

Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRCT)

WED May 16, 2018

NOAA FISHERIES 75 Virginia Beach Dr. Miami FL 33149

Miami, FL 33149 (305) 361-4200 (main)

The meeting will be in the small building behind main NMFS building with Marlin and other fish painted on the parking lot side

Conference line 1- 302-202-1108; Participant Passcode 775467

FROM 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Phil Everingham welcomed the team to the meeting at 10:05 AM. Self-introductions were made. Carrie Beeler reminded the team to sign the sign in sheet.

Team Membership Roster

Carrie Beeler provided a copy of the update on BBRRCT Membership.

https://evergladesrestoration.gov/content/bbrrct/minutes/2018_meetings/051618/draft_membership.pdf

She explained the direction the Charter gave for membership. The business user groups and environmental groups must be ratified by the WG. The team planned to provide this membership roster at the next WG meeting. Several members agreed to ask about replacement for the organizations without representation.

Biennial Report

Allyn Childress provided an overview of the TF, its Working Group, Science Coordination Group and other advisory groups such as BBRRCT. She also discussed the reports that were mandated.

https://evergladesrestoration.gov/content/bbrrct/minutes/2018_meetings/051618/2018_biennial_report_update.pdf

She explained that the Task force is responsible to report on restoration in their Strategy document which has 3 strategic goals: Goal 1. Get the Water Right; Goal 2. Restore, Preserve, and Protect Natural Habitats and Species and Goal 3. Foster Compatibility of the Built and Natural Systems.

Everglades Restoration is more than hydrology and the Task Force's strategic goals also include "Getting the Natural System Right" which includes topics like habitat restoration and conservation and combating invasive exotic species. Also "Getting the Built System Right" is a 3rd goal and includes topics such as water supply and flood protection.

She explained to the team that the TF reports Biennial Report on activities and progress made toward restoration. This report is a requirement of WRDA 1996. There are four principal audiences, the United State Congress, the Florida Legislature, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida.

Allyn explained that the team would be able to provide input to the report and gave a timeline for these activities. Carrie reminded the group that this is one of the 4 ways BRRCT can provide important information to the WG about the issues they coordinate.

Drift Study Team Suggestions for the Bay

Laura Bracken asked the team if there are areas they would like to know more about for the Bay Drift study. Dan Kipnis asked about the Lake cleaning itself out every day and would like to take a look there. We have only looked at it 2 or 3 times. He asked if she could you make a presentation to group again so we can consider data gaps? She noted that once she finishes data wrap up she will present to BRRCT. She explained they need funding.

Craig Grossenbacker noted that there are some big outfalls from little river and there are nutrients such as P and N. He said some drift cards at the points where watershed connects to Bay would be helpful.

Dan Kipnis noted that sea level rise formerly predicted to occur at about 11-13 mm year, however in reality they are increasing at about an inch a year or a foot in 12 years in south Florida. These float studies are needed now due to these increases in SL rise.

BRRCT Priority Issues & Focus Areas

https://evergladesrestoration.gov/content/brrct/minutes/2018_meetings/051618/action_plan.pdf

Carrie Beeler provided the team with the BRRCT Action Plan (BBAP). Phil Everingham explained that the 8 Priority Issues & 5 Focus Areas were a subset from the BBAP. Carrie Beeler reminded the team that an annual

report to the WG is due. Phil Everingham asked the team to think about the declining health of the bay as potential topic areas.

Cooperative Institute for Marine & Atmospheric Studies, University of Miami, RSMAS.

Ben Kirtman, Director went over CIMAS: Past present and future". He explained the issues surrounding NOAAs Fisheries being located on AOML property as a possibility. He explained the interest of keeping Fisheries in the area for close coordination.

Biscayne Bay Health Summit

Luiz Rodrigues, Coordinator went over the intent and attendance at the Biscayne Bay Marine Health Summit. He said he worked with FIU and that there were ~250 participants. He noted that marine debris amounts are extremely high. He explained that outcomes were not ready yet and that they are developing a report card for Bay. He talked about the probability that there would be a Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative reboot.

Adjourn