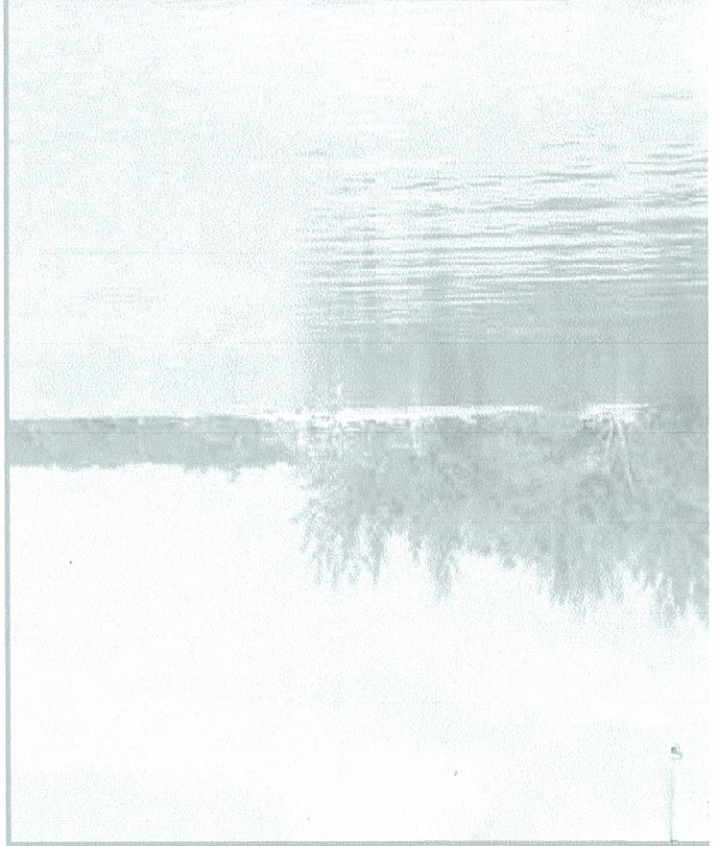




Biscayne Bay
Economic Study
Task 3 Report – Final
Biscayne Bay Economic
Baseline and Trend Report
April 2005

South Florida Water Management District





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South Florida Water Management District



April 27, 2005

Ms. Trisha Stone
Staff Environmental Scientist
Coastal Ecosystems Department
SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

Biscayne Bay Economic Study, C-15869 Task 3
Economic Baseline and Trend Report - Final

Dear Ms. Stone:

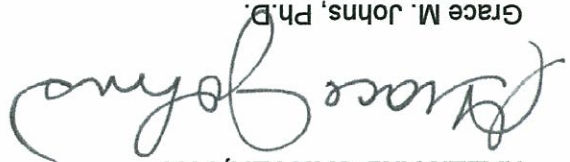
We are pleased to submit the final Task 3 Report titled "Economic Baseline and Trend Report". This document describes the estimated uses and economic contribution of Biscayne Bay and the Miami River to Miami-Dade County, southeast Florida and Florida from 1980 to 2004. The methods and data used to construct these estimates are also provided in this report.

Project team members responsible for this study are myself, as project manager, and economists Dave Sayers, Bill Hutchinson of Planning and Economics Group, Maria Delores Espino, Ph.D. and J. Walter Milon, Ph.D. Rife Market Research provided the survey researchers and the survey team management for this study.

We have enjoyed working with you and the Independent Technical Review Team throughout this project.

Very truly yours,

HAZEN AND SAWYER, P.C.



Grace M. Johns, Ph.D.

Senior Associate and Economist

Project Manager

Enclosure

c: File No. 40507-001

Acknowledgments

Biscayne Bay Economic Study – Economic Baseline and Trends

This project's success was directly attributable to the assistance and support of all those individuals involved in this 18 month long effort.

The Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRCT) is part of the Working Group of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force created by Congress. Based on recommendations identified through the Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative, the BBRRCT recommended that this project be funded with State of Florida legislative appropriations for Biscayne Bay. This project was funded by the State and the Florida Inland Navigation District.

Once the Biscayne Bay Economic Study began, the members of this project's Independent Technical Review Team spent significant effort to review the three project deliverables and to provide advice regarding methods and data. They consistently provided meaningful comments and guidance during the three team meetings where interim results were presented. The members are Trisha Stone of the South Florida Water Management District who was also the District's manager for this project; Phil Everingham of the Miami Marine Council; Cynthia Guerra of the Tropical Audubon Society; Frank Herhold of the Marine Industries Association of South Florida; Ken Lipner of Florida International University; Don Pybas of the Miami-Dade County Cooperative Extension Service; University of Florida; and David Roach of the Florida Inland Navigation District. We also recognize Keith Revell who was a member of this team during the early stages of this project and provided meaningful comments during the development of this project's work plan.

The principal investigators and their responsibilities included Grace Johns, Ph.D. of Hazen and Sawyer who served as project manager; Bill Hutchinson of Planning and Economics Group who collected and evaluated the business data and provided GIS support; J. Walter Milton, Ph.D. and Maria Delores Espino, Ph.D. who provided technical oversight, review and guidance during this project and Dave Sayers of Hazen and Sawyer who managed this project's literature collection and review and the survey research data.

We wish to thank Sandy Palmer of Rife Market Research in Miami, Florida for providing and supervising the survey researchers. These survey researchers worked with energy and in earnest to conduct the resident and visitor intercept interviews in Miami-Dade County. Without these individuals, the study of recreational uses and their economic contribution would not have been possible. The survey researchers were Gita Bai, Lourdes Jones, Maria Lichtenberger, Helen Linger, Karla Mejia, Jason Quade, Jeannie Sponza and Robert Sponza. We thank them and all of the residents and visitors who responded to our intercept and mail surveys.

We send a special thanks to all of the owners of the properties used as survey sites who gave us permission to conduct resident and visitor surveys at their locations. The Miami International Airport was an important survey site and we thank Irving Fourcand and Grazyna Stasiulis for their support and effort in allowing our survey researchers access to this site.

We also wish to thank Brett Bibeau of the Miami River Commission, Frances Bohmsack, Ph.D. of the Miami River Marine Group, Professor Jerold S. Ault of the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, and Amy Condon and Brecece Robertson of the Trust for Public Land for the advice, publications and data they provided during this study. We thank Diane Camacho at the Port of Miami for sharing the Port's economic information with us for use in estimating the economic contribution of the Port of Miami and Bill Anderson of the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing important visitor information.