachee Well, for which extensive historic records exist; then one can estimate the pre-development spring flow in CHASSAHOWITZKA; what ~~is~~ was it? What was it at time of Designation as O.F.W.? HAS SIGNIFICANT HARM ALREADY OCCURED AS IT HAS IN WEEKI WACHEE? → since 1933 1995-2004

(2) THE CHASSAHOWITZKA, like the Weeki Wachee, is a Fresh Water Spring-fed River that flows out to an Estuary; The CHASSAHOWITZKA SPRING RUNS AND ASSOCIATED SPRING RUNS flow through and nourish an extensive freshwater forested wetlands community comprised of species intolerant to saline conditions. The Weeki Wachee MFL was a TWO PART MFL that addressed essential FRESH WATER HABITAT (A SPRING / FRESH WATER MFL, AND AN ESTUARY MFL). Why was ONLY AN ESTUARY MFL performed for Chassahowitzka? ~~MANY OF~~ OUR IMPERILED SPRING HABITATS ~~ARE~~ WILL be significantly harmed, yet NO Fresh water MFL was performed?

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— over →

(3) BASED ON SALINITY PROFILES (on Page 47 of the Char. MFL fig. 4-3): there appears to be an approximately 1.05 km movement upstream of the salinity gradients shown for every 43 cfs reduction in flow (estimate). The presently suggested reduction in flow will move these salinity gradients how much farther east (upstream) towards the spring? My lay person estimate places a 3ppt salinity well east of Potter Creek (between Potter and Salt Creek). There is a significant amount of fresh water habitat and fresh water forested wetlands that may be significantly harmed by further ~~sat~~ increases in salinity beyond sensitive species thresholds.

(4) ~~SWFWMD~~ Regarding "other organisms response to flow changes" that Doug presented tonight: the species addressed are still ALL Estuarine species! ~~We asked~~ Stakeholders asked SWFWMD to address effects to Fresh Water species.

(5) IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS WE WERE TOLD THAT MONITORING would take place ~~to see~~ on the affected Rivers / Spring communities. Where can we review the Monitoring Plan? How often (monthly, quarterly) will monitoring take place, and what (species, habitats, water qual./salinity) will be monitored? Will that data be available as Public Records?

Chassahowitzka and
Homosassa River Systems
# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** Lynda Fourlie-Case **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** rodlynda@Tampabay.rr.com 10/2/12

**Comments:** I have been coming to Chass. River since about 1945. my father has been coming up (from Tampa) with his father since about 1920 - I have been living on the main canal full time since 1984. I Kayak, fish, swim, crab - I pay waterfront homeowner taxes - my husband, Doug Case, was very involved with getting Chass. named an Outstanding Fla. Water way in the mid 80's. We need to protect this beautiful resource - We need to protect quality not just quantity -

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Chassahowitzka and
Homosassa River Systems

# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida
Water Management District
WATERMATTERS.ORG · 1-800-423-1476

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure to clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** Maxine Connor **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** maxineconnor@gmail.com 10/2/12

**Comments:** Restore the rivers and springs. This is the only place in the world with this many first magnitude springs. They have already been degraded. Do not allow flow levels to be reduced. ~~The~~ Reducing flow levels will only result in further degradation of water quality, ~~and~~ water flow, and loss of habitat. Loss of habitat will result in the death of many plants and animals.

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | j-cmacdonald@att.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:23:21 PM |

## Hi Carol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *We have been enjoying Chassahowitzka and Homasassa rivers for many years. We've seen a decline in these areas, and one thing is VERY apparent--EVERYONE CAN'T LIVE IN FLORIDA! The water management districts must look at the range of typical flows and levels over the course of record-keeping history of these springs and their rivers, realizing that recent decades have been affected by pumpage as well as drought. MFL's must be established according to long-term historic levels--NOT determined by the last one or two decades which, I believe, have been much lower than previous long-term historic levels.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** wvm1580@sbcglobal.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:29:23 PM

Hi william,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*My wife and I are voting residents of Lee county. We oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We need to manage our water more wisely and reduce wasteful water use in our state.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** alb826@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:31:32 PM

Hi Andrea,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lrodoff@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:31:58 PM |

Hi lennie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** ann@hanushek.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:32:32 PM

## Hi Ann,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *It is time to protect our water, the most basic natural resource. The manatee and other marine need to be protected so that future generations may enjoy the richness that they bring to the environment.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | orvalnangle@comcast.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:41:17 PM |

## Hi Rosanne,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*As a Florida resident, I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe no further flow reduction should be allowed and that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Both rivers show signs of environmental stress: dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water; loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa; and a steady progression of barnacles further inland in both rivers, a sign the water is becoming more saline. I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Rosanne Nangle Jacksonville, FL 32257*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | susanclaire20@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:41:34 PM |

Hi Susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | msmstr159@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:42:45 PM |

Hi mary,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jrtromans@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:47:18 PM |

Hi Jean,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do a better job managing water in Florida for the manatee, turtles, dolphins, and all other creatures who are dependent on water in Florida. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mengranger@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 5:50:38 PM |

## Hi Margaret,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please, please do everything possible to help the Florida Manatees, our wonderful friends. I hope it's not too late. We need to be aware of what can be done and what is being done. Thank you for keeping us aware of the situation of the Manatees.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** bgt.roo@verizon.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:01:22 PM

## Hi Bonita,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, SWFWMD should manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for any help you may provide in this area.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | traceysadiq@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:11:19 PM |

## Hi Tracey,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *To Whom it May Concern: I would like to state that Ioppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and also believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Additionally, I would like to see your organization manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state than is currently being done. Thank you, Tracey Sadiq*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** lrs5@bellsouth.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:13:26 PM

## Hi LeAnn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | paulsadiq@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:13:46 PM |

## Hi Paul,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *To Whom it May Concern: I would like to state that Ioppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and also believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Additionally, I would like to see your organization manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state than is currently being done. Thank you, Paul Sadiq*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | HHOLLON1221@AOL.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:19:12 PM |

## Hi Hollie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to tell the SWFWMD that I want to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. This matter is so very important to everyone who lives in Florida and so we must make the proper decisions now to save our water and world for the future. Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important issue.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jefazio@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:23:05 PM |

Hi jayna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the mFLs should be set at current flows (0%) flow reduction. pLease manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** nssb@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:40:10 PM

## Hi Nancy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I am strongly opposed to the proposed MFL's for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFL's should remain at current flows of 0% flow reduction. I also wish SWFWMD would manage Florida's waters more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in Florida. This would be an opportune time to purchase wetlands from individuals to ensure there is no development that destroys the environment.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | PerrySclafani@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:43:26 PM |

## Hi Perry,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also i want to tell SWFWMD that I wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** startrek1976@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:48:03 PM

## Hi Melissa,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please don't mess with the flows of the Chessowitzka River. The manatees are such beautiful and gentle animals, they need our help to survive.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** gmorotti@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:54:12 PM

Hi Gloria,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We need to save the rivers.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mejides@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 6:56:58 PM |

Hi Andres,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | manateeprotector@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:05:02 PM |

## Hi Angel,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Sir/Ma'am, I oppose the proposed Minimum Flow Levels (MFL) for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please do all in your power to manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for your time and consideration. V/r, Angel Burke*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | soniapox@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:05:22 PM |

## Hi Sonia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please reconsider the water flow reduction the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. Many ecological systems depend on these rivers and water flow reduction may cause negative effects to the water quality there. This will directly affect the aquatic life. In a world where wildlife habitats are rapidly destroyed, I hope that we do our best to understand the environment around us before making any changes. Ecosystems are often intertwined with many other factors, so making one change can easily disrupt the whole system. Thank You for your time, Sonia Wong*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** scooteacha@aol.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:12:26 PM

Hi Robyn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** amie98@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:19:58 PM

## Hi Amie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves. I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). SWFWMD needs to manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | fladream@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:20:15 PM |

Hi connie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*STOP TAKING AWAY FROM THE MANATEES THEY ARE GOD'S CREATURES LET THEM BE HAPPY HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU TAKENED AWAY FROM WILDLIFE TO MAKE THEIR ENVIROMENTS LOUSEY? PUT YOURSELVES IN THEIR PLACES AND SEE HOW YOU LIKE IT*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cvezolles@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:24:00 PM |

## Hi Celeste,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | crmcglone@moose-mail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:25:26 PM |

## Hi Colleen,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | remember69@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:32:22 PM |

Hi Ronald,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I disapprove of the decision to limit the water flow of these river systems. Please think of the environmental consequences of this action before it is taken. Thank you for your time.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** hwrdmill@tampabay.rr.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:56:44 PM

Hi Howard,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dont reduce the presenr flow levels*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | doctorrose@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 7:36:10 PM |

## Hi Rosandra,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Dear SWFWMD Staff & Governing Boards: I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction. Also, I wish to see our water managed more wisely and would like to see more cut backs on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you, Sincerely, Rose Manduca, DVM*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Revoltingstr2@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:10:15 PM |

## Hi Cristina,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Both sites are already showing signs of ecological stress and by reducing current flows will further exasperate the problem. The slightest reduction in water flow can cause significant changes in food availability, nutrient inputs, salinity levels and so on for the wildlife that call these rivers home. Please reconsider the reduction and focus more on ways to effectively manage our water use and ways to prevent wasteful water use in the state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bearbigpaws@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:10:28 PM |

Hi Debbie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mcmduda@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:14:10 PM |

Hi Mary,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | celesteas@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:27:32 PM |

## Hi Celeste,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I believe the current MFL at 0% reduction should stand for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems, no increases to already ailing Florida waterways and aquifer. And much more should be done to protect the incredible waterways of Florida.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** cwillis64@gmail.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 8:33:36 PM

Hi chris,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please help us save our manatees. thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jjb5270@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:14:25 PM |

Hi Jennifer,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | kcmms2002@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:26:47 PM |

Hi Kady,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mybarr38@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:31:35 PM |

## Hi Mylene,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Snannywan26@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:33:51 PM |

## Hi Savannah,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, I wish to see you managing our water more wisely and please do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. It is a major issue. Manatee habitat can be adversely affected by your flow reduction plans. Manatees are an important part of our ecosystem - not to mention an endangered species. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habit at and manatees themselves. Please do not allow any further flow reduction!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | terrythor@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:38:32 PM |

## Hi Terry,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see the district manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in Florida.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | munchong39@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:38:57 PM |

## Hi Tolentin,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that I wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | estrucker@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:44:56 PM |

Hi elizabeth,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | kayGates@bellsouth.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:47:55 PM |

## Hi Kay,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, I wish the water managers our waters would more wisely manage the water to protect the natural environment and critters. Please do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Much appreciation for all the good work you do. Don't let the greedy few ruin and deplete our natural resources. Thanks you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lkazmarek@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 9:56:56 PM |

## Hi Lauren,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Ioppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction).I also wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | blaest@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:01:25 PM |

Hi Terry,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Humans have already caused significant harm to Florida's freshwater ecosystems. Look at the growth of algae and salt water intrusion. Allowing water to be diverted for further development means that minimum levels will surely become maximum levels for our water bodies, continuing the decline. Save the Chassawitzka and Homosassa and ALL our rivers and lakes.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dcray831@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:03:37 PM |

Hi Donna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I strongly support manatee protection, and as such, believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see the water managed more wisely so that the natural environment - Florida's greatest resource, is protected. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | annsayward@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:22:59 PM |

Hi Ann,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I have learned a great deal about MFL's in the past few years. Part of that was watching what happened in New Orleans as a result in part to the decrease in barrier islands that disappeared because of salt water intrusion. Our water supplies are not limitless and the damage done be depleteing our rivers is irreversible. Of course SWFMD knows all that. What happens if the MFL's you are recommending result in salt intrusion on the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems as it certainly would? Already on the Withlacoochee River we have noticed and increase in salinity many miles in from the gulf. Please..... reconsider the MFL's and protect the rivers and the people and animals who depend ontheir health.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Goslingsawagreen@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:36:33 PM |

Hi Micah,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Lets preserve the rivers so the Manatee can live and thrive in florida*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Melissa.Sullivan.A@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:50:13 PM |

## Hi Melissa,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please take manatees into consideration when making decisions. Manatees need to be protected.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | keyweyspot@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:51:29 PM |

Hi Mary,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Leave the flow alone*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rmarziagamm@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:51:54 PM |

## Hi Rose,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please consider the effects to the Manatee on this matter. Water management is fine as long as it isn't adversely affecting the life in the waters.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rmarziagamm@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 10:55:05 PM |

Hi Linda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I please leave at oppose the MFL's water flowplease leave at "0" flow*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | shiggins@monarchlearningacademy.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:00:23 PM |

## Hi Mrs.Higgins',

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not reduce the flow. We want the manatees to have a good habitat.*
*Sincerrely, Mrs. Higgins' Second Grade Class*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bigmohank@netscape.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:13:59 PM |

## Hi Henry,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please ensure that everything possible is done to promote and protect the habitat our manatees require. THey are truly a Florida treasure, and representative of what a true "gentle giant" should be. Thanks very much in advance.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | omans5@juno.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 04, 2012 11:45:37 PM |

## Hi Jeff,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The SWFWMD is preparing to implement Minimum Flows and Levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers on Florida's west coast. It is very important to set MFLs and protect our water bodies from harm, but we can only ensure protection when appropriate MFLs are set. For the Chassahowitzka River, the SWFWMD is proposing a 9% flow reduction, and a 3% reduction for the Homosassa River. This means that for each river, flows could be reduced by these percentages to meet future human water demand. In recent decades, both rivers have shown signs of environmental stress. Among the observed changes are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. Residents in both rivers have observed a steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Even though SWFWMD's models have indicated that the proposed MFLs will not cause significant ecological harm, logic suggests that any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I urge you to manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cause4paws2@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 12:14:16 AM |

## Hi Everett and Melody,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *WE oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Sincerely, Everett and Melody Halligan*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Acboroughs@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 12:17:46 AM |

Hi Anna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | casabianca@live.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 3:53:55 AM |

## Hi melinda h,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Did you know there are indications that both the Chassahowitza and Homassa Rivers are in trouble? Salt water instrusion is a huge and growing problem in south and middle Florida. Decreasing the water flow would increase the problem. Please don't draw down any more water.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | treehugger52768@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 5:56:59 AM |

Hi Katrina,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | pattiw2469@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 6:07:18 AM |

## Hi Patti,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would also like to see SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | NLoughery@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 6:53:57 AM |

Hi Nancy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The current flow (0% reduction) is fine! I'd also like to see more done to cut back on wasteful water usage in Florida. Thank you.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** danandjo@bellsouth.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Friday, October 05, 2012 7:22:50 AM

Hi Jo,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to see SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | reson8tor@mac.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 7:41:24 AM |

Hi Chris,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). And I wish to see SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | eltonbanks@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 9:01:51 AM |

## Hi David & Grace,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | efcbdb@verizon.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 9:02:22 AM |

## Hi Brian,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Dear Governing Board Members, I am writng to oppose any further flow reductions on these two waterways. The Mfl's should be set at the current flow rates. Thank you. Brian Banks*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | chilove42@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 9:08:56 AM |

## Hi carol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *MFL's should be set at current levels and no further reduction levels should be allowed. Florida has lost enough natural resources because of poor decisions by the people we put in charge to protect our waterways. These two rivers should not be next on the list. The proof is already there that water reduction allows saltwater encroachment. SWFWMD need to manage our water more wisely, there are other alternatives to preserve water such as using waste water for public lands, parks, buildings etc, and not allowing fresh water waste, education of the public, etc.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Vocewing@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 10:54:04 AM |

Hi Jim,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I vehemently oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed and that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Wiser water management along with a reduction in wasteful water use are directions SWFWMD should pursue to improve water supplies.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jacqueline2662@cfl.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 11:09:09 AM |

Hi Jacqueline,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | shenderson@mygulfport.us |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 11:18:12 AM |

Hi Sam,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are already showing signs of ecological decline at the current flow levels. In the absence of a comprehensive restoration / remediation plan, or indeed a definition of minimum flow criteria, it is not rational to conclude that flow levels below the current annual average for these rivers could be sustainable for the proliferation of manatees and other local biota. In light of this, the SWFWMD should not institute a minimum flow level that is less than the current annual average. Such a move would endorse the further degradation of the rivers and the wildlife that relies upon them. Any reduction in permissable flow levels for these rivers will likely prove unsustainable and conflict with the overarching responsibility of the district - preservation and protection of Florida's declining waterbodies. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Mimi181@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 11:27:05 AM |

Hi Marilyn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** atc5@comcast.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Friday, October 05, 2012 11:52:29 AM

## Hi David,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please do not restrict flow on these important waterways. Thank you for helping to preserve our natural environment and helping out the animals who need us and who do not have a voice.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | uphighfla@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 12:01:01 PM |

Hi donna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mcohorst@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 12:16:09 PM |

## Hi Meghan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Environmental evidence continues to tell us that our rivers need protection, and decreasing MFLs will only exacerbate problems of increased salinity and plant loss already being seen in the Homossasa and Chassahowitzka Rivers. Please make the right decision by choosing 0% flow reduction for both of these rivers, so we can protect some of our state's most precious resources.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | faydarby@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 1:14:28 PM |

Hi Fay,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | blanch6669@cfl.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 2:08:07 PM |

## Hi Donna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I also wish to see water managed more wisely and more done to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. In recent decades, both rivers have already shown signs of environmental stress. Manatees, and other wildlife, rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | shynes825@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 3:39:55 PM |

## Hi sandy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *This proposed action by swiftmud is unbelievably against all that organization stands for. I thought they had the health of the rivers of Florida as their top priority. Also The permits for a bottling company withdrwing precious waterfrom florida waters is beyond stupid especially when there are watering restrictions for private water users.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cici4ever@hotmail.it |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 3:41:42 PM |

Hi Cinzia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | HEIDIHOVAN@GMAIL.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 3:43:46 PM |

## Hi HEIDI,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*PLEASE ALLOW THE RIVERS OF FLORIDA TO FLOW NATURALLY AT A HEALTHY BALANCE AND HEIGHT TO ENSURE THE FUTURE AND ON-GOING WELLBEING OF OUR BEAUTIFUL STATE. KEEP IN MIND WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE CORP OF ENGINEERS STRAIGHTEN THE KISSISSIMME RIVER.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dawn466@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 3:45:26 PM |

## Hi Dawn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Dear Sirs, I am writing to ask you to oppose any further flow reduction for the Chassahowitzka &Homosassa Rivers. These rivers have already been a very low levels and residents have seen evidence of salt water encroaching on this area. Please do what you can to keep these rivers healthy and consider the aquatic life, plants and manatees who these rivers are vital for. Please do what you can to manage these waters wisely for the environment, and not just human needs. Thank-you for your time. Sincerely, Dawn Rutigliano*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | nickistoneman@sbcglobal.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 4:28:36 PM |

Hi Nicki,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

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Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Manatees need help. Their God's creature's.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Keth@Awakening-Healing.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 5:54:50 PM |

## Hi Keth,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | boverly@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 6:07:20 PM |

## Hi Beverly,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I ask the SWIFTMUD Board not to let this chance go by. The timeline on setting MFL's is already 50 years too late - the data is new, but the damage has already been done to both the Chassahowitzka and the Homosassa Rivers. The only sensible reset is '0'. Salinity has marched up the rivers to the springs unabated for too long. Please, DO THE RIGHT THING - ZERO MFL'S to reflect conditions TODAY. Don't allow yourselves to be tools of Mr. Scott - think of the Legacy you leave to your offspring - Do you really want your family name attached to this shameful water grab? ZERO, ZERO, ZERO - Yeah, I won some.*

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Meeting Follow up
**Date:** Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:19:24 AM

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Doug,
As a reminder you said you would share the e-mail for Mr. Motz who was on the Peer Review Team and the only engineer, so I can ask if he feels the ommission of Halls River Flow in the regression analysis is significant.

The more I thought about our discussion, you are correct that in a regression analysis you can consider what ever factors you want. However, my point in the question was about the validity by ignoring about half the flow.

Additionally,
you indicated that you would try to track down the 2007 work by Ping Wang, I did mention this to Chris Anastasiou, I think he would be interested in getting a copy. Our primary interest is in the first mile from the Head Springs, but we will take responsibility for extracting the data of interest.

Doug,
I do appreciate what you do and trust that you and the team surrounding you will be around for many years. I have seen the articles about cuts but note the modelliand data teams are going to be increased.

Martyn

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | "Alan Martyn Johnson" |
| **Bcc:** | Kevin Grimsley (kjgrims@usgs.gov); Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov); kwatson@hsweng.com; Adrienne Vining; Chris Zajac; Christopher Pettit; Darcy A. Brune; Dave Dewitt; Doug Leeper; Eric DeHaven; Gary E. Williams; Jay Yingling; Jerry Mallams; Karen West; Kenneth R. Herd; Laura Donaldson; Lou Kavouras; Mark Barcelo; Mark Hammond; Michael Molligan; Mike Heyl; Robyn O. Felix; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Tammy Hinkle; Veronica Craw; Virginia Singer; Xinjian Chen; Yassert Gonzalez |
| **Subject:** | RE: MFL Meeting |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 6:34:00 PM |

Hi Martyn:
Thanks again for sending the questions prior to the public meeting. Hopefully I addressed them during the event on Tuesday -- thought I would follow-up with an e-mail. My written responses to your questions are imbedded in your e-mail below. I used italics and a different font color to distinguish the responses from your original text.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:11 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Meeting

Doug,
I hope to be at the meeting tomorrow evening and intent to raise a number of questions. No doubt the number of loopholes to defining a specific minimum flow will be center stage. But, I have some specific questions and thought it fair to give you a heads up so you are able to provide thoughtful answers and not be relying totally on memory/immediate thoughts. The questions are regarding the validity of HWS Engineering's work/report and the USGS calculated discharges.

HSW

1. **Please explain why HSW ignored the flow from Halls River when running the salinity regression analyses**.
   The reason I ask this question is in Table 2-1 and the explanation "Based on the average daily data, spring flow and Halls River flow are about 53 and 47 percent of the total flow at the Homosassa gauge." (page 2-7 Appendix A…both original and revised). And in the main report Table 2-4 (adapted from Basso 2010 on page 66) the flow from Halls River represents 50% of the total springs flow.

***Response:*** *Discharge has not historically been measured for Halls River. To support development of*

*minimum flow recommendations for the Homosassa River system, discharge in Halls River was estimated. The estimated Halls River discharge data were not considered appropriate or necessary for developing regression equations for predicting salinities in the Homosassa River.*

2. **Please explain on why HSW have different summary results regarding the salinity RKM, Volume and Area as presented in the revised report Tables 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5 (Appendix A). However, the regression analyses presented in Table 2-3, 2-4, 2-4, 2-5 are the same in both the original and revised reports.**

***Response:*** *Differences in reported values for tables summarizing hydrodynamic modeling results from the original and revised reports by HSW Engineering, Inc. are attributable to data corrections included in the revised report. The changes were made to correct for the erroneous use and presentation of predicted "bottom" salinities as "top" salinities and "top" salinities as "bottom" salinities in the original report.*

3. In the main report Tables 5-2 thru 5-10 address the same salinity changes with flow reductions (some described as adapted from HSW Engineering (2011)). **Please explain why and who made these changes/adaptations.** Particularly consider some of these Tables are titled as benchmark period 2007, others as benchmark period 1995 to 2009 based on modeling daily values. Regression coefficients shown in Tables 2-10 indicates the regression analyses were done with **70 observations or less** and Table 2-3 in Appendix A for the 2000-2009 has observations from **625-1389 observation**. It is not clear where these observations for the regression analyses originate from (it may be the random sampling of the 15 minute data or the synoptic survey by USF (look carefully at the median Figure 2-42)).

***Response:*** *The tabular presentation of summary data in the identified tables from chapter 5 of the "main report" was developed by District staff. Information included in the tables was adapted from information presented in the HSW Engineering, Inc. report to clarify differences between modeled scenarios.*

***Response:*** *Salinity-flow regressions for USGS gage sites were developed using USGS salinity and discharge data, and were based on relatively large sample sizes. Salinity-flow regressions for predicting isohaline locations were based on synoptic salinity sampling by the University of South Florida and the District and daily combined discharge for the Homosassa and SE Fork gage sites. In some cases, daily discharge values used for regression development were based on 15-minute USGS data.*

To highlight the concerns with HSW's work I would point to a correlation Appendix A on page 2-15 and Figure 2-23 concluding levels in Weeki Wachee Well lag rainfall in Inglis by 40-70 days. The logic for HWS linking rainfall in Inglis to the level in the Weeki Wachee Well is difficult to find. This conclusion is so far off it was not used in the main report. Rainfall and its influence on the level in Weeki Wachee Well, not Lecanto as presented in the main report, is a concern as Weeki Wachee Well level is the predominate factor in the calculated discharge for Homosassa Main and the SE Fork.

Note: Water levels at the observation well in Inglis are typically about 10 feet lower than the Weeki Wachee well, water does not flow uphill. Data shows Weeki Wachee Well reacts very quickly to rainfall (the data regarding rainfall, Brooksville Station, from recent tropical storms show Weeki Wachee Well level increased

4 feet in 6 days).

USGS

**There are concerns about the calculated discharge data for a number of the USGS Gage Sites**. I have shared with USGS and SWFWMD differences between calculated and Field Measurements to support the concerns. Accuracy of the tidal filtered data from Homosassa River presumably is of so much concern, HSW and SWFWMD have ignored Halls River flow in the regression analyses. **It is incomprehensible how it has taken over a year for any data to come from the velocity meter installed at the SE Fork and nearly 6 months from the velocity meter installed in Halls River.** I would have thought everyone would want to verify the basis of all this work urgently. The Governing Board should not make any decision on these MFL's before these investments bear some fruit to indicate the accuracy of the calculated discharge. Recent Field Measurements (particularly February 8 and 9) at the Homosassa R at Homosassa gage do tend to support accuracy concerns I raised well over a year ago about the bias resulting from squaring of the velocity (during inflow squaring the negative velocity results in an addition).

***Response:*** *The USGS has been collecting velocity data at the SE Fork gage site for approximately one year and expects to complete initial analyses regarding discharge estimation using these data within a couple of months. Similar analyses will be forthcoming for the Halls River site once a sufficient data set becomes available.*

I look forward to an interesting and productive meetin.

Martyn.

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | "Alan Martyn Johnson" |
| **Bcc:** | Wang, Ping (pwang@cas.usf.edu); lmotz@ce.ufl.edu; Chris Anastasiou; Adrienne Vining; Chris Zajac; Christopher Pettit; Darcy A. Brune; Dave Dewitt; Doug Leeper; Eric DeHaven; Gary E. Williams; Jay Yingling; Jerry Mallams; Karen West; Kenneth R. Herd; Laura Donaldson; Lou Kavouras; Mark Barcelo; Mark Hammond; Michael Molligan; Mike Heyl; Robyn O. Felix; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Tammy Hinkle; Veronica Craw; Virginia Singer; Xinjian Chen; Yassert Gonzalez |
| **Subject:** | RE: Meeting Follow up |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 7:02:00 PM |

---

Martyn:

Thanks for your comments about my colleagues and me.

Here is Dr. Louis Motz e-mail address at the University of Florida.

lmotz@ce.ufl.edu

I've created a zipped file containing the bathymetric data and report developed for the District by P. Wang, and have placed the file on the District FTP site for you to retrieve.

Directions for retrieving files from the FTP site may be found on the "How to Access our Anonymous FTP Server" page of the District web site at the following link:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/data/ftp/

The file that you want is named Homo_Bathy.zip and is stored in the public-outgoing folder. Here's a direct link to that folder.

http://ftp.swfwmd.state.fl.us/pub/out/

Let me know if you have trouble downloading the zipped file or have questions concerning the data.

Incidentally, I also mailed a CD containing the bathymetric data to your Homosassa address.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 03, 2012 11:19 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Meeting Follow up

Doug,
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Additionally,
you indicated that you would try to track down the 2007 work by Ping Wang, I did mention this to Chris Anastasiou, I think he would be interested in getting a copy. Our primary interest is in the first mile from the Head Springs, but we will take responsibility for extracting the data of interest.

Doug,
I do appreciate what you do and trust that you and the team surrounding you will be around for many years. I have seen the articles about cuts but note the modelliand data teams are going to be increased.

Martyn

**From:** Ron Basso
**To:** Doug Leeper; Alan Martyn Johnson
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 8:47:12 AM

---

Mr. Johnson:

Just a brief follow-up on the following response:

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

As I've mentioned before, the greatest withdrawal impact depends on the magnitude of the withdrawal and its proximity to the spring (i.e. the larger and closer it is, the largest impact to flow). While the ND model contains a total of 438.1 mgd of pumping within its domain, you have to remember that this is spread out over nearly 10,000 square miles. In addition, some areas (ex. the Tampa Bay wellfield area) pump much higher amounts then other locations. So, it's a distribution issue in addition to the simple math of total withdrawals.

Doug is quite correct from his description above except I would add other factors where water from withdrawals would be expressed include a change in storage in the aquifer (increase in aquifer water levels), increase in baseflow (groundwater contribution) to rivers/streams, and increased evapotranspiration. Did you know that recharge to the aquifer actually increases as a result of withdrawals? And the 438.1 mgd equates to only about an inch of water per year over a 10,000 square mile domain? So it's not quite as simple as addition and subtraction. It's why we create complex numerical models of the system, to account for most of these changes.

Ron Basso, P.G.
Senior Professional Geologist
Resource Evaluation Section
Southwest Florida Water Management District
ph 1-800-423-1476 (in state)
ph 352-796-7211, ext. 4291 (outside state)
FAX 352-797-5799
*Life's Tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late. - Benjamin Franklin*

---

**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Friday, October 05, 2012 6:35 PM
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting

Hi Martyn:
Thanks again for sending the questions prior to the public meeting. Hopefully I addressed them during the event on Tuesday -- thought I would follow-up with an e-mail. My written responses to your questions are imbedded in your e-mail below. I used italics and a different font color to distinguish the responses from your original text.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
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352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:11 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Meeting

Doug,
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***Response:*** *Discharge has not historically been measured for Halls River. To support development of minimum flow recommendations for the Homosassa River system, discharge in Halls River was estimated. The estimated Halls River discharge data were not considered appropriate or necessary for developing regression equations for predicting salinities in the Homosassa River.*

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**4, 2-5 are the same in both the original and revised reports.**

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flow in the regression analyses. **It is incomprehensible how it has taken over a year for any data to come from the velocity meter installed at the SE Fork and nearly 6 months from the velocity meter installed in Halls River.** I would have thought everyone would want to verify the basis of all this work urgently. The Governing Board should not make any decision on these MFL's before these investments bear some fruit to indicate the accuracy of the calculated discharge. Recent Field Measurements (particularly February 8 and 9) at the Homosassa R at Homosassa gage do tend to support accuracy concerns I raised well over a year ago about the bias resulting from squaring of the velocity (during inflow squaring the negative velocity results in an addition).

***Response:*** *The USGS has been collecting velocity data at the SE Fork gage site for approximately one year and expects to complete initial analyses regarding discharge estimation using these data within a couple of months. Similar analyses will be forthcoming for the Halls River site once a sufficient data set becomes available.*

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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 10:08:41 AM

---

Ron,
Thanks for the follow up thoughts.

So where are these great impacts of local withdrawals? Which Springs have lost how much flow. That was my question.

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Martyn

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From: Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us; martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Mon, 8 Oct 2012 08:47:11 -0400
Subject: RE: MFL Meeting

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**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting

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**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:11 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Meeting

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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 9:26:12 AM

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Doug,
Thanks for sharing Dr. Motz e-mail address and posting the Bathymetric Study by Ping Wang on the web site. I did check to see if I could find the file. I have found it, but not yet downloaded it.

At the meeting you mentioned work done on 1-4% flow reductions and I commented this was not in the final report (very surprising as you indicated it was critical in making the decision re MFL). Now that I am back in Atlanta I checked the various Appendices and the notes I made as I reviewed each of these. The only reference I have to work done at the flow reductions of 1-4% is Appendix X which is a Memorandum regarding the position of the 2 pus isohaline. Is this the work you were referencing?

I will contact Dr. Motz regarding the flow from Halls River and its influence on the validity of the models. I could not agree more regarding the accuracy of the 'estimated' flow from Halls River. I think we both agree the tidally adjusted discharge data for Homosassa River at Homosassa is, sorry to have to say it, rubbish.

The erroneous use of top and bottom salinities you attribute changes to are not specifically identified in your response. I did note the apparent error in the original report where the Median EFDC Model Surface and Bottom Salinity lines were transposed on Figures F1 and F-2 (surface salinity higher than bottom at RKM 0); this was corrected in the revised report. Is this the error you are referring to?

At this same point in the reports my notes show other error/difference e.g.

- data from 1/15/2008 (163 cfs) Figure F-2, and 1/16/2008 (165 cfs) Figure F-3 (possibly a typo of both date and cfs).
- discharge cfs data from 10/2/2007 shown as 165 cfs, when USGS had some problem that day; in fact no discharge data reported Sept 29 thru Oct 13 2007.
- On Page 2-30 Appendix A the text reads "For example, if Q is reduced by 10 cfs, the 5 psu bottom isohaline is predicted to move only about 0.09 km upstream if Q is less than 135 cfs but will move 0.9 km upstream for greater values of Q." Some how this does not appear logical (possibly upstream and downstream confused with RKM).

Just a few of many points that give me concern about the validity and value of HSW's work.

Your response about the 438.1 mgd groundwater withdrawals will need some thought. The mention of 'surficial', 'runoff' and 'evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers', leave me, confused. The point is, if the NDM can identify the very small flow loss to the Homosassa River; surely it must be able to identify which other known springs (or other known outflows if not identified as springs) have a flow reduction. 438.1 mgd is close to five first magnitude springs being sucked out of the ground. This 438.1 mgd (such an accurate number!) is Destruction By Suction.

As more than one person said at the meeting; look at the river, the data models do not match what we all see.

Martyn

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From: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Fri, 5 Oct 2012 18:34:40 -0400
Subject: RE: MFL Meeting

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**From:** Ron Basso
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 11:43:49 AM

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Mr. Johnson:

I don't wish to get into a long discussion here. Some of our previous emails and conversations have covered this same ground. We've discussed our scientific understanding of the system, shown the long-term rainfall changes, sea level rise, flow data, groundwater pumping history, coastal salinity trends from wells, and modeling results. The fact is groundwater withdrawals have impacted flows at these springs (Chasshowitzka and Homosassa) by a very small amount – about 1 percent. In fact, so small we didn't even adjust for these impacts in 2010 as they were not considered significant. Other springs are affected more by the proximity and magnitude of withdrawals – I've discussed the predicted impact to Weeki Wachee Spring previously as one example. We also modeled 10 separate springs in the Homosassa Group – the combined impact from pumping is 1 percent of flow.

The reference to increasing recharge is not a play on words but occurs when you lower the water table. Less water can ET from plants and less runoff occurs – this is why recharge can increase. The one inch of water I referenced was a volumetric calculation only – to try an lend perspective to how much 438.1 mgd of withdrawals would mean spread out over the entire domain. As I said previously, the distribution of withdrawals are such that some areas experience greater impacts and others much less. Did you know that two-thirds of the 438.1 mgd groundwater withdrawn in the model occurs in just three counties: Hillsborough, Pasco, and Lake Counties. And finally, we'll analyze and model any new large wellfield withdrawals that may occur in the future in Citrus County and determine how that might affect springflow. We've already simulated the impact of 2030 projected use on these two springs.

I hope this addresses your questions and concerns.

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observations from **625-1389 observation**. It is not clear where these observations for the regression analyses originate from (it may be the random sampling of the 15 minute data or the synoptic survey by USF (look carefully at the median Figure 2-42)).

***Response:*** *The tabular presentation of summary data in the identified tables from chapter 5 of the "main report" was developed by District staff. Information included in the tables was adapted from information presented in the HSW Engineering, Inc. report to clarify differences between modeled scenarios.*

***Response:*** *Salinity-flow regressions for USGS gage sites were developed using USGS salinity and discharge data, and were based on relatively large sample sizes. Salinity-flow regressions for predicting isohaline locations were based on synoptic salinity sampling by the University of South Florida and the District and daily combined discharge for the Homosassa and SE Fork gage sites. In some cases, daily discharge values used for regression development were based on 15-minute USGS data.*

To highlight the concerns with HSW's work I would point to a correlation Appendix A on page 2-15 and Figure 2-23 concluding levels in Weeki Wachee Well lag rainfall in Inglis by 40-70 days. The logic for HWS linking rainfall in Inglis to the level in the Weeki Wachee Well is difficult to find. This conclusion is so far off it was not used in the main report.
Rainfall and its influence on the level in Weeki Wachee Well, not Lecanto as presented in the main report, is a concern as Weeki Wachee Well level is the predominate factor in the calculated discharge for Homosassa Main and the SE Fork.

Note: Water levels at the observation well in Inglis are typically about 10 feet lower than the Weeki Wachee well, water does not flow uphill. Data shows Weeki Wachee Well reacts very quickly to rainfall (the data regarding rainfall, Brooksville Station, from recent tropical storms show Weeki Wachee Well level increased 4 feet in 6 days).

USGS
**There are concerns about the calculated discharge data for a number of the USGS Gage Sites**. I have shared with USGS and SWFWMD differences between calculated and Field Measurements to support the concerns. Accuracy of the tidal filtered data from Homosassa River presumably is of so much concern, HSW and SWFWMD have ignored Halls River flow in the regression analyses. **It is incomprehensible how it has taken over a year for any data to come from the velocity meter installed at the SE Fork and nearly 6 months from the velocity meter installed in Halls River.** I would have thought everyone would want to verify the basis of all this work urgently. The Governing Board should not make any decision on these MFL's before these investments bear some fruit to indicate the accuracy of the calculated discharge. Recent Field Measurements (particularly February 8 and 9) at the Homosassa R at Homosassa gage do tend to support accuracy concerns I raised well over a year ago about the bias resulting from squaring of the velocity (during inflow squaring the negative velocity results in an addition).

***Response:*** *The USGS has been collecting velocity data at the SE Fork gage site for approximately one year and expects to complete initial analyses regarding discharge estimation using these data within a couple of months. Similar analyses will be forthcoming for the Halls River site once a sufficient data set becomes available.*

I look forward to an interesting and productive meetin.

Martyn.

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

# Public Meeting on Proposed Minimum Flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems

October 2, 2012

District staff facilitated a public meeting on October 2, 2012 for discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. The meeting was held at the Citrus County Lecanto Government Building in Lecanto, Florida, and was initiated at 5:30 p.m.

**Governing Board Member Present**
Douglas Tharpe, Vice Chair

**District Staff Present**
Chris Anastasiou, Senior Environmental Scientist
Ron Basso, Senior Professional Geologist/Engineer
Veronica Craw, Environmental Manager
Randy Emberg, Video Production Engineer
Mark Hammond, Resource Management Director
Mike Heyl, Chief Environmental Scientist
Ken Herd, Water Resources Bureau Chief
Doug Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist
Jerry Mallams, Resource Evaluation Manager
Michael Molligan, Communications Bureau Chief
Chris Pettit, Staff Attorney
Virginia Singer, Senior Communications Coordinator
Vining, Adrienne, Senior Attorney
Chris Zajac, Government Affairs Program Manager



A list of the 95 members of the public present at the meeting who signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the SWFWMD.

1. Discussion of revised minimum flow recommendations
   Mr. Michael Molligan began the meeting by explaining the purpose of the event, noting that staff would present information on revised minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems and that ample time would be provided for public input on the proposed minimum flows. Mr. Molligan noted that individuals who were interested in providing input during the meeting please could fill out a "Request to Speak" card and that they would each be permitted to address meeting participants for a three-minute period. Mr. Molligan also noted that comment cards were available for those who wanted to submit written comments and that written comments could also be submitted electronically through the SWFWMD web site. Eight comment cards were submitted during the meeting.

Mr. Doug Leeper subsequently provided a presentation that included an overview of the minimum flows and levels and specifically addressed development of minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Information presented for the two river systems was focused on initial minimum flow recommendations developed by the SWFWMD in 2010 and revised recommendations developed in 2012.

Mr. Leeper ended his presentation by noting that staff plans to recommend that the SWFWMD Governing Board approve rule amendments associated with the proposed minimum flows at the Board meeting scheduled to be held at the District Headquarters on October 30, 2012.

2. Public Input
The public input portion of the meeting was initiated at approximately 6:10 p.m. Input was provided by 26 meeting participants.

3. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | DawnsvRiety@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 6:49:46 PM |

## Hi Dawn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Save our environment and animals not destroy It!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | bobrast1@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 7:04:15 PM |

Hi Bob,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please don't do it.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | pr59nyleve@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 8:13:44 PM |

Hi Eve,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please take the necessary steps to protect our native wildlife following the guidelines offerred by the Save the Manatee organization.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Clognakked@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 8:30:35 PM |

Hi Pam,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | pnut485@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 10:09:52 PM |

## Hi Ilana,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*To Whom It May Concern, I am writing to urge you to oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed--the MFLs should be set at their current levels. I would also like to see the SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. One of the most important economic drivers in Florida is our water--our oceans, rivers, and lakes. These waters also provide important habitat for many endangered species of plants and animals. Please help protect the economic future and natural diversity of our beautiful state. Thank you, - Ilana Cohen*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ourfelines@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 10:11:28 PM |

## Hi Laurie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I fully oppose MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe no further flow reductions should be permitted. MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction.) I trust that SWFMMD will manage our waters more wisely and carefully and not cut back on wasteful water use here in Florida. Remember, our Manatees rely upon healthy aquatic ecosystems, for their survival and utilize Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Rivers all year long! Winter warm water is provided by them as well. Food supply and water quality could threaten Manatee habitat and our precious Manatees!1 Many Many Thanks,for this important consideration.~~*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** Cmyers2202@comcast.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Friday, October 05, 2012 11:07:27 PM

Hi Christine,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | DMandCH@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 05, 2012 11:21:31 PM |

## Hi Drew,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *We need to establish MFLs that protect our wildlife. Springs and Rivers need to have minimum flows that protect wildlife. This the law. Please establish the proper MFLs.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rosebolt@clearwire.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 8:16:43 AM |

Hi Ann,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear SWFWMD and Board: I strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). For people, manatees, and environmental health, this water is a lifeline. Our water could be managed more wisely to reduce wasteful use, also a benefit for all. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | sharpenter@msn.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 9:46:03 AM |

## Hi Susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do not reduce the flow and damage more natural habitat for the manatee. I live on the Hillsborough River and I am witnessing the manatees trying to servive in the conditions that we have put upon them. Sincerely, Susan J Sharp*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | aungstsj@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 10:07:48 AM |

Hi Susan,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear Sir/Ma'am: I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | lrvsjg@windstream.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 10:10:37 AM |

Hi Louise,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Rfay808700@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 11:43:23 AM |

## Hi Bob,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) is preparing to implement Minimum Flows and Levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers on Florida's west coast. The current minimum flow levels need to be retained. In recent decades, both rivers have shown signs of environmental stress. Among the observed changes are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. Residents in both rivers have observed a steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Even though SWFWMD's models have indicated that the proposed MFLs will not cause significant ecological harm, logic suggests that any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habit at and manatees themselves.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | nanab39@rocketmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 12:40:26 PM |

## Hi Melissa,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please leave well enough alone on these two rivers. Our awesome manatees in this state face enough harm from humans, they do not need another problem that could possibly send them to extinction. I so enjoy quiet activities on BOTH of these rivers & the highlight of each & every canoe or kayak trip is seeing a manatee. Don't take that away from me & my children & my grandchildren & all future generations. Thank you. Melissa Bried*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** suzcor17@msn.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Saturday, October 06, 2012 1:31:12 PM

## Hi Suzanne,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am a native-born Floridian and am very concerned about our environment. It is my understanding that you as the governing board of Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) are preparing to implement Minimum Flows and Levels for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers. I feel this will result in significant ecological harm. I OPPOSE the pending proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and HImosassa Rivers and firmly believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed! MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction) I am unable to attend the meeting to personally voice my feelings. Thank you for your consideration. Please listen to the voice of reason and do not support any flow reduction for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | sarahh17101@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 3:13:54 PM |

## Hi Sarah,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I am concerned that changes to MFL's are being proposed to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and I believe this will increase saltwater intrusion to the detriment of manatee habitat and the decline of the regional ecosystem. I think you should keep the flows at their current level.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** mick2318@earthlink.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Saturday, October 06, 2012 6:00:33 PM

## Hi Michele,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | manateeadvocate@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 7:54:30 PM |

Hi William,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*As a frequent visitor to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed and that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Additionally, I'd like the SWFWMD to manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for considering my views.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Angelique3842@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 9:33:01 PM |

## Hi Virginia A,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Pebbles243@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 10:40:51 PM |

Hi Jamie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jlmclmd@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 11:40:52 PM |

Hi Jim,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*0% MFL*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | hdzgator@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 06, 2012 11:42:44 PM |

## Hi Henry,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Although I live Alachua County, I am concerned about the proposed flow reductions for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers. I visit both rivers several times each year to enjoy the manatees and the incredible diversity of the birds and other creatures these rivers support. I believe that, should the proposed flow reductions be implemented, we Floridians will be risking degredation to an ecosystems that is part of what makes our state so beautiful and unique. As a member of the Florida Conservation Coalition and a "tourist" to your counties, I strongly encourage the SWFWMD to allow the current flow rates stand as they are and to reject any flow rate reductions. Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on this issue.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** tne_llc@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Sunday, October 07, 2012 10:01:30 AM

## Hi David,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). We need to manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | endangered@att.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 10:14:53 AM |

Hi Rio,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | dmcartor@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 10:38:59 AM |

Hi Linda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | francoise.boisson@telenet.be |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 1:29:13 PM |

## Hi françoise,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please do everything that can be donne to protect the manatee's environment.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | kaj10c@my.fsu.edu |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 2:20:46 PM |

## Hi Karin,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Dear Sirs/Madams, I respectfully oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. Rather, the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). In addition, I respectfully request that you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. The manatee is our state marine animal, and like the American bald eagle, should be actively protected, not just used as a symbol. Thank you for your consideration.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | sharollambertsrocketmail@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 4:15:35 PM |

## Hi Sharol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am very much opposed to any MFL's from Homosassa River*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | sharollambertsrocketmail@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 4:17:28 PM |

## Hi Don,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am very much opposed to any MFL's from the Homosassa River.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | grmcglone@snail-mail.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 6:20:15 PM |

## Hi Gail,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | popcomic@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 7:08:13 PM |

## Hi Doug,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, I wish you would manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | donnapaler@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 8:08:20 PM |

## Hi Donna,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I, Donna Paler OPPOSE the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa Rivers and that No further flow reduction should be allowed. Thank you*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | LCGJANI@AOL.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 8:25:53 PM |

## Hi ELSIE,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I speak for myself but represent thousands that feel likewise..the ecosystems around these rivers are very fragile as it stands NOW....lowering the levels would be destructive to ALL of the wildlife, especially the endagered manatees, that inhabit these areas! WE have the power to protect our natural resources and our futures.... before they are all depleted! THE FUTURE of our rivers WILL = NON EXISTENCE!!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mustangmd202@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 8:32:13 PM |

## Hi Amanda,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would like to see our water more wisely managed and please do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. As a supporter of Manatees for the last 25 years I fully support the Save the Manatee Club and any efforts that help the manatees stay safe and stay alive. Please consider them when making your choices.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | CandyMurphy2@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 12:05:09 PM |

## Hi Candy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Let Nature take its own course. Your organization would be better served managing our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. There is no need for every golf course in the state to still be spraying water into the air. Technology has far advance this technique.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** crnababe@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 2:10:37 PM

## Hi Patricia,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Please save our Manatee!!!!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | RACLAYPOOL@BELLSOUTH.NET |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 07, 2012 10:28:35 PM |

## Hi ROBERTA,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | compassion8way@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 4:47:10 PM |

## Hi Betty,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. I support the MFLs being set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | valgale795@cfl.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 12:51:19 AM |

## Hi Valerie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I urge you to oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I strongly believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I am concerned that you are not doing enough to manage our water more wisely, and ask that you do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rtloehe@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 6:41:49 AM |

Hi Randy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The proposed changes to flow rates for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers seem to come at a time when both rivers have shown signs of deterioration. These rivers attract many to visit here as well as provide habitat for flora and fauna. The change to the Chassahowtzka seems fairly dramatic - it would be much more prudent to start with a smaller change and study the outcome in my view.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | tmorgan@tji.martin.fl.us |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 8:40:52 AM |

## Hi Terri,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFL's for the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa Rivers. There should be no further flow reductions allowed. I would also like to see SWFWMD better manage our water. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rc7m4s9@fastmail.fm |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 8:24:05 AM |

Hi Audrey,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Florida habitat is crucial for our varied animal population and beautiful surroundings. Stop fooling around with Nature to the detriment of our state and for the benefit of those profiting from it!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | marty.flpetitions@mailnull.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 10:09:46 AM |

## Hi Martin,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. No further flow reductions should be allowed because they will cause significant ecological harm. To suggest otherwise denies reality. I encourage the District to manage our dwindling water supply better and reduce wasteful water use. Thank you.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | rwortham@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 10:33:33 AM |

## Hi Ruth,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose MFL's for Chassahowitzka& Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed;that MFL's should be set at current flows(0% flow reduction. Please cut back on wasteful water use in our State.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** debbie.hahs-vaughn@ucf.edu
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 11:09:26 AM

Hi Debbie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I want to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mpbean@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 11:11:44 AM |

Hi Marie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | compassion8way@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 4:47:10 PM |

## Hi Betty,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. I support the MFLs being set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you!*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | quakeguard@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 5:19:55 PM |

## Hi Sue,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that you wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | catday@tampabay.r.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 5:21:21 PM |

## Hi Cat,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that you wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | tkadlec@cfl.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 08, 2012 6:15:31 PM |

## Hi Tamara,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Manatees are a vital part of Florida's culture and history. Restricting water flows on any waterways is unacceptable and inhumane to all living creatures. Manatees are peaceful creatures who need water, aquatic grass, and safety to survive. Without humans like me who appreciate and care for them, who would advocate? Manatees need protection from poor water quality, boat traffic, etc. Allow the rivers to keep their natural levels so all aquatic life lives peacefully and to their fullest. Why do innocent animals have to suffer at the expense of selfish human beings? Why can't humans be forced to consume less? Why can't boats be forced to idle speed on waterways? Why doesn't FWC ticket more often? Why can't wildlife conform to human behavior? Because they're WILD and face it, they were here first. We are living in the manatee's habitat so leave the water levels alone! Sincerely, an avid kayaker, manatee viewer, and nature lover.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | "Brad Rimbey" |
| **Cc:** | Lou Kavouras |
| **Bcc:** | Adrienne Vining; Christopher Pettit |
| **Subject:** | RE: Oct 30 SWFWMD GB meeting agenda |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 12, 2012 3:18:00 PM |

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Brad –

Thanks for contributing to the meeting and for your comments about my part in the event.

I've previously spoken with Lou Kavourus, our Board & Executive Services Bureaus Chief, about a "time-certain" request for the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems at the October 30, 2012 Governing Board meeting. Lou notes that staff will ask the District Executive Director and Governing Board Chair to make the *Resource Management Committee*, which is the committee that will be discussing the MFLs agenda item, the first committee meeting of the day. If the Executive Director and Chair agree to this request, the *Resource Management Committee* will follow the *Convene Public Hearing and Meeting* (call to order, employee recognition, *etc.*) and the *Consent Agenda* portions of the meeting, and will likely begin within the first half-hour or so following the 9:00 a.m. meeting initiation.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Brad Rimbey [mailto:BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com]
**Sent:** Friday, October 12, 2012 10:31 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Oct 30 SWFWMD GB meeting agenda

Doug,

Thanks again for arranging the Oct 2 meeting in Lecanto. I was glad to see a good turnout. Sorry we did not get a chance to talk to after the meeting. As usual, you did a good job moderating.

I've had some inquiries regarding the agenda for the Oct 30 GB meeting. I think I heard you say that you would try to get the MFL stuff out of the way first (or early on?).

As I recall, the agendas for the GB meetings are not posted until a week or two before the meetings. In the absence of a published agenda, any suggestion on when we should tell people to show up if they are only interested in the MFL issue on the agenda?

Brad Rimbey

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** joelo@bellsouth.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 08, 2012 8:22:36 PM

Hi Joyce,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Manatee welfare is eminent before fiddling with the river systems.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** kristi_fox@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Tuesday, October 09, 2012 11:07:17 AM

## Hi Kristi,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | baschmidt2@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, October 09, 2012 12:10:30 PM |

## Hi Bill,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. I believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed - that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). What we need to do is focus on water conservation in this state - without a strong water conservation ethic we will continue to tap our water resources until none are left and we are in crisis. We need to implement strong measures now before it is too late. If no flow reductions are allowed then we will be forced to address conservation and we will all be better off for it.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | madbeachlady@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:01:00 PM |

Hi Anita,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also tell SWFWMD that you wish to see them manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** joicaza@comcast.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Tuesday, October 09, 2012 3:02:47 PM

Hi Jo,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I also wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | aniem85@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 10, 2012 4:17:32 AM |

Hi Emily,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. The MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, please manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you for your serious consideration and sensible handling of this delicate matter.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | danicarushing@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 10, 2012 3:46:23 PM |

Hi danica,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | naturecoastbirder5@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 10, 2012 4:43:18 PM |

## Hi Eileen,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am opposed to any reduction of MFL for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | johntolentino@earthlink.net |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 11, 2012 7:13:21 AM |

Hi John,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also, I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | JASC1397@AOL.COM |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 12, 2012 5:20:25 PM |

## Hi SANDRA,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE THAT OTHER ENGINEERING GROUPS HAVE MADE AND DIVERT OR REDUCE ANY WATER LEVELS IN OUR COUNTY. WE WOULD BE NOTHING HERE WITHOUT OUR RIVERS AND LAKES. LET THE BIG CITIES USE DESALINIZATION BUT LEAVE OUR WATERS ALONE.*

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 15, 2012 7:35:43 AM

---

Ron,
Thanks for the reply. I have been out of pocket on e-mails for the last week.

I am well aware of the model outputs for the various springs feeding the Homosassa River as presented in Table 2-4 of the report. Despite your belief that such accuracy is reality, I must respectfully point out that your good friend and colleague Doug pointed out in a recent e-mail that the flow from Halls River is not data that could be used in the regression analyses/modeling of salinity ( I can get his exact wording if needed).
So the discharge from Halls River does not meet necessary reliability to model salinity, but the NDM provide outputs, so precise, that pumping versus non pumping discharge for Halls River Main Spring is reduced by 0.05 cfs (0.9%) and for the Head Spring by 1.05 cfs (1.0%).

This is hard to buy.
And made even more difficult by considering the precision of Belcher Spring presented in the same table as suffering twice the loss of other springs in the SE Fork in the pumping scenario. As far as I know discharge from each of the springs in the SE Fork has not been quantified. All this modeling appears to be based on a myriad of assumptions with little verification to reality. And painfully slow attempts to understand reality with efforts such as:

- data from the installed velocity meters SE Fork and Halls River,
- field measurements to understand the flow at the Homosassa R at Homosassa 02310700
- on site verification of the reverse flow in Chassahowitzka

to mention just a few.

In the Homosasa MFL report immediately after Table 2-4 the 2030 estimated annual groundwater withdrawal of 576.1 mgd is presented and I note the wording " Withdrawals predicted for year 2030 were distributed or dispersed at current withdrawal points within the model domain." Presumably this means the future two thirds of the withdrawals will be in the counties where the 'current' two thirds is sucked out of the aquifer. As we have heard people comment, those areas have already suffered the damage (loss of springs flow), losses that I hoped you would be able to specifically quantify from the model...hence my comment in the question 'Would the Peace River still be flowing'.

I can only assume there is another modeling run that considers the major well fields for Citrus County proposed in SWFWMD's master plan. If you have time in your busy schedule I would be interested to hear about the 2030 model that considers all the additional wells that have been and will be drilled, particularly the major well fields for Citrus County (the Saudi Arabia for water).

Sorry to be so skeptical, but the jigsaw is still in pieces.

Martyn

From: Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com; Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Date: Mon, 8 Oct 2012 11:43:47 -0400
Subject: RE: MFL Meeting

Mr. Johnson:

I don't wish to get into a long discussion here. Some of our previous emails and conversations have covered this same ground. We've discussed our scientific understanding of the system, shown the long-term rainfall changes, sea level rise, flow data, groundwater pumping history, coastal salinity trends from wells, and modeling results. The fact is groundwater withdrawals have impacted flows at these springs (Chasshowitzka and Homosassa) by a very small amount – about 1 percent. In fact, so small we didn't even adjust for these impacts in 2010 as they were not considered significant. Other springs are affected more by the proximity and magnitude of withdrawals – I've discussed the predicted impact to Weeki Wachee Spring previously as one example. We also modeled 10 separate springs in the Homosassa Group – the combined impact from pumping is 1 percent of flow.

The reference to increasing recharge is not a play on words but occurs when you lower the water table. Less water can ET from plants and less runoff occurs – this is why recharge can increase. The one inch of water I referenced was a volumetric calculation only – to try an lend perspective to how much 438.1 mgd of withdrawals would mean spread out over the entire domain. As I said previously, the distribution of withdrawals are such that some areas experience greater impacts and others much less. Did you know that two-thirds of the 438.1 mgd groundwater withdrawn in the model occurs in just three counties: Hillsborough, Pasco, and Lake Counties. And finally, we'll analyze and model any new large wellfield withdrawals that may occur in the future in Citrus County and determine how that might affect springflow. We've already simulated the impact of 2030 projected use on these two springs.

I hope this addresses your questions and concerns.

Ron Basso, P.G.
Senior Professional Geologist
Resource Evaluation Section
Southwest Florida Water Management District
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ph 352-796-7211, ext. 4291 (outside state)
FAX 352-797-5799
*Life's Tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late. - Benjamin Franklin*

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, October 08, 2012 10:09 AM
**To:** Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting

Ron,
Thanks for the follow up thoughts.

So where are these great impacts of local withdrawals? Which Springs have lost how much flow. That was my question.

I fully understand that the area covered by the model is large, but it still managed to predict this 0.33% for the Homosassa River. Just amazing accuracy for such a large model. And let me not forget the prediction about the flow reduction in each of the springs in the SE Fork was equal (assumptions in the model may be)...reality is Pumphouse Spring is far stronger flow than Abdoney. Pumphouse is also higher specific conductance, usually about twice the reading of Abdoney, Belcher, Trotter.

As the Peer Review commented there is a gap in the understanding of how the various springs will be influenced by withdrawals; essentially, will the freshwater springs get more salty more quickly than the already more saline springs...this potential imbalance in the rate of deterioration may be more critical than flow alone.
To understand the concern you only have to look at the data for Homosassa springs and the SE Fork from early June to mid July to see how these changed in salinity (specific conductance).

Recharge to the aquifer is increased by withdrawals...this appears to make sense as a play on words. If the level in the aquifer is low the increase resulting from one inch of rainfall is greater than if the aquifer is at a high level...is that what you are saying? A drier sponge takes in more than a wet sponge.

I do not think if we suck twice as much water out of the aquifer it will increase the level more than at present.

As for the one inch over the total area, bear in mind not all that one inch goes to recharge. I am not going to look it up now but the water balance done by Yobbi as I recall had 30% going to recharge and that will vary dependent on the topography of the ground on which the rain falls. Right ?

I have to go back to Mr. Mulligans comment about the Villages having their own well so what they draw does not influence the flow in the Homosassa River. Applying the same logic the large well fields in the Master Plan for Citrus County will not affect the Homosassa River. Do you honestly believe those statements?

Martyn

---

From: Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us; martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Mon, 8 Oct 2012 08:47:11 -0400
Subject: RE: MFL Meeting

Mr. Johnson:

Just a brief follow-up on the following response:

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are*

*included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

As I've mentioned before, the greatest withdrawal impact depends on the magnitude of the withdrawal and its proximity to the spring (i.e. the larger and closer it is, the largest impact to flow). While the ND model contains a total of 438.1 mgd of pumping within its domain, you have to remember that this is spread out over nearly 10,000 square miles. In addition, some areas (ex. the Tampa Bay wellfield area) pump much higher amounts then other locations. So, it's a distribution issue in addition to the simple math of total withdrawals.

Doug is quite correct from his description above except I would add other factors where water from withdrawals would be expressed include a change in storage in the aquifer (increase in aquifer water levels), increase in baseflow (groundwater contribution) to rivers/streams, and increased evapotranspiration. Did you know that recharge to the aquifer actually increases as a result of withdrawals? And the 438.1 mgd equates to only about an inch of water per year over a 10,000 square mile domain? So it's not quite as simple as addition and subtraction. It's why we create complex numerical models of the system, to account for most of these changes.

Ron Basso, P.G.
Senior Professional Geologist
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**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Friday, October 05, 2012 6:35 PM
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting

Hi Martyn:
Thanks again for sending the questions prior to the public meeting. Hopefully I addressed them during the event on Tuesday -- thought I would follow-up with an e-mail. My written responses to your questions are imbedded in your e-mail below. I used italics and a different font color to distinguish the responses from your original text.

Douglas A. Leeper
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352-796-7211, ext. 4272

352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:11 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Meeting

Doug,
I hope to be at the meeting tomorrow evening and intent to raise a number of questions. No doubt the number of loopholes to defining a specific minimum flow will be center stage. But, I have some specific questions and thought it fair to give you a heads up so you are able to provide thoughtful answers and not be relying totally on memory/immediate thoughts. The questions are regarding the validity of HWS Engineering's work/report and the USGS calculated discharges.

HSW

1. **Please explain why HSW ignored the flow from Halls River when running the salinity regression analyses**.
   The reason I ask this question is in Table 2-1 and the explanation "Based on the average daily data, spring flow and Halls River flow are about 53 and 47 percent of the total flow at the Homosassa gauge." (page 2-7 Appendix A...both original and revised). And in the main report Table 2-4 (adapted from Basso 2010 on page 66) the flow from Halls River represents 50% of the total springs flow.

***Response:*** *Discharge has not historically been measured for Halls River. To support development of minimum flow recommendations for the Homosassa River system, discharge in Halls River was estimated. The estimated Halls River discharge data were not considered appropriate or necessary for developing regression equations for predicting salinities in the Homosassa River.*

2. **Please explain on why HSW have different summary results regarding the salinity RKM, Volume and Area as presented in the revised report Tables 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5 (Appendix A). However, the regression analyses presented in Table 2-3, 2-4, 2-4, 2-5 are the same in both the original and revised reports.**

***Response:*** *Differences in reported values for tables summarizing hydrodynamic modeling results from the original and revised reports by HSW Engineering, Inc. are attributable to data corrections included in the revised report. The changes were made to correct for the erroneous use and presentation of predicted "bottom" salinities as "top" salinities and "top" salinities as "bottom" salinities in the original report.*

3. In the main report Tables 5-2 thru 5-10 address the same salinity changes with flow reductions (some described as adapted from HSW Engineering (2011)). **Please explain why and who made these changes/adaptations.** Particularly consider some of these Tables are titled as benchmark period 2007, others as benchmark period 1995 to 2009 based on modeling daily values. Regression coefficients shown in Tables 2-10 indicates the regression analyses were done with **70 observations or less** and Table 2-3 in Appendix A for the 2000-2009 has observations from **625-1389 observation**. It is not clear where these observations for the regression analyses originate from (it may be the random sampling of the 15 minute data or the synoptic survey by USF (look carefully at the median Figure 2-42)).

***Response:*** *The tabular presentation of summary data in the identified tables from chapter 5 of the "main report" was developed by District staff. Information included in the tables was adapted from*

*information presented in the HSW Engineering, Inc. report to clarify differences between modeled scenarios.*

***Response:*** *Salinity-flow regressions for USGS gage sites were developed using USGS salinity and discharge data, and were based on relatively large sample sizes. Salinity-flow regressions for predicting isohaline locations were based on synoptic salinity sampling by the University of South Florida and the District and daily combined discharge for the Homosassa and SE Fork gage sites. In some cases, daily discharge values used for regression development were based on 15-minute USGS data.*

To highlight the concerns with HSW's work I would point to a correlation Appendix A on page 2-15 and Figure 2-23 concluding levels in Weeki Wachee Well lag rainfall in Inglis by 40-70 days. The logic for HWS linking rainfall in Inglis to the level in the Weeki Wachee Well is difficult to find. This conclusion is so far off it was not used in the main report.
Rainfall and its influence on the level in Weeki Wachee Well, not Lecanto as presented in the main report, is a concern as Weeki Wachee Well level is the predominate factor in the calculated discharge for Homosassa Main and the SE Fork.

> Note: Water levels at the observation well in Inglis are typically about 10 feet lower than the Weeki Wachee well, water does not flow uphill. Data shows Weeki Wachee Well reacts very quickly to rainfall (the data regarding rainfall, Brooksville Station, from recent tropical storms show Weeki Wachee Well level increased 4 feet in 6 days).

USGS
**There are concerns about the calculated discharge data for a number of the USGS Gage Sites**. I have shared with USGS and SWFWMD differences between calculated and Field Measurements to support the concerns. Accuracy of the tidal filtered data from Homosassa River presumably is of so much concern, HSW and SWFWMD have ignored Halls River flow in the regression analyses. **It is incomprehensible how it has taken over a year for any data to come from the velocity meter installed at the SE Fork and nearly 6 months from the velocity meter installed in Halls River.** I would have thought everyone would want to verify the basis of all this work urgently. The Governing Board should not make any decision on these MFL's before these investments bear some fruit to indicate the accuracy of the calculated discharge. Recent Field Measurements (particularly February 8 and 9) at the Homosassa R at Homosassa gage do tend to support accuracy concerns I raised well over a year ago about the bias resulting from squaring of the velocity (during inflow squaring the negative velocity results in an addition).

***Response:*** *The USGS has been collecting velocity data at the SE Fork gage site for approximately one year and expects to complete initial analyses regarding discharge estimation using these data within a couple of months. Similar analyses will be forthcoming for the Halls River site once a sufficient data set becomes available.*

I look forward to an interesting and productive meetin.

Martyn.

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

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| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Doug Leeper |
| **To:** | "Alan Martyn Johnson" |
| **Bcc:** | Adrienne Vining; Chris Zajac; Christopher Pettit; Darcy A. Brune; Dave Dewitt; Doug Leeper; Eric DeHaven; Gary E. Williams; Jay Yingling; Jerry Mallams; Karen West; Kenneth R. Herd; Laura Donaldson; Lou Kavouras; Mark Barcelo; Mark Hammond; Michael Molligan; Mike Heyl; Robyn O. Felix; Ron Basso; Sid Flannery; Tammy Hinkle; Veronica Craw; Virginia Singer; Xinjian Chen; Yassert Gonzalez |
| **Subject:** | RE: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 15, 2012 11:31:00 AM |

Martyn –

Hopefully I responded to your question concerning the time-frame for the United States Geological Survey's evaluation of the velocity data that has been collected over the past year in the Homosassa River system. In case I did not, I'm writing to let you know that Kevin Grimsley has told me that he anticipates the Survey will be completing an initial analyses of the data within a couple of months.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
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**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:34 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Cc:** Ron Basso; Mike Heyl
**Subject:** Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River

Doug,
I was pleased to receive a confirmation and Thank You e-mail, regarding comment I posted on the web site; and noted that you are copied. Good job by whoever organized this; I was concerned comments were going to accumulate both unread as well as unanswered.

This e-mail is not directly about the MFL Reports, but about funding/investments.

We are within 10 days of the anniversary of the start of operation of the velocity meter at the SE Fork station (September 9 @ 12:15 hour). The most recent Field Measurements only add to the concerns I have previously expressed. I have copied the specific data below for ease of reference, but my concern is data collected from these investments, SE Fork and Halls River Velocity Meters, is not being made available . This is troubling as USGS is going to discontinue monitoring of some wells in the area due to lack of sponsorship, yet data from these recently funded projects is 'intentionally' hidden. I am sure you are aware that velocity data from the Halls River 'new' site (installed March 2012) was on line for a few months before being 'hidden'. What is the sense in spending these scarce resources and not getting

any value from them?

I would appreciate if you can share the timeframe for velocity data to be made available from these two sites in the Homosassa River. I appreciate there is more involved in converting velocity to discharge (determining stage area and how it changes with stage, plus verification by field measurements), but velocity as seen by the instrument is raw data and meaningful raw data.

FYI I have spoken to the manufacturer's technical personnel regarding location of these meters and how quickly meaning full data can be obtained, both velocity and discharge. Let's just say one year is difficult to understand and the SE Fork location is not ideal as it is at a location where flow direction changes significantly.

On a more positive note, the delay has at least given the chance to observe a range of conditions with Weeki Wachee Well starting around 15 ft. last September/October, dropping to a low of 10.86 ft. in May, and to the high of 18.84 ft. in July.

On a personal note I am pleased to see the significant increase in levels in the aquifer, due to tropical storm Debby, have resulted in improved quality of water emanating both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs. I will be in Homosassa the next two weeks and plan on monitoring the springs as I have in the past. Really interested to see if strong flow has reestablished at some of the smaller vents.

Doug, SWFWMD and us folks that pay the taxes which make all this possible need a timeframe for data from these investments with USGS.

Martyn

Recent Field Measurements Stream flow and 'as close as possible time' Calculated flow from USGS 02310688 SE Fork.

| Meas. Number | Date | Time | Stream flow ($ft^3/s$) | Calculated flow ($ft^3/s$) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 234 | 2012-08-16 | 14:49:08 | 74.3 | 37 |
| 233 | 2012-08-16 | 14:40:53 | 78.4 | 37 |
| 232 | 2012-08-16 | 14:23:38 | 78.7 | |
| 231 | 2012-08-16 | 14:16:06 | 70.7 | |
| 230 | 2012-08-16 | 14:09:03 | 77.8 | 43 |
| 229 | 2012-08-16 | 10:30:23 | 90.7 | 76 |

Time series observations from USGS 02310688 SE Fork

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08/16/2012 10:15 EST | 1.17[P] | 76[P] | 960[P] | 24.5[P] | 0.55[P] |
| 08/16/2012 10:30 EST | 1.15[P] | **76**[P] | 970[P] | 24.4[P] | 0.53[P] |
| 08/16/2012 10:45 EST | 1.13[P] | 76[P] | 950[P] | 24.3[P] | 0.51[P] |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08/16/2012 11:00 EST | 1.11P | 77P | 930P | 24.1P | 0.49P |
| 08/16/2012 11:15 EST | P | P | 980P | 24.3P | P |
| 08/16/2012 11:30 EST | 1.12P | 64P | 980P | 24.4P | 0.50P |
| 08/16/2012 11:45 EST | 1.15P | 55P | 980P | 24.5P | 0.53P |
| 08/16/2012 12:00 EST | 1.21P | 42P | 970P | 24.5P | 0.59P |
| 08/16/2012 12:15 EST | P | P | 1,040P | 24.5P | P |
| 08/16/2012 12:30 EST | 1.28P | 37P | 960P | 24.7P | 0.66P |
| 08/16/2012 12:45 EST | 1.34P | 41P | 1,240P | 24.3P | 0.72P |
| 08/16/2012 13:00 EST | 1.37P | 53P | 1,130P | 24.4P | 0.75P |
| 08/16/2012 13:15 EST | P | P | 1,330P | 24.5P | P |
| 08/16/2012 13:30 EST | 1.47P | 23P | 1,300P | 24.5P | 0.85P |
| 08/16/2012 13:45 EST | 1.52P | 43P | 1,180P | 24.6P | 0.90P |
| 08/16/2012 14:00 EST | 1.57P | **43**P | 1,100P | 24.5P | 0.95P |
| 08/16/2012 14:15 EST | P | P | 950P | 24.8P | P |
| 08/16/2012 14:30 EST | 1.68P | **16**P | 1,250P | 24.6P | 1.06P |
| 08/16/2012 14:45 EST | 1.74P | **37**P | 1,050P | 24.7P | 1.12P |
| 08/16/2012 15:00 EST | 1.79P | 40P | 1,210P | 24.6P | 1.17P |

Blue colored data is using a 30 minute stage change and is not comparable.

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Report for Homosassa River
**Date:** Tuesday, October 09, 2012 7:01:17 AM

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Doug,
I owe you an apology. After sending the e-mail yesterday morning I searched further for the 1 to 4 percent reduction in flow analyses.
I was wrong to say the data from Appendix X did not make it to the main report.
It is touched on in the Executive Summary and presented in Section 7.3.1.

In the Executive Summary
*"The additional analyses included evaluation of the effects potential flow reductions on measures of system productivity and evaluation of the effects of low (1 to 4 percent) flow reductions on current salinity-based habitats, salinity-based habitats that could be expected for various future sea level rise scenarios, and salinity-based habitats that could be expected for current and future sea level rise scenarios with consideration of existing withdrawal impacts to spring discharge."*

My note on the Executive Summary indicates I took this to be only the sea level rise analysis. Although it is a rather long sentence, I obviously did not read it carefully enough.

In Section 7.3.1
*"As discussed in Chapter 5 of this report, in HSW Engineering, Inc. (2011) and in Watson et al. (2011,), use of the hydrodynamic model for evaluating the location of bottom, surface and water-column average isohalines (and corresponding salinity-based habitats) with a salinity of 2 was considered problematic because salinities of model inputs associated with water discharged from the Homosassa Springs main pool and springs of the Southeast Fork often exceeded 2 during the modeled 2007 benchmark period and isohalines associated with a salinity of 2 were often near or upstream of the model domain."*

My notes indicates I had concerns with the value of this analysis as the water quantity <u>and quality</u> emanating from the different springs is the issue, not just the combined flow reduction.

My apology for failing to check thoroughly before e-mailing you.

I will not expand on the concerns my notes indicated I had with the HSW 'modelling' of sea water rise, but I had questions about the logic/equation they 'derived' relative to calculated current discharge change from low stage to high stage. I will check my notes more thoroughly before I comment further.

Martyn

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**To:** Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting
**Date:** Monday, October 15, 2012 7:35:43 AM

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Ron,
Thanks for the reply. I have been out of pocket on e-mails for the last week.

I am well aware of the model outputs for the various springs feeding the Homosassa River as presented in Table 2-4 of the report. Despite your belief that such accuracy is reality, I must respectfully point out that your good friend and colleague Doug pointed out in a recent e-mail that the flow from Halls River is not data that could be used in the regression analyses/modeling of salinity ( I can get his exact wording if needed).
So the discharge from Halls River does not meet necessary reliability to model salinity, but the NDM provide outputs, so precise, that pumping versus non pumping discharge for Halls River Main Spring is reduced by 0.05 cfs (0.9%) and for the Head Spring by 1.05 cfs (1.0%).

This is hard to buy.
And made even more difficult by considering the precision of Belcher Spring presented in the same table as suffering twice the loss of other springs in the SE Fork in the pumping scenario. As far as I know discharge from each of the springs in the SE Fork has not been quantified. All this modeling appears to be based on a myriad of assumptions with little verification to reality. And painfully slow attempts to understand reality with efforts such as:

- data from the installed velocity meters SE Fork and Halls River,
- field measurements to understand the flow at the Homosassa R at Homosassa 02310700
- on site verification of the reverse flow in Chassahowitzka

to mention just a few.

In the Homosasa MFL report immediately after Table 2-4 the 2030 estimated annual groundwater withdrawal of 576.1 mgd is presented and I note the wording " Withdrawals predicted for year 2030 were distributed or dispersed at current withdrawal points within the model domain." Presumably this means the future two thirds of the withdrawals will be in the counties where the 'current' two thirds is sucked out of the aquifer. As we have heard people comment, those areas have already suffered the damage (loss of springs flow), losses that I hoped you would be able to specifically quantify from the model...hence my comment in the question 'Would the Peace River still be flowing'.

I can only assume there is another modeling run that considers the major well fields for Citrus County proposed in SWFWMD's master plan. If you have time in your busy schedule I would be interested to hear about the 2030 model that considers all the additional wells that have been and will be drilled, particularly the major well fields for Citrus County (the Saudi Arabia for water).

Sorry to be so skeptical, but the jigsaw is still in pieces.

Martyn

From: Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com; Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Date: Mon, 8 Oct 2012 11:43:47 -0400
Subject: RE: MFL Meeting

Mr. Johnson:

I don't wish to get into a long discussion here. Some of our previous emails and conversations have covered this same ground. We've discussed our scientific understanding of the system, shown the long-term rainfall changes, sea level rise, flow data, groundwater pumping history, coastal salinity trends from wells, and modeling results. The fact is groundwater withdrawals have impacted flows at these springs (Chasshowitzka and Homosassa) by a very small amount – about 1 percent. In fact, so small we didn't even adjust for these impacts in 2010 as they were not considered significant. Other springs are affected more by the proximity and magnitude of withdrawals – I've discussed the predicted impact to Weeki Wachee Spring previously as one example. We also modeled 10 separate springs in the Homosassa Group – the combined impact from pumping is 1 percent of flow.

The reference to increasing recharge is not a play on words but occurs when you lower the water table. Less water can ET from plants and less runoff occurs – this is why recharge can increase. The one inch of water I referenced was a volumetric calculation only – to try an lend perspective to how much 438.1 mgd of withdrawals would mean spread out over the entire domain. As I said previously, the distribution of withdrawals are such that some areas experience greater impacts and others much less. Did you know that two-thirds of the 438.1 mgd groundwater withdrawn in the model occurs in just three counties: Hillsborough, Pasco, and Lake Counties. And finally, we'll analyze and model any new large wellfield withdrawals that may occur in the future in Citrus County and determine how that might affect springflow. We've already simulated the impact of 2030 projected use on these two springs.

I hope this addresses your questions and concerns.

Ron Basso, P.G.
Senior Professional Geologist
Resource Evaluation Section
Southwest Florida Water Management District
ph 1-800-423-1476 (in state)
ph 352-796-7211, ext. 4291 (outside state)
FAX 352-797-5799
*Life's Tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late. - Benjamin Franklin*

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, October 08, 2012 10:09 AM
**To:** Ron Basso; Doug Leeper
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting

Ron,
Thanks for the follow up thoughts.

So where are these great impacts of local withdrawals? Which Springs have lost how much flow. That was my question.

I fully understand that the area covered by the model is large, but it still managed to predict this 0.33% for the Homosassa River. Just amazing accuracy for such a large model. And let me not forget the prediction about the flow reduction in each of the springs in the SE Fork was equal (assumptions in the model may be)...reality is Pumphouse Spring is far stronger flow than Abdoney. Pumphouse is also higher specific conductance, usually about twice the reading of Abdoney, Belcher, Trotter.

As the Peer Review commented there is a gap in the understanding of how the various springs will be influenced by withdrawals; essentially, will the freshwater springs get more salty more quickly than the already more saline springs...this potential imbalance in the rate of deterioration may be more critical than flow alone.
To understand the concern you only have to look at the data for Homosassa springs and the SE Fork from early June to mid July to see how these changed in salinity (specific conductance).

Recharge to the aquifer is increased by withdrawals...this appears to make sense as a play on words. If the level in the aquifer is low the increase resulting from one inch of rainfall is greater than if the aquifer is at a high level...is that what you are saying? A drier sponge takes in more than a wet sponge.

I do not think if we suck twice as much water out of the aquifer it will increase the level more than at present.

As for the one inch over the total area, bear in mind not all that one inch goes to recharge. I am not going to look it up now but the water balance done by Yobbi as I recall had 30% going to recharge and that will vary dependent on the topography of the ground on which the rain falls. Right ?

I have to go back to Mr. Mulligans comment about the Villages having their own well so what they draw does not influence the flow in the Homosassa River. Applying the same logic the large well fields in the Master Plan for Citrus County will not affect the Homosassa River. Do you honestly believe those statements?

Martyn

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From: Ron.Basso@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us; martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Mon, 8 Oct 2012 08:47:11 -0400
Subject: RE: MFL Meeting

Mr. Johnson:

Just a brief follow-up on the following response:

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are*

*included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

As I've mentioned before, the greatest withdrawal impact depends on the magnitude of the withdrawal and its proximity to the spring (i.e. the larger and closer it is, the largest impact to flow). While the ND model contains a total of 438.1 mgd of pumping within its domain, you have to remember that this is spread out over nearly 10,000 square miles. In addition, some areas (ex. the Tampa Bay wellfield area) pump much higher amounts then other locations. So, it's a distribution issue in addition to the simple math of total withdrawals.

Doug is quite correct from his description above except I would add other factors where water from withdrawals would be expressed include a change in storage in the aquifer (increase in aquifer water levels), increase in baseflow (groundwater contribution) to rivers/streams, and increased evapotranspiration. Did you know that recharge to the aquifer actually increases as a result of withdrawals? And the 438.1 mgd equates to only about an inch of water per year over a 10,000 square mile domain? So it's not quite as simple as addition and subtraction. It's why we create complex numerical models of the system, to account for most of these changes.

Ron Basso, P.G.
Senior Professional Geologist
Resource Evaluation Section
Southwest Florida Water Management District
ph 1-800-423-1476 (in state)
ph 352-796-7211, ext. 4291 (outside state)
FAX 352-797-5799
*Life's Tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late. - Benjamin Franklin*

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**From:** Doug Leeper
**Sent:** Friday, October 05, 2012 6:35 PM
**To:** Alan Martyn Johnson
**Subject:** RE: MFL Meeting

Hi Martyn:
Thanks again for sending the questions prior to the public meeting. Hopefully I addressed them during the event on Tuesday -- thought I would follow-up with an e-mail. My written responses to your questions are imbedded in your e-mail below. I used italics and a different font color to distinguish the responses from your original text.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272

352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

---

**From:** Alan Martyn Johnson [mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, October 01, 2012 8:11 AM
**To:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** MFL Meeting

Doug,
I hope to be at the meeting tomorrow evening and intent to raise a number of questions. No doubt the number of loopholes to defining a specific minimum flow will be center stage. But, I have some specific questions and thought it fair to give you a heads up so you are able to provide thoughtful answers and not be relying totally on memory/immediate thoughts. The questions are regarding the validity of HWS Engineering's work/report and the USGS calculated discharges.

HSW

1. **Please explain why HSW ignored the flow from Halls River when running the salinity regression analyses**.
   The reason I ask this question is in Table 2-1 and the explanation "Based on the average daily data, spring flow and Halls River flow are about 53 and 47 percent of the total flow at the Homosassa gauge." (page 2-7 Appendix A...both original and revised). And in the main report Table 2-4 (adapted from Basso 2010 on page 66) the flow from Halls River represents 50% of the total springs flow.

***Response:*** *Discharge has not historically been measured for Halls River. To support development of minimum flow recommendations for the Homosassa River system, discharge in Halls River was estimated. The estimated Halls River discharge data were not considered appropriate or necessary for developing regression equations for predicting salinities in the Homosassa River.*

2. **Please explain on why HSW have different summary results regarding the salinity RKM, Volume and Area as presented in the revised report Tables 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5 (Appendix A). However, the regression analyses presented in Table 2-3, 2-4, 2-4, 2-5 are the same in both the original and revised reports.**

***Response:*** *Differences in reported values for tables summarizing hydrodynamic modeling results from the original and revised reports by HSW Engineering, Inc. are attributable to data corrections included in the revised report. The changes were made to correct for the erroneous use and presentation of predicted "bottom" salinities as "top" salinities and "top" salinities as "bottom" salinities in the original report.*

3. In the main report Tables 5-2 thru 5-10 address the same salinity changes with flow reductions (some described as adapted from HSW Engineering (2011)). **Please explain why and who made these changes/adaptations.** Particularly consider some of these Tables are titled as benchmark period 2007, others as benchmark period 1995 to 2009 based on modeling daily values. Regression coefficients shown in Tables 2-10 indicates the regression analyses were done with **70 observations or less** and Table 2-3 in Appendix A for the 2000-2009 has observations from **625-1389 observation**. It is not clear where these observations for the regression analyses originate from (it may be the random sampling of the 15 minute data or the synoptic survey by USF (look carefully at the median Figure 2-42)).

***Response:*** *The tabular presentation of summary data in the identified tables from chapter 5 of the "main report" was developed by District staff. Information included in the tables was adapted from*

*information presented in the HSW Engineering, Inc. report to clarify differences between modeled scenarios.*

***Response:*** *Salinity-flow regressions for USGS gage sites were developed using USGS salinity and discharge data, and were based on relatively large sample sizes. Salinity-flow regressions for predicting isohaline locations were based on synoptic salinity sampling by the University of South Florida and the District and daily combined discharge for the Homosassa and SE Fork gage sites. In some cases, daily discharge values used for regression development were based on 15-minute USGS data.*

To highlight the concerns with HSW's work I would point to a correlation Appendix A on page 2-15 and Figure 2-23 concluding levels in Weeki Wachee Well lag rainfall in Inglis by 40-70 days. The logic for HWS linking rainfall in Inglis to the level in the Weeki Wachee Well is difficult to find. This conclusion is so far off it was not used in the main report.
Rainfall and its influence on the level in Weeki Wachee Well, not Lecanto as presented in the main report, is a concern as Weeki Wachee Well level is the predominate factor in the calculated discharge for Homosassa Main and the SE Fork.

> Note: Water levels at the observation well in Inglis are typically about 10 feet lower than the Weeki Wachee well, water does not flow uphill. Data shows Weeki Wachee Well reacts very quickly to rainfall (the data regarding rainfall, Brooksville Station, from recent tropical storms show Weeki Wachee Well level increased 4 feet in 6 days).

USGS
**There are concerns about the calculated discharge data for a number of the USGS Gage Sites**. I have shared with USGS and SWFWMD differences between calculated and Field Measurements to support the concerns. Accuracy of the tidal filtered data from Homosassa River presumably is of so much concern, HSW and SWFWMD have ignored Halls River flow in the regression analyses. **It is incomprehensible how it has taken over a year for any data to come from the velocity meter installed at the SE Fork and nearly 6 months from the velocity meter installed in Halls River.** I would have thought everyone would want to verify the basis of all this work urgently. The Governing Board should not make any decision on these MFL's before these investments bear some fruit to indicate the accuracy of the calculated discharge. Recent Field Measurements (particularly February 8 and 9) at the Homosassa R at Homosassa gage do tend to support accuracy concerns I raised well over a year ago about the bias resulting from squaring of the velocity (during inflow squaring the negative velocity results in an addition).

***Response:*** *The USGS has been collecting velocity data at the SE Fork gage site for approximately one year and expects to complete initial analyses regarding discharge estimation using these data within a couple of months. Similar analyses will be forthcoming for the Halls River site once a sufficient data set becomes available.*

I look forward to an interesting and productive meetin.

Martyn.

**Finally, I will ask again the question about where the NDM predicts the 438.1 mgd would go if not withdrawn by mechanical pumping?** The predicted 2.3 cfs for the Homosassa represents only about 0.33% of 438.1 mgd.

***Response:*** *Water not withdrawn from the surficial or Upper Floridan aquifer layers that are included in the Northern District Model domain would be expected to be discharged through existing spring vents and diffuse areas of discharge along the west coast of Florida, discharged as runoff, or exit the model domain as evapotranspiration of flow to underlying aquifers.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jhipler2012@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Friday, October 12, 2012 11:00:25 PM |

Hi Joshua,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | darrell@snedecors.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 13, 2012 11:28:34 AM |

## Hi Darrell,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*As president of Citrus County Audubon Society I strongly urge NO reduction in the current flows and levels of these two rivers in order to help restore the health of these Outstanding Florida Waters and not cause them further harm. Both rivers and their springs are seriously impaired from pollution from leaking septic tanks, direct discharge of sewerage, run-off from roads and parking lots, fertilizer and lawn chemicals, loss of native sea grasses and fish, proliferation of lyngbya, and salt water intrusion, etc.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | julesrs007@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Saturday, October 13, 2012 12:21:46 PM |

## Hi Julie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I am concerned about the existing health (and future health) of Florida's water resources. I strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed and that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I am hopeful that steps will be taken in protecting these delicate and finite water resources instead of allowing their abuse to worsen. Our states water resources need protection from individuals and/or special interest groups who are solely concerned about financial and/or political gain. I hope that instead of broadening already imbalanced (or damaged) ecosystem(s), that more will be done to actually prevent and protect. Thank you for your time and help. Julie Stuckey*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | mattnhope@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Sunday, October 14, 2012 12:53:07 AM |

## Hi Matthew and E. Hope,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*We strongly oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). These spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are rare treasures on Florida's Nature Coast; they are regarded by international tourists to our area as natural wonders worthy of protection as World Heritage Sites. The fresh water spring ecosystems and their rare inhabitants, like the endangered Manatees, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, and Whooping Cranes that draw so many visitors to our area are essential to not only the "Nature" on the Nature Coast, but also the economy here. The MFL data sets and models do not accurately record present conditions or nor accurately predict the disastrous consequences likely to occur. It seems there are not yet methods to accurately measure coastal spring flow, measure changes, or repair damage to these fragile ecosystems once it has occurred. Please, at least, do no harm. Please reject staff's recommendations, and instead set the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa MFLs at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please preserve these rare treasures on the Nature Coast for future generations of wildlife and people. Thank you.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** 14thebirds@bellsouth.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Sunday, October 14, 2012 9:56:30 AM

## Hi Peggy,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the MFLS for the above mentioned rivers. Please protect our waterways and reduce wastewater flow to all of ourr vital rivers in Florida.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** ahem1@bellsouth.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Sunday, October 14, 2012 8:28:51 PM

Hi Ann,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Simply stated, I do not wish to see the MFLs lowered in the specific regions noted.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | SHudsonMKC@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 15, 2012 3:41:56 PM |

Hi Sharon,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I want you to know that I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed and that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I would also like to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. Thank you.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | Mar1998isol@hotmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Monday, October 15, 2012 8:01:42 PM |

## Hi Marisol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Please help manatees in need. I want my children to be able to encounter these amazing gentle giants in person, and not in a book of extinct animals. Thank you*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** Galleywench22@yahoo.com
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 15, 2012 8:39:02 PM

## Hi Martina,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I find it beyond irresponsible to further tap into out springs. To insist that there is still "flow", is a joke. The movement in the river is tidal. Salt water intrusion is to a point that barnacles have destroyed pilings on our docks. New pilings had to be wrapped (an addl. cost). Another sigh: small Blacktip sharks at the main spring by the Homosassa Wildlife Park. Natural grasses and fish have been long gone. As a resident, living on a canal off the Homosassa River, I a against anyone tapping into our water supply. We not only live here, but also try to make a living on this river.*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** clcollier@verizon.net
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Monday, October 15, 2012 8:58:52 PM

## Hi Carol,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. Please allow no further flow reduction. MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Please cut down on wasteful water use.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | maxineconnor@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, October 16, 2012 12:55:15 AM |

## Hi Maxine,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I respectfully disagree with your decision to reduce the MFLs of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka River and springs, and all such bodies of water in the SWFWMD. Please set MFLs and minimum water levels no lower than they currently are. Seasonal changes and droughts will lower them anyway. These waterways are already polluted. Further reduction in flow and levels will concentrate the pollutants, which will end up in our aquifer and drinking water & cause us significant harm. Overtapping the aquifer will cause more sinkholes, damaged property, & saltwater & pollution in our wells. Who will want to move to Florida or remain here then? The local economy will suffer. Please do not issue any more consumptive use permits until you can set MFLs and MWLs & policies to curb sources of pollution. Please collaborate with environmental advocates & local government to solve these problems, & promote education & conservation. Please read Cynthia Barnett's books "Mirage" & "Blue Revolution." Use current scientific observations/measurements for data. Study the current excess saltwater intrusion into the springs, and sources of pollution. 35 years ago Crystal R was pristine; now it is full of lyngbya. Reducing MFLs will kill habitat & rivers. "Significant harm" is not defined under" 373.019 Definitions". I hope it is within your purview to define it. If not, the law has to be changed to provide guidelines. Also, I think you should meter/control usage when issuing permits. Laws need review.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | imtarynitup@yahoo.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, October 16, 2012 1:04:46 AM |

## Hi Taryn,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *Altering the natural flow of a river to meet human needs is something everyone from FL knows never works out well in the long run. Please don't make the same mistake over and over again. Find another solution.*

# Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems
# PUBLIC MEETING COMMENT CARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Your comments will be provided to the Governing Board. Please make sure t clearly print your name and email address or phone number. Thank you for your comments.

**Name** SHARON KERNER **Date**

**Email Address or Phone Number** Sharonkerner1@yahoo.com 10/8/2012

We have a significant water abuse problem. We must act to change the proposed consumptive-use rules and change minimum flow levels to ZERO percent! Increasing minimum flow levels will cause "significant harm" and irreparable damage to ALL of our rivers and habitats. Saltwater intrusion is imminent. We ALL must actively participate in cleaning up and protecting our springs, rivers and aquifers. Recharge is wholly dependent on rainfall – it's a fact, as aquifer levels fall, springs flow with less vigor. There is a direct correlation between water quantity and water quality. As quoted by Art Jones, "dilution is the solution to pollution."

I am outraged over a $50.00 water permit issued by SWFWMD to allow between 76,000 and 153,000 gallons of water per DAY be pumped, shipped, bottled and sold by a private bottling company for a 10 year span within Crystal River city limits. Neither Crystal River nor Citrus County will realize 1 cent of revenue from this debacle. AND it water is NOT even metered. Who knows what at means! This was just a BAD decision. Permit requirements must be changed!

Safeguards must be established to curb our wasteful and contaminating water usage. Do away with septic tanks, plant Florida friendly landscapes, install duel-flush toilets, minimize or use slow-release fertilizer, and install rain barrels. Be creative and conscientious stewards of our natural recourses. We ALL must protect the future of our state's water supply and the vitality of our delicate aquatic ecosystems, including our manatees. Support laws and leaders who are committed to the principles of sustaining our precious water! VOTE, NEVER GIVE UP AND BUY AMERICAN!

SKerner
3885 N Nakomis Pt
CR, FL 34428

S.W.F.W.M.D.
2379 Broad St.
Brooksville, FL

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | ktripp@savethemanatee.org |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, October 16, 2012 10:43:42 AM |

## Hi Katie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*Save the Manatee Club requests 0% flow reduction for these two rivers, which may already be experiencing significant harm. While flow reductions may not be the sole contributor to degraded water quality, in concert with changing salinity, excessive nutrient input, and other factors, significant cumulative impacts are occurring. We cannot accept model results supporting additional withdrawals when direct observation of the environment indicates that damage is already occurring. We ask the District to protect not just 85% of the remaining habitat, but 100% of it. We support the setting of MFLs but object to managing our rivers at these thresholds. Please stop giving away our shared water resources and start implementing more effective limits on water withdrawals to reduce our dependence on the aquifer and surface water supplies, and allow us to avoid costly alternative water supply (AWS) projects. Growing dependent on AWS projects while threatening the health of the Nature Coast economic engine is fiscally irresponsible. Finally, a correction for manatee habitat use is needed in the Chassahowitzka report. Manatees may use areas shallower than 3.8 ft, but only for an hour or two while the sun is overhead, for solar energy absorption. Manatees could not survive in these shallow areas at other times during cold periods, as exposure would leave them susceptible to cold stress. Please correct this language in the report. Thank you for considering our comments.*

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | 2buntings |
| **To:** | Blake Guillory |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Springs Coast MFL Rules comment |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, October 16, 2012 4:03:47 PM |
| **Attachments:** | 101612commentstoGB-MFL.pdf |

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Dear Mr. Guillory,

The attached comments on the Springs Coast MFL issue are provided in behalf of WAR, Inc and are addressed to the Governing Board members. Though brief the document is too large for submittal through the District's MFL web page comment portal. I would appreciate this being provided to the Board and submitted to the record of these proceedings.

Thank you for your assistance,

Dan Hilliard

--
Dan Hilliard
Director
W.A.R. Inc.(501.C3)
352/447-5434
www.warinconline.com

*Withlacoochee Area Residents, Inc.*
*PO Box 350*
*Inglis, Florida 34449-0350*

10-16-2012

Governing Board
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

Subject: Staff Recommended Springs Coast MFL Rules

WAR, Inc. wishes to extend thanks to the District and Staff for completion of the technical review and recommendations for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers. The process has been quite lengthy and expensive. We commend staff for their courtesy, professionalism and diligent efforts at public outreach in this arduous process.

The Governing Board will consider adoption of the Rule as presented by Staff and we suggest that acknowledgement of time correlation of increased nutrient loads as identified in the Staff recommendations for the Chassahowitzka River (pg 53, fig 4-6) is one of our major concerns in this action. We suggested previously that development supported by this Rule action would lead to further increases in nutrient loading of these systems and it appears Staff has acknowledged this circumstance. We find this conflicted with current efforts by FDEP as it attempts to establish and apply TMDL standards. We view the FDEP effort in context of anti-degradation provisions adopted pursuant to the CWA and believe these protections must be applied in the MFL process. Ultimately the Rule under consideration is a conceptually conflicted circumstance/action and will confound remedy for nutrient impaired waterways. This portends a very negative economic liability for the state's future.

The Governing Board has statutory authority and responsibility to consider economic impacts resulting from its actions. Consideration of this metric must balance future demand against harm to existing water dependent economic activities. Among the myriad of considerations worthy of the Board's attention are residential property values and by extension, tax roll valuation; park revenues, tourism and related economic support activities. Such things generate tens of millions of dollars per annum in local economic activity and action which degrades such performance cannot be viewed in a positive light.

The state has given broad definition to water dependent activities and for good reason. The annual contribution to Florida's gross product from these endeavors exceeds $600 Billion per year (FDEP 2008 Integrated Water Quality Assessment (305b/303d)). Violating this productivity is neither sound economic planning nor a positive action on the part of the Governing Board.

Countering these considerations is the short term economic benefit of residential development which may result from diversion of water resources from the two basins under review. The District has not evaluated future land use planning by Citrus County and has no idea of potential demand for water. Therefore we view the technical review in this process only partially complete. Water supply is but a

part of the District's responsibility and without sound economic policy and consideration of societal interests the presented recommendations lack comprehensive credibility.

Perhaps due to historic reliance upon the narrow District definition of "significant harm" examination of economic impact has not been initiated. Regardless of the reason, the Governing Board has no data which will support or diminish Staff's recommendations in context of economic impact. The District's definition of significant harm is founded upon hydrology, biology, geology and other scientific metrics where appropriate and Peer Review panels examine these findings in the same light. We are of the firm opinion that the scope of the definition should be expanded to include economic impact, and lacking evaluation of same, the Governing Board has insufficient information upon which to base its decision. It is reasonable to reflect upon the benefit/harm ratio in examination of these considered Rules.

Staff suggests that current anthropogenic impact on systems flow is in the range of 1%. We ask the Board to consider the activity supported by that single percentage point on one hand and remember these two systems are both on the Impaired Waters List (303d). Staff has clearly correlated time with increased nutrient loads. The District does not have data or methodologies to clearly analyze future impacts of this nature when reviewing WUP applications within these basins. Under current regulations and methodologies, there can be no reasonable expectation that setting withdrawal limits to 9% (Chaz) and 3% (Homosassa) are necessary or can be defended in light of projections of greater adverse impacts which will result over time.

Thank you for your consideration of these very important matters.

Sincerely,

Dan Hilliard

for WAR, Inc.

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | cctheobald@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 10:59:05 AM |

## Hi Claire,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka river systems are very delicate and function as essential winter habitats for endangered manatee populations. Please, take careful consideration before you set minimum water flow levels, as these can be extremely detrimental to these ecosystems and the animals that inhabit them. Although I am not currently a Floridian, many members of my family are and I personally am considering a move in the next few years. Please, do not do irreparable harm to the ecosystems that I hope to introduce to my future children. I would like them to be able to enjoy these gorgeous natural areas that can only be found in the beautiful and unique state of Florida.*

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| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | jennifercoen@cfl.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 11:07:17 AM |

## Hi Jennifer,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

> *I oppose the proposed MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed; that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). Also I wish to see SWFWMD manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. On behalf of Florida's wildlife. Thank you.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | elainemoore4@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 3:20:18 PM |

## Hi Elaine,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*As contract manager for the Chassahowitzka River Campground, I must point out that it is imperative that you consider the negative effect that your proposed MFL level will have on the Chassahowitzka River and its campground. The proposed MFL level would be disastrous for the health of the Chassahowitzka River. Given its already shallow depths, any reduction in flow would seriously hamper the wildlife in the river and navigation of the river. The boat ramp area of the river has been a source of enjoyment for state residents for many years as well as providing jobs for guides, boat rental companies, the store operators, the campground operators and more. Reducing the flow of this very shallow river is a death knell for the area and the people who have enjoyed and depended on it for so many years. PLEASE PLEASE DO NOT KILL IT.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | tcwiller@aol.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 4:46:58 PM |

## Hi Cherie,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I oppose the proposed new MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and believe that no further flow reduction should be allowed. I believe vehemently that the MFLs should be set at current flows (0% flow reduction). I wish to see you manage our water more wisely and do more to cut back on wasteful water use in our state. In recent decades, both rivers have shown signs of environmental stress. Among the observed changes are dead trees in the Chassahowitzka killed by encroaching salt water, and a loss of aquatic plants in the Homosassa River. Residents (I have relatives living in the area)in both rivers have observed a steady progression of barnacles further inland, a sign of the water becoming more saline. Even though your models have indicated that the proposed MFLs will not cause significant ecological harm, logic suggests that any further reduction of groundwater flows would only exacerbate existing problems. Manatees, very valuable members of Florida's wildlife, rely on healthy aquatic ecosystems to survive and utilize both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers year round. Both provide critical winter warm water habitat. Environmental changes that negatively affect food supply and water quality threaten manatee habitat and manatees themselves. I ask that you reconsider your proposal!*

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| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | diann@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 5:04:31 PM |

Hi Diann,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*I live on the Homosassa River. I am a 5th generation Floridian. When my eldest grandson was born my husband and I purchased a lifetime fishing license for him. Our river is very important. I want our grandchildren to enjoy our rivers. When we bought our home in the Blue Water section of the Homosassa there were no barnacle on the pilings. Today the salinity of the water of the water has increased and we no longer have the quality of water we enjoyed previously. I am opposed to any reduction in the flow of our river.*

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| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 7:15:49 PM |

## Hi Brad,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*October 17, 2012 Governing Board Southwest Florida Water Management District 2379 Broad Street Brooksville, FL 34604-6899 Subject: Staff Recommended Springs Coast MFL Rules Dear Governing Board Members, On July 28, 2012, I copied all of you on an email to Doug Leeper. By copy of that email, I invited all of you to come see the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers before you voted to accept or reject staff's recommendation of continued degradation on these Outstanding Florida Waters. Not one of you replied. I was recently provided with a photograph of Chassahowitzka Main Spring which was taken in 1963. A digital copy of that photograph is attached. If any of you came to look at Chassahowitzka Main Spring recently, did it look anything like this photograph? I seriously doubt that any rational person who looks at this historic photograph and compares it to the current condition of the Chassahowitzka Main Spring could conclude that this spring has not already been "significantly harmed". Likewise, the entire Chassahowitzka River and all of its tributaries have been "significantly harmed" under SWFWMD's watch. We have spent countless hours discussing the inadequate hydrologic and biologic data set upon which SWFWMD staff has based its recommendation to further degrade the Chassahowitzka River. Here is the bottom line. The antidegradation provisions of Florida Law were adopted pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act and these protections must be applied in the MFL process. SWFWMD's legal staff has been unable to provide any case law or legal precedent which allows SWFWMD to degrade this Outstanding Florida Water under the auspices of the MFL statute or any other statute. Brad W. Rimbey, PE for the Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee cell 813-417-9453*

**From:** WaterMatters.org
**To:** ron@ronschultz.us
**Cc:** Doug Leeper
**Subject:** Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
**Date:** Wednesday, October 17, 2012 9:18:58 PM

Hi Ron,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*The degradation of the Homosassa river has exceeded anything that should be allowed for an Outstanding Florida Waterway. Any further reduction in flow or quality of the water is tragic.*

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|---|---|
| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | whmarkle@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 10:16:01 PM |

Hi Whitey,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*MFL's should have been established many years ago. The Springs Coast is dying from over consumption. It is not understandable how the District can lower the MFLs in the Outstanding Florida Waterways in the face of their very apparent degredation. We sincerly request no MFL reductions in the Chassahowitzka/ Homosassa Rivers.*

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| **From:** | WaterMatters.org |
| **To:** | maxineconnor@gmail.com |
| **Cc:** | Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, October 17, 2012 11:41:19 PM |

## Hi Maxine,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

*On pages 203 and 204 of SWFWMD Recommended MFLs for the Homosassa River System 7/15/12 it states that it will implement a 3-component minimum flows and levels prevention strategy to ensure that MFLs established will not be violated as a result of water withdrawals." It states that the strategy includes "ongoing monitoring of flows and water levels, assessment of potential impacts associated with water supply development..., and implementation of a protective water-use permitting program..." I hope that is happening as we speak. I do not think the recent permit granted to allow large unmetered withdrawals from the Crystal River constitutes protective water-use permitting nor is it in the public interest. This report states "staff recommends that minimum flows established for the river system be reevaluated 10 years after they are adopted into rule." Does this mean that if minimum flows are violated, they won't be reevaluated for 10 years? I think that is way too long. A lot can happen to a water supply and an environment in a lot less time. Our FL waterways are already polluted. See http://ofmpub.epa.gov/tmdl_waters10/attains_state.control?p_state=FL#total_assessed_waters. Reducing flows and levels will concentrate the pollutants; that will also reduce the habitat by 15%, thus killing inhabitants and making the pollutants more concentrated. Nitrates and nitrites are present; they cause cancer when ingested by us. We eat the fish that live in these waters.*

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| **From:** | Executive |
| **To:** | Gwen Brown |
| **Cc:** | Jet Houser; Lou Kavouras; Ron Basso; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper |
| **Subject:** | FW: MFL for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers |
| **Date:** | Thursday, October 18, 2012 10:45:04 AM |

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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**From:** Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 17, 2012 11:07 PM
**To:** Executive
**Subject:** MFL for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

The Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge is primarily bordered to the North by the Homosassa River, and contains the mouth of the Chassahowitzka River within its boundary. The freshwater inflow from both these rivers is extremely important to the wildlife that the Refuge was established to protect for the American public. We are pleased to see that the SWFWMD has increased the recommended MFL for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers to 91% and 97% respectively. However, we are certainly concerned that if levels on the Chassahowitzka River were actually reduced by 9% (from present conditions) there could be potentially detrimental conditions for many species of wildlife. Refuge staff have witnessed extremely low water levels during low tides on the Chassahowitzka River. These extremely low water situations have resulted in virtually impassable or unnavigable water depths. This is a concern for boaters and for the endangered manatee. Of course, these extremes are not experienced very often, but it is a condition that can be assumed would increase in frequency and intensity if a 9% reduction in flow were to occur.

Former land use practices in the area around the Chassahowitzka River cannot be reversed, but the Chassahowitzka NWR is concerned with future land use practices that may have an impact on the resources we manage for all US citizens. The US Fish and Wildlife Service takes pride in the partnership we have cooperatively developed with the water management districts in Florida. The Chassahowitzka NWR staff are located within close proximity to the river systems discussed in this MFL proposal and we conduct numerous surveys for manatees, birds, whooping cranes, and we cooperate with various agencies and universities to answer more advanced biological questions.

Although Refuge management would feel more comfortable with higher flows allowed for the Chassahowitzka River, we are open to helping establish a monitoring plan that would include a partnership between our agencies. This partnership would hopefully prevent irreparable damage to the habitat in and around the Chassahowitzka River if water flow was

to further decrease. USFWS staff currently make numerous qualitative observations on habitat conditions, and that work will certainly continue. However, through this partnership, the USFWS and SWFWMD should prepare to monitor the effects of freshwater reduction on the estuary within the Refuge and surrounding areas. It is imperative to us that we protect the natural resources that have been intrusted to us by the US citizen and monitoring any proposed management activity (on or near the Refuge boundary) is a very important part of that. We hope that whatever MFL becomes implemented will also include requirements for monitoring the effects of future permitted freshwater withdrawals. We look forward to future cooperative endeavors with the SWFWMD that will help protect Florida's natural resources.

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Project Leader
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
Crystal River, FL 34429
(P) 352-563-2088
(F) 352-795-7961