Planning the Next Generation of Everglades Restoration Projects

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Why Restore the Everglades?
RESTORING THE HEART OF THE EVERGLADES

CENTRAL EVERGLADES
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RESTORING THE HEART OF THE EVERGLADES

- Reconnaissance Study: 1992-1994
- Feasibility Study: 1996-1999
- Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Approved: WRDA 2000

Florida Statute 373.1501

Where we were...

- Agreement, SFWMD 2001
  - Non-fed Partner
- Programmatic Regulations: 2003
  - How Everglades projects implemented
- Multiple Planning Studies Underway
  - Project Implementation Reports
- Restoration Science and Monitoring
  - RECOVER
Three Projects Authorized: “Gen 1”

- Indian River Lagoon (NE FL estuary)
- Picayune Strand (Southwest Florida)
- Site1Impoundment (SE FL water supply)

“Reverse CERP Darwinism”
Generation 2 Projects

- Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir
- C-111 Spreader Canal
- Biscayne Coastal Wetlands
- Broward Water Preserve Areas

“More reverse CERP Darwinism”
Central Everglades
Restoring the Heart of the Everglades

Gen 1/Gen 2 Projects

- Indian River Lagoon
- Picayune Strand
- Site 1 Impoundment
- C-43 Reservoir
- C-111 Spreader Canal*
- Biscayne Coastal Wetlands*
- Broward WPAs

1992-2011

What’s Missing??

*Advance construction by SFWMD
Other problems...
Renewed Emphasis on Central ‘Glades!

- Support from:
  - Stakeholders
  - Agencies (DOI/Everglades National Park)
  - ASA-CW
  - Non-federal Sponsor
    - Water Quality Litigation

Convergence of Interests

- Corps Reform: Transform Civil Works
Civil Works Transformation

- Re-think Planning and Budgeting
  - Planning
    - Less cost, shorter studies (SMART Planning)
    - Pilot Program: 18 Months

- Central Everglades Planning Project added to Corps’ Pilot Program Oct 2011
- CEPP Study Launched at Federal Everglades Task Force Meeting Nov 2011
CENTRAL EVERGLADES PROCESS

TARGET: DP3 - 18 MONTHS

SCOPING

Nov 11-Jan 12

Decision Point 1
Determine Study Direction

ANALYSIS

Feb 12-Jun 13

Incorporate Updated Information
Develop Next Authorization Increment
Develop TSP & PIR

You are Here

Decision Point 1

Decision Point 2
Approval of Tentatively Selected Plan

REVIEW

Aug 13-

Coordinated Review (NEPA, etc)

Decision Point 3
Civil Works Review Board
S&A Review

CONFIRMATION

State 1501 Approval

Decision Point 4
Final Chief's Report

You are Here

1. Incorporate Updated Information
2. Develop Next Authorization Increment
3. Coordinated Review (NEPA, etc)
4. State 1501 Approval

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How’ve We Done?

- Tentative Plan: 15 Months

What Happened Next?

- Stakeholder & Agency Concerns
  - Water Supply Improvements
  - WRDA 2000 Savings Clause
  - Project Cost
  - Water Quality Litigation

- Sponsor Support

- More Modeling & Issue Resolution
  - 4 Months
CENTRAL EVERGLADES PROCESS

TARGET: DP3 - 18 MONTHS

SCOPING
Nov11-Jan12
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ANALYSIS
Feb 12-Jun 13
Incorporate Updated Information
Develop Next Authorization Increment
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REVIEW
Aug 13-?
Coordinated Review (NEPA, etc)

CONFIRMATION
Decision Point 2
Approval of Tentatively Selected Plan
Decision Point 3
Civil Works Review Board
S&A Review
State1501 Approval
Decision Point 4
Final Chief's Report

ACTUAL: DP2 - 20 MONTHS

CENTRAL EVERGLADES
Where Are We Now?

- Draft Report in Preparation
- Decision Point 2: Aug 12
- SFWMD Gov Board Approval: Aug 15
- Draft Report: Aug 23 (ish)
  - 45-60 days NEPA/CZMA process
- Corps Approval (DP3)/S&A Review: TBD
- Chief’s Report: TBD
Lessons Learned

- Complex is hard!
  - Exceptional modeling support from SFWMD

- Simplify communications
  - Multiple public engagement opportunities

- Resource Protection Agencies most affected

- Stakeholder Groups/Public also concerned about pace of study
  - Influence on non-fed partner
Questions?