

Friends of Apopka(FOLA) Meeting - 1/10/17 - Winter Garden

FOLA presentation - Joe Dunn , VP - Enormous progress in last 20 years

- NS acquisition – five times vol. of lake flowed thru Flow Way since 2003
- 100% removal of solids and chlorophyll (Ch)
- 30% reduction in of phosphorous(P)
- 1 mil. # of shad/yr removed for 23 years, 195,500# of P removed
- 57a of eelgrass in lake, increase in spatterdock and bulrush via planting
- Natural increase in submerged grasses
- Stocked 7 mil. sunshine bass since 1980
- DOH 2016 report – can eat bass, crappie, bluegill from Apopka
- P - 250ppb now close to 50 ppb and Ch – 100ppb to 50 ppb reductions Secchi – 8” now 12”

Erich Marzolf, Dir., Div. of Water and Land Resources, SJRWMD presentation

- Threats to Apopka – Eutrophication, low water, Organochlorine pesticides(OCP's)
- Dredging started in Apopka 5/12/16
- Permits with COE to dig deep holes and pump muck out
- District wants to vacuum and pump muck thru pipe from Magnolia Park to NS to spread on ground. Bids out 9/2017, work to start 1/2018? Muck will cap pesticide contaminated fields with a thin layer
- New gates in NS for flood control – Apopka water to NS during major storm
- Use of coconut mats to start submerged aquatic vegetation along shore maybe used

FOLA Meeting - 1/11/17 - Apopka

- Joe Kilsheimer, Apopka Mayor Presentation on Lake Apopka Restoration Center
- \$47mil. total. - \$20 mil. visitor center w/restaurant, \$18 mil. for a mini flow way as a demonstrator on how to clean the lake up
- Needs private investors – wants big name associated with center- like Audubon
- Wants 600K visitors/yr., expected impact of \$20-\$30mil. /yr. for Apopka
- Wants District to deed land for Gateway Birding Park at east entrance to wildlife drive(this is the old Hitcherson Nursery land)

Meeting minutes posted on their website: www.FOLA.org