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**CHANGES IN LATITUDES;  
CHANGES IN ATTITUDES;**

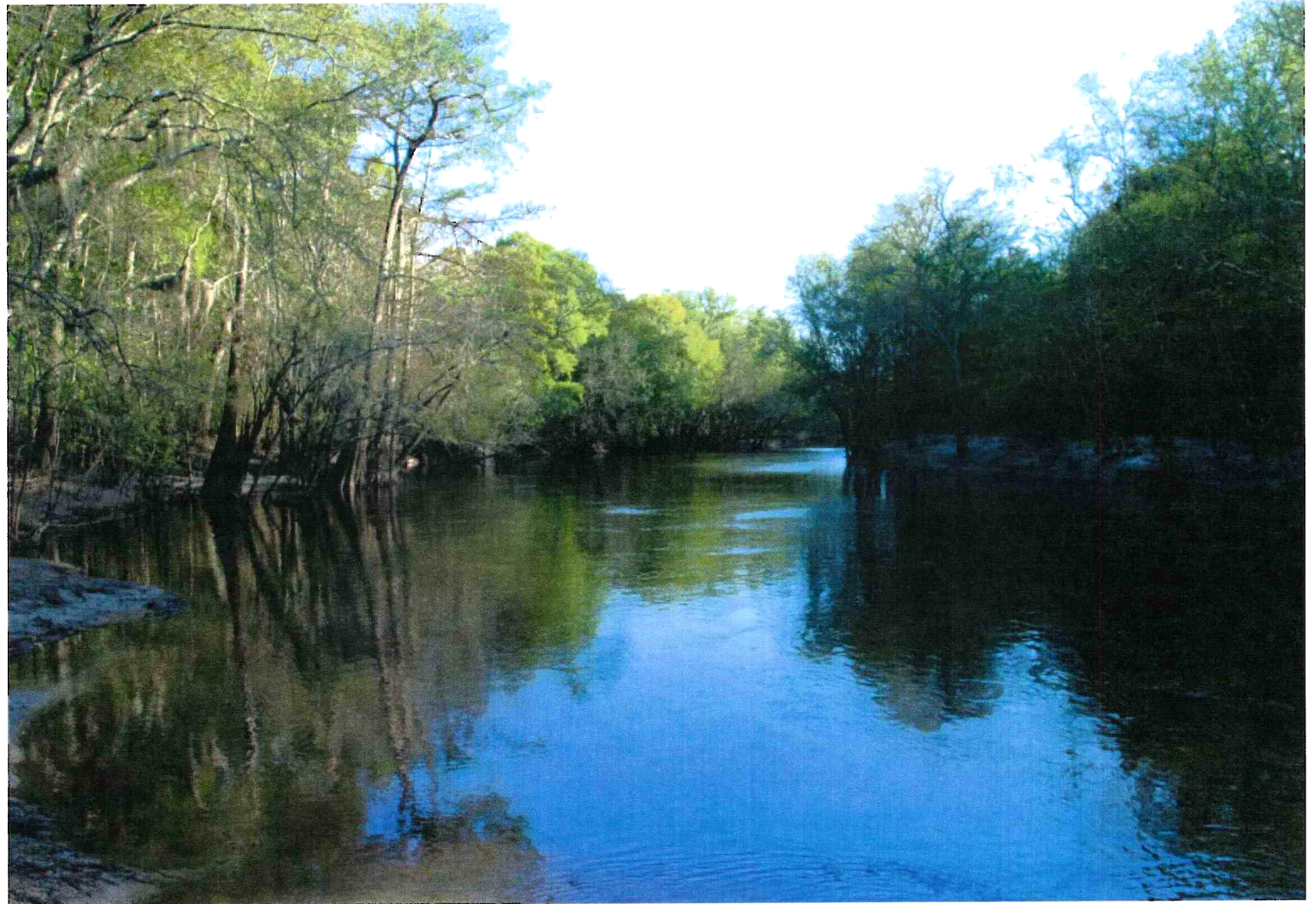
**Florida Agriculture is  
Part of the Solution!**

Michael D. Minton, Esq.

July 19, 2013

**Changing attitudes will  
help preserve this...**

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## Dean Mead Profile

- Full service Florida commercial law firm
- 46 attorneys with offices in Orlando, Fort Pierce, Melbourne/Viera and Gainesville

## Dean Mead Practice Areas

- Agri-Business
- Tax Planning for Individuals and Business Entities
- Estate and Succession Planning
- Trust and Estate Administration
- Corporate and Business Law
- Employee Benefits and Qualified Plans
- Real Estate and Lending Transactions
- Land Use and Development Law
- Civil Litigation
- Water and Natural Resources



# Evolution of the concept of embracing agriculture as part of the solution

- Central & South Florida Flood Control Project originally designed storage facilities
  - Flood Control Acts of 1948 & 1954
  - Never Built Storage Component – 1950-60's
- Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Contemplates Massive Storage of Fresh Water - 2000
- Indian River Lagoon – South Project Implementation Report - 2003

# Northern Everglades



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- Florida Ranchlands Environmental Services Project (FRESP) - 2005
- Sponsored by World Wildlife Fund



## Upper East Coast

- Dispersed water storage / Water Farming upon abandoned groves post 2004 Canker Eradication Program
- Promoted by Indian River Citrus League

# **Just Add Water Initiating a Watershed Restoration Dialogue with Upper Kissimmee Basin Agricultural Landowners**

## **Sept 30, 2009**

- Sponsored by: Ocean Research & Conservation Association
- Fla. Cattlemen's Association
- Community Foundation for Palm Beach & Martin County
- Tetra Tech EC, Inc.
- Dean Mead





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## SFWMD Disbursed Water Management

- Northern Everglades Payment for Environmental Services – Solicitation  
December 2012
- Upper East Coast  
Water Farming Pilot project 2013
- Audubon Florida Video



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## Economics

- What is “Real” cost for WMD to store 1 acre foot of water in a Public Works Project vs. cost through Public – Private Partnership?
- Need a common currency

# Estimates For WMD conventional Public Works Project

- WMD - \$ ?
- IFAS - \$330/acre/foot\*
- Audubon - \$198-235/acre/foot\*\*

\*C43 Project – 2009 prepared by Ed Hanlon and John Capece

\*\*C44 Project – est. from Florida Audubon, but acknowledges operating costs est. at \$1M/yr are likely too low. Time value of \$?

## Closing

1. Time has come to seriously engage Agriculture as part of the solution?
2. P3 allows for more cost effective ways to address our infrastructure needs.
  - Land stays in Private Ownership and on local tax rolls
  - District & Fed Partners avoid full cost of CERP



3. Revenue stream creates liquidity to maintain generationally owned family farms
4. Layering opportunities for:
  - Water Supply
  - Water Quality
  - Endangered Species