

*Approved Minutes
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration
Working Group Meeting
Wyndham – Dania Beach, FL
November 15, 2005*

Welcome and Introductions

Jay Slack called meeting to order at 1:03 PM and introduced Kim Shugar who is the new representative from DEP. Agenda (Encl. 1) and draft minutes (Encl. 2) presented.

Working Group Members

	Nov. 15	Nov. 16	Alternates
Ken Ammon – South Florida Water Management District	√	√	
Billy Causey – NOAA, FL Keys Nat'l Marine Sanctuary	-	-	
Alex Chester – NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service	-	-	Essie Duffie
Bob Crim - FL Dept. of Transportation	√		
Wayne Daltry – Southwest FL Regional Planning Council	√	√	
Dennis Duke - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	√	-	Cheryl Ulrich
Gene Duncan – Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of FL	√	√	
Christopher M. Flack – Office of the Governor of Florida			
George Hadley – U.S. Dept of Transportation			
Richard Harvey – Environmental Protection Agency	√	√	
Norman O. Hemming, III - U.S. Attorney's Office	-	-	
Dan Kimball – National Park Service, Everglades National Park and Dry Tortugas	√	√	
Kenneth B. Metcalf - Department of Community Affairs			
W. Ray Scott - FL Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services	√		
Kim Shugar - FL Dept of Environmental Protection	√		
Jay Slack – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	√	√	
Craig Tepper – Seminole Tribe of Florida	√		
Kenneth S. Todd – Palm Beach County Water Resources Manager	√		
Anna Townsend – Bureau of Indian Affairs	-	-	Joe Frank
Joe Walsh - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission			
Jess D. Weaver – U.S.G.S.			
Rick Wilkins - Broward County Department of Natural Resource Protection	-	-	Patti Webster
Ed Wright – U.S. Department of Agriculture	√	√	
Vacancy, Miami Dade County	-	-	Susan Markley
Greg May, Special Advisor	√	√	
Ken Haddad, Science Coordination Group Liaison7-1A	-	-	Rock Salt

Whiparound

Joe Frank noted they have been busy with the hurricane cleanup and added that he was glad to be present at the meeting. Dennis Duke noted the Corps of Engineers was heavily engaged in hurricane recovery efforts. He added that funding for Modified Water Deliveries was included in the Conference Report. Ken Todd noted Palm Beach County has concerns with the status of operation of STA 1 East. Because an operation schedule has not yet been established the County passed a resolution encouraging all parties to continue to work together.

Ray Scott reported that his agency along with the SFWMD funded a feasibility study with the World Wildlife Fund to look at the potential of storing water on private lands north of Lake Okeechobee. Based on the outcome of the feasibility study, it was determined that the concept was worth pursuing and World Wildlife applied for and was awarded an NRCS EQIP conservation grant for \$1 million. The SFWMD and his agency will put additional money for four diverse demonstration projects. They are hopeful this demonstration will provide a lot of answers. Essie Duffie noted her agency was also busy with hurricane cleanup. Kim Shugar, DEP, introduced herself as the new Director of Ecosystem projects noting she has been with the department for eight years. Craig Tepper announced they will be receiving bids on the Big Cypress project and were working on general programmatic permits with the Corps for wetland issues on tribal lands.

Wayne Daltry noted the hurricane last year affected their coastal tourism industry and the hurricane had been followed by red tide, blue-green tide and purple tide. They then had to deal with visible scum at nearly every public access point the county maintains. They have seen declines in clamming, estuary fishing and shrimping. The assessment on recovery was ten years if the waters were to stop flowing today and his area was heavily engaged in Everglades restoration. Ed Wright reported they were expecting a level budget and will continue to work through the WRP and the Farm and Ranchland Protection Programs. They have done some assessments and were already helping with cleanup through the Emergency Watershed Program (EWP). He added that the project described by Ray Scott was to store water on working lands - ranches being used for agriculture - while this project was ongoing. The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Council with NRCS will undertake a tri county outreach project and utilize materials already developed by the Corps and the SFWMD to get the word out to those areas of the county that have not been reached with the intent of assisting the Corps.

Ken Ammon reported the Emergency Operations Center was still fully activated. Enough fuel was used during and after the storm to fill up 30,000 cars. The pump stations were fully manned and personnel were there in lockdown mode throughout the storm. They were still working on debris removal along the south end of Lake Okeechobee. The neighboring marina and trailer park sustained heavy damage and the SFWMD was working with the City of South Bay since their intake was covered with six feet of silt and they have been attempting to remove it as well as help with treatment plant operations. As part of the Lake Okeechobee and Estuary Restoration Program, the reservoirs and STAs planned north of the lake will be handled out of his office as part of Acceler8. Costs were estimated at \$200 million and they were hoping for significant legislative funds. The SFWMD and the Corps will be working on the Lake Okeechobee regulation schedule review with the intent of holding the lake level lower and for longer. As part of that program they have a regulatory component with BMPs upstream they are working in cooperation with FDACs. He concluded by noting that while the storage of additional water on private lands maybe technically possible it may impact many of the disadvantaged communities around the lake and take agriculture out of production which would have a human impact.

Richard Harvey asked how the SFWMD was helping South Bay noting their financial challenges. Ken said they were helping to return the intake to an operational state and have operators helping with the plumbing and treatment processes. He stated there needed to be an agency driven solution to the South Bay water issues to help those people out. Richard Harvey said the regional water plan was the solution but there was a long term cost issue. He said they could possibly have an update at a future meeting. Ken Todd stated they have redesigned a portion of the plan and it was going to be constructed although there were still some funding issues and it would be a couple years before the plant is up and running. A groundbreaking ceremony was held but they all need to develop short term solutions.

Jay Slack reported his folks in remote offices were still recovering from the last hurricane. They were also working on environmental issues such as point source spills of contaminants. In the Keys there was a storm surge and it had been "touch and go" with the population of Key Deer on Big Pine Key who are freshwater dependent. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission helped by placing fresh water sources. His office has been working with folks along the Gulf Coast to help rebuild the coastal areas around Louisiana.

Greg May reported that he had testified before the Little Hoover Commission in California as part of a review the CALFED program. He said the Commission had selected Everglades restoration as one of the models for review and they were impressed by the accomplishments in South Florida. He noted that the ability to reach a scientific, technical and political consensus on the conceptual plan was clearly one of the keys to success to date and set the Everglades apart from other restoration efforts. He also said that our success in implementing the plan would depend on our ability to maintain the consensus. He announced that the next Task Force meeting would be held on Dec 7 – 8 at Hawk's Cay. The Task Force would conduct a joint session with the WRAC followed by a Task Force Consultation Workshop. He noted that minor changes were being made to the Five Year Report previously distributed for consultation and the revised version would be posted on the web.

Gene Duncan said the Miccosukee Tribe sustained considerable damage as a result of the hurricane. The conservation areas were almost two feet above regulation schedule for nearly two months which meant the community had to pump continuously to stay dry. Thirteen hours after the storm the southernmost lane of Tamiami Trail was almost completely blocked with trees and almost every single telephone pole was snapped in half. Large shipping containers had been picked up and thrown into canals. Almost every house sustained damage but the community did not sustain flooding because of the pumps. He said the 12 gates were scheduled to be closed but that a two week reprieve had been granted. The S-12 A was scheduled to be closed today and they were still well over a foot above regulation schedule. He was hopeful the flooding would not be made worse. He asked for everyone's help to come up with long term solutions. Jay Slack said FWS shared his concerns and have been working with their partners to come up with solutions. Many of the species have endured high water situations since last year.

Richard Harvey reported that EPA had been granted a 30-day extension on their comment period for the EAA reservoir 404 permit. There was an opportunity in the next 30 days to try to resolve the jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the US issues. Dennis Duke said this issue would be discussed the following day in Washington, DC and the comment period was extended to allow them to address these issues. Richard stated his agency also provided comments on the C-43 water quality monitoring plan and asked whether it had been finalized. Ken Ammon said they had incorporated just about everything but no responses have gone out. Richard reported EPA put together a position paper on the blue/green algae stating they thought it was a legitimate issue. DEP and DOH and University of Florida formed a group to look at harmful algal blooms around the state and they were initiating an effort to look at ecological effects.

Dan Kimball reported his agency was involved in recovery efforts as well. A national team was brought in to help the parks. Everglades and Dry Tortugas were open except for Flamingo, storm surge proved devastating to facilities and concessions and power was not fully restored. Roseate spoon bill habitat got hammered and they were looking at some possible management actions. Thousands of lobster and crab traps were in the park and commercial fisherman will be given a grace period to come into the park and retrieve their traps. He noted the wind speed indicator at Dry Tortugas blew away at 134 miles per hour and the Superintendent's quarters were destroyed. He noted that Interior received \$25 million for Modified Water Deliveries. He introduced Mark Lewis, the new superintendent at Big Cypress.

Bob Crim reported two South Florida district offices were impacted by the hurricane. District staff continued to work with Corps and SFWMD staff on PIRs and coordination and communication with both agencies were going well. Patti Webster noted that in addition to human impacts Broward County was dealing with the environmental impacts. Broward County takes great pride in being a statewide model for establishing tree canopy and they had been overwhelmed by the loss of canopy. She noted her fear that many trees that could be saved were being cut down. Native trees fared better through the storm. Bob Crim noted DOT funded a study on which trees had better survival rates and the results were presented at a recent conference. Jay asked to get a copy of that study to post on the sfrestore website.

Wayne Daltry asked why the litigation update was not on the agenda. Greg responded that Department of Justice provides the updates and Norman Hemming had been unable to attend recently. Wayne stated that ASR was not being looked upon as it was in the past and asked for a RECOVER briefing. Greg noted ASR was a Task Force priority and that Pete Kwiatkowski provided an update earlier in the year and they would continue to have periodic updates. Wayne said it goes back to the water budget. There would be many changes over the next fifty years with growth and development. He asked for a presentation from Palm Beach County to make sure conveyance volume was still being maintained regardless of what was going on. Ken Ammon suggested that Lee, Henry, Dade and Broward counties also be included.

Proposed Regional Project Delivery Team Workshop Process

Jay Slack explained the Corps was exploring new ways to provide Regional Project Delivery Team (RPDT) information to members of the Working Group and how best to convey information to the agencies and the public. This workshop was an attempt to provide feedback on improving that process. Greg May added this may help address previous concerns from stakeholders about limited resources - time and staff - and information. He thought it might also help to identify what the implementing agencies need to get out of

this process as well as the members of the Working Group and the public. He noted the RPDT could be done as part of the formal Working Group agenda or before or after the meeting.

Dennis Duke explained the Quality Review Board (QRB) was a meeting between the Corps and WMD with other agencies participating to discuss issues as well as the status of projects. They were looking for ways to streamline the process and resolve issues between agencies. With nearly 15-20 PDTs and an expected increase of active teams as they move into construction there were challenges in keeping up with so many meetings. There were also inconsistencies with the PDTs and many policy type issues were being discussed when they actually had a much broader application across the whole CERP implementation and South Florida program. The RPDT concept was to bring meetings together which involved a higher level of management to provide consistency in working the issues. Because the projects were not covered in depth, attendance has declined. The new concept was to combine the RPDT with the Working Group and have a bigger engagement by the agencies and members of the public. Rock asked what the Corps and the SFWMD wanted to achieve. Ken Ammon explained he was the originator of RPDT. The PDTs delve into the technical details and the RPDT concept was to have more meaningful public interaction. He said he was looking for a meaningful, efficient forum to discuss the status of where they were, major components and benefits of the project and the concerns from the public or other agencies that need to be taken into consideration. Dennis Duke added he would not expect to discuss the “down in the weeds” technical issues but rather major issues as well as input from the other agencies and the public. He would like to better engage the public and have a dialogue.

Dennis Duke explained there would be five to six projects allowing a more detailed discussion at every meeting. Craig Tepper said that formal consultation was required by the pro regs and he was trying to figure out whether the WG would be giving direction to the QRB. Ken Ammon said this was independent of the QRB issues and more than just a forum for the Working Group to provide input. They need participation by the counties, cities, interest groups and local citizens and the Working Group has the benefit of hearing those issues and potentially making changes to the direction. Dennis clarified the consultation requirements were CERP only. The projects that will be covered were those that affect the South Florida program and he hopes they can get a common message and common implementation policy across all the projects. Patti Webster said it became confusing as to when and where the PDTs would meet. The concept of the RDPT was great and there was value and Broward County learned a great deal of what was happening on other projects.

Public Comment

Cynthia Guerra (Tropical Audubon) agreed meetings were well attended in the beginning and noted she was personally limited to the number of meetings she was able to attend. The original RPDT concept was supposed to bring in those people who were able to make decisions and she was disappointed to see superficial presentations. She suggested the web would be a good forum for project updates and meetings could be used to tackle the difficult issues. She also stated that breakout sessions were not public friendly.

Susan Markley (Miami Dade DERM) noted that the RPDT had a broader membership than the Working Group and found the RPDT presentations were superficial and it was difficult to make a meaningful comment if you weren't really engaged at the PDT level. She suggested they allocate a significant amount of time to get into the substance of some of the issues. She observed that a lot of Project Managers were making presentations to their supervisors and were hesitant in bringing problems to light. She said those barriers need to be brought down.

Patrick Hayes (Martin County Soil and Water/Loxahatchee River Coalition) suggested adopting a philosophy similar to the Governing Board and the WRAC in allowing individuals to provide written comments. He said the RPDT provides a critical role in this process and there were a number of policy issues such as water quality, reservations, permitting, measurement of success that were common among all the PDTs. There was one major unintended consequence on the shift to PDTs, the Northern Plan had not had a PDT meeting since the RPDT was announced. He also was concerned that the technical teams have taken the opinions of the people that they want and the NEPA scoping meeting was not announced to everyone.

Nancy Lee said many times the Corps of Engineers knows what it should be doing and was aware of which alternative was better, however, they were afraid to say so. She urged the Corps to be a little stronger in what they say.

Erin Deady noted she attended many PDT meetings for clients and she had to submit a letter to the PDT just to get on the PDT e-mail list. Individual stakeholders should be freely included on e-mail lists and the web should be used more if they were going to push the technical discussion down to the PDTs.

Jamie Furgang said it was hard for stakeholders and the general public to be supportive of ideas if they don't have an understanding of the background. When they went from PDTs to RPDT, decisions were being made that changed the direction of a project and the public simply received a briefing. Using the forum as a means of providing an "early heads up" would be valuable and having an extra day added to the Working Group meeting would be useful. People need to understand why a decision was being made in order to bring them along the decision trail.

Rock Salt said the consultation on the Acme Basin and C-43 was useful and helpful to the Corps because it was a conversation on the real issues. It may be possible for a technical follow-on session particularly if the Project Managers were present.

Ed Wright said he had concerns with the time factor if they plan on involving the public in the discussions and it could mean more meetings. Bob Crim said substantive comments were going to come at the PDT meetings unless for example an agency was making different/conflicting comments at different meetings.

Ken Todd suggested updates and background information be provided on the web allowing everyone to get up to speed and not waste everyone's time. The Corps and the District should decide which projects would be on the agenda and the issues that need to be addressed. The general public should be notified a month or so in advance and we should know what their issues or concerns before hand.

Dennis Duke clarified the intent was to have the Project Manager here to answer specific questions. He appreciated the comments and said he would put together an outline for the next meeting. Ken Ammon said he had mixed emotions and noted that there was a subset of technical people working on the PDTs and much of the public doesn't know when the meetings were being held. His was concerned that some constituents were much more involved and driving a solution without an appropriate cross section of input from the environmental community.

Corps Update

Dennis Duke provided a presentation (Encl. 3) reviewing the current South Florida program to include the C&SF and CERP projects. He noted the Senate had passed the Corps' bill and it included \$35 million for Modified Water Deliveries. The Tamiami Trail final revised GRR was published for public comment and next steps include publishing the final in the federal register for a 30 day state and agency review. He noted a lot of support for the skyway, 10+ mile bridge, and the Corps was working to address concerns in the final document. Construction in the 8.5 Square Mile Area should start early next month. Five alternatives have been developed for the Combines Structural and Operational Plan and the CSOP Advisory Team has been briefed. The CSOP Team has developed recommendations for the Task Force. Dennis provided an update on the Kissimmee River Restoration, Critical Projects and C&SF program. Scoping meetings were ongoing on the Lake Okeechobee regulation schedule with the intent of reducing the average elevation in the lake and helping to improve the environment. A contract was awarded for \$19.7 million for the rehab of A 4.6 mile stretch of the Herbert Hoover dike. It sustained significant damage during Hurricane Wilma and this was the first step in a long process with the overall project cost exceeding \$200 million. He provided an update on CERP projects which included the Regional ASR Study which was underway. He noted the Contingency Plan team would meet in December and begin to develop a reservoir optimization analysis to look at the reservoirs around the lake to ensure the plan was consistent with the current modeling. He explained the challenge with Guidance Memoranda 4 on identification of water needed for the environment but said that it was nearly complete. The draft should be released in January 2006. The Interim Goals and Interim Targets agreements were being drafted and the agreements will be executed following consultation. The Five Year Report to Congress will be presented to the Task

Force in December for formal consultation. The report updates the overall CERP cost to \$10.5 billion with sixty percent of the increase due to inflation. A special report on exotics was being revised and should be released for public review in January 2006. The System Operating Manual will be the first system-wide operating manual and the first draft will be a compilation of all existing water control plans and schedules. This manual will be presented to the Task Force early next year for consultation.

Public Comment

None

Wayne reported Lee County put \$40 million towards the Babcock acquisition but noted that \$307 million was still needed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM

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Jay Slack called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. He recognized Steve Hart from Mario Diaz Balart's office. The minutes were presented and approved without objection.

Working Group Update

Jay Slack reviewed the presentation (Encl. 4) that he would give to the Task Force regarding the PIR consultation on the Acme Basin B and the C-43 Reservoir Part I. He explained there was general agreement with the Acme Basin B project and noted the following issues with the C-43 Reservoir:

- Guidance on storage reservoirs not associated with an STA
- Lake Hicpochee
 - Apparent lack of storage
 - Current natural function
- Shallow storage versus deeper storage
- Evaluate potential for added ground water storage
- Current land use
- Model questions
 - Appropriateness
 - Peer review

Gene Duncan said he would expect a significant amount of discussion at the Task Force meeting since the state was moving forward absent Congressional authorization. He asked if all the parties were still committed to CERP and asked why there was such a disconnect between the feds and the state. Jay said it was discussed at the Working Group and they need to let the Task Force know it was an issue and was being addressed. Gene was concerned that they would lose buy-in. Jay stated that they were taking a long time to put things in the ground and there had been a concerted effort to move forward with a suite of projects that can get something done based on a foundation of CERP. These projects were not chosen out of thin air but gleaned from CERP. Gene noted that the process allows everyone to be heard and questioned how the tribe gets a say in how the project gets built. Cheryl Ulrich said the projects were matching the initially authorized projects in WRDA 2000 and were consistent with the MISP. She noted there was a chart that explains the process and there were several entry points either through the 404, PIR or Acceler8 process. Rock clarified that although it was true that the state was paying, they can't move out without the feds and there were a host of federal responsibilities and actions. Gene Duncan reported the canals in Southern Golden Gates Estates have already been filled in and the state has spent a significant amount of money in advance of Congressional authorization because they were trying to condemn 800 acres of tribal lands. Rock said they need to acknowledge that there were a lot of policy and legal challenges and there was an incentive to work through these issues. Jay Slack would make sure presentation was updated for the Task Force meeting.

CSOP Advisory Team Update

Loly Espino acknowledged the Corps' efforts but noted that alternative five fell short of the team's performance expectations in six areas. The team has developed recommendations (Encl. 5) for improving these six areas. The recommendations (Encl. 5) will be presented to the Task Force at the December meeting. The team will also be asking the Task Force to extend its mandate since they would like to provide feedback on the latest modeling results and on the Tentatively Selected Plan.

Land Acquisition Task Team Update

Theresa Woody presented the revised 2005 Land Acquisition Strategy (Encl. 6) noting the new text was highlighted in red and future actions by various agencies have been added. She had received several comments from the Miccosukee Tribe that needed to be resolved. Gene Duncan said that drawing a line on

a map can cause the SFWMD to start condemning land inside the line. That was what the tribe's objection was. Theresa noted she understood the concerns and that they were struggling to adequately address those concerns.

Theresa also reviewed the status of the Natural Lands Report explaining that the House Appropriations Subcommittee asked the Secretary of the Interior as the Chair of the Task Force to produce a report to the Committee by the end of December. The report would identify and prioritize the lands necessary to achieve natural system goals as well funding strategies and time frames for land acquisition. She reviewed the procedures and the materials the subgroup used to assemble the report. Jay Slack noted the huge amount of work that had gone into putting these maps together. Susan Markley stated that county owned lands held either for conservation or some other purposes were not showing up on the maps. Theresa said she would work with Susan to make sure information was accurate. Members were asked to review the maps and provide Theresa with any edits.

Miccosukee Tribe of Indians Water Quality Standards

Gene Duncan noted that the Clean Water Act requires states and tribes to review and update their water quality standards every three years. He provided copies of the July 7, 2004 Miccosukee report (Encl. 7). He added that they have met or exceeded every single parameter. Jay Slack stated that Dr. Peter Frederick provided his office with a seminar and recommended that he provide a presentation at a joint Working Group and Science Coordination Group meeting.

Acceler8 Update

Ken Ammon provided a handout with accomplishments to date (Encl. 8) adding that it has been one year since the Governor's announcement. He also provided an update (Encl. 9) and reviewed current activities. The final draft of the EAA Regional Feasibility Study has been received and they will begin to hold public meetings. The study looked at more efficient ways to move water around the EAA in order to optimize the stormwater treatment area phosphorus removal. They have had some overloading issues because of the size of the STA or inability to move water to other STAs. They have also received 100% of the plans and specifications for STA 2, Cell 4 and STA 5, Flowway 3. He reviewed the contractor bidding process as well as the pre qualification process. He stated that the Basis of Design Reports (BODRs) would go out for public review and would be presented to the WRAC, Governing Board and Working Group. He also reviewed the PIR process for the Acceler8 projects.

Richard Harvey said they need to figure out how to deal with issues such as the C-111 project where the water quality improvement portion is delayed to Phase II. Ken said that it was their intent that none of these projects would cause or contribute to a water quality problem and they would have a net improvement.

Science Coordination Group Update

Rock Salt reported (Encl. 10) on the progress to date on the system-wide indicators which were defined as a suite of indicators that collectively provides the Task Force with a means to measure the success of attaining the strategic plan's restoration goals. He noted three emerging indicator categories: system-wide ecological indicators, system-wide compatibility indicators and indicators of key assumptions. He reviewed the potential suite of system-wide indicators. The Task Force asked for a peer reviewed set of indicators developed with public involvement. Task Force will be briefed and a 5 – 8 page summary will be provided for each one of the indicators. He also noted the comments from the independent review of the Plan for Coordinating Science had just been received. Three quarters of the comments were things they were already working on as part of Phase II. The review raised questions about the readability of the plan and encouraged the use of more graphics. The SCG will review the comments from the panel and incorporate the comments.

Wayne Daltry said that more focus was needed on the changes or increases to impervious surface which is not a new indicator and was one that local officials understand. Rock acknowledged that this was a new proposal to the group and they needed to work through how to develop an indicator that would be useful to the Task Force.

2006 Priorities Discussion

Jay Slack reviewed the 2005 Task Force priorities (Encl. 11) noting that some were general priorities and some were more specific. Both the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and Feasibility Study were ongoing activities and the Working Group would continue to get updates until they were completed. Rock Salt stated the consultation that took place in August made it one of the best meetings to date and suggested they develop a workplan so that a number of those issues can be taken up at each of the Working Group meetings. To that end it would be helpful to queue up the consultation. Consultation was a responsibility and information needed to be provided ahead of time. Rock said an improved 2006 meeting schedule would include more of what was done in August. Dan Kimball wanted to have a pro active informational program and have the Working Group go out and meet with local governments and entities about what CERP and Acceler8 were about. Patti Webster added that they needed to localize CERP and involve leaders to talk to their constituents. Broward County could possibly serve as a model. Rock Salt said they were on the verge of getting major improvements but the one weak spot in the dike was the potential for flooding as they put major improvement into the system. He specifically mentioned the seepage from the 8.5 SMA to the Broward line and noted that CSOP had some ideas.

Public Comment

Jody Thomas (The Nature Conservancy) said an emerging issue relates to some property they own in the upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes area. They were horrified to learn about five Developments of Regional Impacts (DRIs) proposed in this area and no one had thought about the cumulative impacts. Their site was used to do research on how to restore wetlands and no one knows what will happen as a result of the developments as there were many questions. Because of the potential changes in the state's growth management planning they will see a lot more of this and asked for this issue to be included on the Task Force agenda adding they need to do this in a more coordinated way.

Rock Salt said that Jody raised an important issue and that Interior's first reaction was that they were losing spatial extent. They were trying to think hard about how they engage in a responsible way and look for opportunities where the development was designed in ways compatible with the resources. He said they wanted to save their energies for those areas where there really was an impact that cannot be worked around.

Susan Markley said there was a need to provide information to local governments since there was much misinformation. Jay said they needed to reach out and do it continuously because new people come in all the time. This needs to be done in addition to the outreach that the other agencies were doing.

Ed Wright noted the many improvements to the website and suggested that they concentrate on making sure the sites were up to date. Greg clarified there were multiple websites and it was important for the responsible agencies to keep them up to date. Patti Webster said they needed to educate the local leaders and the public about the potential enjoyment of the resources.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Enclosures:

1. Agenda
2. Meeting Minutes, Aug 30, 2005
3. Corps Update
4. draft Working Group Power Point to Task Force
5. CSOP Recommendations to Task Force
6. Land Acquisition Strategy
7. Miccosukee Tribe Water Quality Standards
8. Acceler8 Accomplishments
9. Acceler8 Update
10. SCG Power Point
11. 2005 Task Force priorities
12. Working Group Roster