

# **Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team**

**NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC)  
Statistics Building (rear of main building) Conference Room  
75 Virginia Beach Drive  
Miami, FL 33149**

**May 21, 2014**

## **Attendees**

Pamela Sweeney  
Phil Everingham  
Joan Browder  
Stephen Blair  
Nancy Diersing  
Sarah de Fusco  
Jeffrey Mullins  
Dan Kipnis  
Sarah Bellmund  
Susan Shapiro (by phone)  
Patrick Pitts (by phone)  
Lisa Krinsky  
Mark Bailey  
Greg Bush  
Craig Grossenbacher  
Don Pybas  
Ania Wachnicka  
Spencer Crowley  
Jacob Brillhart  
Melissa Brillhart  
John de Olazarra  
Morgan Rowland  
Andrea Viglucu (sp?)  
Patricia Meorui (sp?)

## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

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

**2. Waterfront Master Planning in Miami-Dade County:**

T. Spencer Crowley III, an attorney with Akerman LLP and the Miami-Dade County representative to the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) gave a presentation and led a discussion of Biscayne Bay related FIND activities. The FIND is the local sponsor of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway in Florida. The FIND manages the Intracoastal Waterway from Miami to the Florida/Georgia line and provides grants to local governments for waterfront improvement projects. The FIND assists local governments in preparing and implementing a Comprehensive Maritime Master Plan. He also discussed the Waterfront Plan in Miami-Dade County along with proposed waterfront plans in Miami.

(Note: This presentation can be found can be found on the Task Force Web Site at [http://www.sfrestore.org/rrct/bbay/documents/bbrrct\\_handouts\\_past\\_052114.html](http://www.sfrestore.org/rrct/bbay/documents/bbrrct_handouts_past_052114.html) )

**3. On the Waterfront: Miami's Fifteen Mile Promenade::**

Dr. Jacob Brillhart, Architect and Assistant Professor at the University of Miami, discussed the overall vision for a completed 15 mile Baywalk and Riverwalk including the Miami River Commission's Miami Greenway Plan for the 5.5 mile length of the Riverwalk.

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**4. Diatoms Blooms in Biscayne Bay:**

Dr. Ania Wachnicka, Southeast Environmental Research Center (SERC) & Department of Biology at the Florida International University, gave a presentation on Diatom Blooms in Biscayne Bay. Included in the presentation were statistics on the human population growth in Miami-Dade County from 1900 to 2000, effects of coastal population growth on the Biscayne Bay Ecosystem, a discussion of causes of harmful algal blooms along with the most severe effects of harmful algal blooms, a discussion non-toxic algal blooms , the effects of water quality changes on estuarine ecosystem, a discussion of the algal bloom in Biscayne Bay in the summer of 2013 including which organisms dominated the 2013 bloom, the results of a 2005 survey, a discussion of the impact of non-toxic algal blooms on the Florida economy, a discussion on why we should be concerned about harmful algal blooms in Biscayne Bay, climate change and algal blooms, and questions that need to be answered.

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**5. Sub-Team Committee Reports & Updates:**

BBRRCT Member Stephen Blair reported on the efforts to date of the ad hoc group working on the Freshwater Needs for Biscayne Bay project.

Joan Lawrence gave a short update on discussions at the Task Force (TF) Meeting including a discussion of potentially adding membership to the Working Group. The retirement of Susan Markley left a void as she was not only Chair of the Science Coordination Group, she was also acting in a support role for Pepe Diaz, Miami-Dade County's TF member. It was discussed at the TF Meeting that there is possibly a need to put someone on the Working Group not only representative of the natural system, but also the county and state issues involved - one or possibly 2 people. Shannon Estenoz and Ernie Marks are working to find a couple of appropriate names to be presented to the TF before their next formal meeting.

**6. Wrap-up**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.