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From: Wayne Daltry [mailto:WDALTRY@leegov.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2005 3:12 PM
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Subject: Pre-CERP baseline

Good Afternoon

I have reviewed the pre-CERP baseline information for the Caloosahatchee Basin. I have a "leading" question that may be a point of issue. If I understand it, the report says the target flows for the pre-CERP baseline were 300 cfs to 2800 cfs. The failure to achieve 300 cfs was for 70 months of the 36 year period, and the failure to keep flows at/below 2800 cfs was for 33 months of the 36 year period.

Now I presume that is information about the results. I then assume--but require correction if it is not so--that CERP presumes to IMPROVE upon this modeled baseline. We should not have more than a 10% failure rate of CERP maximum or minimum flows. The target for low flow then would be to reduce the failure of achieving minimum flows to no more than 43 months in the 36 year period. Is this correct?

By the way, we have continually stated that the 300 cfs MFL is already defined as a harm level, and do not accept it as the target for CERP. We have stated and gone on record that the science has been established that the "no harm" level for Caloosahatchee River discharge into the estuary is 500 cfs, and continually request that the 500 cfs number be used as the target for RESTORATION.

We are unaware of any conclusion that has stated that the MFL --which is already defined as harmful and stressful for the system--should be the RESTORATION target for the Caloosahatchee Estuary. Violations of the MFL require restoration plans, we have been informed that CERP is the first restoration plan, so planning to violate the MFL does not constitute an acceptable outcome for CERP for Lee County and its many affiliated entities. Among these is the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program, sponsored by EPA; another is the USFWS representing the four National Wildlife Refuges fed by the Caloosahatchee basin flow.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item,

Sincerely,

Wayne E. Daltry
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