

# TUWaterWays

Water News and More from the Tulane Institute on Water Resources  
Law & Policy  
July 18, 2019

## How About Some Fun?

Between Hurricane [Barry](#) and the [national media freak-out](#) about it, the Gulf Coast had a rough week last week. And, as much as we enjoyed New Orleans City Hall's [clapback](#), around here we could probably do with a bit of lightness. So, in the spirit of the [water-skiing squirrel](#), here we go:

If only we all had branding like [Chance the Snapper](#)! Congrats to the alligator in Chicago who was bestowed with [the best name possible](#); he is apparently on his way to a cushy life being fed chickens in a zoo. Additionally, a big congrats to the fellow from Florida who caught Chance; he is apparently [King of Chicago](#) now. Watch out, [Abe Froman](#)!

Holy schamomly! [Birds are photogenic](#)! Lucky for us, the best places to see them are [often where the water](#) is. Then again, bugs and fish and whatever else can be pretty [photogenic](#), too.

## Condolences, Thirsty Fort Lauderdaleiens(?)

It seems that someone busted open the main supply line bringing untreated water to the Fort Lauderdale water utility for processing. Now, the city (and some of its neighbors) will be without water for the next day or so. Seems like a good day to go to see a triple feature at the movie theatres – in Pompano Beach. Accidents happen, and, even if your city/county/utility has invested well in water and sewerage infrastructure (Fort Lauderdale's [hasn't](#)), sometimes issues are not the authority's fault.

However, what might give pause is one local's statement that the untreated well water pouring out of the broken main "[smelled like poop](#)." The future of South Florida is called into question not just by sea level rise and non-native reptiles, but by the ability to find [drinkable freshwater](#). If one of the region's largest city's wells already produce water that smells like poop, that isn't reassuring.

## How Long Until Someone Just Walks from Sierra Leone to Brazil?

That [little line on the Risk map](#) connecting North Africa to Brazil is getting stronger than ever. What are we going on about? Sargassum! The floating seaweed has always been a part of the North Atlantic ecosystem, providing the name for the Sargasso Sea and a home for [eels](#) and [the Lizard Men](#) alike. Now, sargassum seaweed is [blooming at levels never before seen across a belt of the Atlantic Ocean](#) stretching from West Africa through the Caribbean and into the Gulf of Mexico. The confluence of increased nutrients and temperatures seems to be playing a role in the record-setting blooms that might become the new normal – something residents of Caribbean islands where beaches are being covered by the stuff can't be glad to hear. If

The Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy is a program of the Tulane University Law School.

The Institute is dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation and understanding of the vital role that water plays in our society and of the importance of the legal and policy framework that shapes the uses and stewardship of water.

## Coming up:

[History on the Lake with the Lake](#)

[Pontchartrain Basin Foundation](#)

July 20, 2019; New Orleans, LA

[Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission Meeting](#)

August 1, 2019; New Orleans, LA

[Impacts of Oil Spills on Underdog Species](#)

August 13, 2019; Lacombe, LA

## Water jobs:

[Consortium Administrator](#)

LUMCON; Chauvin, LA

[Community Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator \(AmeriCorps\)](#)

Woodlands Conservancy; Belle Chasse, LA

[Water Resources Associate or Manager](#)

Metro Planning Council; Chicago, IL

[Vice President, Programs & Strategy](#)

US Water Alliance; Oakland, CA

[Postdoctoral Employee \(Water Resources Policy\)](#)

UC Irvine; Irvine, CA

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things [keep getting warmer](#) and the [Amazon rainforest keeps getting smaller](#), one can't help but envision a streak of settlements right across the ocean built on a raft of sargassum seaweed – like a [stinky](#) version of the [floating villages](#) of Lake Titicaca.

## Water: The Building Block of Life and a Foundational Aspect of the Human Experience. Naturally, it's Time to Get Rich!

Got a lot of money? Want some more? Seems as though [it's time to invest heavily in water](#). Yes, it takes expertise and capital to get water to the people who need it – and [an awful lot of people](#) need more than they're currently getting – but mightn't it strike the wrong note to be seeking huge profits in a line of work that is integral to basic human survival? On the other hand, people are selling [melted iceberg water for \\$90 a bottle, so who knows?](#)