

20TRANSPORTATION 24 SYMPOSIUM

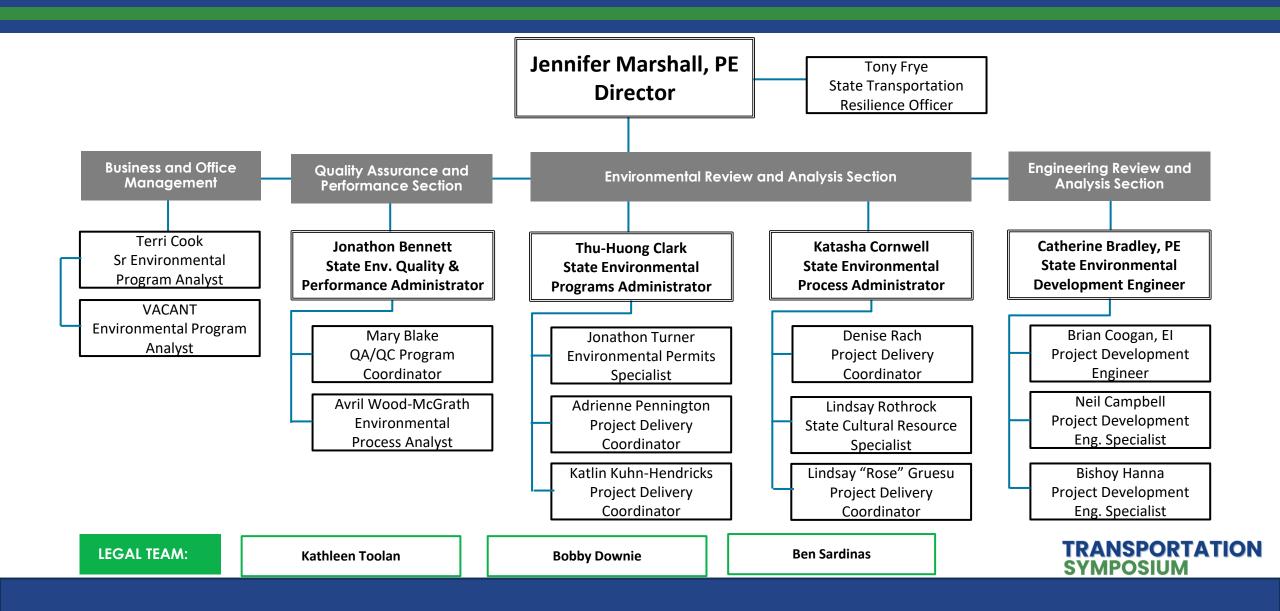
What's "Hot" in PD&E

Jennifer Marshall, PE

FDOT Office of Environmental Management



Office of Environmental Management Team



NEPA Assignment Highlights

- Renewal May 26, 2022
- Annual reporting of mitigation commitments
- Ensure meaningful public engagement, including environmental justice communities
- FHWA may reassume a project in instances where FHWA receives a Title VI complaint and
 - Accepts the complaint for investigation or
 - Determines project may have significant community impacts
- NEPA documents for local agencies who receive direct recipient grants (with no LAP agreement) will be approved by FHWA
- First monitoring event with FHWA ongoing



Federal Updates

| Date | Federal Update | Key Points |
|------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| April 2023 | Executive Order 14096 | Expanded definition of environmental justice Direct, indirect, cumulative effects analysis on EJ communities Interim implementation guidance by October 2023 Final implementation guidance by October 2024 |
| May 2023 | Sackett vs. EPA | Modified the definition of Waters of the US |
| June 2023 | Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 | Class of action thresholds, timeframes, and page limits |
| July 2024 | CEQ Phase II Rule | Changes to requirements for documentation in different class of actions Enforceable mitigation, with monitoring and compliance plans Enhanced climate and environmental justice analysis Timeframes and page limits for class of actions (EA, EIS) |

Highlight – Class of Action Determination Timing

- Process update in 2024 PD&E Manual update
 - COA determination to be submitted after "alternatives analysis complete"
 - COA determination should be approved prior to notice of the public hearing
- Expectation that justifications for COA will be based on technical analysis as well as input from ETAT
- Additional process considerations currently being discuss



Photo Courtesy of https://www.academicbriefing.com/leadership/change-for-the-sake-ofchange/

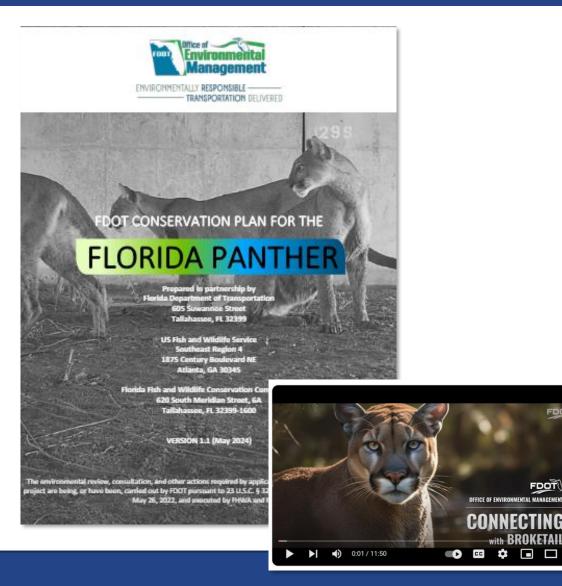


Federal Updates – Environmental Program Considerations

- Strategic scheduling discussions with district staff & project teams
- Adjusted documentation for **public engagement** activities
- Adjusted documentation for sociocultural effects and analysis
- Additional tracking and reporting for **mitigation and commitments**, as required
- Potential for additional coordination/oversight on local PD&E studies that will be approved through OEM
- Additional coordination with permitting agencies to adopt NEPA documents
- Additional coordination with permitting agencies for mitigation requirements



OEM Process Updates



- Panther Conservation Plan 2024
- Noise Wall Cost Updates 2024
- EA Form Development for SWEPT
- Removal of SWAT Process from **PD&E** Manual
- Resilience Chapter for PD&E Manual (upcoming 2025)

FDOT

FDOT

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

• Updated OEM Public Website



Process Updates Highlight – Sunsetting ACE Process

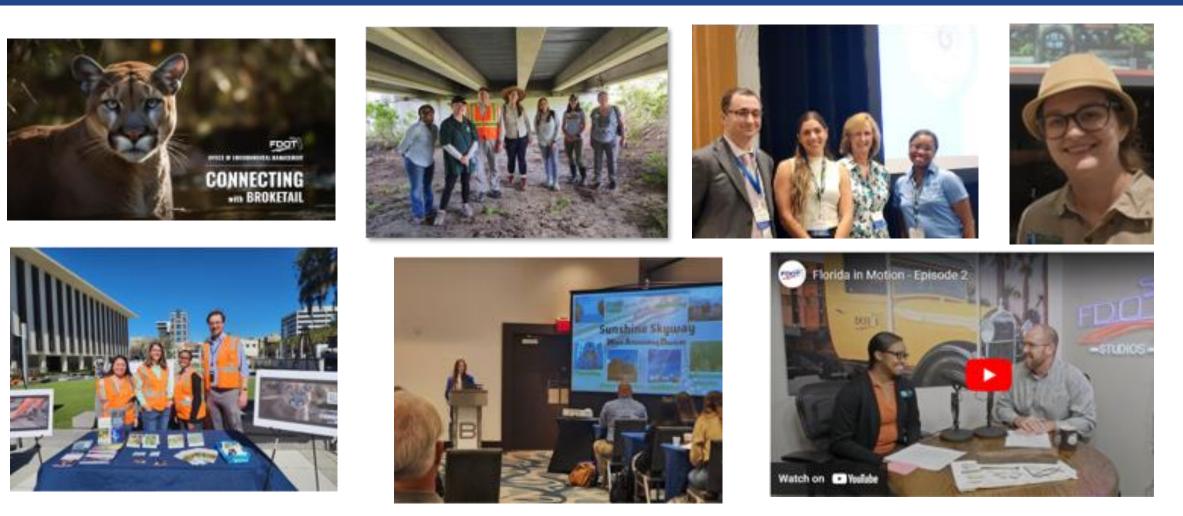
- Reasons for Decision
 - Confusion with the ACE process and appropriate application
 - ACE studies tend to become a "second" PD&E study
- Transition Considerations
 - Tentative "sunsetting" in July 2025 with next PD&E Manual update
 - Working on replacement for ACE studies (i.e. PEL considerations, feasibility studies, etc) to be included with update



Photo Courtesy of www.beachhunter.net/sunsets.htm



Environmental Outreach 2024



Over 20 Workshops, Conferences, Events, and Videos





Jennifer Marshall, PE

Director, Office of Environmental Management Florida Department of Transportation Jennifer.Marshall@dot.state.fl.us

Catherine Bradley, PE

State Environmental Development Engineer Florida Department of Transportation <u>Catherine.Bradley@dot.state.fl.us</u>



