



SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE



LEADERSHIP • PARTNERSHIP • RESULTS

**National Academy of Sciences
Committee on Independent Scientific Review
of Everglades Restoration Progress
CISRERP IX Update**

EVERGLADESRESTORATION.GOV

Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP)

- Water Resources Development Act 2000 (Section 601): Their Biennial Reports provide: (1) Assessment of progress in restoring the natural system, (2) Evaluation of specific scientific and engineering issues that may impact progress in achieving natural system restoration goals, and (3) Review of monitoring and assessment protocols to be used for evaluation of CERP progress.
- The 9th Biennial Reporting cycle covered evaluations of: Funding Developments and Prioritizing Investments, Stormwater Treatment Area performance, Climate Change Integration in CERP/BBSEER, RECOVER/MAP support for Decision Making, Natural System Restoration Progress, and our Science Enterprise related to modeling, strategic thinking, and interagency coordination.
- In this Report CISRERP is continuing its focus on Science Support for CERP decision making as we transition from planning, to implementation, and operational testing.



Everglades Restoration Science Plan

CISRERP IX Chapter 6

What's A Science Plan?

1. A set of specific activities that can help guide the investment of resources across multiple agencies and the application of the skills of agency scientists, academia, or contractors to fill knowledge gaps that are critical for restoration decision making;
2. Science needs recognized as multigroup priorities that are feasible to implement and perform — developed by scientists, managers, and policymakers around a common set of shared priorities requiring interagency coordinated actions;
3. Consolidated list of high priority science projects, including model development, targeted data collection, data analysis and synthesis, and system-wide monitoring that collectively support Everglades restoration; and
4. Process for continued learning about ecosystem vulnerabilities associated with changes in climate, to periodically refine both project and systems operations to respond to changing conditions and inform new project planning and design.

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Essential Tasks to Complete a Science Plan

1. Identification of knowledge gaps;
2. Science coordination to advance and exchange knowledge; and
3. Identification and establishment of focused science actions necessary to support restoration progress.

These tasks can be undertaken concurrently with ongoing work to advance restoration, with new science being incorporated into planning and implementation as it is developed.

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Who Should Lead the Science Plan Development?

1. The Science Coordination Group is best positioned to lead an updated multi-agency assessment of priority science needs and gaps at a programmatic level and to develop an Everglades Restoration Science Plan.
2. This group should be tasked to lead this effort and should receive appropriate resources to do so from the Task Force;
3. This effort would provide a much needed update to the 2008-2010 Plan for Coordinating Science; and
4. A lead scientist could guide implementation of the science plan, ensure completion of the work, and consult with decision makers to identify additional science needs to supplement plan activities. This could be an agency scientist or contractor.