



South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

The Strategy and Biennial Report

**Working Group/Science Coordination
Group Meeting**

September 16, 2014



Report Purpose

- **The Strategy:** 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:** Requirements of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 to report biennially on Task Force activities and progress made toward restoration.
- **System-wide Ecological Indicators*** are used to assess the current status of the ecosystem and to track how it will respond to the implementation of the suite of restoration projects and system-wide operational changes over time.

*Combined, the strategic goals and system-wide ecological indicators provide a means of assessing restoration progress via both project implementation and ecosystem response.

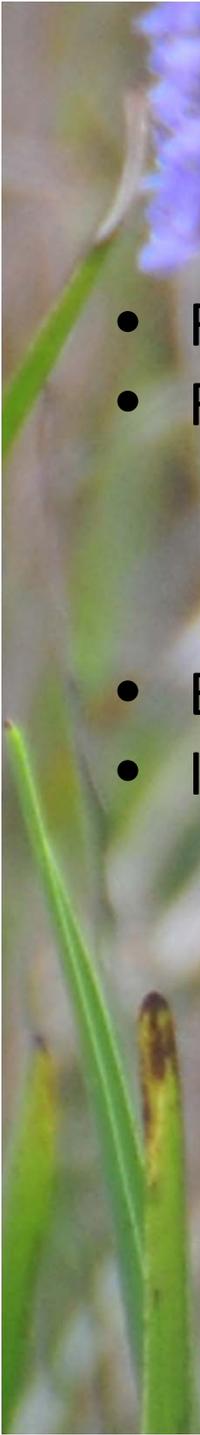
Four principal audiences:

- United States Congress
- Florida Legislature
- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida

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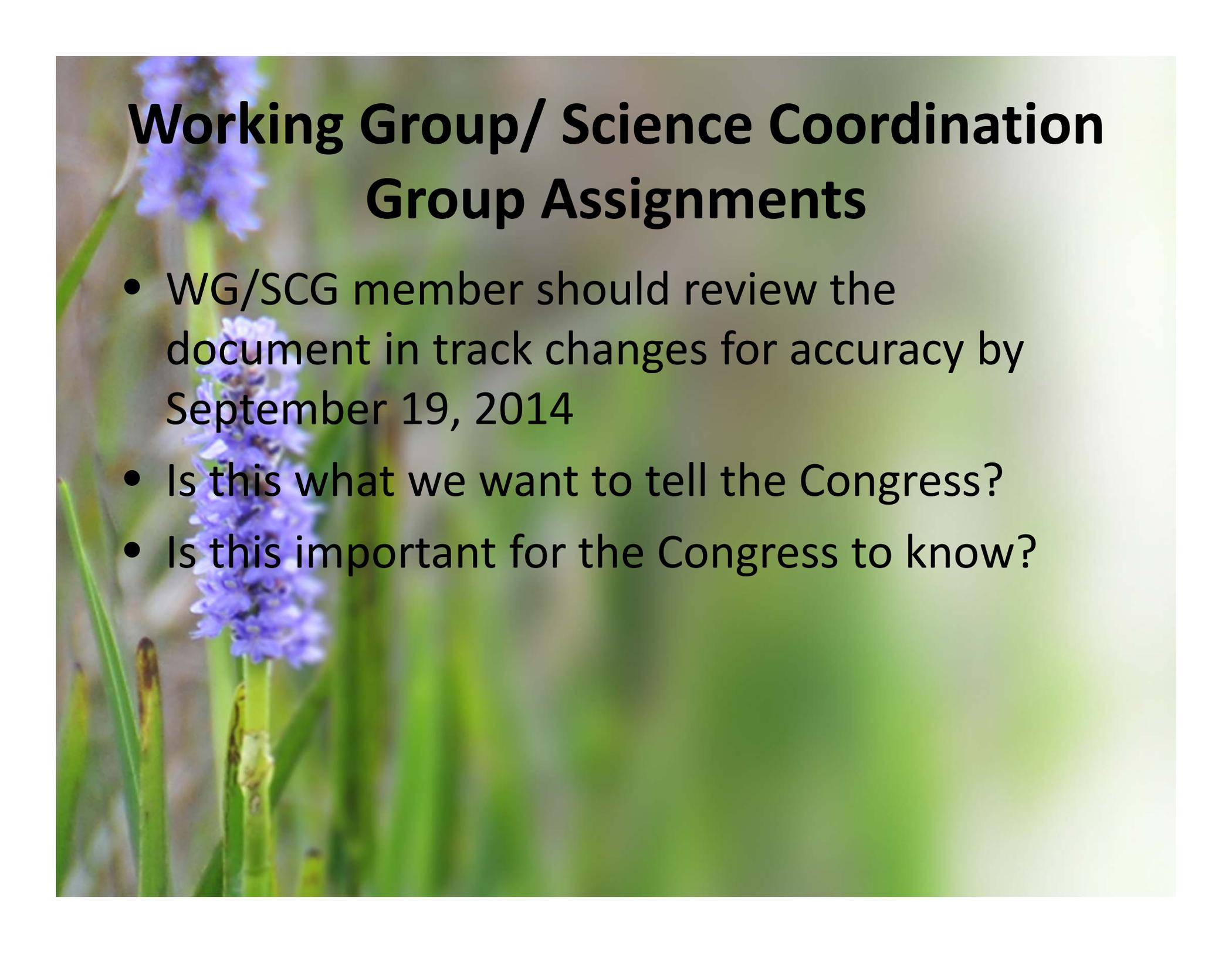
Schedule

- **September 2, 2014:** First draft of the *Strategy and Biennial Report* was distributed to WG and SCG
- **September 19, 2014:** Comments due to OERI
- **October 1, 2014:** Final *Strategy and Biennial Report* distributed to WG and SCG for acceptance at the October 23, 2014 meeting
- **November 4, 2014:** Final Strategy and Biennial Report distributed to the TF for approval at the November 18-19, 2014 meeting



2014 Improvements

- Reduced the narrative and used more bulleted text
- Re-organized information into more digestible categories
 - At a glance
 - Authorities
 - Discussion
- Enhanced the invasive sections
- Improved the indicator section
 - Shorter
 - Focus on audience of Congress, Legislature, and Tribes
 - Summary of indicators
 - Indicators at a glance
 - One page per indicator
 - Case studies/story lines- examples of ecological responses to investments

The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a purple flower spike, likely a lavender or similar species, with green leaves and stems visible. The image is slightly blurred, creating a soft, naturalistic backdrop for the text.

Working Group/ Science Coordination Group Assignments

- WG/SCG member should review the document in track changes for accuracy by September 19, 2014
- Is this what we want to tell the Congress?
- Is this important for the Congress to know?

Discussion

