Leadership Appointments to the Working Group and Science Coordination Group

Kevin Burger, Deputy Director
Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives

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The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force

Established by:

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996

- WRDA 1996 specifies:
  - Task Force Membership (14 total members, 7 Federal, 5 State and 2 Tribal)
  - Required duties of the Task Force
  - Directs the Task Force to establish a Florida-based Working Group to help carry out its duties
  - Directs the Task Force to coordinate all scientific and other research associated with restoration (Florida-based Science Coordination Group [SCG])
Task Force Duties

The duties of the Task Force (TF) which are accomplished through the activities of its Working Group and Science Coordination Group include:

- Consult with the Secretary of the Army on CERP
- Coordinate the development of consistent policies, strategies, plans, programs, projects, activities, and priorities
- Exchange information to promote restoration
- Establish a Florida-based Working Group (WG)
- Facilitate the resolution of any interagency and intergovernmental conflicts
- Coordinate scientific and other restoration research
- Provide assistance to TF members in their restoration activities
- Report on restoration progress (Biennial Report to Congress and Integrated Financial Plan)
- Facilitate public participation in all TF duties and functions
Task Force Organization

Task Force
Chair: Susan Combs, USDOI
Vice Chair: Drew Bartlett, FDEP

Advisory Bodies
- Water Resources Analysis Coalition
  - Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission

Regional Coordination Teams
- Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team

Issue Based Teams
- Invasive Exotic Species Strategic Action Framework

Working Group

Science Coordination Group

Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives
Working Group and Science Coordination Group Appointments

- Each member of the Task Force can appoint their WG and SCG representatives as per their Charters.
- The Task Force, based on recommendations from the WG and SCG, collectively appoints the leadership (Chairs and Vice-Chairs) for such terms as the Task Force may select.
Working Group
Leadership Recommendations

Chair: James Erskine
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
➢ Everglades Coordinator
➢ Working on South Florida Ecosystem restoration for 20 years
➢ Former Vice Chair of the Working Group

Vice Chair: Nick Aumen
U.S. Geological Survey
➢ Coordinator of the USGS Greater Everglades Priority Ecosystem Sciences program
➢ Working on South Florida Ecosystem restoration for 27 years
➢ Former Chair of the Science Coordination Group
Science Coordination Group
Leadership Recommendations

Chair: Susan Gray
South Florida Water Management District
➢ Bureau Chief of the Applied Sciences
➢ Working on South Florida Ecosystem restoration for 26 years
➢ Ph.D. in Biological Sciences

Vice Chair: Bob Johnson
National Park Service - Everglades National Park
➢ Director of the South Florida Natural Resources Center
➢ Working on South Florida Ecosystem restoration for 35 years
➢ M.S. Environmental Sciences/Water Resources
Leadership Appointment Action

Task Force approval of WG and SCG leadership recommendations for:

• James Erskine and Nick Aumen as WG Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

• Susan Gray and Bob Johnson as SCG Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.
QUESTIONS?