

Summary Minutes
Collier County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Group
 South Regional Library
 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy, Naples, FL 34113
 Friday, July 17, 2015, 9:30 AM

Name	Affiliation	Present
Rick Zyvoloski, Chair	Collier C. Emergency Management	X
Chris Sparacino, Vice Chair	City of Marco Island, Community Affairs	X
Howard Critchfield/Caroline Cilek	Collier C. Growth Mgt. Div. (Floodplain Coord.)	X
Reg Buxton	Citizens Corps/North Naples Journal	X
Judith Chirgwin	Interested Resident	-
Raquel Pines	Everglades City	-
Christa Carrera	City of Naples (Floodplain Mgr)	X
M. Bernaldo	Florida Health Dept. - Collier	X
Joss Nageon de Lestang/Lisa Koehler	S. Florida Water Mgt Dist	-
Evy Ybaceta/William Lang	Collier C. Growth Management Div.	-
Jerry Kurtz/Liz Gosselin	Collier C. Stormwater Dept.	X
Alister Burnett	Collier C. Public Util. Div., Solid & Haz. Waste	X
James Price	Collier C. Public Utilities Div., Water Dept.	X
Roosevelt Leonard	Collier C. Facilities Dept.	X
Ilonka Washburn/ Natali Betancur	Collier C. Parks & Recreation Dept.	E
Tricia Dorn	Lee County Electric Coop	E
Jose Carrillo	Collier Co. Sheriff's Office	-
Eloy Ricardo/John Reilly	North Collier Fire District	-
Jeff Johnson	Retrofit SW Florida, Inc.	X
Russell Rainey	Interested Resident/Citizen Corps	-
Ed Messer	Collier C. Public Schools	-
Lisa Oien	Collier C. Housing, Human & Veteran Svs.	-
Samantha Quinn	Florida Forest Service	X

1. **MINUTES APPROVAL:** Working Group approved the April 17, 2015 meeting minutes.

2. **MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:**

- LMSWG approved the membership request of Samantha Quinn, Florida Forest Service Mitigation Specialist.
- Mr. Chris Sparacino resigned due to a job change. The LMS Working Group thanked him for his many years of service to this group.

3. **LMS Projects:**

- South Florida Water Management District's Coastal Resilience Initiative was deferred to the next meeting in October.

4. **Known/Potential Grant Opportunities:**

- Search for Federal Grant opportunities - <http://www.fema.gov/grants>
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – No new grant opportunities currently available.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Wildfire** – Mitigation for Collier County will be increasing the remainder of the year due to peak fire season coming to an end. Per the Mitigation Action Plan the areas of concern in Collier County are:
 - i. **Big Corkscrew Island**: This is FFS’s highest level of fire concern in Collier County. The priority one area is characterized by homes dispersed on 2.5 acre parcels among areas of 40-80’ tall mature natural south Florida slash pine intermixed with cabbage palms of various heights, and a well developed shrub layer of wax myrtle, grape vine and ground fuels of various grasses. The fuel loads have not been maintained for many years on most parcels from a combination of local and state regulations and the difficulty of conducting prescribed burns due to fuel loading. There are some scattered areas of under 2’ tall grasses without tree cover.
 - ii. **Central Golden Gate Estates**: This is FFS’s second highest area of concern; the area is comprised of 2.5-acre parcels with heavy fuel loading near structures. The fuel loads have not been maintained for many years on most parcels from a combination of local and state regulations and the difficulty of conducting prescribed burns due to fuel loading. Fuels are composed of 60-80 foot tall south Florida slash pine, cabbage palm, saw palmetto, wax myrtle, grape vine, and grasses, including an increase in cogon grass.

At the meeting FFS discussed possible acreage totals for mitigation work and the goal for Collier is 70 acres for mechanical fuel reduction and 3.5 acres for prescribed burns. The state has a traveling mitigation team that will be in the Caloosahatchee District the beginning of August and again in December. They will be utilizing their efforts in Collier County during the month of December. FFS would also like to remind everyone that mitigation work is also geared toward the public. If there are any requests for mitigation please direct them to the FFS Mitigation office so they can evaluate the area and potentially mitigate an area of high fire concern.

Since the beginning of 2015, FFS has responded to 40 wildland fires in Collier County; burning 1,419 acres. The LMS Chair offered FFS Mitigation Specialist space in the County’s All Hazards Guide since the booklet is due for an update.

- **Flood** – The Cities of Marco Island and Naples and Unincorporated Collier County have each achieved a CRS Class 5 rating.
- **Monitoring, Evaluating and/or Updating the LMS** – Everglades City has adopted the Multi-jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy. The Chair transmitted the resolution to the State so that FEMA may reissue the LMS approval letter. All jurisdictions have adopted the LMS.

6. Other Business:

- **Consideration - Nomination of new LMS Working Grp. Vice Chair.**

7. Adjournment & Next Meeting: The meeting adjourned at ~10AM. The next meeting is **16 October 2015, 0930** at the South Regional Library.