

CERP Adaptive Management Integration Guide

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Commission (WRAC) Meeting
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Presentation Overview

- Background
- Recent USACE guidance for ecosystem restoration projects
- Adaptive Management Integration Guide summary
- Next steps



Background

- **Restudy** – Described uncertainty in predicting ecosystem response and need for adaptive management (AM) approach
- **WRDA 2000** – Congress recognized CERP plan was a framework for restoration and authorized Adaptive Assessment and Monitoring Program
- **Programmatic Regulations** – Required that new information, monitoring, modeling, etc., be used to refine CERP plan
- **2006 – Adaptive Management Strategy**
- **2010 – Adaptive Management Integration Guide and CERP Guidance Memorandum**

2009 USACE Guidance

- Adaptive Management Plans required for all ecosystem restoration projects
 - AM Plan must identify uncertainties related to achieving goals and objectives
 - Include monitoring, assessment, and options for adjustment
 - Obtain management concurrence on scope
 - Include management options and costs in Project Implementation Report (PIR) for congressional authorization and 50/50 cost-share

Adaptive Management Integration Guide - What's New?

- Project Level
 - Adaptive Management applied to USACE six-step planning process
 - Early listing of project uncertainties and potential actions to address
 - Increased stakeholder engagement
 - Early management review and approval
 - Interagency teams to evaluate monitoring and provide feedback
 - Goal is to address uncertainties, improve restoration success, avoid delays
- Program Level
 - Identify key program uncertainties
 - Identify potential actions/management options
 - Communicate with managers/policy makers on potential actions to address

Post-Construction Monitoring and Assessment

- Focus on ecological restoration performance in project monitoring plan
- Longer timeframe for cost-share
- Interagency/Interdisciplinary effort
 - USACE, SFWMD, RECOVER point of contacts to support coordination/assessment
 - Collaborate with agencies and non-governmental stakeholders on performance feedback



Opportunities for Improved Stakeholder Engagement

- SFWMD opportunities to engage stakeholders
- Federal strategy and implementation to improve given Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) constraints
 - WRAC and/or South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force options
 - Establish subgroup under Task Force
 - FACA Chartered Group for USACE





Desired Outcomes

- Early identification of key project uncertainties keeps projects moving forward
- Actions taken to address uncertainties increase likelihood of meeting restoration goals and objectives
- Feedback of new information to managers improves decision making and project or program adjustments
- Improved stakeholder engagement and collaboration builds and maintains support for restoration efforts

Next Steps

- Final Adaptive Management Integration Guide (management concurrence) - October 2010
- Project-level adaptive management support
 - CERP Guidance Memorandum for Project Delivery Teams
- Program-level Adaptive Management Plan
 - 2010 Shared Definition of Everglades Restoration



Questions?

