

Florida Panther Recovery Implementation Team Public Forum

May 22, 2014; 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Archbold Biological Station – Venus, Florida
Frances Archbold Hufty Learning Center
<http://www.archbold-station.org/>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Florida Panther Recovery Implementation Team is conducting a public forum May 22, 2014, at Archbold Biological Station in Venus, Florida from 10:00 a.m. until about 4:30 p.m. The purpose of this forum is to discuss potential options for Florida panther range expansion to areas north of the Caloosahatchee River, as well as the concept of paying landowners in Southwest Florida for ecosystem services if they provide valuable habitat for panthers. The forum will be for informational purposes only and will provide a venue for the public to learn about panthers, our recovery efforts and our team, and will provide an opportunity for us to hear directly from the public.

The meeting is free and open to the public. However, seating will be limited and provided on a first-come, first-seated basis. Here's the planned agenda:

- 10:00 AM Welcome and Purpose for Meeting
- 10:15 AM Florida Panther Status Update
- 10:45 AM Florida Panther Recovery Implementation Team Priority Actions and Accomplishments
- 11:30 AM Presentation of Alternative Options Matrix for Range Expansion
- 12:00 PM Lunch (On your own. Consider bringing a lunch because nearby dining options are limited.)
- 1:30 PM Discussion of Alternative Options Matrix for Range Expansion
- 2:30 PM Presentation of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Concept Paper
- 2:45 PM Discussion of PES Concept
- 4:00 PM Florida Panther Recovery Implementation Team Meetings and Future Public Forums
- 4:30 PM Adjourn

Archbold Biological Station is located at 123 Main Drive in Venus, Florida. For directions go to:
<http://www.archbold-station.org/station/html/vinfo/directions.html>

Please visit our website for more information about Florida panther conservation and our team:
<http://www.fws.gov/verobeach/FloridaPantherRIT.html>