

Myakka Wild and Scenic River Management Summary

Chris Becker, Environmental Specialist II

December 1, 2003

Updated:

Stacia Hetrick, Environmental Specialist II

July 16, 2007

History

1975 – Sarasota County Commission's resolution to have Representative Bafalis introduce legislation to add the Myakka to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System

1978 – bill to study the Myakka River for inclusion in the National W&S System was introduced

1984 – final Myakka Wild and Scenic River Study was published

1985 – Florida Legislature designates Myakka as a state W&S river (258.501 F.S.)

1990 – *Myakka Wild and Scenic River Management Plan* was adopted

1991 – River Rule adopted (62D-15, F.A.C)

1998 – Memorandum of Agreement for administering the Myakka River Wild and Scenic River Protection Zone between Sarasota Co., DEP, and DCA signed

1998 – Sarasota County's Myakka River Protection Ordinance and Protection Plan adopted

2003 – Sarasota County's Tree Protection Ordinance and Land Development Regulations amended and adopted (Nov.); Earth Moving Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance (Dec.3, Public Hearing)

Next Steps – MOA with Cities of North Port and Venice

Progress in Protection

Conservation land acquisition (i.e., Sarasota County's ESLPP, etc.)

County Regulations

Manatee Protection Plan adoption by Sarasota County

Potential for additional floodplain protection

Threats

Land use changes in the watershed

Water issues/changes in hydrology

Water quality degradation

Increase or decrease in flows

Invasive non-native species

Other Information

Myakka River Management Coordinating Council website

Invasive Plant Guide distributed to Myakka property owners