

ADOPTED

**Myakka River Management Coordinating Council
Sarasota County Twin Lakes Park
Room A
6700 Clark Road
Sarasota, Florida 34241**

**October 5, 2007
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

This meeting was called to review and make any necessary revisions to the draft report regarding the potential expansion of the Florida Wild and Scenic designation to include portions of the Myakka River in Manatee and Charlotte counties.

The Council agreed to include a description of the Sarasota County portion of the Myakka River in the report that is similar to the description of the Manatee and Charlotte County portions of the river. The description is to be added to Chapter 1.

The draft report was then reviewed page by page by the Council.

Page 1

The picture on the report cover is to be replaced with pictures of the river in Charlotte and Manatee counties.

Page 2

The Council agreed to keep page 2 as it is.

Page 3

The 4th line, first paragraph is a typo, it should be “through” not “though.”

Discussion occurred regarding language that would explain why to designate the river. Jono Miller indicated that the Council is not required to answer this in the report and that it would be a task of the legislation to clarify.

Last paragraph on page 3, it should read documents were received “from” stakeholders instead of “by”.

Language will be added to the last sentence of the first paragraph from the 1985 Act that states why the Myakka River was designated Wild and Scenic.

Discussion occurred regarding whether to add Manasota-88’s petition regarding expanding the designation to the report.

Discussion continued regarding the process of designation in Sarasota County.

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Page 4

No comments

Page 5

The word “river” will be inserted in Appendix A, Myakka River Wild and Scenic River. The title of Appendix K was changed to “Written Correspondence” with a date range from when the report is posted online to October 25, 2007.

Page 6

A map of the critical manatee habitat is to be included as well as a map of the existing Wild and Scenic River designation boundaries.

Page 7

The word “river” will be added to the title of Section A and reflect it in the Table of Contents.

In the 1st paragraph of Section A, language will be added from the Act regarding why the river was designated Wild and Scenic. Stacia Hetrick summarized that this language would be stated three times in the report: Summary, Intro Part A and Part C.

It was decided to place the Figures on the page following where they are referenced in the text rather than at the end of the report.

Page 8

Update the second paragraph to reference the Agreement between City of North Port, DCA and DEP if that date arrives prior to sending the report to the Legislature.

Discussion followed on the national Wild and Scenic river designation and whether to include language about why the river was not nationally designated. It was decided not to include any additional language.

Page 9

Delete the Title for Section C and add the contents to Section B.

Page 10

First paragraph, delete the “to” in front of Myakka City.

Paragraph 3, cross out the word “large” in front of vegetables. Use “major” instead.

Where it says an “agricultural ditch,” use a “human-altered channel” instead.

It was decided to add a reference that indicated that there is an active phosphate mine north of SR-64.

Paragraph 2, change “completely dry with no flow” to “often ponded or completely dry”.

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The first sentence in paragraph 5 should be moved to be the first sentence in the next paragraph.

Jim Beever stated it would be a good idea to have a sentence in there that talked about what the swamp was like before the tree mortality in the Flatford Swamp. Jono asked Jim to draft something.

Discussion of what trees were there followed.

Jim Beever stated that he would have a sentence that stated the swamp was diverse, mixed hardwood swamp forest; there was a tree die off it is now principally dominated by willow trees.

Page 11

Discussion occurred regarding whether to change the “Myakka River-Flatford Swamp” to the “Upper Myakka River Watershed” in the 4th paragraph. Dianne Davies will check on that.

In the 1st paragraph, language will be added that SR-70 crosses the river on a bridge with a filled causeway. Jim Beever stated it’s a significant feature of the river affecting hydrology and habitat.

The 4th paragraph, where it says “owned by the Florida Park Service,” it should be “owned by the State of Florida.”

Jim Beever stated that the beginning of the Myakka River should be added to Section B as one of the Alternative Starting Point Locations.

Greg Blanchard stated he thought it was a little undefined where the watershed begins up there.

Discussion continued.

Jono asked if there is Council support to make a change. It can be left ambiguous and say “the upper most reaches of the river,” or we can pick a point that has a latitude and longitude. The Council consensus was to add a starting point of the Myakka River as defined by the section line north of SR-64. Greg Blanchard will determine what section it will be.

The 2nd paragraph under Section B, the term “agricultural ditch” should be changed to a “human-altered channel.”

The suggestion was made to use bullet points rather than text form for the alternative starting point locations. There was consensus. The 2nd suggestion was in addition to identifying the starting point, add a comment for the Legislature’s benefit of how many river miles would be involved with each alternative location. The Council decided to

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appoint Greg Blanchard to figure out how many miles there are of the river for each starting point.

On the last line of the page, a comma will be added after Flatford Swamp.

Page 12

Belinda Perry suggested to delete “at this time” in the last sentence of the 5th paragraph. There was consensus.

Discussion occurred regarding manatees. Regarding the last sentence in Paragraph 5, Stacia stated that the term “on the Myakka River” should be added to the last sentence.

Page 13

The decision was made to leave the names of the four communities in the report in the 2nd paragraph next to the last line. El Jobean would be added to the text and the word “large” would be deleted in front of the word “communities.”

Bullet points are to be used to list the alternative ending point locations in Section B and add how many river miles would be involved with each alternative location.

Page 14

Change the word “document” to “documents.”

Page 15

Check boundaries of North Port and Port Charlotte. Jim Beever will check his GIS resources. If Stacia can get better boundaries for communities she will, otherwise the boundaries won't change.

Page 16

No comments

Page 17

Add legends for rectangular boxes (adopted documents) and rounded boxes (actions).

Page 18

No comments.

Page 19

No changes made.

Page 20

No changes made.

Page 21

Starting point will be added north of SR 64, indicating the beginning of the Myakka River.

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Page 22

River boundary line will be corrected.

Page 23

River boundary line will be corrected.

Page 24

No comments.

Page 25

The river boundary line was corrected. A label will be added for the Charlotte County Park.

Page 26

The word “river” will be added to the title of the Act and Plan.

Page 27

The Manatee County Comprehensive Plan will be added to the Bibliography.

Belinda Perry can get maps for Sarasota County that are comparable to the existing Manatee and Charlotte County maps in the report.

Jono then went through the document page by page and reiterated the changes that are to be made.

Public Comments

There were no public comments given at this time.

Diane Davies moved to adopt the draft document with the amendments to make available on-line before the hearings.

Paul Thomas seconded and it was unanimously adopted.

Discussion of Hearings.

Stacia passed around a sign-up sheet for the public hearings.

Stacia summarized the outline for the public hearings. There will be a few presentations at the beginning of the hearing. Stacia will summarize the information that is in the report. Jono will give a short summary of the role of the Council and a description of some of the accomplishments of the Council. Jono will also be facilitating the meetings. It will then be open to public comments. The length of time each person is allowed to speak will be determined by the amount of people present.

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Discussion occurred regarding how the hearings should be conducted. Many suggestions and possibilities were heard. There would be a person designated to keep track of the time and indicate when the time is up using 3 minutes as a basis.

Stacia explained that the public hearings have been noticed. Mailings were sent to the property owners that live within 300 feet of the Myakka River in Manatee and Charlotte counties and those that lived within 220 feet of the Myakka River in Sarasota County, which is the width of the Myakka River Protection Zone. The hearings were also noticed in 3 local newspapers, the Florida Administrative Weekly, and emails and hard copies of the hearing notice went to the commissioners, senators and representatives of the 3 counties.

Further suggestions continued regarding conducting the hearings.

The written comments will be accepted up to a week after the hearings.

Speaker cards were discussed. Two people will be summarizing the public comments at the hearings. The hearings will also be recorded on an electronic sound recorder.

Any email, written letters, or other written correspondence received by the end of the comment date would go in the Written Comments and Written Correspondence sections. The written comments will not be edited or summarized. The date range for the correspondence would be from the time of posting the report on-line to October 25th. Prior correspondence will not be part of the report.

The Council may make a recommendation in November.

Stacia stated that she would hopefully get the report back to the Council members by October 26th.

The meeting ended at 12:00 P.M.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Diane Davies | Teresa Payne |
| Greg Blanchard | Belinda Perry |
| Dr. Mary Jelks | Tom Moralee |
| Jono Miller | Suzanne Cooper |
| Manon Lavoie | Paul W. Thomas |
| Don Caillouette | Tom Williams |
| Don Hughes | Jill Green |
| Charles Kovach | Jeff Thirlwall |
| Ernie Estevez | Gaines Finley |
| Chuck Downs | Jim Beaver |
| Susan Hochuli | |

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INTERESTED PARTIES

Stacia Hetrick
Bernie Milosky
Shawn Yeager
Randy Roberson
Bob Ohm
Phyllis Gilreath
Diana Donaghy
Bruce MacLeod
Valinda Subic

John Chassey
Albert Gregory
Rachel Shirley
Tom Black
Kim Hermann
Howard Berna
Dorothy Rainey
Judy Meents