

*Working together to
conserve Florida's wildlife
and natural places for
future generations*



**THE NEWSLETTER OF
FLORIDA'S WILDLIFE LEGACY
INITIATIVE**



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Fall 2012

New Grant Cycle Open

We are pleased to invite you to submit applications for Florida's State Wildlife Grants Program. Applications are due October 5, 2012 at noon.

We are seeking applications for the following projects.

- Marine Goal
 - Dendrogyra cylindrus* Genetic Diversity in Florida
 - Montastrea annularis* and *Montastrea franksi* Genetic Diversity in Florida
- Data Gaps Goal
 - Closing Data Gaps for the Florida Bonneted Bat (*Eumops floridanus*)
 - Multi-Species of Greatest Conservation Need Fish Population Presence and Location Validation
- Monitoring and Adaptation Goal
 - Living Shorelines

For more information, visit [State Wildlife Grants](#).

Aim High: SWAP's 2012-2017 Goals

After the completion of the State Wildlife Action Plan in 2005, the FWC worked with partners from 2006 to 2011 and made significant progress on implementing the original State Wildlife Action Plan's goals. In 2011, the FWC again coordinated with partners and other stakeholders to develop new goals for implementation from 2012 through 2017. These goals align with priorities identified in the 2011 Action Plan.

These are the 2012 through 2017 goals.

- [Action Plan Monitoring and Adaptation](#): Address landscape-level issues to enhance and evaluate implementation of the State Wildlife Action Plan and provide information necessary for adaptive management.
- [Marine](#): Improve coral reef restoration and conserve species of greatest conservation need through planning and research.
- [Freshwater](#): Improve or maintain hydrologic conditions, water quality or physical habitats for the support of species of greatest conservation need in freshwater systems with high-ranking basins.
- [Terrestrial](#): Increase the use of fire as a management tool to support upland habitat conservation that benefits Florida's species of greatest conservation need.
- [Data Gaps](#): Acquire information necessary to conserve species of greatest conservation need, to establish measurable objectives for these species and to monitor achievement of the objectives for the species.

Working together, we will achieve these goals!

Who's Who in FWLI

Do you have a questions related to Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative, but aren't sure who to ask? Now you can find the right person.



Kate Haley Parsons
FWLI Program Coordinator
Adaptation Goal Lead



Stacey Whichel
SWG Coordinator



Heather Hitt
Northeast Region Legacy
Biologist
Terrestrial and Data Gaps
Goals Lead



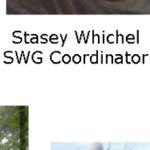
Brian Branciforte
SWAP Coordinator



Whitney Gray
Sea Level Rise
Coordinator



Jessica Graham
Northwest Region Legacy
Biologist
Freshwater Goal Lead



Kelly Rezac
Southwest
Region Legacy
Biologist
Monitoring
Goal Lead



Elizabeth Slack
SWG Assistant
Coordinator



Mary Truglio
South Region Legacy Biologist
Marine Goal Co-Lead



Caroline Gorga
North Central Region
Legacy Biologist
Starting October 2012



Andrea Alden
Marine Legacy Biologist
Marine Goal Lead
Adaptation Co-Lead



Kevin Kemp
Freshwater Legacy Biologist
Freshwater Goal Lead



Diana Swan (US Fish and
Wildlife Service)
Assisting with Sampling



Diana Swan (US Fish and
Wildlife Service)
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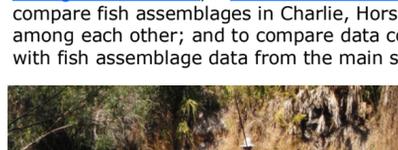
Now that you know who's who, feel free to [contact us](#).

**Partnership on the Peace
By Amanda Schworm, Project Manager**

At 105 miles in length, the Peace River is the largest softwater stream in southwest Florida, beginning at the confluence of Peace and Saddle Creeks in Polk County and continuing south through Hardee and Desoto Counties until its discharge into Charlotte Harbor. Within the last fifty years, anthropogenic impacts have affected the Peace River and its tributaries. The effects of these impacts on fish communities within these tributaries is unknown. In 2010, with matching funds from the [Southwest Florida Water Management District](#), a [State Wildlife Grant](#) was awarded to assess and compare fish assemblages in Charlie, Horse, Prairie, and Shell Creeks among each other; and to compare data collected on these four tributaries with fish assemblage data from the main stem of the Peace River.



Peace River Watershed



Electrofishing Microtransect

The project has been so successful that the Southwest Florida Water Management District elected to fund an expansion of the project into other Peace River tributaries, independent of State Wildlife Grant funding. The additional work will determine fish assemblages in Cypress and Bulldog Creeks and compare these data against data collected in Charlie, Horse, Prairie, and Shell Creeks and the Peace River.



Diana Swan (US Fish and
Wildlife Service)
Assisting with Sampling

With data from the Peace River as well as six of its tributaries, the Southwest Florida Water Management District will be better able to determine the links between fish communities and anthropogenic impacts, and better equipped to make and support management decisions.

Contact List Updated

We recently updated our contact list of partners, experts, and stakeholders. Those on our mailing list can expect to receive potential funding announcements for State Wildlife Grants once per year, newsletters and other State Wildlife Action Plan and State Wildlife Grants information one to four times per year, and possibly requests for public comment or review on draft documents zero to four times per year.

If you are not currently receiving FWLI's e-mails, please [sign up](#).

To remove your name from FWLI's mailing list, please contact [Heather Hitt](#).

The 411 on SWG and TWW

For the last twelve years, the US Fish and Wildlife Service's State Wildlife Grants provided the funding to prevent at-risk species from becoming threatened and endangered. Funding from the SWG Program supports the implementation of [Florida's State Wildlife Action Plan](#). Drafted with input from a wide cross-section of stakeholders, this comprehensive document provides information on the status of Florida's habitats and wildlife, identifies the threats that they face and provides a framework of the actions needed to conserve them. Planning for the future and focusing on preventative conservation is the most cost-effective and efficient way to address the challenges facing all wildlife today. Please join our efforts and help us secure long-term dedicated funding for Florida's wildlife conservation and related education and recreation. [Sign up and learn more about Florida's Teaming With Wildlife Coalition!](#)

**You can help! Join the Teaming with
Wildlife Coalition!**



WSFR Celebrates 75 Years

The landmark legislation that established the [US Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Program](#) is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary. The Restoration Act is recognized as one of the most important and lasting commitments that America has made to the conservation of wildlife and sportfish.

Not only have these funds been critical to conserving our fish, wildlife and their habitats, it has provided for outdoor recreation opportunities for people as well. As A. Willis Robertson wrote in 1932, "...I feel that the high recreation at which the average man has been living is wrecking entirely too many nervous systems. Hunting and fishing is the best nerve tonic I know, and I believe that a greater opportunity for the average citizen to engage in this type of outdoor recreation would greatly promote both the health and happiness of our people."

September 22, 2012 marks the annual observance of [National Hunting and Fishing Day!](#)