System-wide Assessment of South Florida Ecosystems

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Workshop Components

5 Parts:

- Northern Estuaries
  - oysters, macrobenthic communities, seagrasses
- Lake Okeechobee
  - overall lake status
- Greater Everglades
  - vegetation indicators, aquatic fauna, EDEN connections
- Southern Estuaries
  - BB salinity, water quality, SAV, fish/invertebrates
- System-Wide Science
  - history, current, future
  - relevance for managers
  - foundation of technical argument for re-authorization

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Looking Back…

- Applied Science Strategy
- Monitoring & Assessment Plan (MAP)
  - CEMs, Hypotheses, and PMs
- Assessment Strategy (MAP, Part 2)
- System Status Reports (2006, 2007)
- EXAMPLE – applies to all MAP monitoring

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Currently…

- Extensive MAP monitoring & research
- Application of assessment protocols & detection of change
- Interface of MAP monitoring & CERP projects
- Using system-wide science to inform decision-making using AM

- EXAMPLE– Northern Estuaries Oysters

  - Oyster PMs, Predictive Tools (HSI), monitoring & assessment, options informed by science for decision-making

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Looking Forward…

- MAP Refinement – streamlined hypotheses, PMs, and Monitoring
- Using AM to reduce risk and uncertainty (benchmarks, thresholds)
- Effective communication between scientists & decision-makers (i.e., reporting, options for decision-making etc.)
- Overcoming issues of scale (i.e., integration across boundaries MAP modules)
- Integration of system-wide and CERP project-level data for assessment and refinement of the Plan

- EXAMPLE– GE/SE Interface
  - Everglades Depth Estimation Network (EDEN) and Coastal Gradients of Flow, Salinity and Nutrients