

# AGENDA

**SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION  
JOINT WORKING GROUP (WG) AND SCIENCE COORDINATION GROUP (SCG) MEETING  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
Building B-1, Governing Board Auditorium  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
September 6, 2023**

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|---------------|--|---|
| 12:30 – 12:45 | <b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b><br><i>Purpose: To present the goals for the meeting and review administrative instructions.</i>  | James Erskine<br>WG Chair<br>Lawrence Glenn<br>SCG Chair<br>Adam Gelber<br>OERI   |
| 12:45 – 1:25  | <b>2. Member Whip-Around</b><br><i>Purpose: Each member will have the opportunity to provide brief introductory remarks and announcements.</i>   |   |
| 1:25 – 1:30   | <b>3. Approval of Meeting Summary</b><br><i>Purpose: The summary from the May 2023 meeting is being presented for member approval.</i>   | James Erskine<br>WG Chair   |
| 1:30 – 1:50   | <b>4. Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives (OERI)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>• Cross Cut Budget and Integrated Financial Plan (IFP) Status Update</b><br/><i>Purpose: The Fiscal Year 2024 Cross-Cut Budget provides coordinated budget requests for the Everglades ecosystem restoration effort in south Florida with information provided by both federal and state agencies represented on the Task Force. The 2023 Integrated Financial Plan provides detailed project sheets for federal, state, Tribal, and local government restoration projects that contribute to the accomplishment of the Task Force's three strategic goals.</i></li><li><b>• Implementing Sec. 504, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020 – Invasive Species Risk Assessment, Prioritization and Management</b><br/><i>Purpose: WRDA 2020 directs the Task Force to develop a priority list of invasive species that significantly impact the structure and function of ecological communities, native species, or habitats within the South Florida Ecosystem. Using guidance issued by the Task Force and the WG/SCG, the OERI is facilitating a team of experts to accomplish this task.</i></li></ul> | Adam Gelber<br>OERI<br><br>Carrie Beeler<br>OERI<br>Christina Romagosa<br>UF/IFAS |

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| 1:50 – 2:05 | <p><b>5. Florida’s Coral Reef Coordination Team (FCRCT)</b><br/><i>Purpose: The FCRCT was created under the WG to coordinate management and restoration-related activities to conserve and restore Florida’s Coral Reef and ensure enhanced integration with the water management and restoration activities taking place upstream in the watershed throughout the South Florida Ecosystem. An update on the team’s activities will be provided.</i></p>              | Wes Brooks<br>FCRCT Chair<br>Erik Stabenau<br>FCRCT Vice Chair |
| 2:05 – 2:25 | <p><b>6. USACE Program and Project Update</b><br/><i>Purpose: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will provide an update on restoration planning, design, construction, and operations projects.</i></p>   | Eva Velez<br>USACE   |
| 2:25 – 2:40 | <p><b>Break</b></p>   |  |
| 2:40 – 3:00 | <p><b>7. SFWMD Program and Project Update</b><br/><i>Purpose: The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design, and construction.</i></p>   | Mindy Parrott<br>SFWMD   |
| 3:00 – 3:20 | <p><b>8. Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS)</b><br/><i>Purpose: The IDS provides the roadmap for sequencing, planning, design, and construction of both federal and state projects related to Everglades restoration. The current IDS will be presented for member input.</i></p>   | Tabitha Elkington<br>USACE                                     |
| 3:20 – 3:40 | <p><b>9. Restoration COordination and VERification (RECOVER)</b><br/><i>Purpose: RECOVER is a multi-agency team of scientists, modelers, planners, and resource specialists who organize and apply scientific and technical information to ensure Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) implementation is guided by the best available science. The presentation will focus on products from the July SCG Sponsored Monitoring Inventory Workshop.</i></p> | Jenna May<br>USACE   |
| 3:40 – 4:00 | <p><b>10. Second Periodic CERP Update</b><br/><i>Purpose: Periodic CERP updates are conducted to ensure the goals and purposes of the Plan are achieved with new or updated modeling that includes the latest available scientific, technical, and planning information. The first update was conducted in 2005.</i></p>  | Eva Velez<br>USACE<br>Jennifer Reynolds<br>SFWMD               |

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4:00 – 4:15

**11. Independent Scientific Review Panel  
Memorandum of Agreement Extension Request**

Gina Ralph  
USACE

**Purpose:** *A Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of the Army, represented by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), the U.S. Department of the Interior, represented by the Director of the Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives, and the State of Florida, represented by the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of establishing an Independent Scientific Review Panel to be convened by a body such as the National Academy of Sciences, for reviewing the progress of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan towards achieving the natural system restoration goals of the Plan expires November 17, 2025. A 4-year extension is requested and must be executed no later than November 17, 2024.*

4:15 – 4:35

**Public Comment**

4:35 – 4:40

**Next Steps and Closing Comments**

4:40

**Adjourn**

**Working Group Duties:** *To assist the Task Force in providing intergovernmental coordination, exchanging information, facilitating the resolution of conflict, assisting members, and promoting public participation.*

**Science Coordination Group Duties:** *To assist the Task Force in providing intergovernmental coordination of the programmatic scientific aspects of restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem.*

Updated 9/01/23