

U.S. DOI OFFICE OF EVERGLADES RESTORATION INITIATIVES

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

Event Title: Task Force Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 19, 2012

Times: 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Background: The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (Task Force) was established by Congress in 1996 to ensure consistent strategies among all the partners working towards Everglades restoration.

On October 27, 2011, the Task Force convened a meeting in West Palm Beach, FL. At this recent meeting, senior policy officials from the Department of the Army, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Florida, including the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, made an important announcement. They announced a fast-track planning effort for the next generation of Everglades restoration that when authorized by Congress, will improve the Central and Southern Everglades by putting more fresh and clean water into the River of Grass. This planning effort is being called the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP). The Working Group was directed by the Task Force at its October 27, 2011 meeting to establish a protocol for public participation and sponsor public workshops to receive input from the public.

Description and General Purpose of the Meeting: The purpose of this meeting is to receive a briefing on the CEPP, the public workshops held to date as well as highlight other ongoing efforts. The schedule for the development and approval of Task Force reports due this year will also be reviewed.

Public Comment: There will be an opportunity for public comment.

Meeting Location: U.S Department of the Interior
Main Interior Building
1849 C Street, NW,
Yates Auditorium
Washington, DC 20240

Webcast Note: during the meeting, a link will be available to view a live webcast of the proceedings.

Lodging Location: Please note there is no block of rooms for this meeting.

Special Instructions: Once through the entrance at C Street, the Yates Auditorium will be immediately on your right before the security guard station. Upon entering the auditorium, visitor badges will be provided. Federal identification badges and/or visitor badges must be worn at all times. Food/Drink is prohibited in the auditorium.

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Paid Parking: Colonial Parking Garages
18th & G streets NW
511 20th street, NW

Metrorail Stations: Farragut West (orange/blue line)
Farragut North (red line)

Event Point of Contact: Sandy Soto, Project Manager
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Agenda: Currently being drafted.