

39th U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) Business Meeting
February 22, 2018 – Washington, D.C.
U.S. Department of the Interior – Main Auditorium
DRAFT – Jan. 2, 2018

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration
- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Remarks
- Department of the Interior
 - Department of Commerce
- 9:15 – 9:45 Governors and Appointed Officials Remarks
- 9:45 – 10:00 USCRTF Member Introductions
- 10:00 – 10:30 U.S. All Islands Coral Reef Committee Chair’s Report
- Jean-Pierre Oriol, U.S. Virgin Islands
- 10:30 – 10:45 USCRTF Steering Committee Update
- Liza Johnson, DOI
 - Jennifer Koss, NOAA
- 10:45 – 11:45 Panel: Natural Disaster Coral Impacts
- This panel will examine the impacts of natural disasters on coral reefs, with a focus on the recent hurricanes in the Caribbean and South Atlantic. Panelists will summarize the observed damages to corals in Puerto Rico, USVI, and Florida and assessment/triage efforts to date. Funding mechanisms for performing assessments and initial recovery efforts will be discussed, potentially to include a speaker on the Stafford Act and a discussion on long-term needs.
- 11:45 – 12:00 Depart for Executive Session (Principals and POCs only)
- 12:00 – 1:30 Executive Session
- 1:30 – 2:00 Public Comment (Registration On-Site)
- 2:00 – 2:15 International Coral Reef Initiative and International Year of the Reef Updates
- U.S. Department of State
- 2:15 – 3:00 Presentation: USCRTF Watershed Partnership Initiative Coordinators
- 3:00 – 3:15 Break
- 3:15 – 4:15 Panel: Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience

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- To continue the discussion from the morning panel, speakers will focus on the role corals play in hazard mitigation, and long-term coral recovery efforts. The panel will discuss how future resilience can be built into coral reef restoration projects and how resilience also applies to coastal communities. The important role that coral reefs played in providing natural hazard risk reduction will be emphasized, along with the ability of reefs to prevent further damages in future natural disaster events.

4:15 – 4:25 Update on 40th USCRTF, American Samoa

4:25 – 4:45 Member Discussion, Decision Items, and Summary of Action Items

4:45 – 5:00 Closing Remarks