

Background Report

Miami tiger beetle Biological Review Group Members

Staff recommended Biological Review Group members that are to be designated by the Commission per Chapter 68A-27.0012, F.A.C., include the following:

David Almquist has a Bachelor's degree in entomology from University of Florida, is a Research Associate with the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, and has more than 15 years' experience with rare Florida beetles. Almquist has worked at the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI) since 2005, and is responsible for compiling, entering and updating information about the rare and endangered invertebrates tracked by FNAI, evaluating additional invertebrate species for inclusion in the database and surveying for the presence of rare invertebrates. He is particularly knowledgeable about rare Florida beetles, has reviewed and entered into FNAI's database all available information about the Miami Tiger Beetle, and has personal experience with our only federal candidate tiger beetle species, the Highlands Tiger Beetle (*Cicindela highlandensis*).

Dr. Tom Schultz received his B.A. from the University of Chicago and his Ph.D. from the University of Texas. He is a behavioral ecologist, specializing in the production, perception, and function of color in sexual signals and defensive tactics of insects. Throughout his career, he has authored or co-authored 11 publications about the chemical defenses and camouflage of tiger beetles. Dr. Schultz has served as Professor of Biology in the Department of Biology at Denison University since 2000, and has previously served as chair of that department and as director of the Denison University Biological Reserve.

Jonathan Mays is a Research Scientist with FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute where he focuses on reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. Jonathan received a Bachelor of Science from Tennessee Technological University and a Master's of Science from Western Carolina University. His graduate research inventoried and investigated cave fauna communities in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Jonathan has over 15 years of experience working for state wildlife agencies in Florida, Maine, North Carolina, and Tennessee.