

GEER 2008 Key Points: Climate Change Workshop

- **STATIONARITY is dead - All future studies must address climate change uncertainties and risks**
- **IPCC 2007 shows a 90% probability of 7-23 inches of sea level rise by 2100, but recent field observations in polar regions indicate this may be low. CISRERP Sep 08 report to provide additional guidance**
- **Uncertainties in climate change forecasts tend to increase the RISK of higher ranges of sea level rise and acceleration in the rate of change**
- **Global models indicate future annual precipitation in sub-tropical areas will likely decrease, and rainfall events will likely be less frequent and more intense**

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- **Important to downscale global model results to Florida scale model with natural variability, then run a range of future scenarios agreed to by agencies**
- **Consider accumulation or loss of sediment and peat due to storm surge, fire and deposition when calculating relative sea level rise in natural areas**
- **Natural System Model (NSM) targets need to consider recent NSM runs with potential climate change adjustments of -10% rain, +1.5° C**
- **Climate change will increase competition for water**

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- **Need to understand role of long term multi-decadal natural variability in climate change concerns**
- **Important to develop a coordinated interagency approach for addressing climate change**
- **Need legal and policy changes – no longer dealing with stationary future conditions**
- **A coordinated interagency outreach plan needed now for climate change. Include universities and others. Message: “Climate Change IS happening!”
“For latest info see website ____”**

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- **With Everglades Restoration we have what many do not have – broad authorities and planning capabilities to begin identifying potential climate change impacts and ways to address them**
- **FY09 initiation of CERP Sea Level Rise Sensitivity Analysis – a screening level activity lead by the RECOVER Planning Team to quickly identify key areas of concern and develop coordinated plans for future actions**
- **Everglades Restoration is likely even more important in a time of climate change and rising seas**