

CERP Report

A bimonthly newsletter on community outreach initiatives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with the South Florida Water Management District

March/April 2005

Welcome to CERP Report

In this edition, you will find the latest news and information about the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and community outreach efforts throughout south Florida.

As you read through this issue, you will discover more about what the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District are doing to inform, involve, and engage our citizens, businesses and communities in the Everglades restoration plan and the protection of our future water supply.

Earth Day 2005: Stop By to See What's Flying High

Did you know that many planes fly over this wetland everyday?

Did you know that it is home to 350 birds and 68 threatened or endangered plant and animal species?

Did you know that it is suffering from a shortage of clean, reliable water?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you know we're referring to the Florida Everglades.

To pay tribute to the Everglades, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold a special **Earth Day** celebration at various airports and libraries in Florida. During the months of April and May, everyone will be encouraged to stop by to see what's flying high and will be introduced to a new product which has landed – the Corps' sleek new touch-screen kiosk on the **Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)**.



"Our goal is to share the latest information about the Florida Everglades and CERP with the world," says **Brice McKoy**, outreach team leader for the Jacksonville District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "The kiosk will hopefully take off and help us to reach a broader market in a non-traditional and creative manner."

Take part in our celebrations throughout the month of April and stop by to see what's flying high! For more information, contact Sunshine Communications at (305) 948-8063.

Women Impacting the Everglades



Nanciann Regalado

The revitalization of the river of grass is a journey that involves people from all walks of life and from all corners of the globe.

There are thousands of "unsung heroes" who contribute to this important undertaking.

In March – **National Women's History Month** – we honor the women who have become strong advocates for a healthy Everglades. While there are *many* who bear mentioning, several are involved in the public sector and are names you may have heard of:

As chief of the Corporate Communications Office for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, **Nanciann Regalado** heads a dedicated team and strives to create good relations for the Corps everyday. She is a leader in developing partnerships for progress and promoting environmentally sustainable growth.

Pamela Brooks-Thomas is a governing board member of the South Florida Water



Pamela Brooks-Thomas

Management District. She helps to protect our fresh water resources throughout the 16 counties of south Florida. She is also dedicated to including as many residents as possible in the plan to restore the Everglades.



Cheryl P. Ulrich

There are others like **Cheryl P. Ulrich**, P.E., chief of the restoration program execution branch at the Corps of Engineers, who are leading the way in managing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and are making an impact everyday.

There are still other women including **Sandy Dayhoff**, outreach/education coordinator for Everglades National Park, who are teaching our children how to understand this unique ecosystem.

We recognize these outstanding women. To us, they are "women of impact." This year, we celebrate their legacy and wish them continued success for years to come.



Sandy Dayhoff



Expo Links Minority Businesses with Potential Vendors

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was among more than 130 exhibitors at the **20th Annual Business Expo** in Fort Lauderdale on March 3-4. One of the largest events of its kind in the region, the purpose of the Expo was to establish relationships between minority businesses and potential vendors.

Sponsored by the **Florida Regional Minority Business Council**, the Expo featured exhibits, workshops and networking opportunities. Fortune 500 companies, government agencies and minority businesses also participated.

Some of the workshops featured included information about doing business with the federal and state government, government construction opportunities, the latest information

technology for small businesses, and a panel discussion with minority business chief executive officers. On-site federal and state certification, appointments with senior decision-makers, and interactive demonstrations were also available.



Randy Edney

Randy Edney, the Corps of Engineers' assistant deputy for small business, discussed how to do business with the Corps and shared examples of the many opportunities this federal agency provides.

Edney provided small businesses with valuable insights for securing government contracts, and offered examples of the goods and services the federal government often purchases.



About CERP

Did you know that the Florida Everglades was once a vibrant, free-flowing river of grass that provided clean water from Lake Okeechobee to Florida Bay? Today, this extraordinary ecosystem is dying. Over the past half-century, the health and size of the Everglades have steadily declined. Severely impacted by drainage and development, the Everglades is suffering from a critical shortage of clean, reliable, water sources.

To restore and preserve south Florida's natural environment, enhance water supplies, and maintain flood protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with the South Florida Water Management District and numerous other federal, state, local and tribal partners, has developed a plan to save the Everglades.

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) includes a series of ecological and water system improvements. During the next 30 years, the Corps, the District, and their sponsoring partners will restore water quality, quantity, timing, and distribution in what is being referred to as "the largest environmental restoration project in history."

To find out more about Everglades restoration, visit our website at www.evergladesplan.org



Environmental Moments



Carol Sanders, of the Corps of Engineers, browses the CERP kiosk during the 2005 Everglades Coalition Conference.



Children and adults alike enjoy learning about Everglades restoration at the Big "O" Birding Festival in Moore Haven.

Let's Meet and Greet

If you are interested in learning about business opportunities with the **Corps**, please contact **Randy Edney** at **561-683-1577, ext. 14**.

If you are interested in learning about business opportunities with the **District**, please call the



Procurement Hotline at **1-800-472-5290**.

If you would like to request a presentation for your organization, please contact **Malissa Booth** at **561-683-1577, ext. 24** or **Bernadette Morris** at **305-948-8063, ext. 201**.

Out and About: Outreach In Action!

The CERP Outreach Team is always out and about throughout south Florida and hopes to meet you at one of the following activities and events:

March 19	Afro Arts Festival	Belle Glade (Palm Beach County)
April 9	Black Gold Jubilee	Belle Glade (Palm Beach County)
April 16	Earth Day Celebration	Port St. Lucie (St. Lucie County)
April 22	Earth Day Ceremony	Miami (Miami International Airport)
April 23	12th Annual Earth Day Celebration	Miami (Miami-Dade County)

If you are organizing an event and would like for the CERP Outreach Team to attend, please contact **Bernadette Morris** at **305-948-8063, ext. 201**.



The Journey to Restore America's Everglades

A partnership of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Florida Water Management District and many other federal, state, local and tribal partners.