

**RIVERS COALITION  
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CALOOSAHATCHEE ESTUARY**

**WHEREAS** the Rivers Coalition supports its sister coalitions in the Caloosahatchee Estuary, and

**WHEREAS** the Caloosahatchee Estuary suffers ecologically during the dry season if no freshwater is discharged from Lake Okeechobee, and

**WHEREAS** the Rivers Coalition has “donated” its estuary “base flow” to the Caloosahatchee estuary since the St. Lucie Estuary doesn’t need it, and

**WHEREAS** the South Florida Water Management District continues to refuse to recommend to the Corps of Engineers that a “base flow” be allocated to the Caloosahatchee despite impassioned pleas for a minimal “base flow” by Lee County Commissioner Ray Judah, SCCF’s Rae Ann Wessel, Riverwatch, PURRE and others, and

**WHEREAS** the lack of such “base flow” is causing algae blooms, tape grass mortality and contamination of the water treatment plant at Olga by heavy salinity, and

**WHEREAS** the minimal “base flow” requested would have minimal effect on the water supply for agriculture in the EAA and for water utilities, upon which no water use restrictions have been imposed, and

**WHEREAS** the environment deserves consideration as much as the water supply for those competing uses,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rivers Coalition urges the SFWMD Governing Board to recommend allocation of a minimum “base flow” to the Caloosahatchee to the Corps of Engineers.

Done this 9 day of Feb., 2011 at Stuart, FL.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leon Abou", written over a horizontal line.

Distribution: SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Buermann  
USACOE Col. Pantano  
West coast coalitions  
“Force” news letter