

Meeting Summary

Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRCT)

DECEMBER 07, 2016 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

RSMAS 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149 > Library map room

Conference line 1- 302-202-1108; Participant Passcode 803454

11:00am–11:15 am Welcome and SELF-Introductions

11:15 am -12:00 pm **DISCUSSION**; current BISBAY issues / future BBRRCT topics / speakers

Questions about preserves. BBCW-draft of the IDS schedule-I-31

Climate change update at Jan meeting

Jan 5-7 Ever coalition in Sanibel

Jan 20 Deering estate meeting to talk about the Bay

Bayologist camp at Deering Estates

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **Lunch (no working lunch)**

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm **Speaker:** Laura Lightbody (PEW CHARITABLE TRUST)

LECTURE: “Living Shorelines: Federal barriers to Implementation”

Focused on federal policy. Goal protect flood prone areas, conserve natural areas save taxpayers \$. Reform National flood insurance program. Increasing federal investment in programs that help communities prepare for and reduce risk of floods. Improve resiliency and durability. We have over 44 Natural disaster 35 of which of flood related. Hurricane Mathew and others highlight the need to find solutions for flood related disasters. Nature-based solutions provide cost effective and flexible alternatives to increase resiliency. Washington is starting to take notice.

June 1st USACE Living Shorelines NWPB to reduce erosion and other issues. This is the 1st time for a nation wide general permit. PEW is supportive. Current regulatory environment is burdensome to natural shoreline implementation. An overall permit would expedite the process and reduce paperwork. 2 relevant NWP13 and 27 both are bank stabilizations but living shorelines don't meet the requirements (mostly). Finalization due by March 2017.

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm **Speaker** Rachel Gittman (Northeastern University) **LECTURE:** “Are we designing functional and resilient coasts? The socio-ecological consequences of shoreline hardening”

Shoreline Hardening coupled with planting. How big of an issue is this? Local or broad scale ecological effect? The map shows that cool colors are not as hardened as warm. South Florida has high hardening rate. More housing and development =more hardening. Of 14% of US hardened by as much as 95% or more. Yes it is national and global issues especially on the estuarine side. Global meta-analysis that

compares each kind of hardening: seawalls bulkheads; riprap revetments; breakwaters. Studied Biodiversity and abundance for: flora, epibiota ; birds; nekton, benthic fauna. Seawalls have a significant negative effect but the riprap and breakwater had smaller or no change or positive change in both biodiversity and abundance. Significant declines were noted particularly when vegetation was replaced with a bulkhead.

“How does the habitat provided by living shoreline compare to the habitat provided by natural or seawall/bulkheads”

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Speaker Gregg Guanell TNC (Chris Berg)

LECTURE: “Coastal Resilience in South Florida - What is possible”

The idea is to create a living seawall with the existing one behind it. Nature's Role in South Florida coastal resilience: What is possible? Can Nature Help us?

Worked with SEFL Regional Climate Change Compacts shoreline. Natural coastal defenses; minimize erosion and absorb flood impacts, protecting assets. Loss of coral increases vulnerability. Loss of shoreline natural increases vulnerability. Lower keys example show the difference in wave heights in coral versus no coral reefs.

Vegetative shorelines provide multitudes of benefits. He went over the SLAMM Outputs about the accretion rates of the mangroves versus SL rise.

Miami-Dade Resilient Action Design-Wagner Creek Green Spaces. Lots of transit, Healthcare facilities, private and public workforce: little canopy or public spaces

Capt. Dan Kipnis-City of Miami said that the Corps did not like the plans they are going to build a 2.5 ft wall outside the wall. City won't fight, instead go back later and change to a living shoreline. Too bad.

Irela B-New member for Chamber of commerce.