

FLORIDA BEACON



From the President's Desk
Erik Neugaard

**Florida Association of
Environmental Professionals**

July 2011



JOB POSTINGS ON WWW.FAEP-FL.ORG

As a service to our members, FAEP provides free job postings for firms with employment opportunities in Florida locations. FAEP communications reach more than 1500 Environmental Professionals in the state and our members forward the newsletter and emails on to even more individuals in our profession.

This service is beneficial to our members who are looking for staff to fill positions in their office. What better way to reach so many experienced personnel—free of charge? We will post your notice for as long as you need, generating responses from professionals looking for a new opportunity and students looking for their first opportunity as an Environmental Professional.

This service also helps our new graduates find entry-level positions at established firms so that they can launch their career and gain valuable experience building their skill set and resume. Numerous sources report that between 70% and 80% of all jobs are found through networking. Networking is a fundamental part of career advancement and finding employment—especially for those new to the professional job market. By attending meetings and keeping tabs on FAEP's Employment Board, new graduates can be very successful at finding that first environmental job.

Recently, Passarella & Associates successfully posted a job opportunity on the FAEP website and other locations and received hundreds of responses to their postings. We also provided this service to EarthBalance, who was able to comb through numerous resumes to find the perfect fit.

So, if you are looking for a way to get the word out about an open position at your firm, drop us a line at info@faep-fl.org. If you are looking for a new job opportunity, go to our website, click on "Employment" and check out the posted job opportunities.

FAEP 2010-2011

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Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Event	Date	Place
Florida League of Cities 2011 Annual Conference	Aug. 11-13	Orlando
2011 APA Florida Conference	Sept. 7-10	Palm Beach
AIPG Annual National Conference	Sept. 10-13	Bloomington, Illinois
26th Annual Phosphate Conference	Oct. 12-13	Lakeland
Florida Remediation Conference	Oct. 13-14	Orlando
2011 Annual Florida Redevelopment Conference	Oct. 19-21	Orlando
2011 Sustainable Florida Conference	Oct. 24-25	Tallahassee
38th Annual Natural Areas Conference	Nov. 1-4	Tallahassee
Florida Brownfield Conference	Nov. 13-16	Orlando

Florida State College at Jacksonville Environmental Field Technicians

These technicians are graduates of the USEPA Brownfields Job Training Program. The program provides students with 270 hours of training for environmental jobs needed to ensure industrial areas are environmentally safe for rehabilitation or expansion. There are also tax credits available for employers who hire graduates of the Brownfields Job Training Program. All graduates receive Environmental Training including certifications:

- 40Hr OSHA HAZWOPER
- 40Hr EPA Health & Safety
- 24Hr EPA HAZMAT Tech for Emergency Responders
- 8Hr EPA Lead Abatement Worker
- 30Hr OSHA Construction Safety
- 16Hr Sampling & Analysis
- FEMA ICS 7 NIMS

Contact Sarah Ashbrook, Brownfields Project Coordinator at 904-633-5976 to receive a list of recent graduates. Go here for more information about the program: <http://mpss.fscj.edu/brownfields>

USFWS Proposes Broadening Florida Manatee Protections in Citrus County

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced a proposal to expand federal protection areas for manatees in Citrus County, Florida, by creating a manatee refuge including all of Kings Bay in Crystal River. The proposed area of the Kings Bay manatee refuge has not changed from what was identified in the emergency designation. The manatee refuge would include all waters of Kings Bay, its tributaries and adjoining water bodies upstream of the confluence of Kings Bay and Crystal River. In addition to the proposed rule, the Service is making available its related draft environmental assessment for comment.

<http://www.fws.gov/northflorida/>

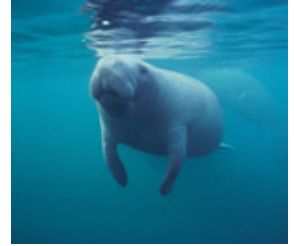
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Habitual Manatee Zone Violator Sentenced for Killing a Manatee in Brevard County

A Merritt Island man, who has been repeatedly cited for violating Manatee Protection Speed Zones in Brevard and Volusia Counties, was sentenced in federal court recently for killing a West Indian manatee while operating his boat in violation of a manatee protection zone.

After an extensive joint investigation by the USFWS and the FWC. Joseph F. Miata Jr., 62, was criminally charged by the US Attorney's office, Orlando Division, in October 2010 for killing a manatee and violating the federal Endangered Species Act.



Credit: Jim Reid

He subsequently pled guilty and was sentenced in February to one year federal probation and required to make a \$600 donation to a wildlife conservation organization in Federal Court by US Magistrate Judge David A. Baker. Miata was also ordered to forfeit, to the government, the boat he was operating when he killed the manatee.

The investigation and subsequent charges came after the FWC's Wildlife Alert Hotline received a call on July 11, 2010 reporting that a boat speeding through a manatee zone in Sykes Creek near Cape Canaveral ran over and killed a manatee. The manatee was a lactating female with an approximately 1-month-old calf by her side. FWC officers Justin Morgan and Matthew Humphrey responded to the area that evening and stopped a boat that matched the description of the speeding vessel. They determined that Miata was the operator of the suspect vessel but initially were unable to locate the dead manatee.

The next day, FWC Officer Mike Slotin located the body of the manatee near where it was struck, but FWC officers and biologists were never able to find the orphaned calf. During the investigation that followed, USFWS Special Agent Neil Gardner and FWC Officer Slotin interviewed witnesses to the incident, as well as Miata. During these interviews, evidence was developed to support a federal criminal prosecution.

Federal agents served a search warrant on Miata's Merritt Island residence on July 22, 2010, seizing his boat as evidence and holding it for subsequent criminal forfeiture, pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Endangered Species Act. According to witnesses, Miata was operating his boat at full plane through the Slow Speed Manatee Protection Zone when he struck the manatee. The boat strike inflicted acute severe injuries when the boat's propeller struck the manatee's head.

Miata had been previously cited by FWC Officer Morgan on May 31, 2010, less than two months earlier, for speeding through a manatee zone and was also cited by USFWS Manatee Refuge officers for the same violation on a previous occasion. "Mr. Miata is a habitual, severe offender which prompted us to work with our federal partners for prosecution," said Capt. Steve Wayne, FWC's area supervisor. "The federal penalties are much more severe than he state's and we felt a violation of this magnitude deserved to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

"Habitual manatee zone offenders already have knowledge, which makes them subject to arrest and prosecution by our agents for killing Florida's endangered manatees," said Andrew Aloise, resident agent in charge for the USFWS's Office of Law Enforcement. "We will vigorously pursue and prosecute the take of manatees by those who do not slow down after being warned or cited on the water."

To report illegal activities involving fish or wildlife in Florida call the FWC's toll-free Wildlife Alert Hotline at 888-404-3922. Tipsters may remain anonymous and are eligible for a reward if their information leads to arrest.

<http://www.fws.gov/southeast/news/2011/11-009.html>

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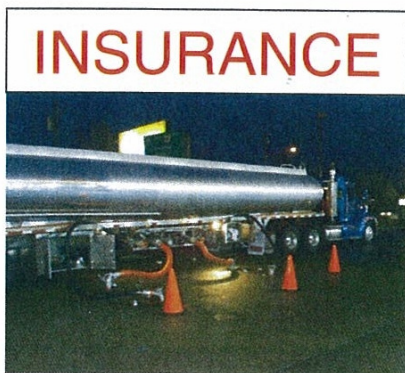
Company Faces Fine for Environmental Reporting Violations

Boston, Mass.—July 14, 2011—A Cheshire, Conn., company that makes metal parts for the aerospace industry faces a fine of up to \$175,739 for charges by EPA that it violated the federal clean air and right-to-know laws. According to an EPA complaint filed last week, Consolidated Industries violated the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act by failing to file chemical reporting forms for chromium and nickel in 2007 and 2008. These forms are required for the federal Toxics Release Inventory. According to the complaint, filed July 6, Consolidated also failed to put in place a required Risk Management Plan for hydrofluoric acid stored at the facility, a violation of the federal Clean Air Act. According to the information gathered, the facility processed or stored hydrofluoric acid in amounts above the threshold required for reporting in 2006, 2008 2009 and 2010. The complaint stems from an April 2010 inspection of the facility as well as follow-up letters seeking information.

Risk Management Plans required under the Clean Air Act help prevent accidental releases of substances that can cause serious harm to the public and the environment and can reduce the severity of releases that do occur. Risk Management Plans document a company's compliance with several important accident prevention and response regulations, including requirements to assess risks posed by the chemical, develop safe operating procedures, train employees in how to manage dangerous chemicals, design and operate a safe facility, and develop a sound emergency response plan. A company that fails to comply with RMP requirements can leave the public and environment at risk from accidental releases.

The complaint proposes a penalty of \$91,700 for the four violations of the community right-to-know law and \$84,039 for failing to have a risk management plan in place in violation of the Clean Air Act. The company has since filed the required forms and certified that the facility is in compliance with all other reporting requirements. The facility also has stopped using hydrofluoric acid in concentrations that make it subject to the Risk Management Plan requirement.

For more information on this and other Enforcement cases go to: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/index.html>



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In California's High Desert, a Solar Gamble

The California Owens Valley, the scene of decades of intense environmental hostilities and the subject of the Famous Roman Polanski film "Chinatown", once more finds itself at center stage. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, which turned Owens Lake into a dry wasteland and created one of the most prodigious polluters in America, wants to turn its lake bed into one of the world's largest sources of solar power.

According to a report in the Los Angeles Times, and many other news and blog sources, interim DWP Chief S. David Freeman says the valley on the dry side of the Sierra Nevada is blessed with the "best sun in the country". He envisions a gigantic solar array that could cover 80 square miles of dry lake bed and nearby flatlands, a sea of photovoltaic cells roughly the size of Cleveland, that would generate up to 10% of all the power produced in California while simultaneously calming the region's fierce dust storms.

But not so fast.

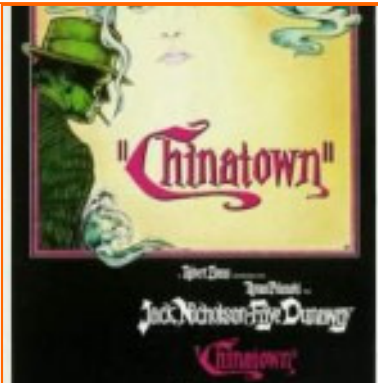
Landowners in the valley, along with an array of environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club, have their doubts, much of them based on a long history of disputes over land and water rights in the valley. "Given our history with them, there's skepticism," said Mark Bagley of the Owens Valley Committee and Sierra Club, which took successful legal action to force the DWP to restore the Lower Owens River. "But it's promising if it's done right, the right way."

First, the DWP must show that a solar array can eliminate the wind-blown dust storms born on Owens Lake. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, water was first diverted from the Owens River to the City of Los Angeles in 1913, and by 1926 Owens Lake was dry. The dry bed of Owens Lake has produced enormous amounts of windblown dust since the desiccation of the lake. The term "Keeler fog" (for the town on the east side of the lake) was coined locally decades ago for the pervasive, usually fine-grained, alkaline dust that infiltrates the smallest cracks and contaminates residences.

"The lake bed is probably the largest single source of PM10 dust (aerosol particles smaller than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter) in the United States," the USGS reported. To comply with federal clean air standards, the DWP already has spent \$500 million on control measures, covering close to 40 square miles of the lake bed with shallow water or fields of vegetation. Still, the airborne pollution exceeds federal limits by 10 times. The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District has put Webcams into use so people can monitor the dust storms. Ted Schade at the pollution control district told the Times that the DWP must prove that solar panels will slow the typically 60 miles-an-hour wind to 15 mph.

If it works, only a portion of the electricity generated by an Owens Valley array would be transmitted to Los Angeles, according to the Times. The rest would be sold to other utilities around the West, with an ample share of the profits heading to L.A., 180 miles away.

For a video go here: <http://newsdesk.org/2010/08/in-californias-high-desert-a-solar-gamble/>



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FWC Asks Anglers to Help With Red Snapper Research

This project will provide fisheries researchers and managers with vital catch-and-release survival information needed for assessing the status of this important recreational fishery.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) biologists will approach anglers at public areas along the Gulf Coast of Florida, including boat ramps, fishing piers and marinas, to request participation in the study. These biologists will distribute survey cards designed to collect detailed information on fishing trips targeting red snapper. This information includes where red snapper are caught and released, the type of fishing equipment used, and the condition of the fish when released. The data will provide vital information that will help improve the management of this popular recreational fishery.

Anyone fishing for red snapper in Florida can also request a postage-paid survey card in the mail, by emailing their name and address to FishStats@MyFWC.com. To download a data sheet, visit MyFWC.com/Research/Saltwater; click on "Recreational Fisheries" and select the article "FWC Enlists Anglers to Assist Reef Fish Studies."

In addition to completing survey cards, anglers, vessel captains and mates can assist with reef fish research by reporting tagged fish to the Angler Tag Return Hotline at 800-367-4461. Since 2009, FWRI biologists have been tagging and releasing fish back into the Gulf of Mexico in an effort to evaluate the survival of fish caught and released with hook-and-line recreational fishing gear. Previous studies estimate that approximately 60 percent of red snapper survive when released after being caught hook-and-line. A similar tagging program began this year on the Atlantic coast. By reporting tagged fish, anglers will help to improve the accuracy of estimated release survival rates for this species.

For this project, biologists are inserting yellow or orange tags near the dorsal fin of the fish. Each tag has a unique number printed on the side. When reporting a tagged fish, anglers should provide the species of fish, tag number, date and time of capture, where the fish was caught, fish length, type of bait used and whether the fish was kept or released. If the fish is released, anglers should leave the tag in the fish so biologists can continue to collect data.

For more information on this and other Recreational fisheries research surveys, visit MyFWC.com/Research/Saltwater and click on "Recreational Fisheries."

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Save the Date

Florida Association of
Environmental Professionals
(FAEP) Annual Conference

*"Sustainable Environment,
Sustainable Economy"*



Hosted by the
Treasure Coast Chapter of the FAEP

Date: 23 Sept. 2011

Time: 8:30 am - 5 pm

Location: Palm Beach County

Convention Center, West Palm Beach, FL

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SAVE THE DATE!

November 4, 2011



SFAEP's Annual Conference Regulatory Challenges in a Changing Environment

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1 page	\$250	\$900

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FAEP WELCOMES THESE NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Rockell Alhale	Sara Cunnard	Peter Keppler	Chris Roelandts
Alan Alshouse	Jack Davis	Eric Krebill	Jennifer Sagan
Quinton Anglin	Rudy de Paris	Subashri Kurgatt	Mike Sanders
Michael Arnold	Shirley Denton	David Landers	Robert Scotese
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Timothy Atkinson	Steven Dier	Vicki Lewis	Michael Scott
Newt Babcock	Michelle Diffenderfer	Jim Linton	Pandurang Shanbhag
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Paul Bowers	Leesa Gerald	John Miklos	Pierto Taballione
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Stuart Bradow	Joseph Haber	Daniel Moretz	Kris Thoemke
James Brearly	Jeffery Halsey	Eric Morgan	Bridgett Tolley
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Cal Butler	Marty Hebrank	Bruce Neu	Georgia Vince
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Heather Chasez	Caroline Horton	Michelle O'Neal	Lisa Ford Williams
James Clark	Jason Houck	Melinda Parrott	Chris Wilson
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Victoria Colangelo	Delia Ivanoff	Linda Petz	Hans Wilson
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Sharon Collins	Jeff Johnson	Steven Reecy	James Yawn
Gary Comp	Tracy Jones	Michael Reyes	Bryan Yoho
Franklin Crofutt	Nan Jordan	Bill Rhodes	Catherine Young
Mark Crouch	Frank Kahoun	Karen Rider	Chester Young
Gabino Cuevas	Chris Kartel	Timothy Riley	Joe Young
Jennifer Cummings			

Members who have renewed or joined during the past quarter