

SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE

June 24, 2009

Draft Agenda

U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW, Yates Auditorium
Washington, DC

1:00 – 1:05	Welcome	Tom Strickland
1:05 – 1:20	Goals for the Meeting (Tab 1)	Tom Strickland Mike Sole
1:20 – 2:10	Member Remarks <i>Each member has the option of providing brief introductory remarks at this time. Secretary Salazar is expected to address the Task Force.</i>	
	Current Developments	
2:10 – 2:40	Federal Funding and Program Update (Tab 2) <i>The Corps and DOI will provide a budget and program update on recent investments in south Florida and new efforts. The update includes the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 as well as the President's 2010 budget for restoration projects and for Herbert Hoover Dike repairs.</i>	Rock Salt Don Jodrey
2:40 – 3:10	River of Grass Land Acquisition (Tab 3) <i>On May 13, 2009, the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board approved the acquisition of U.S. Sugar lands in the Everglades Agricultural Area for Everglades restoration. The initial acquisition is approximately 73,000 acres and an option to purchase an additional 107,000 acres. The land would be used to increase water storage and treatment to help restore Lake Okeechobee, Florida's coastal estuaries and the Everglades, including the water conservation areas and Everglades National Park. An overview and status of this initiative will be presented.</i>	Carol Wehle
3:10 – 3:25	Break	

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Ongoing Issues and Efforts

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| 3:25 – 4:10 | Overview of Projects and Actions (Tab 4)

<i>An overview and status of key hydrologic projects will be presented. Areas of progress and issues to be resolved will be identified. A brief overview of the Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS) will be presented. The goal of the IDS is to identify the optimum sequence of key hydrologic projects that will deliver meaningful restoration benefits as early as possible consistent with law and available funding. The IDS incorporates Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects and non-CERP projects, including Foundation Projects such as the Kissimmee River Restoration, Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park and C-111.</i> | Ken Ammon
Stu Appelbaum |
| 4:10 – 4:30 | Natural Resources Update (Tab 5)

<i>A brief overview of invasive exotic issues in south Florida will be presented. The control of invasive exotics is integral to the restoration of the ecosystem and to the recovery of threatened and endangered species. A quick summary of threatened and endangered species as well as climate change challenges will be presented.</i> | Paul Souza |
| <i>Making Progress</i> | | |
| 4:30 – 5:00 | Identify Key Issues and Assignments for the Task Force's Working Group and Science Coordination Group (Tab 6)

<i>Key issues necessary to move restoration forward will be identified; actions to be assigned to the Working Group (WG) and the Science Coordination Group (SCG) for coordination will be discussed.</i>

<i>Proposed work assignments to the WG and SCG include: (1) developing an invasive exotic animal plan to address priority species and actions; (2) providing an overall picture of the climate change research and actions place in south Florida; and (3) summarizing new scientific information since CERP was authorized.</i> | Tom Strickland
Mike Sole |
| 5:00 – 5:15 | Public Comment | |
| 5:15 – 5:30 | Closing Comments | Tom Strickland
Mike Sole |
| 5:30 | Adjourn | |