

St. Marys River Management Committee
P.O. Box 251 Folkston, Georgia 31537

MINUTES OF MEETING
December 5, 2008

The St. Marys River Management Committee (SMRMC or committee) held its regularly scheduled meeting on December 5, 2008, at the White Oak Conservation Center in Yulee, Florida. Committee members and visitors in attendance are listed on a separate sheet. A quorum of members was not present.

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chairman Dean Woehrle called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. John Lukas, General Director at White Oak Conservation Center, welcomed the members and guests to White Oak, gave some opening remarks and recognized the efforts of the committee. Dean Woehrle then explained that tonight's meeting would include a presentation on the possibility of designating the St. Marys River as an Outstanding Florida Water (OFW). A representative from Baker, Nassau, Camden and Charlton counties spoke briefly about issues related to the river in their respective counties.

PRESENTATION

The keynote speaker for the evening was Tom Ankersen, Legal Skills Professor and Director of the Conservation Law Clinic at the University of Florida. He explained how the law clinic had been asked by the committee to research the possibility of an OFW designation for the St. Marys River, and how they anticipated the process moving over the next few months. He mentioned the opportunity to collaborate on the research for the project with his counterpart at the law clinic at the University of Georgia, Laurie Fowler. Ankersen then turned the meeting over to his graduate students John November, Rachel Mertz, and Kristianna Lindgren for the presentation on their research to date. Laurie Fowler, Managing Director and Director for Policy, River Basin Center of the Odum School of Ecology and School of Law at the University of Georgia spoke and then had Amy Walker, graduate student at UGA present information with a state of Georgia perspective.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to come before the committee.

The committee assembled to pose for pictures with the donations to the Toys for Tots campaign.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.