

# Florida: On the Frontlines of Climate Change



**Doug Parsons, Partnership Coordinator  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Sea Level Rise Adaption in the FL Keys, May 10-12, 2010**

# Florida's Unique Vulnerability to Climate change

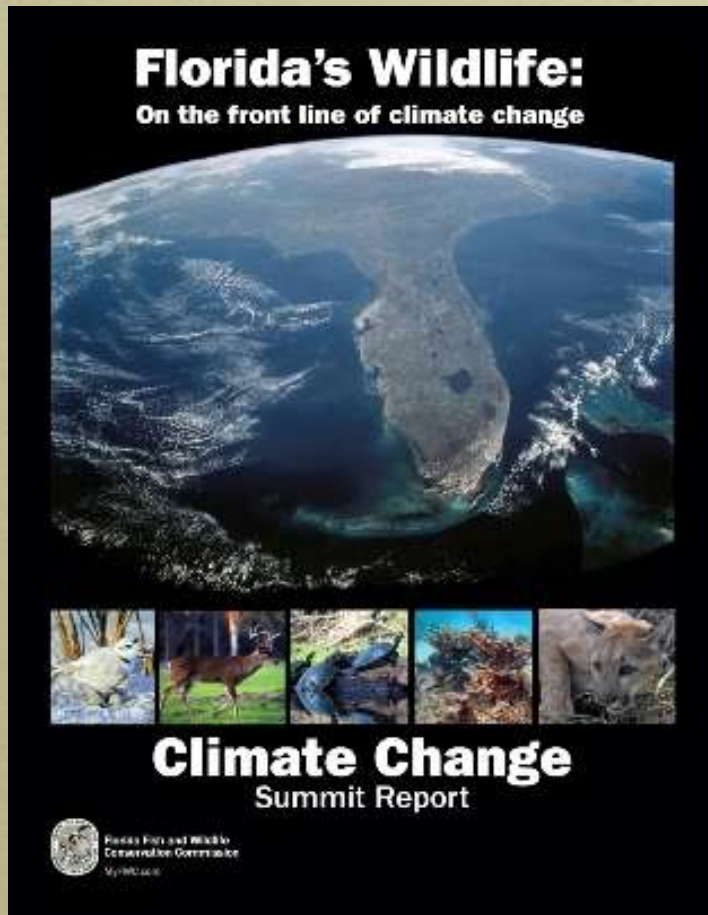


Commission Resolution, September 2007



# FWC Climate Change Summit

## October 1-3, 2008



### Breakout Session Topics

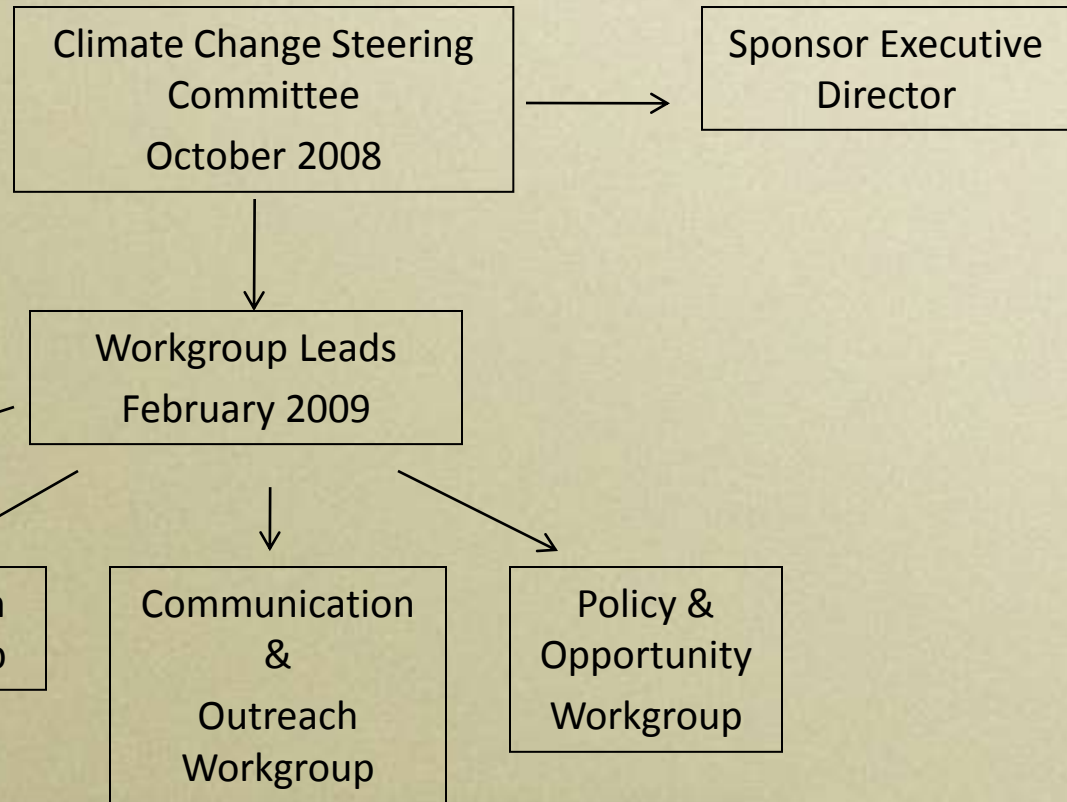
- Marine, Coastal, and Estuarine Ecosystems
- Inland Aquatic and Semi-aquatic Ecosystems
- Hunting and Fishing
- Native Terrestrial Species, Communities, and Ecosystems
- Invasive Species
- Natural Resource Management and Land-use Planning

### Summit Report:

- Highlights speakers
- Synthesizes breakout sessions.
- Discusses future planning for FWC



# FWC Climate Structure





# Climate Change Certification of Completion

## 10 Month Course Structure

1. Monthly Speakers
2. Required Readings
3. Forum participation
4. Final Project

## Speakers

Dr. Adam Terando, NC State

Patty Glick, National Wildlife Federation

Dr. Jessica Thompson, Colo State

Dr. Susan Cameron Devitt, UF

Dr. Reed Noss, UCF

Mark Shaffer, U.S. FWS

Dr. Eric Barron, President FSU

Alex Score, EcoAdapt

J.B. Ruhl, FSU



# FWC and Sea Level Rise

## Sea Level Rise Coordinator

- Technical and social science expertise needed.
- Sensitivity to the controversy.
- Responsibilities
- Need for coordination



# The SWAP Strategy

- State Wildlife *Adaptation* Plans
- Climate Teams role in revision
- Florida getting a national reputation
- Working with MIT and Defenders of Wildlife on hybrid vulnerability assessment with emphasis on SLR





# Partnerships

- Joint FWC/UF Sea Level Rise Coordinator
- State Wildlife Grants
- Ongoing FWRI partnerships
- National Fish and Wildlife Adaptation Strategy
- SE Climate Change Research Center
- NGOs and Universities





# Thank you.

