

**Northern Tampa Bay Phase II Local Technical Peer Review Group (LTPRG)  
SWFWMD Tampa Service Office, Hwy 301N, Tampa**

**Meeting 16  
February 5, 2003 - 9:30AM**

## **Summary**

The following were in attendance: **Dave Slonena**, Pinellas County; Chris Shea, Tampa Bay Water; Kathleen Coates, Tampa Bay Water; Doug Keesecker, Tampa Bay Water; **Warren Hogg**, Tampa Bay Water; **Ralph Craig**, City of St. Petersburg; **Rick Voakes**, City of St. Petersburg; **Andy Smith**, Hillsborough County; Scott Emery, EHI for Hillsborough County; Mario Cabana, Hillsborough County; **Cliff Harrison**, Schreuder, Inc. for WRWSA; **Vivienne Handy**, Quest Ecology, Inc. for WRWSA; **Annemarie Gueli**, Pasco County; Kim Haag, U.S. Geological Survey; Terry Lee, U.S. Geological Survey; **Michael Hancock**, SWFWMD; **Ted Rochow**, SWFWMD; **Doug Leeper**, SWFWMD; Len Bartos, SWFWMD; B. Terry Johnson, SWFWMD; Mikel Renner, SWFWMD; Ken Weber, SWFWMD; David Carr, SWFWMD; Adam Munson, SWFWMD; and John Emery, SWFWMD. Names in bold are designated representatives for the LTPRG.

Doug Leeper provided an update on the development of guidance and minimum levels for seventeen lakes in the Northern Tampa Bay area. He explained that he had recently distributed a spreadsheet containing summary data for the seventeen lakes to the group via e-mail, and that recent revisions to the supporting data and proposed levels were highlighted in the e-mail. Mr. Leeper provided electronic copies of technical memoranda that include detailed descriptions of the proposed levels for the lakes, noting that information in the memoranda should replace the information for the lakes previously presented in the District report, *A Multiple-Parameter Approach for Establishing Minimum Levels for Category 3 Lakes of the Southwest Florida Water Management District, June 14, 2001 draft*. Finally, Mr. Leeper reported that the proposed levels may be presented to the District Governing Board for adoption sometime within the next few months, but he noted that a schedule for this process was not yet firmly developed.

Michael Hancock gave the group an overview of the various wetland-related projects that the District is currently performing, or plans to begin within the next year (see attachment). Ongoing and upcoming projects include assessments of the Wetlands Assessment Procedure (WAP), the formation of a WAP users subcommittee, the development of a central database for WAP data, and a large-scale wetland assessment project. Mr. Hancock also mentioned that, although it does not appear on the list, the District, Tampa Bay Water, and Pinellas County are also cooperatively funding a project with the USGS on wetland augmentation. As the projects are developed and progress, regular reports and discussions with the LTPRG are planned.

Kathleen Coates gave a presentation on Tampa Bay Water's Recovery Analysis Methods and Data Requirements Project. Ms. Coates explained that the objectives of the project were to evaluate, test, and recommend quantitative methods to assess hydrologic recovery resulting from Tampa Bay Water's future ground-water pumpage reductions, and to identify data gaps relative to the recommended methods and propose corrective actions. Elements of the scope of work include identifying and comparing potential assessment methods, selecting a wellfield area for a "proof of concept" analysis, performing "data mining", developing methods of recovery analysis, and performing a "proof of concept" analysis based on the proposed methods. Based on this work, the methods will be refined, and technical memos and a final report will be prepared to document the work. Ms. Coates said that the Scope would also include presentations to the Optimized Regional Operations Plan Technical Advisory Committee (OROP TAC). Mr. Hancock stressed that since the District will also be developing recovery assessment methods, cooperation between the District, Tampa Bay Water, and the LTPRG is an important part of the process, and suggested that reports on the project should be presented to the LTPRG instead of (or in addition to) the OROP TAC.

The next regular LTPRG meeting is scheduled for 9:30 AM on April 2, 2003 at the Tampa Service Office.

# **AGENDA**

## **Northern Tampa Bay Phase II Local Technical Peer Review Group**

### **Meeting 16 SWFWMD Tampa Service Office, Hwy 301N, Tampa February 5, 2003 - 9:30AM**

1. November meeting follow-up
2. Miscellaneous updates
  - Category III lakes
  - Subcommittees
3. Wetland Studies (M. Hancock)
4. Tampa Bay Water's Recovery Assessment Project (K. Coates)
5. Issues for Next Meeting – April 2, 2003 (at the Tampa Service Office).

## **Ongoing and Upcoming SWFWMD Wetland Projects**

1. Comparison of WAP results from wetlands assessed by both SWFWMD and TBW
  - Collect and organize all WAP data
  - Design data base for study wetlands
  - Develop analysis tools and perform tests
  - Discuss initial results with WAP users group
  - Finalize results
2. Statistical studies of the WAP procedure, which might lead to changes in the procedure. Assessed for needs of Regulatory and MFLs.
  - Perform after study one (above) using all data
3. WAP users workgroup
  - Form to discuss various related issues
  - Discussions of problems identified with the process through experience, which might lead to changes in the procedure.
  - Discussions of study results
4. Development of an overall rating system for wetland health.
  - Dependent on need
  - Dependent on other studies
5. Development of a central database for WAP data (ongoing)
6. Assessment of data collection problems (ongoing)
7. 5-year regional wetland assessment project
8. Amphibian study