



South Florida Water Management District

3301 Gun Club Road • P.O. Box 24680 • West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680 • (407) 686-8800 • FL WATS 1-800-432-2045

CON 06 RF:93054

December 14, 1992

Mr. Elmore Kerkela, Vice President
Arch Creek Trust, Inc.
8000 N.W. 185 Street
Hialeah, FL 33015

Dear Mr. Kerkela:

Receipt is acknowledged of your correspondence to Tilford Creel dated November 6, 1992. He has asked that I respond thereto. I have received a thorough briefing by our staff on past attempts to resolve the pollution problem in Arch Creek. I am encouraged to learn that Dade County DERMs representative, Mr. Dorian Valdez, has made recommendations to the Trust based on his two year investigation.

As you are aware, the District has made several attempts to control the duckweed problem in Arch Creek. On two separate occasions in 1989, the District stocked Arch Creek with Triploid Carps in an attempt to gain biological control. Prior to 1989, several unsuccessful attempts were made by both the District and community groups to mechanically harvest the duckweed.

The District has refrained from using chemical herbicides to comply with the wishes of the Arch Creek Trust even though herbicides used by the District in and around water are approved for aquatic application by both the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Since Arch Creek discharges its waters into Biscayne Bay, this pollution concern has been addressed by the Biscayne Bay SWIM plan by means of a contract between Dade County and the District to investigate, identify, and correct the point and non-point sources of pollution entering the Creek. Any consideration to remove the Arch Creek structure, G-58, is on hold pending the conclusion of the DERM investigation and an environmental impact study required by federal, state, and local agencies to determine the feasibility of this action.

The removal of standing Australian pines and subsequent revegetation may, however, be realized in the near future notwithstanding the results of the DERM investigation. In the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, the District has undertaken an aggressive program to eliminate the vegetation from its rights-of-ways which would potentially pose a threat to canal waterways when impacted by the force of hurricane winds. We will keep you apprised of our progress with this program. The District does not plan to undertake any other remedial action until DERM completes its investigation.

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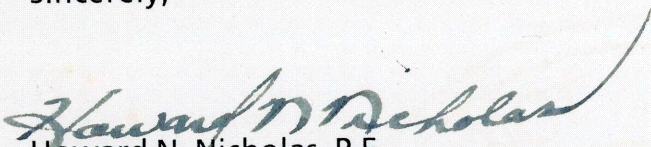
Tilford C. Creel, Executive Director
Thomas K. MacVicar, Deputy Executive Director

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By copy of this correspondence to Mr. Valdez, I am requesting that DERM communicate their recommendations to the District. I am confident that with the combined efforts of the Trust, Dade County DERM, and the District, a permanent resolution will be accomplished.

Sincerely,



Howard N. Nicholas, P.E.
Assistant Executive Director - Public Works

HNN/js

c: Dorian Valdez, Dade County DERM