



SFWMD RECREATIONAL FORUM MINUTES

December 16, 2019, 5:00 PM

District Headquarters - B-1 Auditorium

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Introductions and Purpose

Mr. Cook called the meeting to order at approximately 5:05 PM.

Jennifer Smith, Chief of Staff thanked everyone for attending and also thanked Mr. Cook for facilitating the meeting.

This item is recorded at:

<http://sfwmd.igmd.com/Citizens/SplitView.aspx?Mode=Video&MeetingID=2000&Format=Agenda>

2. Overview of the South Florida Trail Riders Organization - Augie Saavedra, Treasurer of the South Florida Trail Riders

Augie Saavedra, Treasurer of the South Florida Trail Riders, gave an overview of the South Florida Trail Riders Organization, and how the organization utilizes District right-of-ways and lands for horseback riding.

This item is recorded at:

<http://sfwmd.igmd.com/Citizens/SplitView.aspx?Mode=Video&MeetingID=2000&Format=Agenda>

3. Overview of the Angler Action Foundation - Brett Fitzgerald, Executive Director of the Angler Action Foundation

Brett Fitzgerald, Executive Director of the Angler Action Foundation provided an overview of the Angler Action Foundation.

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4. Palm Beach County Shooting Range - Bill Cline, FWC Safety Coordinator

Bill Cline, FWC Safety Coordinator provided an update.

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5. State Python Removal Program - Rory Feeney, SFWMD Land Resources Bureau Chief,

Rory Feeney provided a presentation on the Python Elimination Program. Items discussed included Governor DeSantis' efforts to protect the Everglades, the District's program enhancement expansion of the python elimination program; enhanced coordination and collaboration efforts, optimization and implementation of vetted detection technologies and

research and continued monitoring programs. Mr. Feeney also stated the importance of public engagement and informed the stakeholders of the Florida Python Challenge – 2020 Python Bowl.

This item is recorded at:

<http://sfwmd.ig2.com/Citizens/SplitView.aspx?Mode=Video&MeetingID=2000&Format=Agenda>

6. Vegetation Management in Stormwater Treatment Areas Program - LeRoy Rodgers, Vegetation Management Section Leader

LeRoy Rodgers provided an overview and the importance of the District's Vegetation Management Program in properly managing the Stormwater Treatment Areas.

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7. Public Use Project Updates - Jerry Krenz, Sr. Planner, Land Stewardship Section, SFWMD

Jerry Krenz provided updates on STA construction and the L-38 W temporary test plug project which is currently being installed. The benefits of the test plug were discussed and how recreational boaters would be notified through the installation of signage and buoys.

Comments were provided by:
Bishop Wright
Newton Cook

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8. Recreational Facility and Volunteer Project Updates - Dan Cotter, Land Stewardship Section Leader

Dan Cotter provided an update on the Recreational Facility and Volunteer Projects. The Kissimmee River Valley Sportsmen's Association was recognized for their volunteer efforts and installing a new public use shelter on District lands in the Upper Chain of Lakes.

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9. Recreation Discussion, Updates and Future Topics

Future agenda items requested at the meeting include a status update on the two FDOT boat ramps located on US 27, the possibility of establishing alligator hunts in STA 1E, and providing additional hunting opportunities in the C23/24 area.

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10. Adjourn

The forum adjourned at 8:00 PM