

**MIAMI RIVER BASIN
WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORT
Action Item Matrix Quarterly Progress Report
7/3/02**

Agency Name(s): South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)
Miami-Dade County DERM (DERM)

Contact Name: Trisha Stone

Contact Address: 3301 Gun Club Rd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Contact Telephone Number: (561) 682-6954

Contact Email Address: tstone@sfwmd.gov

Action Item Number: 4(d) - Research to determine the source of *Escherichia coli* bacteria in Wagner Creek

Action Item Status: The \$35,000 for this project is included in the SFWMD's proposed FY03 budget, which will be considered for approval by the SFWMD Governing Board (GB) in September, 2002. To provide support for the project, interested agencies and the public are encouraged to participate in the SFWMD's budget public forums (forums not yet scheduled).

Upon GB approval, the SFWMD and DERM will develop a project scope of work to contract out the project.

Status Update on Related Projects
(Not included in the Action Item Matrix)
7/3/02

Agency Name: South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

Contact Name: Trisha Stone

Contact Address: 3301 Gun Club Rd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Contact Telephone Number: (561) 682-6954

Contact Email Address: tstone@sfwmd.gov

Project: Solid waste removal from the Miami River

Project Status: The SFWMD will submit a budget line item in the amount of \$25,000 as a cost-share for the removal of solid waste from the Miami River by utilizing a waterway clean-up vessel. These funds will be considered for approval by the SFWMD Governing Board in September, 2002. To provide support for the project, interested agencies and the public are encouraged to participate in the SFWMD's budget public forums (forums not yet scheduled).

Status Update on Related Projects
(not included in the Action Item Matrix)
7/3/02

Agency Name(s): Anthony James Catanese Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions at Florida Atlantic University
South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

Contact Name: M.J. Matthews

Contact Address: Anthony James Catanese Center...
220 SE 2nd Avenue, Suite 709
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301-1914

Contact Telephone Number: (954) 762-5286

Contact Email Address: mmathew@fau.edu

Project: Biscayne Bay Web Site

The SFWMD has contracted the Anthony James Catanese Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions at Florida Atlantic University (Center), formerly known as the FAU/FIU Joint Center for Environmental and Urban Problems, to develop the Biscayne Bay Web Site *DiscoverBiscayneBay.org*. The objective of the web site is to facilitate communication and information-sharing among Biscayne Bay decision-makers, agencies, organizations and partners (primary target audience). In the future, a secondary audience will be the general public interested in Biscayne Bay.

The web site will serve as a central clearinghouse to collect information on Biscayne Bay protection, restoration and enhancement issues and efforts, and disseminate it efficiently to the target audience. Specifically, the web site will continuously provide the target audience with updated information regarding recommendations and actions of Biscayne Bay related interest groups, programs and projects, and actions and successes related to the implementation of the Biscayne Bay Preservation Initiative.

The Miami River Commission (MRC) will have a prominent location on the web site to highlight Miami River projects and efforts and provide a link to the MRC web site.

Project Status: The Center is currently finalizing the design and content of the web site and is scheduled for implementation in mid-July, 2002.

Status Update on Related Projects
(not included in the Action Item Matrix)
7/3/02

Agency Name(s): Citizens for a Better South Florida
South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

Contact Name: Audrey Ordenes

Contact Address: Citizens for a Better South Florida
2025 SW 32nd Ave.
Miami, FL 33145

Contact Telephone Number: 305-648-0000

Contact Email Address: audrey@cfabsf.org

Project: Biscayne Bay Environmental Education

The SFWMD has contracted Citizens for a Better South Florida (Citizens) to develop and implement a new coordinated comprehensive Biscayne Bay environmental education program(s) for all segments of the Miami-Dade County community: 1) primary, secondary and post secondary students and educators; 2) the general public, with an emphasis on minority groups; 3) public officials; 4) direct users of the Bay with an emphasis on boaters; and 5) tourists.

The goal of the program is to establish an informed public that will utilize and manage Biscayne Bay carefully and realize the benefits for its long-term protection and restoration.

Because the goal has not yet been realized, it is necessary to determine the situation of current education efforts and what is needed to achieve the goal. A more efficient and effective way of educating the Miami-Dade community as a whole must be established, and educators need to be more creative through coordinating efforts and resources.

This education program will initiate a new, innovative, comprehensive, and coordinated Biscayne Bay environmental education action plan, which has the potential for continuing and expanding beyond the scope of this project, to meet the goal.

Project Status: Citizens initiated the education program on June 1, 2002.

