

**Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration
a 501 (c) (3) Corporation**



UPSTREAM DOWNSTREAM

Spring 2023

Preserving the Nature Coast

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Restore the Flow	2	The Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration annual meeting is fast approaching, and we have three speakers representing the State of Florida departments responsible for the River Flow, Aquatic Plant Management, and the Maintenance of the structures on the Cross Florida Greenway which includes Inglis Dam, Locks and Spillway. Each speaker will discuss and answer questions of their agency Policies, Management and Focus as it pertains to the Withlacoochee Riverine system.
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About Us	4	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mickey Thomason- Manager for FDEP Division of Parks ➤ Mark Fulkerson- PHD PE Southwest Florida Water Management District ➤ Christina Dodge' Biological Scientist Florida Wildlife Commission for Invasive Plant Management

Please Plan on attending the annual meeting April 10, 2023 at 6pm 5 56th at Yankeetown Fl. (Yankeetown-Inglis Woman's Club)

Our Mission

To implement civic action and to promote the common good of residents of the community with a focus on public awareness and responsible stewardship of regional water sources, the basis for all the natural systems that define Florida's Nature Coast

Restore the Flow

Board members Dan Hilliard and Jack Schofield made the rounds to present our position and request support to Restore the Flow to the Lower Withlacoochee to pre-Barge Canal conditions. Legislative Delegation meetings were held in Citrus and Levy County BOCC Chambers. The board members spoke to Representative Massullo and Senator Ingoglia in Citrus County and Representative Clemons and Senator Perry in Levy County. Our voices were heard and they offered to lend support to get our Federal Representatives in Congress aware and on board to Restore the flow.

We have also been in contact with Congresswoman Kat Cammack's staff and Congressman Bilirakis staff. Congresswoman's Cammack's staff sent the Wetland Solutions Study to Washington DC and Congressman Bilirakis staff is working on scheduling an in-person conference with staff. Our efforts will continue to reach our objective and member support will be needed in furthering the campaign to Restore Flows to the Lower Withlacoochee. [letter campaign, email campaign]

DEO Grant

Board Member Ursula Schwuttke submitted a grant application to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for the Town of Inglis last June, to fund an engineering report recommending the best way to restore increased flow to the lower river. The grant was funded, but work on this project has hit a slight delay. The Town of Inglis transferred the grant to Levy County for management. By the time the agreement reached Levy County there were only 5 months remaining in the grant cycle to complete the study. Because of the limited time remaining, the Levy County BOCC decided to cancel the grant and resubmit the application in the next cycle, in June 2023.

Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration (W.A.R., Inc)

Preserving the Nature Coast

Membership Application **New Member** **Renewal**

Please Print

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE _____ **ZIP CODE** _____

TELEPHONE _____ **CELL** _____

E-MAIL _____

YOUR PRIVACY WILL BE PROTECTED, ADDRESSES ARE NEVER SOLD

Indicate Membership Level

Individual \$20
 Family \$25
 Life \$1000

How Can You Help?

Fundraising
 Publicity
 Research

Area of Expertise _____

Additional Contribution

\$ _____

Make Checks Payable to: W.A.R.,Inc

Mail To: PO Box 350
 Inglis, FL 34449-0350

PO Box 350 Inglis, Florida 34449 352-527-0023
 501(c)(3) non-profit directors@warinonline.com warinonline.com

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**W.A.R., Inc.,
P.O. Box 350
Inglis, FL 34449**

Officers

**President Jack Schofield
Vice President Dennis Mahar
Treasurer Phillip Sprinkle
Secretary Laurie Jagers**

Directors:

**Ursula Schwuttke Dan Hilliard
Dave Huffman John Westers**

Contact Us

warinc.directors@gmail.com

**Please visit our web site
www.warinonline.com for events as
well as articles of interest.**

**Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration a
501 (c) (3) Corporation**

**Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration
[W.A.R., Inc.]**

Withlacoochee Aquatic Restoration is a 501(c)(3), not for profit charitable organization incorporated in 1984. Our underlying principal is promoting the social welfare and common good of the residents of our communities. Current focus is on coordinating with other public advocacy groups that share our interests in preserving and restoring the quality of the Withlacoochee River and associated ecosystems. Withlacoochee Area Residents, Inc. is engaged in improving state decision making oversight practices that continue to contribute to degradation and depletion of increasingly scarce potable groundwater that is the foundation for the survival of our communities. Withlacoochee Area Residents, Inc. is responsible for the designation of the Withlacoochee River as an "Outstanding Florida Waterway", and contemplates future actions to provide an umbrella of Federal protection over the river basin and associated estuary.

