

A photograph of a field of white spider lilies (Lycor radiata) in bloom. The flowers are numerous and scattered throughout a dense patch of green grass. The background shows more grass and a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

Strategy and Biennial Report

June 29, 2016

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Meeting

Strategy and Biennial Report

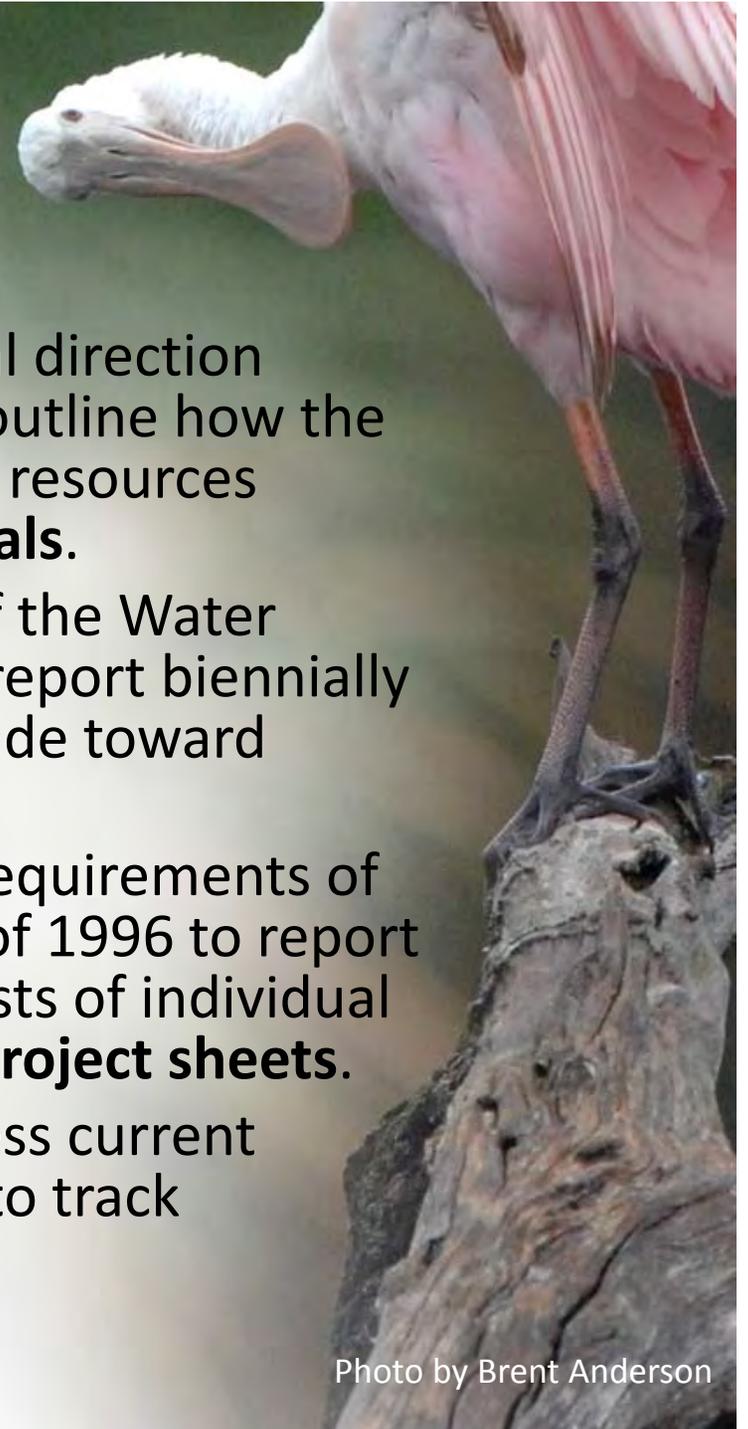
- Combines several reporting requirements into one document
- Four principal audiences
 - United States Congress
 - Florida Legislature
 - Seminole Tribe of Florida
 - Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida



Report Purpose

- **The Strategy:** Responds to Congressional direction (House Conference Report 106-479) to outline how the restoration effort will occur and identify resources needed; organized by three **strategic goals**.
- **Biennial Report:** Fulfills requirements of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 to report biennially on Task Force activities and **progress** made toward restoration.
- **Integrated Financial Plan (IFP):** Fulfills requirements of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 to report annually on the progress, status, and costs of individual restoration projects; contains **detailed project sheets**.
- **System-wide Ecological Indicators:** Assess current ecosystem health and provide a means to track **ecosystem response** to restoration.

Photo by Brent Anderson



Report Organization

The Task Force organizes and tracks over 250 programs and projects by three strategic goals:

Goal 1: Get the Water Right

Goal 2: Restore, Preserve, and Protect
Natural Habitats and Species

Goal 3: Foster Compatibility of the Built and
Natural Systems



Report Scope

- The report provides a summary of restoration progress during the two-year reporting period, July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2016
- Report will be fully on-line accessible at:
www.EvergladesRestoration.gov



2016 Strategy and Biennial Report: Incorporating Climate Change

- In 2014, the Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP) incorporated a new section in its biennial review:
 - Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Implications for Everglades Restoration
 - “Although they challenge restoration efforts, climate change and sea level rise also provide a strong incentive for accelerating restoration.”
(Report in Brief 2014)



2016 Strategy and Biennial Report: Incorporating Climate Change

- The ***Strategy and Biennial Report*** will more fully address climate change impacts and response in the 2016 report
 - Will include high level discussion of those potential climate change impacts identified by numerous authorities that, if realized, would have the most direct effects on the Everglades ecosystem
 - Will discuss how restoration can address these impacts and highlight projects already underway



2016 Strategy and Biennial Report: Climate Change Sub-team

- USGS
- NPS
- Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
- SFWMD
- NOAA/NMFS
- USFWS



2016 Strategy and Biennial Report: System-wide Ecological Indicators

- Included since 2006 to assess the current status of the ecosystem and track response over time
- Looking ahead: WG/SCG will consider a process to review the indicators for future reports:
 - Assess the impact of modifying the indicators in recent years
 - Are the indicators still providing the “big picture”
 - Do we still have the right suite of indicators?
 - Etc.



2016 Strategy and Biennial Report: Timeline

- July 15:** Report distributed to Working Group and SCG for comments
- August 12:** Working Group/SCG comments due
- September 14:** Final draft distributed to the Task Force, Working Group, and SCG
- September 28:** Working Group/SCG accept report
- End of October:** Task Force approval
- Oct.-Dec.:** Surnaming process



A photograph of a field of white spider lilies (Lycoris radiata) in bloom. The flowers are numerous and scattered throughout the scene, with some in sharp focus in the foreground and others blurred in the background. They are surrounded by vibrant green grasses and some dried, brown stalks. The background shows a dense field of similar vegetation under a clear blue sky. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in white text in the center of the image.

Questions?