

# MEETING SUMMARY

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## SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION WORKING GROUP SPONSORED PUBLIC WORKSHOP

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CENTRAL EVERGLADES PLANNING PROJECT  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
Building B-1, Governing Board Auditorium  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
November 30, 2011 – 1:00 PM

### Central Everglades Planning Project Workshop Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introductions Dan Kimball, SFERTF Working Group Chair  
Allyn Childress, SFERTF

Meeting called to order at 1:02pm.

Dan Kimball welcomed everyone to the meeting as Chair of the Working Group. He provided a brief introduction to the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) and the reason for the Working Group hosting these public/stakeholder group workshops.

Allyn Childress of the Task Force office provided an overview of logistical/housekeeping items. It was noted that public input would occur during every agenda item in a question/answer format.

2. Meeting Procedures and Ground Rules Dan Kimball, SFERTF Working Group Chair  
Allyn Childress, SFERTF

Dan mentioned that the Task Force office will be staffing all the workshops and that either he or another person would be moderating the discussions. Allyn covered the need for everyone to sign in, be concise, and use microphones when speaking.

3. Overview and Public Participation Protocol Allyn Childress, SFERTF

Allyn presented a powerpoint on the Task Force's direction for the workshops, the feedback loop of information back to the Task Force and on to the SFWMD and Corps, and the status of the public participation protocol being developed by the Task Force office. Her presentation can be found at <http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/113011/protocol.pdf>. She noted that all workshop materials and the recordings will be posted on the CEPP portal on the Task Force website.

The discussion included questions as to the difference between public and stakeholder, who can participate in the workshops, and what is the relationship between the workshops and PDT.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Barron Moody	Martha Musgrove
Allyn Childress	Stu Appelbaum
Barron Moody	Martha Musgrove
All Rivers	Tom Teets
Martha Musgrove	Allyn Childress
Matt Morrison	Dan Kimball

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### 4. Introduction of the Pilot Program Process

Kimberley Taplin, USACE

Kim Taplin provided a presentation on the nationwide pilot program being undertaken by the Corps. Her presentation can be found at [http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/113011/corps\\_overview.pdf](http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/113011/corps_overview.pdf).

The discussion included clarification about the process. It was reiterated that this process is not starting CERP over, will still use existing legal authorities, and will use models and tools developed by SFWMD, with appropriate level of detail needed. The Corps and District will provide technical information. This is a forum where everyone is equal. All people here can freely discuss everything unlike the PDT. Information is gathered here, then taken back to Working Group and Task Force and then fed back to the Corps for their consideration. Workshop participants are not engaging the Corps directly but engaging the Working Group and Task Force in these discussions. This is the opportunity for the public to be involved and get their views expressed and have it heard in an informal and open process.

At the end of the discussion the following still needed to be clarified: protocol needs to say who is public; relationship of this process to PDT in writing and how this works; how the task force fits into the process; technical discussion may not be appropriate to this group, a smaller group may need to be formed.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Pete Quasius	John Marshall
Kim Taplin	Stu Appelbaum
Tom Van Lent	Kim Taplin
Kim Taplin	Mark Perry
Tom Van Lent	Kim Taplin
Stu Appelbaum	Stu Appelbaum
Dennis Duke	Mark Perry
Tom Mc Vicor	Pete Quasius
Kim Taplin	Kim Taplin
Dennis Duke	Dennis
Drew Martin	Dan Kimball
Susan Markley	Kim Taplin
Dennis Duke	

### 5. Study Scope and Schedule

Kimberley Taplin, USACE

Kim Taplin provided details on the application of the pilot program to the CEPP and the resulting 18 month timeframe. She stated that the CEPP process is not starting CERP over but rather identifying the next generation of CERP projects focusing on the central Everglades region. The Corps will still follow existing legal authorities and will use models and tools developed by SFWMD in the River of Grass planning process.

The discussion included the need to know what target is, and the fact that new information needs to show that we are headed in the right direction. What can we do to start moving water forward. Changes are expected as new information is obtained; the science will mature and will need to be incorporated into the process. The Programmatic Regulations are full of incorporating new information. Still need to figure out what are the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of projects. The end product is a PIR.

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The Corps will go to Congress with the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of projects that are the next increment, not all the projects.

Pam Mac'Kie at the District is responsible for working with local government agencies, and DOI will have a counterpart doing the same. The District and DOI are getting ready to go to local governments and show them the shortened timeline and the process that is being undertaken.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Mark Perry	Rick Persson
Kim Taplin	Howie Gonzales
Mark Perry	Rick Persson
Stu Appelbaum	Kim Taplin
Pete Quasius	Dennis Duke
Stu Appelbaum.	Joanne Davis
Drew Martin	Barry moody
Stu Appelbaum	Martha Musgrove
Dennis Duke	Stu Appelbaum
Drew Martin	Kim Taplin
Tom Mc Vicar	Mark Perry
Susan Markley	Tom Teets
Rick Persson	Joanne Davis
Stu Appelbaum	Dan Kimball
Howie Gonzales	

### 6. Overview of Tools and Techniques Walter Wilcox, SFWMD & Melissa Nasuti, USACE

The presentation was divided into 3 parts. Walter covered the Tools portion first, Melissa covered the list of Preliminary RECOVER Performance Measures, and Walter continued with Performance Indicators. Their presentation can be found at [http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/113011/CEPP\\_tools.pdf](http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/113011/CEPP_tools.pdf).

The discussion included what the development of conceptual ecological model (CEMs) was missing from tools. CEMs look at stressors and drivers and makes sure that all factors and their actions are considered. There were questions about developing the CEMs for performance measures and requirements. There was also discussion about the models and sheetflow. In the northern part of system water is relatively stationary and in the southern part there is more sheetflow, you cannot use the same models for both areas.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

John Marshall	Walter Wilcox
Walter Wilcox	Susan Markley
Rick Persson	Walter Wilcox
Walter Wilcox	Martha Musgrove
Drew Martin	Walter Wilcox

Melissa Nasuti continued the presentation about performance measures. Discussion included that it will help when we get to the point in the process where we understand the constraints of the process. That will help frame everyone's ability to engage. For example if there is a

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constraint related to lands, or water quality standard, that will help us frame the universe of the possible. It would be helpful as then we can focus on a smaller universe than existed on River of Grass which was almost an unconstrained process. It helps us get to a plan faster. Ability to engage will be aided when we understand what the constraints on the planning process are.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

John Marshall	Melissa Nasuti
Drew Martin	Tom Teets
Mark Perry	Shannon Estenoz

Walter finished the presentation about the supplemental evaluation tools – “ever views”.

Discussion on viewing tools:

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Megan Tinsley	Mark Perry
Kim Taplin	Kim Taplin
Drew Martin	Drew Martin
Matt Morrison	Dan Kimball
John Marshall	John Marshall
Shannon Estenoz	Shannon Estenoz

7. Steps, Closing Comments and Adjourn Dan Kimball, SFERTF Working Group Chair

Dan reiterated that the Task Force website [www.sfrestore.org](http://www.sfrestore.org) will have a portal for all information about the Central Everglades Planning Project. He suggested that attendees sign up for the Working Group mailing list to get email updates on these workshops. He also requested that attendees provide the Task Force office with feedback and comments.

Dan stated that the next meeting will be set up with a large table in order to provide more free flowing dialogue. The next workshop will be December 16, 2011 and will focus on planning assumptions, objectives, performance measures, and evaluation methods.

List of topics suggested by workshop participants for future discussion:

Ecosystem Valuation/ Services  
WRAC Recreational Issues Workshops and Calendar  
Conceptual Ecological Models  
Tree Islands as Performance Measures  
Pond Apple / phosphorus intake

Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.