

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL) PROGRAM  
SELECTION & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SMC)**

**February 16, 2006**

**Attendance List**

***SELECTION & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS***

Dave Breininger  
Mark Bush  
Ron Hight  
Ross Hinkle  
Randy Parkinson  
Paul Schmalzer  
Kim Zarillo

***EEL PROGRAM STAFF***

Laura Clark  
Chris O'Hara  
Mike Knight

***THE NATURE CONSERVANCY***

Danika Feodoroff  
Keith Fountain

***GUESTS***

David Trafton, Citizen  
Susan Gosselin, Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office

*February 16, 2006  
Approved March 16, 2006*

**ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS PROGRAM  
SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**February 16, 2006**

**Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Ross Hinkle called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**MINUTES:**

No minutes were presented for approval.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW:**

The Administrative Review was discussed.

The SMC voiced their support for a speedy resolution of the issues regarding EEL Program land acquisition within the Town of Malabar. Ross stated land acquisitions guidelines are in place within the EEL Program Land Acquisition Manual and the Commission has the opportunity to approve or deny each contract as it is presented to them for approval.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**South Region**

Chris O'Hara, Land Manager for the South Region gave a Power Point presentation on recent events including:

- ❖ Projects
  - Unsafe tree removal at Malabar Scrub Sanctuary West.
  - Trails cleared from Hurricane Wilma.
  - Improvements to the ADA Trail at the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary.
  - Fence installation.
- ❖ Public Access Plans
  - The Jordan Scrub Sanctuary, Micco Scrub Sanctuary Public Access plans were reviewed and received support from the REAC Committee.
  - A draft Public Access Plan for the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary was presented to citizens on January 31, 2006. The plan was also reviewed by and received support from REAC Committee on February 9, 2006.

**South Beach Region**

Ray Mojica, South Beach Region Land Manager gave a Power Point presentation on recent events including:

- ❖ GIS and photopoints.

- ❖ Funding from FEMA has recently been obligated for demolition and reconstruction of the Caretaker's residence on the Yotti property which was damaged during the 2004 hurricane season.
- ❖ Beach clean up workday on January 14<sup>th</sup> at Bonsteel Park in South Melbourne Beach was very successful.
- ❖ Management plans for South Beaches Regions (Hardwood Hammock, Washburn Cove, and Ocean Ridge Sanctuaries) have been distributed to the SMC for their review.
- ❖ Maritime Hammock Stormwater Project.
- ❖ Upcoming fence projects at Ocean Ridge, Hog Point Cove, Washburn Cove, and Hardwood Hammock Sanctuaries.
- ❖ Upcoming prescribed fire at Coconut Point Sanctuary.
- ❖ Barrier Island Center
  - Notice to Proceed received. Construction contract will be re-bid.
  - Bonsteel boardwalk location.
  - Creative Education visioning meeting.
  - Good Habits Save Habitats Display.
  - Tuttle Exhibits.
  - Information about 5 habitat types from the ocean to the lagoon
    - Near Shore Region
    - Coastal Strand
    - Maritime Hammock
    - Intertidal Lagoon
    - Subtidal Lagoon

### **THE NATURE CONSERVANCY:**

Keith Fountain reviewed the Nature Conservancy's Report. Mike and Keith will be meeting with Commissioner Voltz in the near future on the FIND properties exchange.

### **ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION:**

Ron Hight stated that he and Keith would be meeting with Roy Roberts and his son regarding the possibility of some sort of conservation easement on the Roberts' property.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Maytown Flatwoods**

The group discussed recent events related to land in the northern part of Brevard County which is owned by the Miami Corp and emphasized the importance of providing additional lands for conservation in that part of the County. Staff will provide wetland delineation in the near future to facilitate further discussion on a possible recommendation to Miami Corp. regarding possible acquisition, or conservation easement opportunities.

#### **Boyd and DiChristopher Site Visit Reports**

Mike and Paul Schmalzer reviewed the Site Visit Reports for the February 9<sup>th</sup> visits to these Sykes Creek Properties. A first majority vote on these properties was approved by the SMC on January 12, 2006.

## **Johnson Property Site Visit Report**

Paul reviewed the site visit report from the February 9<sup>th</sup> visit to the Johnson property on Hall Road in Merritt Island. This 100 ± property is in the vicinity of the Kabbord Sanctuary and the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.

### **MOTION ONE:**

**Randy Parkinson made a motion to move forward with a first majority vote on the Johnson property based on the information provided in the Site Visit Report.**

**Ron Hight seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Trafton Property Exchange Request**

David Trafton has requested consideration of an exchange of his property for a parcel near Grant Road in Valkaria which is in State ownership and is managed by the EEL Program. After review and discussion, it was determined that the exchange could provide a net benefit to the overall conservation value of the area. The SMC was asked to present a motion of support for the exchange which could be relayed to the State for their consideration.

### **MOTION TWO:**

**Randy Parkinson moved to support the exchange of property based on the net benefit to the conservation value that would be provided by the placement of roads and clustering of properties.**

**Paul Schmalzer seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Staff will prepare a letter to the property owner confirming the SMC's support of the exchange.

### **EEL Interim Site Management Plan**

Ray Mojica provided an Interim Site Management Plan for the Hog Point Cove Sanctuary as an example of the format that will be used for future Interim Site Management Plans. The SMC reviewed the report and expressed their support for the format.

### **Gen Development Property Application (Scottsmoor)**

The EEL Program has received an application for consideration by the SMC regarding several parcels of property totaling approximately 669 acres in Scottsmoor. This area has been previously designated as high priority.

### **MOTION THREE:**

**Dave Breininger moved to proceed with a first majority vote on the Gen Development Property.**

**Paul Schmalzer seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

A site visit will be scheduled in the near future.

### **Public Comment:**

None.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2006. Location to be determined.

**ADJOURNED:**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING MOTIONS:**

- Motion to move forward with a first majority vote on the Johnson property based on the information provided in the site visit report.
- Motion to support the exchange of property as requested by David Trafton as it would create a net conservation benefit.
- Motion to proceed with a first majority vote on the General Development property.