

SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE

DRAFT Agenda

U.S. Department of the Interior

Yates Auditorium

1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240

July 25, 2018

Task Force Role: *The intergovernmental South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force was created by the Congress in 1996 to provide the long-term strategic coordination of efforts to restore the 18,000 square mile South Florida Ecosystem. Its duties are to provide intergovernmental coordination, review project plans for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), exchange information, facilitate the resolution of conflict, coordinate programmatic science, assist members in their restoration activities, report on restoration progress, and promote public participation.*

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| 10:00 – 10:10 | 1. Welcome, Goals for the Meeting and Administrative Items
<i>Purpose:</i> The agenda will be presented and administrative items will be reviewed. | Susan Combs
Drew Bartlett |
| 10:10 – 10:30 | 2. Task Force Member Introductions and Opening Remarks
<i>Purpose:</i> Each member has the option of providing brief introductory remarks at this time. | ALL |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | 3. Leadership Appointments and Updates
<i>Purpose:</i> The Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives (OERI) will present the charter procedures for agency and tribal representation appointments to the Working Group (WG) and Science Coordination Group (SCG). Recommendations for Chair and Vice Chair of the WG and SCG will be presented for Task Force appointment. The Chairs of the WG and SCG will brief the Task Force on their current and future 2018 activities. | Kevin Burger
WG Chair
SCG Chair |
| 10:50 – 11:10 | 4. 2018 Task Force Reporting Requirements
<i>Purpose:</i> OERI will provide an overview of the Task Force's 2018 reports. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategy: Responds to Congressional direction (House Conference Report 106-479) to outline how the restoration effort will occur.• Biennial Report: Restoration progress report required by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996.• Integrated Financial Plan: Annual report with detailed restoration project information that supplements the Biennial Report; required by WRDA 1996.• System-wide Ecological Indicators Report: Assesses current ecosystem health and tracks ecosystem response to restoration. | Allyn Childress
Nick Aumen |
| 11:10 – 11:25 | 5. Lake Okeechobee: Herbert Hoover Dike Construction / Water Management
<i>Purpose:</i> The Herbert Hoover Dike is a 143-mile earthen dam that surrounds Lake Okeechobee, the heart of the Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades system. It reduces impacts from flooding as a result of high lake levels for a large area of south Florida. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has made significant investment in projects designed to reduce the risk of catastrophic failure of the aging structure. The Corps will provide an update on construction efforts and water management in accordance with the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule. | Tim Murphy
LTC Jennifer Reynolds |
| 11:25 – 11:50 | 6. Corps Program and Project Update
<i>Purpose:</i> The Corps will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design and construction. | Howie Gonzales |

11:50 – 12:10	<p>7. SFWMD Program and Project Update</p> <p><i>Purpose: The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design and construction.</i></p>	Megan Jacoby
12:10 – 12:30	<p>General Public Comment</p> <p><i>Purpose: Opportunity for input and feedback on the preceding agenda items.</i></p>	
12:30 – 1:30	<p>Lunch Break</p> <p><i>Note: Bison Bistro, the DOI cafeteria, is located on the basement level.</i></p>	
1:30 – 2:00	<p>8. Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) – Post Authorization Change Report Update</p> <p><i>Purpose: The SFWMD will review the Tentatively Selected Plan for the Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir for the CEPP Post Authorization Change Report. Update will include next steps.</i></p>	Eva Velez
2:00 – 2:15	<p>9. Tamiami Trail Next Steps, Phase 2 Update</p> <p><i>Purpose: In early 2017, the National Park Service (NPS) began examining options for reconstructing the remaining lower portions of the eastern Tamiami Trail roadway through a partnership with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) also began work on a parallel study in early 2018. The NPS/FHWA/FDOT are continuing efforts to develop an optimized approach to complete the remaining roadway reconstruction and supplemental conveyance features. The ongoing planning for Phase 2 of the Tamiami Trail Next Steps project will be discussed. Completion of this project is a requirement prior to fully implementing the Central Everglades Planning Project and related CERP initiatives. The NPS will provide an update.</i></p>	Bob Johnson
2:15 – 2:35	<p>10. Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS) Update</p> <p><i>Purpose: The IDS provides the roadmap for sequencing, planning, design and construction of both federal and state projects related to Everglades restoration. The Corps will provide an update.</i></p>	Kim Taplin
2:35 – 2:50	<p>11. National Academies Report Update</p> <p><i>Purpose: Consistent with the requirements of WRDA 2000, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of Interior and the Governor of Florida established an independent review panel through the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP) was asked to present a report every two years on CERP progress. A status update will be provided by the National Academies on “Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades, The Seventh Biennial Review, 2018” due in the fall.</i></p>	Stephanie Johnson
2:50 – 3:10	<p>General Public Comment</p> <p><i>Purpose: Opportunity for input and feedback on the preceding agenda items.</i></p>	
3:10 – 3:15	<p>12. Assignments, Next Steps and Closing Comments</p>	Susan Combs Drew Bartlett
3:15	<p>Adjourn</p>	Updated 7/13/18