



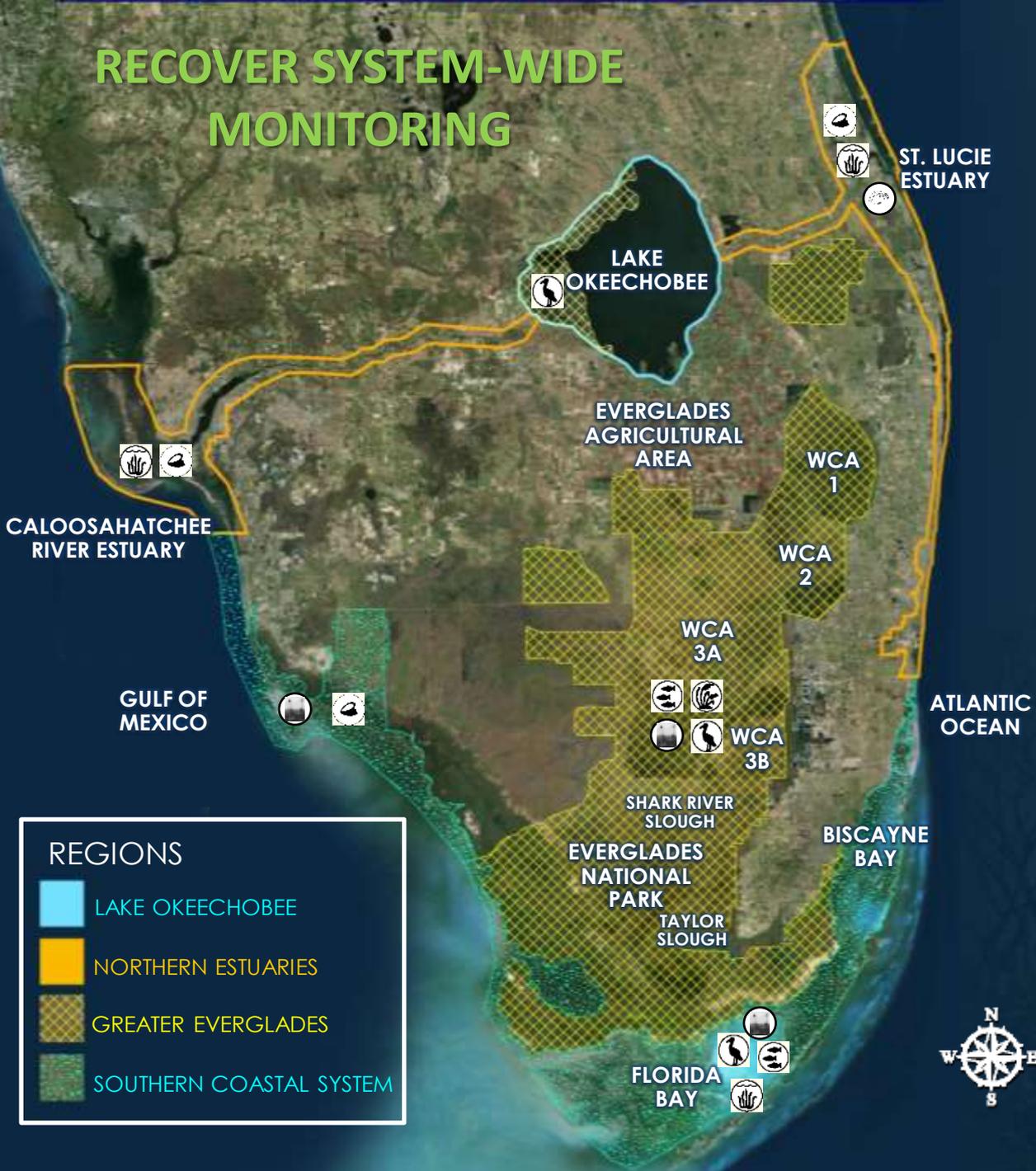
Strategic Communication of Science for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program

Patricia Gorman, Science Supervisor, SFWMD

GEER April 18, 2017



RECOVER SYSTEM-WIDE MONITORING



-  Oysters
-  Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
-  Benthic Infauna
-  Wading Birds
-  Vegetation/Landscape
-  Fish/Aquatic Fauna
-  Hydrology/Salinity/Depth

REGIONS

-  LAKE OKEECHOBEE
-  NORTHERN ESTUARIES
-  GREATER EVERGLADES
-  SOUTHERN COASTAL SYSTEM



Focus of Past SSR's

- **2006 SSR**
 - Assessed current sampling designs, data quality, variability, power analyses, and relevant spatial-temporal patterns
 - To determine if sufficient to establish base line for ecosystem indicators and detect change.

- **2007 SSR**
 - First comprehensive assessment of monitoring data
 - Provided estimates of pre-CERP conditions
 - Demonstrated sustained multi-year monitoring needed to establish sound estimates of pre-CERP conditions and trend

2009 and 2012 System Status Reports

- **2009**
 - Comprehensive accounting of key system indicators
 - Assessed baseline information and set the stage for future Adaptive Management activities
 - First web published report
- **2012**
 - interim update focused on ecological indicators revealing new information on restoration status and technical tool developments

2014 System Status Report

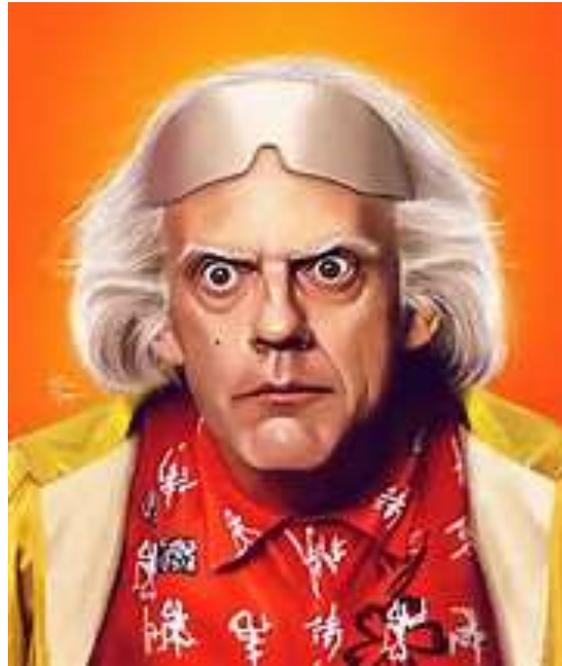
- Highlighted status and trend
- Demonstrated results of restoration project operations
- Highlighted new knowledge to support restoration planning and implementation
- Key Findings section to convey status of Everglades ecosystem to water managers, budget directors, decision-makers, and the public.



Egret Chick
Mark Johnson



Next Steps in Strategic Communication for the CERP Science Program



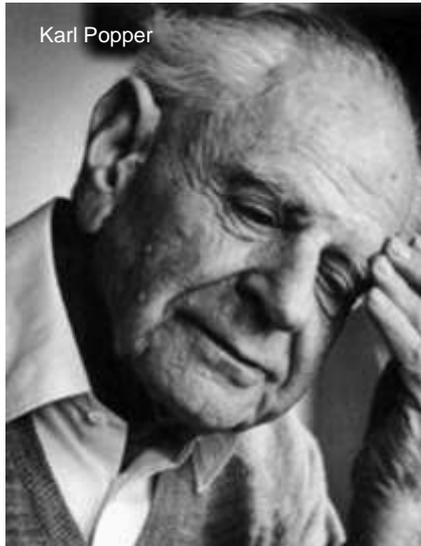
Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress 2016 SSR Recommendations

- Report on progress toward **Interim Goals and Targets**
- Considering **how ecosystem will change in the future** is as important as looking back to document progress
- Strategies to communicate progress made to **address the highest priority AM uncertainties**
- **Clear graphics** that quickly convey progress, trends and summarize overall conclusions

RECOVER Team Goals for the 2019 SSR

- Improve outreach to **multiple audiences**
- Communicate Management **Implications of key findings**
- **Integration** of indicator analyses across regions and the entire Everglades eco-system
- Report on progress toward meeting **Interim Goals and Targets**
- Consideration of **major system drivers** such as climate change and exotic species
- Focus on **key uncertainties** identified in the 2015 Programmatic Adaptive Management Plan

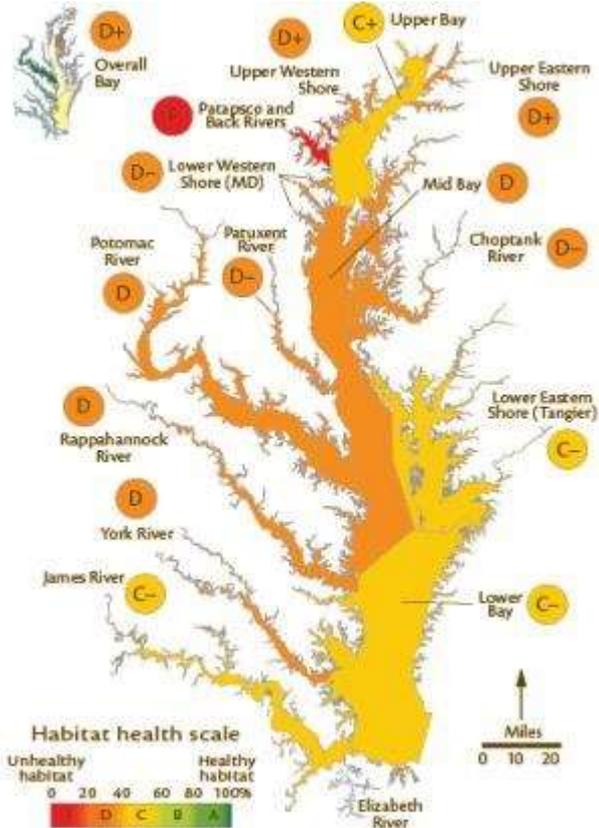
To Communicate Complicated Scientific Knowledge to a variety of audiences you need to “tell the story”



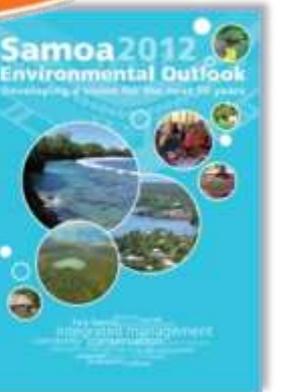
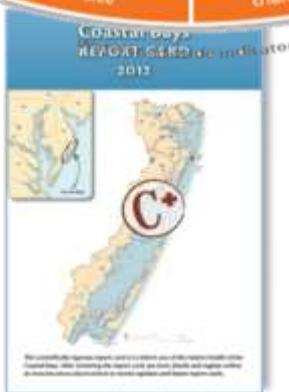
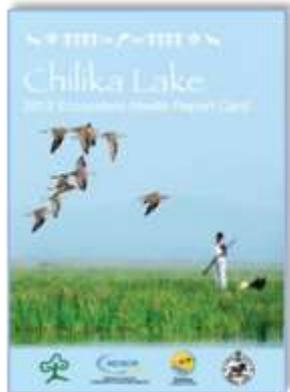
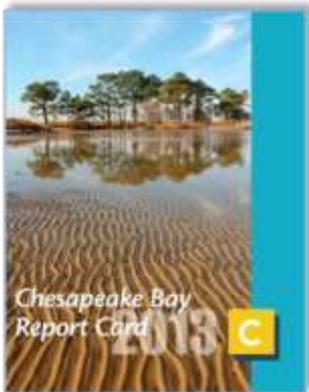
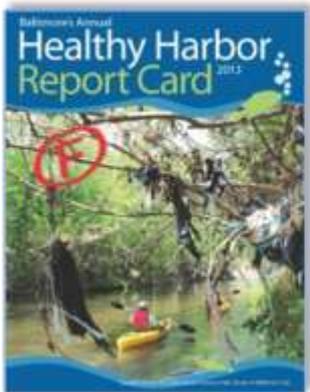
- “It is one of the novelties of human language that it encourages story telling and thus creative imagination. Scientific discovery is akin to explanatory storytelling, to myth making and to poetic imagination.”

Report Cards can be used to “tell the story”

Mississippi Watershed Results



- GOALS**
- Ecosystems
 - Flood Control & Risk Reduction
 - Transportation
 - Water Supply
 - Economy
 - Recreation
- GRADES**
- A Very good
 - B Good
 - C Moderate
 - D Poor
 - F Very poor
 - Grey No data

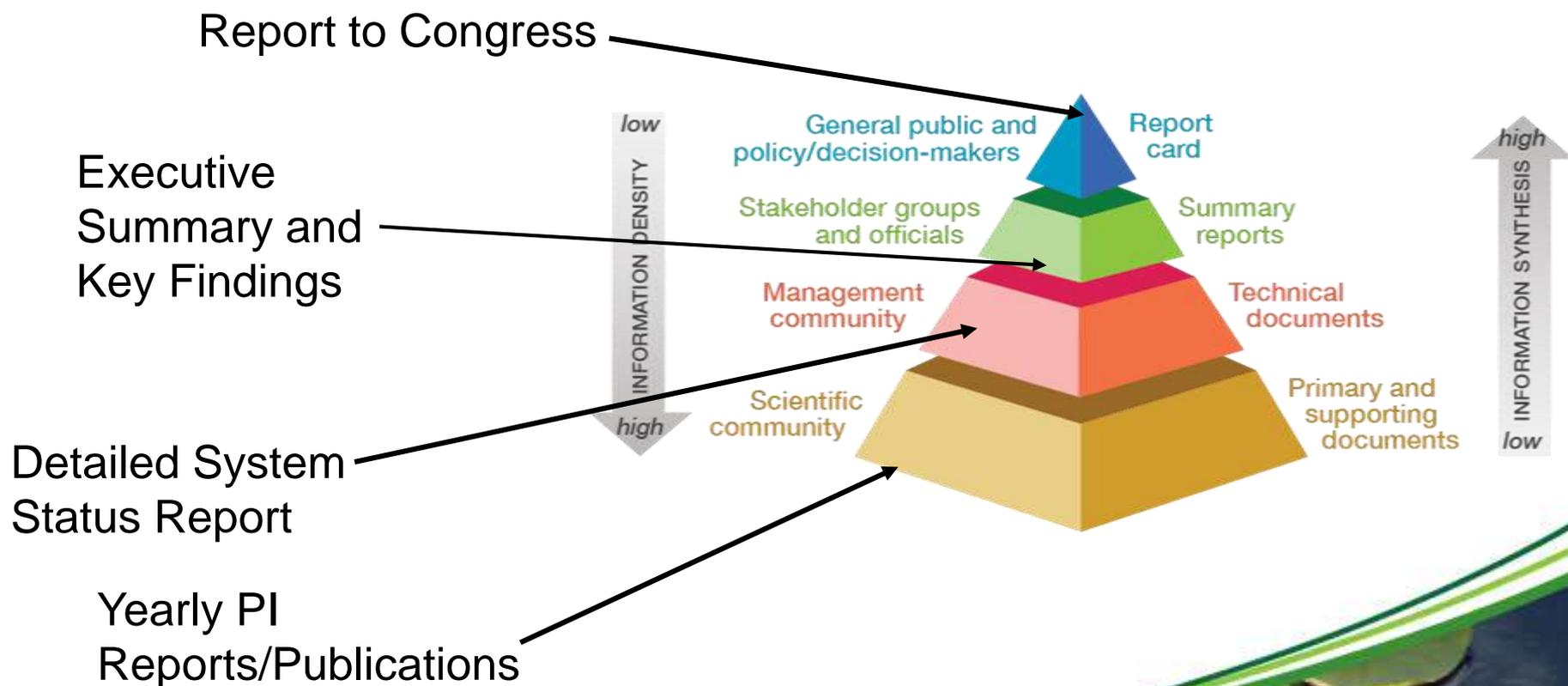


The 5 - Step Process of Report Cards

- Engages the Science Community and Stakeholders
- Forces critical review of available data
- Establishes Goal setting and status assessment
- Creates Shared Vision

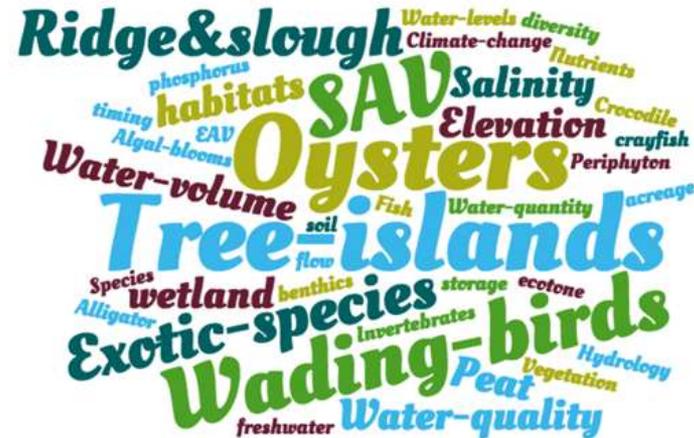


Relating the SSR to the Report Card model



Developing a Report Card for the Everglades

- Kick-off workshop March 2017, three more workshops Summer 2017, completion early 2019
- Work closely with regional coordinators and PIs to develop the report card
- Report card summarizes data and gives the status of the Everglades
- Further integrate and synthesize data to give a clear picture of Everglades ecological health
- Can be used in the 2020 Report to Congress and as a high level communication tool



THANK YOU!



Judy

