

April 10, 2007

Senator Burt Saunders, Chairman
Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee
325 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Senator Saunders:

On behalf of the 100-plus members of the Ixia Chapter (Duval, Nassau, Baker and Clay Counties) of the Florida Native Plant Society, we applaud your interest in the Ocklawaha River and want to thank you for scheduling a presentation on Rodman Reservoir by DEP before the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee on March 29th. We are delighted to learn of the estimated timelines DEP presented for the completion of scientific review by the St. Johns River Water Management District and contractors Post, Buckley, Schuh, and Jernigan. We will be interested to learn of their findings and hope they will provide the remaining information necessary to permit restoration.

Our organization remains committed to the restoration of the Ocklawaha River by breaching Rodman Dam. The effort to restore this river enjoys a broad base of support from across Florida; we thank you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Jake Ingram

Ixia Chapter Representative

CC: Senator Nan Rich, Vice-Chair
Senator Paula Dockery
Senator Don Gaetz
Senator Dennis Jones
Senator Charlie Justice