Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team

Tropical Audubon Doc Thomas House
5530 Sunset Drive
Miami, FL 33143

March 19, 2014

Attendees
Pamela Sweeney
Phil Everingham
Sarah Bellmund
Inger Hansen (by phone)
Joan Browder
Stephen Blair
Nancy Diersing
Susan Shapiro
Patrick Pitts (by phone)
Tom Jackson
Matt Morrison (by phone)
Alyssa Barton

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
   Phil Everingham, Chairman of the BBRRCT, called the meeting to order and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Discussion on Invasive Species: Potential Impacts on Human Health as well as Flora & Fauna in Biscayne Bay**
   The scheduled presenter, Dr. Peter Swart (UM RSMAS) was unable to attend the meeting to give a presentation on African dust and its potential connection to algal blooms. BBRRCT Alternate Tom Jackson of NOAA led a discussion on invasive species and their potential impacts on human health as well as their impacts on flora and fauna in Biscayne Bay.

3. **Biscayne Bay Water Needs Report to the Working Group/Discussion**
   The ad hoc team consists of Steve Blair as chair, Matt Morrison, Inger Hansen, Sarah Bellmund, and Joan Browder. The Team was unable to meet and draft a consensus paper prior to this March BBRRCT Meeting. Any paper needs to be a consensus draft of the entire ad hoc team; the consensus draft must then be approved by the BBRRCT. The purpose and use of the paper have not yet been determined. Members of the Team brought up questions concerning the purpose,

scope, goals and objectives of such a paper as well as a schedule for drafting. Steve Blair is sending out a doodle poll to determine team availability for a meeting.

4. **Presentation on a Persistent Bloom of Anadyomenaceae, Chlorophyta**

   Dr. Collado-Vides (FIU) gave a presentation to the Team regarding a persistent bloom of *Anadyomene Lamouroux* Species (Anadyomenaceae, Chlorophyta) in Biscayne Bay. This species was first detected in 2002. Current thinking is that it is a new species. It was detected through monitoring by Miami-Dade DERM. It is entirely marine; not tolerant of freshwater. Results of a molecular analysis indicate that the bloom is composed of two species: *Anadyomene stellata* and a diminutive perforate underdetermined species, *Anadyomene* sp., potentially representing an introduction in the area. The spatial distribution of the bloom, which has persisted from 2005 through 2012, is restricted to the central inshore section of the Bay, an area affected by canals and groundwater discharges. The persistent 75% cover reported for several sites, has caused significant negative impacts to seagrass beds. This bloom occurring adjacent to metropolitan Miami, adds to the world trend of increasing green macroalgal blooms occurring at enriched coastal waters. These materials are contained in a paper entitled ***Aquatic Botany*** provided by Dr. Collado-Vides; it is posted on the web at: http://www.sfrestore.org/rrct/bbay/meetings/2014_meetings/031914/AquaticBotany.pdf

5. The BBRRCT approved the Report to the Working Group.
6. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.