

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources

**DATE:** April 13, 2006

**SUBJECT:** **Authorize acceptance of four conservation easements for mitigation banks permitted by Florida Department of Environmental Protection**

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval of the request to accept four conservation easements for mitigation banks permitted by Florida Department of Environmental Protection within the South Florida Water Management District.

### **Background**

Subsection 373.4136(1)(h), F.S., authorizes the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and water management districts to require mitigation banks provide reasonable assurance that it has sufficient legal or equitable interest in the property to ensure perpetual protection and management of the land within a mitigation bank. This requirement is met through the dedication of a conservation easement. The easement is required to be dedicated to both the FDEP and the water management district. Over the past few years, FDEP has issued several mitigation bank permits with the required easements. However, the District was not previously asked to officially accept these easements. This resolution is a request to accept the joint conservation easements for the following projects:

Florida Mitigation Bank	DEP Permit Number 492924779
Bear Point Mitigation Bank	DEP Permit Number 0175246-001
S.Dade Mitigation Bank Phase 1 (FPL)	DEP Permit Numbers 132622449/132637449
S. Dade Mitigation Bank Phase 2 (FPL)	DEP Permit Number 132622449

Staff recommends approval of the request to accept these four conservation easements for mitigation banks permitted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

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