

Catherine G. Riiska

Summary of Qualifications

- PWS (Professional Wetland Scientist) Certification # 2162; Environmental Scientist with experience in multiple applications, including wetland science, hydrology, water quality, and regulatory programs
- Master of Science Degree in Environmental Sciences, Soil and Water Science, Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology
- Member of Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS) and Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP)
- Certified Florida Master Naturalist (UF)
- Certified Stormwater Management Inspector, FDEP
- Extensive Knowledge of Wetland Ecology, SFWMD infrastructure, STA's, Water Quality and Regulatory Missions
- Mastery of GIS skills, including but not limited to map creation, modeling, interpolation, extrapolation, spatial analysis
- Knowledge of NELAC, FDEP, EPA, UMAM, SFWMD A.H., various F.S. and F.A.C.
- Experience in development review, code compliance, industrial water control, permitting, and analyses, including relevant DEP and EPA requirements and effluent monitoring

Work Experience

Principal Planner (May/2015 – current); Martin County – Growth Management Department

Development Review including Environmental Review and Special Projects. Evaluation of Major and Minor development applications for compliance with Martin County Code; Project Coordination duties involving internal development review team, external customers/applicants, and other governmental agencies; Report and Agenda creation and presentation to various advisory committees and the BOCC. Interdepartmental support as needed as a subject matter expert including comprehensive plan amendment and diverse County goals and processes, including litigation, regulation and environmental science-based issues.

Senior Planner (Feb/2014 – May/2015); Martin County – Growth Management Department

Development Review including Environmental Review and Special Projects. Wetland delineation and assessment. Evaluation of Major and Minor development applications for compliance with Martin County Code; Project Coordination duties involving internal development review team, external customers/applicants, and other governmental agencies; Report and Agenda creation and presentation to various advisory committees and the BOCC.

Environmental Analyst III (Jan/2013 – Feb/2014); **Environmental Analyst II** (Oct/2009 – Jan/2013)

South Florida Water Management District, WPB FL – Environmental Resource Permitting Division

Water use and ERP permit application/modification review; State Wetland delineation; Field wetland assessments including hydrological, biological, and water quality; In-situ soil analysis, hydric soil determinations; Seagrass and benthic resource surveying/mapping; Wetland monitoring program development and review; Wetland monitoring data assessment and reporting with extensive documentation; WRAP, WATER, and UMAM assessments; GIS, Google Earth, Multiple certifications and formalized training obtained:

Science Technician II (Dec/2007 – Oct/2009)

South Florida Water Management District, WPB FL – Water Quality Monitoring Division, Environmental Resources Assessment Dept. Environmental field sampling, surface water and autosampler sampling and sample processing; Field instrument use, maintenance, and troubleshooting; Extensive QA/QC performance and documentation; Marsh sampling including vegetation identification and survey; Multiple certifications and formalized training obtained:

OPS Technician / Graduate Student - University of Florida – Environmental Sciences (April/2005 – Dec/2007)

University of Florida, IRREC Ft. Pierce – AgroEcology Laboratory

Awarded Master of Science Degree in Environmental Sciences, Soil and Water Science

NELAC Environmental compliance, monitoring, and testing; Test method development; Establishment of standard operating procedures; Lab and lab supply maintenance and tracing; Extensive documentation and record keeping; reporting and procedural compliance with all local, state, and federal regulatory agencies including USDA-ARS, NELAC, FDEP.

Education:

Master of Science, Environmental Science, Soil and Water Science, UF

Bachelor of Science, Biology; Microbiology major, Chemistry minor, FAU

Publications

Nontarget Deposition and Losses of Chlorothalonil in Irrigation Runoff Water from a Commercial Foliage Plant Nursery. Journal of Environmental Quality 39:2130-2137.

Irrigation Water and Nitrate-nitrogen Loss Characterization in Southern Florida Nurseries: Cumulative Volumes, Runoff Rates, Nitrate-nitrogen Concentrations and Loadings, and Implications for Management. Hort Technology 20(2):325-330