

March 22 The Coastal Society Planning (TCS 23) meeting summary

The following members participated in person or by phone:

Eric Swanson
Pamela Sweeney
Sarah Bellmund
Joan Browder
Theresa Woody (staff support)

Abstract Title and Panel Description

Title: Bay Caretakers and Keepers: Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team – A Voice for the Bay

Time and Date: Wednesday, June 6 at 3:30 p.m.

Session: Ecosystem Services in the Real World: Policy and Management Trends

Location: Hyatt in downtown Miami

One-day registration fee: \$210.00

Panel Format

Originally, the team identified 5 panelists to five 15 minute presentations on 6 suggested topics. Based on guidance received from TCS, the panel should consist of four (4) presenters (at 20 minutes each) with 10 minutes for questions and answers at the end of each session. Theresa discussed this with Julia Wyman and she indicated that we could cover 5 topics if we desire.

Topics and presenters

Background	Joan Browder
Planning	Eric Swanson
Science (Emphasis on science relevant to ecosystem service)	Joan Browder
Management	Pamela Sweeney
Economics	Grace Johns

(It was thought that economics should be last)

Focus on

- Ability to work together
- 14 Municipalities border the Bay
- Value of Multi-disciplinary team
- Avoid knee-jerk reaction to change
- Positive Management Action

Approach

Background could start with the Task Force/Working Group/BBPI/BBRRCT leading into Conservation History & Protection Efforts for the Bay.

For example:

Islandia (development threat)

Sea-Dade (Seaport – another threat)

Led to establishment of Biscayne National Monument this became Biscayne National Park (management response)
 Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve: borders first established in 1974; present day boundaries established in 1975 (management response)
 BBPI established in 1999 in response to the possibility that CERP could be a threat to the Bay
 Policy/Management example: Miami-Dade Regulatory Criteria to eliminate sewage outfall to the Bay

Examples of Science that informed the protection efforts:
 Science Symposium of the Bay happened in the 60's and 70's (Mc Nulty's research on the Bay).
 80's DERM's studies on the Bay for fisheries and benthic organisms
 Bibliography in the 90's (RSMAS Library/Kay Hale)
 FIU research on the Bay
 SWIM plan in the early 80's funded a lot of science through the SFWMD

Pamela suggested using case studies to illustrate threats/conservation response/management & Policy response/legislation action that translate to protection for the Bay. For example:
 Education/Outreach
 Ecosystem Science
 Resource Management

The case studies could be organized like this:
 Timeline/Threats/Conservation Community Response/Management & Policy response/Legislative Action to Protect the Bay

Sarah Bellmund suggested that each panelist organize their case studies like this:

Topic	Date	Threat	Conservation Response	Policy	Management	Economic Benefit
Planning						
Science						
Education						
Engineering						
Other Actions						

She provided an example using the problem of Sewage in the Bay
 1900 – 1940's: Sewage was discharge directly into the Bay
 Late 40's: Water Quality in the Bay was atrocious (hurting tourism & local economy)
 1950's: County builds Sewage Treatment Plan
 1972: McNulty reviewed the results of the Sewage Treatment Plant (science)

1980's: Whirling Fish & Whirling Fish Disease observed due to pollution: The science revealed that the outfall is too close to the shore resulting in dumping of raw viruses onto Miami Beach resulting in an economic and health crisis

1980's: SWIM Legislation

1980's – 1990's: separation of stormwater and sewage pipes

2000's: Exploration of alternative water supply

Today: Working to establish numeric nutrient criteria

Next steps

Topic organizers were asked to provide an outline of case studies that address their topic using the above format.

The committee will brief the full team on March 28 and receive more feedback.