

**Public Comments and Staff Responses Concerning
Proposed Minimum Flows for the
Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River Systems**

Additional Documents No. 2

Documents Received, Sent or Developed between
October 19, 2012 and October 30, 2012



October 30, 2012

446 Pages in Addition to this Cover Sheet

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#)
Subject: FW: Springs Coast MFL
Date: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:09:08 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Susan Zimmer [mailto:drsuz@mail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 4:24 PM
To: info
Subject: Springs Coast MFL

SWFWMD

Governing Board

I am a resident of Citrus County.

I do not favor any further reductions in water flow. The springs and rivers are already low, unhealthy, and actually need **more** flow to provide a healthy environment for fish, vegetation, drinking water, etc.

It is sad and scary to continually see various Springs, which provide our only drinking water, become stagnant and dry up.

Prevention is more sensible than Restoration (attempts).

Desalination, as an example, is too costly, etc., especially while we have the **opportunity to save** the precious Springs.

Thank you

Dr Susan Zimmer

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers
Date: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:10:41 AM

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352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: JaniceHowie@aol.com [mailto:JaniceHowie@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Executive
Subject: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers

The Federal Clean Water act does not allow for the degradation of these rivers, or any other rivers in the state. Your proposed MFL's for the Homosassa at 3% and the Chasahowitzka at 9 % would allow by your studies up to 15% degradation to the wildlife and environment of these rivers. Think about what will happen to these rivers and to the conflict that will occur with the EPA if this degradation is allowed to happen. Wouldn't it be prudent to proactively ovoid this damage to our rivers.

Jan Howie
Conservation Chairman
Nature Coast Native Plant Society

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#)
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Date: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:14:48 AM

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352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: cindy [<mailto:hkck5@embarqmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 12:54 PM
To: Executive
Cc: Executive
Subject: Chassahowitzka

Please don't take any more fresh water from the spring system of the Chassahowitzka or Homosassa Rivers. As you know, both are in peril. Let whoever wants our most precious resource on the nature coast to invest in a desalinization facility. There is plenty of fresh water in our gulf. May I even suggest the Florida cross barge canal system as the perfect location for such a project. Eventually it will come to this anyway, why not lead the way. You have the power. Thank You. Chassahowitzka resident for 30 years, in love with the nature coast, the State of Florida and thankful for our State Land programs and Government Organizations set up to protect our natural resources. Cindy Klein

From: [Mike Heyl](#)
To: [Boyd Blihovde@fws.gov](mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 6:55:46 AM

Boyd – I saw your MFL comments come through. We will definitely be in touch with regard to monitoring, but I did want to address the water level issue. Since the Chassahowitzka is below sea level for the entire extent, the change in elevation will be negligible as inflow from the Gulf will fill any voids.

We did run the hydrodynamic model to check the change in elevation with the original proposed 11% MFL. The average decrease in water level at the boat ramp will be 0.01 feet.

MGH

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Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist
Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

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Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau / SWFWMD (7:00 am - 3:30 pm)
7601 U.S. Highway 301 1-813-985-7481 Ext 2211
Tampa, Fl. 33637-6759 1-813-987-6747 (Fax)

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From: [Mike Heyl](#)
To: [Katie Tripp \(ktripp@savethemanatee.org\)](mailto:ktripp@savethemanatee.org)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: MFL Comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 7:00:08 AM

Katie - I saw your comments on the Chassahowitzka MFL come through the web site. While I think the footnote on page 92 is valid for acute (4-hour) thermal refuge, I agree that it would probably not be applicable to a chronic (3-day) thermal refuge and I will remove the footnote in the final version of the report.

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From: [Katie Tripp](#)
To: [Mike Heyl](#)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#); [Katie Tripp](#)
Subject: RE: MFL Comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 8:05:17 AM

Thanks, Mike.

Katie Tripp, Ph.D.
Director of Science and Conservation
Save the Manatee Club
500 N. Maitland Ave.
Maitland, FL 32751
Office: 407-539-0990
e-mail: ktripp@savethemanatee.org

From: Mike Heyl [<mailto:Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 7:00 AM
To: Katie Tripp
Cc: Doug Leeper
Subject: MFL Comments

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From: [Alan Martyn Johnson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Cc: [Chris Anastasiou](#)
Subject: RE: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River Plus Bathymetry/Bath Tub
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 8:58:57 AM

Doug,

Sorry for the slow response. You did respond to my question about timeframe in the e-mail where you provided your answers within the text of my advance questions, but you did not mention Kevin by name.

USGS must already have a stage area for both the SE Fork and Halls River Velocity meters sites and they do have raw velocity data every hour for the SE Fork (for over a year) and every 15 minutes for Halls River (for over 3 months). They must have a very good idea of the flows. Maybe they are not ready to publish the discharge data as approved, but surely they have some idea of how well the data matches the calculated data for the SE Fork. In the last year discharges have covered a broad spectrum from the almost record low levels in Weeki Wachee Well thru to the 18 plus feet; levels not seen for years. Halls River has experienced the highs and lows also; surely this reveals a much better data set than the very suspect tidally adjusted approach yeilded.

It is very disappointing that these valuable investments have not borne results before presentation of the report to the Governing Board.

If the 'preliminary data' from the velocity meters confirmed the calculated data I would have expected a rush to let everyone know.

Bathymetry data.

Thanks for sending the CD as I did not get a chance to download the file from the website before it was removed. My neighbor in Homosassa forwarded the CD to me and I got a chance to look at it this weekend. It took some time to translate State Plane readings to locations on the river, but I was impressed by the detail of the survey e.g. taking five depth readings at very close proximity before moving one to two meters to the next point.

Wang's data also shows the deep point in the river I found while investigating the "Bath tub" idea; in the Excel spreadsheet of centerline readings the deep point is on line 4954 with a depth of 3.76 meters below NAVD 88. The point I found as the deepest point is only some 6 feet from this point. As I have commented previously, **there must be some discharge at this point otherwise why has it not filled with sediment over the years.** The depth found in Wang's survey is so close to what I measured with the Secchi Disc (crude compared to Wang's instrumentation), it appears to indicate a reasonably stable situation over the years. I would speculate there is a reasonably strong discharge in that area. And as further evidence any avid manatee watcher knows the manatee like that area.

From my observations and speculation the discharge is thru a sediment rich blanket over the vent(s), and from the very few Specific Conductance readings may at times be more saline than other springs in the Homosassa River headwaters, possibly influenced more by stage change/seawater ingress.

To me this is another example of how important it is to combine the data available with carefully observation of what can be seen in the river to develop the necessary understanding to protect an Outstanding Florida Water which unfortunately is deteriorating.

I have a number of suggestions for follow up;

- adding this deep site to the quarterly sampling with bottom middle and top sampling (Doug I did share my September samplings with Chris, but do not recall if I shared with you)
- at the time of the next Field Measurements by USGS, run a discharge at the point where the river narrows (before the confluence with Halls River) as well as the SE Fork and the main springs run to determine any additional discharge; bearing in mind speculation the discharge from the deep center area may vary with stage
- **have some keen scuba divers take a closer look possibly using some dye cakes to help view the flow**

I realize resources are limited, but understanding the complexities of the rivers is critical to their future.

Martyn

From: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Mon, 15 Oct 2012 11:31:52 -0400
Subject: RE: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River

Martyn –

Hopefully I responded to your question concerning the time-frame for the United States Geological Survey's evaluation of the velocity data that has been collected over the past year in the Homosassa River system. In case I did not, I'm writing to let you know that Kevin Grimsley has told me that he anticipates the Survey will be completing an initial analyses of the data within a couple of months.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
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1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Alan Martyn Johnson [<mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:34 AM
To: Doug Leeper
Cc: Ron Basso; Mike Heyl
Subject: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River

Doug,

I was pleased to receive a confirmation and Thank You e-mail, regarding comment I posted on the web site; and noted that you are copied. Good job by whoever organized this; I was concerned comments were going to accumulate both unread as well as unanswered.

This e-mail is not directly about the MFL Reports, but about funding/investments.

We are within 10 days of the anniversary of the start of operation of the velocity meter at the SE Fork station (September 9 @ 12:15 hour). The most recent Field Measurements only add to the concerns I have previously expressed. I have copied the specific data below for ease of reference, but my concern is data collected from these investments, SE Fork and Halls River Velocity Meters, is not being made available. This is troubling as USGS is going to discontinue monitoring of some wells in the area due to lack of sponsorship, yet data from these recently funded projects is 'intentionally' hidden. I am sure you are aware that velocity data from the Halls River 'new' site (installed March 2012) was on line for a few months before being 'hidden'. What is the sense in spending these scarce resources and not getting any value from them?

I would appreciate if you can share the timeframe for velocity data to be made available from these two sites in the Homosassa River. I appreciate there is more involved in converting velocity to discharge (determining stage area and how it changes with stage, plus verification by field measurements), but velocity as seen by the instrument is raw data and meaningful raw data.

FYI I have spoken to the manufacturer's technical personnel regarding location of these meters and how quickly meaning full data can be obtained, both velocity and discharge. Let's just say one year is difficult to understand and the SE Fork location is not ideal as it is at a location where flow direction changes significantly.

On a more positive note, the delay has at least given the chance to observe a range of conditions with Weeki Wachee Well starting around 15 ft. last September/October, dropping to a low of 10.86 ft. in May, and to the high of 18.84 ft. in July.

On a personal note I am pleased to see the significant increase in levels in the aquifer, due to tropical storm Debby, have resulted in improved quality of water emanating both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs. I will be in Homosassa the next two weeks and plan on monitoring the springs as I have in the past. Really interested to see if strong flow has reestablished at some of the smaller vents.

Doug, SWFWMD and us folks that pay the taxes which make all this possible need a timeframe for data from these investments with USGS.

Martyn

Recent Field Measurements Stream flow and 'as close as possible time' Calculated flow from USGS 02310688 SE Fork.

Meas. Number	Date	Time	Stream flow (ft ³ /s)	Calculated flow (ft ³ /s)
234	2012-08-16	14:49:08	74.3	37
233	2012-08-16	14:40:53	78.4	37
232	2012-08-16	14:23:38	78.7	
231	2012-08-16	14:16:06	70.7	
230	2012-08-16	14:09:03	77.8	43
229	2012-08-16	10:30:23	90.7	76

Time series observations from USGS 02310688 SE Fork

08/16/2012 10:15 EST	1.17 ^P	76 ^P	960 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.55 ^P
08/16/2012 10:30 EST	1.15 ^P	76 ^P	970 ^P	24.4 ^P	0.53 ^P
08/16/2012 10:45 EST	1.13 ^P	76 ^P	950 ^P	24.3 ^P	0.51 ^P
08/16/2012 11:00 EST	1.11 ^P	77 ^P	930 ^P	24.1 ^P	0.49 ^P
08/16/2012 11:15 EST	P	P	980 ^P	24.3 ^P	P
08/16/2012 11:30 EST	1.12 ^P	64 ^P	980 ^P	24.4 ^P	0.50 ^P
08/16/2012 11:45 EST	1.15 ^P	55 ^P	980 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.53 ^P
08/16/2012 12:00 EST	1.21 ^P	42 ^P	970 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.59 ^P
08/16/2012 12:15 EST	P	P	1,040 ^P	24.5 ^P	P
08/16/2012 12:30 EST	1.28 ^P	37 ^P	960 ^P	24.7 ^P	0.66 ^P
08/16/2012 12:45 EST	1.34 ^P	41 ^P	1,240 ^P	24.3 ^P	0.72 ^P
08/16/2012 13:00 EST	1.37 ^P	53 ^P	1,130 ^P	24.4 ^P	0.75 ^P
08/16/2012 13:15 EST	P	P	1,330 ^P	24.5 ^P	P
08/16/2012 13:30 EST	1.47 ^P	23 ^P	1,300 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.85 ^P
08/16/2012 13:45 EST	1.52 ^P	43 ^P	1,180 ^P	24.6 ^P	0.90 ^P
08/16/2012 14:00 EST	1.57 ^P	43 ^P	1,100 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.95 ^P
08/16/2012 14:15 EST	P	P	950 ^P	24.8 ^P	P
08/16/2012 14:30 EST	1.68 ^P	16 ^P	1,250 ^P	24.6 ^P	1.06 ^P
08/16/2012 14:45 EST	1.74 ^P	37 ^P	1,050 ^P	24.7 ^P	1.12 ^P
08/16/2012 15:00 EST	1.79 ^P	40 ^P	1,210 ^P	24.6 ^P	1.17 ^P

Blue colored data is using a 30 minute stage change and is not comparable.

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From: Doug Leeper
To: [Adrienne Vining](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Christopher Pettit](#); [Dave Dewitt](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Eric DeHaven](#); [Gary E. Williams](#); [Jay Yingling](#); [Jerry Mallams](#); [Karen West](#); [Kenneth R. Herd](#); [Laura Donaldson](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mark Barcelo](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Sid Flannery](#); [Tammy Hinkle](#); [Veronica Crow](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Xinjian Chen](#); [Yassert Gonzalez](#)
Subject: Recent in/out for Spring MFLs
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 10:26:00 AM
Attachments: [3032 Combined Comments 3004-3006, 3026,3027, 3029, 3031.pdf](#)

Stakeholder comments and staff responses received/sent since the Board packet was mailed.

Douglas A. Leeper
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Water Resources Bureau
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Director of Science and Conservation
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Subject: RE: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River Plus Bathymetry/Bath Tub
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 8:58:57 AM

Doug,

Sorry for the slow response. You did respond to my question about timeframe in the e-mail where you provided your answers within the text of my advance questions, but you did not mention Kevin by name.

USGS must already have a stage area for both the SE Fork and Halls River Velocity meters sites and they do have raw velocity data every hour for the SE Fork (for over a year) and every 15 minutes for Halls River (for over 3 months). They must have a very good idea of the flows. Maybe they are not ready to publish the discharge data as approved, but surely they have some idea of how well the data matches the calculated data for the SE Fork. In the last year discharges have covered a broad spectrum from the almost record low levels in Weeki Wachee Well thru to the 18 plus feet; levels not seen for years. Halls River has experienced the highs and lows also; surely this reveals a much better data set than the very suspect tidally adjusted approach yeilded.

It is very disappointing that these valuable investments have not borne results before presentation of the report to the Governing Board.

If the 'preliminary data' from the velocity meters confirmed the calculated data I would have expected a rush to let everyone know.

Bathymetry data.

Thanks for sending the CD as I did not get a chance to download the file from the website before it was removed. My neighbor in Homosassa forwarded the CD to me and I got a chance to look at it this weekend. It took some time to translate State Plane readings to locations on the river, but I was impressed by the detail of the survey e.g. taking five depth readings at very close proximity before moving one to two meters to the next point.

Wang's data also shows the deep point in the river I found while investigating the "Bath tub" idea; in the Excel spreadsheet of centerline readings the deep point is on line 4954 with a depth of 3.76 meters below NAVD 88. The point I found as the deepest point is only some 6 feet from this point. As I have commented previously, **there must be some discharge at this point otherwise why has it not filled with sediment over the years.** The depth found in Wang's survey is so close to what I measured with the Secchi Disc (crude compared to Wang's instrumentation), it appears to indicate a reasonably stable situation over the years. I would speculate there is a reasonably strong discharge in that area. And as further evidence any avid manatee watcher knows the manatee like that area.

From my observations and speculation the discharge is thru a sediment rich blanket over the vent(s), and from the very few Specific Conductance readings may at times be more saline than other springs in the Homosassa River headwaters, possibly influenced more by stage change/seawater ingress.

To me this is another example of how important it is to combine the data available with carefully observation of what can be seen in the river to develop the necessary understanding to protect an Outstanding Florida Water which unfortunately is deteriorating.

I have a number of suggestions for follow up;

- adding this deep site to the quarterly sampling with bottom middle and top sampling (Doug I did share my September samplings with Chris, but do not recall if I shared with you)
- at the time of the next Field Measurements by USGS, run a discharge at the point where the river narrows (before the confluence with Halls River) as well as the SE Fork and the main springs run to determine any additional discharge; bearing in mind speculation the discharge from the deep center area may vary with stage
- **have some keen scuba divers take a closer look possibly using some dye cakes to help view the flow**

I realize resources are limited, but understanding the complexities of the rivers is critical to their future.

Martyn

From: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
Date: Mon, 15 Oct 2012 11:31:52 -0400
Subject: RE: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River

Martyn –

Hopefully I responded to your question concerning the time-frame for the United States Geological Survey's evaluation of the velocity data that has been collected over the past year in the Homosassa River system. In case I did not, I'm writing to let you know that Kevin Grimsley has told me that he anticipates the Survey will be completing an initial analyses of the data within a couple of months.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
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1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Alan Martyn Johnson [<mailto:martynellijay@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 7:34 AM
To: Doug Leeper
Cc: Ron Basso; Mike Heyl
Subject: Timeframe for Velocity data from investments at SE Fork and Halls River

Doug,

I was pleased to receive a confirmation and Thank You e-mail, regarding comment I posted on the web site; and noted that you are copied. Good job by whoever organized this; I was concerned comments were going to accumulate both unread as well as unanswered.

This e-mail is not directly about the MFL Reports, but about funding/investments.

We are within 10 days of the anniversary of the start of operation of the velocity meter at the SE Fork station (September 9 @ 12:15 hour). The most recent Field Measurements only add to the concerns I have previously expressed. I have copied the specific data below for ease of reference, but my concern is data collected from these investments, SE Fork and Halls River Velocity Meters, is not being made available. This is troubling as USGS is going to discontinue monitoring of some wells in the area due to lack of sponsorship, yet data from these recently funded projects is 'intentionally' hidden. I am sure you are aware that velocity data from the Halls River 'new' site (installed March 2012) was on line for a few months before being 'hidden'. What is the sense in spending these scarce resources and not getting any value from them?

I would appreciate if you can share the timeframe for velocity data to be made available from these two sites in the Homosassa River. I appreciate there is more involved in converting velocity to discharge (determining stage area and how it changes with stage, plus verification by field measurements), but velocity as seen by the instrument is raw data and meaningful raw data.

FYI I have spoken to the manufacturer's technical personnel regarding location of these meters and how quickly meaning full data can be obtained, both velocity and discharge. Let's just say one year is difficult to understand and the SE Fork location is not ideal as it is at a location where flow direction changes significantly.

On a more positive note, the delay has at least given the chance to observe a range of conditions with Weeki Wachee Well starting around 15 ft. last September/October, dropping to a low of 10.86 ft. in May, and to the high of 18.84 ft. in July.

On a personal note I am pleased to see the significant increase in levels in the aquifer, due to tropical storm Debby, have resulted in improved quality of water emanating both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs. I will be in Homosassa the next two weeks and plan on monitoring the springs as I have in the past. Really interested to see if strong flow has reestablished at some of the smaller vents.

Doug, SWFWMD and us folks that pay the taxes which make all this possible need a timeframe for data from these investments with USGS.

Martyn

Recent Field Measurements Stream flow and 'as close as possible time' Calculated flow from USGS 02310688 SE Fork.

Meas. Number	Date	Time	Stream flow (ft ³ /s)	Calculated flow (ft ³ /s)
234	2012-08-16	14:49:08	74.3	37
233	2012-08-16	14:40:53	78.4	37
232	2012-08-16	14:23:38	78.7	
231	2012-08-16	14:16:06	70.7	
230	2012-08-16	14:09:03	77.8	43
229	2012-08-16	10:30:23	90.7	76

Time series observations from USGS 02310688 SE Fork

08/16/2012 10:15 EST	1.17 ^P	76 ^P	960 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.55 ^P
08/16/2012 10:30 EST	1.15 ^P	76 ^P	970 ^P	24.4 ^P	0.53 ^P
08/16/2012 10:45 EST	1.13 ^P	76 ^P	950 ^P	24.3 ^P	0.51 ^P
08/16/2012 11:00 EST	1.11 ^P	77 ^P	930 ^P	24.1 ^P	0.49 ^P
08/16/2012 11:15 EST	P	P	980 ^P	24.3 ^P	P
08/16/2012 11:30 EST	1.12 ^P	64 ^P	980 ^P	24.4 ^P	0.50 ^P
08/16/2012 11:45 EST	1.15 ^P	55 ^P	980 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.53 ^P
08/16/2012 12:00 EST	1.21 ^P	42 ^P	970 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.59 ^P
08/16/2012 12:15 EST	P	P	1,040 ^P	24.5 ^P	P
08/16/2012 12:30 EST	1.28 ^P	37 ^P	960 ^P	24.7 ^P	0.66 ^P
08/16/2012 12:45 EST	1.34 ^P	41 ^P	1,240 ^P	24.3 ^P	0.72 ^P
08/16/2012 13:00 EST	1.37 ^P	53 ^P	1,130 ^P	24.4 ^P	0.75 ^P
08/16/2012 13:15 EST	P	P	1,330 ^P	24.5 ^P	P
08/16/2012 13:30 EST	1.47 ^P	23 ^P	1,300 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.85 ^P
08/16/2012 13:45 EST	1.52 ^P	43 ^P	1,180 ^P	24.6 ^P	0.90 ^P
08/16/2012 14:00 EST	1.57 ^P	43 ^P	1,100 ^P	24.5 ^P	0.95 ^P
08/16/2012 14:15 EST	P	P	950 ^P	24.8 ^P	P
08/16/2012 14:30 EST	1.68 ^P	16 ^P	1,250 ^P	24.6 ^P	1.06 ^P
08/16/2012 14:45 EST	1.74 ^P	37 ^P	1,050 ^P	24.7 ^P	1.12 ^P
08/16/2012 15:00 EST	1.79 ^P	40 ^P	1,210 ^P	24.6 ^P	1.17 ^P

Blue colored data is using a 30 minute stage change and is not comparable.

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From: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov
To: [Mike Heyl](#)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 4:16:06 PM

Mike,

Thanks for the reply. I understand.

This may seem like a strange request, but in order for me to keep a clear record of the "email thread" I like to save messages in pdfs "as one message". Would it be possible to send your reply with the message I sent as a history? If not, don't worry about it, I can piece it together!

I will hopefully see you and Doug on the 30th, but look forward to discussing the problem of monitoring the river in the future.

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Project Leader
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
Crystal River, FL 34429
(P) 352-563-2088
(F) 352-795-7961
▼ Mike Heyl <Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Mike Heyl
<Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

10/22/2012 06:57 AM

To "Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"
<Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>
cc Doug Leeper
<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Subject Chassahowitzka MFL comments

Boyd – I saw your MFL comments come through. We will definitely be in touch with regard to monitoring, but I did want to address the water level issue. Since the Chassahowitzka is below sea level for the entire extent, the change in elevation will be negligible as inflow from the Gulf will fill any voids.

We did run the hydrodynamic model to check the change in elevation with the original proposed 11% MFL. The average decrease in water level at the boat ramp will be 0.01 feet.

MGH

=====

Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist
Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

=====

Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau / SWFWMD (7:00 am - 3:30 pm)
7601 U.S. Highway 301 1-813-985-7481 Ext 2211
Tampa, FL 33637-6759 1-813-987-6747 (Fax)

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From: [Mike Heyl](#)
To: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 6:30:32 AM
Attachments: [Chassahowitzka MFL comments MGH repsonse.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Boyd – Here you go. See attached pdf

MGH

=====

Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist
Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

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From: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 4:06 PM
To: Mike Heyl
Cc: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka MFL comments

Mike,

Thanks for the reply. I understand.

This may seem like a strange request, but in order for me to keep a clear record of the "email thread" I like to save messages in pdfs "as one message". Would it be possible to send your reply with the message I sent as a history? If not, don't worry about it, I can piece it together!

I will hopefully see you and Doug on the 30th, but look forward to discussing the problem of monitoring the river in the future.

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
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▼ Mike Heyl <Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Mike Heyl
<Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

10/22/2012 06:57 AM

To "Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"
<Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>
cc Doug Leeper
<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Subject Chassahowitzka MFL comments

Boyd – I saw your MFL comments come through. We will definitely be in touch with regard to monitoring, but I did want to address the water level issue. Since the Chassahowitzka is below sea level for the entire extent, the change in elevation will be negligible as inflow from the Gulf will fill any voids.

We did run the hydrodynamic model to check the change in elevation with the original proposed 11% MFL. The average decrease in water level at the boat ramp will be 0.01 feet.

MGH

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Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist

Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

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Tampa, Fl. 33637-6759 1-813-987-6747 (Fax)

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From: Mike Heyl
To: ["Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"](mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 6:55:00 AM

Boyd – I saw your MFL comments come through. We will definitely be in touch with regard to monitoring, but I did want to address the water level issue. Since the Chassahowitzka is below sea level for the entire extent, the change in elevation will be negligible as inflow from the Gulf will fill any voids.

We did run the hydrodynamic model to check the change in elevation with the original proposed 11% MFL. The average decrease in water level at the boat ramp will be 0.01 feet.

MGH

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Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist
Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Gwen Brown](#)
Cc: [Jet Houser](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: FW: MFL for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 18, 2012 10:45:05 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 11:07 PM
To: Executive
Subject: MFL for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

The Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge is primarily bordered to the North by the Homosassa River, and contains the mouth of the Chassahowitzka River within its boundary. The freshwater inflow from both these rivers is extremely important to the wildlife that the Refuge was established to protect for the American public. We are pleased to see that the SWFWMD has increased the recommended MFL for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers to 91% and 97% respectively. However, we are certainly concerned that if levels on the Chassahowitzka River were actually reduced by 9% (from present conditions) there could be potentially detrimental conditions for many species of wildlife. Refuge staff have witnessed extremely low water levels during low tides on the Chassahowitzka River. These extremely low water situations have resulted in virtually impassable or unnavigable water depths. This is a concern for boaters and for the endangered manatee. Of course, these extremes are not experienced very often, but it is a condition that can be assumed would increase in frequency and intensity if a 9% reduction in flow were to occur.

Former land use practices in the area around the Chassahowitzka River cannot be reversed, but the Chassahowitzka NWR is concerned with future land use practices that may have an impact on the resources we manage for all US citizens. The US Fish and Wildlife Service takes pride in the partnership we have cooperatively developed with the water management districts in Florida. The Chassahowitzka NWR staff are located within close proximity to the river systems discussed in this MFL proposal and we conduct numerous surveys for manatees, birds, whooping cranes, and we cooperate with various agencies and universities to answer more advanced biological questions.

Although Refuge management would feel more comfortable with higher flows allowed for the Chassahowitzka River, we are open to helping establish a monitoring plan that would include a partnership between our agencies. This partnership would hopefully prevent irreparable damage to the habitat in and around the Chassahowitzka River if water flow was

to further decrease. USFWS staff currently make numerous qualitative observations on habitat conditions, and that work will certainly continue. However, through this partnership, the USFWS and SWFWMD should prepare to monitor the effects of freshwater reduction on the estuary within the Refuge and surrounding areas. It is imperative to us that we protect the natural resources that have been entrusted to us by the US citizen and monitoring any proposed management activity (on or near the Refuge boundary) is a very important part of that. We hope that whatever MFL becomes implemented will also include requirements for monitoring the effects of future permitted freshwater withdrawals. We look forward to future cooperative endeavors with the SWFWMD that will help protect Florida's natural resources.

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Project Leader
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
Crystal River, FL 34429
(P) 352-563-2088
(F) 352-795-7961

From: Doug Leeper
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Cc: [Adrienne Vining](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Christopher Pettit](#); [Dave Dewitt](#); [Eric DeHaven](#); [Gary E. Williams](#); [Jay Yingling](#); [Jerry Mallams](#); [Karen West](#); [Kenneth R. Herd](#); [Laura Donaldson](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mark Barcelo](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Sid Flannery](#); [Tammy Hinkle](#); [Veronica Craw](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Xinjian Chen](#); [Yassert Gonzalez](#)
Bcc: [\(janicehowie@aol.com\)](#); ["Abdon Sidibie"](#); [Alex McPherson \(aamcpherson@msn.com\)](#); [Ann - 2 Hodgson \(ahodgson@gmail.com\)](#); [Ann Hodgson \(ahodgsonphd@gmail.com\)](#); [Bernard Berauer \(bfberauer@aol.com\)](#); [Beverly Overa \(boverly@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Bill Garvin \(wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Bob Caldwell \(Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com\)](#); [Brack Barker \(brack154@msn.com\)](#); [Brad Rimbey \(BWR.CRRRC@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Carl Matthai \(thebabesmimi@gmail.com\)](#); [Casey Emily \(fcnwr@atlantic.net\)](#); [Charles Dean \(dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov\)](#); [Charles Stonerock \(katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com\)](#); [Chris Safos \(chrissafos@embarqmail.com\)](#); [Czerwinski, Mike \(mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Darlene Herth \(2cetechnology21@gmail.com\)](#); [Darrell Snedecor \(president@citruscountyaudubon.com\)](#); [Don Hiers \(dhiers3@gmail.com\)](#); [Douglas Dame \(doug_dame@yahoo.com\)](#); [Elaine Luther \(barneyandcap@hotmail.com\)](#); [Emily Casey \(ecasey21@hotmail.com\)](#); [Emma Knight \(eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com\)](#); [George Harbin \(gharbin@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [George McClog \(classof47@gmail.com\)](#); [Gorgon O'Connor \(gorgon_o@yahoo.com\)](#); [Harry Steiner \(harry109@aol.com\)](#); ["Helen Spivey"](#); [Jack Calbeck \(calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us\)](#); [jane Perrin \(jcsperinmd@sbcglobal.net\)](#); [Jerry Morton \(JerrMorton@aol.com\)](#); [Jessie Gourlie \(gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com\)](#); [Jim Collins \(jimmiekey22@yahoo.com\)](#); [Jimmie Smith \(jimmie.smith@myfloridahouse.gov\)](#); [Joe Calamari](#); [John Lord \(jclord109@yahoo.com\)](#); [John Mayo \(freedomway1@gmail.com\)](#); [Karen Johnstone \(kjohns213@sbcglobal.net\)](#); [Kim Caldwell \(caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kim Dinkins \(kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org\)](#); [Linda Pierce \(tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Linda Vanderveen \(hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com\)](#); [Mary Anne Lynn \(mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Matthew Corona \(mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Max Rhinesmith \(rhinesmith@webtv.net\)](#); ["Amber Breland"](#); [Andy Houston \(ahouston@crystalriverfl.org\)](#); [Art Yerian \(Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); ["Ben Weiss"](#); ["Beth Hovinde"](#); [Brad Thorpe \(brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us\)](#); [Courtney Edwards \(cedwards@savethemanatee.org\)](#); [Dale Jones \(Jones@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Dana Bryan \(dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); ["Darrell Snedecor"](#); [David Hamilton \(countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us\)](#); [David Hankla \(david_hankla@fws.gov\)](#); [Don Wright \(wright@sura.org\)](#); [Dusty McDevitt \(mcdevitt@usgs.gov\)](#); [Ed Call \(marvin.call@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Eric Nagid \(eric.nagid@MyFWC.com\)](#); [FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address \(ffwccconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com\)](#); [J. J. Kenney \(jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us\)](#); [Jennene Norman-Vacha \(jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us\)](#); [Joyce Kleen@fws.gov](#); [Kandi Harper \(kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us\)](#); [Keith Ramos \(Keith.Ramos@fws.gov\)](#); [Kent Smith \(kent.smith2@myfwc.com\)](#); [Kevin Grimsley \(kgrims@usgs.gov\)](#); [Michael Lusk \(Michael_Lusk@fws.gov\)](#); [Mitchell Newberger \(mnewberger@verizon.net\)](#); [Nick Robbins \(Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); [Nicole Adimey \(Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov\)](#); [Paul Thomas \(paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Ron Mezich \(ron.mezich@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Shelly Yaun \(shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); [Toby Brewer \(Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); ["Tracy Colson"](#); ["Adkins, Jim"](#); ["Bitter, Jim"](#); ["Bryant, Richard"](#); ["Cantero, Vince"](#); ["Carpenter, Paul"](#); ["Cheek, Ken"](#); ["Daniels, Chase"](#); ["Dueker, Duane"](#); ["Gordon, Lisa-Perras"](#); ["Gramling, Hugh"](#); ["Harrelson, Cathy"](#); ["Hubbell, Pete"](#); ["Johnson, Eric"](#); ["Johnson, Martyn"](#); ["Keim, Robert"](#); ["Kincaid, Todd"](#); ["Kline, Allen"](#); ["Knight, Bob"](#); ["Knudson, Ross"](#); ["Overa, Tom"](#); ["Owen, Rick"](#); ["Parrow, Liz"](#); [Rolf Auermann \(rauerman@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); ["Rusnak, Teddi"](#); ["Tarochinoe, Joseph"](#); ["Watkins, Priscilla"](#); ["Watrous, Russell"](#); ["Weber, Ken"](#); ["Wilson, Roger"](#); ["WRWSA"](#); ["aquahab@gmail.com"](#); ["bocacatlover@gmail.com"](#); ["bruceseaman@zoho.com"](#); ["btrfly21@msn.com"](#); ["dancianca@live.com"](#); ["celesteas@gmail.com"](#); ["christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com"](#); ["citizen@fsmail.net"](#); ["casacross@bellsouth.net"](#); ["dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net"](#); ["dreandvicki@bellsouth.net"](#); ["earthy_wolf@hotmail.com"](#); ["ecocosm@bellsouth.net"](#); ["egarvett@gmail.com"](#); ["gmorotti@gmail.com"](#); ["gregatourhouse@hotmail.com"](#); ["Gulf Restoration Network"](#); ["heylady1948@yahoo.com"](#); ["jlinabnw@att.net"](#); ["jumbys8@yahoo.com"](#); ["karensmith187@gmail.com"](#); ["licy75@aol.com"](#); ["linda@perry.net"](#); ["lbalaw@gmail.com"](#); ["mccunesfla@aol.com"](#); ["mejides@yahoo.com"](#); ["mshargel@gmail.com"](#); ["mwalker13fr@gmail.com"](#); ["pete22roc@aol.com"](#); ["prunemstr@aol.com"](#); ["rebeccaruby@msn.com"](#); ["riverguide2000@yahoo.com"](#); ["robertadever@yahoo.com"](#); ["robsand@bellsouth.net"](#); ["ronm430@aol.com"](#); ["rrriley71@att.net"](#); ["rst333@hotmail.com"](#); ["salleeba@me.com"](#); ["ssiegmenn@gmail.com"](#); ["staceydanels@shellpoint.org"](#); ["sunpreston@gmail.com"](#); ["sunwrent@aol.com"](#); ["tonyke@yahoo.com"](#); ["warrior_red@hotmail.com"](#); ["zeroggirl@gmail.com"](#); ["ahlers.karen@gmail.com"](#); ["apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com"](#); ["catsandcrocs@yahoo.com"](#); ["cattleya@comcast.net"](#); ["dan-lesley@att.net"](#); ["detororachel@yahoo.com"](#); ["gunnhonican@aol.com"](#); ["jackyboy86@gmail.com"](#); ["jehallh20@aol.com"](#); ["jimbrunton@yahoo.com"](#); ["kbolomey@aol.com"](#); ["l.j.travers@gmail.com"](#); ["lazygin@bellsouth.net"](#); ["lfurgal@yahoo.com"](#); ["lrdevine@yahoo.com"](#); ["lrpm2@yahoo.com"](#); ["lrpm22@gmail.com"](#); ["meem4822@aol.com"](#); ["melissa.allen@hotmail.com"](#); ["missyno@bellsouth.net"](#); ["obyrrnen@bellsouth.net"](#); ["pittpowers@hotmail.com"](#); ["popcomic@tampabay.rr.com"](#); ["rfay808700@aol.com"](#); ["rhinopias@comcast.net"](#); ["scott.logan@aon.com"](#); ["segnbora@gmail.com"](#); ["snorklmikey@yahoo.com"](#); ["studio8@infionline.net"](#); ["tabdolphins@yahoo.com"](#); ["tno2007@aol.com"](#); ["vaughan@fireflyclay.com"](#); ["youelyoga@gmail.com"](#); ["ziffel1@bellsouth.net"](#); ["aairis@aol.com"](#); ["babij204@msn.com"](#); ["ban260zz@yahoo.com"](#); ["bv@wvmlaw.com"](#); ["Cheek, Ken"](#); ["crmclone@moose-mail.com"](#); ["dirgis3@aol.com"](#); ["dougpowless@hotmail.com"](#); ["facwetkat@hotmail.com"](#); ["faithoogs@gmail.com"](#); ["firewaterair@gmail.com"](#); ["gomerlu@yahoo.com"](#); ["jacketchmson@hotmail.com"](#); ["jnovotny@comcast.net"](#); ["jrjzr@yahoo.com"](#); ["keth@awakening-healing.com"](#); ["Kraye, Gus"](#); ["lbedinger@yahoo.com"](#); ["long5892@bellsouth.net"](#); ["lori_mccraney@yahoo.com"](#); ["mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net"](#); ["masonfamily@centurylink.net"](#); ["morgan@cc-events.org"](#); ["navistar@wildmail.com"](#); ["parnelx@cfi.rr.com"](#); ["quehoreaes7@aol.com"](#); ["rantala.mervi@gmail.com"](#); ["robin@greenerpixels.com"](#); ["saralee.lem@gmail.com"](#); ["scooke1107@hotmail.com"](#); ["segoci@aol.com"](#); ["sharonbrich@yahoo.com"](#); ["skeiser@dadeschools.net"](#); ["slnofear@aol.com"](#); ["tcglover58@hotmail.com"](#); ["tcsmith57@hotmail.com"](#); ["terry@awakening-healing.com"](#); ["treehugger52768@gmail.com"](#); ["vinnymullins@live.com"](#); ["cdlaughlin@tampabay.rr.com"](#); ["chrislaughlin@tampabay.rr.com"](#);

["diann@tampabay.rr.com"](mailto:diann@tampabay.rr.com); ["flkrkr@yahoo.com"](mailto:flkrkr@yahoo.com); ["hm4v08@yahoo.com"](mailto:hm4v08@yahoo.com); ["jzeto1@tampabay.rr.com"](mailto:jzeto1@tampabay.rr.com); ["kschulz26@tampabay.rr.com"](mailto:kschulz26@tampabay.rr.com); ["lbarth4544@aol.com"](mailto:lbarth4544@aol.com); ["maxineconnor@gmail.com"](mailto:maxineconnor@gmail.com); ["mrawjones@aol.com"](mailto:mrawjones@aol.com); ["nancyargenziano@gmail.com"](mailto:nancyargenziano@gmail.com); Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com); Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us); Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com); Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov); Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com); Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us); Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com); Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov); Greenwood, Kathleen; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net); Hoehn, Ted; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com); Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com); Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org); Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org); Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us); Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov); Richard Radack (rradack@cityofbrooksville.us); Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com); Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com); Sullivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com); Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us); Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com)

Subject: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:13:00 AM

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

A meeting agenda and information document for the meeting are now available on the District web site. The Chassahowitzka-Homosassa minimum flows discussion is identified in these documents as agenda item number 21.

The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

The meeting information document is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/notebooks/govboard_10-30-12_notebook_2245.pdf

Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
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1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["drsu@ymail.com"](mailto:drsu@ymail.com)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: Springs Coast MFL
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:43:00 AM

Dr. Zimmer:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
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352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:09 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
Subject: FW: Springs Coast MFL

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Susan Zimmer [<mailto:drsu@ymail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 4:24 PM
To: info
Subject: Springs Coast MFL

SWFWMD
Governing Board

I am a resident of Citrus County.

I do not favor any further reductions in water flow. The springs and rivers are already low, unhealthy, and actually need **more** flow to provide a healthy environment for fish, vegetation, drinking water, etc.

It is sad and scary to continually see various Springs, which provide our only drinking water, become stagnant and dry up.

Prevention is more sensible than Restoration (attempts).

Desalination, as an example, is too costly, etc., especially while we have the **opportunity to save** the precious Springs.

Thank you

Dr Susan Zimmer

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["JaniceHowie@aol.com"](mailto:JaniceHowie@aol.com)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:46:00 AM

Ms. Howie:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:11 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: JaniceHowie@aol.com [<mailto:JaniceHowie@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Executive
Subject: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers

The Federal Clean Water act does not allow for the degradation of these rivers, or any other rivers in the state. Your proposed MFL's for the Homosassa at 3% and the Chasahowitzka at 9 % would allow by your studies up to 15% degradation to the wildlife and environment of these rivers. Think about what will happen to these rivers

and to the conflict that will occur with the EPA if this degradation is allowed to happen. Wouldn't it be prudent to proactively ovoid this damage to our rivers.

Jan Howie
Conservation Chairman
Nature Coast Native Plant Society

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["hkck5@embargmail.com"](mailto:hkck5@embargmail.com)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:48:00 AM

Ms. Klein:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Gwen Brown; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
Subject: FW: Chassahowitzka

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: cindy [<mailto:hkck5@embargmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 12:54 PM
To: Executive
Cc: Executive
Subject: Chassahowitzka

Please don't take any more fresh water from the spring system of the Chassahowitzka or Homosassa Rivers. As you know, both are in peril. Let whoever wants our most precious resource on the nature coast to invest in a desalinization facility. There is plenty of fresh water in our gulf. May I even suggest the Florida cross barge canal system as the perfect location for such a project. Eventually it will come

to this anyway, why not lead the way. You have the power. Thank You. Chassahowitzka resident for 30 years, in love with the nature coast, the State of Florida and thankful for our State Land programs and Government Organizations set up to protect our natural resources. Cindy Klein

From: [Dan](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 12:26:01 PM

On 10/23/2012 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper wrote:

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

A meeting agenda and information document for the meeting are now available on the District web site. The Chassahowitzka-Homosassa minimum flows discussion is identified in these documents as agenda item number 21.

The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

Thanks Doug, do appreciate that. Can you give me an idea how long it might take the GB to work thru the consent agenda?

Dan

The meeting information document is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/notebooks/govboard_10-30-12_notebook_2245.pdf

Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Dan"](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 1:33:00 PM

Dan – should be pretty quick. Fifteen minutes to half an hour tops, I would think.

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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Dan [<mailto:2buntings@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 12:28 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

On 10/23/2012 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper wrote:

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

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From: [Dan](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 1:59:36 PM

Thanks.

D

On 10/23/2012 1:33 PM, Doug Leeper wrote:

Dan – should be pretty quick. Fifteen minutes to half an hour tops, I would think.

Douglas A. Leeper
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Dan [<mailto:2buntings@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 12:28 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

On 10/23/2012 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper wrote:

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:12:12 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: J Gurlie [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 4:49 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels have warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

J Gurlie
Littleton, Colorado

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/south-west-florida-water-management-district-governing-board-no-reduction-in-flow-to-the-spring-fed-chassahowitzka-and-homosassa-rivers>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:38:00 PM

Dear J. Gurlie:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:12 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: J Gurlie [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 4:49 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

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Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

J Gurlie
Littleton, Colorado

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/south-west-florida-water-management-district-governing-board-no-reduction-in-flow-to-the-spring-fed-chassahowitzka-and-homosassa-rivers>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:13:00 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Amie Marx [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:25 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Amie Marx
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:46:00 PM

Ms. Marx:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:13 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Amie Marx [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:25 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Amie Marx
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:13:37 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: John Reed [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:47 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

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The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Protection of habitat.

John Reed
Largo, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:49:00 PM

Mr. Reed:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:14 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: John Reed [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:47 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Protection of habitat.

John Reed
Largo, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:14:51 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Mike Pici [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:37 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Mike Pici
Largo, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:51:00 PM

Mr. Pici:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:15 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Mike Pici [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:37 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Mike Pici
Largo, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:15:32 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Terry Lemke [mailto:mail@change.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 9:06 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

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Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

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Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

preservation of the Manatees!!

Terry Lemke
Irving, Texas

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:52:00 PM

Greeting Terry:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:16 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Terry Lemke [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 9:06 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and

Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

preservation of the Manatees!!

Terry Lemke
Irving, Texas

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:16:08 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Lis Lemoine [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

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The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Lis Lemoine
Chicago, Illinois

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:55:00 PM

Dear Ms. Lemoine:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:16 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Lis Lemoine [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 9:23 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

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Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Lis Lemoine
Chicago, Illinois

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:16:58 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Dave Wilson [mailto:mail@change.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 10:13 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Dave Wilson
Gainesville, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:57:00 PM

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
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352-796-7211, ext. 4272
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:17 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Dave Wilson [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 10:13 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Dave Wilson
Gainesville, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:18:46 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Charles Laughlin [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 10:14 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Having lived on the Homosassa River for more than 20 years and having had access to it for over 60 years, we have seen the decline of the River due to the reduction in flow to the springs at the river's headwaters. To arbitrarily and artificially reduce this flow further for ANY reason is irresponsible stewardship of our environment.

Charles Laughlin
Homosassa, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 4:59:00 PM

Dear Mr. Laughlin:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:19 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Charles Laughlin [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 10:14 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

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Thank you.

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Charles Laughlin
Homosassa, Florida

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Gwen Brown](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:19:29 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Judy Leslie [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 4:36 AM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Judy Leslie
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:01:00 PM

Dear Ms. Leslie:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:19 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Ron Basso; Gwen Brown; Virginia Singer
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
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Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 4:36 AM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Judy Leslie
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: WaterMatters.org
To: saveinandchangeuingthins1028@gmail.com
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Thanks for your Springs Coast MFL working group comments
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 10:41:51 AM



Hi Sally,

Thank you for your comments concerning the District's Springs Coast Minimum Flows and Levels Workshop Series.

Your input will be reviewed and will support management decisions regarding the data and methods used to establish and/or reevaluate minimum flows for important river and spring systems of the Springs Coast.

Please Note: At this time the District will not be responding to submitted comments.

Your Comments:

From: cathyharrelson@gmail.com on behalf of [Cathy Harrelson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 3:35:51 PM

Thanks Doug.

Question - If folks can't attend, can they email? I see a mailing address in there but the reality for most people is that email is the way they communicate. I'm currently showing email addresses of executive@watermatters.org for the Governing Board and info@watermatters.org for the ombudsman, in addition to your email address.

These are the addresses we'll be using, so I'm sure you can expect some comments.

Sincerely,

Cathy Harrelson

Florida Organizer

Gulf Restoration Network

cathy@healthygulf.org

727-415-8805

<http://healthygulf.org/>

On Tue, Oct 23, 2012 at 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us> wrote:

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

A meeting agenda and information document for the meeting are now available on the District web site. The Chassahowitzka-Homosassa minimum flows discussion is identified in these documents as agenda item number 21.

The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

The meeting information document is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/notebooks/govboard_10-30-12_notebook_2245.pdf

Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

Douglas A. Leeper

Chief Environmental Scientist

Water Resources Bureau

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

[1-800-423-1476](tel:1-800-423-1476), ext. 4272 (FL only)

[352-796-7211](tel:352-796-7211), ext. 4272

[352-754-6885](tel:352-754-6885) (Fax)

doug.leeper@watermatters.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

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From: Doug Leeper
To: ["cathyharrelson@gmail.com"](mailto:cathyharrelson@gmail.com)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:14:00 PM

Hi Kathy:

We certainly accept and read e-mails. The addresses listed in your e-mail will work, but I would suggest that using the executive address will be sufficient. You can copy me if you like, but all e-mails to "executive" pertaining to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa minimum flow recommendations will be forwarded to me and other staff.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: cathyharrelson@gmail.com [mailto:cathyharrelson@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Cathy Harrelson
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 3:36 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Thanks Doug.

Question - If folks can't attend, can they email? I see a mailing address in there but the reality for most people is that email is the way they communicate. I'm currently showing email addresses of executive@watermatters.org for the Governing Board and info@watermatters.org for the ombudsman, in addition to your email address. These are the addresses we'll be using, so I'm sure you can expect some comments.

Sincerely,

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Florida Organizer
Gulf Restoration Network
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--

From: [Alan Martyn Johnson](#)
Cc: [Adrienne Vining](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Christopher Pettit](#); [Dave Dewitt](#); [Karen West](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Sid Flannery](#); [Veronica Crow](#); [Xinjian Chen](#); [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Rule 40D Amendments
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 8:38:15 AM

I trust you have (or will) read and are able to fully explain the proposed **Amendments to RULE 40D-8.041, F.A.C.** included in the Notebook for the October 30 2012 Governing Board Meeting. These Amendments were not included in the revised reports.

My concerns are with quantifying withdrawals to define natural flow and the use of the previous days natural flow in the wording.

Quote

*"**Natural flow** is defined for the purpose of this rule as the flow that would exist in the absence of water **withdrawal** impacts. The Minimum Flow at any **point downstream** from these Gages is measured as the **previous day's natural flow** at that point minus 3%" .*

End Quote

Similar wording for Chassahowitzka.

Everyone in SWFWMD who has been involved in drafting these rule amendments needs to be able to explain exactly what this wording means in practical terms.

We all need to hear from SWFWMD's legal personel their rationale for basing Minimum Flows on the previous day's natural flow and how pumpage will be determined.

Additionally, recognized flow downstream of these gages are in short distance increased to by Halls River and Crab Creek, thus the downstream wording appears to require explanation.

As I carefully read these amendments it is difficult to see how they are of any practical value to define when the minimum flow has been reached. The flows as reported at the specified USGS Gage Sites do not include any measure of groundwater withdrawals. Withdrawals are not measured and are not presented in the reports, other than as approximations and comments: (focusing on the Homosassa Report);

- *"..reduced spring discharge to the river system by **approximately** 1 percent."* Page 20
- *"..in 2005, groundwater withdrawals within five miles of the Homosassa Main Springs averaged 1.3 mgd , and averaged 8.2 mgd within ten miles of the spring complex" Page 64 Note:1.3 mgd (2 cfs) 8.2 mgd (12 cfs)*
- *"Given the relatively minor (1.1 percent) **potential** impact of withdrawals on spring discharge" Page 66*
- In Table 2-4 page 66 the 2005 withdrawals are 2.31 cfs Table 2-5 page 67 the withdrawals for 2030 are shown as 5.13 cfs as predicted by the Northern District Model
- *"This natural flow **may be** calculated based on withdrawal-impact corrected combined flows measured at...02310678...02310688, or based on modeled flows developed through application of numerical or statistical models."* Page 201/2
- Synthetic natural flow record is discussed in connection with the 5 and 10 year moving average statistics page 202, but synthetic natural flows are not used in any of the modeling e.g. calibration and validation periods. Baseline flows are used.

In the above there is lack of clarity:

- The 2005 figures for withdrawals within five/ten miles fails to mention Crystal River and Chassahowitzka Springs are six miles from Homosassa.
- The NDM covers a large area (10,000 sq mls) and it is difficult to accept, despite staffs assertion otherwise, this model can accurately predict changes of 0.05 cfs over a 25 year period for individual springs. 10 miles radius from Homosassa is 0.15% of this models area.
- Lists of permitted water withdrawals in Citrus County furnished by SWFWMD identify 42 mgd or about 65 cfs. (It did not include the wells not requiring a WUP).

For practical understanding consider some reported flows at the Homosassa gage sites (02310678 and 02310688).

The reported flow at both the gage sites was about 30% less in early June 2012 than at present. This results from the difference in the level in the aquifer Weeki Wachee Well.

In round numbers the combined flow was 100cfs early June and is now 150cfs. Both of these are 'natural flow less withdrawals'. Where are the groundwater withdrawals quantified? Are the withdrawals a constant percentage of discharge, or a constant volume per day? Could withdrawals 20 miles away have an influence?

Appears the best we have is withdrawals as presented in Table 2-4 where the NDM presents 2005 combined pumpage of 0.97 cfs for the six springs; Halls River and Hidden River are not monitored at the above gage sites. 2005 NDM data is seven years old, where are todays withdrawals reported, preferably without being based on a myriad of assumptions used in the model.

EXTRACTS FROM THE NOTEBOOK FOR THE OCTOBER 30 MEETING

EXHIBIT D

(b) The Minimum Flow for the Homosassa River System is 97% of the combined natural flow as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Homosassa Springs at Homosassa Springs, FL Gage (No. 02310678), and the USGS SE Fork Homosassa Spring at Homosassa Springs, FL Gage (No. 02310688). Natural flow is defined for the purpose of this rule as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawal impacts. The Minimum Flow at **any point downstream** from these Gages are measured as the **previous day's natural flow** at that point minus 3%.

EXHIBIT B

(b) The Minimum Flow for the Chassahowitzka River System is 91% of the natural flow as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Gage Chassahowitzka River near Homosassa (Gage No. 02310650). Natural flow is defined for the purpose of this rule as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawal impacts. The Minimum Flow at any **point downstream** from this Gage is measured as the **previous day's natural flow** at that point minus 9%.

Martyn

Numbers to support my point. Daily change each gage site as well as combined is shown.

Before someone points out the USGS Data for these dates still shows as provisional (June was last years Water Year and would normally have been approved by now). USGS daily data is based on a 24 hour day not a 24.84 hour tidal cycle.

Discharge cfs and Percent Change from Previous Day

June 2012

2012	SE Fork		H Springs		Combined	
1	51		54		105	
2	52	102%	53	98%	105	100%
3	56	108%	61	115%	117	111%
4	48	86%	58	95%	106	91%
5	38	79%	52	90%	90	85%
6	35	92%	46	88%	81	90%
7	42	120%	51	111%	93	115%
8	45	107%	57	112%	102	110%
9	44	98%	64	112%	108	106%
10	46	105%	64	100%	110	102%
11	47	102%	67	105%	114	104%
12	45	96%	68	101%	113	99%
13	40	89%	64	94%	104	92%
14	43	108%	67	105%	110	106%
15	42	98%	72	107%	114	104%

October 2012

2012	SE Fork		H Springs		Combined	
1	62		82		144	
2	61	98%	76	93%	137	95%
3	66	108%	83	109%	149	109%
4	73	111%	89	107%	162	109%
5	73	100%	97	109%	170	105%
6	70	96%	94	97%	164	96%
7	69	99%	93	99%	162	99%
8	68	99%	90	97%	158	98%
9	76	112%	97	108%	173	109%
10	73	96%	99	102%	172	99%
11	76	104%	101	102%	177	103%
12	74	97%	103	102%	177	100%
13	75	101%	102	99%	177	100%
14	70	93%	99	97%	169	95%
15	66	94%	90	91%	156	92%

From: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Date: Tue, 23 Oct 2012 07:13:15 -0400
Subject: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

A meeting agenda and information document for the meeting are now available on the District web site. The Chassahowitzka-Homosassa minimum flows discussion is identified in these documents as agenda item number 21.

The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

The meeting information document is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/notebooks/govboard_10-30-12_notebook_2245.pdf

Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All E-mail sent to or from this address are public record and archived. The Southwest Florida Water Management District does not allow use of District equipment and E-mail facilities for non-District business purposes.

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:29:58 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Julie Jo [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1:51 AM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Julie Jo
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:20:00 PM

Dear Ms. Jo:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:30 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1:51 AM
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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Julie Jo
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:30:46 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Beth Foley [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 12:11 AM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Beth Foley
Chiefland, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:23:00 PM

Dear Ms. Foley:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:31 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 12:11 AM
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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Beth Foley
Chiefland, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:31:25 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Jaewon Lee [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 11:45 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Jaewon Lee
Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:25:00 PM

Dear Jaewon:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
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From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:31 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

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Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Jaewon Lee [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 11:45 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

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FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Jaewon Lee
Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:32:22 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: lucia fabbo [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 10:49 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

lucia fabbo
plainview, New York

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:27:00 PM

Dear Lucia:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:32 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: lucia fabbo [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 10:49 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

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Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

lucia fabbo
plainview, New York

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Louis Kovach](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1:27:02 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Louis Kovach
122 Bella Vista Ter Unit D
North Venice, FL 34275-6729
(941) 484-7683

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Louis Kovach"](#)
Subject: RE: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:31:00 PM

Dear Mr. Kovach:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Gulf Restoration Network [<mailto:info@healthygulf.org>] On Behalf Of Louis Kovach
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1:26 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Louis Kovach
122 Bella Vista Ter Unit D
North Venice, FL 34275-6729
(941) 484-7683

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:32:59 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: lee eunjung [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:49 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

lee eunjung
Samcheok-Si, Korea, Republic of

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:34:00 PM

Dear Lee:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:33 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: lee eunjung [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:49 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

lee eunjung

Samcheok-Si, Korea, Republic of

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:33:50 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: chris zacek [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:11 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

chris zacek
oak lawn, Illinois

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:36:00 PM

Dear Chris:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:34 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: chris zacek [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 9:11 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and

Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

chris zacek
oak lawn, Illinois

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:34:27 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: gary martin [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 6:41 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

gary martin
norton, Massachusetts

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:38:00 PM

Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:34 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 6:41 PM
To: Executive
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norton, Massachusetts

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:35:02 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: RD Martin [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 6:11 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

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These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

It is wrong to allow further degradation of Outstanding Florida Waters, and foolhardy to sacrifice resources on which life and economic well-being depend.

RD Martin
Inverness, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:40:00 PM

Dear RD Martin:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:35 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: RD Martin [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 6:11 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

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Inverness, Florida

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:35:42 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Senninha Seynaeve [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 5:56 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Senninha Seynaeve
Oostende, Wyoming

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Cc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:42:00 PM

Dear Senninha:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

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Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 5:56 PM
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Chassahowitzka Rivers.

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Thank you.

Senninha Seynaeve
Oostende, Wyoming

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36:21 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Thomas and Donna Dorwarth [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Both of these "Florida Outstanding Waters" have already experienced substantial degradation and now urgently need your help in Restoring them to the more pristine, natural conditions present at the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters.

The spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species, including the West Indian Manatee, that rely on the fresh water habitats for their continued survival. These rare springs and the myriad of fresh water fish, birds, and wildlife that they support are also essential to the area's Eco-tour and fishing economy.

Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters, and without these familiar winter refuges, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka's returning manatees would perish.

Any further reduction in fresh water flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the saline waters of the Gulf, and in worse-case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of fresh water to the springs and make them too brackish to support the fresh water species (bass, sunfish, apple snail, aquatic plants, terrestrial fresh water habitats, etc.) presently living there, and too cold to provide life-saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.

FFWCC Peer review of the proposed Minimum Flows and Levels warned that the proposed reductions of fresh water flow could lead to "extirpation" of saline intolerant species. Residents and biologists familiar with the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers have observed declines in water quality, die-off of salt intolerant fresh water plants, and a movement of saline-influenced habitats farther up stream towards the springs. It is essential that you deny further reductions in flow, and make every effort to preserve the existing fresh water flow, and if possible, restore spring quality to that which would insure continued survival of the freshwater dependent habitats and species.

Rare and imperiled species of plants and animals (from Old Growth Cypress and terrestrial orchids to southeastern fresh water mussels, Chassahowitzka Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, Manatees, and others) rely on the spring runs and associated fresh water habitats of the Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Riverine Swamp Sanctuary and forested wetlands for their continued survival.

The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa spring-fed fresh water ecosystems are too precious to degrade any further, or risk "extirpating" forever by increased salt water intrusion.

These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the sprawling fresh water forested wetlands they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife).

The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

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Thomas and Donna Dorwarth
Crystal River, Florida

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From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Bcc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:45:00 PM

Dear Thomas & Donna:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Thomas and Donna Dorwarth [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

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The undersigned implore SWFWMD's Governing Board, the State Legislature, and the Governor of Florida to deny any further reduction in flow to the spring-fed Homosassa and

Chassahowitzka Rivers.

Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

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Thomas and Donna Dorwarth
Crystal River, Florida

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:36:52 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Niki Jones [mailto:mail@change.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Niki Jones
Satellite Beach, Florida

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From: Doug Leeper
To: ["mail@change.org"](mailto:mail@change.org)
Bcc: [Dianna Brass](#); [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#)
Subject: RE: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:47:00 PM

Dear Ms. Jones:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:37 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Mike Heyl; Doug Leeper; Ron Basso; Virginia Singer; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Niki Jones [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 5:40 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

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Thank you.

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:39:23 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Becky Ayech [<mailto:mail@change.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 3:05 PM
To: Executive
Subject: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Greetings,

Dear SWFWMD Governing Board,

We implore you to deny any reductions in flow to the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Becky Ayech
Sarasota, Florida

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: No Reduction in Flow to the Spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:39:23 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

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Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 3:05 PM
To: Executive
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Please say "NO" to reductions in flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

Thank you.

Becky Ayech
Sarasota, Florida

Note: this email was sent as part of a petition started on Change.org, viewable at <http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow>. To respond, [click here](#) ||

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: Homosassa Minimum Flows and Levels
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:40:16 AM
Attachments: [10-23-2012 Letter to SWFWMD Board.doc](#)

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 11:58 AM
To: Executive
Subject: Homosassa Minimum Flows and Levels

October 24, 2012

Governing Board

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

Subject: Staff Recommended Springs Coast MFL Rules

“..... The Water Management District is setting the stage for groundwater withdrawals that will permanently lower the river’s flow to the MFL level.....”

Sonny Vergara, Executive Director, SWFWMD 1997-2003.

Dear Governing Board Members,

The SWFWMD Minimum Flow Levels (MFL) program has set reduced river flow levels to be used in the water permitting process. This effectively sets

consumptive objectives: 9% for the Chassahowitzka River, 3% for the Homosassa River. Planners and engineers have already defined where the well fields will be for “regional distribution” of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka water. Just this summer a permit was issued for pumping and shipping nearly a hundred thousand gallons a day from Crystal River to Ocala.

Initially the flow reduction targets of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers were set at 5 and 11 percent respectively. After two years of re-evaluation these numbers were reduced by 2 percent. That is an important recognition of the sensitivity of these estuaries but it does not go far enough. SWFWMD has not recognized the stressed state of these coastal rivers and the profound changes that are taking place right now with our current level of water withdrawals. They have not recognized that these have both been designated as Outstanding Florida Waterways to provide legal protection against degradation.

An estuary is a transition area where fresh and salt waters are constantly shifting and mixing due to a tidal influence. A very sensitive, low salinity zone that is fundamental to the aquatic web of life exists near the springs. Reducing spring flow destroys this zone and the many fish, crabs and other critters that depend on it. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka are a highly productive estuaries... and are highly sensitive to reduced spring flow.

A disturbing University of Florida study showed a steady decline in fish in the Homosassa from 2007 to 2010. In fact UF eventually stopped counting fish in the area near Otter Creek because of the total lack of fish and vegetation. We started calling this a “dead zone” and invited Gov. Scott to come see it. He put us in touch with the DEP folks responsible for our State Coastal Waterways. A team of DEP and SWFWMD scientists came to investigate. What they found was not just a dead zone, but a dead river! SWFWMD Spokesperson Robyn Felix said:

“We have looked at the plant life in the Homosassa River and it is correct that they are dying, but we don’t know why.”

Aquatic vegetation has rapidly disappeared and is dead in most of the river. There is no good explanation of this except it appears to be related to a change in salinity at the springs. The proposed MFL flow reductions will further diminish the spring flows and greatly aggravate this situation.

You often hear of environmental tipping points where the delicate balance of nature and man falls out of line and something (usually nature) crashes. The Homosassa is at a tipping point.

There are choices to be made. Clearly you can choose to protect these unique, fragile, already impacted, coastal springs and rivers. Or you can choose to authorize their destruction.

The highly stressed condition of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers must be recognized and the MFL flow reductions set to zero.

Sincerely,

Ron Miller
Vice President, Homosassa River Alliance
352-628-6066
Rmille76@tampabay.rr.com

October 24, 2012

Governing Board
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

Subject: Staff Recommended Springs Coast MFL Rules

“..... The Water Management District is setting the stage for groundwater withdrawals that will permanently lower the river’s flow to the MFL level.....”
Sonny Vergara, Executive Director, SWFWMD 1997-2003.

Dear Governing Board Members,

The SWFWMD Minimum Flow Levels (MFL) program has set reduced river flow levels to be used in the water permitting process. This effectively sets consumptive objectives: 9% for the Chassahowitzka River, 3% for the Homosassa River. Planners and engineers have already defined where the well fields will be for “regional distribution” of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka water. Just this summer a permit was issued for pumping and shipping nearly a hundred thousand gallons a day from Crystal River to Ocala.

Initially the flow reduction targets of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers were set at 5 and 11 percent respectively. After two years of re-evaluation these numbers were reduced by 2 percent. That is an important recognition of the sensitivity of these estuaries but it does not go far enough. SWFWMD has not recognized the stressed state of these coastal rivers and the profound changes that are taking place right now with our current level of water withdrawals. They have not recognized that these have both been designated as Outstanding Florida Waterways to provide legal protection against degradation.

An estuary is a transition area where fresh and salt waters are constantly shifting and mixing due to a tidal influence. A very sensitive, low salinity zone that is fundamental to the aquatic web of life exists near the springs. Reducing spring flow destroys this zone and the many fish, crabs and other critters that depend on

it. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka are highly productive estuaries... and are highly sensitive to reduced spring flow.

A disturbing University of Florida study showed a steady decline in fish in the Homosassa from 2007 to 2010. In fact UF eventually stopped counting fish in the area near Otter Creek because of the total lack of fish and vegetation. We started calling this a “dead zone” and invited Gov. Scott to come see it. He put us in touch with the DEP folks responsible for our State Coastal Waterways. A team of DEP and SWFWMD scientists came to investigate. What they found was not just a dead zone, but a dead river!

SWFWMD Spokesperson Robyn Felix said:

“We have looked at the plant life in the Homosassa River and it is correct that they are dying, but we don’t know why.”

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Sincerely,

Ron Miller
Vice President, Homosassa River Alliance
352-628-6066
Rmille76@tampabay.rr.com

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: Homosassa Minimum Flows and Levels
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:40:16 AM
Attachments: [10-23-2012 Letter to SWFWMD Board.doc](#)

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 11:58 AM
To: Executive
Subject: Homosassa Minimum Flows and Levels

October 24, 2012

Governing Board

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

Subject: Staff Recommended Springs Coast MFL Rules

“..... The Water Management District is setting the stage for groundwater withdrawals that will permanently lower the river’s flow to the MFL level.....”

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Sincerely,

Ron Miller
Vice President, Homosassa River Alliance
352-628-6066
Rmille76@tampabay.rr.com

From: [Luanne Stout](#)
To: [Alba Mas](#); [Blake Guillory](#); [David Rathke](#); [Kurt Fritsch](#); [Laura Donaldson](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Mike Holtkamp](#); [Robert Beltran](#)
Cc: [Gwen Brown](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: Log Entry # 1.11.147613 10-25-2012 Larry A. Barnes
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 11:13:07 AM
Attachments: [10-22-2012 Larry A. Barnes.pdf](#)

FYI...

LuAnne Stout
Administrative Coordinator, x4605
Board & Executive Services Bureau

-----Original Message-----

From: CollabAdmin [<mailto:collabadmin@swfwmd.state.fl.us>]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 11:11 AM
To: Luanne Stout; Kenneth R. Herd
Subject: Log Entry # 1.11.147613 10-25-2012 Larry A. Barnes

Please click on the following link to open the document(s) (from a computer connected to District Network only)

<http://ecmvmprod01.ad.swfwmd.net/gm/folder-1.11.147613>

Subject: Larry A. Barnes sent a letter re: Gov Bd Mtg 10-30-2012 on MFLs for Homosassa River supporting revitalization not further degradation

Following is the tracking information for the above information:

Log#: 1.11.147613
Assigned To: Kenneth Herd
Assigned By: Carolyn Stout
Date Assigned: 10-25-2012
Date Completed: 10-25-2012
Date Required:

Source: Larry A. Barnes, resident of Homosassa, FL
Instructions: For your information and appropriate disposition.
Action Taken: Copied to Exec Leadership Team

Information Routed To: lou.kavouras@swfwmd.state.fl.us

Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad St
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899



Oct 22, 2012

Re: Governing Board Meeting, Resource Management Committee, Oct 30, 2012, Minimum Flows and Levels, Homosassa River


Request this statement be included into the record for this meeting.

My name is Larry A. Barnes and I live at 5601 S. Island Dr., Homosassa, FL 34448. Our home is on the Homosassa River. We have lived here since August 1993. Since that time we have witnessed a significant change in the river. We used to be able to catch largemouth bass and other freshwater fish right in back of our home; that ended several years later. Since then no freshwater fish are caught in our location on the river. I am not a biologist but I must conclude that the environmental conditions must have changed. I also operated tour boats for a local company on the Homosassa River and Mason Creek area for several years. I witnessed a change in the areas that alligators frequent. I am told that they do not tolerate areas where there is a high saline content. This must be the reason that they have moved further upstream in the river. I have also seen trees die further and further upstream. The locals say this is caused by salt water intrusion.

The river badly needs to be revitalized at this time unless your goal is to merely use it as a fresh water source and move the water to some other location. Decreasing the flow by small incremental amounts just means you will kill the ecosystem over a longer period of time and that is UNACCEPTABLE to me.

Do the RIGHT THING NOW and think in terms of revitalization not further degradation.

Sincerely,


Larry A. Barnes
5601 S. Island Dr
Homosassa, FL 34448

L. Barnes
Box 275
Homosassa, FL
34487



Southwest Florida Water Mgt District
2379 Broad St.
Brooksville, FL

3460436899

34604-6899

From: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov
To: [Mike Heyl](#)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 4:16:06 PM

Mike,

Thanks for the reply. I understand.

This may seem like a strange request, but in order for me to keep a clear record of the "email thread" I like to save messages in pdfs "as one message". Would it be possible to send your reply with the message I sent as a history? If not, don't worry about it, I can piece it together!

I will hopefully see you and Doug on the 30th, but look forward to discussing the problem of monitoring the river in the future.

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Project Leader
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
Crystal River, FL 34429
(P) 352-563-2088
(F) 352-795-7961
▼ Mike Heyl <Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Mike Heyl
<Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

10/22/2012 06:57 AM

To "Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"
<Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>
cc Doug Leeper
<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Subject Chassahowitzka MFL comments

Boyd – I saw your MFL comments come through. We will definitely be in touch with regard to monitoring, but I did want to address the water level issue. Since the Chassahowitzka is below sea level for the entire extent, the change in elevation will be negligible as inflow from the Gulf will fill any voids.

We did run the hydrodynamic model to check the change in elevation with the original proposed 11% MFL. The average decrease in water level at the boat ramp will be 0.01 feet.

MGH

=====

Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist
Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

=====

Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau / SWFWMD (7:00 am - 3:30 pm)
7601 U.S. Highway 301 1-813-985-7481 Ext 2211
Tampa, FL 33637-6759 1-813-987-6747 (Fax)

----- Note : District Limit for Incoming Email is 5 Megabytes -----

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From: [Mike Heyl](#)
To: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 6:30:32 AM
Attachments: [Chassahowitzka MFL comments MGH repsonse.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Boyd – Here you go. See attached pdf

MGH

=====

Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist
Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

=====

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From: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 4:06 PM
To: Mike Heyl
Cc: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka MFL comments

Mike,

Thanks for the reply. I understand.

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Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Project Leader
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
Crystal River, FL 34429
(P) 352-563-2088
(F) 352-795-7961
▼ Mike Heyl <Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Mike Heyl
<Mike.Heyl@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

10/22/2012 06:57 AM

To "Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"
<Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov>
cc Doug Leeper
<Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us>
Subject Chassahowitzka MFL comments

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MGH

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Michael G. Heyl - Chief Environmental Scientist

Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

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Natural Systems and Restoration Bureau / SWFWMD (7:00 am - 3:30 pm)

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From: Mike Heyl
To: ["Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov"](mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Chassahowitzka MFL comments
Date: Monday, October 22, 2012 6:55:00 AM

Boyd – I saw your MFL comments come through. We will definitely be in touch with regard to monitoring, but I did want to address the water level issue. Since the Chassahowitzka is below sea level for the entire extent, the change in elevation will be negligible as inflow from the Gulf will fill any voids.

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MGH

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Mike.Heyl@SWFWMD.state.fl.us or Mike.Heyl@WaterMatters.org

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From: [Executive](#)
To: [Gwen Brown](#)
Cc: [Jet Houser](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: FW: MFL for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers
Date: Thursday, October 18, 2012 10:45:05 AM

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov [mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2012 11:07 PM
To: Executive
Subject: MFL for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

The Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge is primarily bordered to the North by the Homosassa River, and contains the mouth of the Chassahowitzka River within its boundary. The freshwater inflow from both these rivers is extremely important to the wildlife that the Refuge was established to protect for the American public. We are pleased to see that the SWFWMD has increased the recommended MFL for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers to 91% and 97% respectively. However, we are certainly concerned that if levels on the Chassahowitzka River were actually reduced by 9% (from present conditions) there could be potentially detrimental conditions for many species of wildlife. Refuge staff have witnessed extremely low water levels during low tides on the Chassahowitzka River. These extremely low water situations have resulted in virtually impassable or unnavigable water depths. This is a concern for boaters and for the endangered manatee. Of course, these extremes are not experienced very often, but it is a condition that can be assumed would increase in frequency and intensity if a 9% reduction in flow were to occur.

Former land use practices in the area around the Chassahowitzka River cannot be reversed, but the Chassahowitzka NWR is concerned with future land use practices that may have an impact on the resources we manage for all US citizens. The US Fish and Wildlife Service takes pride in the partnership we have cooperatively developed with the water management districts in Florida. The Chassahowitzka NWR staff are located within close proximity to the river systems discussed in this MFL proposal and we conduct numerous surveys for manatees, birds, whooping cranes, and we cooperate with various agencies and universities to answer more advanced biological questions.

Although Refuge management would feel more comfortable with higher flows allowed for the Chassahowitzka River, we are open to helping establish a monitoring plan that would include a partnership between our agencies. This partnership would hopefully prevent irreparable damage to the habitat in and around the Chassahowitzka River if water flow was

to further decrease. USFWS staff currently make numerous qualitative observations on habitat conditions, and that work will certainly continue. However, through this partnership, the USFWS and SWFWMD should prepare to monitor the effects of freshwater reduction on the estuary within the Refuge and surrounding areas. It is imperative to us that we protect the natural resources that have been entrusted to us by the US citizen and monitoring any proposed management activity (on or near the Refuge boundary) is a very important part of that. We hope that whatever MFL becomes implemented will also include requirements for monitoring the effects of future permitted freshwater withdrawals. We look forward to future cooperative endeavors with the SWFWMD that will help protect Florida's natural resources.

Thanks,

boyd blihovde
Deputy Project Leader
Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1502 SE Kings Bay Drive
Crystal River, FL 34429
(P) 352-563-2088
(F) 352-795-7961

From: Doug Leeper
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Cc: [Adrienne Vining](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Christopher Pettit](#); [Dave Dewitt](#); [Eric DeHaven](#); [Gary E. Williams](#); [Jay Yingling](#); [Jerry Mallams](#); [Karen West](#); [Kenneth R. Herd](#); [Laura Donaldson](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mark Barcelo](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Sid Flannery](#); [Tammy Hinkle](#); [Veronica Craw](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Xinjian Chen](#); [Yassert Gonzalez](#)
Bcc: [\(janicehowie@aol.com\)](#); ["Abdon Sidibie"](#); [Alex McPherson \(aamcpherson@msn.com\)](#); [Ann - 2 Hodgson \(ahodgson@gmail.com\)](#); [Ann Hodgson \(ahodgsonphd@gmail.com\)](#); [Bernard Berauer \(bfberauer@aol.com\)](#); [Beverly Overa \(boverly@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Bill Garvin \(wgarvin@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Bob Caldwell \(Bobcaldwell51@yahoo.com\)](#); [Brack Barker \(brack154@msn.com\)](#); [Brad Rimbey \(BWR.CRRRC@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Carl Matthai \(thebabesmimi@gmail.com\)](#); [Casey Emily \(fcnwr@atlantic.net\)](#); [Charles Dean \(dean.charles.web@flsenate.gov\)](#); [Charles Stonerock \(katcha.stonerock3@gmail.com\)](#); [Chris Safos \(chrissafos@embarqmail.com\)](#); [Czerwinski, Mike \(mczerwin@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Darlene Herth \(2cetechnology21@gmail.com\)](#); [Darrell Snedecor \(president@citruscountyaudubon.com\)](#); [Don Hiers \(dhiers3@gmail.com\)](#); [Douglas Dame \(doug_dame@yahoo.com\)](#); [Elaine Luther \(barneyandcap@hotmail.com\)](#); [Emily Casey \(ecasey21@hotmail.com\)](#); [Emma Knight \(eknight@wetlandsolutionsinc.com\)](#); [George Harbin \(gharbin@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [George McClog \(classof47@gmail.com\)](#); [Gorgon O'Connor \(gorgon_o@yahoo.com\)](#); [Harry Steiner \(harry109@aol.com\)](#); ["Helen Spivey"](#); [Jack Calbeck \(calbeckj@citrus.k12.fl.us\)](#); [jane Perrin \(jcsperinmd@sbcglobal.net\)](#); [Jerry Morton \(JerrMorton@aol.com\)](#); [Jessie Gourlie \(gourliej@thirdplanetwind.com\)](#); [Jim Collins \(jimmiekey22@yahoo.com\)](#); [Jimmie Smith \(jimmie.smith@myfloridahouse.gov\)](#); [Joe Calamari](#); [John Lord \(jclord109@yahoo.com\)](#); [John Mayo \(freedomway1@gmail.com\)](#); [Karen Johnstone \(kjohns213@sbcglobal.net\)](#); [Kim Caldwell \(caldwell.kimberly@yahoo.com\)](#); [Kim Dinkins \(kim.dinkins@marioncountyfl.org\)](#); [Linda Pierce \(tpierce35@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Linda Vanderveen \(hernandoaudubon@yahoo.com\)](#); [Mary Anne Lynn \(mlynn1978@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Matthew Corona \(mcorona1@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); [Max Rhinesmith \(rhinesmith@webtv.net\)](#); ["Amber Breland"](#); [Andy Houston \(ahouston@crystalriverfl.org\)](#); [Art Yerian \(Al.Yerian@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); ["Ben Weiss"](#); ["Beth Hovinde"](#); [Brad Thorpe \(brad.thorpe@bocc.citrus.fl.us\)](#); [Courtney Edwards \(cedwards@savethemanatee.org\)](#); [Dale Jones \(Jones@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Dana Bryan \(dana.bryan@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); ["Darrell Snedecor"](#); [David Hamilton \(countyadministrator@hernandocounty.us\)](#); [David Hankla \(david_hankla@fws.gov\)](#); [Don Wright \(wright@sura.org\)](#); [Dusty McDevitt \(mcdevitt@usgs.gov\)](#); [Ed Call \(marvin.call@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Eric Nagid \(eric.nagid@MyFWC.com\)](#); [FFWCC MFLs Review E-Mail Address \(ffwccconservationplanningservices@myfwc.com\)](#); [J. J. Kenney \(jj.kenney@bocc.citrus.fl.us\)](#); [Jennene Norman-Vacha \(jnvacha@ci.brooksville.fl.us\)](#); [Joyce Kleen@fws.gov](#); [Kandi Harper \(kandi.harper@bocc.citrus.fl.us\)](#); [Keith Ramos \(Keith.Ramos@fws.gov\)](#); [Kent Smith \(kent.smith2@myfwc.com\)](#); [Kevin Grimsley \(kgrims@usgs.gov\)](#); [Michael Lusk \(Michael_Lusk@fws.gov\)](#); [Mitchell Newberger \(mnewberger@verizon.net\)](#); [Nick Robbins \(Nick.Robbins@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); [Nicole Adimey \(Nicole_Adimey@fws.gov\)](#); [Paul Thomas \(paulw.thomas@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Ron Mezich \(ron.mezich@MyFWC.com\)](#); [Shelly Yaun \(shelly.yaun@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); [Toby Brewer \(Toby.Brewer@dep.state.fl.us\)](#); ["Tracy Colson"](#); ["Adkins, Jim"](#); ["Bitter, Jim"](#); ["Bryant, Richard"](#); ["Cantero, Vince"](#); ["Carpenter, Paul"](#); ["Cheek, Ken"](#); ["Daniels, Chase"](#); ["Dueker, Duane"](#); ["Gordon, Lisa-Perras"](#); ["Gramling, Hugh"](#); ["Harrelson, Cathy"](#); ["Hubbell, Pete"](#); ["Johnson, Eric"](#); ["Johnson, Martyn"](#); ["Keim, Robert"](#); ["Kincaid, Todd"](#); ["Kline, Allen"](#); ["Knight, Bob"](#); ["Knudson, Ross"](#); ["Overa, Tom"](#); ["Owen, Rick"](#); ["Parrow, Liz"](#); [Rolf Auermann \(rauerman@tampabay.rr.com\)](#); ["Rusnak, Teddi"](#); ["Tarochinoe, Joseph"](#); ["Watkins, Priscilla"](#); ["Watrous, Russell"](#); ["Weber, Ken"](#); ["Wilson, Roger"](#); ["WRWSA"](#); ["aquahab@gmail.com"](#); ["bocacatlover@gmail.com"](#); ["bruceseaman@zoho.com"](#); ["btrfly21@msn.com"](#); ["dancianca@live.com"](#); ["celesteas@gmail.com"](#); ["christina.joyinmotion@gmail.com"](#); ["citizen@fsmail.net"](#); ["casacross@bellsouth.net"](#); ["dawnsdusks@bellsouth.net"](#); ["dreandvicki@bellsouth.net"](#); ["earthy_wolf@hotmail.com"](#); ["ecocosm@bellsouth.net"](#); ["egarvett@gmail.com"](#); ["gmorotti@gmail.com"](#); ["gregatourhouse@hotmail.com"](#); ["Gulf Restoration Network"](#); ["heylady1948@yahoo.com"](#); ["jlinabnw@att.net"](#); ["jumbys8@yahoo.com"](#); ["karensmith187@gmail.com"](#); ["licy75@aol.com"](#); ["linda@perry.net"](#); ["lbalaw@gmail.com"](#); ["mccunesfla@aol.com"](#); ["mejides@yahoo.com"](#); ["mshargel@gmail.com"](#); ["mwalker13fr@gmail.com"](#); ["pete22roc@aol.com"](#); ["prunemstr@aol.com"](#); ["rebeccaruby@msn.com"](#); ["riverguide2000@yahoo.com"](#); ["robertadever@yahoo.com"](#); ["robsand@bellsouth.net"](#); ["ronm430@aol.com"](#); ["rrriley71@att.net"](#); ["rst333@hotmail.com"](#); ["salleeba@me.com"](#); ["ssiegmenn@gmail.com"](#); ["staceydaniels@shellpoint.org"](#); ["sunpreston@gmail.com"](#); ["sunwrent@aol.com"](#); ["tonyke@yahoo.com"](#); ["warrior_red@hotmail.com"](#); ["zeroggirl@gmail.com"](#); ["ahlers.karen@gmail.com"](#); ["apostolicboylargo@yahoo.com"](#); ["catsandcrocs@yahoo.com"](#); ["cattleya@comcast.net"](#); ["dan-lesley@att.net"](#); ["detororachel@yahoo.com"](#); ["gunnhonican@aol.com"](#); ["jackyboy86@gmail.com"](#); ["jehallh20@aol.com"](#); ["jimbrunton@yahoo.com"](#); ["kbolomey@aol.com"](#); ["l.j.travers@gmail.com"](#); ["lazygin@bellsouth.net"](#); ["lfurgal@yahoo.com"](#); ["lrdevine@yahoo.com"](#); ["lrpm2@yahoo.com"](#); ["lrpm22@gmail.com"](#); ["meem4822@aol.com"](#); ["melissa.allen@hotmail.com"](#); ["missyno@bellsouth.net"](#); ["obyrrnen@bellsouth.net"](#); ["pittpowers@hotmail.com"](#); ["popcomic@tampabay.rr.com"](#); ["rfay808700@aol.com"](#); ["rhinopias@comcast.net"](#); ["scott.logan@aon.com"](#); ["segnbora@gmail.com"](#); ["snorklmike@yahoo.com"](#); ["studio8@infionline.net"](#); ["tabdolphins@yahoo.com"](#); ["tno2007@aol.com"](#); ["vaughan@fireflyclay.com"](#); ["youelyoga@gmail.com"](#); ["ziffel1@bellsouth.net"](#); ["aairis@aol.com"](#); ["babij204@msn.com"](#); ["ban260zz@yahoo.com"](#); ["bv@wvmlaw.com"](#); ["Cheek, Ken"](#); ["crmcglone@moose-mail.com"](#); ["dirgis3@aol.com"](#); ["dougpowless@hotmail.com"](#); ["facwetkat@hotmail.com"](#); ["faithoogs@gmail.com"](#); ["firewaterair@gmail.com"](#); ["gomerlu@yahoo.com"](#); ["jacketchmson@hotmail.com"](#); ["jnovotny@comcast.net"](#); ["jrjzr@yahoo.com"](#); ["keth@awakening-healing.com"](#); ["Kraye, Gus"](#); ["lbedinger@yahoo.com"](#); ["long5892@bellsouth.net"](#); ["lori_mccraney@yahoo.com"](#); ["mark@bassanio.dsl.atlantic.net"](#); ["masonfamily@centurylink.net"](#); ["morgan@cc-events.org"](#); ["navistar@wildmail.com"](#); ["parnelx@cfi.rr.com"](#); ["quehoreaes7@aol.com"](#); ["rantala.mervi@gmail.com"](#); ["robin@greenerpixels.com"](#); ["saralee.lem@gmail.com"](#); ["scooke1107@hotmail.com"](#); ["segoci@aol.com"](#); ["sharonbrich@yahoo.com"](#); ["skeiser@dadeschools.net"](#); ["slnofear@aol.com"](#); ["tcglover58@hotmail.com"](#); ["tcsmith57@hotmail.com"](#); ["terry@awakening-healing.com"](#); ["treehugger52768@gmail.com"](#); ["vinnymullins@live.com"](#); ["cdlaughlin@tampabay.rr.com"](#); ["chrislaughlin@tampabay.rr.com"](#);

["diann@tampabay.rr.com"](mailto:diann@tampabay.rr.com); ["flkrkr@yahoo.com"](mailto:flkrkr@yahoo.com); ["hm4v08@yahoo.com"](mailto:hm4v08@yahoo.com); ["jzeto1@tampabay.rr.com"](mailto:jzeto1@tampabay.rr.com); ["kschulz26@tampabay.rr.com"](mailto:kschulz26@tampabay.rr.com); ["lbarth4544@aol.com"](mailto:lbarth4544@aol.com); ["maxineconnor@gmail.com"](mailto:maxineconnor@gmail.com); ["mrawjones@aol.com"](mailto:mrawjones@aol.com); ["nancyargenziano@gmail.com"](mailto:nancyargenziano@gmail.com); Al Grubman (grubman1@gmail.com); Bill Geiger (bgeiger@cityofbrooksville.us); Bill Pouder (bill.pouder@myfwc.com); Boyd Blihovde (Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov); Brent Whitley (brentwhitley@sierra-properties.com); Brockway, Alys (abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us); Dennis D. Dutcher (Dennis3ds@aol.com); Frank DiGiovanni (administration@inverness-fl.gov); Greenwood, Kathleen; Hilliard, Dan (2buntings@comcast.net); Hoehn, Ted; Hope Corona (hopecorona@tampabay.rr.com); Jim Farley (jfarley682@aol.com); Katie Tripp (ktripp@savethemanatee.org); Norman Hopkins (norman@amyhrf.org); Rebecca Bays (rebecca.bays@bocc.citrus.fl.us); Richard Kane (rkane@usgs.gov); Richard Radack (rradack@cityofbrooksville.us); Ron Miller (rmille76@tampabay.rr.com); Sarah Tenison (cityofweekiwachee@yahoo.com); Sullivan, Jack (jsullivan@carltonfields.com); Voyles, Carolyn (Carolyn.Voyles@dep.state.fl.us); Whitey Markle (whmarkle@gmail.com)

Subject: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 7:13:00 AM

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

A meeting agenda and information document for the meeting are now available on the District web site. The Chassahowitzka-Homosassa minimum flows discussion is identified in these documents as agenda item number 21.

The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

The meeting information document is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/notebooks/govboard_10-30-12_notebook_2245.pdf

Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["drsu@ymail.com"](mailto:drsu@ymail.com)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Dianna Brass](#)
Subject: RE: Springs Coast MFL
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:43:00 AM

Dr. Zimmer:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
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352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:09 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
Subject: FW: Springs Coast MFL

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Susan Zimmer [<mailto:drsu@ymail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 4:24 PM
To: info
Subject: Springs Coast MFL

SWFWMD
Governing Board

I am a resident of Citrus County.

I do not favor any further reductions in water flow. The springs and rivers are already low, unhealthy, and actually need **more** flow to provide a healthy environment for fish, vegetation, drinking water, etc.

It is sad and scary to continually see various Springs, which provide our only drinking water, become stagnant and dry up.

Prevention is more sensible than Restoration (attempts).

Desalination, as an example, is too costly, etc., especially while we have the **opportunity to save** the precious Springs.

Thank you

Dr Susan Zimmer

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["JaniceHowie@aol.com"](mailto:JaniceHowie@aol.com)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:46:00 AM

Ms. Howie:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chasahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
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Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
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352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:11 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl; Gwen Brown
Subject: FW: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: JaniceHowie@aol.com [<mailto:JaniceHowie@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Executive
Subject: Proposed MFL's for the Homosassa and Chasahowitzka Rivers

The Federal Clean Water act does not allow for the degradation of these rivers, or any other rivers in the state. Your proposed MFL's for the Homosassa at 3% and the Chasahowitzka at 9 % would allow by your studies up to 15% degradation to the wildlife and environment of these rivers. Think about what will happen to these rivers

and to the conflict that will occur with the EPA if this degradation is allowed to happen. Wouldn't it be prudent to proactively ovoid this damage to our rivers.

Jan Howie
Conservation Chairman
Nature Coast Native Plant Society

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["hkck5@embargmail.com"](mailto:hkck5@embargmail.com)
Cc: [Shellie Ferreira-Lee](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Lou Kavouras](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 8:48:00 AM

Ms. Klein:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Executive
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 8:15 AM
To: Dianna Brass
Cc: Lou Kavouras; Gwen Brown; Ron Basso; Doug Leeper; Mike Heyl
Subject: FW: Chassahowitzka

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee
Sr. Document Specialist
Southwest Florida Water Management District
shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us
352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: cindy [<mailto:hkck5@embargmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2012 12:54 PM
To: Executive
Cc: Executive
Subject: Chassahowitzka

Please don't take any more fresh water from the spring system of the Chassahowitzka or Homosassa Rivers. As you know, both are in peril. Let whoever wants our most precious resource on the nature coast to invest in a desalinization facility. There is plenty of fresh water in our gulf. May I even suggest the Florida cross barge canal system as the perfect location for such a project. Eventually it will come

to this anyway, why not lead the way. You have the power. Thank You. Chassahowitzka resident for 30 years, in love with the nature coast, the State of Florida and thankful for our State Land programs and Government Organizations set up to protect our natural resources. Cindy Klein

From: [Dan](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 12:26:01 PM

On 10/23/2012 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper wrote:

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

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The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

Thanks Doug, do appreciate that. Can you give me an idea how long it might take the GB to work thru the consent agenda?

Dan

The meeting information document is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/notebooks/govboard_10-30-12_notebook_2245.pdf

Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Dan"](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 1:33:00 PM

Dan – should be pretty quick. Fifteen minutes to half an hour tops, I would think.

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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Dan [<mailto:2buntings@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 12:28 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

On 10/23/2012 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper wrote:

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From: [Dan](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 1:59:36 PM

Thanks.

D

On 10/23/2012 1:33 PM, Doug Leeper wrote:

Dan – should be pretty quick. Fifteen minutes to half an hour tops, I would think.

Douglas A. Leeper
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: Dan [<mailto:2buntings@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 12:28 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

On 10/23/2012 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper wrote:

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From: cathyharrelson@gmail.com on behalf of [Cathy Harrelson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 3:35:51 PM

Thanks Doug.

Question - If folks can't attend, can they email? I see a mailing address in there but the reality for most people is that email is the way they communicate. I'm currently showing email addresses of executive@watermatters.org for the Governing Board and info@watermatters.org for the ombudsman, in addition to your email address.

These are the addresses we'll be using, so I'm sure you can expect some comments.

Sincerely,

Cathy Harrelson

Florida Organizer

Gulf Restoration Network

cathy@healthygulf.org

727-415-8805

<http://healthygulf.org/>

On Tue, Oct 23, 2012 at 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us> wrote:

Greetings:

I'm writing to provide an update on the planned discussion of proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

A meeting agenda and information document for the meeting are now available on the District web site. The Chassahowitzka-Homosassa minimum flows discussion is identified in these documents as agenda item number 21.

The agenda is available at:

http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/agendas/govboard_10-30-12_agenda_2245.pdf

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Thanks again for your continued interest in the development of minimum flows for the river systems.

Douglas A. Leeper

Chief Environmental Scientist

Water Resources Bureau

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

[1-800-423-1476](tel:1-800-423-1476), ext. 4272 (FL only)

[352-796-7211](tel:352-796-7211), ext. 4272

[352-754-6885](tel:352-754-6885) (Fax)

doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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From: Doug Leeper
To: ["cathyharrelson@gmail.com"](mailto:cathyharrelson@gmail.com)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:14:00 PM

Hi Kathy:

We certainly accept and read e-mails. The addresses listed in your e-mail will work, but I would suggest that using the executive address will be sufficient. You can copy me if you like, but all e-mails to "executive" pertaining to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa minimum flow recommendations will be forwarded to me and other staff.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: cathyharrelson@gmail.com [mailto:cathyharrelson@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Cathy Harrelson
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 3:36 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Re: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Thanks Doug.

Question - If folks can't attend, can they email? I see a mailing address in there but the reality for most people is that email is the way they communicate. I'm currently showing email addresses of executive@watermatters.org for the Governing Board and info@watermatters.org for the ombudsman, in addition to your email address. These are the addresses we'll be using, so I'm sure you can expect some comments.

Sincerely,

Cathy Harrelson

Florida Organizer
Gulf Restoration Network
cathy@healthygulf.org
727-415-8805

<http://healthygulf.org/>

On Tue, Oct 23, 2012 at 7:13 AM, Doug Leeper <Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us> wrote:
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Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems that is scheduled to occur at the October 30, 2012 meeting of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

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--

From: [Alan Martyn Johnson](#)
Cc: [Adrienne Vining](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Christopher Pettit](#); [Dave Dewitt](#); [Karen West](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Sid Flannery](#); [Veronica Crow](#); [Xinjian Chen](#); [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: RE: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Rule 40D Amendments
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 8:38:15 AM

I trust you have (or will) read and are able to fully explain the proposed **Amendments to RULE 40D-8.041, F.A.C.** included in the Notebook for the October 30 2012 Governing Board Meeting. These Amendments were not included in the revised reports.

My concerns are with quantifying withdrawals to define natural flow and the use of the previous days natural flow in the wording.

Quote

*"**Natural flow** is defined for the purpose of this rule as the flow that would exist in the absence of water **withdrawal** impacts. The Minimum Flow at any **point downstream** from these Gages is measured as the **previous day's natural flow** at that point minus 3%" .*
End Quote

Similar wording for Chassahowitzka.

Everyone in SWFWMD who has been involved in drafting these rule amendments needs to be able to explain exactly what this wording means in practical terms.

We all need to hear from SWFWMD's legal personel their rationale for basing Minimum Flows on the previous day's natural flow and how pumpage will be determined.

Additionally, recognized flow downstream of these gages are in short distance increased to by Halls River and Crab Creek, thus the downstream wording appears to require explanation.

As I carefully read these amendments it is difficult to see how they are of any practical value to define when the minimum flow has been reached. The flows as reported at the specified USGS Gage Sites do not include any measure of groundwater withdrawals. Withdrawals are not measured and are not presented in the reports, other than as approximations and comments: (focusing on the Homosassa Report);

- *"..reduced spring discharge to the river system by **approximately** 1 percent."* Page 20
- *"..in 2005, groundwater withdrawals within five miles of the Homosassa Main Springs averaged 1.3 mgd , and averaged 8.2 mgd within ten miles of the spring complex" Page 64 Note:1.3 mgd (2 cfs) 8.2 mgd (12 cfs)*
- *"Given the relatively minor (1.1 percent) **potential** impact of withdrawals on spring discharge" Page 66*
- In Table 2-4 page 66 the 2005 withdrawals are 2.31 cfs Table 2-5 page 67 the withdrawals for 2030 are shown as 5.13 cfs as predicted by the Northern District Model
- *"This natural flow **may be** calculated based on withdrawal-impact corrected combined flows measured at...02310678...02310688, or based on modeled flows developed through application of numerical or statistical models."* Page 201/2
- Synthetic natural flow record is discussed in connection with the 5 and 10 year moving average statistics page 202, but synthetic natural flows are not used in any of the modeling e.g. calibration and validation periods. Baseline flows are used.

In the above there is lack of clarity:

- The 2005 figures for withdrawals within five/ten miles fails to mention Crystal River and Chassahowitzka Springs are six miles from Homosassa.
- The NDM covers a large area (10,000 sq mls) and it is difficult to accept, despite staffs assertion otherwise, this model can accurately predict changes of 0.05 cfs over a 25 year period for individual springs. 10 miles radius from Homosassa is 0.15% of this models area.
- Lists of permitted water withdrawals in Citrus County furnished by SWFWMD identify 42 mgd or about 65 cfs. (It did not include the wells not requiring a WUP).

For practical understanding consider some reported flows at the Homosassa gage sites (02310678 and 02310688).

The reported flow at both the gage sites was about 30% less in early June 2012 than at present. This results from the difference in the level in the aquifer Weeki Wachee Well.

In round numbers the combined flow was 100cfs early June and is now 150cfs. Both of these are 'natural flow less withdrawals'. Where are the groundwater withdrawals quantified? Are the withdrawals a constant percentage of discharge, or a constant volume per day? Could withdrawals 20 miles away have an influence?

Appears the best we have is withdrawals as presented in Table 2-4 where the NDM presents 2005 combined pumpage of 0.97 cfs for the six springs; Halls River and Hidden River are not monitored at the above gage sites. 2005 NDM data is seven years old, where are todays withdrawals reported, preferably without being based on a myriad of assumptions used in the model.

EXTRACTS FROM THE NOTEBOOK FOR THE OCTOBER 30 MEETING

EXHIBIT D

(b) The Minimum Flow for the Homosassa River System is 97% of the combined natural flow as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Homosassa Springs at Homosassa Springs, FL Gage (No. 02310678), and the USGS SE Fork Homosassa Spring at Homosassa Springs, FL Gage (No. 02310688). Natural flow is defined for the purpose of this rule as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawal impacts. The Minimum Flow at **any point downstream** from these Gages are measured as the **previous day's natural flow** at that point minus 3%.

EXHIBIT B

(b) The Minimum Flow for the Chassahowitzka River System is 91% of the natural flow as measured at the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Gage Chassahowitzka River near Homosassa (Gage No. 02310650). Natural flow is defined for the purpose of this rule as the flow that would exist in the absence of water withdrawal impacts. The Minimum Flow at any **point downstream** from this Gage is measured as the **previous day's natural flow** at that point minus 9%.

Martyn

Numbers to support my point. Daily change each gage site as well as combined is shown.

Before someone points out the USGS Data for these dates still shows as provisional (June was last years Water Year and would normally have been approved by now). USGS daily data is based on a 24 hour day not a 24.84 hour tidal cycle.

Discharge cfs and Percent Change from Previous Day

June 2012

2012	SE Fork		H Springs		Combined	
1	51		54		105	
2	52	102%	53	98%	105	100%
3	56	108%	61	115%	117	111%
4	48	86%	58	95%	106	91%
5	38	79%	52	90%	90	85%
6	35	92%	46	88%	81	90%
7	42	120%	51	111%	93	115%
8	45	107%	57	112%	102	110%
9	44	98%	64	112%	108	106%
10	46	105%	64	100%	110	102%
11	47	102%	67	105%	114	104%
12	45	96%	68	101%	113	99%
13	40	89%	64	94%	104	92%
14	43	108%	67	105%	110	106%
15	42	98%	72	107%	114	104%

October 2012

2012	SE Fork		H Springs		Combined	
1	62		82		144	
2	61	98%	76	93%	137	95%
3	66	108%	83	109%	149	109%
4	73	111%	89	107%	162	109%
5	73	100%	97	109%	170	105%
6	70	96%	94	97%	164	96%
7	69	99%	93	99%	162	99%
8	68	99%	90	97%	158	98%
9	76	112%	97	108%	173	109%
10	73	96%	99	102%	172	99%
11	76	104%	101	102%	177	103%
12	74	97%	103	102%	177	100%
13	75	101%	102	99%	177	100%
14	70	93%	99	97%	169	95%
15	66	94%	90	91%	156	92%

From: Doug.Leeper@swfwmd.state.fl.us
Date: Tue, 23 Oct 2012 07:13:15 -0400
Subject: Chassahowitzka-Homosassa Minimum Flows Update

Greetings:

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doug.leeper@watermatters.org

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From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Louis Kovach](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1:27:02 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Louis Kovach
122 Bella Vista Ter Unit D
North Venice, FL 34275-6729
(941) 484-7683

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Louis Kovach"](#)
Subject: RE: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:31:00 PM

Dear Mr. Kovach:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Gulf Restoration Network [<mailto:info@healthygulf.org>] On Behalf Of Louis Kovach
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 1:26 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now

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122 Bella Vista Ter Unit D
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(941) 484-7683

From: [Executive](#)
To: [Dianna Brass](#)
Cc: [Lou Kavouras](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Gwen Brown](#)
Subject: FW: Homosassa Minimum Flows and Levels
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 9:40:16 AM
Attachments: [10-23-2012 Letter to SWFWMD Board.doc](#)

Please handle accordingly or forward to the appropriate staff for handling.

Thank you.

Shellie Ferreira-Lee

Sr. Document Specialist

Southwest Florida Water Management District

shellie.ferreira@swfwmd.state.fl.us

352-796-7211, ext. 4053

From: Ron Miller [mailto:rmille76@tampabay.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 11:58 AM
To: Executive
Subject: Homosassa Minimum Flows and Levels

October 24, 2012

Governing Board

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

Subject: Staff Recommended Springs Coast MFL Rules

“..... The Water Management District is setting the stage for groundwater withdrawals that will permanently lower the river’s flow to the MFL level.....”

Sonny Vergara, Executive Director, SWFWMD 1997-2003.

Dear Governing Board Members,

The SWFWMD Minimum Flow Levels (MFL) program has set reduced river flow levels to be used in the water permitting process. This effectively sets

consumptive objectives: 9% for the Chassahowitzka River, 3% for the Homosassa River. Planners and engineers have already defined where the well fields will be for “regional distribution” of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka water. Just this summer a permit was issued for pumping and shipping nearly a hundred thousand gallons a day from Crystal River to Ocala.

Initially the flow reduction targets of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers were set at 5 and 11 percent respectively. After two years of re-evaluation these numbers were reduced by 2 percent. That is an important recognition of the sensitivity of these estuaries but it does not go far enough. SWFWMD has not recognized the stressed state of these coastal rivers and the profound changes that are taking place right now with our current level of water withdrawals. They have not recognized that these have both been designated as Outstanding Florida Waterways to provide legal protection against degradation.

An estuary is a transition area where fresh and salt waters are constantly shifting and mixing due to a tidal influence. A very sensitive, low salinity zone that is fundamental to the aquatic web of life exists near the springs. Reducing spring flow destroys this zone and the many fish, crabs and other critters that depend on it. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka are a highly productive estuaries... and are highly sensitive to reduced spring flow.

A disturbing University of Florida study showed a steady decline in fish in the Homosassa from 2007 to 2010. In fact UF eventually stopped counting fish in the area near Otter Creek because of the total lack of fish and vegetation. We started calling this a “dead zone” and invited Gov. Scott to come see it. He put us in touch with the DEP folks responsible for our State Coastal Waterways. A team of DEP and SWFWMD scientists came to investigate. What they found was not just a dead zone, but a dead river! SWFWMD Spokesperson Robyn Felix said:

“We have looked at the plant life in the Homosassa River and it is correct that they are dying, but we don’t know why.”

Aquatic vegetation has rapidly disappeared and is dead in most of the river. There is no good explanation of this except it appears to be related to a change in salinity at the springs. The proposed MFL flow reductions will further diminish the spring flows and greatly aggravate this situation.

You often hear of environmental tipping points where the delicate balance of nature and man falls out of line and something (usually nature) crashes. The Homosassa is at a tipping point.

There are choices to be made. Clearly you can choose to protect these unique, fragile, already impacted, coastal springs and rivers. Or you can choose to authorize their destruction.

The highly stressed condition of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers must be recognized and the MFL flow reductions set to zero.

Sincerely,

Ron Miller
Vice President, Homosassa River Alliance
352-628-6066
Rmille76@tampabay.rr.com

October 24, 2012

Governing Board
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2379 Broad Street
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October 24, 2012

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Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street

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From: [Luanne Stout](#)
To: [Alba Mas](#); [Blake Guillory](#); [David Rathke](#); [Kurt Fritsch](#); [Laura Donaldson](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Mike Holtkamp](#); [Robert Beltran](#)
Cc: [Gwen Brown](#); [Doug Leeper](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: FW: Log Entry # 1.11.147613 10-25-2012 Larry A. Barnes
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 11:13:07 AM
Attachments: [10-22-2012 Larry A. Barnes.pdf](#)

FYI...

LuAnne Stout
Administrative Coordinator, x4605
Board & Executive Services Bureau

-----Original Message-----

From: CollabAdmin [<mailto:collabadmin@swfwmd.state.fl.us>]
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 11:11 AM
To: Luanne Stout; Kenneth R. Herd
Subject: Log Entry # 1.11.147613 10-25-2012 Larry A. Barnes

Please click on the following link to open the document(s) (from a computer connected to District Network only)

<http://ecmvmprod01.ad.swfwmd.net/gm/folder-1.11.147613>

Subject: Larry A. Barnes sent a letter re: Gov Bd Mtg 10-30-2012 on MFLs for Homosassa River supporting revitalization not further degradation

Following is the tracking information for the above information:

Log#: 1.11.147613
Assigned To: Kenneth Herd
Assigned By: Carolyn Stout
Date Assigned: 10-25-2012
Date Completed: 10-25-2012
Date Required:

Source: Larry A. Barnes, resident of Homosassa, FL
Instructions: For your information and appropriate disposition.
Action Taken: Copied to Exec Leadership Team

Information Routed To: lou.kavouras@swfwmd.state.fl.us

Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad St
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899



Oct 22, 2012

Re: Governing Board Meeting, Resource Management Committee, Oct 30, 2012, Minimum Flows and Levels, Homosassa River


Request this statement be included into the record for this meeting.

My name is Larry A. Barnes and I live at 5601 S. Island Dr., Homosassa, FL 34448. Our home is on the Homosassa River. We have lived here since August 1993. Since that time we have witnessed a significant change in the river. We used to be able to catch largemouth bass and other freshwater fish right in back of our home; that ended several years later. Since then no freshwater fish are caught in our location on the river. I am not a biologist but I must conclude that the environmental conditions must have changed. I also operated tour boats for a local company on the Homosassa River and Mason Creek area for several years. I witnessed a change in the areas that alligators frequent.. I am told that they do not tolerate areas where there is a high saline content. This must be the reason that they have moved further upstream in the river. I have also seen trees die further and further upstream. The locals say this is caused by salt water intrusion.

The river badly needs to be revitalized at this time unless your goal is to merely use it as a fresh water source and move the water to some other location. Decreasing the flow by small incremental amounts just means you will kill the ecosystem over a longer period of time and that is UNACCEPTABLE to me.

Do the RIGHT THING NOW and think in terms of revitalization not further degradation.

Sincerely,


Larry A. Barnes
5601 S. Island Dr
Homosassa, FL 34448

L. Barnes
Box 275
Homo Sassa, FL
34487



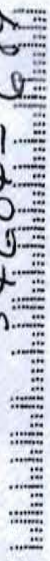
EXE



Southwest Florida Water Mgt District
2379 Board St.
Brooksville, FL

34604-6899

3460436899



From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Jan Novotny](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:29:27 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jan Novotny
401 15th Ave N
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250-4710

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Jan Novotny"](#)
Cc: [Virginia Singer](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#)
Subject: RE: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:00 AM

Dear Ms. Novotny:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Gulf Restoration Network [<mailto:info@healthygulf.org>] On Behalf Of Jan Novotny
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:29 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jan Novotny
401 15th Ave N
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250-4710

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Stephen Tonjes](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 8:30:11 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Our springs are already losing their appeal to tourists, and downstream industries that depend on their water are threatened. Their flows are already unacceptably low. It is unconscionable to plan for further reductions.

Please restore our springs; don't make plans to do more damage.

Sincerely,

Mr. Stephen Tonjes
423 W Pennsylvania Ave
Deland, FL 32720-3336

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Stephen Tonjes"](#)
Cc: [Virginia Singer](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#)
Subject: RE: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:45:00 AM

Dear Mr. Tonjes:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Gulf Restoration Network [<mailto:info@healthygulf.org>] On Behalf Of Stephen Tonjes
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 8:30 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Please restore our springs; don't make plans to do more damage.

Sincerely,

Mr. Stephen Tonjes
423 W Pennsylvania Ave
Deland, FL 32720-3336

From: [Alan Martyn Johnson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#)
Subject: Very Questionable Sentence in Chassahowitzka MFL Report
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 9:20:50 AM

Every time I open my notated copies of these MFL reports I find another question in my notes at the side of the page. As it is Friday I thought I would share another with you, simply for coffee conversation.

Chassahowitzka Revised Report

Prologue Page xvii

"The public expressed a consensus that environmental changes (namely tree die-off and upstream barnacle encroachment) associated with sea level change should not be exacerbated by additional freshwater withdrawals."

I was not at all the meetings, but this statement does not reflect anything I heard.

Maybe someone can recall when this consensus was reached.

Considering the barnacles, as I recall public input was the barnacles are much further up the Homosassa than a few years ago. Barnacles are now knocking at the door of the main spring run. The only sea level change at this location is sea water ingress to the spring discharge. Tree die-off was for both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka, but I do not recall any consensus this was due solely to sea level change.

No technical analysis needed, just where did this idea/consensus originate?

Martyn

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["asidibe@chronicleonline.com"](mailto:asidibe@chronicleonline.com)
Bcc: [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 3:31:00 PM

A.B.,

I just wanted to follow up with you about what we talked about this morning. We've had an extensive public input process over the last several years. As a result of that process, the revised minimum flows are more protective and based on the best data available. The revised minimum flows will protect 91% of the natural flows for the Chassahowitzka River System and 97% of the natural flows for the Homosassa River System. The revised minimum flows for each system have been reviewed by separate panels of independent scientific experts and they agreed that we've taken a reasonable approach to establishing the minimum flows. We will present the staff recommendations to the Governing Board on Tuesday and it will be up to the Board to make the final decision. Thanks again and have a great weekend.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Steven Handwerker](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:27:56 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Handwerker
6465 Via Benita
Boca Raton, FL 33433-6421
(561) 417-2494

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Lee Patrizzi](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:19 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Lee Patrizzi
265 Riverwoods Trl
Chuluota, FL 32766-9258

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Keth Luke](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:36 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Keth Luke
5438 Tennessee Ave
New Port Richey, FL 34652-2932
(727) 842-6788

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Dena Garcia](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:30 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Dena Garcia
4805 Citrus Oak Ln
Saint Cloud, FL 34771-8900

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Maggie Davidson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:47 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Maggie Davidson
750 Pine Dr Apt 11
Pompano Beach, FL 33060-7281

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Maggie Davidson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:41 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Maggie Davidson
750 Pine Dr Apt 11
Pompano Beach, FL 33060-7281

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Patti Constantino-Martin](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:58 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Patti Constantino-Martin
17249 Helen K Dr
Spring Hill, FL 34610-7720

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [DK Bolen](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:52 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. DK Bolen
5600 - 59 Way N
St Petersburg, FL 33709

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Stefan Taylor](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:37:03 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Stefan Taylor
7517 N 40th St Apt F204
Tampa, FL 33604-4514

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Steven Handwerker](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:37:23 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Handwerker
6465 Via Benita
Boca Raton, FL 33433-6421
(561) 417-2494

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Steven Handwerker](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:37:14 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Handwerker
6465 Via Benita
Boca Raton, FL 33433-6421
(561) 417-2494

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [sally harkness](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:35:19 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. sally harkness
12400 6th St E
Treasure Island, FL 33706-2925
(727) 368-9113

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [kristina harper](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:37:46 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. kristina harper
1818 E Oakland Park Blvd
Oakland Park, FL 33306-1146

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Patricia Cooke](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:37:29 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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I remember a time when the governing board members of SWFWMD stood for maintaining and improving the water quality of those lakes and rivers within the District's boundary. More and more citizens of Florida are watching carefully how you act to protect those water bodies, and will respond at the ballot box when it is time to elect those persons who appoint governing board members.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Patricia Cooke
2263 Batten Rd
Brooksville, FL 34602-8325

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Rebekah Walters](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:37:58 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Rebekah Walters
200 Agnes Ct Apt 25
Orlando, FL 32801-3834

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Karen Ahlers](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:38:13 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Karen Ahlers
124 Vause Lake Rd
Hawthorne, FL 32640-6108

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Steven Handwerker](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:38:07 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Handwerker
6465 Via Benita
Boca Raton, FL 33433-6421
(561) 417-2494

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Fite](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:38:41 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Barbara Fite
PO Box 1766
Lutz, FL 33548-1766

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Candace Arnold](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:38:55 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Candace Arnold
5380 Alcola Way S
St Petersburg, FL 33712-4930
(727) 867-9149

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Candace Arnold](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:38:49 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Candace Arnold
5380 Alcola Way S
St Petersburg, FL 33712-4930
(727) 867-9149

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Benjamin Joannou Jr](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:07 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Benjamin Joannou Jr
6401 SW 134th Dr
Pinecrest, FL 33156-7046
(305) 663-1890

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Candace Arnold](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:01 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Candace Arnold
5380 Alcola Way S
St Petersburg, FL 33712-4930
(727) 867-9149

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Vaughan Greene](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:35:35 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Vaughan Greene
217 Walton Rose Ln
Panama City Beach, FL 32413-7249
(850) 231-0956

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [M S Dillon III](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:24 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. M S Dillon III
4100 Malaga Ave
Coconut Grove, FL 33133-6325

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [margaret silver](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:18 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mrs. margaret silver
1829 Sea Oats Dr
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-4511

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Candace Arnold](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:13 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Candace Arnold
5380 Alcola Way S
St Petersburg, FL 33712-4930
(727) 867-9149

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Ronald H. Silver, CEP](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:35 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Ronald H. Silver, CEP
1829 Sea Oats Dr
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-4511

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Candace Arnold](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:30 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Candace Arnold
5380 Alcola Way S
St Petersburg, FL 33712-4930
(727) 867-9149

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Genevieve Woolsey](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:04 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Genevieve Woolsey
714 Granite Rd
Brandon, FL 33510-3543

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Paula Powers](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:59 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Paula Powers
172 SE 30th Ave
Boynton Beach, FL 33435-8235
(561) 369-0854

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Bill Harding](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:39:42 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Bill Harding
4125 Park St N Lot 444
St Petersburg, FL 33709-4062
(727) 244-2391

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Lindsay Johnson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:20 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Lindsay Johnson
941 S Forest Creek Dr
St Augustine, FL 32092-3779

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Todd Dripps](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:15 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Todd Dripps
2447 SW 13th Ter
Palm City, FL 34990-2127

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [sally harkness](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:35:28 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. sally harkness
12400 6th St E
Treasure Island, FL 33706-2925
(727) 368-9113

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Faith Staggs](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:09 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Faith Staggs
140 Hunter Lake Dr
Unit C
Oldsmar, FL 34677-4576

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [WARREN HART](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:37 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. WARREN HART
1121 Pepperdine Ln
Sanford, FL 32771-6646

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Rebecca R. McFee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:31 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Rebecca R. McFee
3004 SE Salerno Rd
Stuart, FL 34997-6644

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Allie Tennant](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:26 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Ms. Allie Tennant
4763 Nottingham Dr
Fort Myers, FL 33905-4119

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Sharon Rich](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:53 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Sharon Rich
2834 Regent Cres
South Daytona, FL 32119-8556
(384) 304-7824

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Rebecca R. McFee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:48 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Rebecca R. McFee
3004 SE Salerno Rd
Stuart, FL 34997-6644

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Rebecca R. McFee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:42 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Rebecca R. McFee
3004 SE Salerno Rd
Stuart, FL 34997-6644

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Meyer Jordan](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:04 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Meyer Jordan
403 W Michigan Ave
Pensacola, FL 32505-2503

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Sallee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:40:58 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Sallee
6045 39th Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34203-7003
(941) 739-2420

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Laxon](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:25 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Laxon
1778 SW 85th Ave
Miramar, FL 33025-2190

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Marcia Hoodwin](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:35:44 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Marcia Hoodwin
8236 Shadow Pine Way
Sarasota, FL 34238-5618

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Cris Costello](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:19 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Cris Costello
127 Van Dyck Dr
Nokomis, FL 34275-4237
(941) 966-4101

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Judith Angley](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:15 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Judith Angley
4410 NW 30th Ter
Gainesville, FL 32605-1529

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Judith Angley](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:09 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Judith Angley
4410 NW 30th Ter
Gainesville, FL 32605-1529

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Michael Duffey](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:30 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Duffey
19 Chestnut Ave SE
Apt 57
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-5662

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Michael Duffey](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:39 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Duffey
19 Chestnut Ave SE
Apt 57
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-5662

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Michael Ott](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:00 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Ott
6105 Sheree Dr
Milton, FL 32570-8853

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Debra Mixon](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:35:53 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

I am a resident of Homosassa and my husband and I are the owners of a charter tour business. The health of the Homosassa River directly impacts our business.

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors, (impacting the economic health of businesses like mine). These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Debra Mixon
10515 W New York St
Homosassa, FL 34448-3826
(352) 628-5999

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Mark Hutchinson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:12 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Water is a natural resources that needs to be protected, not exploited. Before tapping into any more water supplies, double or triple charges for water until consumption and waste are significantly reduced.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and over pumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Hutchinson
34549 Orchid Pkwy
Ridge Manor, FL 33523-8859

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Andres Mejides](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:36:06 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Andres Mejides
25650 SW 197th Ave
Homestead, FL 33031-1611

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Nina Tatlock](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 1:02:36 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Nina Tatlock
1413 Beach Club Ln
Apollo Beach, FL 33572-3063

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Jan Novotny](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:29:27 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Jan Novotny
401 15th Ave N
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250-4710

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Jan Novotny"](#)
Cc: [Virginia Singer](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#)
Subject: RE: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:00 AM

Dear Ms. Novotny:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Gulf Restoration Network [<mailto:info@healthygulf.org>] On Behalf Of Jan Novotny
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 7:29 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jan Novotny
401 15th Ave N
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250-4710

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Stephen Tonjes](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2012 8:30:11 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Our springs are already losing their appeal to tourists, and downstream industries that depend on their water are threatened. Their flows are already unacceptably low. It is unconscionable to plan for further reductions.

Please restore our springs; don't make plans to do more damage.

Sincerely,

Mr. Stephen Tonjes
423 W Pennsylvania Ave
Deland, FL 32720-3336

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["Stephen Tonjes"](#)
Cc: [Virginia Singer](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#)
Subject: RE: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:45:00 AM

Dear Mr. Tonjes:

Thank you for your comments regarding the revised minimum flows and levels recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. Your input has been reviewed by District staff and will be provided to the District Governing Board for consideration.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Gulf Restoration Network [<mailto:info@healthygulf.org>] On Behalf Of Stephen Tonjes
Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 8:30 PM
To: Doug Leeper
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Our springs are already losing their appeal to tourists, and downstream industries that depend on their water are threatened. Their flows are already unacceptably low. It is unconscionable to plan for further reductions.

Please restore our springs; don't make plans to do more damage.

Sincerely,

Mr. Stephen Tonjes
423 W Pennsylvania Ave
Deland, FL 32720-3336

From: [Alan Martyn Johnson](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Chris Zajac](#); [Mark Hammond](#); [Michael Molligan](#)
Subject: Very Questionable Sentence in Chassahowitzka MFL Report
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 9:20:50 AM

Every time I open my notated copies of these MFL reports I find another question in my notes at the side of the page. As it is Friday I thought I would share another with you, simply for coffee conversation.

Chassahowitzka Revised Report

Prologue Page xvii

"The public expressed a consensus that environmental changes (namely tree die-off and upstream barnacle encroachment) associated with sea level change should not be exacerbated by additional freshwater withdrawals."

I was not at all the meetings, but this statement does not reflect anything I heard.

Maybe someone can recall when this consensus was reached.

Considering the barnacles, as I recall public input was the barnacles are much further up the Homosassa than a few years ago. Barnacles are now knocking at the door of the main spring run. The only sea level change at this location is sea water ingress to the spring discharge. Tree die-off was for both the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka, but I do not recall any consensus this was due solely to sea level change.

No technical analysis needed, just where did this idea/consensus originate?

Martyn

From: Doug Leeper
To: ["asidibe@chronicleonline.com"](mailto:asidibe@chronicleonline.com)
Bcc: [Robyn O. Felix](#); [Virginia Singer](#)
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Minimum Flows
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 3:31:00 PM

A.B.,

I just wanted to follow up with you about what we talked about this morning. We've had an extensive public input process over the last several years. As a result of that process, the revised minimum flows are more protective and based on the best data available. The revised minimum flows will protect 91% of the natural flows for the Chassahowitzka River System and 97% of the natural flows for the Homosassa River System. The revised minimum flows for each system have been reviewed by separate panels of independent scientific experts and they agreed that we've taken a reasonable approach to establishing the minimum flows. We will present the staff recommendations to the Governing Board on Tuesday and it will be up to the Board to make the final decision. Thanks again and have a great weekend.

Douglas A. Leeper
Chief Environmental Scientist
Water Resources Bureau
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899
1-800-423-1476, ext. 4272 (FL only)
352-796-7211, ext. 4272
352-754-6885 (Fax)
doug.leeper@watermatters.org

October 26, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Douglas A. Leeper, Chief Environmental Scientist, Water Resources Bureau

Several e-mails of the form below pertaining to proposed minimum flows for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River systems were inadvertently deleted by Doug Leeper on October 26, 2012. In an attempt to document these submissions, a listing of e-mail addresses associated with the submitted comments is provided below.

E-mail addresses associated with comments that were inadvertently deleted:

murphylarronde@gmail.com
randsscott@verizon.net
lisacunningham61@hotmail.com
marilynblackwel@wmconnect.com
malkerson10@verizon.net
gmorotti@gmail.com
cgula@tampabay.rr.com
jacqueline2662@cfl.rr.com
gmorotti@gmail.com
tatlock@verizon.net
pete22roc@aol.com
bocacatlover@gmail.com
rst333@hotmail.com
jserpico@tampabay.rr.com
hhollon1221@aol.com
hhollon1221@aol.com
nnalouisefontaine@yahoo.ca
hhollon1221@aol.com
hhollon1221@aol.com
hhollon1221@aol.com
edene.wetherell@gmail.com

Generic e-mail comments general form language:

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

XXXXXX

[illegible]

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [ben dugger](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:01 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

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Sincerely,

Mr. ben dugger
4981porkylane
st.jamescity, FL 33956

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [ben dugger](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:41 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. ben dugger
4981porkylane
st.jamescity, FL 33956

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Judith Angley](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:36 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Judith Angley
4410 NW 30th Ter
Gainesville, FL 32605-1529

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Sallee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:07 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Sallee
6045 39th Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34203-7003
(941) 739-2420

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Colonel Meyer](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:01 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Colonel Meyer
3701 Eagle Pass St
North Port, FL 34286-2009

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Susan Pelakh](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:56 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Susan Pelakh
41 9th Ter
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931-2476

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Sallee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:52 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Sallee
6045 39th Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34203-7003
(941) 739-2420

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Sallee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:32 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Sallee
6045 39th Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34203-7003
(941) 739-2420

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [S Logan](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:26 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. S Logan
1001 Brickell Bay Dr
Miami, FL 33131-4900

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [RE Barnes](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:22 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. RE Barnes
1811 NW 51st St
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309-7119

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Jane Schnee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:17 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Jane Schnee
1022 Foster Rd Apt A
Sebastian, FL 32958-8658
(772) 589-3201

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Sallee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:55 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Sallee
6045 39th Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34203-7003
(941) 739-2420

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Thomas Bardroff](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:12 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas Bardroff
8009 High Oaks Trl
Myakka City, FL 34251-8303
(941) 322-2205

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [lynn orourke](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:44:00 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lynn O'Rourke
3363 SW 173rd Ter
Miramar, FL 33029-1641
(954) 830-9810

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Susan Preston](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:55 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Ms. Susan Preston
PO Box 415
La Crosse, FL 32658-0415

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Arturo Franco](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:50 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Arturo Franco
Republicas 266
Mexico City, None 33310

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Judith Angley](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:43:38 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Judith Angley
4410 NW 30th Ter
Gainesville, FL 32605-1529

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Colonel Meyer](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:44:16 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Colonel Meyer
3701 Eagle Pass St
North Port, FL 34286-2009

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [ben dugger](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:44:10 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. ben dugger
4981porkylane
st.jamescity, FL 33956

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Michael Duffey](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:44:05 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Duffey
19 Chestnut Ave SE
Apt 57
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-5662

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [ben dugger](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:50 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. ben dugger
4981porkylane
st.jamescity, FL 33956

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Judith Angley](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:14 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Judith Angley
4410 NW 30th Ter
Gainesville, FL 32605-1529

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Todd Smith](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:09 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Mr. Todd Smith
745 52nd Ave N
Saint Petersburg, FL 33703-2831

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Michael Duffey](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:31 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Duffey
19 Chestnut Ave SE
Apt 57
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-5662

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Sue Lang](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:26 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Ms. Sue Lang
421 Darling Dr
Venice, FL 34285-3304

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Joan Tibbetts](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:20 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Joan Tibbetts
682 Youngstown Pkwy
Apt 331
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-4578

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Bernard Berauer](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:42:46 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Bernard Berauer
10332 S McClung Loop
Homosassa, FL 34448-5553

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Barbara Sallee](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:41:45 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

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Sincerely,

Ms. Barbara Sallee
6045 39th Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34203-7003
(941) 739-2420

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Raleigh Hoke](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:44:21 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

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Sincerely,

Mr. Raleigh Hoke
1720 Washington Ave Apt 1
New Orleans, LA 70113-1753

From: [Jerry Morton](#)
To: jerrmorton@aol.com
Cc: BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com; [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: 15% loss of habitat in Florida's Outstanding Waters; SwiftMud decides Tues 9am.
Date: Saturday, October 27, 2012 6:01:32 PM

(Sorry to bother yall again but this subject is critical to Florida's Outstanding Waters. As of 6pm today (Sat Oct 27th) there were over 6,300 signatures on the petition to SwiftMud; it has gone 'viral' in the state in just 4 days. Thanks to all that have signed and those planning to sign; I encourage you to see the petition and the comments even if you do not sign)

I attended the last SwiftMud public meeting regarding reductions of water flow to the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers; the meeting was held in early October at the SwiftMud office in Lecanto, FL. I heard the SwiftMud Chief Environmental Scientist, Doug Leeper, say this paraphrased, 'a 9% reduction of water flow to the Chassahowitzka river and a 3% reduction to the Homosassa river is the percentage of water that can be diverted from these rivers without exceeding a 15% loss of habitat in those rivers'. I was shocked by this statement; the state of Florida has declared that a 15% loss of habitat in Florida's Outstanding Waters is acceptable. This means that, with the board's approval, SwiftMud will be allowed to grant permits, for new water wells, that could result in a 15% loss of habitat in those rivers. I believe a ZERO percent reduction of flow and a ZERO percent loss of habitat should be the law for Florida's Outstanding Waters.

Next Tuesday morning, October 30th at 9am, the governing board of SwiftMud will vote to accept or deny the flow reductions for these 2 Outstanding Florida Waters. Please sign the petition link below and share it with anyone you know that wants to help preserve Florida's Outstanding Waters.

Petition link to the SwiftMud governing board.

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863 279 2802
jerrmorton@aol.com

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BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com

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Water Resources Bureau - Southwest Florida Water Management District
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To: jermorton@aol.com
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From: lmotz@ce.ufl.edu
To: martynellijay@hotmail.com
CC: doug.leeper@watermatters.org
Subject: RE: Minimum Flows Homosassa River
Date: Fri, 12 Oct 2012 17:53:40 +0000

Mr. Johnson,
I'll look into this and respond to your question.
Thank you for your interest,
Louis Motz

From: Alan Martyn Johnson [martynellijay@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Motz,Louis H
Cc: c.hackney@unf.edu
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Would appreciate any comments about my specific concern regarding the omission of Halls River flow in the modeling by HSW Engineering. If you wish to call me my telephone number is Cell 404-731-6187.

As an FYI I have copied Courtney Hackney as the Chair of the Peer Review Panel using the e-mail address from the report.

Martyn

From: [Gulf Restoration Network](#) on behalf of [Raleigh Hoke](#)
To: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Protect the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka Springs & Rivers now
Date: Friday, October 26, 2012 6:44:21 PM

Oct 25, 2012

Chief Environmental Scientist, SWFWMD Doug Leeper

Dear Leeper,

Florida's springs and rivers are our most unique natural asset, creating vibrant natural environments for recreation and wildlife, and supplying our drinking water. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka spring-fed river systems provide a home for manatees and a recreational mecca for Floridians and visitors. These springs and rivers supply vital fresh water to the vital estuaries and coastal ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico along the Nature Coast.

Decades of over-pumping and 20 years of drought have slowed or dried up these magnificent sources of crystal clear water and many are now murky with slime from nitrates fed by over-fertilized lawns, septic tanks, and farm and ranch operations that have no incentive to conserve.

Floridians won't stand for more water giveaways, pollution and decline. Please stop the destruction of our springs and rivers by rejecting the SWFWMD staff recommendation to allow a 15% decline in habitat generated by a 3% flow reduction of the Homosassa River System and call for NO ADDITIONAL WATER LOSS in the Homosassa. Likewise, the Governing Board should reject staff proposals and set a restoration and recovery strategy for the Chassahowitzka River System, which has been reduced to 91% of its natural flow since 1975.

It's time for a mandate to preserve and protect these critical resources for all Floridians. The water management policy must be adaptable to drought, climate change and overpumping. Many springs have ceased to flow or are no longer "connecting" with larger waterways, affecting the downstream systems. The goal of each water management district and the State of Florida should be to restore maximum flows and levels for our most important resource, and reverse conditions of decline and degradation within our freshwater environments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Raleigh Hoke
1720 Washington Ave Apt 1
New Orleans, LA 70113-1753

From: [Jerry Morton](#)
To: jerrmorton@aol.com
Cc: BWR.CRRC@tampabay.rr.com; [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: 15% loss of habitat in Florida's Outstanding Waters; SwiftMud decides Tues 9am.
Date: Saturday, October 27, 2012 6:01:32 PM

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Oct. 28, 2012



Director: Minimum flows will protect river systems

Marl Hammond, guest column, 10/28/12

Sunday, October 28, 2012 at 12:00 am (Updated: October 28, 12:00 am)

In recent weeks, there have been a number of articles concerning the setting of minimum flows and levels (MFLs) for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems. State law requires minimum flows and levels to be set for rivers, streams, estuaries and springs and identify the limit beyond which further withdrawals will significantly harm the water resources or ecology of the area.

For the past seven years, scientists with the Southwest Florida Water Management District have been studying the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems to determine these thresholds. During the district's analyses, the most sensitive indicators were used — manatee habitat for the Chassahowitzka River and salinity habitat for the Homosassa River. Scientists also used data and methodologies consistent with previously set MFLs. This method was reviewed by an independent panel of scientists and was determined to be scientifically sound.

Further studies considered existing water withdrawals, future sea level rise and effects of potential flow changes on water quality. The District's updated minimum flow recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are now more protective than previous proposals and will ensure future water withdrawals do not harm these precious resources.

In addition, district staff considered extensive public input throughout this process through a number of workshops, Governing Board meetings and nearly two dozen meetings with community groups and other interested stakeholders.

The MFL recommendations for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa river systems are based on science, and it is the district's intent to comply with its statutory requirements as well as balance the needs of all water users while protecting the river systems.

The district's Governing Board will vote on these MFLs at their meeting Tuesday, Oct. 30. For information, visit www.WaterMatters.org/SpringsCoastMFL.

Mark Hammond is resource management division director for the Southwest Florida Water Management District

Citrus County Chronicle Online

<http://www.chronicleonline.com/content/activists-urge-attendance-final-water-flow-vote-meeting-tuesday>

Activists urge attendance at final water-flow vote meeting Tuesday

By Jim Hunter

Sunday, October 28, 2012 at 12:00 am (Updated: October 28, 12:00 am)

For Homosassa resident Ron Miller, a longtime Citrus County environmental activist, it will be a moment that decides the future of the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers, and he has put out a call for any citizens who care about the rivers to mobilize.

On Tuesday, the regional water district governing board will conduct a final adoption hearing at its headquarters on what Miller calls the approval of the reduced flow plans for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District calls it the adoption of minimum flows and levels for the rivers, something being done by the state's water districts for all the fresh water bodies in the state.

The plan says 3 percent of the flow of the Homosassa could be taken before the minimum flow would be reached. The plan would allow for 9 percent of the flow of the Chassahowitzka to be reduced. Those levels are the points at which significant impact on the rivers could occur, according to district studies and conclusions.

The minimum flow proposed for the Homosassa had been 5 percent, but intensive protests and lobbying from Citrus residents and groups like the Save the Homosassa River Alliance got the water district to reassess the flow and reduce the percentage. District officials most recently said 1 percent would be considered already used; so, in effect, the minimum flow would be 2 percent.

Still, any allowed reduction would be too much, according to Miller and others who are dismayed at how the rivers' environments and their head-springs have been degraded in recent times.

In a statement as the vice president of the alliance, he said: "Small spring water flow reductions destroy the freshwater-salt water balance that is fundamental to the estuarine web of life. We all know these rivers and springs are already highly stressed, and the removal of more water will lead to their destruction.

"But no matter. The march to destroy the aquifer plows on."

Opponents of the minimum flow say the computer models used to figure the minimums are badly flawed.

For one thing, Miller said, "There is a real problem with measuring it in a tidal influenced river."

This region's coastal springs and rivers are distressed already, he said, and environmental changes already show impact of reduced flow.

"They should set and cap the minimum at zero — where the level is now," Miller said.

Brad Rimbey, a Chassahowitzka resident who has been fighting the minimum flows proposed for the Chassahowitzka River, said the water district touts the science behind its proposal. "They don't have sufficient data sets to come to a meaningful conclusion."

In addition to having insufficient data, he said, the district does not completely understand the river systems, how they work with all the influences on them.

"Look at the degradation that has already occurred in the river," he said. "They don't have a clue."

In addition, he said, both rivers are designated as Outstanding Florida Waters and allowing anything to increase saltwater intrusion would be degrading an OFW, which is illegal. The district, he said, contends the OFW designation only applies to point-source pollution, but he disagrees.

He also cites the anti-degradation provisions of Florida law that were adopted pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act and said these protections must be applied in the minimum flows process.

Finally, he asked, how can the district reduce the minimum flow number for the Homosassa and not the Chassahowitzka? While he is not a hydrologist, he is a registered engineer and said he understands their modeling and it doesn't work.

"I don't buy much of their science," he said.

Rimbey and Miller said it makes a difference when large amounts of people show up to protest measures locals are against. He said 110 people came to the last hearing, which was in Lecanto. This time, more Citrus residents and officials who are concerned are needed to protect the future of the rivers.

Miller said the county commissioners, though seeming sympathetic individually, have not endorsed the residents demand the current river flows be the minimum flows, but he would welcome their support.

Tuesday's meeting will be in the governing board room of the district's headquarters, which is on the west side of U.S. 41, about seven miles south of Brooksville, just south of the airport. The address of the headquarters is 2379 Broad St. (U.S. 41).

The approval agenda is early in the meeting. Miller said anyone going should be in the board room at 9 a.m. sharp.

PHOTOGRAPH

MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

The shallow, clear water of the Chassahowitzka River flows to the Gulf of Mexico.

Water flows: Board to decide withdrawals from rivers

By Abdon Sidibe

Sunday, October 28, 2012 at 12:00 am *(Updated: October 28, 12:00 am)*

To locals and visitors in the know, the Chassahowitzka is the languid river where paddlers would drift and the adventuresome would spelunker in its underwater caves.

The Native Americans called the riverine area the land of the hanging pumpkins, or Chassahowitzka, for the ubiquitous hanging gourds that draped the hardwood hammock.

Today, the 5-mile-long river and its tributaries still beckon, but according to local residents, the once-pristine waterway with its aqua-colored springs is under threat from a recommendation by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) staff.

The water district's board of governors is on the verge of voting on possible changes to the "Minimum Flows and Levels" (MFLs) of the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers. The vote will take place at a 9 a.m. meeting Tuesday at the SWFWMD office in Brooksville.

According to Norm Busche — owner of Nature Coast Outpost, which instructs people on the finer points of paddling — it's been heartbreaking watching the gradual deterioration of the Chassahowitzka River.

"The hardwood is dying. It used to be, the water was crystal clear and you could see the sandy bottom. There is less fish and the old-growth Cypress is dying all over the place because of saltwater intrusion," Busche said from his perch on the boat ramp near the campground.

Busche said in his eight years on the river since relocating from South Florida, he has noticed a precipitous degradation of the ecosystem.

"If you go down some of these creeks here," Busche said, "it looks like a hurricane just went through. It was not like that just a few years ago. Now they (SWFWMD) are talking about withdrawing more water. I don't know what they are thinking."

The petition

Hope Corona — whose organization, the Chassahowitzka River Restoration Committee, is also against the proposed flow changes — said she, too, has noticed "significant" degradation of plant and fish life.

"We also have seen a significant reduction in vallisneria (freshwater eelgrass). We think the saltwater intrusion is playing a major role in all of this," Corona said.

She said her group is seeking the restoration of the river and would like SWFWMD to rethink its proposals and instead restore more flow to the rivers.

A group called Friends of the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa has launched an online petition at [www. change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow](http://www.change.org/petitions/help-save-springs-for-florida-manatees-say-no-to-reductions-in-flow) urging the rejection of the flow proposal.

The group cites, among other things, "these spring-fed coastal rivers are legally designated as Florida Outstanding Waterways," and are home to federally endangered species, including the West Indian Manatee. They "have already suffered significant degradation in recent years, and should be statutorily protected from further degradation and loss of spring flow."

SWFWMD's position

Doug A. Leeper, chief environmental scientist at SWFWMD, said the water district sets MFLs to gird against significantly harmful withdrawal to water resources or the ecology of an area.

The agency has set a 15 percent threshold for significant harm.

Leeper said the agency collected the best available data and coupled it with the opinions of peer review panels — one for each river — before coming up with the recommendations.

The peer review panels were comprised of independent scientists "who looked at the data and were found to be reasonable."

Leeper added the district has used the same approach it is using now in Chassahowitzka and Homosassa to protect other water resources.

Furthermore, he said when SWFWMD first came out with MFL proposals for the two rivers in 2010, the percentage of flow reductions were higher than they are currently. Leeper said if the proposals are adopted by the board, the issue could be revisited in a decade and "all of the data at that time will be considered."

He said numerous input sessions were conducted with stakeholders and members of the public. Leeper said what was gleaned from those sessions was combined with "additional science approach" to come to the current proposal.

Proposals the governing board will vote on Tuesday are:

+ Chassahowitzka River System, up to a 9 percent reduction in flows. According to SWFWMD, existing withdrawals have reduced flows by 1 percent, meaning this new minimum flow would allow an additional 8 percent reduction. The previous proposal sought an 11 percent reduction in flows.

+ Homosassa River System, up to 3 percent reduction in flows. Again, because existing withdrawals have reduced flows by 1 percent, according to SWFWMD, this new minimum flow would allow an additional 2 percent reduction. The previous proposal was for a 5 percent reduction in flows.

"We've had an extensive public input process over the last several years," Leeper said. "As a result of that process, the revised minimum flows are more protective and based on the best data available."

"We will present the staff recommendations to the governing board on Tuesday and it will be up to the board to make the final decision," he added.

Florida Springs Institute

Dr. Bob Knight, of the H.T. Odum Florida Springs Institute, said while he is not opposed to MFLs in theory, these proposals are flawed.

"If they are saying we are currently at 1 percent and that is meeting the water needs of the communities around the rivers, why go up 8 percent in one river and up 3 percent in another?" Knight queried.

He said if SWFWMD absolutely has to set MFLs, why not add only an extra percent to account for growth in demand. He said by SWFWMD's own analysis, a 1 percent reduction in both rivers should provide adequate groundwater availability for another 20 to 40 years.

The institute's website states its mission is to provide a focal point for improving the understanding of springs ecology and foster the development of science-based education and management actions needed to restore and protect springs throughout Florida.

Knight said as it stands right now, water consumption in the district is 1.1 billion gallons of water per day (gpd). He said if you add the St. Johns and Suwannee river districts, the water use jumps to 2.6 billion gpd. Knight said in those three water districts 4.7 billion gpd have been allocated through permitting.

"What I would like to see is for us stop issuing new permits," he said. "While I am not advocating a moratorium on permitting, I would like to see a system where we hold things where they are and reuse permits. A lot of the state's springs and rivers are stressed and need time to recover. We think all development should be more conservative. We don't need to make things worse."

Chronicle reporter A.B. Sidibe can be reached at 352-564-2925 or asidibe@chronicleonline.com.

PHOTOGRAPH

MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Norman Busche, owner of Nature Coast Outpost on the Chassahowitzka River, said he feels the impact of taking water from the river will negatively impact the river. "Why would you even tamper with an ecosystem that has been deemed an Outstanding Florida Waterway?" he said. "This is one of the nicest rivers on the entire west coast of Florida. It's not huge, but it's beautiful."

PHOTOGRAPH

MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Norman Busche operates a business along the banks of the Chassahowitzka River.



HERNANDO-CITRUS COUNTY FARM BUREAU

617 Lamar Avenue, Brooksville, Florida 34601 ♦ Phone: (352) 796-2526/800-282-8317

October 29, 2012

Paul Senft
Chairman District Governing Board
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34604

On October 30th the Southwest Florida Water Management District's (District) Governing Board will be voting on minimum flows and levels (MFLs) for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Riverine Systems. The Hernando-Citrus Farm Bureau Board of Directors would like to express our support for the Districts recommended MFLs for these two Riverine Systems.

There has been much discussion and debate over this issue for many months now. It's been studied for the past seven years. District scientists have had to take into account a multitude of science-based methodologies including wildlife habitat, vegetation, water withdrawals, thermal refuge habitats, and fish evaluations, just to name a few. They are following state law which requires the establishment of minimum flows and level on rivers, lakes and streams. The outcomes of the science supports the MFLs recommended and these have also been peer reviewed by an independent panel of scientists.

The determination of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) for these water bodies has the potential to greatly affect the future of agricultural, which ultimately impacts the local economy. If MFL's are set to high, expansion of agricultural crops, public utilities and/or growth within the community can be jeopardized. This being the case, we strongly support the research-based MFL recommendations brought forth by SWFWMD scientists and staff.

What we need to do is plan for future growth in a responsible manner. That means planning for our future water supplies responsibility, and working with our partners in the agricultural community, the environmental community, economic development, and government to ensure economic growth and sustainability for our community far into the future.

Sincerely,

John Thomas, President
Hernando-Citrus County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

From: [hope](#)
To: [Executive](#)
Cc: [Doug Leeper](#)
Subject: Comments from some of the 11,261 Petitioners regarding the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa MFL
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 7:20:29 AM
Attachments: [Petition comments_1351593802-1.pdf](#)

Attached are Comments from some of the 12,261 Petitioners who have responded this week regarding the Chassahowitzka & Homosassa MFLs.

Sheet1

Name	City	State	Zip	Country	SignedOn	Comment
E. Hope Corona	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/23/12	Earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the Earth. We are but one of the species that relies on the Earth's fragile habitats and limited fresh water resources. I agree that we should preserve and protect rare spring habitats for ALL of the species that need them. I also think that we "older folks" should take some care and preserve some of these last beautiful wild places for our children, and their children to enjoy.
Brent Whitley	Brooksville	FL	34602	United States	10/23/12	Developing water resources that decimate spring systems already in decline is contrary to the mission statement of SWFWMD.
Ron Miller	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/23/12	The Homosassa River feeds one of the most productive estuaries in the state. Millions have been spent to protect this estuary. Now the MFL program arbitrarily defines a reduction in fresh water flows that will certainly destroy this estuary.
Brad Rimbey	Chassahowitzka	FL	34448-5311	United States	10/23/12	The antidegradation provisions of Florida Law were adopted pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act and these protections must be applied in the MFL process. SWFWMD's legal staff has been unable to provide any case law or legal precedent which allows SWFWMD to degrade these Outstanding Florida Water under the auspices of the MFL statute or any other statute
Elaine Moore	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/23/12	We manage the Chassahowitzka River Campground and any lesser flows will kill our business and cause us to have to lay off employees if not shut down altogether.
jennifer stoltz	inverness	FL	34452	United States	10/23/12	keeping natural a plac for them to call home
rudy scheffer	safety harbor	FL	34695	United States	10/23/12	We need a healthy estuaries for healthy sea life.
Lane Dubroff	Pinole	CA	94564	United States	10/23/12	I grew up spending frequent weekends on the Chassahowitzka River and have since gone back to Florida to show my grandchildren this wonderful, wild river and to see the wildlife which thrives there, especially the manatees. PLEASE do not agree to any reductions in flow which would do tremendous harm to the river and its wildlife!
Bruce Blauer	RIVERVIEW	FL	33579	United States	10/23/12	i love manatee
Anthony Wareham	Indian Rocks Beach	FL	33785	United States	10/23/12	Manatees are such amazing, important creatures. They need our help.
Deborah and Carlo	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/23/12	I live here and the Rivers is the most precious resource for all. It is not worth the risk. Now is the time to work to reduce water used, not tap into more.
John Reed	Largo	FL	33773	United States	10/23/12	Protection of habitat.
Robert Manning	Pinole	CA	94564	United States	10/23/12	I have been on both rivers and know of the great diversity of wildlife there. Also, there are endangered species that could very well be killed off with less water flow.
Carol Scarborough	Walanut Creek	CA	94596	United States	10/24/12	I am concerned about maintaining the habitat of the fresh water plant and animal species and of the West Indian Manatees.

Mark Bonaiuto	Homosassa	MA	34448	United States	10/24/12	This is a prestine natural habitat The Chaz river is so shallow now How can you degrade and endanger many animals and birds. This preserve is a perserve for a reason!! Any change to the ecosystem can be devestating Please perserve this timeless place called old Florida.
Marianne Korosy	Palm Harbor	FL	34683	United States	10/24/12	The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers already suffer from excessive nutrient loading because of septic tank inflow from homes and businesses along the river and in the watershed and from stormwater runoff containing oils, greases, fertilizers, and detergents. Permitting further flow reductions will simply exacerbate the water pollution problems already in evidence in both rivers, resulting in a loss of revenue for businesses that capitalize on fishing, paddling, snorkeling, and manatee viewing. It will result in a loss of real estate value for people owning property along the rivers. And last but not least, it will cause more algae and vascular plant growth in the water, reduced water clarity, and will harm wildlife including the manatees that bring tourists to the area.
Terry Lemke	Irving	TX	75039	United States	10/24/12	preservation of the Manatees!!
Marc Washburn	Tarpon Springs	FL	34688	United States	10/24/12	Am an avid Kayak, Canoe and boater...lower water levels means less boating, fishing and wildlife. Lower waterlevel means less breeding ground for fish, shellfish and other wildlife. Stop this nonsense!
Kathy A. Beck	Old Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	The science has demonstrated that reductions in flows will further degrade the biological functions of these critical systems. I urge you to follow the science and support a sustainable, responsible solution without compromise to private interests.
OTTO KITTEL	HOMOSASSA	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	The river is declining in every way. The wildlife has and will suffer more. SWFWMD said their job is to protect the water, reduction of the flow is destruction! Only gain political gain for the govt and big business. Scientific data that has been used can be wrong, which may surface later in sink hole legal action. We all can see what is going on, political gain and big business greed for money in the development of florida land.
Charles Laughlin	Homosassa	FL	34487	United States	10/24/12	Having lived on the Homosassa River for more than 20 years and having had access to it for over 60 years, we have seen the decline of the River due to the reduction in flow to the springs at the river's headwaters. To arbitrarily and artificially reduce this flow further for ANY reason is irresponsible stewardship of our environment.
Thomas Leonard	Hernando	FL	34442	United States	10/24/12	I feel it is imperative that we protect and preserve the natural resources of Florida and efforts to change the natural flow of water will have a negative impact on the environment and the plants/animals that depend on that environment for life!
Russ Duncan	Homosassa (Chas	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	Because I live here and the Chassahowitzka river is My River.

Charles Holley	Clearwater	FL	33759	United States	10/24/12	Reduction in flow adversely affects wildlife habitat. It also affects human quality of life in those locations.
Dennis Blauer	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	Just because something is legal, like the travesty that allowed a commercial water company to siphon out spring water near Three Sisters Springs in Crystal River, doesn't make it ethical. The extensive studies and science being thrown at us to justify this miscarriage of resource appropriation doesn't mean diddily squat to those of us who have watched the Chassahowitzka River slowly degrade visually over the past 25 years. Don't let this happen on our watch!
John Thatcher	Huntingdon		PE28 9LF	United Kingdom	10/24/12	The Florida Manatee is an endangered species and any interference with their habitat may be sufficient to send them into extinction. Once these creatures are gone, man has not the wit to recreate or replace them. Extinction is forever - your grandchildren will never forgive you.
elizabeth blauer	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	i love the chassahowitzka river
Norman Hopkins	Crystal River	FL	34429	United States	10/24/12	Further degradation of the subject waters by reducing flows will prejudice water quality of the OFW of Crystal River/Kings Bay spring fed from the common aquifer systems. Nitrate concentrations in the spring flows have not been adequately reflected in the MFL computations.
Stephanie Keener	Fort Collins	CO	80526	United States	10/24/12	I love the manatees....
Chris Newport	Indian Harbour Bea	FL	32937	United States	10/24/12	The reduction to the natural habitat of our natural resource's should be important to everyone. My family once owned Ponce de Leon Springs in Volusia. We sold it to the state so that they could better serve the protection of the spring. These resources are not renewable and the reduction of flow would not be reversable not to mention to late for the wild life. "SAVE OUR SPRINGS". Please dont risk it, many springs that existed in the sixties are already gone.
Roberta Gastmeyer	Gainesville	FL	32606	United States	10/24/12	Florida springs and rivers are DYING from overuse! Please use SCIENCE to determine appropriate sustainable use of Florida's waters.
William Killen	Murphy	NC	28906	United States	10/24/12	Stop messing with natural systems for the benefit of Business
Beverly Overa	Homosassa Springs	FL	34446	United States	10/24/12	The data SWIFTMUD collected does not accurately reflect current springs flows - they do include tidal influences from the Gulf, so the data is non-conclusive at best. Outstanding Florida Waterways should be set at ZERO to ensure future viability of this stakeholder resource. NO REDUCTION IS ACCEPTABLE for either the Homosassa or the Chassahowitzka Rivers - just look at pictures from the past. The disparity may be termed 'anecdotal', but seeing is believing. Withdrawals have already exceeded the Springs flow and the Riverine ecology's capacity to maintain, much less heal. ZERO, ZERO, ZERO.

Nancy Argenziano	TALLAHASSEE	FL	32311	United States	10/24/12	Because it is our lifeblood, and the lifeblood of other living beings. Not only do our lives depend on water, but so does our economy. We must be proper stewards of what we have. Science shows us that ANY reduction to an already diminished waterway will be detrimental. We surely can do better.
Susan Storie Newp	Melbourne	FL	32901	United States	10/24/12	I would like to keep our remaining wildlife and vegetation alive and well. Reducing the volume of water flows will result in the death of too many plants and animals that rely solely on these waters for their food and habitat.
Patrick Condray	Crystal River	FL	34429	United States	10/24/12	We dive and kayak. And some of our best friends are manatees.
Nancy Turner	Citrus Springs	FL	34434	United States	10/24/12	These rare springs and sacred cenotes, and the fresh water habitats they infuse are National Treasures, arguably World Heritage Sites that should be preserved and protected for future generations (of humans and wildlife). Reason enough!
Roger Dobronyi	Columbus	OH	43224	United States	10/24/12	I don't feel that the SWFWMD science is correct and I believe their model is very faulty. There have been springs going dry and yet they don't seem to think there is a problem. Rivers all the way up to the springheads are collecting barnacles from the salt water and they don't think there is a problem. When asked why the trees are dying along the river they shrug their shoulders and say "I don't know"! Like that is that and they should just move on. The scientists are either inept or corrupt or maybe both. The WMD should have an invested interest in preserving the drinking water supply for their region. Right now it survives only to aid developers.
Terri-Anne Auner	Homosassa	FL	34487	United States	10/24/12	The rivers are dead, but if you think it cannot get any worse, it can and will. We live here for the beauty and the wildlife of this area which is already reduced and will continue to disappear. When manatees come in the rivers to feed this winter they will find no food and will have to go back to the Gulf of Mexico to find new feeding grounds. At that point they will likely starve to death or freeze to death. How is that helping anything?
Virginia Fitzgerald	Beverly Hills	FL	34465	United States	10/24/12	The protection of our water
Rochelle Kaiser	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	Since 1975 I have watched the Homosassa River deteriorate. No longer does the eel grass wave just below the surface and lily pads are a plant of the past. The reduced flow of freshwater output from the spring has already been felt by the amount of saltwater intrusion and the lack of natural vegetation. We need further legislation to prevent any future reductions in flow levels and stop this from happening all together.
Dr Susan Zimmer	CRYSTAL RIVER	FL	34423	United States	10/24/12	Florida's aquifer is its lifeline. No springs, no life. Springs need INCREASE in flow, not reduction.

janice howie	new port richiey	FL	34652	United States	10/24/12	We are facing a serious water crisis in Florida, and need to insure that our water supply will remian adequate and healthy. I love these rivers for the habitat that they provide for wildlife and the recreational opportunities that they provide. I don't want to see them harmed at all.
Harold Seckinger	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	I LIVE ON THE RIVER AND WATCH ITS DEGRADATION DAILY.
Craig Royal	Tampa	FL	33635	United States	10/24/12	We need to preserve these unique habitats for wildlife and for future generations.
Patricia Auffhamme	inverness	FL	34451	United States	10/24/12	Water for Wildlife!!
Robert Giles	Blacksburg	VA	24060	United States	10/24/12	Total watershed management needed for Refuge, cranes, and surroundings + manatees
Wes Calhoun	St Petersburg	FL	33710	United States	10/24/12	I love kayaking Florida rivers and seeing the wildlife. Please keep our rivers intact and don't put manatee habitats at risk.
Mary Louise DeWol	Crystal River	FL	34429	United States	10/24/12	I care about the quality of water for people and all life. Good water should always be available now and in the future. Don't let profits for a few destroy our quality of life.
Dave Howard	Gulfport	FL	33707	United States	10/24/12	Endangered Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat.
Marjorie Corey	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	We are destroying our natural waterways. We need to start preserving what is beautiful and natural.
Valerie Keith	Crystal River	FL	34428	United States	10/24/12	These rivers are precious jewels in our state. Let's not destroy them for future generations.
Jeanne Murphy	Seminole	FL	33778	United States	10/24/12	SWFWMD and Florida residents should not accept damaging and destroying more habitat especially those designated as "Florida Outstanding Waterways."
Winston Perry	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	The health of the Homosassa River is tenuous at best. Any further reduction of water will destroy it completely.
Dwight Adams	Gainesville	FL	32605	United States	10/24/12	We have to preserve something for our grandchildren!
Ellen Rentz	Lecanto	FL	34461	United States	10/24/12	Florida natural assets and beauty are being destroyed .Way past time to correcting the problems with our waterways!
Pam Atkinson	Floral City	FL	34436	United States	10/24/12	Crystal clear spring water is an asset. Let's preserve and maintain water quality and habitat where it belongs.
Grant Rimbey	Temple Terrace	FL	33617	United States	10/24/12	We need to fight nutrient runoff
Susan Pierce-Rimb	Temple Terrace	FL	33617	United States	10/24/12	Our freshwater needs to be fresh
Robert Keim	Bushnell	FL	33513	United States	10/24/12	Florida water are threatened by pollution, overuse and climate change. Setting such aggressively low MFLs, the state runs the risk of significantly harming our waters - a particularly bad thing not just for us, but for the future.
Joan Burnett	Crystal River	FL	34429	United States	10/24/12	I am concerned about the quality AND quantity of flow in our rivers
Gregg Mackler	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/24/12	Reduced flow will affect water quality to local rivers, streams & the gulf. They have already suffered enough!

						It is of utmost importance to all of us! We as a county cannot continue to alter strong regulations to make it easier for people to get bottling permits or large consumptive permits. Water does not run to infinity. We must preserve with wise judgement now or there will be no future. Lowering the minimum flows in our rivers will only allow more water removal through outrageous grow and greed. Our leaders need to look in renewable resources areas to find clean growth for our state instead of relying on population growth to feed our economy. More solar farms, bring in solar panel manufacturers, look into tidal energy capture ideas and so on. Our state can be self sustainable if politicians would only think in new ways. The old ways have almost destroyed this country and the future holds all we need if only we would embrace it.
Theresa Waldron	Lecanto	FL	34460	United States	10/24/12	
Leslie Ramalho	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/24/12	Because once it's gone...it's gone.
Shirley Knudsen	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/24/12	As a member of the Friends of Crystal River NWR, saving the Manatees is our mission
Marcia Chesnicka	Crystal River	FL	34428	United States	10/24/12	The reduction in spring flow affects the water clarity and quality. As the years have passed I have watched the change in those creatures that can live in our water. SWFWMD should be protecting out water. Instead, their policies are just making it worse. It is not only manatees that are affected, it is the plant life, the birds, the fish, and the people.
Sandra Alpaugh	Temple Terrace	FL	33617	United States	10/24/12	The Chassahowitzka River is beautiful just as it is. It is already a shallow river so it cannot tolerate any reduction in the flow of it's springs.
Jill Lingard	Gainesville	FL	32653	United States	10/24/12	When will FL's political leaders realize the positive ECONOMIC impact of protecting our environment?
Mark Long	Chiefland	FL	32626	United States	10/24/12	Water is what makes Florida so wonderful and the manatees have been here for millenia. When we make it so that they can't survive, we aren't going to be far behind.
Thomas and Donna	Crystal River	FL	34428-2748	United States	10/24/12	Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters. Florida's Gulf waters get too cold for Manatees during winter months, and manatees unable to find thermal refuge in coastal springs like Chassahowitzka and Homosassa would certainly perish.
Tom Overa	Homosassa	FL	34446-1819	United States	10/24/12	Why is water important to anyone?
Lucinda Merritt	Fort White	FL	32038	United States	10/24/12	Our springs are our treasures, and our manatees need our help. If we drain our springs dry and our manatees die, will we be far behind?
Stewart Thomas	Gainesville	FL	32601	United States	10/24/12	Florida's waterways and her creatures are most beloved.

Sheet1

Robert Fenton	Winter Park	FL	32792	United States	10/24/12	Springs are a treasure known worldwide for their awe inspiring beauty.
Robert Bennett	Beverly Hills	FL	34465	United States	10/24/12	Water quality and quantity is our # 1 need. Wish SWFWMD management could catch up!
Melissa Wall	Morrison	FL	32668	United States	10/24/12	Stop messing with our water!!!
						The Homosassa River area has long been a favorite vacation spot for my family. Anything that is done that endangers this wonderful river is irresponsible by those who would do it and unacceptable to those who enjoy it's wonderfully beautiful environment.
Carolyn Callahan	Temple Terrace	FL	33617	United States	10/24/12	No one, in their right mind, who proposes these changes are extremely irresponsible and do not deserve to serve our citizens.
Candace Sasser	Beverly Hills	FL	34464	United States	10/25/12	MAKES SENSE
						once the spring flow is reduced it will be difficult to ever get back what is lost and thus the ecology of a springshed will change over time. what needs to change is the attitude about water quality and quantity. it is a limited resource!!
Emily Casey	inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/25/12	
Daryle Heldenbrand	Lees Summit	MO	64063	United States	10/25/12	Save the manatees
Lori McCraney	Live Oak	FL	32060	United States	10/25/12	I treasure manatees!
						The freshwater of the springs is essential for residents of Florida as well as for the manatees and other life forms.Francine Robinson(signed)
Francine Robinson	GAINESVILLE	FL	32605	United States	10/25/12	
Susan Woods	Ycala	FL	34482	United States	10/25/12	This is very important to me because we humans are NOT the only beings that matter!
Crystal Kazemfar	Miami	FL	33131	United States	10/25/12	If we do not act now to save the springs we will deeply regret it in the future!
						Healthy waterways depend on good flow rates. Rivers should not pay the price for human population pressure.
Daniel Preston	Gainesville	FL	32607	United States	10/25/12	
Carla Bernhardt	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/25/12	Ecology
Patricia Kirby	Clearwater	FL	33756	United States	10/25/12	Manatees need all the help they can get.
						MANage OUR Water Sensibly. Cedar Keys, Levy County now has Gulf water in their wells. Salt water is unfit for drinking for people, plants, animals, and even manatees. Who is responsible for MANaging that water flow and level travesty? What model was used to MANage Cedar Keys water flows and levels? Proper MANagement recognizes reality, observes mistakes, and learns from the past, and especially those occurring at this very moment, to make responsible decisions. It appears so obviously that there is alarming need to INCREASE water levels, before even considering any reduction.
GUS ZIMMER	BEVERLY HILLS	FL	34465	United States	10/25/12	The real question is how much percentage we need to INCREASE water flows!
M E Weldon	Lake Pan	FL	33538	United States	10/25/12	sounds about as good as the cross FI barge canal todo

Sheet1

Kimberly Caldwell	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/25/12	I live here and so far they have no backup plan if they mess up.
Joyce Valentino	Inverness	FL	34452	United States	10/25/12	protect and preserve our lakes and rivers from future withdrawals causing further degradation.
steve tryon	temple terrace	FL	33617	United States	10/25/12	these are natural resources supporting all levels of marine and estuary life.
susan koenig	Berkeley	CA	94702	United States	10/25/12	Save the Rivers--we need a strong, healthy environment-water, air, food!
Mandy Hancock	Gainesville	FL	32609	United States	10/25/12	Save the rivers, save the springs! These are precious resources that cannot be replaced.
Gus Krayner	LECANTO	FL	34461-7912	United States	10/25/12	SWFWMD is charged with protecting the environment for the public good. Permitting further degradation of already degraded OFWs is outrageous! Please! Do the right thing, or we will forever lose our most precious resource!
Barbara Freeman	Beverly Hills	FL	34465	United States	10/25/12	Pure water is our most important natural resource.
Debbie Yandle	Lexington	SC	29072	United States	10/25/12	Such gentle creatures
Patricia Luck	Johns Island	SC	29455-3252	United States	10/25/12	Every manatee needs all the help it can get!
mike kulk	BEVERLY HILLS	FL	34465	United States	10/25/12	It's simple to understand: Reduce water flow, reduce life. Reduce water levels, increase short term \$\$ gain for a few.
Garth Hermanson	Chicago	IL	60613	United States	10/25/12	Manatees rock!
Kay Considine-Bara	Alsip	IL	60803	United States	10/25/12	The Manatees rely on these bodies of water to get where they need to be. Reducing the flow will harm them-do they even have another route?
Patrick Noland	IL	IL	60130	United States	10/25/12	Manatees have limited areas in winter months to live.
Gayle Gregg	Chicago, IL	IL	60654	United States	10/25/12	Beautiful and gentle creatures must be protected
Jessica Carleton	Chicago	IL	60640	United States	10/25/12	Manatees are incredibly gentle creatures and deserve to be protected. How dare we destroy more of their habitat then we already have? If the obvious ethic reasons for their protection are not enough to convince the board, consider the tourism you gain from a healthy community of Manatees. I have personally traveled to Florida to see them, and have been planning to return for that same reason. There should be no question about doing everything in our power to save manatees simply because it is the right thing to do
Steven Prchal	Tucson	AZ	85710-4606	United States	10/25/12	This is a unique habitat with unique species. Loss of habitat is the primary driver to a species extinction. This one should be protected.
Paula Rock	Apache Junction	AZ	85120	United States	10/25/12	Please leave the manatees homes alone. They are so few in numbers. Must we kill off every species before enough is enough.
Bill Edwards	Havana	IL	62644	United States	10/25/12	They are a gentle animal and need all the help they can get to survive!
Laura Williams	goose creek	SC	29445	United States	10/25/12	SAVE THESE AMAZING CREATURES! NO TO REDUCTIONS IN FLOW!
SIDNEY FINCANN	Mesa	AZ	85201	United States	10/25/12	Preservation of species
Kate Montgomery	seattle	WA	98122	United States	10/25/12	They are the sweetest most majestic creatures I have ever see. Please save them.

Sheet1

Kathleen True	Queen Creek	AZ	85140	United States	10/25/12	I love Manatees. They are sweet and harmless.
DERlin Gerard Clair	Slidell	LA	70458	United States	10/25/12	Because all animals,including marine ones,should be treated with respect,nd consideration,that's all.
Mary Gelpi	Covington	LA	70435	United States	10/25/12	I love manatees!
Glenn Counts	Leesville	LA	71446	United States	10/25/12	Animals have as much right to live as we do...
EVELYN DEBAUN	PHOENIX	AZ	85029	United States	10/25/12	I care for all animals and it is our duty to protect all life in the oceans!
john scanlon	Indianapolis	IN	46250	United States	10/25/12	Because they are endangered. Motor boats injure and kill them and loss of needed fresh water springs refuge will be to their detriment.
Roberta Peel	Tucson	AZ	85712	United States	10/25/12	I grew up in FL and am familiar with man-caused destruction of critical habitat. It's important to protect the vulnerable manatees.
Peter Krones	Waxhaw	NC	238173	United States	10/25/12	The reasons for supporting the survival of endangered ecosystems are obvious. I am signing because it APPEARS that the hazards are honestly and accurately documented. I do wish there were more data attached to the petition. Thanks for working to save this corner of the world.
Glorianne Leck	Bloomington	IN	47404-3643	United States	10/25/12	Because we must share the earth and water with these beautiful creatures
Yaedi Ignatow	Tucson	AZ	85719	United States	10/25/12	It is so obvious that Manatees should be protected and saved from losing fresh water flow, habitat and warmth of water in winter. We must make this happen.
Bekim Sejdiu	Cary	NC	27519	United States	10/25/12	There is always another way to solve a problem with out endangering the environment. It may be longer or tougher, but that doesn't make it right.
Laura Blanchette	Aiken	SC	29801	United States	10/25/12	They harm NO ONE!!!! Please, help save them. It is the least we can do.
IBobby Rothschild	Tucson	AZ	85705	United States	10/25/12	I have swum around these precious creatures and know how fragile they are due to being close to the shoreline which is very dangerous.
Kay Weaver	Myrtle Beach	SC	29588	United States	10/25/12	all living creatures are important
raymond martinez	yuma	AZ	85364	United States	10/25/12	LET THE ANIMALS LIVE
David Lefly	Chicago	IL	60625	United States	10/25/12	I vacation in Florida, and the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge is one of the places I like to visit.
Katrina Koric	Metairie	LA	70005	United States	10/25/12	Every being on this earth deserves their natural habitat. It is crucial to protect these animals who are already suffering so much from human issues.
Nicole Cannella	Peoria	AZ	85345	United States	10/25/12	ALL creatures deserve a chance at life!!! Overpopulation is NOT your concern! It is nature taking it's course! What next, human serilization???
Daniel Darrell	Candler	NC	28715	United States	10/25/12	I used to live in FL, and loved to watch the manatees. I want my grandchildren to be able to have that experience.

Susan Enwright	Asheville	NC	28806	United States	10/25/12	Florida is my home state, where my parents & brothers still live. I want my niece and, eventually, my own children to know these beautiful, gentle creatures as I did as a child.
Deborah Watson	Tucson	AZ	85741	United States	10/25/12	Manatees are so reliant upon us to be stewards for their well-being. We are absolutely responsible for their survival and ability to thrive alongside us.
Saralaine Millet	Tucson	AZ	85743	United States	10/25/12	Species diversity is crucial to all life, but Florida's manatees are an American icon in need of maximum protection.
Liliana Maya	Miami	FL	33186	United States	10/25/12	I love manatees
Brian McFarland	Chicago	IL	60614	United States	10/25/12	It is important to me be cause I have visited the Banana River and made friends with the loving and gentle Manatees.
Tamara Zamora	Miami	FL	33165	United States	10/25/12	Because preserving the manatees is important to me and my loved ones.
john Wert	Oviedo	FL	32765	United States	10/25/12	First you screw the public schools and now you screw the environment. I am truly sorry I voted for you. What a mistake. I hope you enjoy your first and last term in office.
kenny millions	hallandale	FL	33009	United States	10/25/12	do something right Scott.
Nannette S	Surprise	AZ	85374	United States	10/25/12	Come on! Really be nice!
Theresa Radcliff	St.Petersburg	FL	33710	United States	10/25/12	Love Animals
Bethany Englert	Tucson	AZ	85719	United States	10/25/12	i love manatees, we need to protect those that cant protect themselves.
Cynthia Wright	Jacksonville	FL	32223	United States	10/25/12	Only humans can protect these truly innocent creatures who clean our waterways of too much vegetation. They are beautiful and harmless
Arianna Reybitz	Belleair Bluffs	FL	33770	United States	10/25/12	Because manatees are cooler and more important than Rick Scott will ever be!
Richard Storman	GROVELAND	FL	34736	United States	10/25/12	I am a 5th generation Floridian from Cracker ancestry. There has been too much irreversible damage done to our ecosystem already. Our children and Grandchildren will never know the original beauty that was Florida.
Kathy Stallings	Louisburg	NC	27549	United States	10/25/12	We need to stop killing off and destroying life in the name of greed.
Lisa Phillips	Jacksonville	FL	32210	United States	10/25/12	Florida springs need to be restored whenever possible and practical and springs with existing ecosystems need to be protected.
Betty Cox	Fernandina Beach	FL	32034	United States	10/25/12	Preserving natural wildlife habitat is essential to prevent extinction.
Gina Rice	Tampa	FL	33617	United States	10/25/12	I am a travel agent and tourists will not come to Florida if we ruin it. I also kayak fish and love the manatees that I see all the time.
jonah freedman	brooklyn	NY	11216	United States	10/25/12	IT'S NOT OUR RIGHT TO DESTROY ALL THE ANIMALS ON EARTH!!
Mary Beattie	Sun City	AZ	85351	United States	10/25/12	As a child I loved to look in the river and see the manatees. I want my grandchildren to be able to do that too. I come from a long line of crackers. My ancestors settled Florida Territory many many year ago.
Carolyn Warner	St. Petersburg	FL	33715-1685	United States	10/25/12	manatees are scarce and need all the help they can get.

Sheet1

David Holzapfel	Orlando	FL	32758	United States	10/25/12	This planet and all walks of life , are the beginnings of and always will be forms of survival
- Tyme	Titusville	FL	32796	United States	10/25/12	We are nothing without a healthy environment.
Iorna bouthillette	tamarac	FL	33321	United States	10/25/12	Because they have the right to be free - they do not hurt anyone. They have the right to be alive - they are gentle giants.
Judy Edwards	viera	FL	32955	United States	10/25/12	cause I love manatees
Jayne Ortiz	Winter Park	FL	32792	United States	10/25/12	The manatees need more water to stay warm. Please do not reduce the flow. Thanks.
Gail Weber	Winter Park	FL	32793	United States	10/25/12	Do the right thing!
susan greenfield	southbend	IN	46615	United States	10/25/12	nature should not be disrupted
Sandy Holmes	Orlando	FL	32804	United States	10/25/12	I love manatees and I want them to have the best habitat for their survival.
Ed Gallio	Port Charlotte	FL	33981	United States	10/25/12	It's absurd I even have to give a reason for signing this but I will. I grew up in the inner city, when I was 10 years old we moved to the 'country' and the magnificense of God's creatures showed me what is truly beautiful in this world of ours. Let's all do what we can to protect those than cannot protect themselves, they are beautiful creatures and living in Florida I've come to appreciate the beauty of nature and it's residents. Aligators, manatees, panthers, even our birds are all majestic and it's up to us to protect them from the ASSHOLES of the world that believe they deserve to inhabit this beautiful environment and put profit and their bottom line before the welfare of all of these creatures that were here long before we were. That's MY reason for signing.
Carol Hindsman	Miami	FL	33183	United States	10/25/12	It is very important to me as a Florida resident to preserve our Manatees and our rivers. Please no reduction in flow for our rivers.
Shane Izzo	Sarasota	FL	34233	United States	10/25/12	Manatees are important!!!!
Jon King	SAINT JAMES CITY	FL	33956	United States	10/25/12	I been to these places, even diving & swimming with manatees. They are fragile environments & deserve protection
Melinda Winner	Zephyrhills	FL	33541	United States	10/25/12	One of the most memorible times in my life were swimming with the manatees. I also enjoy visiting them often.
Gail Toffey	Vero Beach	FL	32966	United States	10/25/12	Fresh water flow and levels should be maintained in Florida springs and waterways for preserving the life and safety of present and future manatee populations.
dawn spurling	frankfort	IN	46041	United States	10/25/12	we need to learn how to respect and honor all of gods creatures. how would we feel if the shoes were on the other feet and the animals kept taking all of our rights away to live worry free in this world just because they are animals they still have feelings and they do have rights i sure wouldn't want someone to just come in a take my home.
rena seibert	cocoa	FL	32926	United States	10/25/12	Because manatees are helpless and need protection.
Pauline Crawshaw	Hendersonville	NC	28791	United States	10/25/12	The manatees are a big tourist attraction in FL, without the springs they will be gone. That would be tragic!

Margaret Hunt	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/25/12	The rivers need to be saved from further salt intrusion so fish and plant life can come back.
Barbara Ferguson	Fort White	FL	32038	United States	10/25/12	They don't deserve to loose their habitat and die. Humans need to learn to co-habitate.
Mark Suffridge	Clearwater	FL	33763	United States	10/25/12	These are God's creatures so save and preserve their springs!
Mindy McCormack	Plymouth	FL	327678	United States	10/25/12	I am a native of Florida, one of the few they have not managed to run out of here yet. I would like places and animals to be protected from destruction period!!!
Sylvia Campbell	Tampa	FL	33629	United States	10/25/12	We must protect this world for the future and all those who follow us. Once these precious gifts are gone, they are gone forever.
May Caschera	Dania Beach	FL	33004	United States	10/25/12	I love Manatees and they are the most gentle animals..we need to help.
Darlene Kelley	atlantic beach	FL	32233	United States	10/25/12	The springs and the manatees are part of what makes Florida special. We owe it to the future generations to save them
maggie smathers	port charlotte	FL	33948	United States	10/25/12	Because manatees are found in few places in the United States and we are their stewards.
Dorothy Chiles	Orlando	FL	32806	United States	10/25/12	Protecting the manatee population is important and by protecting them we'll end up protecting the quality of our lives too
Barbara Sallee	Bradenton	FL	34203	United States	10/25/12	We absolutely need to have high enough water levels for the Manatees and other wetland inhabitants.
Peter Mullen	Scottsdale	AZ	85251	United States	10/25/12	The nature of Florida is the only thing of value left and it's being raped. Stupid environmental choices that say Manatees and other wildlife are just in the way will soon devastate the states economy permanently.
Robert Hess	Dallas	NC	28034	United States	10/25/12	don't want to lose the critters.
Jerry Morton	Lakeland	FL	33813	United States	10/25/12	The residents of The Chaz have spent thousands of dollars each to convert their septic tanks to city sewage to clean up The Chaz and preserve it for future generations. To continue The Chaz restoration ZERO percent reduction in flows is necessary to maintain this Outstanding Florida Water!
Russell Riley	Pensacola	FL	32506	United States	10/25/12	I care about what the Army Corps of Engineers have done to the Everglades; THEY SCREWED IT UP for the sugar companies! I Love the marine animals and it's very sad to see them disappear from the earth just so politics and greedy people can feather their nest (bank accounts). Army Corps o Engineers are a bunch of nuts that hasn't the sense to flush a toilet! Let the manatees live!
Lauren Gabriel	Fort White	FL	32038	United States	10/25/12	I live in Florida, and love the manatees!
Marilyn Poff	Geneva	IL	60134	United States	10/25/12	I have been to Florida and have seen the Manatees, so should others
Kristine Roche	phoenix	AZ	85020	United States	10/25/12	All creatures of this earth are important to me. I use my voice, since they do not have one.
Joyce Umphlett	Pensacola	FL	32504	United States	10/25/12	We must protect these beautiful manatees...

Brenda Thompson	Jacksonville	FL	32224	United States	10/25/12	The Manatees have struggled for years to survive. Do not set wheels into action that will threaten them more than they already are.
yvette kastor	chuluota	FL	32766	United States	10/25/12	This is important to me because I've been living in Florida for over 40 years and I love this state. The effects of overuse of our aquifers will disrupt entire ecosystems. all over this state, spring fed rivers and springs health.
jacqueline mintz	ft lauderdale	FL	33301	United States	10/25/12	Please don't let the manatees die!
Linda Huizar	Casa Grande	AZ	85122	United States	10/25/12	Because all animals deserve the right to be protected. We shouldn't allow our fellow inhabitants of our world be slighted because they are not human.
RICHARD WINDLE	Citrus Springs	FL	34433	United States	10/25/12	These rivers a vital habitat for manatees and other marine life in west central Florida and currentvolumns should be maintained.
kate borra	waxhaw	NC	28173	United States	10/25/12	I LOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOVE manatees! many people say, since they aren't as cute as Whales or Otters, they don't matter. Suck that! they need to be saved they're the sea cows. they never hurt nobody. so why do we have the right to hurt them?
Bill Bushnell	Amelia Island	FL	32034	United States	10/25/12	Because we are charged with protecting the earth and all its species.
M F	Plano	TX	75023	United States	10/25/12	If we don't help to save the species, who will?
Elmo Dunn	Longwood	FL	32779	United States	10/25/12	The springs must be saved for the manatees.
Elizabeth Frank	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/25/12	Water shortages are coming, but we need not destroy what brings tourist dollars to our part of FL in order to continue overbuilding homes when present ones sit empty, and continue to encourage wasteful water usage. Betsy
Anzia Armstrong	Pompano Beach	FL	33064	United States	10/25/12	We are supposed to keep our waterways safe and protect the species within them.
naurlene cantermar	tucson	AZ	85750	United States	10/25/12	love all creatures!
James Frank	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/25/12	We have an area whose main tourism revolves around 2 things: Golf and Kayaking in our beautiful spring fed rivers. Water conservation needs practice, but just lip service!!!! Jim
Karin Jeffery	Tallahassee	FL	32311-3753	United States	10/25/12	As a student at Florida State University, I feel strongly that we need to protect our state's official marine mammals, not just pay lip service to them.
Jason Howard	Goliad	TX	77963	United States	10/25/12	My family and I look forward to going to Homosassa in the summer to see the Manatees and enjoy (back when we first went) clear waters.
sophia flannaghan	tampa	FL	33624	United States	10/25/12	It wouldn't be fl without manatees!
Stephen York	Lake Worth	FL	33460	United States	10/25/12	All Life has consciousness and deserves to co-exist with humans who have failed miserably with being the care takers of this Earth. Government is heartless! It is time for the people to take action and bypass greed and stupidity which runs rampant in our institutions. Save the Manatee, dissolve corrupt beauracracy !

Sheet1

b holcombe	winterhaven	FL	33880	United States	10/25/12	we need to protect our waterways and wildlife.
sara taylor	venice	FL	34285	United States	10/25/12	I love manatees as most floridians do. We must preserve their habitat
Carol Keenan	Phoenix	AZ	85016	United States	10/25/12	saw the manatees while vacationing in FL. They are such gentle, trusting mammals.
joyce corrington	sierra vista	AZ	85635	United States	10/25/12	ALL ANIMALS NEED TO BE PROTECTED
Alan Lenowitz	Longboat Key	FL	34228	United States	10/25/12	Please protect the helpless, adorable manatees!!
raemona clark	largo	FL	33778	United States	10/25/12	Because manatees need clean water to live in and raise their families in, Peace and Love Raemona Mae Clark Largo Florida
jane stemmerman	Hallandale	FL	3E+008	United States	10/25/12	we need to provide for other life aside from ourselves
Mark Smith	Tampa	FL	33602	United States	10/25/12	All fresh water flow should not be limited, save all marine / river life
Ronald A Grimm Sr	Pensacola	FL	32505	United States	10/25/12	all life is from God, and must be protected
Sonia Wiard	Crystal River	FL	34428-2736	United States	10/25/12	For all the reasons stated. Save our manatee habitat
Grace Giammello	Boynton Beach	FL	33426	United States	10/25/12	We can't afford to keep on abusing the environment and wildlife. I don't know what they're thinking...
Michael Gedroc	West Palm Beach	FL	33409	United States	10/25/12	The entire Earth and all life is precious.
Elizabeth McNeil	Mesa	AZ	85210	United States	10/25/12	I love manatees.
Jared Jeffers	Camby	IN	46113	United States	10/25/12	Finally, a petition worth signing. Sorry Change.org, but I just don't care about some kid with cancer.
CONNIE CUETO	Lithia	FL	33547	United States	10/25/12	It's time to do all we can to save these endangered manatees.
Georgianne Ford	Mesa	AZ	85210	United States	10/25/12	We have to save the worlds creatures. It is our duty since we share the planet.
Rebecca Pack	Lake Charles	LA	70611	United States	10/25/12	Endangered species must be protected.
James Burford	Cocoa	FL	32927	United States	10/25/12	Lining your pockets only lasts a lifetime. Killing off species and the environment is forever.
Brenda Murray	Palm Coast	FL	32137	United States	10/25/12	We need to stop messing with nature in Florida!
Penny Leboeuf	Montegut	LA	70377	United States	10/25/12	It's important to save all animals.
Carol Partington	Tampa	FL	33604-4403	United States	10/25/12	I like manatees!
Robert Gamble	Palm Bay	FL	32908	United States	10/25/12	I live in Florida and our Manatees need all the help they can get. Reduction of water flow will also cause problems in oyster beds and other breeding beds for fish.
katie Vento	Sunny Isles Beach	FL	33160-2411	United States	10/25/12	We Floridians love our Manatees which are critically endangered. Help us protect the manatees for future generations
Karl Zedell	Jacksonville	FL	32223	United States	10/25/12	We love this wonderful creatures and they need to protected because they have no defense of their own!

Sheet1

Anthony Byrne	Naperville	IL	60540	United States	10/25/12	I'm a frequent visitor to Florida and love its natrual wonders.
Matthew Jonas	tucson	AZ	85701	United States	10/25/12	love'em
maralyn boysen	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/25/12	I want my grandchildren and their grandchildren to love our Springs for years to come. Also my friends love to tourist down here and the Springs is one reason.
Holly Reading	Phoenix	AZ	85023	United States	10/25/12	I have always love manatees, and they need our help
robert krueger	chicago	IL	60626	United States	10/25/12	because I travel there yearly & am impressed by their gentleness & peace which is transmitted to my soul. Peace
Bob Campbell	Prescott Valley	AZ	86314	United States	10/25/12	Its their home!
Kim Hilts	Hudson	FL	34667	United States	10/25/12	I live in Florida very close to Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs and will protect the Manatees any way I can. They are special creatures and we need to protect them and preserve them. Do NOT Let This Happen!!
Ras Jamie De Bus	Tucson	AZ	85705	United States	10/26/12	Ras Tafari loves and protects ALL living plants and animals, Raaaaaaaas Tafari!!! Fai-yah Bun all haters of animals, Earth, and environments. Fuck you all corporate Capitalist Pigs!!!!!!!!!! Fai-yah!!!!!!!!!!
Julie Morton	Lakeland	FL	33813	United States	10/26/12	My family and I visit the river every weekend. We are not avid fishermen; however, we enjoy observing the plant and animal life, and the overall scenery as we boat down the Chassahowitzka River. It is a beautiful river, and any water reduction that would destroy 15% of the wildlife is too much. We paid big money to attach to the sewer system, to protect the waterways, to help clean up the river. Let's keep our rivers, full, clean, and restored to the way they need to be to help the flora and fauna survive. Most importantly, to be saved for future generations to enjoy.
carolyn finocchio	fernandina beach	FL	32034	United States	10/26/12	there aren't that many left, but there are no manatee "friendly"!!!!!!
Jean Roberts	Oak Park	IL	60302	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are amazing creatures that need protection.
Jessica Smith	Jackson	MI	49201	United States	10/26/12	It is our duty to protect and nurture all life.
Richard Pasichnyk	Mesa	AZ	85201	United States	10/26/12	We need manatees.
Mia Elias	Asheville	NC	28801	United States	10/26/12	Because manatees are apart of Florida
Kate Noto	Clearwater	FL	33764	United States	10/26/12	Because it's the right thing to do!
Jerome Gorski	Clermont	FL	34711	United States	10/26/12	Because I don't want them to come extinct.
Elaine Beggs	Spring Hill	FL	34609	United States	10/26/12	Ever animal and their natural habitat must be protected.
Barbara B Eddins	Isle of Wight	VA	23314	United States	10/26/12	Our natural resources are precious and worth protecting. We can live comfortably without degrading or destroying them.
Mark Venzke	Wildwood	FL	34785	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are special and deserve all the help they can get from us humans
Laurie Bonham	Mesa	AZ	85202-2750	United States	10/26/12	In an odd way, I feel like doing any sort of harm to manatees on purpose is a guarantee of going to Hell.
Connor Doty	Phoenix	AZ	85048	United States	10/26/12	

Sheet1

Charles Belletsky	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/26/12	I live near the Chazz springs and use it. Keep it the same. Leave it alone.
Dr, Monroe A. t Gilb	Palm Coast	FL	32164	United States	10/26/12	manatees deserve every break they can get from us human overlords.
ANABELL M PICCA	North Bay Village	FL	33141	United States	10/26/12	i love animals
Marshall Magruder	Tubac	AZ	85646	United States	10/26/12	I was raised in Florida and know how important manatees are.
Isabel Strzepka	Palm Beach Garder	FL	33410	United States	10/26/12	Beacause we are responsible for the well being and health of our planet and the creatures that occupy it
MJ Cancro	Jupiter	FL	33458	United States	10/26/12	If we lose fresh water habitats we can never get them back. I've seen the manatees in this area and it's like no where else in our U.S.A. This is a real treasure.
JC Phillips	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/26/12	The manatee is Florida natural wildlife and a delicate and sensitive creature. You have no business doing anything that might endanger such a sweet and gentle creature. You buttheads think you can decide for the rest of us, what will and wont happen in our world - well your WRONG and you need to suck it up and get a brain!
Leah King	Hudson	FL	34669	United States	10/26/12	I love manatee and homasassa springs is a beautiful place for these creatures
Sue Chalut	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689	United States	10/26/12	Important to leave mother nature ALONE
Mimi Greek	Tavernier	FL	33070	United States	10/26/12	I love Manatees
Ana Maria Aviles	Boca Raton	FL	33496	United States	10/26/12	1. I love and care for all animals. 2. Eliminate suffering. 3. Manatees are V.I.P. Manatees need our help; they're only endangered because of our actions.
Hope Maruzo	Bozrah	CT	6334	United States	10/26/12	Thank you!
Hugh Hoadley	Sarasota	FL	34238	United States	10/26/12	Lets keep the manatees alive.
HEIDI VASQUEZ	PHOENIX	AZ	85031	United States	10/26/12	Animals are God's creation so why do something that can hurt them?
MaryAnn Johnson	Schererville	IN	46375	United States	10/26/12	I love all animals and these are such lovable creatures.
Lee Canel	Wilmette	IL	60091-2306	United States	10/26/12	Saving Endangered species and protecting habitats is important, and actually helps to protect us too.
Michael Farber	Mesa	AZ	85201	United States	10/26/12	I love nature. We're destroying it all. And will be left with nothing if we don't take a stand.
Ann Griffin	Flagstaff	AZ	86004	United States	10/26/12	This is an encroachment on the habitat and survival of an endangered species!
Florence Socolov	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33305	United States	10/26/12	Our gov. apparently doesn't care about anything other than satisfying his republican cohorts, and ecology is one of the last things on his agenda.
Monte Adkison	Ocala	FL	34476	United States	10/26/12	R U kidding? This is critical to preservation of the environment.
Diane Harris	Tampa	FL	33647	United States	10/26/12	We need to save all the fresh water in Florida. We are destroying the water ways to gain growth - Florida does not have enough fresh water for any more growth.

Sheet1

G Kemp	Dade City	FL	33525	United States	10/26/12	Leave the natural beauty alone.
andy siegel	bo0ca	FL	33486	United States	10/26/12	just is
Martha Iriarte	Cape Coral	FL	33990	United States	10/26/12	We need to protect our world this includes all of it!!!
george and donna g	Casa Grande	AZ	85122	United States	10/26/12	You must save these waters fort the Manatees and for future generations. Every animal that is put in danger of extinction hurts us all.
Don Gorney	Tucson	AZ	85739	United States	10/26/12	All life is inter
LJ Hill	sneads	FL	32460	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are a gentle pre-historic looking creature who needs care to survive the onslaught of humans!
claudia rojas	phoenix	AZ	85042	United States	10/26/12	please help these wonderful creatures their arent many left for us to enjoy.....
Barbara Shaver	Sarasota	FL	34243	United States	10/26/12	Florida's Manatee is a tourist attraction and beloved by many in USA.
America Schroh	no. mia beach	FL	33162	United States	10/26/12	we need to solidarized with others.
Gary Bettum	Sedona	AZ	86336	United States	10/26/12	I love Manatees, can we please find a win-win!?
patricia eads	Phoenix	AZ	85014	United States	10/26/12	endagered manatees
Sharon Risley	Royal Palm Beach	FL	33411	United States	10/26/12	These animals must be protected from extinction, and the water must be protected for all of Florida
Judy Saeger	Sierra Vista	AZ	85650	United States	10/26/12	We need to do everything we can to save these endagered animals. Not to mention the other things that may be hurt if this is carried out!
Sharon Bodnar	Hoffman Estates	IL	60169	United States	10/26/12	These are beautiful animals...I think of Florida when I see them. Keep them flourishing please.
murray creighton	Toronto		M1K 1R6	Canada	10/26/12	They are wonderfull creatures...
Ross Knudsen	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/26/12	Nothing is as important as water
D. A. Belvin	Elizabeth City	NC	27909	United States	10/26/12	These are such gentle creatures. Is nothing sacred any more? I used to live in FL and have seen these up close. How could anyone want to hurt them? I am so tired of money being the end all - which it will be one of these days! We're ending this planet's existence slowly but surely. Please leave these bodies of water alone and let the creatures who live there - live in peace!

James Land	Tallahassee	FL	32312	United States	10/26/12	I am signing this petition not only to assist the manatee, just one of Florida's many natural resoures, but to remind mankind that the most precious commodity in the world is clean, fresh, potable water. In the future, if (humanatee) survives, more wars will be fought over water than any commodity on Earth. Do your research! States have been feuding over water rights and our vast aquafers are being drained at an alarming rate. Saving the manatee is the least of our problems. Turning to polititions to solve our problems is a joke. Polititons are the very people, who in less than 30yrs. have taken the U.S. from the greatest creditor nation on Earth to the greatest debtor nation on Earth. My solution to this Gordian Knot is simple. To believers and non-believers alike, only God the Father of our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus can make right the mess man has made of the soon to be Late Great Planet Earth.
Caroline Barkley	Buckeye	AZ	85326	United States	10/26/12	This is very dear to my heart. I grew up in Miami and we lived on the Miami River. Every morning the gentle giants would swim down stream and every evening swim back up stream. This was before their populations were decimated by sped boats. Please leave them places that are safe for them to live and reproduce. Can't we just learn to live together without destroying everything we feel is in our way?
Robin Hicks	Taylorsville	NC	28681	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are so gentle and I have heard they are becoming endangered.
lori sauber	wesely chapel	FL	33543	United States	10/26/12	we need to save the manatees
Cheryl McGraw	Rocky Point	NC	28457	United States	10/26/12	We are the next species to be imperiled, the manatees situation is reflective of our own very soon.
Lynne Warberg	Sarasota	FL	34233	United States	10/26/12	Be kind to Fl's gentle giants.
Tina choate	Sedona	AZ	86336	United States	10/26/12	ALL wildlife is important. We must preserve these creations of God forthe ecological balance of the planet to be sustained. We have no right to destroy what we cannot recreate.
Christine Laughlin	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/26/12	I remember when the Homosassa River was a beautiful clear flowing river with a white sand bottom, emerald green grasses and diverse wildlife in abundance. Now the water is often murky, there is only muck for vegetation, and very few fish. The fact that there are barnacles in what was formerly a first magnitude spring should be alarming to anyone who cares about our natural environment, especially those intrusted to protect it. If the springs are this detrimentally impacted by only a 1% reduction, what will happen with a 3% reduction????
Susan North	Tucson	AZ	85712	United States	10/26/12	all species deserve our respect and support
Sandra Rosenberg	San Diego	CA	92108	United States	10/26/12	Manatees have no choice in their environment. Humans have plenty.
james mark Turner	Greer	SC	29651	United States	10/26/12	I have live in the area. I know the problems with this.

Sheet1

tom taylor	mesa	AZ	85213	United States	10/26/12	we should do all we can for all species.
Janet Cyktor	Tampa	FL	33624	United States	10/26/12	To save our manatees
Robert Valdivieso	Miami	FL	33131	United States	10/26/12	Enviromental protection and reduction of human polution.
Jennifer Austin	Spring Hill	FL	34606	United States	10/26/12	Save our fresh water, and all the life living there! We've raped our planet enough!!!!!!!!!!
MARY WILSON	LAKELAND	FL	33815	United States	10/26/12	manatees are a special Florida water animal and need adequate environment to survive.
Teresa McConnell	Palm Harbor	FL	34684	United States	10/26/12	Manatees welfare, plain and simple.
daniel Rod	caguas	LA	727	United States	10/26/12	Truth and justice
Christin Lopenzo	Deltona	FL	32725	United States	10/26/12	As a citizen of Volusia County I have the pleasure of seeing the manatees at Blue Springs State Park. They need as much help as they can, they are already in trouble.
Maxine Wooton	Science Hill	KY	42553	United States	10/26/12	manatees are a part of FI. they are educatioal and exciting for visitors.
colleen wilder'	englewood	FL	34223	United States	10/26/12	it is extremely important to me , being a floridian, manatee deserve our respect and protection, they are lovly gentle creatures that we have invaded.
carl barta	miami	FL	33140	United States	10/26/12	I am a FL resident, manatees are absolutely amazing creatures and highly endangered, this is a horrible proposal, lets hope Scott does not get worse than Napoleon Bonaparte Broward.
Annette Pedersen	Glendale	AZ	85302	United States	10/26/12	I am moving to FLorida soon, and would really like to be able to see manatees and tell my friends about them. Such gentle creatures, and something that Florida is well-known for!
Frances Dennis	Goldsboro	NC	27534	United States	10/26/12	These animals are amazing and their habitat should be preserved.
Christopher Molla	Tucson	AZ	85745	United States	10/26/12	The fate of endangered species is a bellwether for the health of the ehvironment. If the manatees do well, it means the wetlands are healthier.
Victor Beck	Phoenix	AZ	85048	United States	10/26/12	And manatees are wonderful creatures.
Dana Wickline	Jupiter	FL	33469	United States	10/26/12	Life should be important to us all.
Meghan Moroney	Orlando	FL	32819	United States	10/26/12	Do you REALLY have to ask "WHY" ????
Donald Holt	Masaryktown	FL	34604	United States	10/26/12	Because to disregard the earth and animals we have stewardship over is the worst kind of bullying. We've already brutalized this habitat, let's not make this much more of a mess of it.
Stacey Knudtson	Chandler	AZ	85225	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are one of Florida's most precious wildlife resources. These gentle giants need spring water flow to keep warm, survive and live.
Rick Smith	Raleigh	NC	27627	United States	10/26/12	I believe in saving these gentle creatures.
Philimina Louis	Jefferson City	FL	33309	United States	10/26/12	My parents live at big pine key wherre the manatees come up to the dock - they need to be protected from people like you!
Cherie Cortez	Maricopa	AZ	85139	United States	10/26/12	I would sign 10 more times if I had to.
						There really is nowhere else for them to go.

Sheet1

melissa roldan	sarasota	FL	34243	United States	10/26/12	As a floridian I truly believe it is our job to protect these wonderful creatures.
Marie Meloy	Margate	FL	33063	United States	10/26/12	The Manatee's are unique to this area and their habitat should be protected.
Dorothy Schultz	El Mirage	AZ	85335	United States	10/26/12	Every species and life form plays a part in the balance of nature, regardless of whether we understand that role or not. When one species of plant or animal disappears, the balance is affected. We are all interdependent whether we believe it or not.
William Showalter	Miami	FL	33193-1212	United States	10/26/12	is this important to you?
Neil Stahl	Chapel Hill	NC	27514-1836	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are great and have a tough time mixing it up in busy waterways. And they were here first.
Eugene Banks	Seminole	FL	33772	United States	10/26/12	Manatees is one of Floridas' rare treasures. They should be cared for at all times.
L.D. Zafar	Orlando	FL	32807	United States	10/26/12	When we interfere with nature we are opening up a can of worms. When will human stop interfering with or trying to control nature thus jeopardizing the delicate balance she has created?
Emma Armshaw	Orlando	FL	32825	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are a symbol of Florida.
Theresa Springer	DeLand	FL	32724	United States	10/26/12	The manatees are lovely, docile creatures. Their habitat needs to be safe.
todd young	jacksonville	FL	32208	United States	10/26/12	they are a precious resource
Amber Sliger	Sanford	FL	32771	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are an indicator species, so if we lose them we may not have the requisite warning that human health is in danger and could cause our own demise. Additionally wildlife and aesthetic beauty are part of the public trust and the government has a responsibility to protect those resources for posterity.
Carol Vienna	Gulfport	FL	33707	United States	10/26/12	Have you ever seen a manatee???
jane jones	cape canaveral	FL	32920	United States	10/26/12	It's the right thing to do. They were here first!!
Lonnie Johnson	Lakeland	FL	33803	United States	10/26/12	to preserve what little is left of old florida
niki irving	coral springs	FL	33065	United States	10/26/12	The manatees cannot speak for themselves, they need refuge
Katherine Irwin	Jax beach	FL	32250	United States	10/26/12	Trying to make an effort on saving this planet and it's inhabitants from us
janet norfleet	elizabeth city	NC	27909	United States	10/26/12	We need to save all animals whenever possible
Cheryl Haium	Bloomington	IN	47403	United States	10/26/12	I remember how excited i was years ago when i "discovered" this creature existed, but disappointed in how quickly the species was being killed off by motor boats. You have yet another chance to do the right thing and not dam up the life-saving waters the manatee in Florida depends on! Please, do the right thing.
Judy Dufficy	Skokie	IL	60076	United States	10/26/12	We absolutely need to stop tampering and altering the environment. It is time we stood up to protect wildlife, their habitats and the planet.
harry hellmold	aripeka	FL	34679	United States	10/26/12	Saving all animals and wild life is important to the overall survival of the world,all live has an equal right to be here on this planet and deserves that respect as an equal.

Lisa Jasicki	Indianapolis	IN	46203	United States	10/26/12	available home space for all animals/fish/birds are being destroyed to build new houses/shopping centers/etc and leaving no place for these species to go. especially when there is plenty of available rental/livable space that is empty.
Linda Copeland	Ellenton	FL	34222	United States	10/26/12	Because this is their habitat and we should not mess with it. I don't want to see this animal or any animal perish. SAVE the animals for now and future generations to come.
Cindy Cardile	Celebration	FL	34747	United States	10/26/12	manatees are beautiful animals
FRANK COLANTUCCI	OSPREY	FL	34229	United States	10/26/12	SAVE THE MANATEES BEFORE THEY ARE EXTINCT!!!
Penny Hollie	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/26/12	They need our help! They are beautiful!
Leanne Zeller	North Fort Myers	FL	33903	United States	10/26/12	If you've had the privilege of seeing these gentle creatures swimming you have to realize it's our job to protect them.
David Garner	Brownsburg	IN	46112	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are endangered and it is time that we cease trying to change the earth to fit us and start changing our behavior and expectations.
John Wrench	Wilton Manors	FL	33334	United States	10/26/12	We have few manatees left. Lets not lose any more.
Chris Jordan	Orlando	FL	32835	United States	10/26/12	All creatures are!
Laurene Cujko	Daytona Beach	FL	32114	United States	10/26/12	Such a gentle creature, please keep them safe!
Lana May	Mt. Prospect	IL	60056-3418	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are gentle giants and an endangered specie, as far as I'm concerned, because of motor boats and actions, such as this, to harm their ability to find refuge in spring-fed warm water environments.
Gail Parsons	Odessa	FL	33556	United States	10/26/12	I am a native Floridian and want to protect our native Florida resources. I was swimming in these springs as a kid 60 years ago. Springs such as the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa are precious Florida treasures and need your protection. Allowing reductions in flow is not protection these springs deserve and each governing board member who votes to allow flow reduction is betraying the public trust. I also lead Sierra Club kayak trips on these rivers and I am intimately familiar with them. I wonder how many board members have paddled these rivers and truly understand them?
Karen Judge	Oakland Park	FL	33334	United States	10/26/12	We keep taking away what is rightfully theirs-all animals!!! We, humans just think we are so superior and entitled.
Joyce Charles	New Port Richey	FL	34654	United States	10/26/12	I live close to this area and want my child to be able to experience the same things I did as a child. Manatees are endangered and there should be no screwing around with God's habitats!
Lorraine Sherman	Gainesville	FL	32609	United States	10/26/12	I am sick and tired of privatizing profits and socializing liabilities - all on the backs of the tax payers. I am also concerned about unintended consequences. Sucking water out of the ground faster than it's replaced is piss poor water management.
Jenny Andry	Baton Rouge	LA	70816	United States	10/26/12	Manatees have experienced enough harm from humans resulting in drastic population decline.

Sheet1

Jean Yedkois	Clearwater	FL	33764	United States	10/26/12	We are animals voice...
Fran Randall	Flagstaff	AZ	86001	United States	10/26/12	This area is a National Treasure to be cared for and preserved. Please do not reduce the flow.
Andrew Jacobsen	Apache Junction	AZ	85120	United States	10/26/12	I hate to see the environments of all the animals and fish be altered which may cause harm to those beings.
Pattie Lewis	Cocoa	FL	32927	United States	10/26/12	All species are important and we cannot continue to let non-scientists make these decisions.
Debra Byrd	North Charleston	SC	29420	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are the gentle giants. They are precious gifts from God as are all animals.
Steven Blizzard	Johnston	SC	29832	United States	10/26/12	The beautiful Manatee should be protected forever.
Dennis Balgemann	North Fort Myers	FL	33917-4407	United States	10/26/12	Changing the natural order of water flow can often result in reversible loss of habitat for endangered species such as the Florida Manatee.
Ann Callahan	Aiken	SC	29803	United States	10/26/12	These beautiful and gentle animals are an intrinsic part of a healthy Florida ecosystem, as are all animals in their own habitats. Please, do not reduce their flow of water and put them in more danger than they are already in from human mistreatment.
Colin Dugger	Tallahassee	FL	32304	United States	10/26/12	I'm tired of rick scott being the worst governor possible.
max suarez	Pompano Beach	FL	33065	United States	10/26/12	I like animals
M Wurzbach	Holmes Beach	FL	34217	United States	10/26/12	Peaceful, beautiful animals need protection.
shelley norris	palm bay	FL	32907	United States	10/26/12	i love the manatees and they need places to go when it gets cold
Linda Linke	Champaign	IL	61822	United States	10/26/12	We are losing so much of our wildlife through threatened habitats. Please save these gentle creatures for generations to come.
Michael Grantham	Tallahassee	FL	32308	United States	10/26/12	Because the manatees deserve protection.
Kaye Lloyd	Tampa	FL	33614	United States	10/26/12	They need our help.
R D	Gulf Breeze	FL	32561	United States	10/26/12	let the water flow
Thom Juul	HAMMOND	IN	46320	United States	10/26/12	These big ugly creatures should be protected.
marisela rivera	altamonte springs	FL	32714	United States	10/26/12	Protecting all ecosystems and their wildlife for future generations to enjoy and to keep the balance on earth should be important to all humanity.
Pricilla Smith	Tucson	AZ	85712	United States	10/26/12	We are interconnected with all species--save these animals.
Lyn Williams	Winter Haven	FL	33884	United States	10/26/12	They were here 1st..they should have more rights than we as "man" do...including all animals. They are kind, sweet, beauties, that deserve all the positive considerations that they deserve! What is the matter with "man" that they treat all species of animals, mammals etc. with such horrific disrespect. Please do not allow this to happen to the beautiful, defenseless Manatees.

Edith Torres	Orange City	FL	32763	United States	10/26/12	If you've never seen these creatures up close, you need to as soon as possible! Cumbersome they may seem, but in actuality they are gentle, graceful creatures! An intelligence shows in their eyes. I can understand why some called them Mermaids. These creatures are beautiful and a part of our ecosystem. Let them not be destroyed by our penchant of arrogance and egotistical superiority!
andrew ward	fernandina beach	FL	32034	United States	10/26/12	Having lived in Florida all my life, I have witnessed first-hand the slow and steady destruction of every facet of this states natural resources and beauty at the hands of its citizens and elected officials. I am losing hope that it will ever end.
Arlene Kiely	Silver Spring	MD	20904 5855	United States	10/26/12	We must protect the earth and environment for gentle creatures who preserve our link all creation.
D. Griffin	St. Charles	IL	60174	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are awesome.
Melissa Morales	Hialeah	FL	33016	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are gentle creatures who deserve our help! Being a Florida native I've only seen a few in my lifetime and I want my son & his children to see one one day too.
susan waters	Monticello	FL	32344	United States	10/26/12	leave the water alone and save the manatees
Cheryl Wilkerson	New Orleans	LA	70128	United States	10/26/12	Lover of all animals!!!! I don't like man's selfishness!!!
Joan Felkner	Apache junction	AZ	85178	United States	10/26/12	The manatees are gentle and should be saved
Nancy Lasseter	Gainesville	FL	32605- 2511	United States	10/26/12	I am a native Floridian who wants to do what is right for our beautiful rivers and springs. They must be protected.
James Witt	New Port Rchy	FL	34654	United States	10/26/12	Winter months, bring water tourist into Florida's fresh water. Change, means Florida's Tourist Income, gone.
jackie fletcher	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/26/12	for very obvious reasons!!
						It is important for many reasons -at the top of the list: 1. Manatees are an important attraction for tourists from all over the world. 2. Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs are destinations for state, national and international tourists. 3. Reductions will environmentally affect these fragile spring-fed fresh water ecosystems. 4. The proposed reductions of fresh water flow and increased salinity could lead to "destroying" saline intolerant species. 5. In addition to the potential reduction in Manatees, other numerous rare and imperiled species of plants and animals that rely on the springs and fresh water habitats also risk extinction including: Fresh Water Mussels, Old Cypress Trees and Terrestrial Orchids, Black Bears, Whooping Cranes, Wood Storks, and other native feathered friends.
Sarah Lansky	Sarasota	FL	34241	United States	10/26/12	
Linda Jones	San Antonio	TX	78245	United States	10/26/12	Use to live in Florida. Want to keep it beautiful.

Sheet1

Janet Clark	Clearwater	FL	33764	United States	10/26/12	Every species of animal's habitats, especially the endangered species need to be protected. The reason we moved to Florida was for my daughter to work with the manatees.
Paula Mather	Lutz	FL	33558	United States	10/26/12	God put the rivers and springs here, then He added the manatees and fish. Why do we always put our own interests first?
Dewey Steele	Homestead	FL	33031	United States	10/26/12	Concern about the health and availability of Florida's waters
Tonie Cruz	Tucson	AZ	85705	United States	10/26/12	Save our animals for our little one to view.
Rhonda Goodman	Miami	FL	33156	United States	10/26/12	The manatees deserve to be protected. They are an important part of the environment.
Barbara Stout	Myrtle beach	SC	29588	United States	10/26/12	One of the most amazing experiences of my life was swimming with the manatees....these are gentle and amazing creatures...any loss of them is a loss for us all!
Debra Meister	tampa	FL	33613	United States	10/26/12	Manatees don't hurt anyone. Why would you want to do something to endanger their lives?
Robert Campana	Lutz	FL	33549	United States	10/26/12	Preserving ALL species on this planet is important to me!!!
Nancy DeForge	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/26/12	We are all guardians of our water whether it is in the aquifer, springs, lakes, ocean, and especially in our rivers, of which Citrus County has 7. Citizens who pay taxes for your budgets and salaries expect no less of you than trust that you WILL do this care for our precious water, wildlife, and ultimately, US!
Oliver Bucolo	Grants Pass	OR	97526	United States	10/26/12	I'm from Florida
Raheem whiteside	Arden	NC	28704	United States	10/26/12	I am all about wild life
Judith Hand	Daytona Beach	FL	32118	United States	10/26/12	When I first moved to FL 25 years ago, I was astounded by the manatees. Such peaceful creatures, so unique and so badly beaten by what we humans have done. We need to take care of the manatees before they again are threatened with the extinction list!
Brett Robert	Coral Springs	FL	33071	United States	10/26/12	Gov. Scott has done a lot of harm to people in this state. We need to keep him from doing even more harm to the wildlife and environment!
Eileen Hallberg	Brooksville	FL	34604	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are beautiful, gentle creatures and we need to protect their environment!
darrell rich	Sarasota	FL	34238	United States	10/26/12	People need to stop destroying the environment. I can see a future where there are no humans left because we allow certain people to take advantage of our ecosystem. If we want to continue to be a species, we need to start thinking far ahead before we destroy it all.
Eileen Green	Tucson	AZ	85713	United States	10/26/12	There is nothing more important to me than the interrelationship between all living beings...people, animals and plants. We must do everything we can to educate the American people and imagine that we are these animals.
Martha Moser	Evanston	IL	60202	United States	10/26/12	Take every measure to preserve the habitat of Florida wildlife. The manatee is rare and precious.
Marty Senetra	Crystal River	FL	34428	United States	10/26/12	I'm a cave diver and conduct snorkeling tours with manatee.

Sheet1

John Peterson	Green Cove Springs	FL	32043	United States	10/26/12	We can't continue as a viable species without the full diversity of animal life on the planet.
Nancy Becton	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33322-4906	United States	10/26/12	I have always lived in FL and want to see this area preserved for the manatee and fresh water habitat. We do not need to mess with what nature herself has established.
Natalie Philip	Orange Park	FL	32065	United States	10/26/12	Manatees must be protected!
Heather Wildman	North Fort Myers	FL	33917	United States	10/26/12	I live in FL and see the damage we do to our creatures & waters in many different ways. It needs to stop.
Norma Jean Zvoser	Cape Haze	FL	33946	United States	10/26/12	It is the right thing to do!
Kris Lindbeck	Boca Raton	FL	33431	United States	10/26/12	Not only is this the right thing to do ethically for the manatees and Florida citizens, but saving the manatees will preserve tourism to the region.
Duane Matlack	Asheville	NC	28805	United States	10/26/12	Every creature on this planet has a purpose we should not interfere with any creatures livelihood
Debora Hartzell	Atlanta	GA	30328	United States	10/26/12	The manatees need protection to survive! They are harmless, beautiful, and endangered. We have NO right to push them to extinction for our own 'needs'.
Mari Helen High	Tucson	AZ	85745	United States	10/26/12	If we are to survive, we must maintain the ecosystems that keep us alive, and the animals, like Manatees, and essential to each of their ecosystems.
STINA HUBB	Mandeville	LA	70448	United States	10/26/12	Florida is my hometown and manatee's are a part of what Florida has to offer. They are beautiful, harmless animals. Save the Florida Manatees!
John Howie	New Port Richey	FL	34652	United States	10/26/12	Salt water intrusion is killing all these rivers. Don't make it worse by taking even more water out.
bill descalzi	dunnellon	FL	34432-9525	United States	10/26/12	SWFWMD approves too many water bottling plants
norma frost	springhill	FL	34609	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are an endangered species in FL, one of many. If we can make some positive moves to save them, I think we should.
Candi Webb	Lakeland	FL	33810	United States	10/26/12	These very special animals should be protected, not driven to extinction.
THOMASINA ARMSTRONG	PEMBROKE PINES	FL	33026	United States	10/26/12	because I was born and raised in florida
Mr. & Mrs FRANK C	Edenton	NC	27932	United States	10/26/12	We love all animals
Dana Nielsen	Palm Bay	FL	32907	United States	10/26/12	OK YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH THEM... WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT LADY DOING? (BREAKING THE LAW!!!!)
Daniel Racine	Estero	FL	33928	United States	10/26/12	Mother Nature KNOWS BEST. So, don't mess with Mom.
John O'Keefe	Durham	NC	27713	United States	10/26/12	While it has been many years since I last visited Homosassa Springs, I still vividly remember the almost ethereal manatees there. They are among the gentlest and most helpless creatures to be found, but we humans seen determined to wipe them out through both thoughtless and planned actions. We must come to understand that there are consequences to our actions -- in this case, bad consequences!

Elizabeth Smyth	Crystql River	FL	34429	United States	10/26/12	I live off Dixie Bay at the Islands and even here we see the results of water quality and supply. Otten there are manatee here mating, otters and dolphins. Don't let them ruin our waters.
Jamie Sandstedt	Winter Park	FL	32789	United States	10/26/12	They are beautiful, peaceful creatures that need and deserve to have their natural habitat.
shauna sherman	Ocala	FL	34482	United States	10/26/12	so that our future generations can see the beautiful water n animals that i grew up to love n learn from
DELORIS GUTIERREZ	Ocala	FL	34472	United States	10/26/12	we need are manatees so keep the water flowing please
james branaman	st petersburg	FL	33701	United States	10/26/12	This could allow salt water intrusion and affect many plants and animals in the ecosystem.
Janice Jacoby	Crystal River	FL	34428	United States	10/26/12	We are the only place in the world where you can swim in the springs with the Manatee! We love them and they love us!
Cynthia Doyle	Clermont	FL	34711	United States	10/26/12	I love our manatees!
Nancy Marshall	Gibsonton	FL	33534	United States	10/26/12	I grew up on the Chaz and the thought of it not being there in its pristine condition for future generation sickens me. I have already begun to notice a difference in the salt content and the clarity of the springs/river. NO more reduction of flow!!
Ronald Leh	Largo	FL	33771	United States	10/26/12	because we have to protect the manatees from mans destructive policies.
Marcia Biggs	Safety Harbor	FL	34695	United States	10/26/12	For the manatees
Sarah Carter	Sarasota	FL	34276	United States	10/26/12	No one has said -why- they are suggesting doing this, but there must be another creative solution to whatever the problem is that isn't going to hurt the environment.
Charlotte Fant	Melbourne	FL	32934	United States	10/26/12	There is little space left for the manatees to congregate in warm water.
Amanda Miles	Ft Lauderdale	FL	33305	United States	10/26/12	Manatees deserve our protection.
Heather Donnelly	Seminole	FL	33772	United States	10/26/12	Here's the thing: It's wrong to put the manatee on a license plate and then not protect it's habitat. You shouldn't get to be proud of a creature you are imperiling with extinction.
alison morton	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/26/12	Disruption of our ecosystems have long term, often irreparable effects
Betty Whitmer	Holly Hill	FL	32117	United States	10/26/12	We need to watch over every creature. Not just r self. We need to do the right thing
Vicki Meyer	Sarasota	FL	34243	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are wonderful creatures. They need our protection.
Tracy Stevanov	Tallahassee	FL	32308	United States	10/26/12	This is like saving Florida itself. One of the true redeeming features of Florida Wildlife are these majestic docile creatures. That not only never disturb others but live side by side alligators. They are a large animal that needs are protection!
Robyn Sparrow	Largo	FL	33770	United States	10/26/12	I love manatees with all my heart and any way I can help them I will!
francine slack	holmes beach	FL	34217	United States	10/26/12	We need to save our springs and the wildlife which depends upon it because our health and our state's economy are prime beneficiaries as well.
Sandra Goldblatt	Ottershaw		KT16 0QG	United Kingdom	10/26/12	Saving Manatees

						keeping wildlife safe is a duty that all people should be held accountable for, they where here long before us and we are destoring their habitates. They are the childern of this earth and its our job to help them live in this ever changing world that we seem hell bent on destoring.
Angela Murrell	Titusville	FL	32780	United States	10/26/12	
roberto soto	west palm beach	FL	33417	United States	10/26/12	I'm an animal lover and these creatures need our protection.
Eric Durham	Dade City	FL	33523	United States	10/26/12	No further reductions should be allowed. These spring fed fresh water ecosystems need to be protected from further degradation.
Jaxs Powell	Vero Beach	FL	32961	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are an endangered species and therefore are protected. Reducing the fresh water flow destroys their home and the homes of many other wildlife. It is irresponsible and a crime against earth, animals and humans.
Diane Schroeder	Ft. Myers	FL	33967	United States	10/26/12	WE need to be smart and quite destroying what is good for us. Nature only has us to help .
Frank Kopczynski	Clearwater	FL	33762	United States	10/26/12	I would like to leave at least one or two of the things I love about Florida for my grandchildren
Andreu J MacAndre	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33305-3412	United States	10/26/12	The environment and the preservation of wildlife is sacrosanct above all else. It is irreplaceable and must be maintained, preserved and held sacred no matter the financial, economic or social cost. Nothing matters more.
Lindsay Carson	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689-2029	United States	10/26/12	We should protect animals, but that aside...Beautiful places and animals in Florida nature offer priceless memories for families, appreciation for nature and tourism.
Diane Lewis	Lecanto	FL	34461	United States	10/26/12	I am a 5th generation FL native. I have seen too much of my precious state destroyed, it needs to be stopped. I am also an avid kayaker and amateur photographer and enjoy combining both of these activities. If they continue to reduce flows I will not be able to enjoy kayaking on some of my local rivers.
marina sharts	summerville	SC	29485	United States	10/26/12	i visited Homosassa Spings some years ago and loved seeing the manatees up close
Lois Wright	Ponte Vedra	FL	32082	United States	10/26/12	We need to protect the manatees.
Judi Stephens	Bradenton	FL	34205	United States	10/26/12	They are gentle giants. To take away their water is to try to kill them. We have to learn to share the earth with the animals - not continue to take everything, without care.
Damaris Krois	Auburndle	FL	33823	United States	10/26/12	We need to protect these gentle creatures!
Catherine Harrelson	St. Petersburg	FL	33703	United States	10/26/12	Florida's freshwater springs and rivers are critical to the health and economic vitality of the state. And most are in serious decline, yet the powers that be want to continue withdrawing water at an unsustainable rate. Floridians understand the importance of water. It's time to stand up to protect it.

BARBARA MCGUIRE	Eustis	FL	32736	United States	10/26/12	I grew up spending my summers in Homosassa and Weeki Wachee. I saw the reduction of the Manatees first hand. These creatures need our help. Please do not reduce the flow of the fresh water to our rivers.
Arnold Tarling	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/26/12	When they are gone we can't create another one.
Gail Nadeau	Kissimmee	FL	34744	United States	10/26/12	I live in Florida & think that people are taking to much of essential habitats away from wonderful animals like the Manatees & Want them to be here for future generations so it is important to preserve & help them in little ways like this.
Terry Widener	Wintergarden	FL	34473	United States	10/26/12	Keep Florida NATURAL!!!!!!!
Eilene Glick	Delray Beach	FL	33446	United States	10/26/12	Eilene A. Glick
Amy McReynolds	Carbondale	IL	62901	United States	10/26/12	Never mess with the ecosystem!
william livigni	Shreveport	LA	71105	United States	10/26/12	Because the Manatees are important!
Charles Savoree	Sebastian	FL	32958	United States	10/26/12	Because there is No excuse to endanger these Gentle Animals. Florida needs to learn to Quit playing God with the Enviroment, and let nature take it's course. You would think they would have learned from the Everglades...but No.
Samantha lubben	land o lakes	FL	34639	United States	10/26/12	Please don't vote for reductions. We can't just let thousands of Manatees die.
Mary Misiolek	crawfordville	FL	32327	United States	10/26/12	They need our help, we are destroying our natural wonders.
Diane Zodda	Spring Hill	FL	34608	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are wonderful and we are going to watch them go down the springs to watch them
Thomas Mealor	Tampa	FL	33604	United States	10/26/12	As a long time resident of the Hillsborough River, I have seen the problems that arise from low flow to the rive. All flow should be kept at regular flows for ALL waterways of Florida and the world.
Louise Colegrove	North Lauderdale	FL	33068	United States	10/26/12	I think it goes without saying. SAVE THE MANATEES.
Roberta Bauer	Boynton Beach	FL	33436	United States	10/26/12	I am a new resident of Florida (1 year) and I am astounded at the natural beauty and wildlife. It's in our interest to save the springs for the manatees.
GEORGIA KAKARC	St Petersburg	FL	33711	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are a part of Florida's natural environment and a thing of beauty. Why do people like Rick Scott want to destroy our national treasures? Probably to put more money in his pocket. Stop thinking about yourself and your lobbist and start thinking about our state. Do not wait to vote, speak for ourselves so it's up to us to be their voice.
Janet Hassele	Okeechobee	FL	34972	United States	10/26/12	The Manatees vote speak for themselves so it's up to us to be their voice.
Jacqueline Georgi	Crestview	FL	32536	United States	10/26/12	As a resident of Florida, it is of great importance to me that we protect the natural environment of the state as well as the wild life. The manatees are a beautiful part of Florida.
Ben Burton	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/26/12	Protecting an endangered species should always be a priority.
agata mosery	Boca Raton	FL	33487	United States	10/26/12	Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat.

Gaby Melzer	Sanford	FL	32771	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are such gentle, amazing creatures - Please don't cause them to freeze to death in the Winter - they need to be able to seek refuge from the cold in the springs! Manatees already have so much working against them - I urge you not to add another thing to the list!
Benjamin Phillips	San Jose	CA	95125	United States	10/26/12	I have always been in awe of Florida's natural beauty- anything done to harm its natural residents would be a shame. It's not worth it.
Kathleen Myers	Navarre	FL	32566	United States	10/26/12	I am a resident of Florida and believe that our wildlife should be protected, not endangered.
Greg Holeman	Sugarloaf key	FL	33042	United States	10/26/12	I live here
Lauren Leitkowski	Boca Raton	FL	33432	United States	10/26/12	Every time man tried to manipulate nature, it backfires. Changing the flow of a river or its natural course will only do harm. I am familiar with these springs and rivers which are incredible, beautiful places which must NOT be tampered with. Haven't we done enough damage to our planet?!
Helen Cuan	Miami	FL	33182	United States	10/26/12	We need to protect species that are in danger. As a result, they need of fresh water habitats for their continued survival.
Covington Campbell	Tequesta	FL	33469	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are an important part of our ecosystem.
margo williams	bradenton	FL	34208	United States	10/26/12	As a college student I visited these springs to enjoy the manatees. I have told my children of the great memories I built there. Please do not cut the flow and endanger the safety and health of these beautiful animals. I want my children to have the opportunity to have the same wonderful experience.
Bobby Pulliam	Vero Beach	FL	32960	United States	10/26/12	Why wouldn't this be important to anyone?
Bryce Gallentine	Orlando	FL	32811	United States	10/26/12	I LOVE THE MANATEES!
Linda Farin	Hollywood	FL	33019	United States	10/26/12	The manatees are national treasures, so peaceful.
Salacka Pamela	Merritt Island	FL	32953	United States	10/26/12	We need to preserve our natural wildlife and the manatees are very important to me.
Gerald Green	Miami	FL	33134	United States	10/26/12	Save the manatees and our springs. Stop the cheap sale of our spring waters to commercial bottles.
N. Elizabeth Markov	Tallahassee	FL	32308	United States	10/26/12	Manatees are losing population and are unique to Florida. They also eat weeds that choke up beautiful springs
Kathy Skipper	Webster	FL	33597	United States	10/27/12	I think we should do all we can to preserve the natural waterways of Florida & it's habitat. Plus Endangered species such as the manatee depend on these waterways & endangered species should be protected
Tracy Torres	Lakeland	FL	33810	United States	10/27/12	I live in fl, I love seeing these sweet creatures! Anything I can do to help I will!
MARY TELFER	Palm Coast	FL	32164	United States	10/27/12	we NEED TO PROTECT THESE CREATURESTHEY ARE DEPENDENTWE MUST SAVE ALL CREATURES IN NATURE

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Paul Toneguzzo	Naples	FL	34109	United States	10/27/12	I am a avid defender of wildlife
Sharon Cohen	Boynton Beach	FL	33437	United States	10/27/12	Manatees have no protection except intelligent and caring humans. Please save them!
KAREN TURNER	ORLANDO	FL	32810	United States	10/27/12	To many people are not even aware these cuties exist. Let's change that! I was born & raised in FL. so it is very important to me.
Fred Price	bradenton	FL	34209	United States	10/27/12	to save the manatee's
william langley	fort lauderdale	FL	33305	United States	10/27/12	own property in chaz someday would like my kids and grand kids to enjoy the beauty of the manatees. Be kind respect live life
Kris Kelley	Cocoa	FL	32926	United States	10/27/12	we need to protect these areas for the next generation and for the wildlife
noahdm sanchez	Tampa	FL	33612-5494	United States	10/27/12	Be vegan. Save the manatees. Go green. All to save the planet.
Sharon Kermes	Miami	FL	33186	United States	10/27/12	Love our MANATEES!
Sean Harney	Boca Raton	FL	33433	United States	10/27/12	For our future
susan de nolf	Winter Springs	FL	32708	United States	10/27/12	Ever creature has a right to life,Please save the Manatees no reduction to the flow.
Kathy Sherrod	Greenacres	FL	33415	United States	10/27/12	Our economy is dependent upon our tropical and subtropical ecology. We must be good stewards of the Garden we were entrusted with.
Alexis Bellovich	sarasota	FL	34231	United States	10/27/12	I love Florida springs
Bianca Green	port saint lucie	FL	34953	United States	10/27/12	we only have one mother earth. she does not belong to us, but rather we belong to her...it is our moral obligation to protect the beauty of every creature
Elenora Sabin	St. Petersburg	FL	33710	United States	10/27/12	As a Floridian living on the Gulf Coast I love to see manatees. These endangered sea mammals deserve more protection, not further endangerment.
Catherine Christens	Sarasota	FL	34230	United States	10/27/12	Their habitat relies on our protection from civilization's destructive priorities
Simmone Walters	Miami	FL	33169	United States	10/27/12	I love animals, since they cannot speak for themselves, we humans have to.
Jennifer Marsh	Chapel Hill	NC	27514	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are special animals that should be protected.
Diana Law	Burien	WA	98148	United States	10/27/12	I am a former FL resident and my family still lives there. I would like to see the natural places protected for future generations.
T. norton	seminole	FL	33772	United States	10/27/12	testing mother nature like this -- is it really necessary?? many areas like this should always be protected- leave them well enough alone. AND YES PROTECTED SHOULD BE DEFINED! the oil drilling mess, now this? whats next? Seriously!
Mark Kafka	Lauderhill	FL	33319	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are among the gentlest creatures on earth and we -- as the supposed superior species -- should do everything we can to ensure their safety and survival.
Lisa King	Sarasota	FL	34238	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are one of the Florida icons..we have to help them

						Our rivers are already in critical condition and to allow any percentage at all in flow reduction is unconscionable. SWFWMD already allows water use permits to be issued for the cost to \$50 and no metering when someone 'says' they are only going to take 50,000 gallons per day. Of course, with no metering, how do they know how much water is being taken? Crystal River is going to be the next for MFL's to be set, and if permits without metering are already being issued, it scares me to death what they will do setting MFL's. The water permit issued recently is being transported to Ocala to be sold as bottled water. Water transfer!! And no metering on how much is really being taken. SWFWMD is allowing flow reduction in rivers that are already dying or dead. Data that is being used to justify this action can be manipulated to provide the desired results. Use common sense....look at the rivers.....look at the lack of aquatic plants that are conducive to the rivers.....look at the salinity in areas that used to be fresh water....look at the decrease in wild life, fish, and flora and fauna, look at the degradation of our spings. It is obvious to the lay person what it happening...surely the scientists are smart enough to see what's going on without graphs and numbers and such. If we, the people who love are waterways can see what's happening, there's no data in the world that can change what is obvious to those of us who are aware and feel the pain of watching our rivers and our wildlife die.
Dee Atkins	Crystal River	FL	34428	United States	10/27/12	
Rev Clyde Sanda	Marathon	FL	33050	United States	10/27/12	Because they can't help themselves. They are one of God's creatures and have the right to live. They were here first.
Kim Savino	west palm beach	FL	33403	United States	10/27/12	I,m a water loving Floridian and I have never seen a Manatee in the wild! They are scarce enough.. lets not put them at more of a risk!
Tara Marr	Fellsmere	FL	32948	United States	10/27/12	Mess with there waters your messing with me. These awesome mammals deserve better than this sham on you!!!!
Heather Campbell	Clearwater	FL	33761	United States	10/27/12	Rick Scott has no regard for the environment what-so-ever. Good luck with this petition against his anti-green administration.
Varuni Roberts	New Smyrna	FL	32169	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are part of Florida's heritage and need to be saved for the generations still to come.
Patrice Williams	Jacksonville	FL	32205	United States	10/27/12	I'm all for protecting wildlife.
Irene Pilinger	N Miami Beach	FL	33162	United States	10/27/12	I love manatees and go to visit the parks to see them every winter.
William Garvin	Homosassa	FL	34448-3900	United States	10/27/12	I live in the head waters of the Homosassa River and have been here for ten years. I do Manatee watch and Lake Watch water testing as well as underwater photography. i have seen first hand the degradatin of the river to the point it seems dead. i do nt want to the the coffin nailed shut!!!
Teri Fainberg	Delray	FL	33446	United States	10/27/12	I own a boat in the Keys and these sweet mammals swim up to say hi all the time.

elizabeth balbin	coral gables	FL	33124	United States	10/27/12	FLorida manatees are one of the most beautiful and gentle creatures. We should do everything in our power to protect them and their environment.
Doug Coleman	Jacksonville	FL	32205	United States	10/27/12	Aside from recreational use and natural beauty, these springs depletion signal an unsustainable drawdown of the aquifer...a very bad scenario.
Jane Ciesielski	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/27/12	and say yes to reduced speed of boats to protect the manatees.
Angela Logalbo	Palm Beach	FL	33480	United States	10/27/12	Why would this NOT be important?
Michael Byerly	Crestview	FL	32539	United States	10/27/12	Having lived in Citrus County for more than 20 years, and seeing the natural beauty of our rivers there, I must add my name to this petition.
stephen anderson	plantation	FL	33322	United States	10/27/12	Manatees have had a rough time trying to survive as it is.S.F.W.M hasn't helped much
Cherie Dam	Warwick		Wk08	Bermuda	10/27/12	We need a future worthwhile for our children!
Chelsea McMillan	Indian Rocks Beach	FL	33785	United States	10/27/12	I grew up with Manatees in Chassahowitzka. Say NO to reductions in flow.
Fawn Scher	Billings	MT	59101	United States	10/27/12	I lived in FI my whole life and i love manatees, they deserve respect
Louise Collins	Avon Park	FL	33825	United States	10/27/12	WE are over running all of natural habitats leading to endangered species and it has got to stop!
Carl Brewer	Inglis	FL	34449	United States	10/27/12	I live here
Yvonne Townsley	Louisburg	NC	27549	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are endangered, fragile, and an important part of our ecosystem. Protect them now - they are part of us!!!
Linda Sobel	Boca Raton	FL	33487	United States	10/27/12	They are beautiful creatures and deserve to be protected. Please Help!
carmen micheletti	williston	FL	32696	United States	10/27/12	Need to save our springs
Chad Bower	North Fort Myers	FL	33917	United States	10/27/12	I fish SW florida (catch and release) We need to be focusing on ways to IMPROVE our environment, not destroying it.
Leitha Bowles	Temple Terrace	FL	33617	United States	10/27/12	These are spring fed coastal rivers, which need to be protected from further salt water encroachment, they are habitat to fresh water species and the cold provides live- saving thermal refuge to endangered Manatees during winter months.
Rene Tanner	Phoenix	AZ	85042	United States	10/27/12	The manatees cannot require, request or otherwise communicate their need for habitat. However, we know that they need it to survive. Do the right thing for this species and allow its survival.
Vicki Parker-Mabe	Cocoa	FL	32927	United States	10/27/12	We must save these wonderful mammals. They are so friendly and cause no harm to anyone. Gov. Scott get off your butt and save these mammals for our State.
Betty Pearce	Hickory	NC	28601	United States	10/27/12	many natural habiiats are, and have been, destroyed. It needs to stop to preserve the beauties of the earth.
lisa sullivan	palm harbor	FL	34684	United States	10/27/12	I live in florida and it wouldnt be florida without our wildlife!!

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Laura Bork	MIAMI	FL	33176	United States	10/27/12	I have lived in Miami my whole life and am thankful that the "sea cows" are rebounding...this is a great tribute to protection laws...Thanks to everyone involved in the protection of this gentle creature...
Jacqui Thomas	LAFAYETTE	IN	47905	United States	10/27/12	If we do not protect God's creations, then what good are we to God>
SHIRLEY MAKSYM	BEVERLY HILLS	FL	34465	United States	10/27/12	To save our water life and preserve our water ways as God has intended when He created them.
Ellen Saunders	Manning	OR	97125	United States	10/27/12	I own property in Seabring Florida and have seen the devastation caused to the wild life. Please protect the environment.
Tamera Bell	Ocala	FL	34470	United States	10/27/12	because God gave us these waters and these animals and we have to take care of them and do the right thing this is there home and we should protect there home just like we protect our own home.
Alice Jacobs	Pt. Richey	FL	34668	United States	10/27/12	To preserve the natural beauty of Florida & to save the Manatees & fish & the rest of Florida's wild life & beauty.
stacy rowicki	port saint lucie	FL	34952	United States	10/27/12	Saving the beautiful FI manatee is of utmost importance to protect yet another unique gift of love to be tortured and killed due to humanity's ignorant selfish decisions.
Mark England	Tampa	FL	33617	United States	10/27/12	It is just wrong.
Michele Pemberton	Cape Coral	FL	33909	United States	10/27/12	The Manatees are a part of fla that needs too be preserved.
Clay Steinmann	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/27/12	We must save what little natural habitat thats left.
Mary Warren	Wheaton	IL	60187-5905	United States	10/27/12	Maintaining the delicate web of life means that we are responsible Earth citizens and are playing our part to foster God's creation.
Lorraine Panagos	Lake Harmony	PA	18624	United States	10/27/12	I love all animals and Manatees are wonderful, unique and peaceful!!
ROBERT BUNTING	HOMOSASSA	FL	34446	United States	10/27/12	I LIVE IN FLORIDA AND HAVE FELT THE IMPACT OF WATER FLOWS AND IT SCARES ME.
Sylvia Anglen	Gainesville	FL	32609	United States	10/27/12	These are beautiful and gentle creatures. Leave them alone!
JEWEL GRUTMAN	ST UGUSTINE	FL	32080	United States	10/27/12	uniquir , harmless life form should be saved not killed carelessly
Lisa Hoffman	St Petersburg	FL	33711	United States	10/27/12	As Floridians, we should be protecting our wildlife especially endangered.
diana drake	north miami	FL	33068	United States	10/27/12	Love to see them well and swimming along!
Monica Woll	Tavernier	FL	33070	United States	10/27/12	Florida has more springs than anywhere else in the world. Once we lose them, they may never come back!
Theresa Crater	Lafayette	CO	80026	United States	10/27/12	I have family in Florida and love to visit the manatees.
peter fernandez	daytona beach	FL	32118	United States	10/27/12	why isn't this important to everyone else
Christina Reed	Lexington	SC	29073	United States	10/27/12	Manatees have no way to speak up for themselves
Judith Cannon	Sarasota	FL	34241	United States	10/27/12	If you reduce the natural existence of life on Earth, you reduce your own existence. Like gravity, it's the simplest law of the universe - even kids in a ghetto understand 'what goes around, comes around.'
Peter Barnett	Seminole	FL	33772	United States	10/27/12	I love Manatees

Sheet1

James Yarwood	Ellenton	FL	34222	United States	10/27/12	Manatee's bring many out of state tourists to these areas. Manatee's hurt no one, and their needed enviroment should not be compremized.
George Harbin	Homosassa	FL	34446-4824	United States	10/27/12	I live nearby and use them frequently. I refuse to let our river flows be reduced for commercial and other than residential and local business uses
Lou Plessala	Berwick	LA	70342	United States	10/27/12	For GOD'S sake Governor and Board!!! What are ya'll trying to do to these ENDANGERED Manatees??? I guess NONE of you CARE about FUTURE generations because if you DO cut back the FLOW of these two fresh water rivers, you WILL WRECKEN with MOTHER NATURE!!! DON'T MESS WITH HER!!! Let these LIVE!!!
DANIELLE COLUC	margate	FL	33063	United States	10/27/12	RICK SCOTT IS AN ASS!!!! I hope he is out this election day!!!! Can't wait to see that
David Vance	Leesburg	FL	34748	United States	10/27/12	they are beautiful!
ALICIA ZICCHINO	LUTZ	FL	33559	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are already in danger. Lets not decrease the amount of habitat they have!
Mary Leonard	Havana	FL	32333	United States	10/27/12	Save the animals ,land or water
John Lord	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/27/12	Our rivers are dying as things are know, why is the government advocating speeding up the process rather than looking for a solution? Are golf courses that important?
Carole L Esley	Camden	ME	4843	United States	10/27/12	I am firmly on the side of Manatees and any other species endangered by the callousness of humans who believe the earth is theirs to plunder. We need to have a world in ecological balance and protect every species in danger. These springs are essential to the survival of the Manatees ~ such beautiful creatures!
Virginia Svoboda	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/27/12	We live on the head of the Halls River, which flows into the Homosassa River. In the twenty years that we have lived here, we have seen the steady decline in the fresh water springs that feed the Halls & Homosassa Rivers. There is more salt water intrusion, lack of fish and natural vegetation, which is essential to the survival of our manatees, Osprey and all wildlife. We feel that any reduction in flow of these rivers, should be stopped immediatly.
Richard McGarrell	Brandon	FL	33510	United States	10/27/12	I do not want to see any loss of natural habitat. Stop the strawberry farmers from emptying the aquifer!
william Ware II	Palm Coast	FL	32164-7979	United States	10/27/12	All life is precious to me.
Claudia Smith	Spring Hill	FL	34606	United States	10/27/12	We must preserve the species for the next generation.
Cassy Watson	Greenacres	FL	33463	United States	10/27/12	Preserving these Manatees for future generations should be important to everyone!

Sheet1

Sara Richarde	South Daytona	FL	32119	United States	10/27/12	I have grown up and lived here all my life and the manatees are a beautiful part of our springs, I don't want anything to disrupt their habitat any more than what already has.
Carlos Vega	Orlando	FL	32824	United States	10/27/12	Save nature.. Also please stop destroying entire forests. We need the oxygen and animals need their homes. Build up, not out.
Gloria Morotti	Bradenton	FL	34205	United States	10/27/12	Our manatees are so precious.
joan wolff	boca raton	FL	33498	United States	10/27/12	all wild life balances the environment.
carol braspenickx	hudson	FL	34667	United States	10/27/12	because the govenor is so stupid and has no feelings for humans let alone animals.
Harriet Toretzky	Delray Beach	FL	33484-4786	United States	10/27/12	I feel that all animals that live in the ocean sea and rivers need to be protected
Jonathan Gentle	north fort myers	FL	33931	United States	10/27/12	I live in Fort Myers and do not want to see any loss of wildlife
Natasha Santo	Valparaiso	FL	32580	United States	10/27/12	I live in Florida.
George Mackison	Hallandale	FL	33009	United States	10/27/12	We must all strive to do everything we can to preserve all the diverse species that still remain on this earth.
Milli Gryca	Tallahassee	FL	32310	United States	10/27/12	How is this not important to the future of Florida???
Karen Taragowski	Delray Beach	FL	33445	United States	10/27/12	All wildlife should be protected.
connie boppre	land o lakes	FL	34639	United States	10/27/12	we MUST avoid reducing any manatee habitat !!!!
June Dawson	Port Orange	FL	32129	United States	10/27/12	Loss of flow will cause problems for the ecosystems of which the Manatee are a very important part!
jacki Gilson	crawfordville	FL	32327	United States	10/27/12	The manatees need all the help we can give them, NOT more challenges to overcome!
Ron McCracken	Titusville	FL	32780	United States	10/27/12	These mammals bring thousands of tourists to Florida annually. Their welfare impacts the welfare of the state. Please stop messings with water levels.
Brandy Cannon	Gulf Breeze	FL	32563	United States	10/27/12	I am. Florida resident, I love our natural resources and wildlife. Please do all that we can to preserve both.
Dawn Sedlock	Debary	FL	32713	United States	10/27/12	The manatee is my favorite gentle giant!
Tyler Deken	Ponte Vedra	FL	32082	United States	10/27/12	Whatever Sea cow!
Jane McKinney	Melbourne	FL	32940	United States	10/27/12	This is their home and many will die without it!!
Dorrie Kanofsky	Ormond Beach	FL	32176	United States	10/27/12	Our manatees are sacred..in Florida we shoudl be doing everythign possible to help them thrive!
roy sagarin	Lake Panasoffkee	FL	33538	United States	10/27/12	To save what's left of natural ecosystems.
kathy nichols	inglis	FL	34449	United States	10/27/12	i have lived in Florida for two years and i have not seen very many of them yet
Ellen Bukstel	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33330	United States	10/27/12	Save Florida Wildlife
Jose Perez	Homestead	FL	33031	United States	10/27/12	Save these magnificent creatures, stop your insanity governor, we had enough.

Sheet1

Bill Yule	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33301	United States	10/27/12	These harmless beautiful creatures have had to struggle for years to stay alive and need understanding help from people who can change their lives; YOU. Say NO! NO! to reduction in water flow. It is your duty.
Barbara Sallee	Bradenton	FL	34203	United States	10/27/12	Manatees and other wetland inhabitants need a good flow of water to survive and be healthy.
Donna Carroll	Ocoee	FL	34761	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are such gentle and innocent mammals. They need our protection and assistance whenever possible! Shame on Gov Scott!!!!
Cynthia Alexander	Boca Raton	FL	33496	United States	10/27/12	They are our Mermaids and they are we love them here in FL and they are so gentle they swim with us all the time.
Mary Wood	Casselberry	FL	32707	United States	10/27/12	I was a science teacher for forty years in Central Florida and realize first hand how important it is to value and preserve the waterways of Florida and the animals that live in them.
Joaquin del Cueto	Miami	FL	33173	United States	10/27/12	Save Big Bird and the West Indian Manatees!
William George	Hudson	FL	34669	United States	10/27/12	Love the manatees and used to swim with them
Walter Collins	Hollywood	FL	33019	United States	10/27/12	Leave nature alone. God meant this earth for all living creatures, not just us.
Robert traister	tampa	FL	33634	United States	10/27/12	these creatures are important to all of us you should take action of this or explain to the people why you do not care?

The Bible and the Judaic-Christian tradition teach and command us to treat animals with kindness and respect. The massive abuse and suffering legally inflicted on billions of animals every year is a clear violation of the teachings of our religious faith and cannot be justified by any person of faith and decency. The people for whom the Bible was written thousands of years ago were intimately familiar with wildlife and domestic animals, especially the practice of raising cattle and other animals. The Bible contains strict rules governing the treatment of farmed animals, and indeed all of God's creatures, which were designed to prevent any unnecessary pain and suffering. Modern day animal agriculture violates core Christian values. It wipes out entire populations and species of wildlife, confines huge numbers of animals in miserable conditions on factory farms, damages the environment, squanders scarce resources, and harms the health of people.

The Ten Commandments:
 Do Not Overwork Animals

The Mosaic Law in the Hebrew Scriptures forbids overworking animals and requires that people help stray and lost creatures. Many injunctions are clearly written for the sake of the creatures and not the owners. The Law requires that one help animals who belong to enemies to whom one owes no obligation, as well as those of friends. One may

Sheet1

Peter and Jacquelin	Saint Augustine	FL	32084	United States	10/27/12	We as human beings need to stop messing around with our wildlife! I do not agree with reductions in flow!!!!
joy zacharia	Safety Harbor	FL	34695	United States	10/27/12	Because they are precious members of our planet and deserve equal right to fresh, clean water. Besides, I see them every weekend at the Safety Harbor peer and feel a kinship to them.
Linda Terrell	Fort Pierce	FL	34949	United States	10/27/12	Struggling in an ever hostile environment these wonderful creatures deserve our support and attention. Boaters continue to cruise full throttle in manatee zones so often injuring them don't force them out of Chassahowitzka-Homosassa. These are important issues to myself an my family and do affect my voting patterns.
Lucia Ross	Lakeland	FL	33809	United States	10/27/12	If not for the intrinsic value of the animals themselves -- which in my mind is paramount -- Florida is a tourist economy. If you don't protect the very things that draw tourists to a particular area, you will lose money. Hopefully, I've put my argument in terms that politicians understand -- economic.
Erin Newbeck	Port Saint John	FL	32927	United States	10/27/12	I live near the indian river, and i see them all the time. Animals need places to live just like we do. Please don't destroy their homes.
Carole Moore	Zephyrhills	FL	33541	United States	10/27/12	Saving wildlife is urgent.
Amy Nelson	Plant City	FL	33566	United States	10/27/12	To Those in Power @ "SWFWMD", I emphatically request you "rethink" any change that would violate these spring-fed rivers... for they ARE designated as "home" ~ under the FEDERAL Endangered Species Act ie. "Florida Outstanding Waterways" specifically... Mr. Rick Scott, It is Your Duty to enforce Federally mandated statutes to protect our fragile Florida wildlife, as well as fresh water coastal ecosystems. P.S. I am Active Politically, I Vote, & I will be watching this issue closely. Thank You for your consideration.
Deborah Switzer	Ocala	FL	34474	United States	10/27/12	These animal have already had to met with challenges with our land developing, their instincts direct them and it's a fragile situation to preventing them to go through their cycle. We need to save these lovely creatures. i was fortunate to swim with these animals, it was a moving eperience. I would love to think that my grandchildren could also someday have the experience. When you make changes in the ecosystem, we change things that in the long run cost us more, not to mention destroy life that can't be replaced
Susan LANG	Palm Beach Garder	FL	33418	United States	10/27/12	We "adopted" a few manatees 40 or so years ago. Beautiful creatures!
Melissa Forberg	DeFuniak Springs	FL	32433	United States	10/27/12	As a native floridian, I have always loved to see the endangered manatees in central Florida. They are a source of eco-tourism and should be a source of pride for our state.

Sheet1

Ruthann Roka	Venice	FL	34293	United States	10/27/12	When you stop adding all of your other political bull shit maybe you will get more support.
Sue Norman	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/27/12	These are odd looking crittters, but they enhance the world down here! @!!
Claudia Todd	Spring Hill	FL	34606	United States	10/27/12	why in the world would you want a reduction in flow to the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka
Patricia Blakely	Titusville	FL	32780	United States	10/27/12	Because I have been living here in Titusville, FL. for almost 4 years now. And the Manatees are ONE of the MOST BEAUTIFUL SITESHERE IN Titusville, FL. IF THEY BOTHER ANYONE, THEN THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THESE PEOPLE. PLEASE DO NOT DO AWAY WITH THE Manatees. I will support the Manatees until the day I die.They are better than peoplebecause they do not hurt you or anyone like people hurt other people. Patricia Ann Blakely
Jennifer Ellerman-G	Tampa	FL	33617	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are important to natural Florida!
alison van dusen	indialantic	FL	32903	United States	10/27/12	every animal counts
Andrea Tallini	St. Petersburg	FL	33707	United States	10/27/12	I live in florida and the manatees should be protected
JAMES N BRICAUL	BOWLING GREEN	FL	33834	United States	10/27/12	Life should come before fuel. All forms of life.
Laurie Venable	Tallahassee	FL	32308	United States	10/27/12	I believe the Manatee should be protected from the SWFWMD. The have no right to endanger the Manatee's habitat. We must protect our wildlife for future generations.
Cara L. Campbell	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33315	United States	10/27/12	Stop destroying Florida's natural resources !!
John Malaney	Miami Beach	FL	33141	United States	10/27/12	Our natural resources are not only vital to mammals such as the Manatee, but to human beings as well. By destroying these precious resources we are slowly destroying ourselves. They should be protected and conserved for future generations.
Donna Greene	Hollywood	FL	33021	United States	10/27/12	These animals need a safe habitat with room to thrive.
leslie a. barth	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/27/12	My husband & I purchased our first home on a canal in Riverhaven 28 years ago. The water in in the canals was clean & clear as it was in the River. We have witnessed first hand the destruction of our River and canals. We now spend hours cleaning barnacles of our boat which we never did at all for the first 25 years! The clean water act was passed 40 years ago and yet you have trashed the Homosassa & Chassahowitzka since this was passed. Shame on you!
Ruth Cassidy	W. Palm Beach	FL	33411	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are having enough nightmares to even Survive. Hands OFF their sanctuary!!!
Dot Riffel	Apopka	FL	32712	United States	10/27/12	For all the reasons stated in the letter. We need the companionship of God's creatures
Robert Lippert	Jacksonville	FL	32217	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are an important part or the Florida Everglades ecological system and should be protected.
Linda Culhane	Clearwater	FL	33764	United States	10/27/12	This is important because the natural resources of FL should be protected. Once we lose them they are gone, not to be recovered.

Sheet1

alan fricker	Kissimmee	FL	34744	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are the ultimate defenseless mamal on earth and should be given every chance to survive their number 1 preditor---man and man's decisions
Sandy Cox	Miami	FL	33133-3435	United States	10/27/12	We must save these wonderful creatures. Please, let's have no more ignorant decisions coming from this Government office.
Richard Flynn	Aventura	FL	33160	United States	10/27/12	Saving wildlife is essential. Period.
Vivian Griffin	Lakeland	FL	33803	United States	10/27/12	These "gentle giants" are a Florida treasure and need our protection.
Diann Bimmerle	Holiday	FL	34691	United States	10/27/12	Because they don't hurt the enviornment only the boaters hurt them.
Patricia McDonald	Winter Park	FL	32792	United States	10/27/12	Please do not jeopardize manatees and other endangered species. I care very much about this.
Leilani Zidan	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689	United States	10/27/12	We love our gentle manatees in Florida!
Andrew Douglass	Jacksonville	FL	32245	United States	10/27/12	Springs
Victoria Frame	Bradenton	FL	34208	United States	10/27/12	Manatees don't deserve to die! Please help save the manatees and protect their habitat!
Robert Grant	Archer	FL	32618	United States	10/27/12	It is very important to keep these gentle giants thriving for future generations. It is also important because they exist in our world and we have on obligation to keep them safe from harm.
kirk miller	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/27/12	we need to protect the manatees.

						<p>This response by Dee Atkins was too good not to borrow/repeat (Thank you, Dee!):</p> <p>Our rivers are already in critical condition and to allow any percentage at all in flow reduction is unconscionable. SWFWMD already allows water use permits to be issued for the cost to \$50 and no metering when someone 'says' they are only going to take 50,000 gallons per day. Of course, with no metering, how do they know how much water is being taken? Crystal River is going to be the next for MFL's to be set, and if permits without metering are already being issued, it scares me to death what they will do setting MFL's. The water permit issued recently is being transported to Ocala to be sold as bottled water. Water transfer!! And no metering on how much is really being taken. SWFWMD is allowing flow reduction in rivers that are already dying or dead. Data that is being used to justify this action can be manipulated to provide the desired results. Use common sense....look at the rivers....look at the lack of aquatic plants that are conducive to the rivers.....look at the salinity in areas that used to be fresh water....look at the decrease in wild life, fish, and flora and fauna, look at the degradation of our spings. It is obvious to the lay person what it happening...surely the scientists are smart enough to see what's going on without graphs and numbers and such. If we, the people who love are waterways can see what's happening, there's no data in the world that can change what is obvious to those of us who are aware and feel the pain of watching our rivers and our wildlife die.</p>
Amy Austin	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/27/12	
Jay Allbritton	Gainesville	FL	32601	United States	10/27/12	Manatees rule! Save them now!
scott reader	miami	FL	33157	United States	10/27/12	Preserving wildlife is always important.
MARY CALVER	FT. MYERS	FL	33908	United States	10/27/12	I snorkel with the lovely sea creatures and they need our protection from humans ignorance
Bettina Moser	Gainesville	FL	32607	United States	10/27/12	THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR ME AS PRESERVATION OF THE WATERWAYS FOR MANATEES ULTIMATELY BENEFITS NOT ONLY THE MANATEES BUT EVERYBODY IN A MYRIAD WAYS.
Lee Breyer	Ellenton	FL	34222-2231	United States	10/27/12	The Manatee is a national symbol of Florida, the name of my county, as well as the name of the river on whose bank we built Mercy-on-the-Manatee. Tourists, including family and friends from Chicago love to come to Florida to see the manatees. We don't need to endanager them any more than they already are by human actions.
William Ross	Delray Beach	FL	33445	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are our children's heritage.
Kim Carless	Port Charlotte	FL	33948	United States	10/27/12	Why is it so important to stem the flow?
Irene Pousette	Sunrise	FL	33326	United States	10/27/12	All animals are important to me. And manatees are beauriful cratures.

Tim Coleman	Miami Beach	FL	33139	United States	10/27/12	Stop the damage to our environment and the wildlife that depend on these critical resources.
MICHAEL SHAFER	JACKSONVILLE	FL	32257	United States	10/27/12	Endangered species...docile animals that need protection from humanoids.
Sharron Buck	Vero Beach	FL	32962	United States	10/27/12	The manatee needs all the help it can to survive...man has taken too much of its habitat already.
annmarie kerr	Davie	FL	33328	United States	10/27/12	Worked 4 vet and wildlife center. Saw 2 many animals,including manatees(I lived in FI Everglades) if only one is injured or killed that is too many.
debbie senta	kent	WA	98042	United States	10/27/12	I want to protect these creatures for future generations, we can live without them but who wants to?
Maria Gavidia	Keystone Heights	FL	32656	United States	10/27/12	These are endangered species and unique to Florida. There is no monetary value on the importance of these animals. They are living beings and that is all that should matter. Not how much money will I have because of them.
Ellen Koven	Deltona	FL	32738	United States	10/27/12	I have lived in Florida for 34 years and my family and I have enjoyed the beauty of springs like Blue Spring, Gemini Spring, DeLeon Springs, Rock Springs, etc. We love to watch the gentle sea cows each year as they make their way back to the Blue Spring run. They cannot protect themselves; please protect them and Florida's fragile ecosystem.
Allyson Speizer	Tampa	FL	33647	United States	10/27/12	Save our manatees and save our springs for future generations!
Karen Burroughs	Orlando	FL	32829	United States	10/27/12	Florida is no longer paradise for wildlife or residents. We MUST start protecting what abundance we were given or we will lose it all.
Linda Ritchie	Ft. Myers	FL	33916	United States	10/27/12	I love manatees!
Dennis Phelan	Jensen Beach	FL	34957	United States	10/27/12	Clear, fresh water habitats are hard to find in Florida and should be preserved to protect to habitat, manatees and other species, as well as for continued recreational use.
CJ King	Wesley Chapel	FL	33544	United States	10/27/12	Please, don't do this. You will be hurting a treasure of the Florida wildlife.
Marla Robb	PAFB	FL	32925	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are an important part of our life in Central Florida!
Anna Shaft	Summerfield	FL	34491	United States	10/27/12	We have a responsibility to SAVE wildlife!
Frank Reyes	Miami	FL	33155	United States	10/27/12	because i was born dade county fl
B Peet	Pensacola	FL	32503	United States	10/27/12	From Pensacola, my son's class went on a field trip there last year, and we took the Boy Scout troop there for a weekend as well. The economic impact is significant, and if the manatees are lost, so is the tourist industry.
creston tanner	saint petersburg	FL	33701	United States	10/27/12	No To Reductions in Flow, these animals need our help!
Teressa Gail Stark	Pensacola	FL	32507	United States	10/27/12	Teressa Gail stark
Pamela Monaghan	Delray Beach	FL	33444	United States	10/27/12	This is a no brainer . . .
Helen Mertz	Spring Hill	FL	34608	United States	10/27/12	The manatee is an interal part of Floridas Eco system. We should do all we can to protect them.
Brenda Breil	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/27/12	It is part of the heart of Florida.

Robert R Rupe Jr	Cocoa	FL	32927	United States	10/27/12	We can't keep giving water out to everyone. We have to protect our Aquifers.
JON SODERLUND	INDIAN HARBOUR	FL	32937	United States	10/27/12	I went swimming with the Manatees and I had a baby and an adult Manatee come up to me and both kissed me and the adult hugged me!
Cara Read	Melbourne	FL	32935	United States	10/27/12	I've lived in Florida for over 30 years and I feel we should do everything in our power to protect the amazing creatures for we are the reason there are so few now, therefore it is our responsibility to help them as much as we can!
Carole Berk	Tampa	FL	33611	United States	10/27/12	We spend a lot of time in Homosassa and the manatees are an asset that needs protection!!!
amy smith	miami	FL	33138	United States	10/27/12	they are a treasure to the world
michael kenny	pensacola	FL	32507	United States	10/27/12	the manatees are important to floridas water eco system
Mary Pavitt	Altamonte Springs	FL	32714	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are a protected species and any changes can impact their survival!
Jessica M	Melbourne	FL	32904	United States	10/27/12	Quit screwing with the rivers!
Kathleen Wedzik	Boca Raton	FL	33428	United States	10/27/12	reduction in natural spring flow will cause loss of natural habitat in each of these fragile spring-fed fresh water coastal ecosystems.
Sylvia Garcia-Smith	Beeville	TX	78104	United States	10/27/12	I've never seen one in the wild and would like to someday....
Nancy W. Fellenz	St. Petersburg	FL	33711	United States	10/27/12	Man over nature, again. We must stop this.
wei liu	Girona	FL	17466	United States	10/27/12	I like wildlife.
Janet Rectenwald	Sun City Center	FL	33573	United States	10/27/12	I believe all of nature should be respected and cared for.
Laura McDonald	Melbourne	FL	32901-5815	United States	10/27/12	How many species must we lose forever before mankind realizes his time here on earth is up as as a result?
Pat Manuel	Longwood	FL	32779	United States	10/27/12	love our beautiful precious gentle manatees
Daun Elias	Cooper City	FL	33326	United States	10/27/12	We need to protect these gentile mammals and prevent from unnecessary injuries and ensure they are in a safe environment for their future.
C G	Orlando	FL	32828	United States	10/27/12	Rick Scott, how dare you further endanger these magnificent creatures?
Gail Knight	Palm Coast	FL	32164	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are already in trouble please don't allow them to be endangered further. Do no reduce the water flow to their habitat.
Paul tarins	Geneva	FL	32732	United States	10/27/12	all wildlife is important to me
David Beahn	Oldsmar	FL	34677'	United States	10/27/12	I'm so tired of the GOP being so self absorbed in themselves and their cronies, It sure would be nice to see some compassion for others.
Lila Towle	Tjele		8830	Denmark	10/27/12	Have visited the manatees several times, the waterways must be preserved!
Mary Carrico	Plant City	FL	33563	United States	10/27/12	Anything to do with animals is important to me
Mathew Johnson	New Smyrna Beach	FL	32168	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are gentle giants who need us to speak for them
Frank Espinoza	Miami	FL	33144	United States	10/27/12	We need Manatees for the future generation to experience them.
Kyle Pazian	Summerland key	FL	33042	United States	10/27/12	Because I care about marine life.
Sher Briccol	Miami	FL	33173	United States	10/27/12	Animals have the Right to Life.

Anita Hartmann	Dunnellon	FL	34433	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are struggling to survive! They need our support. Do not impact their ecosystem by reduction in flow! I vote and as an activist influence the votes of others. We will be watching your action with this issue. Thank you, Anita Hartmann 352-489-0240 Dunnellon, FL
Rita Brinkley	Beverly Hills	FL	34465	United States	10/27/12	You should never endanger the lives of these beautiful "sea cows." They are an integral part of the ecosystem and to Florida tourism as well. Why would you hurt an animal that is so docile?
mary shepherd	Naples	FL	34114	United States	10/27/12	Manatee need every chance we humans can offer them. Survival of this animal is significant to people. It is critical to understand that we humans can ill afford the destruction of any protected animal. Please: do not reduce this water flow.
jacqueline berghorn	ormond beach	FL	32174	United States	10/27/12	WE ALL NEED FRESH WATER TO DRINK!
Maritza Villegas Col	Hollywood	FL	33019	United States	10/27/12	Respect the Manatees' Home
Raymond Gibson	Hollywood	FL	33020	United States	10/27/12	If you can't save our freshwater for sheer potability, maybe saving it for the manatees in it will keep our water drinkable.
GEORGE LEONI	AVENTURA	FL	33160	United States	10/27/12	all animals, as well as manatees should have the right to live
Michael Martinez	Pembroke Pines	FL	33025	United States	10/27/12	As a native Floridian I love manatees and hate to see how these gentle giants are constantly abused and neglected as a part of our natural Florida ecosystem.
Judi Weiss	Tamarac	FL	33321	United States	10/27/12	These magnificent, slow moving creatures must be saved. Manatees are Florida.
Carol Schleuning	Fern Park,	FL	32730	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are unique and wonderful to observe. They must be protected at all cost.
Valerie Gardiner	Jupiter	FL	33458	United States	10/27/12	We must be stewards for the creatures of our planet!
Kaylynn Niggle	Apollo Beach	FL	33572	United States	10/27/12	These are the nicest creatures-- nothing bad should happen to them.
Marisol Groshaeny	Miramar Beach	FL	32550	United States	10/27/12	We need to preserve and protect these wonderful creatures.
CYNTHIA BROWN	Sebring	FL	33872	United States	10/27/12	in this day and age, there are too many humans, and all the population does is, KEEP expanding. Time to put a stop to it and make all our efforts go towards preserving our natural resources. Duh.
Brucie Cummings	ft. lauderdale	FL	33315	United States	10/27/12	We all too often make "improvements" without considering the whole picture.
Charles Wiggins	Dunnellon	FL	34433	United States	10/27/12	It does not take a rocket scientist to understand the ramifications involved to the wildlife. They are much more important than someone making money off of this.
Doris Aquije	Orlando	FL	32824	United States	10/27/12	Amo a los animales, pobrecitos, están a merced del hombre.

Cailin Callahan	Jennings	FL	32053	United States	10/27/12	Mamatees are emblematic for Florida. We must save their over wintering springs and protect both the local habitat of these springs and watershed that affect water quality in these critical over-wintering waterways.
Carol Andrews	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/27/12	I live in Homosassa; I came here because I love nature. Do not take that away!
melinda pampallona	Vero Beach	FL	32961	United States	10/27/12	Being good stewards.
Helen Ciampi	Floral City	FL	34436	United States	10/27/12	We need to keep our waterways the way they were meant to be.
Aaron Ellis	Tallahassee	FL	32301	United States	10/27/12	The world's water sustains life, provides shelter and is necessary for the flourishing of EVERY LIVING THING, manatees as much as humans.
J. L. Blinne	Sarasota	FL	34239	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are natural dwellers in our Florida waters and should be protected no matter what.
michele sanandajia	jensen beach	FL	34957	United States	10/27/12	i love the environment
John Felice	Hernando	FL	34442	United States	10/27/12	This is an irresponsible decision to reduce the flow level that has little upside benefit with a substainal amount of risk.
Nancy Haman	Ormond Beach	FL	32174	United States	10/27/12	You are threatening an endangered species habitat.
Barbara Wilbur	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/27/12	Go swimming with these gentle giants and you would do everything you could to protect them.
MARK ELLIOTT	TAMPA	FL	33612	United States	10/27/12	Florida 's treasured springs and manatees must be protected. It is far easier to protect and restore them today. It may be too late if we surrender them to temporary desires of those only concerned with temporary priorities. Our legacy and responsibility for the future of our state's treasures is more important. Please protect Florida's unique treasures for all current and future Floridians.
james monroe	Hollywood	FL	33020	United States	10/27/12	Am tired of humans stealing and degrading the habitats of God's beautiful creatures, usually for greedy motives.
gabe miller	Lake Park	FL	33403	United States	10/27/12	Because it disgusts me that my governor wouldn't take the necessary steps to help protect an endangered species. If this goes through he will have forever lost my vote.
Ronald Eike	Merritt Island	FL	32953	United States	10/27/12	Because they can't sign for themselves!
Ronald Thuemler	Tampa	FL	33614	United States	10/27/12	Manatees and waterways require a minimum, healthy flow of clean water to sexist period.
Karina Parmenter	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689	United States	10/27/12	Who in their right mind would consider reducing the flow of springs? Haven't we learned anything from the Everglades? We need to leave what animal habitats we have alone.
Judith Schnee	Lake Worth	FL	33467	United States	10/27/12	I want to preserve the manatees, and keep them from becoming an extinct species. Too many species of animal life have become extinct. Let's all save our manatees!
Julia Aires	Sarasota	FL	34239	United States	10/27/12	I have taken my grandchildren there to see the Manatees and would like to continue!!
PATRICIA KELDER	Orlando	FL	32826	United States	10/27/12	Man needs to leave these habitats alone

Sheet1

Sheila Kenny	Riverview	FL	33569	United States	10/27/12	We must protect our natural resources from over development and short-sighted politicians.
Mary-jo Rubin	West Palm Beach	FL	33412	United States	10/27/12	This is a issue which will affect the the tourist trade & income ciming into Florida..beyond the conservation issues!
loraine gomez	margate	FL	33063	United States	10/27/12	I care about animals. We need to stop playing with this creatures life.
thomas spencer	Lehigh Acres	FL	33972-7301	United States	10/27/12	Some things are obvious.
Keith Flotte	Melbourne	FL	32901	United States	10/27/12	One of the most docile creatures you'll ever see and/or meet sometime!
						I KNOW your decision will be based on only two things. 1. Your "PERCEIVED " political gain.
david parks	st augustine	FL	32084	United States	10/27/12	2. The amount of financial gain.
Robert McFarland	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33315	United States	10/27/12	Because manatees are beautiful gifts to us all.
Lizzy Stein	Washington	IA	52353	United States	10/27/12	Everything
John H Shaver	Bradenton	FL	34209	United States	10/27/12	This is near my home; I see these gentle creatures quite often.
Brenda Reeves	Trenton	FL	32693	United States	10/27/12	Because Manatees are wonderful for Florida.
Jaren Vitale	Bradenton	FL	34208	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a key connection and honored residents. We have no right to limit their quality of life or terminate their life.
Suzanne Schnitzer	Viera	FL	32955	United States	10/27/12	Please don't reduce the flow. It will endanger the manatees and they are a Florida treasure!
Virginia Baker	New Smyrna Beach	FL	32168	United States	10/27/12	We love our manatees on Turnbull Bay
Linda Sanford	miami	FL	33186	United States	10/27/12	i love manatees and our wild life, and want to keep them safe for our future.
Helen Powers	Sarasota	FL	34231	United States	10/27/12	As a Florida native, I am saddened by the lack of respect that Rick Scott, big business and big developers have for the wildlife and environment here in Florida. The environment here is what makes Florida Paradise!
sheryl willey	bradenton	FL	34205	United States	10/27/12	I care about the manatees. How is it the people making these uncaring,thoughtless eco destroying decisions have gotten into these positions? They certainly are not speaking for most Floridians rather their selfish,self serving agendas.
Julie Moss	Petersburg	IL	62675	United States	10/27/12	safe places for manatees is very important.
Marilyn Fuller	Lake Alfred	FL	33850	United States	10/27/12	I have visited the Manatees at the Springs in question. They need help and fresh water is the least we can assure them.
Sara Howland	Pensacola	FL	32591	United States	10/27/12	We continue to encroach on the natural environment. We need to preserve this one, for its own sake and for the sake of manatees and other wildlife that live there.

Sheet1

Gilbert Hall	Hollywood	FL	33026	United States	10/27/12	Manatees need a safe place with clean warm water to survive. Let us top helping the big corporaiotns who steal our water supply to provide their crops, cattle cheap water while helping to make the Manatees extinct. It is time to put a STOP to all of this. Big corporation governor Scott only has the interests of teh big money like himself in mind - not the environment or the people who live here.
jim whitehead	ormond beach	FL	32176	United States	10/27/12	Rick Scott is an idiot?
Geraldine Remington	Winter Garden	FL	34787	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are beautiful, gentle, and endangered living creatures - shame on you for even considering with reductions in flow! Please use your power to SAVE these creatures, not to make them extinct!
Valerie Mahoney	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/27/12	I live in Florida and I love the Manatee
						Our waterways is what makes US special, and to share the waters is esential to our own survival.
Faith Ralston	Sanford	FL	32773	United States	10/27/12	
Marc Norris	Orlando	FL	32836	United States	10/27/12	We need to save the Manatees for future generations
Carmel Severson	Cooper City	FL	33330	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are endangered because of our bad choices, we need to make better choices that will ensure their future.
Michael Philipp	Amelia Island	FL	32034	United States	10/27/12	Living in Florida, I am keen to preserve all wildlife and important natural environments.
Candy Lambourn	Clearwater	FL	33764	United States	10/27/12	Because if we don't start saving our species we won't have anything left on this earth, including us. Stop screwing up nature and the way things are supposed to be!!
Lynn Reeser	Vernon	FL	32462	United States	10/27/12	The Planet is in peril! With the current rate of polution, environmental scientists say we only have until 2017! WHEN then, would be your idea of when to start paying attention? And Nestles must be stopped sucking the aquifers dry!
jamie beineke	Clearwater	FL	33755	United States	10/27/12	We need to save our wild life areas that are still natural for our future generations
ileana pieze	Homestead	FL	33033	United States	10/27/12	is our wildlife!we have to do as much as we can! lovely animal :)
Dennis Barron	Bradenton Beach	FL	34217	United States	10/27/12	Once these animals are gone, they're gone. Short term benefit for long term disaster. Good thinking. Shame on you.
Jacob Magnuson	Jupiter	FL	33458	United States	10/27/12	I like manatees.
ann stonesifer	St Augustine	FL	32086	United States	10/27/12	Do we have to kill everything?
Annette Steele	Orlando	FL	32828	United States	10/27/12	They are gentle creature hurting no one, man needs to leave there enviroment and space alone. They were here long before us, doing just fine.

						The vulnerable Florida Manatee remains at great risk and is threatened by urbanization: pollution, reduced spring access/flow, boat strikes, and being "loved to death" by well-meaning by ignorant Floridians and tourists. They are a Florida icon and remain a big tourist attraction. It is up to Florida to protect this special and unique animal and it's ecosystem from human encroachment, agricultural pressures and development. In other words, from us.
Robin Sekerak	DeLand	FL	32724	United States	10/27/12	
Donna Fisherl g	Green	KS	67447	United States	10/27/12	love the animals
Ellen Dalbo	Kenneth City	FL	33709	United States	10/27/12	I live in Florida. It would be nice if Gov. Scott actually did the right thing for once.
Carlos Quiroga-Las	Tampa	FL	33634	United States	10/27/12	On occasion it would be nice to do something that is not harmful to other creatures.
Shea Joy	Lynchburg	VA	24503	United States	10/27/12	Swimming with the manatees is one of the most precious memories of my life.
Kerri Hite	Jensen Beach	FL	34957	United States	10/27/12	they are part of the history and culture of the great areas that they live in.
Maria Fionda	Gainesville	FL	32603	United States	10/27/12	What would we be without nature. We need it.
Diana Wolak	Pembroke Pines	FL	33026-3220	United States	10/27/12	Save the manatees!
Judith Be	Fort Myers	FL	33967	United States	10/27/12	We love the manatees. They are wondrous beings in our world and their environment must be protected.
Marion Walker	Deland	FL	32720	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are important to me!!!
Katie Williams	Orlando	FL	32803	United States	10/27/12	I kind of wish the photo to the petition didn't show someone breaking manatee harassment laws, but photo aside, this petition should be important to every Floridian. It's our duty to protect these gentle giants, especially in a time when the current governing powers in Florida are thwarting environmental efforts left and right.
Jeannette Mammar	Delray Beach	FL	33446	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are more than Florida icons--they are examples for humans--they exhibit qualities that all humans should emulate
Teresa Murphy	West Palm Beach	FL	33417	United States	10/27/12	As a native Floridian, they are part of us. We must save them for future generations to enjoy on our waterways. They cannot speak for themselves, so I say please help save our manatees, we need them. Thank you!!
Denis Hanlon	St. Petersburg	FL	33712	United States	10/27/12	SAVE THE MANATEES AND OTHER SPECIES, NOT MENTION THE ECOSYSTEM ITSELF!!!
Stan Shaft	Sparks	NV	89431	United States	10/27/12	My recent visit to Florida included seeing the Manatees as a planned hi-point. I wrote about the trip and the experience on a travel blog. For the Manatees to lose their life-sustaining habitat, at the whim of an ever-growing power corporation, would be grievous sign that FL puts corporate profits before the well-being of the creatures who call that area home. Not a good message for a State which relies so heavily on happy and hopeful tourists.

Sheet1

Roberta Gerber	Bonita Shores	FL	34134-7422	United States	10/27/12	We are fortunate to have these marvelous creatures as our friends. Manatees are such cool & friendly animals. They need safe places to live.
Michael Maire	Port Orange	FL	32127	United States	10/27/12	
Karen Boudrie	Leesburg	FL	34788	United States	10/27/12	Our Springs in Florida are our life blood
Mike Flatland	Jacksonville	FL	32244	United States	10/27/12	We need to save are wildlife.
Kathryn D'Ambrosio	Old Hickory	TN	37138	United States	10/27/12	Grew up in Florida and the springs are the home to many amazing creatures and is one of Floridas natural beauties
pamela alm	myrtle beach	SC	29588	United States	10/27/12	the enviroment is important tp me as well as mammal life
Iris Meyer	Apopka	FL	32712	United States	10/27/12	We need to protect and respect our wildlife,once they are gone, we are next.
Matilde cristal	aventura	FL	33179	United States	10/27/12	Because I believe in the right of this beautiful animals to have their place in the world too. We have no human right to take everyting away from any animal or any specie than those not harm to us, on the contrary we are always trying to find ways of mistreating them or eliminating them
April Frizalone	new port richey	FL	34652	United States	10/27/12	I live in Florida! I love the Manatees!!!
Victor Pirie	Live Oak	FL	32060	United States	10/27/12	Florida Manatees are being destroyed by boaters every day. If your Child or Friend was being Cut to Bits by Boat Props, you would think different about making some way to Stop the Slaughter. How about Prop Cages or something like that, to protect them.
jerry weinstock	Key West	FL	33040	United States	10/27/12	I think they are a part of the eco-system we live in----and they come into my canal and I love them
DON RICHERT	CLEARWATER	FL	33759	United States	10/27/12	Love the manatees!
Rosanna Bell	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are an important part of Florida. Let's do what we can to protect them.
Gary Henderson	Merritt Island	FL	32953	United States	10/27/12	The entire state of Florida is under siege from developers. These remaining wild places that provide food, water and shelter for Florida's indigenous wildlife need to preserved, or we are ALL diminished.
Lisa Jasay	Panama City Beach	FL	32408	United States	10/27/12	Please protect what makes Florida such a unique and beautiful place.
dennis dye	Flint	MI	48504	United States	10/27/12	Because it is life
Arthur Amolsch	Naples	FL	34102	United States	10/27/12	Manatees were here first.
Mary Conroy	Orlando	FL	32839	United States	10/27/12	Saving Manatees
Karla Garcia	Miami	FL	33176	United States	10/27/12	These animals are important to our ecosystems, without them it could have an impact on the habitat and also impact humans. But mainly because they deserve to be here just as much as humans.
Judy Albury	Miami	FL	33155	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a Florida treasure. Please protect them.
lois kyes	Greenwood	FL	32443	United States	10/27/12	Leave the flow to the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers alone.
cindy nichols	micco	FL	32976	United States	10/27/12	because I love manatees, they deserve to be treated humanly...they need a place to got where the water is warm, we brought them here, they did not ask to come...

Sheet1

Eric Dietrich	Sebastian	FL	32978-1786	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are important to eco system of Florida.
Alex Brice	Lakeland	FL	33805	United States	10/27/12	We own property on The Chaz. We have spent many thousands of dollars converting our septic tanks to help clean this Outstanding Florida Water. I say Zero percent reduction of flows and Zero percent loss of habitat!
Bernard Yokel	Mt. Dora	FL	32757	United States	10/27/12	Florida is long past the time when it can afford to depreciate functioning ecosystems, particularly those systems that harbor endangered species such as the West Indian Manatee. In a State that relays on growth and tourism it is vital to protect the quality and productivity of its waters.
Walt Stine	Gulf Breeze	FL	32563	United States	10/27/12	I love Fl. Wild Life!
Amber Daniels	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/27/12	For the Manatees!!
Sonia (Sunny) Fad	St. Petersburg	FL	33710	United States	10/27/12	These areas and the Manatees are an important part of what makes Florida special. Preserving them is critical... and financially and morally the right thing to do.
Antonio Cardillo	Silver Springs	FL	34488	United States	10/27/12	The manatees deserve the same consideration as any other natural resource. Further they draw visitors from around the world to observe these beautiful and gentle creatures in their natural habitats.
Brenda James	Vero Beach	FL	32960	United States	10/27/12	This is important for Manatees. Rick Scott is destroying the Great State of Florida! by the time he leaves office Florida will be owned by his cronniees not the tax-payers!!!
Molly Yoder-William	New Port Richey	FL	34652	United States	10/27/12	Swimming with the manatees is one of my favorite things to do in this area. They are a National Treasure and their environment needs to be protected!
Allegonda van den	Palmetto Bay	FL	33157	United States	10/27/12	Becasuse mantatees rely on the springs
Rebecca Gravely	Gainesville	FL	32605	United States	10/27/12	This is important to me because manatees are important to Florida!
Shannon Davies	DeLand	FL	32720	United States	10/27/12	The springs and manatees in Florida are real treasures and need to be protected for future generations!
Judy Stimson	Sun City Ctr.	FL	33571-5772	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are part of our FL assets and support the tourist industry.
Cheryl Long	Port Charlotte	FL	33952	United States	10/27/12	These gentle animals need to be saved.
Jeff Abbott	Oviedo	FL	327675	United States	10/27/12	These reductions must stop. It is not just about manatees but the commercial fishing industry as well. Oysters, scallops, stone crams, are just examples of sea food that requires fresh water to thrive. Take a holistic approach, study the implications.
Maria Savin	Tampa	FL	33625	United States	10/27/12	This is important to me because manatees are awesome!
janalee f garwood	ft myers	FL	33919	United States	10/27/12	I'm interested in the survival of the manatee and very tired of seeing Florida decisions made on behalf of big business and political "friends"
April browne	Longwood	FL	32750	United States	10/27/12	We have to stop this !!! And everything like it NOW!
vicki matheny	tallahassee	FL	32301	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are such gentle creatures and deserve our protection. Humans have done them such great harm already.

Sheet1

David Stewart	gainesville	FL	32653	United States	10/27/12	We have made great strides in saving the Manatees. Don't return to the mistakes of the past and endanger the ecosystem
Janice Smith	Sun City Center	FL	33573	United States	10/27/12	I want the manatees around for generations to come!
Leah Bailey	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/27/12	All life is important! These manatees deserve their natural habitat without human interference!
Charlotte Wright	Spring Hill	FL	34606	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a native Florida species. They are also endangered. I would like to think we as caretakers of these beautiful animals, will do what we can to help them. It is up to us to protect them so future generations can enjoy them.
Stephen Holmes	Tenby		SA70 8QS	United Kingdom	10/27/12	I once saw a Manatee in the wild, off the coast of one of the Bahamian outer islands. It was a magical moment
Hope Gormandy	Deerfield Beach	FL	33441	United States	10/27/12	It's important to our biodiversity and our ecological systems to keep Manatees safe and in their habitats.
Libby Glass	Boca Raton	FL	33433	United States	10/27/12	I've had the pleasure to swim with them in nature, unexpected, untainted... why should they be put at risk??
Christine Thomas	Ft. Pierce	FL	34951	United States	10/27/12	These gentle creatures need our help, we are the ones that have endangered them.
Nancy Morgan	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/27/12	we must look out for our manatees and others who can't speak for themselves
Cindy Maxwell	Orlando	FL	32810	United States	10/27/12	They are part of FLorida's wild life and need to be kept there.
kelly dean	crystal river	FL	34428	United States	10/27/12	I Love going out on the river's and seeing the manate's and swimming with them.
Kathy Jameson	Webster	FL	33597	United States	10/27/12	Manatees need to be protected in anyway we can.
Cindy Johnson	Pinellas Park	FL	33781	United States	10/27/12	Man needs to leave nature alone.
Judy Raymond	DeLand	FL	32724	United States	10/27/12	I live 10 mins. away from Blue Spr. State Park, and the manatees are the park's "claim to fame." For a well used state park, I want manatees in the water! Judy
Lucia McTague	Tampa	FL	33629	United States	10/27/12	the homosasssa and the Chassahowitzka provide refuge for our population of manatees by thir presence they keep our eco systems clear. i have brought my children here many times and its a great lesson just watching how nurturing they are . You don't find many other places where this is so apparent. My children are grown and take their own kids to this wonderful place
David Carroll	Fernandina Beach	FL	32034	United States	10/27/12	Rick Scott hates manatees almost as much as poor people.
DAVID ROYALE	FT LAUDERDALE	FL	33334	United States	10/27/12	The springs must be saved.
allison juceam	sarasota	FL	34238	United States	10/27/12	We live with the Manatees around us and we often see what people do to harm them, inviting them with hoses on their docks, speeding through no wake zones. We are responsible for the harm that has fallen on these creatures. Their habits are not large enough as it is. They live on fresh water and the springs in question are the last source left on a scale large enough to support them.

Sheet1

Merrill Pazian	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/27/12	This my home and will be destroyed if reductions continue.
constace mc donne	st, pete beach	FL	33706	United States	10/27/12	Please save what few creatures we have left in Florida....please
Phyllis Sapienza	Howell	MI	48843	United States	10/27/12	Because the various species require the spring fed fresh water for their very existence.
Mahlerie Dickson	Citrus Springs	FL	34433	United States	10/27/12	Because the manatees are so important and are in need of this water flow.
Dave Kirby	New Port Richey	FL	34653	United States	10/27/12	Everybody who comes to Florida wants to see the manatees. Please, don't chase them away.
herb shelton	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/27/12	Scott, leave it alone!
Carlos Sanchez	Miami	FL	33133	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a part of FL and we must protect and preserve them.
Pat Weaver	Leesburg	FL	34748	United States	10/27/12	Please leave well enough alone.
JoAnn Deckant	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/27/12	Please, don't do this, can we push all of our wildlife away. Water is vital for both human life and marine life.
Adam Petrycki	Cocoa Beach	FL	32931	United States	10/27/12	We need to stop creating unsustainable processes. If it's not possible to recreate what you take out, it's not sustainable.
Gilbert Curry	Tampa	FL	33612-5186	United States	10/27/12	As a lifelong citizen of the State of Florida I have enjoyed the beauty, flora, and wildlife of both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers and their estuary system since I was a child. I consider the health of these ecosystems as part of my natural heritage and feel strongly that it is something that should be passed intact to future generations.
Katherine Booth	New York	NY	10023	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are my favorite of all aquatic mammals, and I have an adopted "daughter"/ manatee, named Ariel, in Homosassa Springs!
JEFF ADAMS	NAPLES	FL	34102	United States	10/27/12	ALL SEA CREATURES ARE IMPORTANT is this important to you?
Barry Ware	Margate	FL	33063-5558	United States	10/27/12	We need to STOP messing with Wildlife Habatats Period !!
Neil Armingeon	Jacksonville beach	FL	32250	United States	10/27/12	Why decrease MFLs at the springs? Profit? Greed? Vote NO! Save the manatee.
giselle fetigan	sarasota	FL	34241	United States	10/27/12	It is important to maintain a habitat for our florida manatees. These beautiful creatures need a place to live and breed to assure their existence for future generations
Angela Baich	Fort White	FL	32038	United States	10/27/12	As a Florida native, I lived to see too much destruction of the enviroment, especially fresh water rivers and springs. If not protected, Florida will end up sucked dry.
Sharon Rines	Havana	FL	32333	United States	10/27/12	The Manatees are precious and need protection from this...
Daniel Spink	Port Orange	FL	32128	United States	10/27/12	I love the natural wildlife of Florida and do not want to have it put into a postion of peril be decreasing the flow of water.
Anne Squires-Dors	Ravensbourne, Dunedin		9022	New Zealand	10/27/12	Manatees have a limited habitat range - what they have needs to be as optimal as possible for them to survive.
james vessell	hudson	FL	34667	United States	10/27/12	as the humans in this world continue to get reckless with out any regards. to our children .there is nothing left but meanness towards each other
Marianne Barto	Palm Harbor	FL	34683	United States	10/27/12	These gentle giants need these springs to survive.

Sheet1

Richard Petty	DeFuniak Springs	FL	32433	United States	10/27/12	The springs and the environment need to be protected for future generations.
vicki brzezinski	apollo beach	FL	33572	United States	10/27/12	We must save our manatees, this would be a horrible blow , this must not even be considered !!!
MERCEDES DIMAI	TAMPA	FL	33607	United States	10/27/12	We speak for those that cannot speak for themselves--We need to save our manatees--Please
Pamela Brachmann	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/27/12	The rivers are not only a source of refuge and habitat for the manatee and many other creatures; it is a recreational place for kayakers like me. Just check out the nature around you on a paddle through these and other Florida rivers for an up close look at all the creatures that call the river home.
melanie kuffell	Tampa	FL	33618-2906	United States	10/27/12	There are so few of these creatures left, we need to protect he ones we have.
K. J.	Avon Park	FL	33825	United States	10/27/12	I have lived in FL my whole life and FL's unique wildlife is important to me and my family. We need to protect these beautiful treasures -now-
Wanda Secola	Miami	FL	33177	United States	10/27/12	They are pretty animals and help the enviroment, and just because they deserve to live they are protected animals and is our responsibility.
Garry W. Spencer	Tampa	FL	33629	United States	10/27/12	Less flow means greater concentration of pollution.
Donna Marcialis	Winter Park	FL	32792-4750	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a natural part of Florida; how much of our State are we willing to sacrificer to highways and shopping malls?
Drew Martin	Lake Worth	FL	33460	United States	10/27/12	We need to protect these rivers.
Pat Ursomano	Ormond Beach	FL	32176	United States	10/27/12	I am sick and tired of watching the things that once made Florida special disappear. Been here since '59.
Marie Neller	Deland	FL	32720	United States	10/27/12	Marie Neller
Barbara Dorn	...	FL	...	United States	10/27/12	I love these friendly and lovely, peaceful manatees, pls. do not destroy their living space! They have a right to live on earth, and where should they live, if you destroy their living space? Pls. remind the consequences of your plan
Kimberly Jarvis	Merritt Island	FL	32952	United States	10/27/12	I am a resident of Florida & it is extremely important to me that we do everything in our power to protect the natural environment of our state and the wildlife that depends on it. Reducing the flow of water into the springs would further endanger the manatee, a federally protected species. We need to do more, not less, to protect our rivers, streams and springs as well as the wildlife that depends on them.
Margarita Ruiz	Jacksonville	FL	32244	United States	10/27/12	I love animals and I hope this cruelty stops
Linda Frease	Sarasota	FL	34232	United States	10/27/12	Perhaps we should limit water flow to superfluous golf courses and lawns so the natural habitats may be preserved
rosemary brandon	melbourne	FL	32934	United States	10/27/12	how many more must become endangered before something intellegent is done
Rob Martin	Boynton Beach	FL	33473	United States	10/27/12	WE need to take care of our wildlife
lisa tweedell	keywest	FL	33040	United States	10/27/12	Its very important NOT TO MESS with" mother nature"

Sheet1

Nancy Warlick	Orlando	FL	32803	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are such wonderful creatures which we in Florida are fortunate to have. PLEASE preserve them and their habitat!!
Virginia Beale	Saint Petersburg	FL	33714	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a part of Florida. They hurt no one and they are gentle souls. Why hurt them?
Charlotte Fleming	Orlando	FL	32808-1716	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a sacred symbol of Florida, and how we treat them matters both to them and to the people of Florida. Don't let a little girl say to her grandmother, "Nana, were there ever really manatees, and did they dance and swim in this spring?"
Marlene Gentile	Miami Beach	FL	34410	United States	10/27/12	As a former teacher, I can recall how my students admired manatees as one of the oldest and gentlest creatures on earth. Several times there was a public outcry to keep speed boats from mangling these creatures, and the students felt empowered by participating in initiatives to help our earth. It always seems to come down to a toss up between humans getting their way, no matter the reason, and the natural world takes a back seat. Once the planet is decimated, humans will be the one to take the back seat because we will not survive.
Kelly Fogarty	Chipley	FL	32428-3214	United States	10/27/12	These areas and endangered species need to be protected and maintained for our future generations.
Colleen Randolph	Ocala	FL	34480	United States	10/27/12	I love the mammals!!!!
Sharon Janet Johns	Port Saint Lucie	FL	34983	United States	10/27/12	Janet and Dan Johnson

here are only plus or minus about 5,000 West Indian Manatees.

The springs covered in this petition â€" the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs - are very important to the species survival.

Two reasons for example are:

One reason is because when water temperatures drop to unusually harsh for standard Florida winter months, manatees must seek warmer waterways to stay alive.

Manatees, though large, are not well protected by a blubber layer unlike many sea mammals. Manatees can't take waters colder than 68 degrees F. for more than a few hours. They are warm blooded animals and will freeze to death or become mortally ill from the cold just like a human being would. The Homosassa and Chassahowitzka springs are some of the few warm water areas instinctually used by the Manatees during these times.

The second issue is that these waterways are what are keeping the manatee populations at their current levels.

For animals to survive scientists and naturalists have discovered that any species needs a certain amount of their unique supporting habitats where they can live in to survive. This is called their â€"support level.â€" Human beings are very adaptable and can mold areas to support them with electricity, heaters, and foods trucked in to them, etc. Manatees don't. Without spring systems the manatees will lose a drastic amount of sheltering and feeding places.

Please see this article specifically mentioning "the spring at Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park" as being influential in attempts to stop Manatee deaths during unusually cold weather:
<http://bit.ly/OrISentManateesWarm>

How important is this to the manatee's population and survival?

The answer can be found in another quote from a well researched and well respected news source: "A record-topping 767 manatees died in 2010, with cold stress accounting for as many as 500 deaths, say Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officials. The deaths were the highest since 1997, when 1,144 manatees died, mostly from cold stress and boat strikes."

Sheet1

Alice Smith	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33304	United States	10/27/12	As a Floridian and life long resident I hate to see any more threats to this species habitat.
Sandra Leaper	Dunnellon	FL	34432	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are endangered, they rely on essential fresh water and warmth in winter. Gulf is too cold.
Eileen Kimsey	Tampa	FL	33616	United States	10/27/12	These springs are refuge for imperiled and endangered species of flora and fauna. They MUST NOT reduce the flow of fresh water. There will be loss of life of plants and animals. Please don't reduce the water flow.
Heidi King	Tallahassee	FL	32311	United States	10/27/12	I believe that sustainability is a balance between nature and people, and I believe the board can make savvy decisions that reflect concern for both.
D Wyatt	Brandon	FL	33511	United States	10/27/12	How could this not be important to a Floridian? The manatee is the absolute symbol of our state, and we must do everything we can to protect them and their habitat.
Sharon Rauch	Panama City	FL	32405	United States	10/27/12	All animals are important to me!
Eileen Lowe	Orlando	FL	32839	United States	10/27/12	Because they're manatees!
joann wells	palm springs	FL	33461	United States	10/27/12	i thought we were supposed to protect florida, not kill it...stop this stupid micromanagement.
Ellen Norborn	Naples	FL	34108	United States	10/27/12	Because the manatees are endangered and are a very special anima.
Daniel McNally	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/27/12	I grew up on the Homosassa River and the manatee where there before any of us and we should protect these innocent mammals.
Doris Cox	new port richey	FL	34652	United States	10/27/12	There is not much of the wild Florida left, what we have we must protect.
Thomas Williams	kissimmee	FL	34744	United States	10/27/12	Animals and nature should come before shareholder profits.
Ms.Michelle Buck	Mary Esther	FL	32569	United States	10/27/12	We need to hang on to our Fresh Water for the Sea Animals that need it.
Janet Baksh	Orlando	FL	32836	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are very sensative creatures, and they're having enough trouble surviving without people deliberately altering their habitat!!
Cherlynn Seroski	Stuart	FL	34997	United States	10/27/12	I love all of gods creatures and think there is room for all to live...
Lisa Mazzola	Tampa	FL	33612	United States	10/27/12	I love Manatee, wildlife, all animals and nature. We must protect and preserve their environment.
Carolyn Desmarais	Palm Harbor	FL	34683	United States	10/27/12	Time to stand up for the Manatees that have NO VOICE! Have visited when the Manatees where wintering in the spring, with out of state family. We were BLESSED to have our boat held up for 20 mins while the docile creatures swam around doing what we humans call making LOVE! Let's make sure we have Manatees for the future generations to see, not just to read about in a book, becuae they are extinct!
Roberta Obligen	Highland Beach	FL	33487	United States	10/27/12	These gentle giants need a safe heaven to swim and live out their lives.
patrick geraghty	vero beach	FL	32960	United States	10/27/12	I am a Floridian.
Phyllis Cole	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689	United States	10/27/12	It is our responsibility to save our lands and its inhabitants not to destroy it. What are we thinking?

Sheri Ruderman	Coconut Creek	FL	33066	United States	10/27/12	So much of our wildlife is being destroyed because of we, the humans needs. The Manatees are a favorite, gentle species who needs our understanding and protection. . .why must we destroy EVERYTHING to make way for our power?
joann fasulo-armstrong	Spring Hill	FL	34607	United States	10/27/12	beautiful creatures need these homes.
Tamela Dees	Archer	FL	32618	United States	10/27/12	I grew up Swimming at Manatee State Park! I love the animals! Save the Manatee!
Mario Cres	Miami	FL	33172	United States	10/27/12	Animal have no voice. Who represents them? Someone should defend their right to live.
adam sikora	fort lauderdale	FL	33304	United States	10/27/12	I have seen the manatees myself going to the warm waters for shelter, it is a beautiful sight to be preserved
Isabella Fernandez	Miami	FL	33155	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are beautiful and peaceful creatures that have a right to their homes and well being. Humans do not have the right to rob them of this.
Bonnie Headley	Ormond Beach	FL	32174	United States	10/27/12	I have watched the wildlife habitats of Florida's wildlife shrink or disappear all together during my lifetime and I would like to know that they will still be around for my children and grandchildren. We have to put a stop to it or we will all lose.
Barbara Ouellette	Titusville	FL	32780-7019	United States	10/27/12	The Springs need to be protected for more damage occuring in our state's natural water habitats. Please protect these for our generation and the future generations to come.
Dave Abel	ORLANDO	FL	32804	United States	10/27/12	I VISIT THESE SPRINGS REGULARLY AND KAYAK DOWN THE RIVERS. LEAVE THEM ALONE
Janice Brooks	Hallandale Beach	FL	33009	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are worth a lot mor to the Florida tourism economy in the long term, so they need to have their habitat protected, not further degraded.
David Raines	Tampa	FL	33613	United States	10/27/12	If we don't love nature we need to get a change of Attitude! Loving nature is akin to loving ourselves and not is akin to planing our own murder.
John Simon	Pembroke Pines	FL	33028	United States	10/27/12	We have visited the area and wish to help save the manatees.
Linda Liptak	Islamorada	FL	33036	United States	10/27/12	Manatees they are amazing gentle creatures and deserve our help
Joyce Bowers	Orlando	FL	32836	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are harmless animals and I enjoy seeing their playful behavior in the canals we must protect them!
Kara Hammar	Brandon	FL	33510	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are Florida's unique "gentle giants", which need our natural Springs to thrive, even in a mild winter. Huge safety haven for these amazing creatures!
David Ogden	Merced	CA	95344	United States	10/27/12	Because manatees are part of the Florida wildlife system and should be preserved.
Susan Fullwood	La Belle	FL	33935	United States	10/27/12	Save the manatees, please.
Sarah Neilly	Melbourne	FL	32940	United States	10/27/12	These gentle creatures are defenseless and deserve our protection.
pam mccann	saint petersburg	FL	33713	United States	10/27/12	Why would Florida be important to me??
Kathryn Roan	Ocala	FL	34471	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are Florida's unique "gentle giants", which need our natural Springs to thrive, even in a mild winter. Huge safety haven for these amazing creatures! Please save them!

Sheet1

Annette Perdomo	miami	FL	33170	United States	10/27/12	53 years living in Florida I have seen their tragic decline
Elsie Miranda	Coral Gables	FL	33146	United States	10/27/12	Governor-- have a conscience. The world is so much bigger than ourselves, and manatees remind us of that by their very history.
Katelyn Baxter	tempe	AZ	85282	United States	10/27/12	These are endangered species ... our job is to protect these beautiful kind creatures. Please do not endanger them further by changing the environment in which they live.
Kathy Gutierrez	Miami	FL	33187	United States	10/27/12	Saving any living entity is crucial for this world. We need more compassion toward life of any kind. Please, let us all do our job and save the manatees and all animals. We are their voice.
meredith Bruder	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33316	United States	10/27/12	Because the manatees are gentle creatures who deserve our help!!
Phyllis Eagle	Clearwater Beach	FL	33767	United States	10/27/12	This gentle giant deserves the kind of environment that it needs to thrive
Shimon Gottschalk	Tasllahassee	FL	32311	United States	10/27/12	I love manatees
Don Hanover	Dania Beach	FL	33004	United States	10/27/12	Old Florida needs to be saved and it runs on water, too.
Mario Morales	Tampa	FL	33647	United States	10/27/12	This creatures are part of an ecosystem.
Linda Heck	Lakeland	FL	33809	United States	10/27/12	Shouldn't we be doing all we can to protect our wild life.
frank slate	brooksville	FL	34601	United States	10/27/12	you know PINK slip has destroyed enough in the state.. he needs to keep his grubby hands off or stop this operation completely
Sue Hoffman	de land	FL	32724	United States	10/27/12	I love manatees!!!!
Lynda Alfson	Orange Park	FL	32073	United States	10/27/12	This is what keeps happening in our state. The animals that depend on humans to care enough to protect them find themselves out of luck, as well as water. Stop letting politics dictate your every move, Governor, and try to find in your heart, if you even have one, the correct actions to be taken for our marine life which is what FL is all about. Do this to help this state, not something to destroy this state, as you have ever since you came into office.
Kathleen Eickwort	Ocala	FL	34471	United States	10/27/12	Enough degradation of wildlife habitat has happened already..
Emily Hoon	Gainesville	FL	32607	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are one of the first attractions to Florida for me. Aside from wanting to save the species, I want others to be attracted to our state to see them.
Grace McCullohs	Jacksonville	FL	32205	United States	10/27/12	manatees are already threatened by human actions and they have nowhere else to go
cynthia hoch	merritt island	FL	32952	United States	10/27/12	i love manatees
Gina Caracci	Cocoa	FL	32926	United States	10/27/12	The manatees are endangered as it is, reducing their habitat will NOT help the situation. Im guessing politics doesnt care much about anything other than their bottom line though. Floridas waterways are shrinking as it is so THEY must be preserved before the state is dry. STOP ALLOWING GREED TO DESTROY EVERYTHING!
Beverly Sstrickland	Lakeland	FL	33813	United States	10/27/12	We should not be losing water or habitat

Sheet1

b abernathy	jupiter	FL	33458	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are awesome gentle creatures who prey on no one and cause no environmental harm. We need to protect them!
Albert Navarro	Ocala	FL	34474	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a symbol of Florida's natural resources.
Shruti Lakkani	Clearwater	FL	33761	United States	10/27/12	Manatees should be one of our top concerns as they are a humongous part of the Earth's ecosystem.
edward anderson	spring hill	FL	34606	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are cool, and endangered
						Men are at it again. We harm our beautiful manatees with our boats, etc. Now men have found another way to hurt our wonderful manatees. Aren't men smart? Look what all we can think of to do to our gentle creatures. Let's learn to care for them as God gave them to us to do. Keep the water in the rivers! Knowing humans, we will find a way to get more and more water out of our lakes and rivers. Leave it alone!!! Hug a manatee, not kill a manatee
Agnes Patrick	Jennings	FL	32053	United States	10/27/12	Without the warm water the Manatees will die!
Debbie LaFlam	Whittier	NC	28789	United States	10/27/12	We have a responsibility to protect Florida wildlife.
Jean Alford	Orlando	FL	32812	United States	10/27/12	Our springs are a very important natural resource-no excessive withdrawals of more water or reduced flow. These can never recover if destroyed by humans.
Linda Teeter	Sanford	FL	32771	United States	10/27/12	How could this not be important?
Carol Clark	Miami	FL	33161	United States	10/27/12	I love the Manatees!!!
Margaret Keeler	Platteville	CO	80651	United States	10/27/12	they are so important to save. this is only place we find manatees. protect protect protect
dianna XXX	defuniak springs	FL	32435	United States	10/27/12	We already have barnacle's on our dock. The saltwater is already intruding where it should only be fresh water.
James Norman	Homosassa	FL	34448-3403	United States	10/27/12	Because they are a gentle and beautiful species. The younger generation needs to see them. They are endangered and we should do everything to save them.
Pat Sideravage	Sebring	FL	33872	United States	10/27/12	Enough is enough! This short term governor cares NOTHING about Florida or its residents, merely lining his pockets for his wealthy retirement.
Linda Kyvik	Satellite Beach	FL	32937	United States	10/27/12	I lived in Homosassa Springs and know its natural beauty and these magnificent mammals. It must be protected!
Kathy Sheerin	Winter Garden	FL	34787	United States	10/27/12	YA JUST GOTTA LOVE MANATEES,OTHERWISE.LIKE GOVERNOR SCOTT,YOU SUCK!
john barrieau	hawthorne	FL	32640	United States	10/27/12	Manatees need us to protect them. They are gentle creatures and do no harm to anyone. Why should we hurt them?
Rebecca Walker	Lakeland	FL	33801-5435	United States	10/27/12	Where are the poor manatees going to live. Save their homes! They should be able to live there all year.
Ana Haget	BatonRouge	LA	70816	United States	10/27/12	People owe respect to nature, to manatees and all non people animals. We take so much, time to give back. Time to say thankyou to all the beauty & innocence people destroy everyday for selfish needs...
Julie Pisani	Bradenton	FL	34209	United States	10/27/12	

						Being a Florida resident, myself, I value our habitat, and the lives within our ecosystem. Follow an Ego-System, and everyone and everything suffers at the expense of making oneself look good to the rest of the gang. We have enough problems as they are (on the political front, especially), and sanctuaries are few enough, as is. To eliminate our habitats, for the sake of looking good for your peers is a dick move, especially towards nature in this case.
Damian Beu	New Smyrna Beach	FL	32169	United States	10/27/12	Be wise about this. I can guarantee your kids/grandkids would want to see manatees and dolphins. If you want to stay good with them, I suggest you listen to us, and don't go through with the reduction.
Ken Howell	Baltimore	MD	21230	United States	10/27/12	Florida manatee populations need all the help they can get
Cynthia Mayes	Merritt Island	FL	32952	United States	10/27/12	I am a true native Floridian who has never lived outside of Florida at all. Native Floridians are as rare as the manatees themselves. The manatees deserve as much protection as possible.
Max Christy	fairfax	VA	22030	United States	10/27/12	Save the manatees
Amy Knowles	Islamorada	FL	33036	United States	10/27/12	It is important to preserve and protect every facet of Florida's threatened and essential coastal, wetland and upland ecosystems, each dependant upon the health of the others.
Michael Sagona	Tavares	FL	32778	United States	10/27/12	Preserve wildlife from governments !
Rita Chambers	Indian Rocks Beach	FL	33785	United States	10/27/12	I live on the Gulf Coast of Florida, and I love seeing the manatees! I want them to be safe!
Leata Rich	Sarasota	FL	34231	United States	10/27/12	They were here first.
Bruce Gaba	Largo	FL	33771	United States	10/27/12	these animals are our Florida heritage; Rick Scott has gotten to big for his britches, He's already gotten rid of our bullet train, What else Will he get rid of that we need ??
karl pidhajny	holiday	FL	34691	United States	10/27/12	Save the Manatees, at ALL costs!!
Emily Nice	Winter Park	FL	32789	United States	10/27/12	Florida's wildlife should be protected because it preserves our economy of tourism and mostly, it's the right thing to do.
SHERYL ERICKSON	JAX	FL	32223	United States	10/27/12	Our poor sea cows have a hard enough time with reckless boaters and pollution. Let's give them some help here.
Gail Hickman	crawfordville	FL	32327	United States	10/27/12	I love our wildlife. Manatees are special to the State of Florida. I'm not happy with the idea the governor of the state, would Not protect these special animals. Please avoid the reduction of flow to these rivers.
Deborah Anderson	Davie	FL	33324	United States	10/27/12	Manatees are a Florida treasure and should always be protected!
Elisabeth Perras	DeLand	FL	32720	United States	10/27/12	For the late ann Thomas , my mentor.For our song Let the rivers run Free and for the Manatees, the real mermaids our grandchildren and their children need to see.....
Silvia Sardinias	Merritt Island	FL	32953	United States	10/27/12	I LOVE MANATEES!...GENTLE CREATURES!...I SAY NO TO REDUCTIONS IN FLOW!...HAVE A HEART!

Sheet1

Dan Howard	The Villages	FL	32159	United States	10/27/12	We must protect the endangered Manatees.
april cooper	ocala	FL	34470	United States	10/27/12	i love the river and manatees don't have a voice
Chris Redding	Orlando	FL	32803	United States	10/27/12	Manatees seem to think I'm one of the. They used to gravitate towards me at Port Canaveral. They let me pet them and swim with them. They love being scratched on their backs. They were beautiful!!! and very gentle.
Joy Priem	Winter Park	FL	32792	United States	10/27/12	When the manatees and the elephants goâ€œWeâ€™re done for!!!!
Kelly Meyer	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689	United States	10/28/12	Because I love going there to canoe and get back to nature, so to speak. This is just crazy! Why mess with mother nature and the flow of anything. Government sucks if you guys do this!
Joanna Caputa	Gainesville	FL	32606	United States	10/28/12	How could the SWFWMD and Rick Scott jeopardize the things that make our state worth living here? And, if you have to look at the "bottom line", what tourist would want to come and visit, knowing we are purposely destroying our own precious rivers and wildlife?
Jon Reynolds	Saint Petersburg	FL	33713	United States	10/28/12	Because Manatees kick ass!
Denise Ragsdale	Tampa	FL	33609	United States	10/28/12	The destruction of wildlife habitat in Florida must end. All creatures on this planet deserve the right to exist - not just humans! Some control of the water use by humans needs to be exerted as soon as possible. Haven't we pumped enough water to St. Petersburg and surrounding areas from outside their borders? When will the development end. Stop killing the wildlife that makes this planet worth living on.
Sherri Louise	Stuart	FL	34997	United States	10/28/12	Are we trying to wipe out even more WildLife? Does anyone get it that when we lose our WildLife, we too will perish!?! Wake up SWFWMD's Governing Board and the Governor of Florida - be part of the "solution" NOT the problem!!!
Kris Lee	Titusville	FL	32780	United States	10/28/12	Manatees need refuge
Alexia Rodrigo	Long Prairie	MN	56347	United States	10/28/12	I lived in Florida for some time and I've seen these beautiful creatures. As a strong environmentalist I believe it's extremely important for people to preserve the worlds wildlife. We share the Earth my countless other creatures and it is our duty to respect that.
Linda Putzel	Saint Petersburg	FL	33710	United States	10/28/12	I am a Floridian and these beautiful, gentle creatures are endangered as it is from boating, loss of habitat, fishing, and other human hazards. We need not further compromise these animals by challenging and perhaps destroying the ecosystem that sustains them.
David Mark	Miami	FL	33173	United States	10/28/12	Care for creation is a faith commitment.
Leo Souto	Orlando	FL	32869	United States	10/28/12	We must care for our manatees !
John Fletcher	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	Aid the fresh water environment and stop salt water intrusion and destruction
Linda Doss	Hamilton	OH	45013	United States	10/28/12	the manatees need to be protected
Laura Schneider	Gainesville	FL	32601	United States	10/28/12	I love all wildlife and this species deserves to be saved.

Sheet1

John J. Lynagh	Melbourne	FL	32940-6676	United States	10/28/12	We have lost enough of our wildlife and animals.
janet gardner	St Cloud	FL	34771	United States	10/28/12	I love the Manatees!!
Larry Goodman	Pensacola	FL	32503	United States	10/28/12	The endangered manatee has enough stressors already. Please do not allow reduction of flow in these rivers that are home to the manatees during a critical part of the year. Thanks, Larry
Jan Davison	Tampa	FL	33647	United States	10/28/12	I love the manatees and they need to be protected.
margaret nelson	port charlotte	FL	33952	United States	10/28/12	The wildlife are in constant peril trying to survive in their habitats. Floridas residents need to stand up as their voice to protect and preserve this natural species.
Marcy Bernstein	Margate	FL	33063	United States	10/28/12	Just leave the water levels alone.
Elaine Burr	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	Everytime you all screw with the water levels it messes it up.
Susan Dietrich	South Pasadena	FL	33707	United States	10/28/12	Fishing
amy hyslop	ocala	FL	34477	United States	10/28/12	This will not only interfere with only the manatees habitat, it effect hundreds of other living things in the water as well as along the coast of these rivers.
Marie Trone	New Port Richey	FL	34654	United States	10/28/12	manatees are florida
bob fulford	tallahassee	FL	32304	United States	10/28/12	I canoe on Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springs regularly. My dogs enjoy swimming there as well. One of my all-time photographs is of a manatee in Chassahowitzka. We cannot afford to reduce the flow of this spring, as it is already incredibly low. We need to conserve this water for the future of not only the wildlife, by our children and grandchildren. Please do not let corporations, large scale ranchers, etc pressure you into giving them a larger allotment of water for the sake of "jobs". That is pure lip-service. Orlando has been listed in the top 10 cities for having demand exceed supply for fresh water by Wall Street. What businesses are going to come to Orlando knowing that the business and its workers have a water shortage???? Please think this through. I have facts, and I can give them to you. I teach Environmental Science at Valencia College in Kissimmee.
Cheri Bickley	Palm Bay	FL	32907	United States	10/28/12	do you know prime facie?
Betty Klein	Chassahowitzka-Hc	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	I don't think any of God's creature's should be hurt
donna otero	gotha	FL	34734	United States	10/28/12	It is just as important to me, Gov Scott should be ashamed of himself
MARY ANN LAFAR	DELTONA	FL	32738	United States	10/28/12	IT WILL HELP SAVE MANATEES AND FISH.
Bruce Florek	Homosassa	FL	34446-5110	United States	10/28/12	This is MY back yard. Don't mess around in my back yard.
S.A. Thompson	Tampa	FL	33626	United States	10/28/12	i love animals
Claire Cowart	Jacksonville	FL	32205	United States	10/28/12	We need to stop messing with nature and accept our role as protector instead of usurper.

Sheet1

Candy Strafford	Naples	FL	34119	United States	10/28/12	Once gone, we can never recover destroyed habitats or extinct species. We need to live simply, so others can simply live.
Bonnie Baird	Sarasota	FL	34243	United States	10/28/12	These gentle creatures were here first. These endangered creatures are at our mercy and NEED to be saved. If it wasn't for us, they would not be endangered.
David Jeffreys	Wilmington	NC	28403-5542	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are gentle aquatic mammals who should not be endangered.
Callie Riley	Palm Bay	FL	32907	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are an endangered species, that must be protected.
Kay Frysinger	lake City	FL	32025	United States	10/28/12	This is important to me because it is not up to the water management board to make life and death sentences for manatees, the manatees are very affected by temperature differences and they need the protection of the warmer waters in the winter.
Mary Roy	Miami	FL	33189	United States	10/28/12	Preservation of our native animal species and the environment is highly important to us and for our future.
shadow hill	Cocoa	FL	32927	United States	10/28/12	As a Florida resident I see these amazig creature often and it is imperative we protect wildlife here.
Carol Warren	Birmingham	AL	35209	United States	10/28/12	I grew up in FL with the Manatees and until my Mom got sick with cancer we went to Melbourne to see them frequently. They are loving and trusting and often clowns, especially the babies. We got so much joy just watching them.
Amelia Barnard	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/28/12	water is our most important resource.
Nancy Wilson	Kenneth City	FL	33709	United States	10/28/12	I remember when the Homosassa was just a "hole in the ground", a spring with no buildings, just a place to swim and enjoy and and I used to go fishing with my parents on the Chassaowitzka. I would like them to stay for us AND the manatees !
peter wagner	Bunnell	FL	32110	United States	10/28/12	When the welfare of noble creatures such as the manatees, bears, cranes, and others are threatened by our proposals, the decisions should be made in their favor, because their survival is at stake!
Gale Lee	Brandon	FL	33510	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are a Florida treasure. Let's do our best to protect them!
Luis Otero	Plantation	FL	33324	United States	10/28/12	Wildlife conservation and natural resources preservation go hand in hand in the total scheme of things. We, as human are the most important link, and I feel responsible to do my part in this collective effort.
Richard Ruman	Clearwater	FL	33764	United States	10/28/12	Because Manatee are crucial for Florida eco-system.
Paula Baxter	Miami	FL	33157	United States	10/28/12	I had the opportunity to swim with these gentle creatures and want to see them protected.
Ora Jean Henry	Sarasota	FL	34237	United States	10/28/12	As a native Floridian, I have long loved these big natives. Once I went swimming with the manatees on my birthday, following the required rules for THEIR safety. (We are proud supporters & members of Mote Marine in Sarasota also.

Jeani Johnson	SW Ranches	FL	33331	United States	10/28/12	People must STOP KILLING our beloved animals & fowl & sea life - LIVE and LET LIVE! STOP KILLING! What has happened to the people in this killing world! All they want to do is to over populate the world with PEOPLE and kill off all of our wild life! STOP PBEING HOGS - SHARE THIS WORLD WITH ANIMALS, WE NEED THEM!!
Patrick Thurmond	HIGHLAND CITY	FL	33846	United States	10/28/12	the reduction in our waterflow in our streams and rivers hurt Florida's natural habitat. Stop the reduction of fresh water!
Rachael McCrosky	Orlando	FL	32806	United States	10/28/12	I live in Florida and have gone swimming with the manatees. These are a state resource and the lifeline of many tourist organizations. Also, they are cute.
Mary Anne Combs	Marion	NC	28752	United States	10/28/12	Humans have no right to harm the manatees who have been in their natural habitat forever.
Janice McSween	Venice	FL	34293	United States	10/28/12	Haven't we destroyed enough of Florida's wilds and wildlife?
Gwen Dunlop	Orlando	FL	32818	United States	10/28/12	We need to protect our environment AND our manatees!
Mary Powell	Cantonment	FL	32533	United States	10/28/12	Florida depends on tourism. The beaches, the sea life and the avians are what brings people here. One of the most majestic is the Manatee. To allow it's destruction is not only economically stupid it is truly disgusting for anyone who loves the beautiful creatures of Florida.
Tammy Richardson	Ormond beach	FL	32176	United States	10/28/12	Because PPI always have to mess with nature and mess everything up. Leave thing alone and there won't be NO problem in the future with are water flow
Joseph Duncan	Orange City	FL	32763	United States	10/28/12	I am sick of Rick Scott's inept rule in my state of Florida!
Lynn LaMar	Sarasota	FL	34235	United States	10/28/12	All natural resources MUST be protected for our future...and our children's future...
Calvin Hayes	Miami Gardens	FL	33056	United States	10/28/12	It is important to the manatees.
Holly Farish-Hunt	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/28/12	These beautiful creatures are an integral part of my FL environment and contribute to the beauty and balance of nature. Please do all you can to protect them as they are gentle creatures.
James Doud	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/28/12	We need to do all we can to save the manatees!
Donna Herriman	Miami	FL	33138	United States	10/28/12	Because manatees are such gentle creatures that they don't deserve this!!!
Alex Jensen	Canyon Country	CA	91351	United States	10/28/12	Natural wildlife needs to be saved. Especially if they are going extinct.
Pat Bayers	New Port Richey	FL	34654	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are a treasure and must be protected. Flow reductions will threaten them.

						Endangered West Indian Manatees rely on the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for life-saving thermal refuge and essential fresh water habitat. Generations of Manatees return to Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Springs annually to take refuge in the life saving warm spring waters. Florida's Gulf waters get too cold for Manatees during winter months, and manatees unable to find thermal refuge in coastal springs like Chassahowitzka and Homosassa would certainly perish.
Eddie Stamborski	Aurora	CO	80010	United States	10/28/12	
Paul Yingst	St Petersburg	FL	33707.1	United States	10/28/12	It is the right thing to do!!!
Betsy Bozzolo	Forestville	CA	95436	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are having a tough time. Please don't make it harder for them to survive.
Sandra Ilardi	Leesburg	FL	34748	United States	10/28/12	We need to protect our wildlife. They are the reason some tourists come to Florida and it's the right thing to do.
patti holmes	largo	FL	33777	United States	10/28/12	because it is, and to nature!
Cecelia Conley	ft lauderdale	FL	33305	United States	10/28/12	I Love Manatees they are so sweet and spiritual
Ethian Hugo Carvajal	Miami Beach	FL	33139	United States	10/28/12	etiennehugo@yahoo.com
Dominique vendetta	Homestead	FL	33030	United States	10/28/12	Save the animals!!!
Jon Boliek	sarasota	FL	34236	United States	10/28/12	We need Manatees!
melynda rydbom	springhill	FL	34606	United States	10/28/12	Florida's environment is important to me
Denise Rivera	norcross	GA	30093	United States	10/28/12	Weve already destroyed SO many animals habitats we need to stop!
Michael Flinn	Delray Beach	FL	33484	United States	10/28/12	You're going to reduce habitat. I don't see the compelling reason, and I don't think you have one other than some people want that.
Ian Jarrett	Miami	FL	33156	United States	10/28/12	We need to reduce our use of water, not increase supply. manatees are just one species that suffer as we mess with the delicate balance of South Florida water systems.
Daniel Campos	Miami	FL	33162	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are important species in our Florida waters!
sharon holding	new port richy	FL	34653	United States	10/28/12	protect florida's waterways & springs from further degradation
Alfred Van Guilder	Lake Worth	FL	33461	United States	10/28/12	I already asked dick scott to retire.He is useless! I'm tired of him DESTROYING this great State. Let's get together, and VOTE him out of office!
Vicki Cowen	West Bloomfield	MI	48323	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are sweet, peaceful animals. They have enough to deal with as it is with the propellers from boats, etc. Please don't endanger their habitat.
Tara Wells	Winter Park	FL	32789	United States	10/28/12	These beautiful gentle giants contribute so much to Florida's bounty.
Crystal Schroeder	Winter Springs	FL	32708	United States	10/28/12	Manatees need to be safe. They are beautiful harmless creatures.
Sarah Robinson	Fort Pierce	FL	34947	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are beautiful innocent creatures man invaded their territory. Reducing the flow in water makes no sense because it rains all the time so the flow should stay exactly like it is.

Sheet1

Barbara Burt	DeLand	FL	32720	United States	10/28/12	Springs are vital for tourism, healthy ecosystems that support humans, plants and animals. we cannot continue to degrade these precious natural resources.
trish oconnell	st pete	FL	33707	United States	10/28/12	please save the manatees. !!!
Michael Edgerley	Tampa	FL	33626	United States	10/28/12	I have kayaked those rivers, please save them!
Larry Hartman	Floral City	FL	34436	United States	10/28/12	I live in Citrus County the manatees are an important part of our water ways.
juan rodriguez	Miami	FL	33138	United States	10/28/12	protect fauna
CLYDE P ADAMS	Orange City	FL	32763	United States	10/28/12	they were here before He was.
Neal Wall	Crestview	FL	32539	United States	10/28/12	Loss of habitat for the manatee
David Dehner	high springs	FL	32643	United States	10/28/12	It's important to save the area's where the Mantee live.
Rufus Shepherd	Baker	LA	70714	United States	10/28/12	Life is important on all levels
Charles Pfeifer	Metairie	LA	70001	United States	10/28/12	I like to visit Florida to see the wildlife and nature of this unique state. I will stop going and spending my money there if Florida will not take care of this important natural asset
ida mackey	St Cloud	FL	34769-4368	United States	10/28/12	Because manatees are God's most beautiful creatures
Matthew Klein	Vero Beach	FL	32967	United States	10/28/12	Animals are on The Endangered species act.
Grant Campbell	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33312	United States	10/28/12	Florida's manatee population iis already stressed. We should be cleaning our waters and giving them more.
David Durant	Longwood	FL	32750	United States	10/28/12	Our Florida natural environment and our Gentle giant Manatees need all the aid and assistance we can conjure Up before we lose them both to ignorance and greed!
Carol Macik	Tierra Verde	FL	33715	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are just big old softies and should be protected from harm.
Dona Gould	Bradenton	FL	34205	United States	10/28/12	Why do they want to reduce the flow? For business? For farming? It really seems more important than either of those to protect our waterways natural flow and stop destroying our habitat. All the little things are already adding up and showing how quickly we are destroying the beautiful world we are supposed to be protecting. Quality of life is more important than money.
Linda Bailey	Spring Hill	FL	34609	United States	10/28/12	To save the manatees
Marsha Rubin	Naples	FL	34114	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are gentle giants and a Florida treasure. Enough of them are killed by inconsiderate boaters and a reduction in flow will add to their eventual demise. We should be protecting voiceless, defenseless animals - not killing them!!

Peter Mercauto	Tampa	FL	33634	United States	10/28/12	As a lifelong Florida resident, I treasure both the Chassahowitzka and Homossassa Rivers. Some of my earliest memories are of my family making the 60 mile trip to enjoy the (then) pristine Chassahowitzka. Since then, development has abused and degraded both rivers to the point that the last time I visited both rivers, a few years ago, it brought tears to my eyes. The abuse needs to STOP and stop NOW!!
Shari Yudenfreund-	Winter Park	FL	32789	United States	10/28/12	A finite amount of water will only go so far so continuing to draw more water from a finite source is a recipe for disaster for everyone.
Dillon Mooney	winter garden	FL	32928	United States	10/28/12	life
Wilson Patrick	Jax	FL	32241	United States	10/28/12	Common Sense, Peace for the Sea Cows!!!!
Helene Donovan	Pensacola	FL	32503	United States	10/28/12	I cannot even believe that there would be a need for a petition to save Florida's Gentle Giants. These mamals bring millions of tourism dollars to the state, are an endangered species and we have to petition our elected governor to protect their habitat? Is he crazy, dumb, or simply in the pockets of those who benefit? If someone can provide me with any other rational explanation, I will listen. However, this should not even be up for discussion. NO REDUCTIONS IN FLOW!!!!
Deanna Trier	Sarasota	FL	34233	United States	10/28/12	I've swam with the manatees in Homosassa springs Florida and they need to to be protected from any invironmental changes to help increase their numbers. There are very few manatees left in this area and we need to help them not hurt them!
Rafael E Cumplido	Hialeah	FL	33013	United States	10/28/12	Protection of the environment and the animal species should be a top priority.
Sandra McConnell	DeLand	FL	32724	United States	10/28/12	These gentle animals are essential to the Florida eco-structure and they deserve a habitat that is protected.
George Ruman	Seffner	FL	33584	United States	10/28/12	Important native mamal - a resource that must be preserved
Phyllis J Smith	Albuquerque	NM	87111	United States	10/28/12	I lived in central Florida for 25 years and still love the manatee's
Catherine Kaylor-Sc	Plant City	FL	33565	United States	10/28/12	I Love the Manatees I want them to be around for my Grandchildren and my Great grandchildren .
Pat Bucko	Bradenton	FL	34210	United States	10/28/12	Do we need to harm or kill everything to save money? Can't a politician cancel one unnecessary trip each and save money there?
Cori Register	Pensacola	FL	32507	United States	10/28/12	I love the manatees!
Talya Schultz	Washington	DC	20008	United States	10/28/12	I'd like to see the manatees one day.
Heather Hintz	Westminster	CO	80021	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are special and need help
Cyndi Winton	Tullahoma	TN	37388	United States	10/28/12	ALL wildlife should be important to ALL people!!
Joan Davis	Bradenton	FL	34209	United States	10/28/12	It would be a travesty to not protect the integrity of Florida's springs. Shame on the SWFWMD for not doing its job responsibly. We must demand that this does not happen.
Alan Hehe	Ft. Pierce	FL	34982	United States	10/28/12	I believe ALL life is precious & that all creatures deserve life.

Sheet1

Dick Costello	Mount Dora	FL	32757	United States	10/28/12	The manatee is more important than any other animal in Florida. It is a symbol of what is Florida's unique place in the world.
Mary Mullins	Tallahassee	FL	32301	United States	10/28/12	As at least a 4th-generation Floridian, I cannot stand the abuse the current administration is wreaking on our state's environment. We must put a stop to it, now! This is only one of the ways the state's resources are being decimated.
Laura Barbot	Daytona Beach	FL	32127	United States	10/28/12	I'm unsure as to why this stance is necessary in the first place. Then, when one considers the estimated 15% loss of indigenous species, I then find this to be an unacceptable situation. Are we simply going to annihilate anything and everything, one by one, until there is nothing left?
Jasmine Grandcourt	Ravine des Cabris	FL	97432	United States	10/28/12	protection animal and heart
Francis Butera	Pensacola	FL	32514	United States	10/28/12	Minimum Flow levels were set to protect the biological health for entire ecosystems. Disregarding these levels will cause a permanent and acute negative reduction in the biological health and balance of these systems.
Karin Mari	Ft. Myers	FL	33919	United States	10/28/12	THEY HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PATHS FOR PANTHERS FOR THE FT. MYERS AIRPORT AND NOW THIS. TIRED OF DESTRUCTION FOR THE ANIMALS TO SURVIVE.
THERESA FLEMING	LIVE OAK	FL	32060	United States	10/28/12	I love the Manatees, they are beautiful, majestic creatures. They are warm and fun loving and deserve our protection. They have had to fight off people and boats and now this. We need to preserve them for the future
Matt Delaney	Ft. Pierce	FL	34954	United States	10/28/12	I really don't think that it is at all fair that the Manatee's should be harmed in any way as they are living souls just like the Human Being & deserve the right to have a life as they see fit. I love to be able to see them when I go out on a boat or even when I go to the ocean as they are a beautiful creation!
Sharon Higgins	Panama City Beach	FL	32413	United States	10/28/12	Honor for all forms of life. We cannot continue to savage our gentler co-inhabitants on this planet,
Peggy-Ann Bissell	Wauchula	FL	33873	United States	10/28/12	I love animals and we all need to preserve what God gave us.
Kim Simmonds	Davie	FL	33324	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are MAJESTIC, AWESOME creatures!
John T Channell	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/28/12	nature can take care of its self
monica chapa	ft lauderdale	FL	33304	United States	10/28/12	Why are you kidding this is total insanity. Shame on who would make this kind of decision.
Nancy Blythe	St Petersburg	FL	33711	United States	10/28/12	No reductions in flow!!!!!!!
Tim Brennan	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	The waters of Citrus County are for the use of its residents (consumption, recreation, fish and other marine life) not for some outside entity to use consume, despoil or degrade.

Emily DeLattre	St Petersburg	FL	33708	United States	10/28/12	Because I grew up in Florida and love the manatees and natural rivers there. Always!
northa sanchez	Homestead	FL	33035	United States	10/28/12	Save animals
						Lived in Orlando for several years and love the natural springs that bless the state. Worldwide the loss of wetlands has now translated into massive losses of wildlife and everyone including commercial fisheries that depend on the breeding grounds these delicate ecosystems provide end up losing. The Manatees are a thermostat for what may be a much larger impact on the environment as suggested by the authors of this petition. It is clear that a very transparent public disclosure of the science behind such proposals with clear pro and con summaries of all environmental impacts be provided for comment and form the basis for any proposed regulatory change. Individuals Like Dee Atkins from Crystal River, FL should be included in the process. Evidence of what he is suggesting is available from satellite photos. Independent unbiased scientists and well informed lay persons like Dee, should be allowed to provide evidence and recommendations including public disclosure of water use (via a website) and mandatory metering of water removed from any part of the ecosystem including the aquifer that supplies these sensitive areas. At the end of the day countries that choose to protect their environment are protecting their future, the future of their children and are respecting the rights of the generations that will follow us. I would like to thank the friends of Chassahowitzka-Homossassa for taking the time to work on this important topic and wish them success in their efforts.
Joseph Franke	Longwood	FL	32779	United States	10/28/12	
Teresa Densmore	Rotonda West	FL	33947	United States	10/28/12	Our manatees depend on the springs. They are their refuge.
Kandi Davis	Davenport	FL	33836-1675	United States	10/28/12	these animals are beautiful animals.They depend on those warmer waters in the winter.Our goverment has no right to change the way water flows.Leave well enough alone.
ROBIN WITHERIN	Orlando	FL	32806	United States	10/28/12	they need the springs to survive the winter
Susan Curtis	Steinhatchee	FL	32359	United States	10/28/12	water
Eileen Hilliard	Gulfport	FL	33707	United States	10/28/12	Because every life has a value.
Lizbeth Besok	Port St. Lucie	FL	34983	United States	10/28/12	Would like to help preserve the manatees for future generations to also enjoy.
Julie Shepherd	Orlando	FL	32835	United States	10/28/12	These beautiful creatures are a Florida treasure and indigenous to this area, we have a responsibility to care for them.
Judith Warren	Pinellas Park	FL	33782-2025	United States	10/28/12	We Floridians need to work together to protect the wild life that share this land, this environment with us.
Gayle Sheets	Fort Myers	FL	33919	United States	10/28/12	The Homosassa and Chassowitzka are a natural treasure and must be saved.
Heather Bell	Gainesville	FL	32605	United States	10/28/12	Because we are mismanaging our water and manatees shouldn't suffer.

Irma Quiroz	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33334	United States	10/28/12	when I came to USA, back in the 72's..I was so delighted for the view of such a wonderful animals. and like this I want my grand children be able to see the wonders of Florida...
Daniel Haber	Melbourne	FL	32934	United States	10/28/12	When I was growing up, these animals were so plentiful, it was common to have a herd of them grazing on the banks while we were fishing. Now to see the population decimated to this point is just wrong. We need to make sure they have every chance possible to survive and rebound.
Patrick Cardwell	Pensacola	FL	32501	United States	10/28/12	These gentle giants need our help to survive.
Iuana Miller	cape coral	FL	33904	United States	10/28/12	we can't keep destroying natural habitats..
Joe Snavelly	Tampa	FL	33647-3048	United States	10/28/12	We need to do all that we can to protect these wonderful and majestic creatures. We need to respect our wonderful natural resources and these magnificent animals are unique in all the world.
Andrea Lamoureux	Ip	FL	33852	United States	10/28/12	All lives seem to be cast aside today no matter if you are human or animal.be the voices and support for all the unfortunate !!
kevin hurley	miami	FL	33138	United States	10/28/12	I live in their habitat. They love in mine.
Peter Hayton	Naples	FL	34117	United States	10/28/12	We live surrounded by the beauty of nature.; what will we be surrounded by if we don't cherish and protect that beauty?
Vivian Barrera	DELTONA	FL	32725	United States	10/28/12	I love animals and if God created them it is for a reason
Michelle Pacheco	Bradenton	FL	34209	United States	10/28/12	I love the manatees.
Cassandra Curtis	Gilsum	NH	3448	United States	10/28/12	I have visited theses places and they are some of the most special spots I have visited in the world. We need to preserve the diversity or special places
adriano lambe	Homestead	FL	33030-2508	United States	10/28/12	This is most important to the manatees, far beyond that represented for those of us who sign the petition. I can only hope that the SWFWMD and our Governor shows more concern, heart and conscience for the environment than the two leading candidates presently dukeing it out for the presidency.
Bill Wukitz	sarasota	FL	34232	United States	10/28/12	I live in Florida I love manatees let us save this gentle species.
Michael Enns	Coral Gables	FL	33134	United States	10/28/12	The preservation of natural Florida is at a all time low. Despite a governor's misunderstanding and apathy toward the wildness of the state. He is a zealot buffoon.
Jeffrey Haarsma	Saint Petersburg	FL	33703	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are almost endangered. We must protect them.
ANDRES GARCIA	Port St Lucie	FL	34986	United States	10/28/12	Save the Manatee!

						<p>PREVENTION of further degradation NOW, is BETTER than CURE at some future date.</p> <p>There are already too many examples of rivers where the cure is verging on the impossible. Those situations could have been avoided with some thoughts of prevention.</p> <p>Our neighbors, some who have lived in the area all their lives, tell of the longer term deterioration. The models are questionable as they are based on many assumptions, often made by people at a computer without even having seen the rivers. Look at the real facts not those generated from a myriad of assumptions in a computer model and you will realize how little is known by those computers about these complex spring systems that are so vital to both the ecology and economy of the area.</p> <p>Please vote to stop Destruction by Suction (destroying the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka by sanctioning more groundwater withdrawals, and let us not forget Crystal River).</p>
Martyn Johnson	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	
Linda Firestone	Coral Springs	FL	33076	United States	10/28/12	The manatees and the Everglades are part of the natural beauty and wonder of Florida. They both need to be nurtured.
Patricia Silbert	Parrish	FL	34219	United States	10/28/12	I'm 72-yrs. old and had never seen a Manatee in my life until I moved to Florida. I was awe-struck by the gentleness and intelligence of those awesome creatures. It would be, in my opinion, criminal to disrupt their habitat.
LISA HILL	MELBOURNE	FL	32934	United States	10/28/12	Without our unique wildlife Florida would be just any other urban sprawl anywhere in the world! Please keep this place special.
Donna Wholihan	Naples	FL	34119	United States	10/28/12	Wildlife is just as important as mankind and if the two are not supported together, neither one thrives.
BARBARA PIETRA	SUMMERFIELD	FL	34491	United States	10/28/12	For many years we have visited Homosassa Springs with our grandchildren - they have learned so much from these trips - please save the Springs for them and their children!
Linda Golden	Jacksonville	FL	32207	United States	10/28/12	We are losing too much of our natural habitats.
Audrey Lima	Port Charlotte	FL	33952	United States	10/28/12	Do the right thing you douchebag.
mark sauter	ft lauderdale	FL	33304	United States	10/28/12	Nature got already enough destroyed since humans rules the planet
James Downey	Orlando	FL	32819	United States	10/28/12	All life, not just human life, has value on Earth. We are custodians of something unique and precious in this universe.
Gail Currie	Brooksville	FL	34613	United States	10/28/12	These waterways are the habitat to numerous wildlife, waterlife, trees, flowers, etc. To decrease the flow will certainly kill off a lot of these Federally Endangered Species and ruin Florida's Outstanding Waterways.

Sheet1

Jacki Wilmot	saint petersburg	FL	33710	United States	10/28/12	love manatees and all wildlife
Jimmy Liu	Orlando	FL	32837	United States	10/28/12	its not right to reduce the water when endangered manatees need it to live in the winter
shirley keller	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	I want to keep optimal environmnetal conditions for our marine animals.
M. Gregory	BOCA RATON	FL	33433	United States	10/28/12	FL must do everything in its power to preserve manatees!
Lourdes Bulnes	Miami	FL	33196	United States	10/28/12	Because we are responsible for those gentle creatures and they have their homes there. Why take away their livelihood if they do not harm anyone.
PATRICIA NELSON	Milton	FL	32570	United States	10/28/12	As a lifelong resident of Florida, I am concerned with preserving the natural waters of this lovely state.
Colette Wilt	Jupiter	FL	33478	United States	10/28/12	Because I love the manatee.
Clarence Sweet	Green Bay	WI	54303	United States	10/28/12	Because people keep F ing with nature and need to stop!!!!
Chris Erwin	Orlando	FL	32822	United States	10/28/12	We should take care of the world we live in and those who live in it even though it might not be "cost-effective" to the greedy politicians who just seek to stuff their own pockets with cash they don't need.
Jada Vanpelt	Belleair Beach	FL	33786	United States	10/28/12	Because I live there
Kenneth Jaquith	La Conner	WA	98257	United States	10/28/12	Swflwmd has shown that its "studies" and "best available data and assumptions" have not stood the test of time. Just look at the sad state of the Everglades flow, St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers with the blooms and salt water intrusion. Yes, we have a water flow problem due to the population explosion of our great state. I fear that it is only a matter of time before the state is tapped of the things that make it Florida. What will be left? Beaches and Condominiums? Start by getting rid of the sugarcane fields!
Dr. Corey and Mrs.	Pensacola	FL	32503	United States	10/28/12	Because Florida's manatees are a vitally important part of our State's unique heritage as well as a beautiful, gentle mammal that deserves protection.
Virginia Wirt	The Villages	FL	32162	United States	10/28/12	The Manatees are amazing mammals and are one of Florida's ancient species. They are intelligent, gentle herbivores. Why would anyone even consider putting them at further risk then we already have. Wake up Governor - some things deserve special care. Do not reduce the flow!
Sarah Dennard	Atlanta	GA	30324	United States	10/28/12	They can't be replaced and man would be responsible for hurting them. That is unacceptable!
Deborah Hardy	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/28/12	life

Richard Eckler	Jacksonville	FL	32205	United States	10/28/12	These springs have a limited number of gallons they can provide. Bleeding them off for use that can only increase is a short term solution to a long term problem- like an addict and his drugs. By the nature of the problem,, this solution can't succeed.
Tom Conroy	Naples	FL	34106	United States	10/28/12	Because we are destroying the environment and our health
Linda Robinson	Gainesville	FL	32605	United States	10/28/12	I love these animals. They are so awesome.
Pamela Bennett	Tampa	FL	33603	United States	10/28/12	Our precious wildlife is being obliterated by "progress"
Sherri Davis	Vero Beach	FL	32966	United States	10/28/12	Because our eco-systems are critically important to the health of the planet, animals, and humans!
Joern Hebestreit			9456	Germany	10/28/12	I've got a house on the Halls River, and I want to be able to keep on going boating from there!
BobbyAnn Loper	Tampa	FL	33609	United States	10/28/12	Every creature matters.
Audrey Smith	Key Largo	FL	33037	United States	10/28/12	Please show some compassion for the native wildlife of Florida. They were here first!!
Bryan Ott	Riverview	FL	33579	United States	10/28/12	Wildlife can't help themselves we must do it for them.
DALE CRAVEN	Merritt Island	FL	32953	United States	10/28/12	It is every body's responsibility to protect and preserve the wildlife in Florida.
Jacqueline Jeffries	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	It's my river.
Robert Allen	Davenport	FL	33837	United States	10/28/12	Our state is running out of fresh water. South Florida have had to shut down wells for salt water intrusion and the Lake Wales Ridge water resources are showing signs of salt water intrusion. The EPA website shows that our state's water has some very serious contaminants in the Florida aquifer. Mother nature had a great plan but "man is man's worst enemy". We the people have to step up and protect one of the most important natural resources. We can not sustain life without Clean Breathable AIR & Clean Drinkable WATER. We are all connected. Every action has a reaction.
Sandra Defrates	Gainesville	FL	32605	United States	10/28/12	I lived in Crystal River, where Manatee moms and their pups literally swam in the canal in our back yard, I got to see first hand how peaceful and gentle these creatures are. We need to protect them from man made dangers. They have no way of recognizing these hazards as life threatening...until it's too late. You are entrusted by the citizens of Florida with protecting these docile creatures. We are counting on you.
Nancy Griffiths	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/28/12	They are so ugly that they are beautiful, and it's a shame to let our younger generation not enjoy these unusual species. The gentle giants deserve more than what man has given them, after all they were here first. Please help these creatures to survive. It's so very important.
jeanne hopwood	bloomington	IN	47403	United States	10/28/12	We need to save these animals
Jeff McGriff	Tallahassee	FL	32308	United States	10/28/12	Preservation.

Lorna Hopwood	Unionville	IN	47468	United States	10/28/12	We frequently visit FL and appreciate the natural areas and diverse wildlife.
Janice Montalto	Crawfordville	FL	32327	United States	10/28/12	Leave these gentle giants homes alone. They need protection.
Doris Osburn	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	One of the primary reasons we moved to this area was because of the wonderful rivers here. We fish, paddle and enjoy these waters tremendously and feel that every effort should be made towards restoration, and that water flow reduction is not consistent with that goal.
Kim A	Clermont	FL	34711	United States	10/28/12	Have we not made enough species extinct by hunting and taking away their enviornment. The human race and the bodies that govern are the ones to blame. YOU can make a difference. NO REDUCTION IN FLOW TO THE HOMOSASSA AND CHASSAHOWITZKA RIVERS.....
Gerri DiBartolo	Orlando	FL	32825	United States	10/28/12	As a nature lover, I am asking that veyou do whatever it takes to save the manatees' habitat.
Jhan Snyder	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/28/12	Diversity of life should be a priority to all americans. Not only that but the Manatee has become an ambassador for the tourist industry in Florida just like the Dolphin and as such should be protected and their habitat cared for accordingly.
Cynthia Spiller	Milton	FL	32583	United States	10/28/12	Manatees ARE quintessential Florida Let's save what is left of this resource. Ecotourism will bring in billions of dollars but only if there is an ecosystem left to visit.
Stanley Clewett	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	save our rivers. They are already seriously degraded
Kim Schulz	Pensacola	FL	32505	United States	10/28/12	We have polluted the Gulf of Mexico beyond belief. There has to be a push to allow her to heal. I say, "NO to reductions in flow!"
Nisa Birnbaum	Boca Raton	FL	33498	United States	10/28/12	Our wildlife is important to me. Please tell woman in picture that it is illegal to touch wildlife.
Melissa Smith	Tequesta	FL	33469	United States	10/28/12	My father worked with The Nature Conservancy all his life. I want to make sure all the he worked so hard for, remains for future generations!
Rhonda Taylor	Pensacola	FL	32583	United States	10/28/12	Stop changing the course of the waterways. God had it all figured out, but man thought they could make things better, and the only thing you over educated idiots have done are cause more problems with our habitat. Bunch of idiots, STOP IT.
Melborn Kermit Hur	Sanford	FL	32771	United States	10/28/12	Every Fla Spring is an Oasis for several special species. They are one of the geological features that makes Florida special and unique. We must VALUE AND PROTECT them because they are like the canary in the coal mine - they alert us to the conditions of our aquifer from which we get our potable water. They are also a place to go and escape the hectic lifestyle of today!

barbara keene	tampa	FL	33611	United States	10/28/12	Because HOW IMPORTANT ARE MANATEES TO FLORIDIANS?? ANSWER THAT! RICK SCOTT, THEY WERE HERE BEFORE US AND HOPEFULLY THEY WILL BE HERE LONG AFTER.
Burgess Newcomb	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	It's my backyard, ,life style and my choice to not agree with the direction SWFWMD is heading in.
grant peeples	crawfordville	FL	32327	United States	10/28/12	Because I care.
Sandra Mondro	Weirsdale	FL	32195	United States	10/28/12	Animals and People
Cary Christenson	St Petersburg	FL	33709	United States	10/28/12	I think we TAKE, TAKE, TAKE! We must slow down!
Barry McWeeney	St. Petersburg	FL	33709	United States	10/28/12	I'm a Florida native and believe these creatures deserve to continue living in "Their" natural surroundings uninhibited by man!!!
Evelyn Seiler	Rockledge	FL	32955	United States	10/28/12	Moving down here to Fl when I was 5, a Manatee was the first animal that I saw and I've been in awe of them ever sense. They are a great importance to the state of Florida.
Lassie Lee	Jacksonville	FL	32225	United States	10/28/12	Florida requires water - pure, clean water - for life. Too many people and too many "business" demands are killing this state. We have to stop the downward trend now to have a liveable future.
Jennifer Robson	Virginia Beach	VA	23454	United States	10/28/12	Love the manatees & would hate to see their numbers diminish because of more intrusion on their homes by humans!
Ben Oswald	Avon Park	FL	33825	United States	10/28/12	Because Manatees are already stressed enough.
Ronda Lynch	Jacksonville	FL	32224	United States	10/28/12	These poor creatures are a gentle and glorious addition to the state of Florida. It is our DUTY to treat our assets in a manner that will preserve them for our future generations and theirs as well. Step up and get a backbone. Save our springs and save our manatees!!
dee sweet	floral city	FL	34436	United States	10/28/12	manatees are endangered and we need to protect their springs and waterways for their survival.
Jacqueline Day	Kissimmee	FL	34759	United States	10/28/12	gentle giants.
Astara Edmonds	Inglis	FL	34449	United States	10/28/12	We must preserve the water in our springs and rivers. It is vital.
James Igler	Ruskin	FL	33570	United States	10/28/12	The health of the environment...this place we call home... is far more important then anything else.... with out it...what do we have... a concrete jungle.... NO THANK YOU!!!! Please do NOT allow this reduction to happen
Miguel Pacheco Jr	Miami Springs	FL	33166	United States	10/28/12	Yes safe our water..Plus we need to be aware and feel the pain of watching our rivers and our wildlife die.
leslie white	beverly hills	FL	34465	United States	10/28/12	the gov't needs to allow nature to balance the water!
Rocco Mollica	Palm Coast	FL	32164	United States	10/28/12	With the changes in climate swinging from above aferage heat to below average cold, Manatees need a place where they can go to avoid hypothermia during winter.

Kristen Cavallini-So	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33315	United States	10/28/12	Balance of Nature is teetering, and these beautiful animals need somewhere to live. And...We are ALL God's creatures which certain profiteering individuals seem to forget some of whom also PREACH a good line! Greed must GO.
pomeroy susan	st. petersburg	FL	33703	United States	10/28/12	Home to Federal and State Listed Endangered Species including the West Indian Manatee, the spring-fed Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers are now at risk of further degradation and loss of essential fresh water habitat if the Southwest Water Management District's ("SWFWMD") Governing Board approves reductions in flow proposed in the Minimum Flows and Levels on October 30, 2012.
Kathryn Onorata	Largo	FL	33771	United States	10/28/12	We need to protect what we have - before it's all gone.
Carol Allegretti	Fort Myers	FL	33905	United States	10/28/12	We need to do whatever we can to save these very delicate creatures that are so much a part of our Florida waterways.
Beryl Lipoff	sarasota	FL	34238	United States	10/28/12	When our wild life disappears, what does that say for our existence? I am a Florida resident I have had the privilege of seeing these wondrous creatures. I implore that there should be NO flow reductions.
Mary Aker	Deltona	FL	32725	United States	10/28/12	The people of Florida love the manatees. We love to see them and touch them and preserve them so our children can get to know these wonderful creatures.
Ingrid Hinkelmann	Miami	FL	33179	United States	10/28/12	keep all wildlife safe, ban hunting altogether of any species
Maria I. Arisso	Miami	FL	33137	United States	10/28/12	We need to maintain our eco system.
Colleen Veard	Palm Bay	FL	32908	United States	10/28/12	Because preserving wildlife matters!
frank allegro	miami	FL	33127	United States	10/28/12	Hi- The reason I sign this petition is because I'm a Manatee too. love, frank allegro
A. G. Connor	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/28/12	All creatures on this planet are important and we are to be good stewards here.
Joyce Swaim	Spring Hill	FL	34607	United States	10/28/12	Our manatees are such gentle giants...a gift from God to our waters. Why do some humans always hold such disregard for simple & kind forms of life? SWFTMUD has too much political power & influence. Let the manatees live in their habitat.
Mike Loscalzo	Spring Hill	FL	34608	United States	10/28/12	I dislike gov't controls
Terry Beckwith	Dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/28/12	The fragile ecosystem of Florida is continually being disturbed by the human population, which includes building, business "wants," governmental restrictions / grants, and I feel that this behavior will lead to devastating implications for future wildlife and natural flow.
Robert McDonnold	Port St. Lucie	FL	34953	United States	10/28/12	If you choose to ignore the manatee, who or what is next? What's so wrong with caring?

Sheet1

christine hayes	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	the manatees are suppose to be protected and especially here in citrus county. we can not do anything like reduce their water ways that can jepordize their existence.
Barbara Gooding	Hudson	FL	34667	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are Floridas treasure! We must do everything to protect them!!!
Patricia Junior	New Orleans	LA	70124	United States	10/28/12	I live on a canal off the Homosasa River, and I would like to see the quality and quantity of the river not be compromised
Mil Zimmer	Chesapeake	MD	21066	United States	10/28/12	Sufficient clean water is essential for all life, human, animal, plant.
Ruth Bullard	Hobe Sound	FL	33455	United States	10/28/12	Our environment and nature are critical
marsha holbert	deerfield beach	FL	33442	United States	10/28/12	i have lived in south fla since 1981. the manatees have been here forever. this is their home. need i say more??
Donna Mavity	Thomasville	GA	31792	United States	10/28/12	I don't believe in human progress destroying wildlife. Why are humans more important than animals? We are supposed to be the caretakers of the earth and its inhabitants. Not destroyers
diane beechner	safety harbor	FL	34695	United States	10/28/12	I believe strongly in preserving and providing the habitats of our native Florida species.
Jack Schofield	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/28/12	Maintaing existings flows is important to the economy of Florida. While populations will increase in the state the reduction of our flow levels of our rivers and springs to provide water resources is not aneffective way to provide for future growth. In fact it will affect the areas in the state that provide an opportunity to view Florida in its natural state. Living on the Withlacoochee River in Yankeetown for the first time since I moved here we had salt water intrusion at our property. Maintaining current flow levels is a must. Jack Schofield
Keith Hayden	Cooper City	FL	33328	United States	10/28/12	We need to protect our endangered species anyway we can, for future generations to enjoy.
Keith Larson	brooksville	FL	34601	United States	10/28/12	I live and fish here and enjoy the wildlife. Instead of pumping more water out, start restricting subdivisions and require new residents to aquire more land, like all 10 acre parcels and that would start helping our water situation. Also quit pumping to other counties. If a county can not provide enough water for a new resident, than they can't sell another building permit until they figure another way, like desal plants.
Lisa Williams	Punta Gorda	FL	33950	United States	10/28/12	i live in fl and love the gentle manatees.
Katherine mayers	seminole	FL	33777	United States	10/28/12	Absolutely No Leave the Manatee Alone its bad enough when MORONS try to ride them Don't go after their habitat
Teresa Ordonez	Miami	FL	33187	United States	10/28/12	why change what is natural?

						I was born and raised in Florida. I grew up swimming and scuba diving in the springs. In many ways they have defined who I am both personally and professionally. I've gone on to explore springs all over the world and know 1st hand that Florida's springs are unique to the world both in terms of magnitude and beauty. I'm now a hydrogeologist that specializes in karst aquifers and springs and my experience tells me that the models that have been used to assess spring impacts in Florida are wrong and that they underpredict those impacts.
Todd Kincaid	Reno	NV	89503	United States	10/28/12	
Blythe Broecker	tampa	FL	33613	United States	10/28/12	I made a bill about this! So happy to see it is a bigger deal now! :D
ROBERT SIEVERT	BOYNTON BEACH	FL	33437	United States	10/28/12	All life is important to me.
Mary McBride	Winter Springs	FL	32708-2383	United States	10/28/12	SAVE MANATEES NOW!!!!!!!
Lawrence Feldhuse	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/28/12	Our Outstanding Florida Waters are already degraded. No additional reduction in flow or habitat is acceptable. The goal should be to INCREASE flow to these waters.
michelle bozeman	fort walton beach	FL	32548	United States	10/28/12	Manatees depend on humans to protect them. they are also a great tourist attraction. why would you endanger them by reducing the water?
Jacqueline Mathis	Jacksonville	FL	32207	United States	10/28/12	I have been going to the springs since I was a little girl, always say "you can't experience Florida until you've been to the springs." Our manatees are a Florida asset and should be protected at any cost.
Sharon Stiner	Tampa	FL	33606	United States	10/28/12	Because it is the right thing to do
Missy Patrick	Beverly hills	FL	34465	United States	10/28/12	Because I live here and kayak those springs
Jaime Morales	Sunrise	FL	33351	United States	10/28/12	Everything about nature is very important to me.
Linda Sue Fowler L	Cutler Bay	FL	33189	United States	10/28/12	Will Someone please tell me why mankind has to go in and change things that God created ? And why we will not be happy until we wipe out every living creature on the face of the earth? Leave the flow alone and help protect what is left of a already fading population!
Kathleen Galgano	San Jose	CA	95126	United States	10/28/12	The old growth cypress and many species that reside therein is a treasure not only to Florida, but to our nation. Please do not degrade this important ecosystem. This is important. Thank you.
christine ellis	pensacola	FL	32514	United States	10/28/12	This is a beautiful part of our world it is our duty to protect them
william thomas	gainesville	FL	32601	United States	10/28/12	i grew up in chassahowitzka. the river is dear to me. we need to protect this piece of florida.
Josh Houston	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/28/12	I live in Citrus County.
Scott Hackenberg	Brandon	FL	33511	United States	10/28/12	Because Rick Scott is an idiot!
Karleah Sidky	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33309	United States	10/28/12	To save the manatees!!!!
Sandy Cross	Floral City	FL	34436	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are endangered and we need to protect this beautiful animal.

Anne Molinas	Coral Springs	FL	33065	United States	10/28/12	Protecting the environment and wildlife is very important. Florida is way over developed and there is too much disregard for nature, which is also an important resource for a healthy life and economy, not just construction and development.
Rachel Barnes	Jupiter	FL	33458	United States	10/28/12	love manatees
Charles Levy	Gainesville	FL	32607	United States	10/28/12	Protection of this amazing species is good for our souls and our economy.
Carole Smith	FL	FL	34604	United States	10/28/12	What is Beauty ?, God makes these Animals !!!
Maureen Kearns	Jupiter	FL	33458	United States	10/28/12	The Manatees must be protected!
Robert Knight	Gainesville	FL	32609	United States	10/28/12	All springs deserve to be protected and preserved for future generations and for us.
Sharon freshour	orange park	FL	32073	United States	10/28/12	Water is going to become a huge issue! We need to teach people how to use it responsibly! So that every living thing has what they need. Can we say human population control?
Phyllis Bernard	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	I am a Homosassa resident. The Homosassa River and Chassahowitzka River and the springs they support are essential for the wonderful Florida wildlife species living here. Help us save the real Florida!
Dorothy Segel	Carbondale	CO	81623	United States	10/28/12	I always loved those sea cows.
Terri Nelson-Bunge	Port Orange	FL	32129	United States	10/28/12	The manatees deserve to retain their already limited habitats.
Audra Brookins	Bronson	FL	32621	United States	10/28/12	I grew up swimming with these wonderful, peaceful creatures! They are not only completely harmless they do a service by eating the water plants that end up blocking our water ways.
Kathleen Bacheller	Tampa	FL	33612	United States	10/28/12	This iconic mammal has no one but us to speak for it. It needs these springs for its winter refuge. I love to walk the trails at Homosassa and see them, I've grown up with that and future generations deserve that too!
Maryellen Catherine	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	I use the waterways all the time and have seen the deterioration and decrease in wildlife. Please leave the waterways alone
Nancy Tobergte	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/28/12	Our springs and rivers are vital to the existence of all forms of life, including human forms, and they are already in danger from lack of rainfall replenishment...why on earth would we want to allow further damage!!!
Linda Bystrak	Leesburg	FL	34788	United States	10/28/12	I frequently paddle in this area and enjoy the wildlife, which is already stressed by too much water pollution. Less water means less likely to meet TMDL goals.
Beverley Wiskow	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/28/12	With so much of what we knew as old Florida gone, it would be tragic if yet another of our very special resources were destroyed. PLEASE protect the manatees.
karen meeks	cape coral	FL	33904	United States	10/28/12	I live in Fla. on the bimini basin and watch manatees here.

Sheet1

Geraldine Carboni	Bronx	NY	10465	United States	10/28/12	I am both a resident of NYC and Florida. Until about 20 years ago, I didn't even know manatees existed. We need to preserve these "gentle giants" for our grandchildren's grandchildren.
Janice Le Blanc	Englewood	FL	34223	United States	10/28/12	The cruelty to animals has got to stop.
phillip slimak	Ioxahatchee	FL	33470	United States	10/28/12	I believe in protecting old Florida
Cory Mead	Jacksonville	FL	32216	United States	10/28/12	I love all the wild life in the Florida creeks and rivers while im out fishing. I cant tell you how many times I have wanted to give jerks in power boat and jet skis that whip up and down the back creeks with no regard for other boaters or wildlife. Do not endanger our water system wild life with your actions. They have enough to battle with out there with stupid inconsiderate humans as it is.
Frank Staff	Boca Raton	FL	33432	United States	10/28/12	Frank Staff
Teresa Powers	Edgewater	FL	32141	United States	10/28/12	These are the oldest of creatures that we have, we need to do EVERYTHING in our power to help them. They are just "GENTLE CHILDREN". WE MUST HELP ALWAYS, it's our DUTY!
Nancy Beebe	Mount Dora	FL	32756	United States	10/28/12	I live in Florida and love it's wild places, especially it's rivers. All life here depends upon our now imperiled waters.
paula xellar	boynton beach fl	FL	33426	United States	10/28/12	simply, this is the only planet we hve to live on. we can do better for our childre and future generations.
Anna Berardi	Longwood	FL	32779	United States	10/28/12	Water is important for manatees AND people. Let's do what's right.
Letitia Wszolek	Cape Coral	FL	33991	United States	10/28/12	I live in the areas where manatees swim in our canals leading to the sea and can see indifference by some of boaters. Frustrating....
Patricia Goytre	Miami	FL	33155	United States	10/28/12	Because every animal life is important for me!!!
Sharon Bramlet	Apopka	FL	32712	United States	10/28/12	Our natural habitat and beauty is why people want to travel to Florida and want to live here !! Critical thinking for all Floridians !
maria uranga	coral gables	FL	33158	United States	10/28/12	Part of the beauty of Florida is its natural beauty.... Manatees are part of that beauty... They are gentle FLORIDA SPOKE ANIMALS!
April Rexroad	Winston Salem	NC	27105	United States	10/28/12	I used to be a resident of Florida and I have seen the scars on many of the manatees already from boats and other man-made dangers and I believe we need to do more to protect these animals. Reducing their habitats would be a step in the wrong direction.
Loretta E. Beacon	New Port Richey	FL	34655-1634	United States	10/28/12	To cherish what remains of the Earth & to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival. NO REDUCTIONS IN FLOW!
Ron Browall	Dunnellon	FL	34432	United States	10/28/12	I kayak all the rivers in Florida and have seen how low some of them got in the drought.
Christy Fayard	Spring Hill	FL	34606	United States	10/28/12	Leave Mother Nature alone!!! Let HER decide!! NOT the stupid humans! Please!!
Katherine Vale	Key Biscayne	FL	33149	United States	10/28/12	To avoid further environmental degradation and reduction of species I feel we all have a moral and aesthetic imperative to preserve nature's gifts.
S Cruz	miami	FL	33032	United States	10/28/12	if they reduce this, they will be willing to reduce other animal species.
Ronda Chewning	Orlando	FL	32839	United States	10/28/12	I love Manatee's. Protect these animals.

Sheet1

Sam Gellerstedt	Sanford	FL	32771	United States	10/28/12	We need the springs for the manatees and for the people who enjoy the springs.
Bonnee Jones	Crystal River	FL	34423	United States	10/28/12	We Must save our fresh water from salt water adn degradation
Kathryn Konigsberg	Apopka	FL	32703	United States	10/28/12	History! Wild Life! Preservation of the original Florida is more important than some developers getting even richer. Oops I forgot my audience...
Nancy Fecso	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	I live on a canal leading to the Homosassa River. The river is a unique part of this area we call home. We continue to watch the river being damaged. Finally, we can start to reverse some of this and I will urge everyone I know to say no to reductions in flow.
Kathryn Berendes	Fountain	FL	32438	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are very special to our state. They have been endangered for some time. Now they will essentially be deprived of their habitat.
Robin Hudpseth	Coconut Creek	FL	33063	United States	10/28/12	Life
charles scott	Orlando	FL	32803	United States	10/28/12	What happens to our non-human friends will soon happen to us!
cammie burke	marietta	GA	30066	United States	10/28/12	Because manatees are AWESOME and they need protection!
Carole Kirkpatrick	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	We canoe a lot on the Chassahowitzka, and cannot fathom how badly this is going to impact the environment. You are going to completely spoil a wonderful place.
Louis Clayton	Beverly hills	FL	34465	United States	10/28/12	The Manatees been here before us and lets not screw up the spring waters because of stupidity.I would like my grandchildren enjoy what we have.
CAROL BECHT	Wesley Chapel	FL	33544	United States	10/28/12	The manatees need to keep that habitat.
Lynn Glorieux	Pittsburgh	PA	15212	United States	10/28/12	My favorite vacation activity is paddling on Florida's beautiful rivers, and I don't want them to suffer from reduced flow from the springs that feed them.
Elwyn Green	Ft. Lauderdale	FL	33304	United States	10/28/12	As a native of South Florida I have grown up with the mantees and watched as careless boaters and other enemies have hurt their population severley. Every effort to help these slow docile creatures is a blessing within itself.
Eileen Cormack	Winnipeg		R3G 1C2	Canada	10/28/12	They are without a doubt truly magnificent.
Debra Weiss	Yankeetown		34498	United States M	10/28/12	Any reduction in the flow of our waterways will negatively affect the marine life and the lives of all the other birds and animals in our surrounding areas.
Dorelle Ackermann	Mokena	IL	60448	United States	10/28/12	I just returned from kayaking these beautiful rivers. They are a treasure that need to be preserved and a treasure that will bring tourism dollars to the area.
Kenneth Penrose	Homosassa	FL	48653	United States	10/28/12	The waters are already low enough to cause problems for boating and recreation. Salt water already comes up the Chassahowitzka River almost to the springs at high tide. Don't tamper with the natural flow.

Sheet1

Laverne Garrett	St.Petersburg	FL	33713	United States	10/28/12	We own property on the Chassahowitzka River our future home. We are concern about the damage to the river.
Janet Penrose	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/28/12	The Chassahowitzka River is down significantly from just a few years ago. It needs to be restored and protected before it is too late.
Don Love	Reddick	FL	32686	United States	10/28/12	Enough is enough.
Marcia Burch	Orlando	FL	32807	United States	10/28/12	The manatees are protected and so should the springs they winter in.
Amado Martinez	hollywood	FL	33024	United States	10/28/12	As a scuba diving instructor I'm a conservationist. So we must conserve the natural habitat of the Manti in order for some day remove it from the endangered list.
robet jones	summerfield	FL	34491	United States	10/28/12	because i care
Mary Remer	Leesburg	FL	34748	United States	10/28/12	Too much of our precious water is being given away.
Kelly Greene	Miami	FL	33168	United States	10/28/12	Manatees are nearly extinct. I don't want to see this beautiful mammal disappear from the face of the earth. They should be protected for future generations.
Judy Foster	Palm Bay	FL	32909	United States	10/28/12	It Really seems like we need to protect our waterways and animals so we can preserve this way of life before it is all taken away..
Valerie Harwood	Tampa	FL	33617	United States	10/28/12	Florida's waters should not be for sale to developers, industry, or otherwise. The should be protected, not exploited. The environment has received little attention in these times of economic uncertainty, but once we degrade water quality, it will be extraordinarily difficult to improve it.
ROBERT WEXLER	grand island	FL	32735	United States	10/28/12	CLEAN WATER AND PUBLIC LAND
gregory smith	monticello	IN	47960	United States	10/28/12	all life is precious but the slower ones need a better break.
luisa ramirez	jacksonville	FL	32258	United States	10/28/12	nature
John Carter	Seminole	FL	33772	United States	10/28/12	To much development has already damaged both the lands and water resources of this state.It is time to realize that these things belong to the future. Regreates do not repair damages that could have been avoided if we only halted and considered the negative results of our decesions
Jeff Glitzenstein	Tallahassee	FL	32305	United States	10/28/12	I'm a plant conservation biologist. Preservation of rare species and habitats is what I do.
Sally Belton	Longwood	FL	32779	United States	10/28/12	The Springs throughout Florida are all suffering and water flow is down at most of them. This is a serious problem not only for our wildlife but a scary problem for our drinking water in the state.
Steve Miller	The Villages	FL	32162	United States	10/28/12	I fish,kayak and drink the water
Edward Temple	Brooklyn	NY	11215	United States	10/28/12	These gentle mammals are a joy to behold
Nadira Ali	Orlando	FL	32825	United States	10/28/12	all creatures are precious.
Vern Garnett	St Petersburg	FL	33713	United States	10/28/12	It's important that we conserve our resources.

						The fresh water in our rivers and springs is of major importance for people and the environment. If you don't care about the Manatees who also bring tourists to the area, then think of the Money. Low flow in the rivers increases the possibility of salt water intrusion which devalues property and kills needed vegetation. Please remember what happened to New Orleans because the outlying vegetation was destroyed.
Ann Sayward	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/28/12	
Tabitha Messer	Miami Beach	FL	33139	United States	10/28/12	because I live in Florida and I care about the environment
Marilyn McGriff	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	I live on a river where I see manatees often. They have no enemies but man. Ruining our rivers by decreasing is flow from the springs does no one any good except put a few dollars in some companies pocket. It's not worth it.
mary sperandeo	crystal river	FL	34429	United States	10/28/12	We work on manatee tour boats. It is how we make our living as well as educate people about manatees.
MARGARET ANDE	JACKSONVILLE	FL	32257	United States	10/28/12	There are some things money can't buy!
Robert Carey	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	I spend much of my spare time on the river and have seen the damage already done.NO MORE reduction in flow.
Rolaine Smoot	Riverview	FL	33578-3719	United States	10/28/12	I have have dived with wild Manatees. They are such gentle beings!
Terri Ackerman	New Port Richey	FL	34653	United States	10/28/12	This magical place on the west central coast of Florida is a wonderful family friendly area that needs to be preserved!
Nancy Noloboff	St Augustine	FL	32084	United States	10/28/12	Protecting our waterways is crucial to the survival of the manatees as well as the health of our entire Florida ecosystem.
Carol Walton	St Petersburg	FL	33713	United States	10/28/12	We have to be the voices for the wildlife.
Frances Larson	brooksville	FL	34601	United States	10/28/12	Natures beauty and water clarity
Paul Semenec	Sarasota	FL	34231	United States	10/28/12	If there is a chance to make manatee life better, let's do it!
jorge j tamargo	Miami	FL	33165	United States	10/28/12	ONCE ALLOWED TO RESTRICT IT CAN EASLY BE MADE WORSE.
charles murray	waianae		96792	United States M	10/28/12	LOVE
James Sasser	Citrus Springs	FL	34433	United States	10/28/12	Helps environment and wildlife.
ALejandra Gutierrez	san jose		345	Costa Rica	10/28/12	I love wildlife, and the humane perception that we are superior and can do whatever to them is wrong
jacquelyn hubbard	Williston	FL	32696	United States	10/28/12	I am a kayaker and love the outdoors. 15% reduction is unacceptable.
Dolores Hesselbrock	Phoenix	AZ	85085	United States	10/28/12	I care about all living things on this planet and I believe they have a right to live out their lives as nature intends. We have options and can change our habits to accomodate them whereas they can live only as their species and bodies allow.
Brian Belton	Panama City Beach	FL	32407	United States	10/28/12	Protect natural condition of Florida resources

						chassahowitzka is my home, i have seen first hand, over many years the flow of our springs decline, not just here, but statewide. coastal springs will die first, then our interior springs will cease. ground water pumping will continue, then, when we suck it all dry, we will begin what we should have already started years ago. desalinization, it will come to that eventually anyway, why not start now. lets lead the way to the future and restore our springs, i say no to increased pumping of our most precious recourse, stop ground water pumping now. given the chance, nature will heal itself, it would be a great loss if we continue on the current path.
cindy klein	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/28/12	
k v	jacksonville	FL	32223	United States	10/29/12	As a kayaker, I cherish FL waterways and am dismayed at their decline over the last decade. Please work to preserve these ecosystems for all!!!
Catherine Newbill	Pensacola	FL	32503	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are amazing and deserve to survive in the native habitat. There are many ways to conserve water so less is needed. Having a green lawn not only pollutes the waterways by fertilizer run-off, a green lawn also depletes the water table. Conservation is key.
Berdina Joseph	tampa	FL	33647	United States	10/29/12	love wild life
Margaret Woodruff	ocala	FL	34470	United States	10/29/12	I am tired of the government ruining my beautiful state
Jackie Williams	Pensacola	FL	32506	United States	10/29/12	NO, NO, NO. PLEASE SIGN!
Elizabeth Steib	loxahatchee	FL	33470	United States	10/29/12	I support preserving the habitats that wildlife, especially those which are endangered depend. We cannot allow the Florida manatee to become another tragic statistic in this state.
Katherine Leech	Floral City	FL	34436	United States	10/29/12	I conserve water and think if we all did more conservation water would not need to be taken from one area to another which is expensive and masks the real need to focus on living with the water we have in our own area.
Robin Peterson	Dunnellon	FL	34431	United States	10/29/12	WILDLIFE
Rebecca Lambert	Citrus Springs	FL	34433	United States	10/29/12	This may have been a good year for rain but what happens next year and we receive no rain. This is just plan crazy.
Gerald Stanley	Lutz,	FL	33548	United States	10/29/12	I own property on Crawford Creek that empties into the Chassahowitzka River. The degradation of the trees along Crawford Creek is terrible and anymore reduction in the flow of fresh water form the springs will only increase the degradation of our coastal rivers and creeks.
Donna J Watson	Beverly Hills	FL	34465	United States	10/29/12	I spend a lot of time on the river and want to preserve it
Ivan Mago	Wellington	FL	33414	United States	10/29/12	Wild life is part of our planet's ecosystem. They all deserve our respect and protection
Robert Hylan	Lecanto	FL	34461	United States	10/29/12	I am proud of what we have and don't want to lose it.

Sheet1

Kim Berryhill	Winter Springs	FL	32708	United States	10/29/12	They play in our marina everyday , they are beautiful!
Joaquin Sanchez	Miami	FL	33012	United States	10/29/12	I am opposed to giving away millions of gallons of spring water to foreign bottlers and foreign billionaires that want to take our water to over develop my state.
Jo-Ellen Cox	Boca Raton	FL	33498	United States	10/29/12	for the simplest reasons, we need to protect our wildlife from extinction and deminishing habitats whether on land or in the water. This spring is vital to the manatees survival. Please spare these creatures.
Jim Carrell	Ocala	FL	34481	United States	10/29/12	I go to Homosassa Springs State Park often, and there are always tourists there. Why would anyone go If the ecology changes due to reduced flows?
Mercedes Potter	Key largo	FL	33037	United States	10/29/12	They are so gracious ,kinf and such a treat to watch them swim right up to you. In the Florida Keys we love them and they are never harmed
Carol Dewing	Palm Beach	FL	33480	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are beautiful creatures that need protecting!!
Bennett Hoffman	tallahassee	FL	32301	United States	10/29/12	I like manatees
Brian Dearwater	Lakeland	FL	33810	United States	10/29/12	Spring fed rivers are treasures to be preserved for future generations.
Jacqueline Casey	Jacksonville	FL	32223	United States	10/29/12	This is important to me because sea creatures are an irreplaceable part of the state's beauty. Lacking these wondrous creatures is simply unacceptable!
jeanette mayer	pinellas park	FL	33781-2509	United States	10/29/12	if we don't save in the wild, they may go the way of the passenger pigeod EXTINCT !!!!
claudia howat	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/29/12	Why mess with nature, when it's going to make things worse?
aaron wolford	bellevue	FL	34420	United States	10/29/12	the world
Kathy Sutton	Lake Mary	FL	32746	United States	10/29/12	All wild animals are precious and we must preserve their habitats. We must also preserve our natural springs for ourselves and our offspring. We must save the beauty of nature and the wild places left in Florida as they are treasures for recreation and tourism.
Walker Banning	Tallahassee	FL	32301	United States	10/29/12	Springs are attractive not only to manatees, but also to residents and tourists. They are an economic development engine if we don't kill them.
Amy Stowe	Riverview	FL	33569	United States	10/29/12	We need to protect the more pristine areas of Florida that we can, especially if it could endanger and threaten our precious wildlife. At least, we need to know the environmental impact ahead of time if there is a real human need to move an established ecosystem.
Melissa Bried	Hudson	FL	34669	United States	10/29/12	I have lived in this state for almost 40 yrs, alot longer than our govenor I believe. I love our manatees & want them protected. DO NOT REDUCE THE FLOW in our rivers. PROTECT OUR MANATEES.
Sheila mandell	Fort Lauderdale	FL	33301	United States	10/29/12	I live in FL and love them.
laura abrisch	crestview	FL	32539	United States	10/29/12	I love all animals and i am sick of hearing all the abuse, neglect and killings so i will so what it takes to save what animals we do have left in this now pathetic world.
Anthony DiValentin	High Springs	FL	32643	United States	10/29/12	For my kids.

Susan Sonsini	Newberry	FL	32669	United States	10/29/12	The natural beauty of Florida's rivers and springs is the main reason my family and I came to North Florida. It is important to preserve this natural resource for future generations. Please do not reduce the flow of any of the rivers!
Steve Lodle	Brooker	FL	32622	United States	10/29/12	We need to protect our rivers and water supplies.
SANDRA JOHNSON	SAINT CLOUD	FL	34769	United States	10/29/12	water must be a protected resource and along with the species dependent on it not just humans
w.james Brazel	fort walton beach	FL	32547	United States	10/29/12	Hope my future family to have some healthy environment to live in
lizabeth johnson	Graceville	FL	32440	United States	10/29/12	I love animals and they need us to help protect them!!
Deborah Butler	Clearwater	FL	33765	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are an endangered species. If they don't have an appropriate environment to live in they cannot survive. SAVE THEIR ENVIRONMENT!
Gabe Freund	Oakland Park	FL	33309	United States	10/29/12	I am a Floridian that cares for the environment.
Jeanette Nicotra	Deltona	FL	32725	United States	10/29/12	We should do whatever possible to ensure the safety and preservation of our wildlife.
LINDA STAPLETON	LECANTO	FL	34461	United States	10/29/12	I live here, and am tired of seeing the natural beauty of our state's flora and fauna being destroyed for no good reason. Usually it's from big business and to preserve wealthy residents lakefront property, but this degradation serves no purpose at all (unless it's one we haven't learned yet).
Vonnie Rogers	Pensacola	FL	32526	United States	10/29/12	Water supply is important to the life that is in the Springs.
Mary Kemp	Bandon	OR	97411	United States	10/29/12	Manatees need help.
Rosanne Adkins	Casselberry	FL	32707	United States	10/29/12	I love the manatees!
Pam Bucci	sarasota	FL	34233	United States	10/29/12	Because animals are beautiful and should be protected. They can't defend themselves.
Diane Dequevedo	Boca Raton	FL	33496	United States	10/29/12	They are gentle; they are endangered. I don't know if they are unique to Florida, but they are certainly a tourist draw.
Jocelyn Slater	Falmouth	MA	2540	United States	10/29/12	West Indian Manatees are a Federally recognised endangered species. That should, by the same federal laws that protect the manatees, automatically protect all elements of their habitat which fall under United States control. They already have enough trouble with boat strikes. They don't need us to add cold stress and habitat degradation onto that.
Paul Kitwood	Seminole	FL	33772	United States	10/29/12	We humans are set on this planet to look after and protect it, not destroy it. The manatees can't protect themselves we need to do it.
Karen Johnson	Sarasota	FL	34231	United States	10/29/12	I'm so sick of the conservative, anti environmental Florida government destroying everything in the name of greed.
Lesia Schulha-Bohr	Bradenton	FL	34209	United States	10/29/12	Any further reduction of such a necessary habitat is short sighted.
Lois Gillette	Tucson	AZ	85742	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are docile and defenseless. They can't protect themselves, we must protect these wonderful beings.

Sheet1

Jeffrey Nelson	Margate	FL	33063-6857	United States	10/29/12	Because we have already damaged our environment too much already. And because I have compassion and concerns about other living things on this planet.
Mystina Swaim	Dover	AR	72837	United States	10/29/12	Manatees have been a great passion of mine from a very young age. When first learning about these amazing gentle giants, I studied about them and dreamed about getting to meet one up close. My dream came true when I swam with wild manatees in Crystal River, FL in 2004. I was able to experience this great opportunity and further extend my dream to working with them during my college internship. Manatees have and always will be an important part of my life and we need to do all we can to protect them for future generations. Manatees are not only an important part of the environment, but an important part of Florida's culture as well as a symbol of gentleness and tranquility we can all learn from.
Mary Anderson	Minnetonka	MN	55345	United States	10/29/12	Water use for humans is not a priority if it robs this precious resource from the animals that cannot live without it!
Shelley Linden	Brooksville	FL	34613	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are a protected species and we need to preserve as many animals as possible and not add to the extinction list.
Denise Key	Tamarac	FL	33321	United States	10/29/12	Anything that endangers our beautiful wildlife should be a NO. There is a way for all of us to be sustainable.
Don Jackson	Holiday	FL	34691	United States	10/29/12	This is a Florida animal and should be saved at all costs!
Debora Taylor	Bloomington	IN	47404	United States	10/29/12	Once these gentle giants are gone.....they are gone forever.
Ralph Mergen	Sioux Falls	SD	57106	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are endangered, so you just cannot put them at further risk.
Sally Ann Collins	Morrison	FL	32668=265	United States	10/29/12	I have lived many years in Broward county and saw what happened to waters and habitat in south Florida when construction destroyed the natural life there.
Cassandra Godfrey	Lutz	FL	33558	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are unable to help themselves so we need to stand up for these beautiful creatures before it is too late.
Tiffany Hale	Fort Walton	FL	32548	United States	10/29/12	We must protect nature and all of it's inhabitants. Man continues to destroy the planet without acknowledging the fact that this will eventually lead to our own destruction. Protect animals. Protect people. Do what is right! These animals lives are depending on us all.
Barbara White	Jacksonville	FL	32258	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are so sweet...help them!!
Kimberly Bigler	Webster	FL	33597	United States	10/29/12	Spend alot of time on these rivers...the Manatees have had enough!
Diana David	Nederland	CO	80466	United States	10/29/12	I LOVE manatees. They are the epitomy of all that is good in a creature. I have been very proud my parents lived in Manatee County.
Cathy Baker	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/29/12	Save Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs for Florida's Manatees and for future generations

Janice Stralow	Tallahassee	FL	32311	United States	10/29/12	We have to preserve our wildlife not only so future generations can enjoy sharing what nature has to offer in our very unique Florida, but also to preserve our planet. We cannot continue to degrade the balance of nature thru man made efforts and expect the planet to be here for future generations.
Hawk Pat	Reddick	FL	32686	United States	10/29/12	Why should we be the last generation to see Florida Manatees of clear flowing springs?
Marie Norcross	Sorrento	FL	32776	United States	10/29/12	The water in the springs stays warm enough in the winter to give the manatees a place to go where there is fresh water and vegation
Lysebeth Herry	North Miami Beach	FL	33160	United States	10/29/12	Yes for animal's to planÃ"te
Pamela Arn	Saint Johns	FL	32259	United States	10/29/12	I live in florida
stevenson jim	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/29/12	To protect public lands that were acquired to protect Florida's waters especially springs.
Richard Bryant	St. Augustine	FL	32092	United States	10/29/12	As a landowner on the Chassahowitzka River and a biologist, I believe that any reduction of flow will result in Significant Harm to the system.
Randall Patsches	New Port Richey	FL	34654	United States	10/29/12	Every project the corp of engineers or swfwm have done resulted in disaster. It is appalling that we constantly feel the need to change or control nature, leave it alone.
Dietmar Fuchs	Lady Lake	FL	32159	United States	10/29/12	As a resident of Florida, as a friend of this earth and of the environment I strongly condemn your efforts to further damage Florida's unique gifts from God, namely its springs. May God who made mankind stewards over His creation be your judge.
Jennifer Bordner	Debary	FL	32713	United States	10/29/12	I'm tired of people disregarding homes of the wildlife as if it doesn't matter. It's like the government doesn't even care about that being a home for manatees. They are already at huge risk with the boaters. They don't need a man made risk that doesn't have to be.
Antonio A Fernandez	Miami	FL	33155	United States	10/29/12	The survival of the species is crucial to the Florida ecosystem
Timothy Outlaw	Lakeland	FL	33809	United States	10/29/12	Our natural wonders and resources are more important that we realize.
John Humphrey	Crestview	FL	32539	United States	10/29/12	Beautiful, peaceful animals. Their native territory.
Michael Tracy	Hernando	FL	34442-7416	United States	10/29/12	Our springs are one of most important natural resources in Florida. If we do not do something to save them now they will be gone. Water is life giving.
L Polke	Archer	FL	32618	United States	10/29/12	Nature nurtures and supports us all.
Michael Appino	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	Kayaking, Fishing, protection of the ecosystem. Chass has been going downhill for years, now SWIFTMD wants to further damage it? Get with it people!!!
Anna Stacholy	Boynton beach	FL	33483	United States	10/29/12	These genlte creatures deserve our care
Jim McElveen	Archer	FL	32618	United States	10/29/12	Save the manatees, not kill them!

Kathleen Spinks	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/29/12	We need to stop messing with nature and leave it alone. These are beautiful rivers which house the gentle, peaceful manatees other animals and of course fish.
Andrew Paliuca	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	the rivers are stressed enough as is...fresh water flow is critical to these rivers. SWFMD....please do what is right for nature and our unique regional area of FLorida
Joan Wertheimer	Nokomis	FL	34275	United States	10/29/12	We need to save all of our wildlife before it is too late which sometimes happens
Beth Hammer	Tampa	FL	33612	United States	10/29/12	As a full-time Florida resident, we know the importance of protecting these special creatures. Please understand & save their environment.
Michele Cooper-Tay	Tampa	FL	33619	United States	10/29/12	I have swam with the majestic mammals. They are so sweet and beautiful. They need protection and care. They mind their own business and don't bother anyone. If you reduce the flow; where will they end up? There will be a reduction in vegetation and it's hard enough for them to find food.
Evelyn Ruiz	New Port Richey	FL	34654	United States	10/29/12	Love to save the manatees.
Becky Reep	Quincy	FL	32352	United States	10/29/12	Sorta a "no-brainer" on the value of our Florida springs....they are ESSENTIAL! They have been a part of nature's design for eons....mankind needs to take a lesson from the Master and leave them alone unless it's doing something to preserve and protect them - like signing this petition!!
Robin Potter	Port St. Lucie	FL	34952	United States	10/29/12	The springs have been around for decades and are a great source of water for the manatees, please leave it alone.
Leslie Halstedt	Tampa	FL	33609	United States	10/29/12	I love all animals and the Springs
Alice Gridley	Gainesville	FL	32608	United States	10/29/12	We are so fortunate in Florida to have manatees. Please, do not screw it up!
Charles Botts III	Inglis	FL	34449	United States	10/29/12	I and my family live on the Withalacoochee River and I work for the Town of Yankeetown, also on the Withalacoochee River, and I am concerned that SWFWMD is more concerned for the short-term commercial use of our resources than the long-term impact for all of the citizens and the environment we live in.
Regina Medeiros	Boca Raton	FL	33433	United States	10/29/12	I love Manatees!
Mary Elizabeth Dun	Jacksonville	FL	32210	United States	10/29/12	We are blessed to have these gentle creatures in our waterways. We need to make sure we do all that we can to ensure their well being for future generations. Karen Nuland
Michael Balanoff	Tallahassee	FL	32303	United States	10/29/12	I like the manatees, it's the black bears I like even more
Mike Anderson	Tampa	FL	33625	United States	10/29/12	Humans suck!
Chad Herman	Clearwater	FL	33773	United States	10/29/12	It's sad we have to work to save creatures that ask only to live and simply be.

Marlen Elias	Miami Beach	FL	33140	United States	10/29/12	because they are in my back yard and they are harmless and loving animals that are needed for our ecosystem -we aer just being to stupid or ignorant to understdsand that we are all connected!
JaQuanda Perry	Saint Petersburg	FL	33711	United States	10/29/12	I Want My Kids Too Be Able Too See These Animals That People Are Trying Too Kill Off
Andrew Sutherland	Gainesville	FL	32653	United States	10/29/12	The natural springs of FL are our greatest resource.
Peter Arroyo	Port Staint John	FL	32927	United States	10/29/12	LIFE is important
Anne Bowman	Tampa	FL	33625	United States	10/29/12	THE MANATEES ARE NOT THE ONLY ANIMALS THAT NEED THE SPRINGS PROTECTED, THERE ARE LOTS OF FISHERIES AND OTHER ANIMALS -LIKE HUMANS THAT DEPEND ON KEEPING THE SPRINGS FLOWING. NO REDUCTIONS ON FLOW!
Christopher Reiss	Hollywood	FL	FL 33019	United States	10/29/12	It is essential to have a healthy natural environment that supports a diversity of flora and fauna ~ for far too long human water greed has been allowed to dominate Florida's water management agencies. There are now compelling reasons to preserve/restore natural habitats, especially surface and subterranean aquatic systems The Manatees deserve our protection.
Carolyn Biddle	Ocala	FL	34476	United States	10/29/12	This effects everything we do. If we don't protect our recourses, there will be nothing.
Michael Love	Lehigh Acres	FL	33972	United States	10/29/12	These are wonderful animals and we need to do everything we can to protect them. This includes not jeperdizing thier habitat.
Kathleen Martin	orlando	FL	32818-3353	United States	10/29/12	because wild life and nature are important to the balance, humans aren't
Mary D Wells	Pompano beach	FL	33069	United States	10/29/12	Love them!
arnold m. duhrkopp	Dunnellon	FL	34432	United States	10/29/12	because i paddle many rivers, streams and lakes in central florida and see constantly the failing waters
PAULA CABRERA	OWINGS MILLS	MD	21117	United States	10/29/12	Although I am not a resident of Florida, I believe in protecting and preserving the environment for "all" wildlife. Please stop any form of reductions to the springs for the Manatee's, and the beauty of the rivers!
Kathy Manning	Palm Beach Garder	FL	33410	United States	10/29/12	Endangered Manatees need our protection!
Lynn Cantrell	Hollywood	FL	33019	United States	10/29/12	They are endangered already!
Brigitte Steinmann	Naples	FL	34102	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are a major Florida natural resource and tourism magnet
Anna Diliberto	Panama City Beach	FL	32413	United States	10/29/12	save the Manatees - no flow reduction!!!!
diana iturralde	miami	FL	33155	United States	10/29/12	Manatees have always been a big part of my life and are of huge importance to the balance of the Florida ecosystem. I think they deserve for us to help maintain their environment.

Sheet1

Robert Berkley	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/29/12	I live on the Withlacoochee and hate what has happened to it as water flow has been reduced.
Linda Caruso	Miami	FL	33161	United States	10/29/12	I have loved animals since I was a little girl and I will do all I can to help them
Marc Urban	Spring Hill	FL	34609	United States	10/29/12	Governor Scott is a corporate puppet. Ask him about sinkhole coverage and being in the back pocket of insurers. He's should be ashamed of himself.
Michael Masters	Detroit	MI	5E+008	United States	10/29/12	I grew up in Florida and have seen it degraded primarily by poor management to favor commercial interests.
Del Mucci	Milton	FL	32583	United States	10/29/12	It's time to stop encroaching on our environment because government can't manage the population growth and have it conform to being sustained by the environment. We need to take responsibility for balancing our intake and refuse with what the land will support instead of allowing big businesses to rape and plunder the land for profit at the expense of tax payers who continue to support these projects without having a vote.
Laurie Humphrey	Miami	FL	33186	United States	10/29/12	Because they are an incredible critter and have a right to live as any living creature. They need that water during the winter months to survive. Its not all about humans even though many people think it is.
Joyce Soutar	Palm Coast	FL	32164	United States	10/29/12	I don't want to see the Manatees become extinct.
RENEE BARRIER	NEWLAND	NC	28657	United States	10/29/12	WE NEED TO PROTECT THE MANATEES, THEY ARE HELPLESS CREATURES.
Maria Oliveira	South Miami	FL	33143	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are gentle and beautiful creatures and we are pushing them to extinction.
richard castillo	fort lauderdale	FL	33301	United States	10/29/12	I love manatees, gentle giants...
Jenny Bast	Sharpes	FL	32959	United States	10/29/12	Because it is the right thing to do. Besides God put us in charge of all the animals, not to let them die, to keep them alive.
Joseph Tarach	Longwood	FL	32779	United States	10/29/12	we've harmed, endangered , and killed to many of God's creatures... it needs to stop
Alex Rojo	Pembroke Pines	FL	33028	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are very gentle creatures, and I am getting sick and tire of politicians messing up with nature. Manatees do not have the right to vote but they have the right to live
Kelly Smith	port saint lucie	FL	34952	United States	10/29/12	I grew up playing in those springs as well as enjoying the wildlife along the runs and rivers associated with them.
Mary Sue Baker	Sarasota	FL	34241	United States	10/29/12	If we don't take steps to stop the destruction of the habitats and the animals themselves, they will not die and become extinct. I think that people just don't understand or care about what extinct means.
Dana Shreve	Boynton Beach	FL	33436	United States	10/29/12	I have been protecting manatees since I was a little girl.
Julie Scheurich	DeLand	FL	32720	United States	10/29/12	It's their Florida too!
Susan Steinhorst	Inglis	FL	34449	United States	10/29/12	Fresh water from the rivers are vital to sea life reproduction

Sheet1

vicky eubanks	pensacola	FL	32514	United States	10/29/12	Because there is not many manatees left.
Mary Firminger	Spring Hill	FL	34610	United States	10/29/12	Wildlife constitutes "natural resources" as well and we need to stop abusing all creatures.
Ken Coviello	boca raton	FL	33487	United States	10/29/12	we need to protect these beautiful gentle creatures and keep their rivers clear and safe. Dont reduce the flow.
Leisha Eastergard	Columbia	SC	29212	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are wonderful creatures that are deserving of our respect and protection.
Wendy Blanton	Brooksville	FL	34613	United States	10/29/12	I have grown up enjoying these beautiful creatures, and I would love for my Grandchildren and theirs to as well. Besides that, manatees are amazing, beautiful, gentle and helpless. Is it a must that we destroy every beautiful thing around us to benefit ourselves?!! This is ridiculous. NO to reductions flow- SAVE THE MANATEES! SWFWMD's Governing Board and the Governor of Florida should be ashamed of themselves.
Teresa Cope	St Petersburg	FL	33701	United States	10/29/12	I love the manatees!!
Yessenia Navarro	Miami	FL	33177	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are amazing and gentle creatures. We must preserve them.
Lynanne Lawhead	Tampa	FL	33611	United States	10/29/12	SWFWM and our state government over the years has already proven mismangement of our wetland habitats as well as our fishing grounds through over-development or re-routing change of water flow which has caused major damage to the indigenious land/resources. Seems they would have recognized they are part of the problem however, when profit is higher to protection and true management of the land and its resources - money has won so far and our state becomes mired in toxicity/waste/loss of habitat-resources for all levels.
Amy Campbell	Port Saint Lucie	FL	34984	United States	10/29/12	I LOVE ANIMALS!
Carol DiSibio	Aiken	SC	29803	United States	10/29/12	It's their world too; and we need to help preserve it for them.
Ted Dylewski	Orlando	FL	32819	United States	10/29/12	This is the place for manatees - take care of the creatures - br human
Claire Ford	Lafayette	CO	80026	United States	10/29/12	These gentle and wonderful creatures have no one else to help them but us.
Paul Wolters	Lecanto	FL	34461	United States	10/29/12	protect the manatees
JOAN BRYANT	EUSTIS	FL	32726	United States	10/29/12	FLORIDA'S ENTIRE FUTURE IS DEPENDENT ON OUR SPRINGS, RIVERS AND AQUAFER BEING HEALTHY. THE ANIMALS EFFECTED ARE INDICATIVE OF THE HEALTH OF THE WATER SYSTEMS.
Robert Dallas	Tampa	FL	33634	United States	10/29/12	These are considered 'Florida Outstanding Waterways' and ome to many endangered species. Nothing shoud be done to degrade these two waterways. NOTHING!

						I am extremely concerned that Florida officials do not care about Florida's or any state's natural wildlife and ecosystem. Marco Rubio just wrote that he's for The Sportsmen's Act of 2012, a very dangerous act that's geared for self-absorbed recreational hunters that will lead to the destruction of animal protection agencies and conservation on public land. Please google this. Marco Rubio also voted against stronger anti-dog fighting laws. The people up north say this state is so backwards and I've always defended it, but now, some of the people representing us are embarrassing and I agree it's true. Do the right thing for our unique and important manatees. At all costs do not reduce the flow to these rivers.
Pam Cohen	Lake Worth	FL	33462	United States	10/29/12	
Ward Cox	Tampa	FL	33604	United States	10/29/12	Because manatees are gentle creatures that already are victims of our selfishly predatory ways.
wilson bagwell	earleton	FL	32631	United States	10/29/12	Science shows salt-water intrusion and lower fresh water flows, already significantly harming flora and wildlife....WHEN DOES THIS STOP !!!
Nancy O'Keefe	Weeki Wachee	FL	34614	United States	10/29/12	They are beautiful animals!!
Janet Durgen	Hudson	FL	34667	United States	10/29/12	I want to protect the Florida wildlife we now have and MAY have in the future by leaving the natural ecosystem ALONE!!! We must find other intelligent means to provide for our needs. Our earth is exhausted and cannot withstand much more of our lack of foresight and respect!
Teddie Aggeles	St. Petersburg	FL	33713	United States	10/29/12	I am a Florida native and understand the importance of being good stewards of our resources in this state and country. Manatees cannot speak for themselves, so we must speak up to protect the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs. I have spent time enjoying the natural beauty of both since I was a little girl.
Sara Freeborn	Newberry	FL	32669	United States	10/29/12	I went swimming with the manatees last year and it was an incredible experience that I don't want future generations to lose.
Victoria Tillman	Tampa	FL	33612	United States	10/29/12	It is so important to protect these sea creatures.
Leila Kayser	Riverview	FL	33578	United States	10/29/12	they need our protection and can't protect themselves!
Kathy Taggi	Hollywood	FL	33026	United States	10/29/12	Numerous rare and endangered species of animals and plants require adequate levels of water; reduction in fresh water could eliminate these species/plants/animals.
Suzanne Fejes	Pompano Beach	FL	33062	United States	10/29/12	It is extemely important to retain these springs and the habitat they provide--much moreso than diverting the water.
Elena Santiago	miami	FL	33173	United States	10/29/12	Manatees (and many others) rely on the spring runs and fresh water
erica nord	portland	OR	97213	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are beautiful endangered species

Sheet1

Lashanda Grady	Tavares	FL	32778	United States	10/29/12	Maintaining a healthy natural resource is vital to all of our future. And it is important that we protect the wildlife that helps to maintain the proper balance in nature.
Karolina Quearry	Largo	FL	33773	United States	10/29/12	preservation should be important to everyone
AMOSS FERTIL	MIAMI	FL	33169	United States	10/29/12	I love nature and wildlife.
Amy Hibberd	Englewood	FL	34224	United States	10/29/12	love this place....please leave it alone.
richard bryant	homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/29/12	we spend alot of time at both chassahowitzka and homosassa rivers and springs, in the six years we've been here we have noticed a change in the wildlife and marine life due to the changing flows of the rivers. please do not allow the purposed flow limits to be enacted.
Carlotta Marshall	New york	NY	10128	United States	10/29/12	I grew up in florida and this was all part of my childhood and I'd hate to think it wasn't part of the life of children to come
Paula Forteza	Miami Lakes	FL	33014	United States	10/29/12	The Florida manatees are gentle creatures and a huge part of Floridian culture.
Sid Kemp	Boca Raton	FL	33431	United States	10/29/12	Our natural habitats have already been degraded too many times. Let us be good stewards to the remaining wilderness and life therein.
kathie vogel	va bch	VA	23456	United States	10/29/12	Protect these gentle giants!
Ramona White	Largo	FL	33771	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are awesome and they deserve to stay in their habitat!
Diana Lineback	Largo	FL	33779	United States	10/29/12	In Area we have taken to much land and water away from aniamals. We need to clean up areas that are abandon and buld there and not go for wetlands to build.
Terra N	Bedford	IN	47421	United States	10/29/12	I love the area, lots of wildlife. We bought a second home in the area, hoping to retire there in 8 yrs. We need to protect our environment.
Linda Cohan	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/29/12	The springs and waters and the wildlife they support are an important part of Florida. The beauty of our Outstanding Waterways attract visitors and add to the reasons for living in Florida.
Deborah London	Fort lauderdale	FL	33306	United States	10/29/12	These prehistoric animals face great challenges due to human beings boating activity - because humans want to live a boating lifestyle these animals are suffering.
Sara Vinas	Davie	FL	33328	United States	10/29/12	Our future is important to me! This is short sighted and wrong
James Stewart	dunedin	FL	34698	United States	10/29/12	I am both a kayaker and a drinker of this water. It needs protected!
Carl Veaux	Cape Coral	FL	33904	United States	10/29/12	We need adequate flows so the Manatees have enough water to live in during their visits to these springs . Especially when its cold for they will die from overlong exposures chilly water . And you will be killing the tourist trade to these areas with no Manatees to see .
Pal Mac Neill	Crescent City	FL	32112	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are a Fla. signature species and must be protected and nurtured at all costs.
Adriyel Manzoratte	Miami	FL	33161	United States	10/29/12	Because manatees deserve to live. Life has been given to them, us huans have no right to murder these peaceful animals.
Mike and Karen Sto	Tampa	FL	33618	United States	10/29/12	Endangered species protection is a priority!

Sheet1

Judy Wallace	Palm City	FL	34990	United States	10/29/12	I was born here in 1940 and remain vigilant on our natural habitat and environment.
Arline Winfield	Cape Coral	FL	33914	United States	10/29/12	I saw 2 manatees in my canal yesterday. They are wonderful parts of nature and deserve protection.
Linda Whalen	Raceland	LA	70394	United States	10/29/12	Born and raised in MANATEE county Florida. The Manatee is dear to my heart.
Ginger Thompson	Largo	FL	33770	United States	10/29/12	The manatees need a place to stay warm in the winter. It's not our right to take their home!
Brian Klein	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	We need to keep natural flow of the river for the balance of nature
Mary Farr	St Johns	FL	32259	United States	10/29/12	Water is the source of life. To maintain a healthy vibrant Florida we need to have our water in Florida providing for Floridians Human, Flora and Fauna.
Susan Young	Gainesville	FL	32606	United States	10/29/12	We need to get rid of all the bottling plants, encourage agriculture to employ water-wise irrigation, get golf courses to use reclaimed water, and do all we can to protect our Aquifer - for humans and all of life, not just manatees.
rebecca rabinowitz	Venice	FL	34292	United States	10/29/12	This a no brainer! They were here first AND are part of our world!
Kathleen Johnson	Wimauma	FL	33598	United States	10/29/12	We came from PA in 2001 and never saw a manatee. Now we just love watching them and hope they'll be here forever.
Trina Collins	Winter Springs	FL	32708	United States	10/29/12	protect our springs, manatees and wildlife that depends upon the springs for survival
Angeline Pino	MIAMI	FL	33125	United States	10/29/12	Because Miami needs to conserve its wild life. Since as long as I can remember I have seen the Everglades go through abuse and have seen our waterways fall victim to not only pollution but overuse.
leif dereng	Gainsville	FL	32609	United States	10/29/12	NO TO FLOW REDUCTION!!!!!!!!!! We have to add to the endangered species list: spring fed rivers!!!!!!!!!! t only is the Manatee endangered, but the Rivers are indangered
Tino Fuhrmann			9456	Germany	10/29/12	es ist wichtig
James Clark	Tampa	FL	33602	United States	10/29/12	Why would anyone not support maintaining natural habitat for an endangered species when there is no negative impact for humans by doing so....
Pamela Geddis	San Diego	CA	92122	United States	10/29/12	This is an essential habitat for the wildlife in the area, including endangered species, and cannot risk further degradation due to human causes.

Peggy Balliett	St Petersburg	FL	33703	United States	10/29/12	The manatee relies on these springs for survival during the winter months. It would be a shame to take the springs away from them and perhaps cause more deaths among these magnificent mammals. Their numbers have been shrinking in size due to Man over the years. Can the world afford to lose more?
Mark Retting	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	My house on a canal near Chaz and there is barely enough water to get my boat out. Any less water and I will be high and dry.
Don GREIWE	Tampa	FL	33629	United States	10/29/12	Great part of Florida's natural history. Preservation a must
Zia Faculjak	Rio Rancho	NM	87144	United States	10/29/12	save these animals, all animals deserve to live just like we do..
Christopher Wilson	St. Pete Beach	FL	33706	United States	10/29/12	I grew up on the Chassahowitzka and have already seen the flow greatly reduced. Enough is enough.
Michelle Anthony	Daytona Beach	FL	32127	United States	10/29/12	I have been a wildlife rehabilitator for 20 years and have seen the devastating effects of humans on wildlife.
Russell Watrous	Land O Lakes	FL	34639	United States	10/29/12	I am a 60 year user of Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers I've seen the impact over the years and I don't want to loose another 10% of this Florida resource.
Bonnie Readinger	Bradenton	FL	34207	United States	10/29/12	When we don't protect natural habitat it is not only the plants and wildlife that are injured. Ullimately we will suffer the consequence. We are killing our planet and killing ourselves.
Rosanne Marcello	Inverness	FL	34452	United States	10/29/12	decreasing flows will disturb natural balances that exist, disrupting the natural flora and fauna that now prevail. We have already destroyed so much of our environments, to continue this, knowingly, would be borderline criminal
Robert Kubistek	Yankeetown	FL	34498	United States	10/29/12	It will effect my and my family's future.
Bradley Powers	Tampa	FL	33606	United States	10/29/12	Natural ecosystem and habitat survival.
cindy stoppa	las vegas	NV	89183	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are an endangered species,,,and one of Florida icons. Do not reduce the the flow to the HOMOSASSA and CHASSAHOWITZKA RIVERS....
Melissa Carroll	Tampa	FL	33607	United States	10/29/12	Harming these essential habitats is thoughtless and cruel. To reduce the flow would further infringe upon these endangered species' vital places of refuge, and this carelessness for biodiversity and the natural world will have deeper, more widespread repercussions for the place we all call home.
Sylvia Green	Cookeville	TN	38501	United States	10/29/12	When they are extinct, it will be too late. Save these magnificent animals!
Susan Trafford	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	I own property on the canal system and my boat will be sitting in the mud during the winter months. My property value will decrease if you do this. This river is to low already. Do not do this or you will have a lawsuit on you hands.
David Blatt	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	I spend time on this river daily. We can not accept reduction to it's flow.

Sheet1

ronnie mcgriff	homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	have seen deterioration of the river for many years, plant life gone. jobs will be lost if manatees leave the area. there is no good reason to reduce the flows none. it is a matter of greed.
Anna Pylant	Miramar	FL	33207	United States	10/29/12	This flow reduction is not needed by humans and will harm innocent manatees forever,so give me a break and stop this cruel action b4 it's too late,ASAP!!
Allison Mills	Brooklyn	NY	11213	United States	10/29/12	It's very important for the south FL
Paula McKenzie	Olathe	KS	66062	United States	10/29/12	I lived in Georgia for many years and can remember some of the horror stories that occurred on the GA coast with the manates....They need a safe home or we won't have them anymore...
carol rose	mt dora	FL	34356	United States	10/29/12	We all need sufficient water to survive. SWFWMD job is to safeguard our water forever, not continue reducing its level for short term gains by development.
Gloria McCormick	Melbourne	FL	32934	United States	10/29/12	Manatees are important!
Margaret Niblett	Hernando	FL	34442	United States	10/29/12	I kayak on these rivers and I've seen the degradation to the rivers especially the Chassahowiska. Please leave it alone. You are removing the wildlife from it and the trees are dying. I see a difference in just one year.
randy cribbs	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/29/12	To decrease water flow would be very harmful to the entire refuge
Lisa Whitted	Tarpon Springs	FL	34688	United States	10/29/12	We use the Chassahowitzka River to get to our property.
Teresa Tuetken	Saint Petersburg	FL	33711	United States	10/29/12	Saving manatees is important.
David Light	Miami	FL	33132	United States	10/29/12	Do not mess up something we can never get back. Respect nature!
Richard Hiers	Gainesville	FL	32607	United States	10/29/12	Florida's Manatees (once known as "sea cows") are unique, and a major draw for tourists. They are a State treasure and we should do everything we can to protect them.
RONALEE THATCHER	ROCKLEDGE	FL	32955	United States	10/29/12	manatees are slow moving and need our protection.
Kevin Thompson	Chiefland	FL	32626	United States	10/29/12	I kayak these rivers and the flow is low as it is
Ann Forbes	Windermere	FL	34786	United States	10/29/12	Each time I watch manatees in the wild it hurts me to see the scars we are leaving on them. We need to do everything we can to save them. In addition, taking water OUT OF FLORIDA hurts us all, not just the manatees. Bottling up our spring water and shipping it out of Florida is creating more sinkholes. Study Venice. I just got back and got to see what happened there! Please stop!!!
Douglas & Linda H	Dunnellon	FL	34432	United States	10/29/12	We moved here for recreational purposes, including water and wildlife observation.
joe waterwoman	ozollo	FL	34443	United States	10/29/12	My well is filled with water, but unfit for drinking due to low level aquifer and springs which normally supply my well. The water in my well is salt water now. Thank you SWFWMD!
Philip Vozza	Tarpon Springs	FL	34689	United States	10/29/12	We must protect the natural beauty of this area.
Dan Staples	Panama city	FL	32404	United States	10/29/12	Florida only cares about their RICH people wish I wasn't stuck here
Dashama Gordon	Boca Raton	FL	33432	United States	10/30/12	I love the manatees!

Rocket Johnson	Silver Springs	FL	34488	United States	10/30/12	We must protect what is still left of our natural wonders and especially the manatees.
Steven Kennedy	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/30/12	I live in Chassahowitka and enjoy boating and the nature watching along this river. swift mud this year has tried to open areas around this river to hunting and now this. by its time for a amendment to take away some of its power to control our lands.
Deborah Santoro	Lake Worth	FL	33467	United States	10/30/12	ALL LIVING CREATURES ARE GOD'S CREATURES & IMPACT OUR WELL BEING & SURVIVAL.
Kristyn Sage	Tampa	FL	33624	United States	10/30/12	Manatees are an important part of Florida's waters. They need to be protected at all costs. SWFMD needs to understand that it is not up to them to decide where water flows from and to in these springs or anywhere else for that matter. It is up to the State of Florida gov't to understand that humans and animals need to live in harmony and it is not up to the humans to ruin habitats for the animals just b/c they think they are entitled to.
Lynn Landis	boca raton	FL	33432	United States	10/30/12	If we believe Florida to be top tourist spot, we must preserve our natural resources.
Wallace Miller	Homosassa	FL	34446	United States	10/30/12	I own a lot with a cabin on the Chassahowitzka river. Its been in the family for more than 50 years. I have noticed a change in the grass around the cabin disappearing as well as some of the Sabal palms (Florida State tree) dying. I believe this to be from salt water intrusion. These are my observations over the years. I have seen manatees at the main spring at the head of the river and dolphins past the spring into the canal. My concern would be whether these large animals will be able to navigate these waters at lower tides if water levels are reduced.
Pete Kolozsy	Lecanto, FL	FL	34460	United States	10/30/12	As a resident and wildlife enthusiast I see the rivers already too low even at the best of times. Reducing them further will harm the environment.
Cyril Sharples	Merrillville	IN	46410	United States	10/30/12	we have killed enough creatures on this planet to extinction.
nick antia	Largo	FL	33773	United States	10/30/12	it is my understanding that any more reduction in flow will cause a unnatural flow of sea water to come father in stream changing the ecosystem , im tired of our environment being destroyed for one's profit
Judith Accardo	Paisley	FL	32767	United States	10/30/12	The republican leadership (?) in Florida has been, and is still devastating to our environment, our waters and the protected species in our state. They care about nothing but how much money they can make for themselves and their friends.
Brooke Winfrey	Austin	TX	78750	United States	10/30/12	Love the beach and ocean! It is so important that we take care of it and all the life in it!
Bill McCluen	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/30/12	I'm a Chaz Resident, please do not allow a reduction in flow to this wonderful resource. We must protect this valuable resource and the wildlife that relies on it.

						As a tax paying full-time resident of Chassahowitzka, I can emphatically say my neighbors and I would rather promote the Chass River as a natural attraction for kayaks and canoes, campers, fishermen and hunters, and continue to attract visitors for scallops (also dependent on fresh water) than to have people who DON'T live here decide some corporate entity should profit from pumping water that is the life blood of our community. Don't sell out! Would you rather tell your grandchildren you preserved magnificent natural wildlife refuges, outstanding waterways, and your grandchildren's future parks OR a corporation who is not going to give anything to the locals but the ecological mess they leave behind? The locals are 100% sure why we paid money to live here, and are still paying money to make our waterways safe and healthy. It wasn't so a water company could sell the natural resources!
Laura Nessola	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/30/12	
j smith	npr	FL	34653	United States	10/30/12	I visit Homosassa often and I love to watch manatees with my daughter. We should do whatever we need to to preserve our nature.
Patricia Brady	Inverness	FL	34450	United States	10/30/12	Florida's springs are protected natural resources that can not afford to lose any more water to greedy developers! Please protect this vital resources so necessary for our main industry, tourism and to protect our endangered species the manatees. How anyone could even possibly think of reducing the river flows more stuns me.
frances foster	Jacksonville	FL	32205	United States	10/30/12	They are beautiful animals and we should not be messing with their environment.
Caitlin Gillaspie	newport richy	FL	34655	United States	10/30/12	This is the nature I grew up around.
Sarah Cleaver	Port Charlotte	FL	33952	United States	10/30/12	I have gone swimming with the manatees in the Homosassa River, and it was an amazing experience. I hope to do it again one day with my children, but that won't happen if we start messing even more with the habitat of these gentle endangered animals.
SUZI SCHIFFRIN	Pompano Beach	FL	33067	United States	10/30/12	Save the Manatees!!!
Tammy Langley	St. Petersburg	FL	33705	United States	10/30/12	I live on the water in St. Petersburg. There's a ton of trash in the mangrove where I live and snowbirds fish off the sea wall to catch harmless sea mammals and fish. These sea mammals need a refuge. Don't take this refuge away.
Linda Alcorne	ozona	FL	34660	United States	10/30/12	I love this river
Douglas Brown	Lake City	FL	32024	United States	10/30/12	We need to do everything we can to protect manatees and Florida's springs.
Heather Crauswell	Lakeland	FL	33810	United States	10/30/12	because all living creatures need saving they all have the right to live life and grow old and not to be killed.
Allison Falconer	Boston	MA	2115	United States	10/30/12	I love manatees!

						Degradation of habitat has already occurred on both of these spring-fed rivers since the time of their designation as Outstanding Florida Waters, and NO further degradation should be allowed to occur..... loss or significant reduction in essential habitat to Florida's Manatees is harmful not only to the species but harmful to the state and its people.
Shane Shah	apopka	FL	32712	United States	10/30/12	
Bryan/Amy Mackora	Melbourne Beach	FL	32951	United States	10/30/12	Please protect this wonderful creature that loves in our state!
susan primeau	Homosassa	FL	34448	United States	10/30/12	I live w/ manatees in my area and manatees are marveled by people from all over the world.
Robin Gibson	Sorrento	FL	32776	United States	10/30/12	Save our Spring Water From Big Businesses that want to move in and deplete Florida aquifers for self profit. Such as the cattle Barron whom we want thousands of gallons per day!

From: [Dianna Brass](#)
To: [Gwen Brown](#); [Jet Houser](#); [Doug Leeper](#)
Cc: [EXE LeadershipTeam](#); [Mike Heyl](#); [Ron Basso](#); [Virginia Singer](#); [Debby Weeks](#)
Subject: FW: Log Entry # 1.11.147687 10-30-2012 Dale McClellan Agricultural Alliance of Citrus County
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 8:52:13 AM

FYI...

Dianna Brass
SWFWMD Board & Exec. Svcs.
352-796-7211, Ext.4604

-----Original Message-----

From: CollabAdmin [<mailto:collabadmin@swfwmd.state.fl.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 8:47 AM
To: Dianna Brass; Kenneth R. Herd
Subject: Log Entry # 1.11.147687 10-30-2012 Dale McClellan Agricultural Alliance of Citrus County

Please click on the following link to open the document(s) (from a computer connected to District Network only)

<http://ecmvmprod01.ad.swfwmd.net/gm/folder-1.11.147687>

Subject: Supports District staff's recommendation regarding minimum flows and levels (MFLs) for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

Following is the tracking information for the above information:

Log#: 1.11.147687
Assigned To: Kenneth Herd
Assigned By: Dianna Brass
Date Assigned: 10-30-2012
Date Completed: 10-30-2012
Date Required:

Source: Dale McClellan Agricultural Alliance of Citrus County
Instructions: For your information and appropriate disposition.
Copy to EXE Leadership Team, Doug Leeper, Mike Heyl, Ron Basso, Virginia Singer; Debby Weeks
Action Taken: Hard copies provided to Governing Board members

Information Routed To: lou.kavouras@swfwmd.state.fl.us

Agricultural Alliance



of
Citrus County

*A Voice for Agriculture
in Citrus County*

October 29, 2012

PO Box 235
Lecanto, FL 34460

Paul Senft
Chairman District Governing Board
2379 Broad St.
Brooksville, FL 34604

Re: Support of SWFWMD staff MFL recommendations

Dear Chairman Senft,

The Agricultural Alliance of Citrus County supports SWFWMD staff recommendations regarding minimum flow recommendation for Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. We endorse the staff's science-based decision making process based on the habitat or biological resource most sensitive to reduced flow. A broad spectrum of habitat and biological responses were evaluated for both the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River system and incorporated into the final analyses supporting development of the minimum flow recommendations.

The determination of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) for these water bodies has the potential to greatly affect future growth of agricultural which ultimately impacts the local economy. If MFL's are set too high, expansion of agricultural crops, public utilities and/or growth within the community can be jeopardized. This being the case, we strongly support the research-based MFL recommendations brought forth by SWFWMD scientists and staff.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dale McClellan

Dale McClellan, Chairman
Agricultural Alliance of Citrus County
(813) 309-2193

Chassahowitzka, Homosassa Flow Rates Debate Continues

By Keith Morelli

A proposal to set minimum flow levels on two spring-fed rivers that are popular haunts for manatees has raised the hackles of some activists.

They complain that the plan will lead to lower river levels and saltwater intrusion and leave the manatees without a source of temperate water in the winter.

But officials with the agency that sets the minimum flows say the effect will be just the opposite. By gauging the flow of the rivers, greater protections can be imposed, they say, particularly on nearby groundwater withdrawals that might reduce the amount of springwater flowing into the rivers' headwaters.

The governing board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District will meet in Brooksville today to discuss the plan to set minimum flow levels for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers. The rivers are along the coast near the Hernando-Citrus county line, 50-some miles north of Tampa.

Both rivers are ecological marvels year-round and manatee havens in the winter when scores of sea cows swim into the warm springs. Both rivers are designated Outstanding Florida Waters, and the move to set minimum standards is being seen by some as a way to allow more groundwater withdrawals, which in turn, they say, would further degrade the rivers.

The minimum flow should be 100 percent of what comes out of the ground, they say, and no less.

Hope Corona, of Homosassa, is leading the charge. She has obtained 9,500 online signatures on a petition she plans to present to the board today.

"For generations, Florida's endangered manatees have come to these springs to survive the winter," she said in an announcement released Monday by Change.org, which publicizes petition efforts on its website. If any reduction in flow is allowed, she said, "manatees will suffer and so will local businesses that depend on eco-tourism."

The petition states:

"Any reduction in freshwater flow to the springs could allow further encroachment by the salty water of the Gulf of Mexico or, in the worse case scenario, could stop sufficient flow of freshwater to the springs entirely, making them too brackish to support any of the freshwater species presently living there and too cold to provide live-saving thermal refuge to endangered manatees during winter months."

The plans to set minimum flows for the two rivers by the district, which oversees water resources in a 16-county region of West Central Florida, is required by state law.

Public workshops and meetings have been going on for more than two years. In all, district officials say, 30 meetings with the public have been held to get everyone's concerns documented.

In the past two years, the staff has tweaked its numbers, increasing the initial minimum flows to 91 percent in the Chassahowitzka and 97 percent in the Homosassa.

District officials say there is no plan to reduce the flow of the rivers to those numbers. Rather, they say, it's to set a minimum limit, established through scientific research, at which significant ecological damage would occur.

Hydrologists and biologists study all sorts of data to determine the lowest flow point at which substantial harm to the environment would result, including effects on flora and fauna and water quality.

"We look at each river, the variety of different things there, the impacts of creatures in the soil, creatures that float through the water column, the impact on vegetation, saltwater levels and dissolved oxygen levels," said district spokesman Michael Mulligan.

Setting the levels means it will be more difficult to obtain water-use permits around the river and establishes a framework where flows will be monitored on a regular basis. The Chassahowitzka and Homosassa flows already are reduced by less than 1 percent because of nearby wells that draw springwater for human use.

The Chassahowitzka River is about five miles south of the Homosassa River and includes more than a dozen freshwater springs. The Homosassa River includes more than 20 springs.



Compromise on minimum flows

Board to allow withdrawals of 3 percent from Homosassa, Chassahowitzka rivers

By Abdon Sidibe

Tuesday, October 30, 2012 at 9:00 pm (Updated: October 30, 9:51 pm)

BROOKSVILLE — The effort to set Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers sailed through, but not without a few changes and a chorus of opponents.



Matthew Beck

More than 125 people packed into the Southwest Florida Water Management District board room Tuesday to offer thoughts and opinions on proposed minimum flow levels on the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers.

The Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) voted 8-1 to OK a pared-down recommendation from the district staff for MFLs at the two river systems. Board member Jeff Adams of Pinellas County voted against the measure.

From the beginning of the nearly six hours of deliberations and impassioned speeches, SWFWMD officials held to a premise — that the environmental degradation happening in those river systems is, in the main, not caused by water withdrawal and they have science to back up their claims.

However, locals and environmental advocates insisted withdrawals or flow levels have everything to do with the health of the rivers and springs.

The board voted to set the MFLs for each river at 3 percent. The SWFWMD staff recommendation was initially for 3 and 9 percent respectively for the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers.

Mark Hammond, head of SWFWMD's Resource Management Division, told an overflow crowd and the board that efforts to set MFLs for the two river systems began in 2005 and that they "extended the process in April 2011" because of concerns some people had with the proposal.

Hammond said the agency came up with the most protective regime for these rivers — stronger than for all other rivers except one.

He said SWFWMD believes the environmental degradation issues brought up by opponents of the proposals may be caused by poor rainfall amounts — a 20 to 30 percent drop — rising sea levels and nutrient levels.

The water withdrawal levels, which are currently at 1 percent, are not a significant contributing factor, Hammon insisted.

But a series of speakers, including former lawmakers Nancy Argenziano and Helen Spivey, former Citrus County Commission candidate Theodora Rusnak and other residents of Citrus County made impassioned pleas to board members to either keep the withdrawal levels at the present rate or make efforts to restore the river systems. Argenziano is currently running as an Independent against incumbent Republican State Rep. Jimmie T. Smith.

Boyd Blihovde, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said while he supports MFLs, he thought the percentages in these proposals were too high and would imperil the manatees and other aquatic life in the Homosassa and Chassahowitzka rivers.

Board member Jennifer Closshey of Hillsborough County broke down as she made her case against the proposal.

Closshey argued for looking at the big-picture impact of the proposals, including economic impact and the possible introduction of a water-use caution area.

"There is not going to be any manatee left if we don't say it's a caution area," Closshey said in response to suggestions of going along with the proposals as they were and revisiting them at a later date.

She initially proposed setting the MFLs at 1 percent, but SWFWMD staff said setting it at that level would require a study and consultation with stakeholders to determine alternative sources of potable water and to come up with plans for restoration of the river systems. All those efforts will require money and time, some on the board noted, and they are bound by state law to come up with the MFLs.

After agreeing to come to a resolution, board attorney Laura Donaldson came back with an 8-point compromise.

The compromise reduced Chassahowitzka's withdrawal percentage by 6 points, while leaving Homosassa's unchanged.

District staff, Donaldson said, will be instructed to develop the framework for a "water use cautionary area" for Hernando and Citrus counties and present it to the board in June 2013. Cautionary areas require more stringent water withdrawal permit rules.

The compromise also requires MFLs be reviewed every six years.

Closshey said she hoped opponents of the proposals were happy with the compromise. "It is protective as we can be at this time," she said.

Hope Corona, who has been leading a petition drive against the proposal, said after the meeting she was pleased with the result. "I am relieved it's not 9 percent. I am pleased."

Chronicle reporter A.B. Sidibe can be reached at 352-564-2925 or asidibe@chronicleonline.com.

Hundreds Turn Out To Argue Limits on Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers

By Craig Pittman, Times Staff Writer

BROOKSVILLE — About 200 people turned out Tuesday to tell a state water agency to reject a proposal that would allow up to 15 percent of the natural habitat along the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers to be destroyed.

"It's a question of values," Jan Howie of the Florida Native Plant Society told the board. "Do we really want to reduce the habitat in these rivers by 15 percent? Why would we not want to maintain 100 percent of the habitat in these rivers?"

Ultimately the Southwest Florida Water Management District's governing board, after listening to about three hours of testimony, decided to back off what its staff was recommending — but not as much as what the crowd had wanted.

The vote by the agency commonly known as "Swiftmud" is likely to mean changes for residents and businesses in Citrus and Hernando counties as they are likely to start seeing efforts to clamp down on excess irrigation and other water uses.

Swiftmud and Florida's other four water districts are setting what are called "minimum flows and levels" for Florida's major waterways. The idea is to figure out how much more those rivers, springs and lakes can be drained for water supply purposes before causing environmental problems.

The law requiring the agencies to set those minimums calls for avoiding "significant harm," but does not define what that means. Swiftmud's experts ran computer models to check how various levels of cutbacks in the flow would affect the rivers as habitat for manatees, fish, birds and other flora and fauna.

Ultimately, they concluded that a 15 percent reduction in the wildlife habitat would constitute "significant harm." Then they calculated how much water could be taken out without hitting that 15 percent mark.

In the Chassahowitzka, that would mean cutting the flow no more than 9 percent, the Swiftmud staff said, and in the Homosassa that would mean cutting the flow no more than 3 percent.

Among the hundreds of people who objected to that proposed limit: Boyd Blihovde, deputy manager of the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge.

"If the flows on the Chassahowitzka are reduced by 9 percent it will have a devastating impact on Florida manatees, migratory birds, blue crabs, the American alligator and many more species," Blihovde said.

Former legislator Nancy Argenziano told board members they should aim to do better than what the law requires. " 'Significant harm' is not something we should aspire to," she said.

Many of the people who testified told the board they feared increased pumping of water from the aquifer and increased pollution flowing into the rivers had already damaged them, leading to increased saltiness and changes in the wildlife. Saltwater barnacles are showing up on boats in what used to be the freshwater part of the rivers, for instance.

However, Swiftmud resource management division director Mark Hammond said computer models showed that sea level rise and a long drought had been the real culprits, with groundwater pumping only a minor contributing factor.

"The drawdown is not the culprit of the degraded river?" Swiftmud board member Carlos Beruff asked, sounding dubious.

"That's our belief," Hammond told him.

Ultimately the board struck a compromise, agreeing to a limit on cutting the flow on both the Homosassa and the Chassahowitzka of 3 percent and agreeing to re-evaluate those flow limits in six years. And they told the staff to start working on creating a "water use caution area" for that region, classifying those two counties as an area where water resources are or will become critical in the next 20 years and creating a plan for cutting back on use

From: Bob Knight [<mailto:bknight@floridaspringsinstitute.org>]
Sent: Friday, October 19, 2012 4:47 PM
To: 'jadams@abbeyadams.com'; 'michael@2riversranch.net'; 'margoh@medallionhome.com'; 'jclosshey@ideas-innovations.com'; 'info@conservationfoundation.com'; 'rsmaggard@gmail.com'; 'todd@pressmaninc.com'; 'senft1hp2u@aol.com'; 'dtharp@embarqmail.com'; 'wendygiesygriffin@gmail.com'
Cc: blake.guillory@watermatters.org; Mark.Hammond@swfwmd.state.fl.us; 'lou.kavouras@watermatters.org'; 'chris.zajac@watermatters.org'
Subject: Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Spring MFLs

Dear GB Members:

I hope to be able to attend the SWFWMD Governing Board meeting on October 30 to hear your deliberations concerning these two spring MFLs. Unfortunately, I may need to miss the meeting due to the Spring Ecosystems class I teach at the University of Florida on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. In case I am not able to make the meeting, I want to provide you with a brief list of thoughts and a few suggestions for your consideration:

1. MFLs are an important tool for protection of adequate flows and levels to protect springs from significant harm. The Florida Springs Institute applauds your investment in staff and consultant resources to evaluate and recommend protective springs MFLs.
2. Research conducted over the past two decades by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the state's water management districts has indicated that many if not most of the state's springs are already impaired in terms of reduced flows and water quality. These impacts are apparent to the thousands of individuals who routinely visit these springs for purposes of recreation, research, and commercial endeavors.
3. There is considerable disagreement and scientific uncertainty concerning the causes for reduced spring flows. We know reductions in spring flows result from a combination of changes in both rainfall and groundwater pumping. Estimated groundwater pumping rates in the SWFWMD are currently about 1.1 billion gallons per day. In the absence of pumping much of this water would instead be contributing to average spring flows.
4. Your groundwater model estimates that existing flows in these two springs have been reduced on average by only one percent as a result of existing pumping rates. While this conclusion is arguable it is interesting to note that this estimated one percent is currently supplying the

groundwater needs for the existing populations in much of Citrus and Hernando Counties along the Springs Coast.

5. Your staff is planning to recommend an allowable maximum reduction in flows at Chassahowitzka of nine percent and three percent at Homosassa. These proposed reductions appear to be well beyond existing and future needs if current uses are only requiring about one percent of these springs flows.
6. Considering the importance of these springs to the economy of the District and the impairments these springs have already experienced, it does not appear to be prudent to allow any additional reductions in the flows at these springs.
7. As a compromise, please consider following a more cautious approach by allowing an interim maximum flow reduction of two percent for each spring. Based on your staff's analysis, this increase should provide adequate groundwater availability for another 20 to 40 years. With implementation of an ongoing assessment program at these springs, you can direct your staff to continue to monitor the health of these springs and to revisit these MFLs in ten years.

The public is very interested in protecting flows at these two spring systems. In your MFL deliberations please honor the Hippocratic Oath of "*Primum non nocere*" (First, Do No Harm). It is easier and less costly to avoid an additional impact to these springs than it is to fix them later.

Thank you for your efforts to effectively manage our precious water resources.

Bob

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