



SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION TASK FORCE



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Working Group/Science Coordination Group CISRERP VIII Update

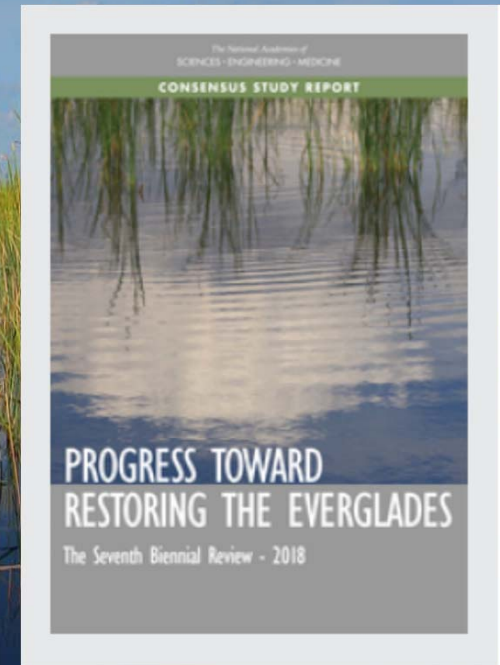
Robert Johnson, Science Coordination Group Chair

EVERGLADESRESTORATION.GOV

Committee on Independent Review of Everglades Restoration Progress (CISRERP)

Congressionally mandated study of the CERP under WRDA 2000, through the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM). Jointly funded by the USACE, SFWMD, DOI.

- “The panel shall produce a biennial report to Congress, the Secretary, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Governor that includes an assessment of measures of progress in restoring the ecology of the natural system.”
- 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.



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

The eighth Biennial Review began in May 2019. Three open meetings were held in April, August, and November 2019, last proposed meeting is in February 2020. Each meeting included a field trip to view Everglades resource conditions and ongoing restoration projects.

CISRERP VIII is focusing on Major Ongoing Restoration Projects underway in 2019-2020, and their associated monitoring and ecological indicators.

Meeting 8.1 May 13, Field Trip - Central & Southern Everglades Restoration (CEPP/MWD)

(1) WCA-3A Decomp Physical Model (Structure S-152) Importance of restoring sheetflow in the CEPP, (2) Tamiami Trail (Next Steps Project) Importance of marsh connectivity/removing flow obstructions into Northeast SRS, (3) Modified Water Deliveries and C-111SD Projects (Las Palmas/8.5 SMA, C-111 South Detention Areas).

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Meeting 8.1 May 14 (continued)

- Overview of Everglades hydrology and the status of the South Florida ecosystem,
- CERP 101 (goals/objectives, system-wide CERP components, benefits/constraints),
- Major Initiatives during 2019-2020 (HHD/LOSOM, CEPP South/EAA Res., RECOVER),
- Perspectives on key challenges (panel representing stakeholder groups),
- Sponsor feedback on latest CISRERP report, new issues for CISRERP VIII.

Meeting 8.2 August 14, Field Trip - Indian River Lagoon (IRLS)

Indian River Lagoon, C-44 Reservoir, Florida Oceanographic, health of the IRL/status of algal blooms, SAV, and oysters, progress in IRL South project construction.

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Meeting 8.2 August 15

- Overview of the system-wide water management. ops., constraints, and CERP targets,
- Northern Estuaries: current conditions, CERP objectives, status of blue green algae blooms, impacts of changing conditions, new science, future needs,
- Southern Estuaries: current conditions, CERP objectives, impacts of changing conditions, new science, future needs,
- RECOVER 2019 SSR/Report Card, what do the indicators tell us about current conditions and ecosystem health?
- Use of modeling in CERP, brief overview, three case studies (WERP, COP, IGIT), key modeling needs to support future decision making and adaptive mgmt.

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Meeting 8.3 October 29 Field Trip – Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project

(1) Little Madeira Bay and Taylor River (LTER sites) role of freshwater flow on nearshore and Florida Bay salinity and ecosystem health, (2) Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (L-31E and Deering Estate) benefits of restoring freshwater flows.

Meeting 8.3 November 1,

- Combined Operating Plan, historical context, incremental testing benefits, adaptive mgmt., impacts on regional hydrology and water quality.
- Blue Green Algae Task Force Update, objectives, key questions, findings,
- Vulnerability Analysis (RECOVER), methodology, intended benefits for decision making,
- Interim Delivery Schedule, factors leading to update, how do changes affect delivery of benefits, key dependencies and timelines,
- Science informed decision making panel discussion, how does the CERP adapt to new information, learning from early adaptive mgmt.



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Final Meeting 8.4 February 4, 2020,
Likely Topics, as of 12/2:

- Update on LOSOM
- UFL Water Institute's report on Lake Okeechobee
- Possible Field trips to Picayune Strand and Caloosahatchee estuary
- Proposed follow-up conference calls:
- IGIT results, WERP update, COP tradeoffs, modeling needs, CERP implementation progress, water quality conditions and STA performance



QUESTIONS?