

Proposed Amendment to Lee Plan Policy 14.1.5
CPA 2010-06
December 14, 2011 BoCC Adoption Hearing

Policy 14.1.5:

POLICY 14.1.5: New development, including "planned development" zoning approvals, new subdivisions, and agriculture, that adjoin state-designated aquatic preserves and associated wetlands and natural tributaries must preserve or create a 50-foot-wide native vegetated buffer area between the development and the waterbody or associated wetlands. This requirement will not apply to existing subdivided lots. For agriculture, this requirement:

- will be implemented through the notice-of-clearing process in chapter 14 of the Land Development Code;
- will include a requirement to use this area as a riparian forest buffer with an adjoining filter strip wherever farmland abuts wetlands; and
- if native vegetation does not currently exist, native tree cover will be established within three years of issuance of the notice of clearing.

The placement and width of the 50 foot vegetated buffer can be modified to accommodate development; however, the development must meet all of the following criteria:

- impact less than 1.5 acres of the associated wetlands; and,
- the impacted area must consist primarily of exotic vegetation; and,
- avoid all impacts to mangrove swamps and tidal flats (FLUCCS Code 612 and 651); and,
- be in the Urban Community Future Land Use Category; and,
- be a Planned Development.

In addition to the listed criteria, the development must create an onsite wetland area. The created wetland area must meet the following:

- must be a minimum of 1.5 square feet for each square foot of impacted associated wetlands; and,
- consist of 100 % native wetland species; and,
- consist of 6' wetland trees to be planted 15' on center and 3 gallon wetland shrubs planted 3' on center; and,
- maintain a hydrologic connection with the remaining preserved associated wetlands; and,
- the wetland creation area may be comprised of planted dry detention, filter marsh or other similar green infrastructure techniques; and,
- the created wetlands are not intended to replace any state or federal required offsite mitigation for permitted impacts to wetlands.