

## NOTE TO REVIEWERS

ACTION: Information Memorandum, Reimbursable Agreement, East Collier Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan, Collier County, Florida

STAFF ORIGINATOR: Rob Tawes, Supervisor, Division of Environmental Review, Ecological Services, South Atlantic-Gulf and Mississippi-Basin Regions

SUPERVISOR: John Tirpak, Deputy Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, South Atlantic-Gulf and Mississippi-Basin Regions

IS THE ACTION LITIGATION DRIVEN? No

IF SO, WHO SUED US AND WHEN? N/A

ANY COURT-ORDERED DEADLINES? No

ACTION REQUESTED:

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEW AND COMMENT \_\_\_\_\_  
FYI ONLY \_\_X\_\_

### **VERY BRIEF** BACKGROUND ON ISSUE/ACTION:

The East Collier Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is a controversial HCP involving potential take coverage of Florida Panther and eighteen other species.

Opponents of the plan have recently used several radio interviews and opinion pieces to attack the propriety of the reimbursable agreement between the Service and the East Collier applicants. This Briefing Paper provides some additional background on policies and procedures related to reimbursable agreements in general and its application to this HCP specifically.

HAVE APPROPRIATE SERVICE PROGRAMS REVIEWED AND SURNAMED?

Yes

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