

AGENDA

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

South Florida Water Management District
Building B-1, Governing Board Auditorium
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
December 4, 2019

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| 10:00 – 10:15 | <p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> To present the goals for the meeting. The goals include conducting regular business (approval of the draft minutes from the September 2019 meeting) and providing updates on current and planned WG/SCG activities. Each member will have the opportunity to provide some brief introductory remarks.</p> | James Erskine, FWC
Nick Aumen, USGS
Bob Johnson, NPS
Susan Gray, SFWMD |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | <p>2. Director's Report</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> To provide the members with a summary of the October Task Force meeting with an emphasis on assignments related to the Western Everglades Restoration Project (WERP), Integrated Delivery Schedule and to also introduce a new effort to identify the top 5 Task Force action items and ways to work through obstacles/issues associated with those items.</p> | Adam Gelber, OERI |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | <p>3. WG and SCG Priorities Update</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> A status update will be provided on two of the WG and SCG priorities that are currently underway: System-wide Ecological Indicators and Invasive Exotic Species (IES). Interviews are being conducted to determine the policy-level utility of the Indicator report ahead of the technical assessment of the indicators. The IES Strategic Action Framework is being updated to reflect progress made since the report was first issued in 2015.</p> | Allyn Childress |
| 10:50 – 11:05 | <p>4. SFWMD Program and Project Update</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> The SFWMD will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design and construction. Presentation will focus on progress made since the June 2019 update.</p> | Megan Jacoby |
| 11:05 – 11:20 | <p>5. USACE Program and Project Update</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> The USACE will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design and construction. Presentation will focus on progress made since the June 2019 update.</p> | Howie Gonzales |

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- 11:20 – 11:35 **6. National Research Council (NRC) Report Update** Bob Johnson
Purpose: Consistent with the requirements of WRDA 2000, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Interior and the Governor of Florida established an independent review panel through the NRC. The Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP) was asked to provide a report on CERP progress every two years. A status update of CISRERP's report 'Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades, The Eighth Biennial Review, 2020' will be provided.
- 11:35 – 11:50 **7. 2020 Task Force Reporting Requirements** Kevin Burger
Purpose: To review the schedule for updating the Task Force reports including the Strategy (a more static document), Biennial Report (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020), Integrated Financial Plan (annually) and the Cross-Cut Budget (annually).
- 11:50 – 12:05 **8. CERP 2020 Report to Congress** Eva Velez
Purpose: Section 601 of WRDA 2000 requires that the Secretaries of the Army and the Interior jointly submit a Report to Congress not less than every five years on the implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). This will be the fourth Report to Congress detailing the progress made over the last five-year reporting period (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020) on the implementation of CERP. The goal of this agenda item is to update the WG and SCG on the process which is being kicked off by the Corps.
- 12:05 – 12:20 **Public Comment**
- 12:20 – 1:20 **Lunch Break**

Workshop Session

- 1:20 – 1:50 **9. Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS)** Adam Gelber
James Erskine
Bob Johnson
Purpose: At the October 2019 Task Force meeting there were concerns raised regarding the IDS and how potential changes in funding would impact the schedule. The Task Force directed OERI to work with the WG and SCG to look at the IDS with multiple funding options, determine the implications of higher or lower funding and how best to communicate that information. This is intended to be a brainstorming session to discuss how best to complete this task.

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1:50 – 2:50 **10. Task Force’s Top 5 Action Items** Adam Gelber
James Erskine
Bob Johnson
***Purpose:** At its October 2019 meeting, the Task Force directed OERI to work with the WG and SCG to develop a list of top 5 Task Force action items and ways to work through obstacles/issues associated with those items. This is intended to be a brainstorming session to begin identifying those action items.*

2:50 – 3:05 **Public Comment**

End of Workshop Session

3:05 – 3:15 **Next Steps and Closing Comments** James Erskine, FWC
Nick Aumen, USGS
Bob Johnson, NPS
Susan Gray, SFWMD

3:15 **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 12/03/19