



We hope you enjoy our newsletter. Why not join us right now? Come along on an outing. Get involved, learn about local environmental issues and how they affect you and your community. Just use the form on the back page, or go to our website at <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>, and click on the "Become a member" link.

PORT EVERGLADES EXPANSION PROJECTED EFFECTS ON SEA LEVEL RISE

– By Laura Veverka, Broward Sierra member



Those who are familiar with the Port Everglades expansion project, which entails dredging and blasting a deeper, wider entrance channel to accommodate Post-Panamex cargo ships, understand the imminent environmental effects that will occur from this \$313 million dollar project. Most notable, according to the National Marine Fisheries Service, is the destruction of 21.66 acres of coral reef and 8.45 acres of seagrass beds. Secondary effects include destruction of essential fish habitat, increased likelihood of ship strikes to manatees and cetaceans, loss of hatching and nursery habitats, increased chemical and atmospheric pollution, and increased noise, among others. However, there has been little thought to the project's effects on sea level rise (SLR). While scientists continue to warn of climate change, the stark reality is that SLR is accelerating at unprecedented levels, primarily due to thermal expansion and melting reservoirs of ice. SLR is projected to rise 1 foot between 2040 and 2060, according to the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact work group. Factors that influence SLR include cumulative changes in land elevation (erosion, glacial rebound), changing planetary conditions (tectonics, volcanism), solar dynamics, atmospheric circulation, salinity and temperature levels, as well as anthropogenic factors (increased greenhouse gas emissions).

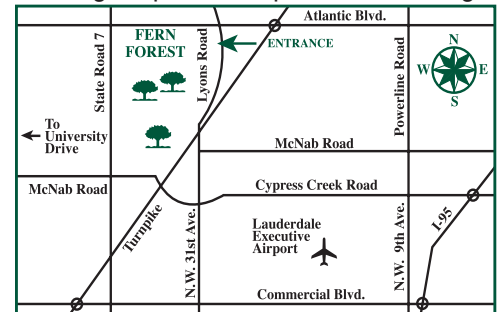
Southeast Florida, with its coastal counties, permeable geology, low topography, and subtropical environment are particularly vulnerable to SLR, and as a result may be exposed to increased flooding, hydrodynamic pressure, and wave impact as well as a loss of natural resources such as salt marshes, mangroves, estuaries, etc. The entire state lies within the Atlantic Coastal Plain, with a maximum elevation less than 400 feet above sea level. A slowing of the Florida Current and Gulf Stream due to climate changes could result in rapid SLR as well, further damaging Florida's coastlines.

Specifically for Broward county, this means that a percentage of the physical

Continued on page 4

Broward Sierra Club's General Meetings are held at 7:30 pm at the Fern Forest Nature Center. Each month we have an educational program on conservation or ecological issues.

DIRECTIONS: The Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Road South, Coconut Creek, just south of Atlantic Blvd. on the west side of the street. (From the south, NW 31 Ave. becomes NW 46 Ave., and then Lyons Rd. as you pass under the turnpike.) Committee reports begin at 7:30, and the program begins at 8:00. The meeting is open to the public at no charge.



Thursday, June 5th: During the first half of the meeting our speaker will be **Pamela Adams** from **Speak Up Broward** discussing how transportation affects many aspects of our lives, and its importance to our economy and the environment. It's time for the people of Broward to speak up about how we get around. Let's join the conversation!

For the second half of the meeting **Doug Young** will be discussing the **Sea Turtle Program** run by the South Florida Audubon society in cooperation with Sea Turtle Oversight Protection (S.T.O.P.) on the beaches of Broward County. Especially the difficulties facing the Loggerhead, Green, and Leatherback sea turtles hatchlings.



Thursday, July 3rd: Our speaker will be **Dr. Philip Busey**, former chair of the Broward group, who will be talking about how **native plants** tell us the history of Florida and provide naturalistic habitats for wildlife. We will also learn to identify some of the most interesting native plants of South Florida.





SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

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Executive Committee Meetings

are held on the first Monday of each month. Contact Ina Topper at 954-722-9944 or irtopper2000@cs.com for time and location.

Membership Corrections -

To expedite any membership change (new addresses, etc.) or problems with your membership records please send your name, member number, old and new address or problem to: **Member Services**, 85 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3441. Phone 415-977-5653 or e-mail: <address.changes@sierraclub.org> or <membership.services@sierraclub.org>

The Broward Sierra News is available every other month in electronic format. Additionally, to keep you apprised of current Broward Sierra Club events, they will be listed on our website: <http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>. If you would like to receive reminders of these events e-mailed to you, **subscribe to our Yahoo newsgroup**. The address is: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BrowardSierra>. Simply click on the blue "Join this Group" icon and follow the instructions. You may have to create a Yahoo ID first, which is easy and free. This will also allow you to sign up for any of the other numerous Yahoo groups. Also like our **FaceBook page** at www.facebook.com/BrowardSierra, and follow us on **Twitter** at twitter.com/BrowardGroup.



JOIN SIERRA CLUB'S ACTION CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE "FAST TRACK" TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP)

– A summary excerpted from website news <http://tinyurl.com/cwa-tpp-news>, www.sierraclub.org/trade, and Coalition Partners' Op Ed



As you may know, the Sierra Club and the Communications Workers of America Union (CWA) are joined in a coalition to promote and advance the conditions of American working families, while protecting and preserving the environment. The eminent crisis is a "fast track" bill intended to speed the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal through Congress, risking serious consequences for the economic health of the United States and the physical health of our people.

Fast track will worsen the "secretive negotiating process among 12 Pacific Rim countries." Congress's job is to represent the people. But TPP negotiators go to great lengths to limit the general public's knowledge of this deal, shutting out labor unions, environmentalists, internet groups, and consumer advocates. Corporate advisors can read and comment on the negotiating texts, while the rest of us can only piece together bits of leaked news.

"The TPP would give giant multinational corporations new powers to circumvent important U.S. laws concerning working conditions and workers' rights, the environment, public health and more". It would force millions of American jobs offshore and erode wages here. It would increase the price of medicines and expose the U.S. marketplace to unsafe food.

Powerful drug companies have already filed suits against sovereign countries for banning pollution-causing practices, and drugs and pesticides that poison land and wildlife.

"Eli Lilly is suing Canada to extend a patent on Stratera. Bayer and Syngenta are suing the government of France for banning a pesticide that kills bees. And the Canadian company, Infinito, is suing Costa Rica for shutting down a strip mine."*

Please join the Sierra Club action campaign. Contact your Congressional representative urging them to make a public commitment to stand up and oppose fast track. To see the letter to officials signed by a large list of our environmental partners describing specific environmental concerns, go to <http://tinyurl.com/SierraTPPLetter>

To find out more about TTP (and a link to take action) go to: <http://tinyurl.com/SierraTPP>

*Harriet Heywood, MoveOn.org, State Coordinator, Floridians Against the TPP/Fast Track

A SMALL VICTORY – By Sue Caruso, Broward Sierra Excom Secretary

It's like something out of an Erin Brokovich story... Luckily, the environmental heroes stepped in before the damage was done by drilling for oil in the Big Cypress watershed!

Who are the "bad guys" in this story? Our own FDEP and the Hughes Co., of Texas. A permit allowing an exploratory oil well was sent to a judge, circumventing the recommendation of the Big Cypress Swamp Advisory Committee (BCSAC). By law, the role of this committee is to "ensure compliance with all requirements for obtaining a permit to explore for hydrocarbons in the Big Cypress Swamp area."

Who are the "good guys?" A group of Naples citizens who formed Preserve Our Paradise, and our own Matt Schwartz, representing his South Florida Wildlands Assoc., got the FDEP to extend the public hearing until March 11. This allowed for more time to make the public aware

of the issue, get the facts, and rally the state's environmental groups.

On March 11, a small contingent from the Broward Sierra Club traveled to Naples, joining dozens of environmental groups to implore the BCSAC and the FDEP to block the permitting of this exploratory oil well. After many impassioned and well-reasoned speeches by local citizens and our group members, Stanley Pannaman, Darryl Rutz, Art Joseph and Susan Caruso, the committee decided it needed more time to digest these arguments and make a decision.

The victory? In a decision that surprised all those present, the BCSAC voted 3-1 to DENY the permit! The only dissenting vote was by David Mica of the Florida Petroleum Council. This may be a small victory as the final decision is still in the hands of the judge and the FDEP. We are awaiting their final decision.

Local Sierra Club Outings & Events

To preserve a place, you must believe in it.
To believe in it, you must see it.



MAY 24, SAT. PADDLE AND SNORKEL BEAR CUT AND CRANDON PARK FOSSIL REEF. (9am - 2pm) The reef is full of small tropical fish, sea urchins, fans, sponges and sea life. It's an easy swim at slack tide but you will need a mask and fins to truly appreciate the reef. What to bring: swim gear, paddle gear, water and snacks to share, kayak or canoe, paddle(s), PFD, whistle and whatever else you need for a safe and enjoyable day on the water. Some paddling experience necessary for paddling portion of outing. Rated leisure. *Suggested donation: \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Toll is \$1.75 per vehicle. Park entrance Fees are \$6 per vehicle.* Carpooling highly encouraged. Contact the outings leader for details and to register. Leader: Mark Walters <mark.walters@sierraclub.org>



JUNE 7, SAT. SERVICE OUTING BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK. Work with park naturalist to maintain Schaus butterfly habitat restoration sites on Elliot Key including removal of weeds and invasives. We will be ferried to the island by the park service. Wear long pants, long sleeves, closed shoes, hat, sunglasses. Pack a lunch, snacks and lots of water. Rated moderate and satisfying. Contact the leader for details. Leader: Mark Walters <mark.walters@sierraclub.org>



JUNE 21, SAT. KAYAK LESSON FOR BEGINNERS at the beautiful Oleta River State Park in North Miami. The lesson will be approximately 2 1/2 hours long. *Cost \$55 per person.* Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>



JUNE 21, SAT. KAYAK CANOE SNORKEL AT INDIAN KEY. Launch from the entrance to Tea Table key (the left [ocean] side of the highway). It is a short paddle from there to Indian key. Indian Key is a very interesting place with a lot of history. It is also on a coral reef so the swimming and snorkeling is great. Lots of aquarium type fish to see. And the water is exceptionally clear. If time and conditions permit, we may paddle out to Alligator Reef and lighthouse. Some paddling experience necessary. Bring water, lunch, sunblock, hat, camera and any safety gear you will need to enjoy the day. Contact Mark if you do not have a canoe/kayak as he may be able to provide one for you. Carpooling highly encouraged. Rated leisure to moderate. *Suggested donation: \$20 members, \$25 non-members.* Contact the outings leader for details and to register. Leader: Mark Walters <mark.walters@sierraclub.org>



JULY 6, SUN. WEST LAKE KAYAK. Come and test you new kayaking skills in Hollywood's best kept secret. We'll explore mangrove tunnels and open water. You can follow it with a dip in the beach surf a few blocks away. Rated easy to moderate. *Kayak rental approximately \$26. Donation to the club \$5.* Leader: Judy Kuchta 305-308-8913 <judykuchta@yahoo.com>



AUG. 16, SAT. PANTHER HABITAT OUTING. We will be renting a van and going to Panther Country! Once there, we will go on a 1.5 mile hike on a trail that will introduce us to the habitat of our Florida Panthers. This will be in August, so it will be hot and there will be mosquitos. You need to bring water and bug repellent. Long sleeve shirts, long pants and a wide brim hat are recommended. After that we will drive thru the Fakahatchee Strand State Park on the James Scenic Trail. This is a beautiful wooded area. Maybe we will see a bear! We will have lunch under a shady tree so bring your sandwich etc. It is estimated that this outing will take about 5 hours. *There will be a cost of about \$25 to cover the van rental. Also there will be a fee for entry into the State Park.* There is room for only 7 in the van. Call Darryl Rutz at 954-892-1740 if you want to reserve a seat or have any questions.



AUG. 17, SUN. BROWARD SIERRA CLUB'S ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC AT THE BEACH, any time from 11am on, at John U. Lloyd State Park in Dania Beach, Pelican Pavilion. Come have fun and enjoy the food, beach, swimming, snorkeling, and just plain lounging and socializing with other environmentally-minded folks. We'll have some short updates, as well as plenty of educational and interesting conversations on local and national environmental issues. This yearly fundraising event raises money to support the Broward Sierra group's activities and environmental causes. *A contribution of \$10 for members/\$12 for non-members will be gratefully accepted.* There will be veggie-burgers and drinks supplied, but please bring a dish or beverage of your choice to be shared. Please also bring your own recyclable plates and utensils, in order for us to leave "nothing but our footsteps" behind, and set an environmentalists' example. Adults & kids welcome.



SEPT. 20, SAT. FROM PLASTICS TO CLIMATE CHANGE – PARTNERING TO PROTECT SOUTHEAST FLORIDA'S NATURAL HERITAGE. Hugh Taylor Birch State Park, Garden Center. Southeast Florida Sierra Marine and Water Quality Team is hosting an Environmental Conference. There will be 6 speakers, all experts in their fields, concerning the ocean and its problems, including sea level rise, marine debris, and beach erosion. The aim of the South East Florida Sierra Marine Team is to educate the public on climate change, specifically relating to the oceans, and all the problems already facing South Florida. More details will follow in the next newsletter, including more information about other activities that day. *The public is invited to register for this important conference with a \$5 donation to their Sierra group which gets them in the door. A \$3 donation is requested from our Sierra members not able to attend, to help support our conference.* Please send all donations (made out to Sierra Club) specifically requesting that the donation be used for the Environmental Conference, to Stanley Pannaman, c/o Broward Sierra Group, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355. We hope you agree that this is a worthy cause to help support our Sierra effort and we hope to see you there! For more information contact Tanya Tweeton at 954-472-3704.

We would like to invite you to come on one of our fun and educational outings! If you have any questions about an outing, please check with the certified Sierra Outing Leader listed for the outing. Some of the outings need no experience; others require some level of proficiency. All participants are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the Liability Waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, contact the leader of the outing or go to <www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms>.

Florida Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST37115

Unless otherwise stated, the costs for each outing represent a best estimate of actual shared expenses, for food and transportation and other direct expenses.

For sign-up, payment and further information, please contact the outing leader.

LOOK FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE: <<http://florida.sierraclub.org/broward>>

infrastructure of Port Everglades is at risk beginning at the '1 ft. scenario', according to the Inundation Mapping and Vulnerability Assessment Work Group for the county. With this scenario, 1.3% of the county is impacted, with conservation lands being the major land use type inundated. While that may not seem much, Port Everglades is estimated to have 43.67 acres affected, 82.21 acres with a 2 ft. SLR, possible by 2060, and 148.07 acres with a 3 ft. SLR.

The expansion project, therefore, would increase this likelihood by removing barriers to storm surge and flooding, such as our mangroves and reefs. Beach erosion would increase, requiring more frequent nourishment. Also, greater ship traffic will increase air pollutants, namely CO₂, contributing to increased greenhouse gas concentrations, and therefore SLR. Specific SLR impacts are currently being assessed by Sandra Walters Consultants, Inc., in charge of the environmental components of the Port Everglades Master Plan Update. Though difficult to estimate the result of the expansion due to many uncertainties and complex factor dynamics, it certainly won't be a positive one for our environment. And while the region's economy may get a short-term boost from the project, take a look 40 years from now at sustainability costs for inundated infrastructure due to SLR.

ATTEND THE PUBLIC MEETING - PORT EVERGLADES 2014 MASTER/VISION PLAN

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Main Library Auditorium

100 South Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale

If you want to RSVP, write to info@adamsconsulting.biz or call 954-764-8500. This is final public meeting on the recommended 5, 10, and 20-year projects in the 2014 Port Everglades Master/Vision Plan Update. The body of the plan is available as PDF files and a 7-minute video at <http://portevergladesmasterplan.com>

EARTHDAY WITH BROWARD SIERRA

– By Stan Pannaman, Broward Sierra Conservation Chair

The Broward group of the Sierra Club was happy to participate in the Earth Day Festival at Miramar Regional Park, which was sponsored by Everglades High School and the City of Miramar.

This event was a little different than events we normally attend – we had to set up our own tent, a unique experience for me since I am completely inept in following printed instructions. Thank goodness our treasurer Max Goldstein was there to help, or the tent would never have gone up. After about an hour, our tables, chairs, printed materials and Sierra Club banner were happily displayed under our newly erected tent.

Our vice-chair Barbara Ruge provided us with some common sense, and educated the young girls from the 4H club who visited us, on the meaning of ecology. Excom member Darryl Rutz, club member Laura Veverka, and I spoke to people about the importance of Earth Day and the ecological programs that the Sierra Club spearheads; the Beyond Coal campaign, panther habitat protection, renewable energy production, coral reef protection, Everglades restoration, and the reduction of fertilizer runoff which causes blue-green algae that pollutes our rivers and ocean.

During the breaks in the music that was provided by local student bands and orchestras. Darryl educated the audience on the Land and Legacy initiative that will appear on the ballot in November. I gave a short presentation on the history of the Sierra Club and the need for all the citizens in Broward County to be more environmentally conscious. All in all, a good time was had by everyone.

Our intrepid tent erectors, Max and Stan



Our finished display, with Barbara and Stan at the helm

Join the Sierra Club and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!

(While supplies last)

Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club! I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage and receive a free Sierra Club Weekender Bag. My payment is enclosed.

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Phone (optional) (_____) _____

E-mail (optional) _____

Check enclosed, payable to Sierra Club Mastercard Visa AmEx

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Contributions, gifts or dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Membership Categories



	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT		INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25		Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49	Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

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Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club**
P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

DONATE TO PROTECT FLORIDA'S WILDLIFE HABITATS



You can help protect the Florida Panther and other native flora and fauna through litigation and education. This fund, The Sierra Club Foundation was created by your Broward Group. Your **tax-deductible gift** will support our conservation work and lawsuits challenging the National Park Service and other agencies that seek to reduce or cause harm to Florida's natural resources.

Please make your check payable to:

The Sierra Club Foundation

In the notes, write "Broward Sierra Group"

Mail your donation to:

Broward Sierra, P.O. Box 550561, Davie, FL 33355