

Dear CHNEP Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Members and Interested Public:

At the last CHNEP TAC, there was a presentation by the Calusa Waterkeeper organization where they raised concerns that important CHNEP waterways, such as Matlacha Pass - a designated Outstanding Florida Waters that are to be protected from any degradation - being deemed impaired (not meeting its state water quality standards). Furthermore, they conveyed concerns as to whether a TMDL was being developed for it in a timely manner to curb the pollution and restore water quality - requesting CHNEP analyze and consider developing a potential position the topic. The presentation can be found on CHNEP website at https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/252fd8_a513218d32dc4201ab937f88112871b5.pdf

This presentation was followed by a discussion of the TAC, where the TAC indicated it would like to review all of the impaired waters in the CHNEP study area and their Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) development prioritization and status. Because a substantive discussion on the topic involved further research and having other subject matter experts present, it was decided that the item would be tabled until a special meeting of the CHNEP TAC could be convened when such resources were available.

Since then, CHNEP staff have compiled the necessary research and coordinated with subject matter expert presenters. We are now ready to schedule this meeting but participation by TAC members and key public stakeholders will be essential to make this effort worthwhile. Therefore, we request you fill out the following doodle poll by 5 pm this Friday (June 9th) with all dates you are available to join us for this important discussion. Here is the link to the poll: <https://doodle.com/poll/gte96ry4cd7kefpf>

Once we have those responses, we will then confirm the date/time in July and send a notice out to the entire TAC and other interested stakeholders, as well as post on the CHNEP website events calendar. We hope you will join us for this important discussion on water quality and the protection of water resources.

Thank you for your continued participation and support of the CHNEP,

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