

# Internship with Caloosahatchee Riverwatch

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Supervisor: Dr. John C. Capece, Director & Recording Secretary

## Mission

My mission as a Riverwatch intern is to support public communications by performing issues research and producing information products. I am in charge of publishing news boxes on the Riverwatch website and Facebook page each day to keep the membership and general public informed on the latest water issues news. I help produce documents describing the Riverwatch organization and regional environmental challenges to national and international organizations so they understand how serious are the ecological issues of the Caloosahatchee River and its estuary. My technical reports have been delivered to American River Association and the Waterkeeper Alliance.

## American Most Endangered Rivers 2017



Creation and submission of a nomination package to American Rivers Association to name the Okeechobee Waterway one of the top ten American Most Endangered Rivers of 2017.

### Tasks:

- Gather information about how important the waterways are for the area
- Describe the threat and what actions are needed



## Web Page News Boxes

### Move Faster With Funding

The project of a reservoir south of Lake O is scheduled to begin in 2021, but it could get started sooner if funding were available. Lt. Col. Jennifer Reynolds says the storage south of the lake is the next major planning effort for the Everglades restoration project. [WMFE]

### Cocktails & Conversations

Jack Green, CRCA Executive Director & John Cassano, our first Waterkeeper, spoke at the Nov 9 Cocktails & Conversations. Thank you to our sponsors Sanibel Captiva Bank and Twiken Water Inn, event organizers Rob Wilson and Mary Rawl, and generous donors Robin Krivanek, David Latina & John Gucciaro. [Photo 1] [Photo 2] [Photo 3]

### Billys Creek Cleanup Success

Over the past four semesters, more than 150 volunteers have spent well over 600 hours collectively working to help ensure the waterway stays clean. During the Nov 4 event, over 60 volunteers removed 8 cubic yards of trash from the waterway. They accomplished 6 work week of service in one morning [Billy's Creek Story] [Website]

### Accelerate Everglades Restoration

The Everglades are unique and iconic landscape, unlike any other in the world. The water management system has resulted in massive fish kills and state of emergency. Rob Mohr wants the community to speak with a unified voice to accelerate effort to restore the Everglades. [Sun Sentinel] [Conservancy of Southwest Florida]

### Caloosahatchee Nov 8-14

Day	S79 Flow (cfs)	S79 Flow (cfs)
Tues	1072	2688
Wed	597	528
Thur	524	321
Fri	383	483
Sat	378	328
Sun	394	441
Mon	538	458
Avg	582	838

Discharges into the estuary at S-79 during the past week dropped to one third of the previous week averaging 782 cfs. Lake Okeechobee discharges to the river, measured at S-77, decreased to an average of 1,014 cfs. The USACE reduced flows to the Caloosahatchee to a 7-day average pulse of 850 cfs. [Condition Report] [Table] [More SCCR Report]

### Endangered Species VS Water

There is no easy solution to reduce the discharge of water to estuaries. Here is another reason, we cannot discharge water to the Everglades between Feb and Aug as it could impact the endangered seaside sparrow, nesting 6 inches off the ground. Is it now about choosing which species can survive? [News-Press]

## Waterkeeper Alliance Full Member



Assembly of a proposal document required as part of an application for the Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association (Riverwatch) to become a full member of the Waterkeeper Alliance, a worldwide network for the protection of waterways.



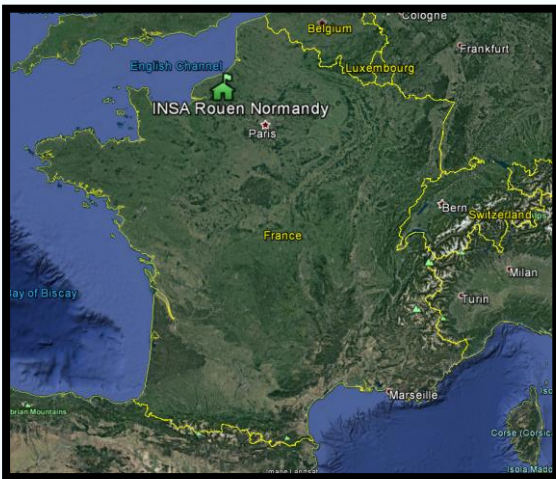
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CALOOSA HATCHEE  
**RIVER**  
WATCH



**INSA**

INSTITUT NATIONAL  
DES SCIENCES  
APPLIQUÉES  
ROUEN



## Background

**University:** INSA Rouen Normandy, France

**Degree:** Master's Degree in Engineering in Industrial and Environmental Risk Management

**Main skills:**

- Assessment of the risks for an industry and its employees
- Assessment of the environmental impact of human activities
- Technical knowledge in environmental engineering
- Project management





## Experience

As a French university student, the tasks assigned to me were good opportunities to understand how deep and complex are the environmental issues of Florida, especially concerning water. When I see how rich and beautiful the nature is in Florida, it gives me the conviction that the progress Riverwatch achieves is essential, and I am happy to contribute to this work.

I always felt concerned about environmental pollution and problems. I choose to study environmental engineering to have the tools to understand the scope of the problems and their solutions. Communicating with people is the key. The better people understand the issues, the more they feel concerned and the easier it is to take action.

This internship also allowed me to spend time with family friends living in Southwest Florida and to visit many of the attractions that Florida has to offer international visitors. It has been satisfying to not only see Florida's natural areas but to also help in their protection.

