

*Approved Meeting Minutes
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Working Group
October 31, 2000
Naples, Florida*

Welcome and Introductions

Ernie Barnett opened meeting at 1:20 PM. Agenda (Enclosure 1) ratified. Draft meeting minutes scheduled for approval the following day. Susan Brown from U.S. Sugar announced that Pete Rosendahl has been diagnosed with liver and lung cancer last week. He will be released from the hospital later this week and a get-well card will be circulated for signatures.

Working Group Members	Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Alternates
Aller, Chuck - FL Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services	-	-	
Barnett, Ernie - FL Dept of Environmental Protection	√	√	
Best, Ronnie - USGS	√	√	
Bradford, Mark - Bureau of Indian Affairs	-	-	
Brad Brown - NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service		√	
Billy Causey - NOAA, FL Keys Nat'l Marine Sanctuary			
Wayne Daltry - Southwest FL Regional Planning Council	√	√	
Carol DeGraffenreid - U.S. Attorney's Office	-	-	
Frank Duke - Palm Beach County Planning	√		
Gene Duncan - Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of FL	√	√	
Gary Evink - FL Dept. of Transportation	√		
Frank Finch - South Florida Water Management District	√	√	
Maureen Finnerty - National Park Service	-	-	Elaine Hall
Steve Forsythe - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	√		
Michael Goldstein - Gunster, Yoakely, Valdes-Fauli & Stewart	-	-	Sue Alspach/Carlos Espinosa
George Hadley - U.S. Dept of Transportation	-	-	
Richard Harvey - Environmental Protection Agency	√		
Aaron Higer - U.S.G.S. - Water Resources Division			
Ronald Jones - Southeast Environmental Research Center	√		
Kristina Katsaros - NOAA - AOML	-	-	
Toy Keller - Department of Community Affairs	√		
Neal McAliley - U.S. Dept. of Justice	√	√	
COL Greg May - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	-	-	Dennis Duke
Mary Ann Poole - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	√	√	
Fred Rapach - Palm Beach County Water Utilities Dept	√	√	
Terry Rice - Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida	√	√	
Rick Smith - Office of the Governor of Florida	√	√	
Ron Smola - U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	√	√	
Steve Somerville - Broward County Department of Natural Resource Protection	-	-	Patti Webster
Craig Tepper, Seminole Tribe of Florida		√	Beth Carlson
Bonnie Kranzer, Special Advisor	√	√	
Rock Salt, Special Advisor	√	√	

Dispute Resolution

The Working Group engaged in a facilitated discussion on Dispute Resolution. Bob Jones, Kirk Emerson, Gerald Cormick and Mike Eng from the Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium along with Stu Langton and Louise Smart served as the facilitators. Biographical sketch (Enclosure 3), Process Overview (Enclosure 4) and the Working Group Interview & Survey (Enclosure 5) documents were provided. Stu Langton noted the Working Group identified conflict resolution as a major issue at the Lessons Learned Workshop earlier this year. Kirk Emerson explained that the term conflict resolution is being looked at broadly across issues management including conflict prevention as well as conflict resolution and she reviewed the observations the mediators have made. Gerald Cormick reviewed the range of techniques needed to be successful.

Working Group Comments/Questions:

Ernie Barnett said that there is no clear understanding of the anticipated outcome and a common understanding of where you are going is needed up front. There are some issues that are not resolvable by this group and are resolved elsewhere. Fred Rapach said it is not clear who is in charge and that needs to be addressed. Terry Rice said the Working Group does not even know who is in charge and who calls the shots. Ernie Barnett stated that it depends on the issue. Bonnie Kranzer added that you need a commitment from the group on what it is they want to do. Rick Smith stated that the Working Group elects a chairman and that's the leader. He also added that the Working Group does not adequately identify issues that can be resolved in a realistic way.

Louise Smart suggested establishing criteria to determine what gets on the agenda as well as establishing a sub group of the Working Group to conduct a preliminary situation assessment of issues to be included in the annual work plan. Also recommending that after deliberations on the issues, if you still do not have the desired results, there would be a vote and presentation of the decision with a minority report. This issue should then be referred to another process or elevated to either the Task Force or senior management level. There should be a good faith attempt to receive consensus and involve stakeholders and urged the Working Group to use a variety of tools where people are participating.

Terry Rice stated that he thought a process was already in place and not trying to reinvent what was already established. Mike Eng explained that the same set of procedures may not work on everything. Terry Rice added the group needs to decide what its priority is and then become educated on that issue in order to resolve it. Gene Duncan asked about the work and funding for these facilitators. Rock Salt explained that the Task Force asked for follow-on work to be done. The Office of the Executive Director is paying the \$60,000 for this effort. The summary report will be presented to the Task Force at the November meeting and the revised document will be brought to the Working Group at the December meeting.

Strategy Implementation

Linda Friar presented the final draft of the Assessment Report (Enclosure 6) which synthesis information that was gathered while interviewing community leaders throughout the ecosystem. Rock salt added that originally this document was going to be prepared before the Strategy document.

Regional Assessment Update

Allyn Childress reviewed the Update (Enclosure 7) and Questions and Answers (Enclosure 8). The process will build on the Strategy and Assessment documents by going back into the regional areas. Three areas have been chosen Kissimmee, Southwest and Florida Keys (PCTS 1, 5 and 6). Looking to enhance coordination as the Strategy is implemented. The dates and agendas for the forums are being worked on. Rock Salt added this does not assume there will be a PCT, and asks what the needs are for each region.

Biennial Report

Linda Dahl presented the draft Conceptual Outline (Enclosure 9a) and the Biennial Report Workplan (Enclosure 9b). She reminded everyone this is a statutory requirement that will summarize the accomplishments of the Task Force during the last two years. It is the intent to take words and paragraphs from the Strategy document and organizing them into the three goals. It will highlight the big accomplishments from the last two years. Working Group members were asked to provide comments to Linda Dahl November 8, 2000. The revised document will be presented at the December meeting for approval.

Implementation/Coordination

Linda Friar reviewed the Implementation (Enclosure 10) document that which lays out the next steps. Rock Salt added this would spell out the work effort the Working Group has identified to deal with the measurable objectives that have been laid out in the Strategy.

Public Comment

Ann Olesky (Lake Trafford Restoration) thanked the Working Group for its support with this project. This project was originally ranked 34 on Critical Projects and it is now anticipated to start next spring. She

invited (Enclosure 11a) everyone to attend a BBQ. Collier County has allowed the 8th graders to make this their pet project. A coloring book (Enclosure 11b) is being printed in Creole, English and Spanish.

Mary Ann stated Aaron Higer is retiring and the December Working Group meeting will be his last meeting. Rock Salt would try to coordinate a dinner in West Palm Beach. Ronnie Best stated the GEER Science Conference would be dedicated to his 40 years of service.

Get the Water Right

Frank Grant gave an update on the following southwest Florida projects:

1. Tamiami Trail Culverts is the plan to install 62 culverts under Tamiami Trail and 15 under the Loop Road (County Road 94) that runs through the Big Cypress National Preserve south of the Trail. The flow will be re-distributed into its natural sub basins and bring it under the road. Trying to get the habitats back to the way they had been in the past. Getting comments back on the plans and specifications in the design phase with construction to begin by 2002.
2. Seminole Big Cypress Water Conservation Plan is a cooperative effort with the Tribe taking a lead role. This project will take some of the tribe's water entitlement and store on the preservation in a series of basins. Water will be brought back and forth into the proper areas for use and treatment thus reducing phosphorus content. Contractor will finish up this week and the surveys will begin. Construction will start in 2002 with the total cost totaling \$44 million.
3. Southern Crew Project located up in the Bonita Springs area will treat the water coming in across the area before it is discharged in the estuaries. There will be buyout of homes where there had been some flood damages in the past. Phase I is complete, removing man made impediments (road beds and homes) to flow and restoring the natural storage with the total cost totaling \$12 million.
4. Lake Trafford Restoration – as a result of past inflows of nutrients to the Lake from an old wastewater treatment plant and agricultural operations algal blooms have accelerated plant growth. The project will remove the material in the Lake and dispose of it. Construction will begin in the summer of 2001.
5. Southern Golden Gate Estates is mostly undeveloped land that brought the water table down from 12 to 10 feet as a result of all the canals. This affected the ability of the municipalities to draw drinking water and affected the vegetation as far as the Fakahatchee Strand. This project is in the beginning stages, canal plugs are being designed as well as the removal of existing roads. FDEP is continuing to buy land in the area and this is slated for completion in 2002. Cost estimate is \$94 million.
6. C-43 along the Caloosahatchee River will provide a place to put the water when there is too much and will help control “flushing fresh water” into the estuaries. A PMP will be started in 2001 and total cost is \$446 million.
7. Lakes Park Restoration will restore a 40-acre abandoned rock mine. Exotics will be removed and currently working on the Design Agreement with Lee County, cost is estimated at \$5.2 million.
8. Henderson Creak Belle Meade will be a lake marsh filtering system, exotics will be removed and project will be started in 2001. Water supply to the estuaries will use features constructed under CERP to change the way flows come down the river, looking at using a C-43 project.
9. Caloosahatchee Back pumping and Storm water Treatment will clean up the storm water and involves pumping water from the western side of the state back to Lake Okeechobee for use on the east coast.
10. Southwest Florida Feasibility Study will take a detailed look at this side of the state. CERP noted the lack of hydrological, geological data as well as information on the uses and needs for water. The study area consists of 4,300 square miles in Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Glades, Hendry and Monroe counties. It will investigate water resource problems, recommend solutions, and prepare the feasibility report and lay out a design and cost estimates. This will pick up those things not being picked up by the CERP. Look at biodiversity, water use and needs, the estuaries, water quality. Scoping phase started in August 1999 and study will be initiated in March 2001 with the report to be submitted to Congress in 2005.

Wayne Daltry asked when to expect operational changes for estuarine purposes. Frank Finch responded that the Governing Board would be presented at its December meeting with revised

operating criteria for Lake Okeechobee management that will incorporate discretionary releases/protocols. This falls into the range where ecological impacts are taken into account. He assured everyone that the actions taken were driven by science not politics. Beth Carlson stated the Tribe is right on schedule and thanked the SFWMD for their work. **Follow-up: Working Group requested to have an update at the next meeting on the status of Lake Okeechobee.**

Dennis Duke provided a status update on the following Corps Projects:

1. Program Management Team scheduled to meet prior to every Working Group meeting. Project Implementation Reports will be prepared once plan is developed and approved for the initial 12 projects. Feasibility studies are ongoing. Program level activities that have to be done to ensure consistency include public outreach and involvement, socioeconomic and environmental justice, real estate management plan and information technology plan. The President's Budget provided \$92 million for the C&SF project which included \$28.7 million for the CERP process.
2. Western C-11 the S-9A structure, a Critical Project, first construction contract awarded in September. Second contract for the spillway will be awarded in September 2001.
3. East Coast Canals/C-4 contract for the structure awarded.
4. Lake Trafford proceeding with Congress providing \$20 million.
5. Florida Keys Carrying Capacity Study proceeding with model development. A model demonstration will be provided at a future Working Group meeting.
6. Modified Water Deliveries' Record of Decision is pending in Washington. The decision is whether to move forward with the plan that was recommended in the general reevaluation report SEIS for the 8.5 square mile area that involved alternative 6d at an increased cost of \$60 million above the previously approved plan. Following execution of the ROD, the Project Cooperation Agreement will be amended and real estate acquisition and design refinements will begin in January 2001. Construction to begin in July 2001 with the completion scheduled for December 2003. \$62 million has been appropriated in FY01.
7. Tamiami Trail Modifications – looking at the need to modify the Trail to support the diversion of water required under Modified Water Deliveries, draft GRR and SEIS should be finalized by April 2001. Construction scheduled for completion in December 2006.
8. Seepage & Conveyance addresses the reconnection of 3A and 3B, operational procedures will be molded into the operational EIS that will be initiated in November for the Modified Waters and EIS project and the operational plan will be based on those projects being in place.
9. C-111 project picks up south of the Modified Water Deliveries project, L-31 north area down to C-111. S332D is built and a temporary pump station is in place. GRR is being prepared to address changes authorized by Congress related to land acquisition and cost sharing. Total cost is \$157million.
10. Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow – water levels went up due to rainfall in October. Currently 6 inches above regulation schedule. The nesting season in a lot better shape this year as compared to the prior year. Corps has been doing a lot of modeling throughout the year to better meet the rpa and provide better conditions for the Sparrow. The scenario will include closing the S12 structures, raise zone D in WCA 3A about 6 inches to avoid discharging through the structures. Water levels will be evaluated constantly and don't anticipate having high water. A new detention basin will be constructed in the 332B area. The S12D structure under the revised plan will stay open.

Terry Rice asked why CEQ stopped the Corps from completing the IOP in September. Dennis Duke stated the schedule provided for the distribution of the draft EIS for the IOP in the late June time frame. The Corps was also receiving comments on the 8.5 square mile area and CEQ did not want the two to get bundled up together and requested the Corps postpone it. Terry Rice stated the Miccosukee Tribe has concerns with the Corps ability to implement the proposal for the 8.5 square mile area. He provided a summary of the Tribe's concern (Enclosure 12) with the Modified Water Deliveries Project.

Gene Duncan provided a chronology (Enclosure 13) of the 4 consecutive emergency deviations from Test 7 as well as an article (Enclosure 14) from the Florida Field Naturalist. He stated the Tribe fees the ISOP has implications for Modified Water Deliveries, 8.5 square mile area, flooding of the tree islands in the WCAs,

raising of Tamiami Trail, endangered Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow, snail kite, woodstork, designations of critical habitat un ESA, ms recovery, preferential treatment of federal Everglades over state and tribal Everglades, agricultural and urban flooding in south Dade County and the adequacy of science in making management decisions. He stated the entire C&SF flood control project and ecosystem is being managed for a single sub species of birds. The Corps is being forced to sacrifice other parts of the ecosystem in order to provide ideal breeding conditions for the sparrow. ISOP also increases the chance of flooding in south Dade County. He noted the Ingraham population has grown in numbers. Some researchers have predicted the extinction of the western and eastern populations. Other scientists have questioned the adequacy of the research on the sparrow. A scientific review panel said it was premature to make predictions on the modeling efforts done to date. ISOP actions have been based on the questionable science of one researcher and ENP has refused entry to other researchers to conduct an independent population count. The Corps declares an emergency every year and avoids compliance with NEPA. ISOP calls for closing of the water structures to provide dry conditions inside the park and the natural system is harmed when three islands becomes submerged. He added that deviation from the approved regulation schedule was a decision by officials in Washington without NEPA. There are water quality violations, which are completely avoidable. Gene Duncan asked if CEQ (a political appointee) could tell the Corps (a federal agency) to violate NEPA. The destruction of the tree islands means destruction of the habitat. Gene Duncan pointed to the 250% increase in cost may be the reason the Record of Decision has not been signed. Rick Smith noted he too was concerned about this issue and urged the issues be aired out before the Working Group. Several members agreed the issue should be framed. Neal McAliley said he would be willing to participate but did not feel an Issue Team would be worth doing because the Working Group would be unable to resolve issues. **Action item: Rock Salt, Terry Rice, Neal McAliley, Steve Forsythe and Mary Ann Poole and others to frame this issue with possible course of action for the Working Group to consider at the December meeting.**

Public Comment

Mike Richardson (The 1st National Bank of Homestead) noted his concern over the flooding in the agricultural areas in South Florida with this being the second consecutive year of flooding exceeding almost \$200 million in damages. He relayed Tom McVicar's (a well respected hydrologist) message that this flooding will happen again. The C-111 plan will help but Everglades National Park will not allow overflow from the C-111 buffer impoundment and they want to raise canal operating levels this plan could make flooding in south Dade worse. Alternative 6 d, which is the new plan for 8.5 square mile area, diverts flow to the south rather than the north will overload the C-111 buffer even further. The ISOP plan presented to the Governing Board moved a new buffer to an area adjacent to the L-31 North Canal, water will re-circulate back into the canal which needs to be pumped during the wet periods. He closed by stating that we will find ourselves grid locked on these key issues.

Joette Lorion described the government involved in Everglades Restoration as lawless. She said it was disturbing to see laws like NEPA bypassed four years in a row. She noted the most serious thing that can happen to south Dade other than the flooding would be for the flooding to be tied in to Everglades restoration activities. The draft EA it talked about the consequences of extending the Sparrow emergency from year to year to include a reduction in storage capacity of the system. She noted her astonishment that CEQ, whose job is to see that NEPA is implemented, told the Corps to put an EIS on hold. It was her belief that this could have an impact on public health and safety by raising water levels in the conservation areas. She closed by saying that Everglades restoration is a beautiful thing but it can't come at the cost of the Everglades itself.

Brenda Chalifour (Residents of 8.5 square mile area) stated the Corps has said today that they intend to remove everyone within the 6d alternative by June 2001. This is less than 8 months from now with many unwilling sellers. She questioned how realistic this timetable was and questioned if the government has all the money it needs to acquire the land in the East Everglades Expansion Area. She closed by saying that people in that area are being removed needlessly in the name of restoration. Dennis Duke clarified acquisition of the land west of the levy would not be completed until some time later.

Meeting adjourned at PM.

*Approved Meeting Minutes
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Working Group
November 1, 2000
Naples, Florida*

Welcome and Introductions

Ernie Barnett welcomed everyone at 8:43AM. September 2000 meeting minutes were approved.

Role of Public Outreach

Rock Salt stated this is on the agenda as a follow up to the Lessons Learned Workshop to assess the public outreach role and the role of POSST. Bonnie Kranzer reviewed the suggestions (Enclosure 15) and asked the Working Group to provide feedback on the draft Survey (Enclosure 16). Rock Salt clarified the Working Group is not being asked to answer the questions but to look at this to see if the rights questions are being asked. Follow-up: Working Group to provide comments of the draft Survey by November 10, 2000.

Executive Director's Report

Rock Salt announced there are substantial differences between the House and Senate versions of WRDA (non Everglades portions). It is impossible to predict how this will sort out and the good news is that there are no disputes over the Everglades portion of the bill. The GAO report (Enclosure 16) on water quality was provided. Work Plan 2000 (Enclosure 17) was reviewed. Action/Issue Tracking Chart (Enclosure 18) presented. The SCT intends to engage the Task Force on three technical presentations. Issue Team Tracking Chart (Enclosure 19) reviewed. **The proposed 2001 Meeting Calendar (Enclosure 20) was presented and approved by the Working Group.** The Working Group was asked to provide comments on the draft 2001workplan (Enclosure 21).

UPDATES and DISCUSSION

Litigation Update

Neal McAliley reported that on the Miccosukee Tribe vs. SFWMD, which is the S-9 case, the District Court has denied the motion of reconsideration and the SFWMD has filed a notice of appeal. The East Everglades land acquisition (Enclosure 22) is on track. The Working Group requested to receive updates on all pending litigation cases not just federal cases.

Environmental Justice Update

Bonnie Kranzer reviewed how this is being looked at with the CERP program. An initial meeting was held in July with the Corps, SFWMD and a number of minority outreach communicators to discuss how this could be done jointly. The Corps has appointed Jeff Couch as the Environmental and Economic Coordinator. Some meetings were held to lay out framework for the Environmental Justice Plan, hoping to have the draft plan by December 15, 2000. Brad Brown reviewed the history of the Environmental Justice movement. Rock Salt added that the Working Group could take advantage of the work being done with the CERP as it relates to Goal 3.

Museum of Discovery and Science

Ron Smola presented the draft Museum-Task Force Outreach Plan (Enclosure 23) laying out the three phases in achieving the mutual goals of the Task Force and Museum one of which includes communicating with the general public. The plan lays out the components and funding strategies for all three phases. One of the components includes a tabletop display at the Museum of Discovery and Science. The Board of Directors at the Museum is currently reviewing this document. Wayne Daltry suggested also using a Museum on the west coast for a similar effort. Follow-up: Working Group was asked to provide input by November 17, 2000.

Land Acquisition Update

Rick Smith stated the table has been updated but they are not yet comfortable with the numbers. The state acquired 25,900 acres in the last year and the federal government has acquired 5,840 acres. The federal numbers however, may be higher. A process is needed between now and next summer to get a process in

place to have more compatible data. Fred Rapach asked if this could be taken a step further to include local plans as well. Rick Smith agreed it is important that this be done as well since many counties have been purchasing land.

Land Acquisition Issue Team Directive

Ernie Barnett reviewed the draft directive (Enclosure 24). He noted the frustration in Congress at being asked for money and not knowing what the ultimate amount of lands needed. From the state's perspective there is a clear land acquisition plan adopted by the Governor and Cabinet every year. There are currently many different plans ongoing and there is a good sense of what is needed. The state of Florida buys more land than the federal government does nationwide. The purpose will be to lay out the plan to pull together what the federal responsibility is and a prioritization exercise is not contemplated. The directive will be presented for approval at the December meeting. Terry Rice requested Joette Lorion be added to this committee. Sue Alspach added this would be ongoing for a long time since there are certain places where things have not even been identified such as in the CERP. Ernie Barnett clarified that it would be unreasonable to expect a planning process to definitively identify the acreage, however, the plan does outline how much land is needed for each project component. Craig Tepper suggested including some private interests as part of the process, otherwise more lawsuits could arise. Elaine Hall noted that federal agencies need to compete for land acquisition funds across the country. **Action: Working Group agreed to proceed with forming a team, members to provide comments.**

Broward County Safe Parks and Land Preservation

Valeria Volin gave a power point presentation on Broward County's multi-purpose bond program intended to preserve the remaining natural lands for conservation and recreation. \$200 million will be used to acquire, reclaim and restore natural lands and open spaces for conservation and passive recreation. \$30 million will be used to develop another regional park.

Goal 3 Steering Committee Team Directive

Linda Friar presented the draft directive (Enclosure 25) outlining the process to complete this strategy for 2002. **Follow-up: Working Group was asked to provide comments by November 10, 2000. The final directive will be presented in December for approval.** Wayne Daltry stated this is probably the goal with the strongest linkage to environmental justice.

Sustainable Agriculture Update

Ron Smola presented the Executive Summary (Enclosure 26) of the document intended for use as an educational tool. **Follow-up: Comments should be provided to Linda Friar by November 17, 2000.**

Governor's Commission on Growth

Linda Friar stated the Commission has met five times since August 2000. The Commission consists of 23 members and has itself into 5 subcommittees. Their recommendations will be presented in 2001. It is hoped to incorporate their work into the Goal 3 section of the Strategy.

SCT Update

Ronnie Best reminded everyone that today is the last day for early registration for the GEER Conference (Enclosure 27). He reviewed the priority SCT tasks. Terry Rice stated the CROGEE is still not working on those things identified by the Working Group that we need help with. Rock Salt reported the CROGEE met last week and spent a full day dealing with ASR questions and issues. Mary Ann Poole provided an update on the Exotic Animals. The SCT made the following recommendations to the Working Group:

- 1) Mary Ann to draft a letter from Working Group to Task Force stating exotic fauna is a major problem in restoration;
- 2) Contact Museum of Discovery and Science about hosting a prevention week to educate children on exotics, releasing pets, etc., developing museum quality posters; and
- 3) Choose a number of exotics that represent a range of the problem and have one person to take these species and outline the process of what it would take to control these species.
- 4) Assign an individual to continue working on this and put it up on the sfrestore web site.

Steve Forsythe stated there are some CESI funds that may be used. **Follow-up: The SCT to draw up a proposal and bring back to the Working Group for approval.**

Public Comment

Brenda Chalifour predicted there would be litigation when the Corps signs the record of decision on the modified waters/8.5 square mile area issue. She commented the environmental justice presentation was wonderful and suggested the Chair request each agency here to produce their environmental justice documents.

Initial Discussion on the Working Group's Role and Mission

Fred Rapach presented some questions and concerns he had with the Working Group. Noting there is a lot of potential with this group. Working Group needs to determine whether they can or cannot do something once an issue is presented. Feared the group has become complacent and he hoped the group would play a more important role. He suggested re-visiting the Charter. Rock Salt said the three process areas: dispute resolution, science and public outreach along with the outcomes: three goal areas. It is up to the Working Group to decide what will be included in the workplan. Joan Lawrence stated the SFWMD views the role of this group in coordination and communication rather than decision-making or conflict resolution. Neal McAiley pointed out that no one person is in charge and all the members have an invaluable role to play. Gene Duncan this is a useful forum but this group is a not a decision making body and no one is in charge. Brad Brown pointed out that much of what gets done is because someone at the table made a commitment to get it done.

Preparation for Task Force Meeting

Rock Salt reviewed the draft agenda (Enclosure 28) and explained the Task Force Chair would like to spend time engaging the Task Force on what their role is now that the Strategy document has been approved. There will also be a discussion on whether there should be a non-federal Vice Chair and the CROGEE workplan items 3 –5 will be up for approval.

Working Group Requests

Rock Salt reviewed items that will be followed up on at the next meeting.

- 1) Status update on Lake Okeechobee
- 2) SW FL EIS Update
- 3) Florida Keys Carrying Capacity Study briefing
- 4) Rock with several Working Group members will bring back the written framing of ISOP/Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow issue
- 5) Governor's Flood Task Force Update
- 6) Status of the Lake Belt; flows and levels
- 7) Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan

Ron Smola said the South Florida Community Urban Resource Partnership and USDA co hosted a public meeting held at Cutler Ridge Mall. There were over 381 people in attendance and 37 exhibits throughout the mall. A facilitated session was held to identify what was needed to get the word out to the minority and underserved community.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 PM.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Meeting Minutes
3. Biographical Sketch
4. Dispute Resolution Process Overview
5. Working Group Interview & Survey
6. Assessment Report
7. Regional Assessment Update
8. Q&As about Regional Action Forums

9. Draft Biennial Report
 - a. Conceptual Outline
 - b. Workplan
10. Implementation Coordination
11. Lake Trafford
 - a. Invitation
 - b. Coloring book
12. Miccosukee Tribe concerns
13. Chronology of 4 Consecutive So-Called "Emergency" Deviations from Test 7 for the Sparrow
14. Florida Field Naturalist pages 93 – 160 (August 2000)
15. Deliberation on Public Outreach
16. draft Public Outreach Survey
17. 2000 Workplan
18. Action/Issue Tracking Chart
19. Issue Team Tracking Chart
20. Proposed 2001 Calendar
21. draft 2001 Workplan
22. East Everglades Land Acquisition Status (October 25, 2000)
23. Museum-Task Force Outreach Plan (October 2000)
24. draft Land Acquisition Task Team Directive
25. draft Goal 3 Steering Committee Directive
26. Executive Summary for A New Look At Agriculture
27. GEER Conference Brochure