

Appendix B: TASK FORCE CHARTER

Approved TF Charter

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SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE

Task Force Charter

August 1, 1997

1. **AUTHORIZATION.** The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force was established by section 528(f) of Public Law 104-303, the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (hereinafter referred to as the Act), enacted October 12, 1996.
2. **DUTIES.** The Task Force was established to:
 - a. Consult with, and provide recommendations to, the Secretary of the Army and the non-Federal project sponsor in developing a comprehensive plan for the purpose of restoring, preserving, and protecting the South Florida ecosystem, in accordance with sections 528(b)(1) and 528(f)(2)(A) of the Act.
 - b. Coordinate the development of consistent policies, strategies, plans, programs, projects, activities, and priorities for addressing the restoration, preservation, and protection of the South Florida ecosystem, as provided in section 528(f)(2)(B) of the Act. Such coordination shall include cooperation with the Secretary of the Army and the non-Federal project sponsor in determining whether a critical restoration project for the South Florida ecosystem will produce independent, immediate, and substantial restoration, preservation, and protection benefits, and will be generally consistent with the "Conceptual Plan for the Central and Southern Florida Project Restudy" prepared by the Governor's Commission for a Sustainable South Florida, in accordance with section 528(b)(3)(A) of the Act.
 - c. Exchange information regarding programs, projects, and activities of the agencies and entities represented on the Task Force to promote ecosystem restoration and maintenance, as provided in section 528(f)(2)(C) of the Act.
 - d. Establish a Florida-based working group to formulate, recommend, coordinate, and implement the policies, strategies, plans, programs, projects, activities, and priorities of the Task Force, in accordance with section 528(f)(2)(D) of the Act.
 - e. Facilitate the resolution of interagency and intergovernmental conflicts associated with the restoration of the South Florida ecosystem among agencies and entities represented on the Task Force, as provided in section

(iv) The Attorney General.

(v) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(vi) The Secretary of Agriculture.

(vii) The Secretary of Transportation.

(2) One member from each the following Indian Tribes, each of whom shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendations of the respective tribal chairman:

(i) The Seminole Tribe of Florida.

(ii) The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida.

(3) Two representatives of the State of Florida appointed by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendations of the Governor.

(4) One representative of the South Florida Water Management District appointed by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendations of the Governor.

(5) Two representatives of local government in the State of Florida to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendations of the Governor.

b. There is no time limit for the term of any member. A person's membership shall terminate after leaving the office from which that member was appointed or designated. Any of the federal officials listed in subparagraph 4.a.(1), above, may at any time designate a substitute member at the level of assistant secretary or the equivalent. Any member appointed by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendation of the Governor may be removed or replaced by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendation of the Governor. Any member appointed by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendation of a tribal chairman may be removed or replaced by the Secretary of the Interior based on the recommendation of the chairman of the same Tribe.

c. Any vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

d. A member shall receive no additional compensation for service on the Task Force, in accordance with section 528(f)(4) of the Act.

5. ADMINISTRATION.

a. An Executive Director shall assist the Secretary of the Interior and the Task Force in carrying out their administrative and procedural duties,

authorize the Executive Director to request, from the head of any Federal agency not represented on the Task Force, personnel to be detailed to assist the Executive Director or the Task Force.

7. TERMINATION. The Task Force shall continue to exist only for so long as it is authorized by Federal law.

Signed By:

Secretary of the Interior - Bruce Babbitt