



# Purpose of the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board & Watershed Action Plan


December 6, 2021

Irela Bagué  
Chief Bay Officer



## Land Acknowledgement

Our proceedings and the natural resources we will be discussing occur on the ancestral and traditional lands of the Seminole, Miccosukee, and Tequesta people.



*...what endures...*

Video still from Houston Cypress, ... what endures... 2021, digital video. Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami Digital Commission. Supported by the Knight Foundation.



## Miami-Dade County Biscayne Bay Task Force



In memory of **Alyce Robertson** for her valuable contribution to the Biscayne Bay Task Force and her dedication to public service and love of our natural environment.

### June 2017

BBTF stemmed from a Call to Action by stakeholders at the first Biscayne Bay Marine Health Summit.

### February 2019

BBTF established by Miami-Dade County Commission.

### June 2020

BBTF issues final report to Miami-Dade County Mayor.

### August 2020

Following an unprecedented fish kill, BBTF Chair provides special presentation to County Mayor and Commission.

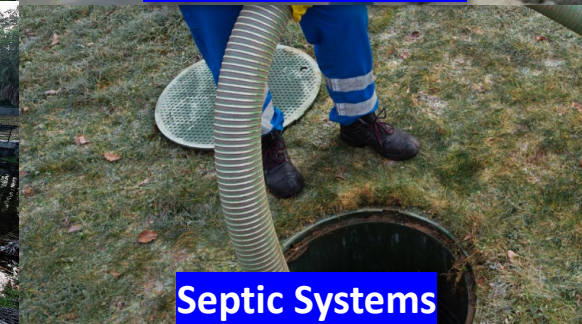


# Biscayne Bay is in Decline

- ▶ Seagrass Die Off
- ▶ Algal Blooms
- ▶ Fish Kills
- ▶ Coral Disease
- ▶ Saltwater Intrusion

We needed coordination and collaboration with all levels of government and the general public.

We Now Know That What Happens On The Land Ends Up In Our Bay!







# Miami-Dade County Chief Bay Officer

## Advise | Coordinate | Advocate

- Advise County Mayor & Board of County Commissioners
- Work with County departments, governments, agencies, stakeholders to develop a new watershed management plan.
- Help coordinate recovery plans & projects in areas with the highest levels of nutrient pollution. (*Little River/Miami River*)
  - Septic to Sewer Conversions
  - Wastewater Improvements
  - Stormwater Improvements
  - Restoration of Coastal Habitats
- Improve public education and advocate the importance of restoring Biscayne Bay and report on progress.

## Biscayne Bay Task Force Recommendations Allowed Us To:

- IDENTIFY DATA GAPS THAT WILL HELP US CREATE NUTRIENT REDUCTION PLANS AND HABITAT RESTORATION PLANS
- PRIORITIZE WATER QUALITY ISSUES AND HOT SPOTS
- PRIORITIZE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, INCLUDING STORMWATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECTS



Water Quality



Governance



Infrastructure



Watershed Habitat  
Restoration and  
Natural Infrastructure



Marine Debris



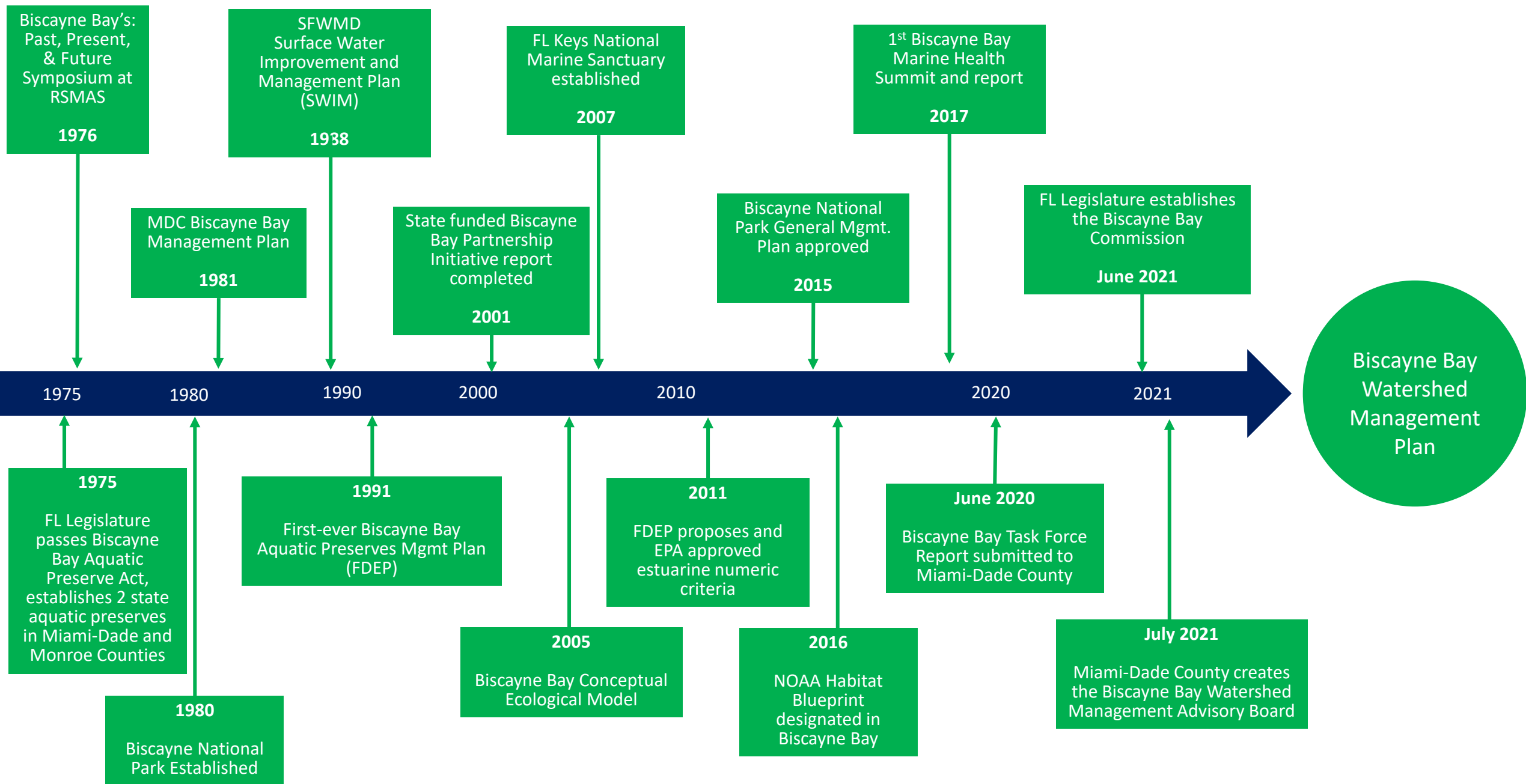
Education &  
Outreach



Funding

Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board  
(Miami-Dade County)

Biscayne Bay Watershed  
Management Plan





## **Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory**

Advises Mayor & County Commission on Bay related issues.

Makes recommendations for a new watershed management plan.

Collaborates with Biscayne Bay Commission (FDEP).



## **Local / State Partnership**

## **Recovery Plan Coordination**

## **Project Funding**



## **Biscayne Bay Commission**

Receives and reviews Biscayne Bay plans and project priorities from Miami-Dade County.

Ensures plans and projects are funded and implemented timely.

Submits semiannual report on accomplishments and status of pending tasks.







Thank you for your service!