

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners  
**From:** James M. Erskine, Everglades Coordinator  
**Date:** July 11, 2017  
**Subject:** Staff Update - Florida Bay

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**Purpose:**

Staff will provide an overview of Florida Bay current ecological conditions, restoration efforts, and spotlight the Moving Water to Florida Bay Project.

**Summary:**

Florida Bay is an integral part of the south Florida ecosystem that supports significant ecological resources, marine based economies, and provides exceptional recreational opportunities such as boating, fishing and wildlife viewing. As a critical component of the south Florida ecosystem there are numerous research, monitoring and restoration efforts underway. Improving the quantity, timing and distribution of fresh water delivered to Florida Bay remains a primary objective of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The presentation will also update Commissioners on implementation of the non-CERP project Moving Water to Florida Bay, initiated by the South Florida Water Management District in 2016.

**Staff Recommendation:**

This presentation is for informational purposes and any direction the Commission may want to provide.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

James Erskine, Everglades Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives