

2015 Report to Congress

**SFER Task Force Meeting
November 19, 2014**

**Presented by Howie Gonzales
Ecosystem Branch
USACE – Jacksonville District**

**Natalie Garrett
Project Manager**



Report to Congress - *Requirement*

- **Update on CERP Implementation**
- **Required by Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2000 and the Programmatic Regulations**
 - Jointly submitted by the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Interior
 - In consultation with Environmental Protection Agency, Dept of Commerce, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, FDEP, SFWMD and other federal, state and local agencies; and the SFER Task Force
 - Submitted every five years



Report to Congress - *Content*

- **Accomplishments during the past five years (2010 – mid 2015)**
- **Funds expended during period covered**
 - Fiscal Years 2010 through 2014
- **Progress on south Florida ecosystem restoration (science)**
- **Work anticipated over next five-year period (2015 – 2020)**
- **Updated estimates of total cost of Plan and individual projects**
- **Expectations for south Florida ecosystem in next five years**



Report to Congress – *Projects*

- Construction progress - ground breakings and ribbon cuttings
- State of Florida projects, land acquisition and water reservations
- Status of Pilot Projects
- Non-CERP project progress in support of CERP projects
- Authorizations for construction (WRRDA 2014)
- Completed Project Implementation Reports
- Executed Project Partnership Agreements / Amendments
- Integrated Delivery Schedule coordination



Report to Congress – *Programs*

- Science
 - Significant findings/New Science
 - National Academies biennial report findings
 - RECOVER* and Adaptive Management
 - Update on Climate Change
 - Invasive Species
- Programmatic
 - Project/Program funding
 - Expenditures through FY2014
 - Program Cost Update
 - Cost Share update
 - Public Outreach efforts

**RECOVER : REstoration COordination and VERification*



Report to Congress - *Future*

- **Program Expectations**
 - Project Implementation Reports
 - Construction
 - Authorizations
 - Other Restoration Efforts
- **Land Needs**
- **Science**
- **Funding Needs**



Report to Congress – *Next Steps*

- ▶ Identify key agencies/persons to prepare sections of the Draft Report to Congress – *POCs have been identified for each agency*
- ▶ Prepare First Draft of Report for Agency Review – *Outline has been distributed to POCs to begin work on Draft*
- ▶ Task Force and Tribe Consultations



2015 Report to Congress

Questions?



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