BISCAYNE BAY REGIONAL RESTORATION COORDINATION TEAM
Meeting #24

August 1, 2003
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Rosensteil School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
Key Biscayne, Florida

Report of Proceedings

WELCOME/AGENDA REVIEW

Team Chair, Humberto Alonso, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
Team members introduced themselves, as there were several new members
present. Mr. Alonso then turned the meeting over to the facilitator, Janice
Fleischer.

Ms. Fleischer reviewed the Agenda for the day (Exhibit A), the Team's
Discussion Guidelines and the contents of member meeting packets. She
thanked members Keith Revel, Rafaela Monchek and Daniel Apt for their
assistance working as an organizational sub-group advising on agenda items for
the meetings.

Members present:

Humberto Alonso, Jr., Chair, South Florida Water Management District
Daniel Apt, Department of Environmental Protection
Marisa Bluestone, Florida Legislature from Miami-Dade County
Fran Bohnsack, Miami River Marine Group
Rick Clark, Biscayne National Park
Marsha Colbert, Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve
Nancy Diersing, NOAA/FL Keys National Marine Sanctuary
Phil Everingham, Miami Marine Council
Cynthia Guerra, Tropical Audubon
Natalie Schneider, South Florida Regional Planning Council
Rafaela Monchek, South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force
Keith Revell, At-Large Member
John Proni, NOAA
Sandra Schneckenberger, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Joe Walsh, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

CHAIR'S REPORT

Item #1: working group response to team requests:

At the end of the June meeting, Mr. Alonso had provided copies of the Working Group's (WG) letter of response to the requests of the Team (for requests to the WG, (see Exhibit "A" of the June meeting for a copy of Mr. Alonso's powerpoint presentation to the WG) in regard to membership, group governance and designation of projects. (Exhibit B) He indicated that the WG response was very positive and supportive.

Item #2: Team membership:

One of the requests to the WG made by the Team was to increase its citizen membership. Currently the Team Charter calls for three (3) representatives from the environment, two (2) "at large" members, and four (4) representatives of Bay users. The Team had decided to increase environmental representation to six (6), user groups to six (6), and "at large" members to four (4). It was felt this would provide a better balance since many federal, state and local agencies have representation on the Team. In order to accomplish this task, it was first necessary to review the current membership and get consensus on whether the groups currently indicated as belonging to a specific category (environment, user, etc.) really belong in that category. Additionally, several groups and representatives have either never been to a meeting or have attended so few meetings as to make their representation ineffective.

Mr. Alonso wanted Team members to indicate their preferences and suggestions for Team composition so he could go to the WG with a formal request and a list of suggestions. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Chart A attached to this Report as Exhibit C shows the makeup and designation of representatives prior to this meeting's discussion. Chart B attached to this Report as Exhibit D indicates suggested changes to member categories, along with notes regarding the need to confirm Designees and Alternates for each group.

In addition to the above referenced Charts, the Team had the following suggestions:

1. With regard to the representative from Miami Dade County (Team has no current member), the following names were suggested:
     a. Bill Dobson (Commissioner Sorenson's office)

b.　Jose Diaz (on the Ecosystem Task Force), MD County Comm.
　　c.　Bruno A. Barreiro, MD County Commissioner

2.　With regard to environmental groups that could be added:
　　a.　Sierra Club
　　b.　National Park Conservation Association
　　c.　Biscayne Bay Foundation
　　d.　Urban Environmental League (this may be a user group, not environmental)
　　e.　Nature Conservancy
　　f.　National Audubon (possibly duplicative)
　　g.　Mr. Alonso and Rafaela Monchek will review the historic records to find which groups have indicated their interest by requesting to have a representative on the Team in the past. These groups were turned down because formerly it was thought the Team membership could not be changed.

3.　With regard to user groups:
　　a.　International Game and Fish Association (recreational)
　　b.　Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau
　　c.　Commercial fishermen category
　　　　i.　OFF- Organized Fishermen of Florida
　　d.　Recreational fishermen category
　　e.　Biscayne Bay Yacht Racing Association
　　f.　Port of Miami (Note: one member said this was an "agency" not a user group)
　　　　i.　It was discussed that the Port has several divisions and not all would be appropriate to be on the Team, care should be taken to indicate which division is being invited
　　g.　Fishing guide category
　　h.　Shane Watersports Center
　　i.　Board sailors category
　　j.　Divers category
　　k.　Tourism category
　　l.　Fisheries
　　m.　Recreational boaters (non-power)

4.　Agencies suggested for possible additions:
　　a.　Miami Dade Water and Sewer Department
　　b.　Miami Dade Parks and Recreation

5.　Utilities suggested:
　　a.　Florida Power and Light

6. At Large members suggestions:
   a. Blanca Mesa (activist)
   b. Daniel Kipnis (fishing guide)
   c. Mabel Miller (educator)
   d. Harvey Ruvin (BBPI)
   e. Jim Murley (BBPI)
   f. Dr. Ken Lipner (economist)
   g. Bruce Matheson (boater, Biscayne Bay conservationist)

Item #3: Project list for 2004-2005

As a last item, Mr. Alonso reported to the Team that he had received a request from the WG for a list of projects for the 2004-2005 year. He indicated that due to budget cuts, the 2003-2004 projects previously approved by the Team were never funded. In considering the priority of finalizing an Action Plan and the work necessary by the Team to complete that task, his suggestion was to notify the WG that the last projects approved should be moved forward to the 2004-2005 year budget. In this way, the Team can concentrate on the Action Plan, which will include criteria by which projects can more accurately be identified in the future. The Team agreed to this suggestion by consensus.

At this point in the meeting, the Team broke for lunch.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: CONSENSUS DISCUSSION

A chart had been prepared by the Facilitator to reflect the work done by the Team at the previous meeting. (Exhibit E) Each Goal of the Team was shown followed by the sub groupings identified along with their related issue groups. Additionally, if Objectives or action (implementation) items were identified, they were also reflected on the chart. The Facilitator had the Team review the chart one Goal at a time. She asked for comments after each Goal was reviewed. The following comments were recorded:

Overall comments:
1. There seems to be a lack of rationale for some of the subgroups.
2. This Action Plan needs to integrate into Homeland Security considerations; this is having an impact on the Bay now
3. Possibly get someone connected to Homeland Security on the Team as an "at large" member. (Joseph Pinon-Miami Dade Director of Homeland Security)

Goal: Readily Accessible & Appreciated

1. All the issues that are showing on the first page of the chart do not seem to be reflected on the subsequent pages on this Goal. Note: A Team member who worked on this Goal at the last meeting reported that the members who developed the subgroups reflected on Page 2 of the chart felt that all the issues from page 1 were encompassed in the two "collapsed" subgroups shown on Page 2 of the chart.
2. Land Use and Miscellaneous categories are still missing.
3. Commercial vessels belong under "appreciation" for commercial uses.
4. Some issues may lose priority ranking if you combine the subgroups.

Goal: Supports Uses & Economic Activity

1. Under "Marine Industries", the Port of Miami includes export and import
2. Infrastructure linkages need to be shown
3. There is an overlap with economic impacts and education
4. Tourism should be a separate subgroup

Goal: Ecological and Physical Restoration

1. Clean Marinas Program belongs somewhere in one of these subgroups
2. Bay water quality objectives are needed
3. Under water quality: the objectives are optimistic
4. Examine the relationship between water quality and dredging

Consensus was not reached on the sub groupings or Objectives during the meeting. Team members felt they needed more time to review the charts and their contents.

As the meeting had started late and the earlier discussions had taken a longer period of time than expected, the Facilitator felt the Team would be best served by adjourning early. Prior to the formal adjournment, she asked Team members to sign up for which Goal grouping they would like to work on as sub group members. The following members indicated their preferences as follows:

Goal: Readily Accessible & Appreciated
Marisa Bluestone
Marsha Colbert
Cindy Dwyer
Cynthia Guerra
Audrey Ordenes

Goal: Supports Uses & Economic Activity
John Hulsey (listed by Natalie Schneider)
Phil Everingham
Fran Bohnsack
Keith Revell

Goal: Ecological and Physical Restoration
Sandra Sneckenberger/Patrick Pitts
Daniel Apt
John Proni
Joe Walsh
Nancy Diersing
Rick Clark

Members were reminded to fill in their Evaluations and the meeting was adjourned.