

SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE

Agenda

North Collier Regional Park Exhibit Hall
15000 Livingston Road
Naples, Florida 34109
June 1, 2023

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.*

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:45 – 10:00 | 1. Welcome, Goals for the Meeting and Administrative Items
<i>Purpose:</i> The agenda and meeting summary from the October 2022 meeting will be presented for approval. Administrative items will also be reviewed. | Tanya Trujillo
Chair
Shawn Hamilton
Vice Chair |
| 10:00 - 10:40 | 2. Task Force Member Introductions and Opening Remarks
<i>Purpose:</i> Each member has the option of providing brief introductory remarks. | ALL |
| 10:40 – 11:10 | 3. Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives (OERI) Director's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementing Sec. 504, Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020 – Invasive Species Risk Assessment, Prioritization and Management
<i>Purpose:</i> 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. Using guidance issued by the Task Force and the WG/SCG, the OERI is facilitating a team of experts to accomplish this task. A progress update will be provided. | Adam Gelber
OERI

Carrie Beeler
OERI |
| 11:10 – 11:50 | 4. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program and Project Update
<i>Purpose:</i> The USACE will provide an update on restoration planning, design, construction, and operations projects. Update will include an overview of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) program, Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual, and the Integrated Delivery Schedule.• Western Everglades Restoration Project
<i>Purpose:</i> An update on the progress and status of the formulation of the recommended plan will be provided. | Eva Velez
USACE |

Continued – June 1, 2023

11:50 – 12:10	5. South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Program and Project Update <i>Purpose: The SFWMD will provide an update on ongoing restoration planning, design, and construction.</i>	Melinda Parrott SFWMD
12:10 – 12:40	Public Comment	
12:40 – 2:00	Lunch Break	
2:00 – 2:20	6. REstoration COordination and VERification (RECOVER) Update <i>Purpose: To provide an update on RECOVER’S strategy to update the Monitoring and Assessment Plan and how RECOVER’s efforts can be leveraged by the SCG to develop a South Florida Science Plan. RECOVER is a multi-agency team of scientists, modelers, planners, and resource specialists who organize and apply scientific and technical information to ensure Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) implementation is guided by the best available science.</i>	Gina Ralph USACE
2:20 – 2:40	7. National Research Council (NRC) Report <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 NRC. The Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP) was asked to present a report every two years on CERP progress. A summary of CISRERP’s report ‘Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades, The Ninth Biennial Review, 2022’ will be provided. An update will also be provided on CISRERP’s Tenth Biennial Review, 2024, which was kicked-off in May.</i>	Stephanie Johnson National Academy of Sciences
2:40 – 3:00	8. Report on Working Group (WG) and Science Coordination Group (SCG) Activities <i>Purpose: A progress update will be provided by the Chairs of the WG and SCG on the priorities, activities, and accomplishments since the October 2022 Task Force meeting, including that of the recently formed Florida’s Coral Reef Coordination Team.</i>	James Erskine WG Chair Lawrence Glenn SCG Chair
3:00 – 3:30	Public Comment	
3:30 – 3:45	Assignments, Next Steps and Closing Comments	Tanya Trujillo Chair
3:45	Adjourn Social	

Updated 05/30/23