

DRAFT AGENDA

SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION JOINT WORKING GROUP (WG) AND SCIENCE COORDINATION GROUP (SCG) MEETING Virtual ZOOM

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2FqUaEOGQMSJC5flqX9Glq

Thursday, July 7, 2022

9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

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| 9:30 – 9:45 | 1. Welcome and Introductions
<i>Purpose:</i> To present the goals for the meeting and review administrative instructions. | James Erskine
WG Chair
Lawrence Glenn
SCG Chair
Adam Gelber
OERI |
| 9:45 – 10:15 | 2. Member Whip-Around
<i>Purpose:</i> Each member will have the opportunity to provide brief introductory remarks and announcements. | |
| 10:15 – 10:20 | 3. Approval of Meeting Summary
<i>Purpose:</i> The summary from the September 2021 meeting are being presented for member approval. | James Erskine
WG Chair |
| 10:20 – 10:35 | 4. Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives (OERI) Update
<i>Purpose:</i> The Director of OERI will provide an overview of the May 3, 2022, Task Force meeting. A status update will also be provided on the Task Force reports. | Adam Gelber
OERI |
| 10:35 – 10:55 | 5. SFWMD Program and Project Update
<i>Purpose:</i> The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design, and construction. In addition to moving forward with features within the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) Program, the SFWMD also manages the Restoration Strategies Program, a suite of projects created to improve water quality in America's Everglades. | Mindy Parrott
SFWMD |
| 10:55 – 11:15 | 6. USACE Program and Project Update
<i>Purpose:</i> The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will provide an update on restoration planning, design, and construction projects. | Eva Velez
USACE |

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- 11:15 – 11:30 **7. Western Everglades Restoration Plan (WERP) Update**
- Purpose: The goals of WERP are to improve the quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of water in the Western Everglades to re-establish ecological connectivity, reduce the severity and frequency of wildfires, and restore low nutrient conditions. The study area covers approximately 1,200 square miles. WERP is a component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), which was authorized under the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2000. Once authorized, WERP will improve the quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of water in the western Everglades. The Tentatively Selected Plan and remaining schedule will be reviewed.*
- Steve Baisden
USACE
Joanna Weaver
SFWMD
- 11:30 - 11:50 **8. Restoration Coordination and Verification (RECOVER) Reporting Integration**
- Purpose: RECOVER ensures CERP implementation is guided by the best available science. This presentation will focus on how the RECOVER Monitoring and Assessment Plan informs ecosystem restoration and other data applications.*
- Amanda Kahn
SFWMD
- 11:50 – 12:10 **9. Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS)**
- 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.*
- Eva Velez
USACE
- 12:10 – 12:30 **Public Comment**
- 12:30 – 1:00 **Lunch Break**
- 1:00 – 1:20 **10. Florida's Coral Reef Coordination Team**
- Purpose: Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) have developed a draft charter for the proposed team that would be housed under the WG. The team would seek 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.*
- James Erskine
FWC
Wes Brooks
FDEP

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1:20 – 2:00

11. WRDA 2020 - Invasive Species Risk Assessment Prioritization and Management

Adam Gelber
OERI

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. The Task Force member agencies are directed to manage those species through coordination and collaboration to develop innovative strategies and tools, guide applied research, facilitate improved management, and to prevent future introductions of nonnative species. At its May 2022 meeting, the Task Force directed the WG, SCG and OERI to implement the direction in WRDA 2020 and develop a priority list of species, using the described requirements. OERI will present a proposed path forward and each individual member will be asked to comment on the draft process, deliverables, and team membership.*

2:00 – 2:20

Public Comment

2:20 – 2:30

Next Steps and Closing Comments

2:30

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 7/01/22