



P.O. Box 2627 Stuart, Florida 34995 (772) 225-6849

Dr. Ann Hodgson
US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

February 27, 2019

RE: Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)

Dear Dr. Hodgson:

The Rivers Coalition, Inc.'s Mission Statement is to: **To fight for a safe, healthy and ecologically balanced St. Lucie River Estuary and Indian River Lagoon, natural resources that are vital to the economy and quality of life of Martin County and the Treasure Coast.**

The Rivers Coalition was formed in 1998 as a response to the public outcry against the discharges from Lake Okeechobee. Today, the Rivers Coalition continues to educate the public, exchange in dialogue with state and federal agencies, and advocate for "sending the water south," to the Everglades where it is needed and nature intended not wasting billions of gallons of fresh water to sea and causing major pollution top our estuary with these Lake releases.

The Rivers Coalition meets monthly and represents 103 member organizations with more than 350,000 members. Many of these organizational members are attending the LOSOM meetings and may send additional comments. Below is the list of Rivers Coalition organization members.

Rivers Coalition emphatically demands that you stop the Lake Okeechobee discharges to the east into the St. Lucie River Estuary and Indian River Lagoon. We insist that you implement zero discharges to estuary in the LOSOM.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Perry', is written over a blue horizontal line.

Mark Perry, President
Rivers Coalition, Inc.

Members: 1000 Friends of Florida, 27-80 Paddlers, American Association of University Women, Arthur R. Marshall Foundation, Audubon Florida, Audubon of Martin County, Ballantrae Anglers Club, Ballantrae Yacht Club, Beau Rivage HOA, Bullsugar, Business Development Board of Martin County, Circle Bay Yacht Club Condo Assn. Inc., Citizens for Clean Water, Cocconut Point Yacht Club, Computer Network Services, Conservation Alliance of St. Lucie Co. Inc, Cypress Lake HOA, Dolphin Ecology Project, Driftwood Motel of Jensen Beach. Economic Council of Martin County, Florida Oceanographic Society, Florida Sportsman, Fort Pierce Yacht Club, Four Rivers Property Association, Four Winds Condo Association, Friends of Harbor Branch - FAU, Gregor Woods HOA, Guardians of Martin County, Harborage Yacht Condominiums, Harbour Ridge Yacht Club, Hutchinson Island Preservation Initiative, Indian Riverkeeper, Indian River Plantation POA, Jensen Beach Chamber of Commerce, Joe's Point HOA, Keep Martin Beautiful, Leadership Martin, League of Women Voters of Martin Co., League of Women's Voters of SLC Co., Lighthouse Point Association Inc., Locks Landing HOA, Lost River Plantation HOA, Marine Cleanup Initiative Inc., Marine Industries Assoc. of Treasure Coast, Marine Resources Council, Martin County Anglers, Martin County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, Martin County Conservation Alliance, Martin County Farm Bureau, Martin County Future Group, Martin County Hotel & Motel Association, Martin Soil & Water Conservation Dist, Miramar POA, Nettles Island Community Action Assoc., North River Shores Prop. Assoc., Ocean Research and Conservation Association, Oyster Boss, LLC, Palm City Chamber of Commerce, Palm City Civic Assn, Palm Cove Yacht Club, Palm Cove HOA, Pierpoint Condominium Assoc., Port Salerno Commercial Fishing Dock Assoc., Port Sewall Harbor & Tennis Club Owners Ass, Port Sewall Property Owners Assoc., Port St Lucie Anglers, President's Council of Hutchinson Island, Realtor Association of Martin County, Rio Civic Club, River Club Dock Owners Association Inc., River Kidz, River Kidz of St. Lucie County, River Vista HOA, River Warriors, Royal Harbor Homeowners Assn, Sailfish Point POA, Sailfish Point Yacht Club, Savanna Fishing Club, Seagate Harbor Homeowners Assoc., Snug Harbor Yacht Club, St. Lucie River Yacht Club, St. Lucie Sailing Club, St. Lucie Settlement Inc., Stuart Corinthian Yacht Club, Stuart Flyrodders, Stuart Heritage, Stuart Rod & Reel Club, Stuart/Martin County Chamber, Surfriider Foundation, Teamsters Local 769, The Garden Club of Stuart Inc, The Junior League of Martin County, Treasure Coast Buddhist Cooperative, Treasure Coast Builders Association, Treasure Coast Democratic Environmental Caucus, Treasure Coast Golf Course Superintendents Association, Treasure Coast Rowing Club, Treasure Coast Unitarian Universalist Church, US Sailing Center of Martin County, Venture Three Community, Windjammer Condo Association