

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

September/01/2008 – November/30/2008

Chemical Characteristics of Ditch Cleanings in Florida

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1.0 OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this study is to determine the characteristics of ditch cleanings and recommend proper management practices to handles the wastes based on our results. The specific objectives are:

1. Collect representative and typical ditch cleaning samples throughout Florida;
2. Characterize the wastes chemically and physically including the contents of selected 503 metals and selected organic contaminants;
3. Evaluate the potential adverse impacts on water quality and most cost-effective ways of managing these wastes.

2.0 WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THIS PERIOD

1. Held two meetings to discuss the sampling strategy and progress
2. Made sampling trip to Gainesville City Public Works Department and collected samples from the stockpiles of ditch cleanings
3. Contacted the appropriate departments of different counties and cities and established contact-points/cooperators to obtain the samples.
4. Communicated with a total of 120 counties and cities, and established 70 cooperators who confirmed to cooperate in sampling activities.

3.0 WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING NEXT PERIOD

1. Prepare appropriate sampling protocols
2. Prepare information sheet to be filled out by the cooperators accompanying the samples
3. Send out the containers, sampling protocols, and information sheets to the cooperators
4. Wherever necessary go for sampling
5. Process the samples and preserve them properly for subsequent analyses