

## Exhibit C

### Document Overall Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

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# Title: Suggest a Title

Joan Browder: "Rediscover Biscayne Bay"

## The Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team DRAFT Action Plan for Biscayne Bay

### Introduction Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### INTRODUCTION

Biscayne Bay lies on the south east coast of Florida. Its waters touch the coastlines of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties. Connected with the Florida Bay and the Southern Florida Everglades, in total, this system includes 428 square miles.

Biscayne Bay is a clear-water bay, with high biodiversity. Here, the diverse marine world of the Bay lies on the edge of the hustling and bustling metropolitan city of Miami. The lucky residents of this area get the benefit of both city life and laid-back island living while enjoying the waters of Biscayne Bay and the fast-paced existence of Miami. Miami-Dade County is the only county in the United States that can boast possessing two national parks and a national marine sanctuary within its boundaries. Biscayne Bay also has a state aquatic preserve, and many other national and state managed protected areas.

It is a challenge to preserve and protect the natural resources of Biscayne Bay, while allowing Miami to grow and thrive. Currently the number of residents stands at more than 2 million and is rising. With this booming population comes an increased pressure on the ecosystem of Biscayne Bay.

## Team Formation Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

### **Formation of the Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRT)**

In 1999 the Florida legislature established the Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative (BBPI). This community-based group was formed to assess the activities and programs that affect Biscayne Bay, and to provide feedback on actions that could be taken to preserve its natural resources. The mission of the BBPI was

*“the development of an open and inclusive, community-based forum to survey public and private sector activities and programs affecting Biscayne Bay, and to provide recommendations for actions to protect, improve, and enhance the Bay’s resources, its social, economic, and natural values, with it’s ecological health as a priority.”*

As part of this plan, BBPI recommended the establishment of the Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRT) to be part of the Working Group of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force. The BBRRT would be an advisory committee within the task force structure, and would provide a public forum to allow governmental agencies, private commerce, and the public to interface on issues that affect Biscayne Bay.

The management team of the BBPI report recommended the BBRRT have eighteen initial member representatives.

- 1 – Member of Florida State Legislature from Dade County
- 1 – Miami-Dade County Commissioner selected by the Commission
- 2 – Municipal representatives selected by the Dade League of Cities
- 8 – Agency Members, one from each of the following agencies:
  - ? Florida Department of Environmental Protection
  - ? Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
  - ? South Florida Water Management District
  - ? Army Corps of Engineers
  - ? Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
  - ? Biscayne National Park
  - ? Miami-Dade Department of Environmental Resources Management
  - ? Miami-Dade Department of Planning and Zoning
- 6 – Citizens, two representing each of the following interests:
  - ? Environmental

- ? Marine-user group(s)
- ? At large

On September 24, 2001 the Charter of the BBRRCT was approved by the Working Group. Twenty-three member organizations were included on the Team, which has now grown to 31 members. **Janice Input** These members represent all Biscayne Bay interests, public and private and are dedicated to protecting and improving the values of Biscayne Bay.

### Vision Language Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

### **BBRRCT Vision**

The initial objective of the Team as identified in the Team’s Charter approved by the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Working Group was to develop a Biscayne Bay Action Plan. The Team and Working Group intended for this Action Plan to be developed through a consensus process that would “*guide efforts and prioritize activities to balance appropriate economic use with improved public access, increased habitat restoration, and environmental protection.*” To begin the process of developing the Action Plan, the Team developed and adopted their vision for the future of Biscayne Bay which is as follows;

*Biscayne Bay is ecologically restored. It is readily accessible to and appreciated by all members of our diverse community. It supports a variety of uses and economic activities that are environmentally sustainable. Biscayne Bay is managed to promote coordination and to resolve conflicts among competing objectives with sufficient resources to achieve this vision.*

### Decision Making Language Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

### **Consensus-Based Decision Making**

The BBRRCT ensured success by making every attempt to reach decisions through consensus. During the formation of this Action Plan, all members were able to share their expertise, clear problems were identified, and solutions and recommendations were agreed upon through a collaborative process.

This process involved using a specific ranking process. Members are asked, by a show of fingers, (1 through 5) to express their agreement on a specific issue. 5 fingers means wholehearted support, 4 fingers means support, 3 fingers means neutral but will support the decision fully to the outside world, 2 fingers means still have questions to ask, and 1 finger blocks any decision being reached by the group. Consensus was defined as everyone showing no less than 3 fingers in the ranking process.

If any member had a show of 1 or 2 fingers, discussion followed to answer the questions or concerns of those members. Team members helped one another resolve concerns and conflicts. After a period of discussion, a second ranking was taken to determine if consensus had been reached. If there were no members showing 1 or 2 fingers then consensus was reached and the group moved on to the next issue. If, in the second ranking, there were still members who indicated their concerns by a showing of 1 or 2 fingers, the Team went to a voting system on that issue.

A quorum, defined as 50% plus 1 of the voting members, was required in order to have a meeting. If an item was voted upon, 75% of the voting members present were required to pass an item if a vote became necessary.

### Process Language Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### The Process

To begin the process of developing an action plan, the Team first identified issues they felt were important to the Bay. Issues were then grouped into their natural affinities which resulted in the identification of the Team's three substantive goal groups: Access and Appreciation; Supports Uses and Economic Activities, and Ecological and Physical Restoration. Having identified these three goal groups, the Team went on to develop and prioritize objectives for each goal. The team decided that prioritizing the objectives of each substantive goal group was sufficient to inform the project selection and funding processes being undertaken by implementing organizations.

The Team completed their work on the substantive goal groups by identifying other plans and projects that supported many of their objectives in these three areas. As will be described in detail later, these plans and projects were adopted in whole or part by the Team. By doing so, the Team was in a position to concentrate on its Overarching Goals. These goals have objectives which the team can implement and oversee. Using the same process as they did

for their substantive goals, the Team went on to develop objectives for their Overarching Goals. The three themes of the Overarching Goals were: Coordination, Funding, and Evaluation and Monitoring. Action steps were developed under the three overarching themes focusing the role of the BRRCT to act as a “watchdog” or “voice,” for Biscayne Bay. During this process each Team member debated, expressed their views, and ultimately came to agreement on the action steps they would follow once their Action Plan was adopted.

From this information, an Action Plan was drafted for review and approval by the Team using a system of “single text” drafting. As the draft was refined and revised, the Team provided their expert comments and input concerning every aspect of the draft. A final product was accepted in month, \_\_\_\_\_year, \_\_\_\_\_.

Overarching Goals Introduction Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

**Overarching Goals**

The role of the BRRCT, as stated by the BBPI Report, is to “sound a voice for Biscayne Bay.” It is the intent of the BRRCT to unify those who use, manage, and take pleasure in all the Bay has to offer. The BRRCT will act as a “clearinghouse” of information by providing a forum where stakeholders can both express and hear others views on issues concerning the health and well-being of Biscayne Bay. The BRRCT will be a “priority setter,” increasing and elevating the importance of Biscayne Bay’s restoration needs among agencies, policy makers, and citizens by publicizing the Team’s vision, working to empower decision makers to be aware of the needs of Biscayne Bay, and periodically updating the Team’s action plan.

In order to best serve as this unified voice, the BRRCT will focus their actions through their three overarching goals; Coordination, Funding, and Evaluation and Monitoring.

### Coordination Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### Coordination

Coordination must play an integral role in the way the BBRCT promotes restoration of Biscayne Bay, and operates as a Team. Currently there are numerous governmental and non-governmental projects moving forward that will affect the Bay. The BBRCT will focus on eliminating the duplication of any of these efforts in order for the projects to reach their full potential in improving all aspects of Biscayne Bay. By providing this public forum, the BBRCT can foresee and eliminate conflict among Biscayne Bay stakeholders, and improve upon the interagency coordination in the Miami-Dade community.

#### Objectives:

- Increase awareness and visibility of Biscayne Bay among agencies, policymakers and citizen's by publicizing the Team's Vision.
- Guide efforts to balance environmental protection, increased habitat restoration, appropriate economic use, and improved public access.
- Improve regulation and enforcement coordination among agencies.
- Elevate the importance of Biscayne Bay's restoration needs in regional planning.
- Become a clearinghouse and use the clearinghouse function to inform the public and policy makers about Biscayne Bay related activities.
- Become a forum where agencies/organizations/stakeholders involved in or affecting Biscayne Bay come to hear and report about what they are doing and what is being done in order to identify gaps, duplications and conflicts.

### Funding Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### Funding

Money can often be a barrier when it comes to restoration projects for Biscayne Bay. The BBRCT would like to ensure that Biscayne Bay is given equal amounts of funding in comparison to other water bodies in the state of Florida. To do this the BBRCT will work to find more money and resources for

Biscayne Bay and continue its role as a clearinghouse to provide information to others about where and how that funding can be obtained.

Objectives

- The BBRRCT is committed to ensuring funding resources are identified, obtained and utilized for the management and protection of Biscayne Bay.
- Provide an accessible list of funding sources for Bay related activities.
- Ensure state agencies serve Biscayne Bay at a level consistent with other areas.
- Provide feedback from outside organizations (such as TPL, and the Strategic Science Team) on what they need in the way of funding for their projects.

**Evaluation and Monitoring**

(To come later)

**Substantive Goals Introduction Ranking**

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

**Substantive Goal groups**

The BBRRCT identified three main goal groups as their focus in the development of the action plan; Readily Accessible and Appreciated, Supports Uses and Economic Activities, and Ecological and Physical Restoration. The objectives under each goal group represent the current, most important issues concerning Biscayne Bay, and the most feasible ways the Bay can be restored. These objectives were selected in the development of the initial plan, but may be expanded and revised in the future as new issues arise or priorities change.



## Accessible and Appreciated Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### **Readily Accessible and Appreciated**

Biscayne Bay is important to those who live on or near its waters. For thousands of years Biscayne Bay has provided access to its natural resources, its waters for navigation, and its beauty for all to appreciate. Today access to Biscayne Bay still provides the Miami-Dade community with many opportunities. Fishing, boating, swimming, and education are just some of the ways Biscayne Bay can be utilized by the public. All people in this diverse community should have the benefit of this access, and be able to appreciate the Bay for its natural resources. However, public use of Biscayne Bay should not damage its environmental characteristics or interfere with the Bay user experience.

Education and awareness should target all members of the Biscayne Bay community. Residents, fishermen, local politicians, marine industry workers, school children and tourists should all be made aware of the aesthetic, environmental and economic values of Biscayne Bay, as well as how to preserve these values for the future.

Public lands next to the Bay should provide community access, and where possible should allow for water-related activities and green space to enhance the user experience. The BBRRCT places special emphasis on the management of the bay and shoreline uses, and maintaining public access for users of the Bay to enjoy. Also, vessel access and traffic should be examined as a means of keeping the Bay navigable and accessible, while promoting environmentally safe practices by boaters.

### **Objectives**

- 1. Promote outreach efforts to educate and inform all primary, secondary, and post-secondary students and educators, the general public with an emphasis on minorities, public officials, direct users of the Bay, and tourists, about the aesthetic, environmental, and economic values of Biscayne Bay.*
- 2. The below objectives are those that the BBRRCT has in common with other organizations pursuing Biscayne Bay issues.*
  - Increase the boating skills of users on the Bay.*

- *Improve vessel and mooring access to the Bay and to boating facilities along the Bay in an environmentally sustainable manner.*
- *Maintain and increase green space along the Bay for public use.*
- *Link public access points along the Bay using a variety of economic and commercial activities and to provide transportation modes and signage of these points to the public.*
- *Maintain water-dependent uses on waterfront land, including where appropriate habitat restoration, public access, and commercial activity.*
- *Increase visitor use of underutilized parks by providing better facilities such as parking lots, concession stands, and bathrooms.*
- *In an environmentally sustainable manner, support the use of Biscayne Bay as a draw for tourism by assuring Biscayne Bay activities are a part of convention and visitors bureau promotional material emphasizing ecotourism opportunities (kayak, scuba/snorkel).*
- *Ensure local officials safeguard the ecological needs of Biscayne Bay as they develop and implement land use and water management plans and projects.*

*In accomplishing the objectives listed above, the BBRRCT supports the Trust for Public Land Strategic Public Access Plan, “Get Your Feet Wet, the Plan to Discover Biscayne Bay,” and the Biscayne Bay Environmental Coalition’s Discover Biscayne Bay Campaign Action Plan in their efforts to pursue the above objectives.*

*In addition to those objectives listed above, the BBRRCT has the following objectives related to Access:*

3. *Support the creation of an integrated management plan with goals encompassing the different bay and shoreline uses considering the establishment of zones on the Bay and its shoreline.*
4. *Support the creation of a River Walk along the Miami River.*
5. *Improve the amount and type of pervious surfaces and stormwater Best Management Practice use in construction of the Biscayne Bay watershed.*

## Uses and Economic Activities Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### **Supports Uses and Economic Activities**

Biscayne Bay holds along its coastline the Port of Miami, one of the largest passenger and commercial ports of call in the world. One of its largest tributaries is the Miami River, a working river that serves as Florida's fifth largest port and the primary service area of international trade to the Caribbean.

The Bay supports a multitude of industries necessary for the thriving community of Miami such as shipping, marinas, boat dealers, tourism, and fishing to name a few. However, the BBRRCT recognizes that some of the activities associated with these marine industries can be harmful to the preservation and restoration efforts of Biscayne Bay.

These impacts include pollution discharges from cruise ships and other vessels, litter, coastal construction impacts, over-fishing, and essential habitat damage. These water-dependent economic activities need to improve upon their compatibility with the goals of improving the Biscayne Bay ecosystem. The BBRRCT would like to support sustainable marine industry projects that enhance the user experience of the Bay, while eliminating damage to the natural environment. The BBRRCT supports promoting Best Management Practices for the cruise, fishing, and shipping industries, and also, encouraging development that will be positive for the Bay and its users. Furthermore, the efforts underway to study the impact of the South Miami-Dade watershed on Biscayne Bay and the surrounding environment should be considered in all decision making that pertains to Biscayne Bay.

### **Objectives**

- 1. In an environmentally sustainable manner, support the use of Biscayne Bay as a draw for development geared toward tourism.*
- 2. Review the Manatee Protection Plan and the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve Act and make an assessment of their impact on the marine industry.*
- 3. In an environmentally sustainable manner, increase boating related business while reducing boating related impacts.*
- 4. Develop plans for Marine Industry growth including the Port of Miami that balances environmental sustainability and economically sustained growth*

*and considers the impacts of marine construction, achieves increased efficiency and contiguity of deep and shallow water ports, greater local economic benefit from the cruise industry, and improved marine facility infrastructure.*

### Ecological and Physical Restoration Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### **Ecological and Physical Restoration**

Historically, Biscayne Bay possessed both estuary and marine habitats, and was bordered by mangrove communities and wetlands. However, as the population of Miami grew, the biological make-up of Biscayne Bay changed. The alteration of the freshwater inflow into Biscayne Bay has severely degraded the estuarine habitats. The Bay varies from having marine conditions in some areas, to very low salinity conditions near canal discharge sites. The dredging and filling of seagrass beds has disturbed the bottom composition of Biscayne Bay, and the development of the shoreline has all but wiped out mangrove communities in some areas. In addition, direct human-related activities have introduced contaminants such as dissolved nutrients, trace metals, and organic chemicals through storm water runoff, sewage system overflows, and canal discharge. The effects of these stressors have threatened the ecosystem and natural resources of Biscayne Bay.

Life in Biscayne Bay consists of over 512 species of fish, and over 800 species of invertebrates. Sea turtles, manatees, and bottlenose dolphins call Biscayne Bay home, and add to its unique and diverse qualities. In order for this abundance of life to be preserved for future generations to come, restoration of Biscayne Bay must address habitat loss. Therefore, the BBRRCT supports the ecological and physical improvement of the Biscayne Bay ecosystem.

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) is a project that will have a very profound effect on Biscayne Bay. This plan is bringing much attention and funding to the South Florida area. However, strong advocacy for Biscayne Bay as a separate entity from the Everglades is imperative for Biscayne Bay to receive sufficient resources and funding for restoration efforts. The BBRRCT recognizes the need to secure support for the Bay, while keeping Biscayne Bay stakeholders updated and included in the CERP process. The BBRRCT objectives for CERP coordination are to support including water resources and turbidity issues of Biscayne Bay as an equal goal in this plan.

The BBRRCT also supports cooperation among the local governments to decrease the amount of land and marine based pollution. This is an important aspect to improvement of the Bay for the users as well as the abundance of life that calls Biscayne Bay home. To further guide efforts in ecological and physical restoration, the BBRRCT supports the completion of the Biscayne National Park Fisheries Management Plan, as well as the General Management Plan for Biscayne Bay.

### Objectives

1. *The below objectives are those that the BBRRCT has in common with other organizations pursuing Biscayne Bay issues.*
  - a. *Improve fisheries stocks in the Bay by studying how fishing pressure affects populations, the impact of incidental by-catch, ways to increase sustainable techniques and practices, and introducing stocking programs.*
  - b. *Identify and reduce point and non-point sources of pollution to Biscayne Bay, from land and marine based sources.*
  - c. *Improve timing, distribution, and the quality and quantity of freshwater inputs into Biscayne Bay to create a more stable mesohaline estuarine zone in the near shore and nearby coastal marshes.*
  - d. *Evaluate the current and future impact of sea level rise on Biscayne Bay ecology.*
  - e. *Reduce habitat loss impairing native species diversity and imperiled species by collecting baseline data to better understand how this environment functions.*

*In accomplishing the objectives listed above, the BBRRCT supports the Biscayne Bay subcommittee of the Florida Bay and Adjacent Marine Systems Program Management Committee and their Strategic Science Plan in its efforts to pursue the above objectives.*

*In addition to those objectives listed in #1 above, the BBRRCT has the following objectives related to Ecological and Physical Restoration.*

2. *Support the completion of the Biscayne National Park Fisheries Management Plan and General Management Plan for Biscayne Bay.*
3. *Support the inclusion of Biscayne Bay water resource issues as an equal objective to Everglades restoration in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).*

4. *Support the continuation of exotic species regulation, removal and control; and improvement of exotic species management techniques.*
5. *Encourage and support ongoing and existing Biscayne Bay restoration efforts.*
6. *Participate and provide input to the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) development program being undertaken by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).*

### Endorsements Introduction Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

## ENDORSEMENTS

As the BRRCT went through the process of establishing objectives and action steps, it became apparent that other organizations were pursuing some of the very same objectives the BRRCT had identified as critical for Biscayne Bay. One of the key roles of the BRRCT is to coordinate efforts on behalf of the Bay. With this in mind, the Team decided to endorse those plans that already exist and support them in every way possible to avoid a duplication of efforts. The BRRCT feels that they can be more effective this way by using their power of influence to make sure that those projects are as successful as possible in helping Biscayne Bay.

### TPL Public Access Plan Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

## **Trust for Public Land Strategic Public Access Plan**

One of the key elements the Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative (BBPI) report identified as important was access. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) was commissioned to conduct a study that addressed many issues concerning public access and appreciation in Biscayne Bay. Under guidance and authority from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), TPL formed a Team to concentrate on goals they identified: *environmental awareness and public education, respect for wildlife, balanced and equitable access to Biscayne Bay, promoting economic vitality and balanced growth, coordinated governance and sound public policy, transportation alternatives, and safety and enforcement.* TPL received input from user groups with a variety of interests including education, environment, tourism and recreation, government, business, planning,

and resource management. This study has led to the production of a culminating Strategic Public Access Plan, “Get Your Feet Wet, the Plan to Discover Biscayne Bay.”

The Biscayne Bay Regional Restoration Coordination Team (BBRRCT) is committed to ensuring Biscayne Bay is readily accessible to and appreciated by all members of our diverse community including enhancing the overall bay user experience. To that end, the BBRRCT finds it beneficial and appropriate to endorse the Trust for Public Land (TPL) Strategic Public Access Plan for Biscayne Bay entitled “Get Your Feet Wet, The Plan to Discover Biscayne Bay”. Many of the objectives the BBRRCT seeks implementation for in Biscayne Bay, coincide with those identified in the TPL Strategic Public Access Plan. The BBRRCT finds that implementation of the TPL Strategic Public Access Plan provides the best means for achieving long lasting improvement of access and appreciation of Biscayne Bay.

### Environmental Education Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

### **Biscayne Bay Environmental Education Project**

In addition to the efforts by TPL, the Biscayne Bay Environmental Education Alliance has created the “Biscayne Bay Environmental Education Project.” Citizens for a Better South Florida organized this alliance which includes the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Biscayne Nature Center, Biscayne National Park, Operation Green Leaves, the Biscayne Area Restoration Trust, Florida Sea Grant, Tropical Audubon Society, the Trust for Public Land, the Florida Marine Council, DERM, the Miami Children’s Museum, the Deering Estate, Miami Dade County Parks and Recreation, Fairchild Tropical Garden, the Virginia Key Trust, Urban Kayak Outfitters, the South Florida Water Management District, Shake a Leg Miami, and Florida Atlantic University’s Catanese Center for Environmental Solutions. Part of this project includes a Discover Biscayne Bay campaign action plan. The goal of this campaign is;

*“To establish an informed and engaged public so that policies and practices can be developed and supported that will benefit both Biscayne Bay’s ecology and people’s quality of life to the greatest extent that those aspects can be measured and obtained.”*

This plan will target primary, secondary, and post-secondary students and educators and provide them with the means to share the environmental education experience in the classroom as well as after-school and on field trips.

It will target the general public with an emphasis on minorities so that all members of the Miami-Dade community can have an appreciation for the environmental values of the Bay. Public officials will be made aware of the progress of Biscayne Bay with the creation of a State of the Bay report. Also, an assessment will be made of the knowledge held by public officials concerning Biscayne Bay to see where there is a need for further education of our local decision-makers. Direct users of the bay will be targeted with an emphasis on boaters through educational brochures and marine events. Finally, tourists will be targeted. The Environmental Educational Alliance will ensure tourist activities on Biscayne Bay are publicized and included in Greater Miami Conventions and Visitors Bureau information.

### Strategic Science Plan Ranking

5	4	3	2	1

### Strategic Science Plan

The BBRRCT also supports the efforts being taken to improve the health of the Bay through the Strategic Science Plan. In 1998, The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration (SFER) Working Group requested that The Florida Bay Program Management Committee (PMC) extend their research to Biscayne Bay. Utilizing information from the Science Survey Team of the Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative, (BBPI) the Biscayne Bay subcommittee of the Florida Bay and Adjacent Marine Systems Program Management Committee prepared a Strategic Science Plan for Biscayne Bay. Completed in January 2002, the plan was designed around the premise that in order for management decisions to occur in Biscayne Bay, timely scientific information must be available. The key elements of the Strategic Science Plan are *restoring estuarine character, eliminating pollutant impacts, and restoring sustainable fisheries*. The BBRRCT wishes to endorse the Strategic Science Plan, where applicable, in order to create uniformity among the participants in the restoration of Biscayne Bay.



### Action Steps Ranking

<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

#### **Action Steps**

Actions are the backbone of how the BBRRCT will coordinate its efforts to achieve a healthy and restored Biscayne Bay. Below are the action steps formed with the goal group objectives and the overarching objectives of Coordination, Funding, Evaluation and Monitoring in mind.

1. Obtain status updates, evaluate, make recommendations to, and consider recommendations for funding the TPL Strategic Public Access Plan.	Annually
2. Obtain an update from the Miami River Commission (MRC) concerning the progress of developing a River Walk along the Miami River.	Annually
3. Obtain updates from the Biscayne National Park (BNP), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the State of Florida on the development of fisheries management plans and regulations.	Annually
4. Provide input and recommendations to BNP, NMFS, and the State of Florida concerning the Fisheries Management Plans for Biscayne Bay.	Annually
5. Obtain briefings from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) on specific fisheries stocks and fishing regulation changes in Biscayne Bay.	Annually
6. Request regular updates from enforcement agencies concerning coastal development compliance with permits and regulations.	Annually

7. Review the Biscayne Bay Partnership Initiative (BBPI) regulation inventory and provide recommendations for new rules and/or zones.	Single event
8. Obtain briefings on the progress of the Strategic Science Plan from the science Team and provide feedback on priority projects.	Annually
9. Establish a science workshop to keep an open dialog between managers and scientists.	Annually
10. Have a presence at critical marine industry workshops, and encourage the use of best management practices for construction and pollution control in Biscayne Bay.	Annually
11. Provide feedback to the Florida Bay Program Management Committee (PMC) subgroup concerning management issues.	Annually
12. Develop training workshops with environmental aspects for potential and current employees of commercial/recreational fishing industries.	Annually
<p>13. Obtain briefings from local government officials on their actions to address:</p> <p>a) Improving the storm water management systems and maintenance practices.</p> <p>b) Coordinating with local groups to establish bay-wide cleanups to decrease the trash and marine debris in the Bay.</p> <p>c) Identifying and communicating Best Management Practices to the cruise industry to decrease the existence and levels of cruise ship discharges in the Bay.</p> <p>d) Investigate ways to create better litter law compliance.</p>	Annually
14. Facilitate a water quality workshop focusing on Best Management Practices.	Annually
15. Endorse capital improvement projects that	Annually

eliminate sources of pollution to the Bay and help identify funding for these projects.	
16. Obtain briefings, evaluate, and give feedback on the projects within the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan of special concern to Biscayne Bay.	Annually
17. Provide a resource of funding opportunities for projects in Biscayne Bay.	Annually
18. Develop a State of the Bay report card encompassing all aspects of the Bay to be given to all stakeholders.	Annually

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