

Chapter 151 - WATER RESOURCES ANALYSIS COALITION CHARTER

Sec. 151-1. - Creation.

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board's Water Resources Analysis Coalition ("WRAC") is hereby created. The WRAC is a non-voting group established for information-gathering and fact-finding only. The WRAC is not delegated, by form or function, any decision-making or advisory authority. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District exclusively retains all decision-making authority related to the tasks of the WRAC.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)

Sec. 151-2. - Purpose.

The WRAC shall serve as a fact-finding body supporting the Governing Board and as a forum for improving public participation in water resource issues affecting south Florida by:

- (a) Working to build consensus among and within the public and private sectors regarding water resource activities impacting south Florida;
- (b) Gathering information related to the effects of continued population growth, development and agriculture on south Florida's natural resources; and
- (c) Gathering information related to the need to restore, preserve, and protect the greater south Florida ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region, including water supply and flood protection.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)

Sec. 151-3. - Tasks.

The WRAC shall carry out the following tasks:

- (a) Serve as a public forum for coordinating information on the status of the numerous efforts under way to study, restore, manage, protect, and preserve south Florida's water resources.
- (b) Serve as a public forum for consensus building among stakeholder interests on a variety of water resource issues, projects and/or programs.
- (c) Gather information for Governing Board consideration for enhancing coordination in the approaches being taken to studying, restoring, managing, preserving and protecting south Florida's water resources among those federal, state, and regional agencies, local governments, task forces, private and non-private organizations, and other parties that either have jurisdiction within south Florida or otherwise are involved in efforts impacting or benefiting south Florida's water resources.
- (d) Solicit and provide opportunities for public input on key issues involved in establishing and sustaining a healthy ecosystem and economy into the future.
- (e) Gather information for Governing Board consideration on topics including:
 - (1) Improving coordination and eliminating duplicative efforts among governments, agencies, task forces, and other organizations;
 - (2) Increasing understanding of the workings of south Florida's water resources, and the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project;
 - (3) Restoring, managing, protecting, and preserving south Florida's natural resources including the greater Kissimmee-Lake Okeechobee-Everglades ecosystem;

- (4) Promoting sustainable and environmentally compatible urban and agricultural development that supports healthy ecosystems;
- (5) Enhancing the public's understanding of the necessity for both preserving and restoring natural resources and supporting sustainable urban and agricultural development;
- (6) Allocating and reserving water resources needed for the environment and all beneficial uses;
- (7) Critical water resource issues;
- (8) Implementation of regional water supply plans; and
- (9) CERP implementation and other Everglades restoration initiatives.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)

Sec. 151-4. - Status reporting.

Upon request of the Governing Board Chairperson, the WRAC shall provide gathered information for Governing Board consideration.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)

Sec. 151-5. - Invited attendees for the WRAC.

- (a) Invited attendees for the fact-finding WRAC shall reflect the diversity of the overall south Florida community and shall include balanced and appropriate representation from the following six classifications:
 - (1) The south Florida business community;
 - (2) Water supply utilities;
 - (3) Agriculture;
 - (4) Public interest groups;
 - (5) Local government; and
 - (6) Environmental organizations.
- (b) The following agencies and entities shall be requested to identify and provide a representative to provide further technical assistance to the fact-finding WRAC.
 - (1) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
 - (2) U.S. Department of the Interior;
 - (3) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;
 - (4) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
 - (5) Florida Department of Environmental Protection;
 - (6) Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
 - (7) Florida Department of Community Affairs;
 - (8) Florida Department of Transportation;
 - (9) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
 - (10) Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida; and

(11) Seminole Tribe of Florida.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)

Sec. 151-6. - Selections.

- (a) Invited attendees for the fact-finding WRAC referenced in Governing Board Policy section 151-5(a) shall be selected by the Governing Board. Each Governing Board member, including the Governing Board Chairperson, shall select two invited attendees.
- (b) The Governing Board Chairperson shall also select an appropriate number of additional invited attendees to ensure balanced representation among the six classifications set forth in section 151-5. The Governing Board Chairperson's additional selections shall be subject to ratification by the Governing Board.
- (c) The Chairperson of the Governing Board shall designate a member of the Governing Board to serve as facilitator of the WRAC to ensure proper decorum.
- (d) A selection as an invited attendee to the fact-finding WRAC shall automatically expire upon the expiration or termination of the term of the Governing Board member who made the selection, including any statutory holdover period for the Governing Board member. A Governing Board member may update that Governing Board member's selections at any time.
- (e) If a person serves as a technical support representative of an entity named in section 151-5(b), failure to maintain that representative status will constitute cause for removal by the facilitator of the WRAC.
- (f) Upon dissolution of the Governing Board's Water Resource Advisory Commission, those members appointed by the Governing Board and those members representing other entities on the Water Resource Advisory Commission shall concurrently be selected, without further action by the Governing Board, as invited attendees for participation in the Water Resources Analysis Coalition.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)

Sec. 151-7. - Public forums.

- (a) The WRAC will have public forums on a regular basis, as necessary, to complete the tasks set by Governing Board directive. The WRAC will also have public forums upon the call of the Governing Board chairperson or as directed by vote of the Governing Board. The dates and assigned topics for the public forums shall be determined by the facilitator of the WRAC. In furtherance of public participation, all public forums shall be publicly noticed and receive public comment.
- (b) Invited attendees under section 151.5(a) may be reimbursed for travel and expenses in accordance with F.S. Chapter 112, for attendance at noticed public forums, to the extent funds are available for this purpose and upon written request to the facilitator of the WRAC showing one-way travel exceeds 90 miles. Individual invited attendee reimbursements shall not exceed \$250.00 per public forum.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017; Res. No. 2018-0513, § 1, 5-10-2018)

Sec. 151-8. - Staff support.

A reasonable and appropriate level of staff support to the WRAC shall be provided by the District.

(Res. No. 2017-1110, § 4, 11-9-2017)