

## **Myakka Wild and Scenic River Draft Process for Updating Management Plan**

The Myakka River Wild and Scenic Designation and Preservation Act (Act) requires the Department and the coordinating council shall jointly develop a management plan for the designated segment of the Myakka River. The Act also states that the proposed management plan shall be subject to a public hearing and shall include participation by all appropriate state agencies, local governments and private organizations. All comments received during the review process shall be considered prior to the adoption of the final plan.

Section 6.2 of the current Myakka Wild and Scenic River Management Plan states that any revisions to the approved plan should undergo the same process used to adopt the original plan. The Act however, does not reference plan updates.

The draft update of the plan will be compiled by a workgroup composed of the Council committee and DEP Staff. Special subgroups may be organized, as needed, to update some sections, based on individual experience and knowledge or discipline. The products of each step may be circulated for Council comments, or that step may be consolidated when the initial Public Review draft is compiled.

All agencies and representatives should compile projects their respective agency has completed which has contributed to overall improvement to the watershed's resource values.

The planning process will consist of the following steps:

- 1. Draft Updates of Existing Plan components**
- 2. Incorporate all draft updates into a Public Review Draft Plan.**
  - Submit to Department and Council for initial approval
- 3. Conduct Public Hearings in 3 counties (Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte)**
- 4. Revise and submit Plan to Delegated Authority for Approval**
  - The Department and Council will consider any needed changes and execute revisions.
  - Department and Council final approval
  - Submit plan to delegated authority

Note: final delegated authority is being determined; the plan is not required to go to the Governor and Cabinet.