



SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE



LEADERSHIP • PARTNERSHIP • RESULTS

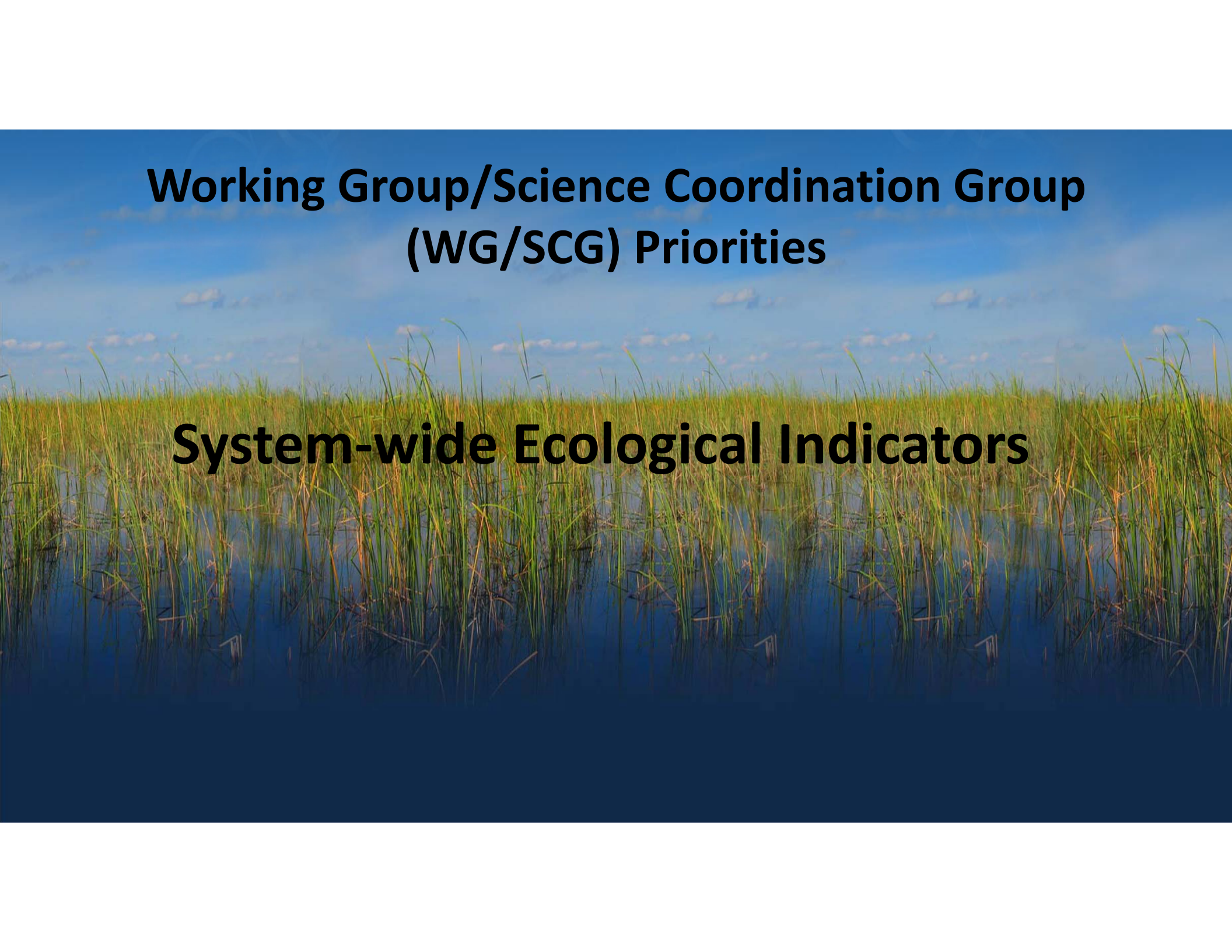
Working Group/Science Coordination Group Priorities - Update

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Working Group/Science Coordination Group (WG/SCG) Priorities

- Focus is currently on two of the more intensive efforts:
 - System-wide Ecological Indicators
 - Invasive Exotic Species
- A progress update was provided to the Task Force at their October 29, 2019 meeting.

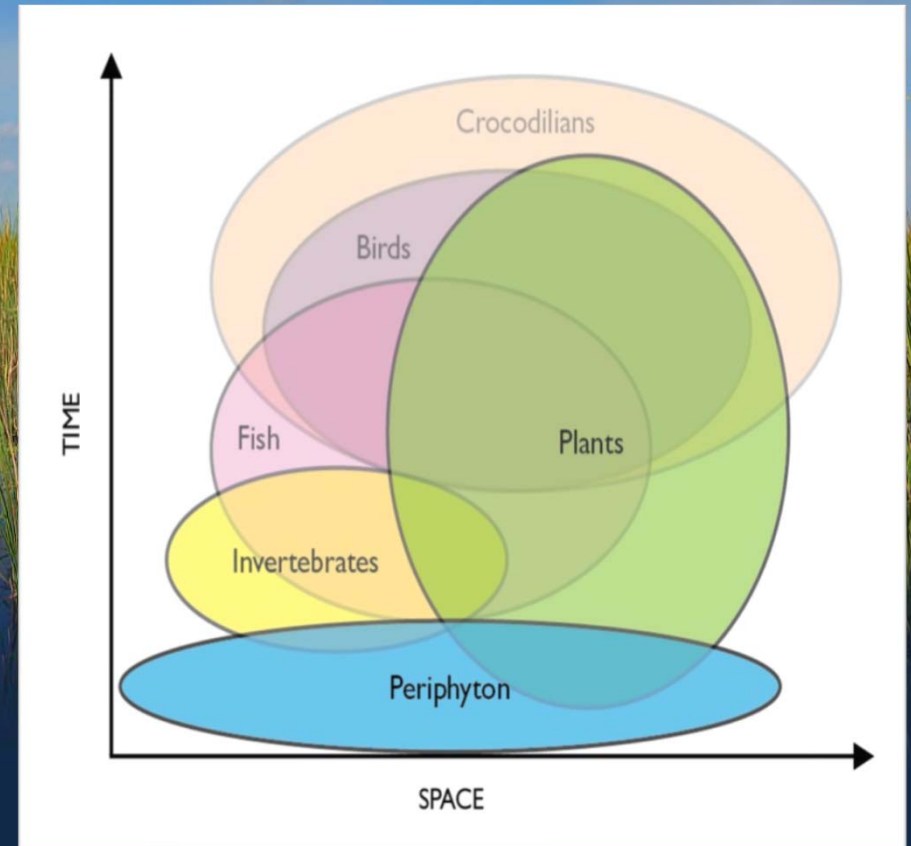


**Working Group/Science Coordination Group
(WG/SCG) Priorities**

System-wide Ecological Indicators

System-wide Ecological Indicators

- **Priority:** Review/update the system-wide ecological indicators.
- **Background:** The current suite of indicators were chosen based upon their collective ability to comprehensively reflect ecosystem response in terms of space and time.
- **Task:** Assess the current indicators to determine whether they are still appropriate, have sufficient data, cover the right geographic area, are able to detect trends, etc.
- **Timeframe:** Will be updated in the 2022 Biennial Report.



System-wide Ecological Indicators

- Before assessing technical issues, must answer basic policy questions:
 - How is the report being used?
 - How can we improve its utility?
- **Current Effort: One-on-one Policy-Level Interviews**
 - To obtain feedback regarding the purpose and utility of the current Biennial Report's Indicator section.
 - To assess the perceived value (benefits and needs) of the current reporting.


System-wide Ecological Indicators

- **Next Steps:**

- Utilize information from policy-level interviews to help frame an SCG-sponsored indicator technical workshop (April 2020)
- Workshop would include current indicator leads as well as indicator experts and other scientists.
- WG/SCG leadership working with OERI on details including USGS support regarding workshop funding and logistics.

- **Points of Contact:**

- Laura Brandt, USFWS, Laura_Brandt@fws.gov
- Allyn Childress, OERI, Allyn_Childress@evergladesrestoration.gov

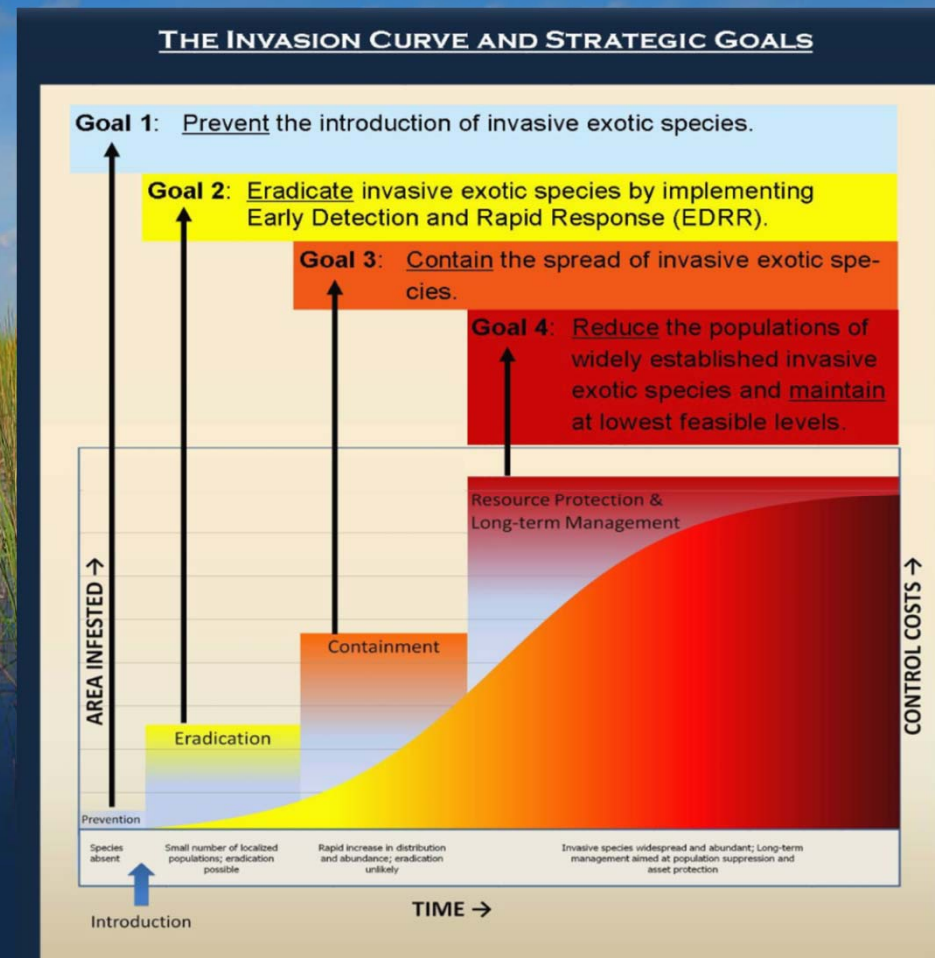


Working Group/Science Coordination Group (WG/SCG) Priorities

Invasive Exotic Species

Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework

- **Priority:** Review/update the Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework.
- **Background:** 2015 document.
 - Goals based on the 4 phases of the Invasion Curve.
 - Case Studies for each phase.
 - Preliminary Action Assessment that prioritized specific strategies and actions.
 - Single-year Cross Cut Budget.
- **Timeframe:** Summer 2020



Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework

Current Effort: Conducting teleconferences/webinars with agency IES experts.

- Agreement on maintaining the existing Framework structure and 4 goals based on the Invasion Curve.
- Prevention section may have additional strategies upon review of other documents.
- Case Studies will focus on program and landscape-level activities instead of restricting them to specific invasive species.
 - e.g. EIRAMP/I've Got One hotline and long-term management plans between the state and agricultural partners.
- Highlight partnership activities in the Case Studies or within the document.
- Partnerships already improving through coordination of this update.
 - e.g. Training highway maintenance personnel regarding IES identification.

Invasive Exotic Species

- **Next Steps:**

- Sending out requests to begin Case Study revisions/development
- Reviewing the 2015 Preliminary Action Assessment
 - Identifying successes and progress made since 2015
 - Identifying current needs and priorities
- Preparing for the Task Force meeting in April 2020

- **Points of Contact:**

- Carrie Beeler, OERI, Carrie_Beeler@evergladesrestoration.gov
- Allyn Childress, OERI, Allyn_Childress@evergladesrestoration.gov



QUESTIONS?