



December 11, 2003

Mr. Henry Dean, Executive Director
South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-4680

Dear Mr. Dean,

As you may know from previous correspondence and various public forums organized by the Southwest Florida Watershed Council, there is great interest in water resource issues related to the Caloosahatchee River and associated estuary. In an effort to better understand watershed storage targets and related issues involving the reservation of water for the estuary, the Watershed Council respectfully requests the latest information available on the December 2000 Pre-CERP baseline conditions for the Caloosahatchee Basin.

In the document "Water Resource Protection Strategies for the Implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Under Federal and State Law" (June 2003) it states that the quantification of Pre-CERP Baseline is to be accomplished through a Pre-CERP Baseline regional or sub-regional modeling simulation and is proposed to include structural, operational, and demand assumptions as of December 2000.

We request the results of the Pre-CERP modeling for the Caloosahatchee Basin. This information is vital to the understanding of Caloosahatchee Basin water storage targets and efforts to establish a "reservation of water" for the Caloosahatchee Estuary.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to receiving the modeling results and summary for the Caloosahatchee Basin.

Sincerely,

Susan Brookman
Vice Chairman

Copies: Ms. Jacque Rippe
Ms. Pamela MacKie
Ms. Trudi Williams

The mission of the Southwest Florida Watershed Council is to protect, conserve, manage and/or restore the land and water resources of the Caloosahatchee and Big Cypress Watersheds through participation and cooperation of all stakeholders in consensus building, planning, and decision making to meet the economic, natural and cultural needs for this and succeeding generations.