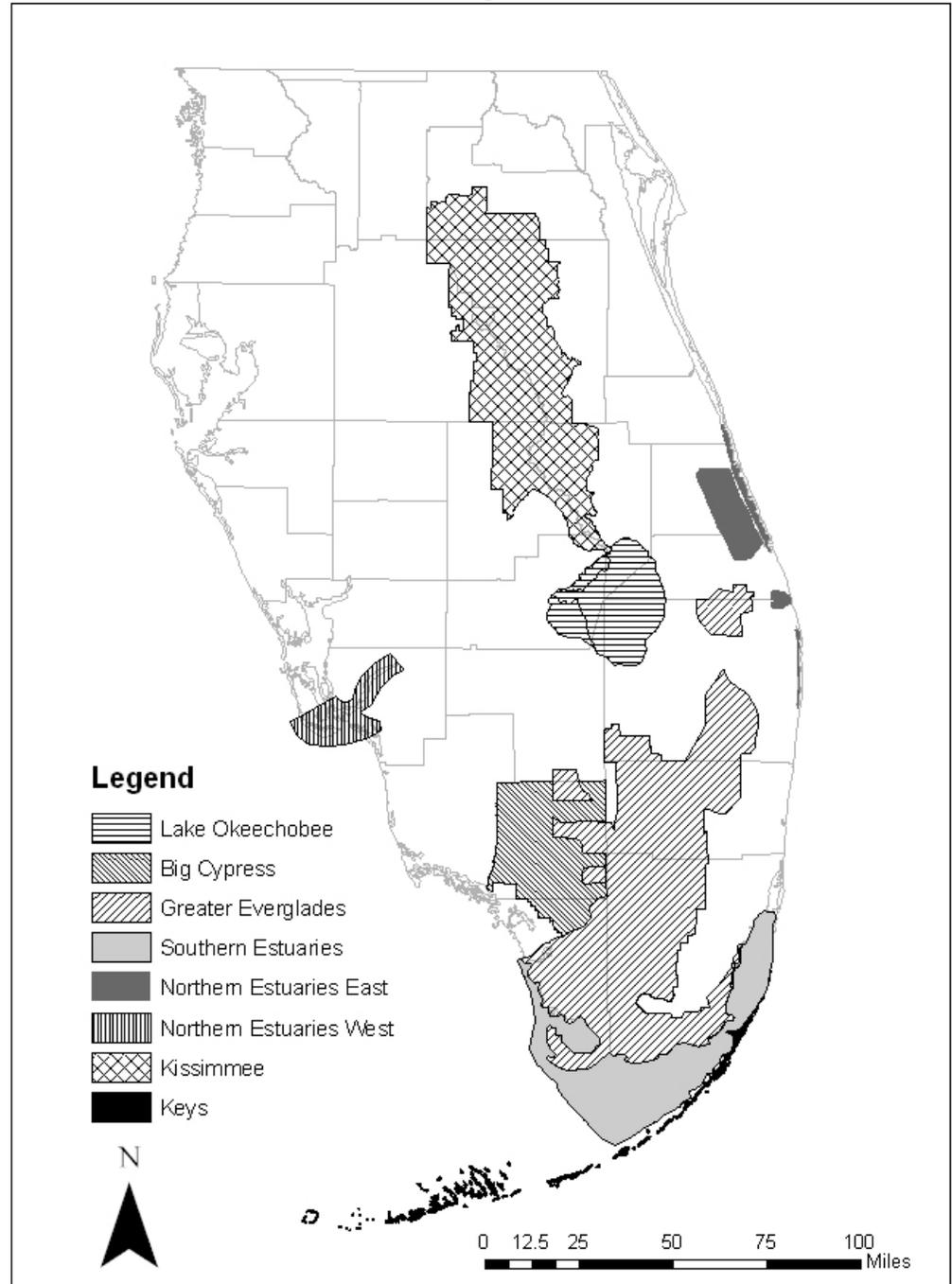


SCG Approved List of Ecological Indicators

1. Periphyton-Epiphyton (RECOVER)
2. Fish & Macroinvertebrates (RECOVER)
3. Big Wading Birds (Spoonbill, Woodstork, White Ibis) (RECOVER)
4. Eastern Oysters (RECOVER)
5. Juvenile Pink Shrimp (RECOVER)
6. Florida Bay Algal Blooms (RECOVER)
7. Florida Bay Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (RECOVER)
8. Lake Okeechobee Littoral Zone (RECOVER)
9. American Alligator (RECOVER)
10. American Crocodile (RECOVER)
11. Exotic Plants/Vegetation Mosaic (in development)
12. Contaminants (Needs development)

RECOVER / Regional Modules

- RECOVER / Regional Modules



REVIEW OR NOT?

- DECIDED NOT TO REVIEW INDIVIDUAL RECOVER INDICATORS – BUT WILL REVIEW EXOTIC INDICATOR AFTER DEVELOPMENT
- DOES THE SCG WANT A REVIEW OF THE SUITE OF INDICATORS AND IS THIS APPROACH TO DEVELOPING THE REVIEW PACKAGE ACCEPTABLE?
- USING BEST ELEMENTS FROM EACH DEVELOP A BRIEF DESCRIPTOR OF EACH INDICATOR 3-5 PAGES WITH METRICS WITH INTRODUCTION OF SUITE OF INDICATORS AND THEIR PROPOSED USE AS VITAL SIGNS FOR RESTORATION (see handouts)
 - CALFED ECOLOGICAL INDICATORS FORMAT
 - RECOVER INTERIM GOALS & TARGETS FORMAT
 - VITAL SIGNS SELECTION GUIDELINES

Ecological Indicators Review Questions

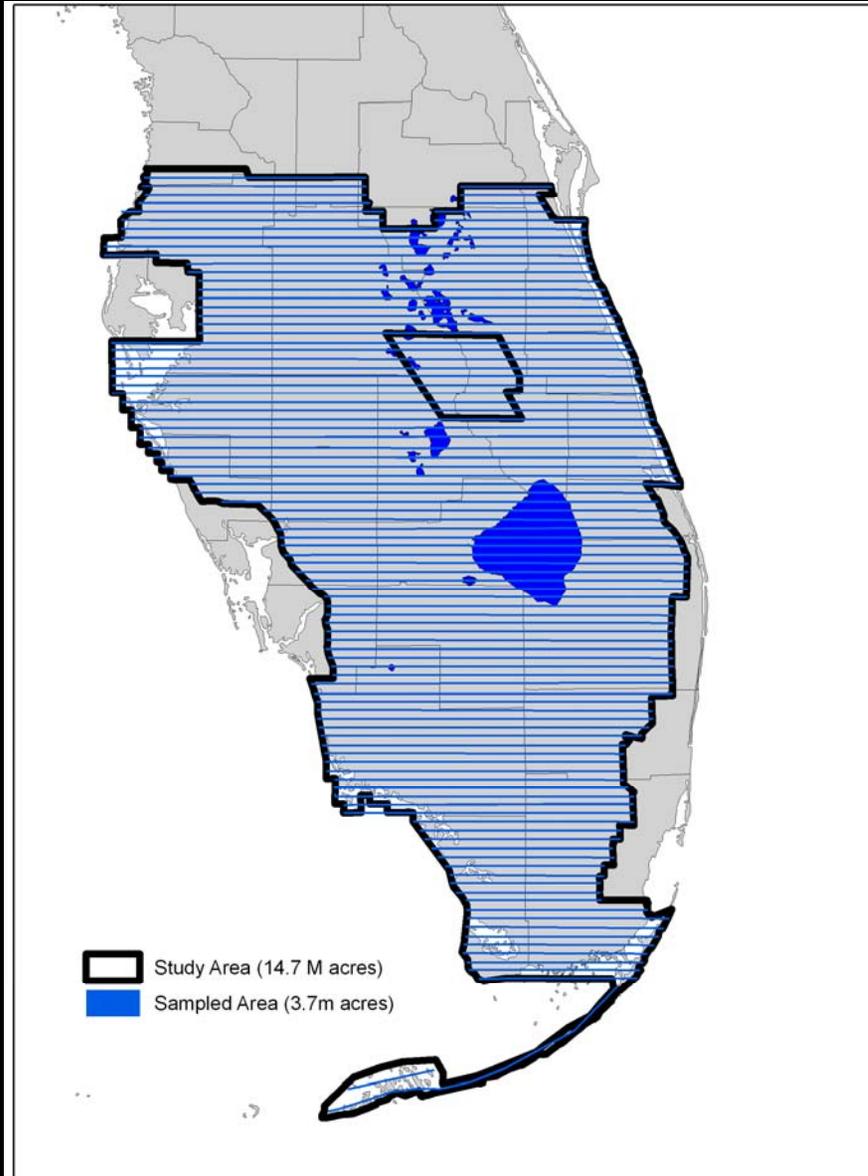
(For SCG Review, Input, Discussion, Approval?)

- Do we have too few, enough, or too many indicators?
- Is the suite of indicators deemed useful for the purposes indicated?
- Are the strategy and the guidelines used to develop the suite reasonable and appropriate?
- How do you think the indicators might best be integrated across geographic and ecological lines?
- Are the methods of reporting the indicators individually and collectively effective for both technical and non-technical audiences?
- Do you think the suite of indicators is representative enough of the different ecological and biological dimensions of the Everglades' system that they may also be representative/indicative of (many/most/a majority/the important?) the conditions of the ecosystem that we are not or can not measure?
- If used, will these vital signs provide a good indication that we are or are not meeting our ecological restoration goals?

Exotic Plant – Vegetation Mosaic Indicator

- Four Projects
- Develop project metrics as table to identify key “indicator” measures
- Work with NEWTT to develop key metrics that would provide a reasonably comprehensive “indication” for exotics & develop indicator report with supporting data & information
- Prepare final draft report for independent scientific review by October 1, 2005

SRF

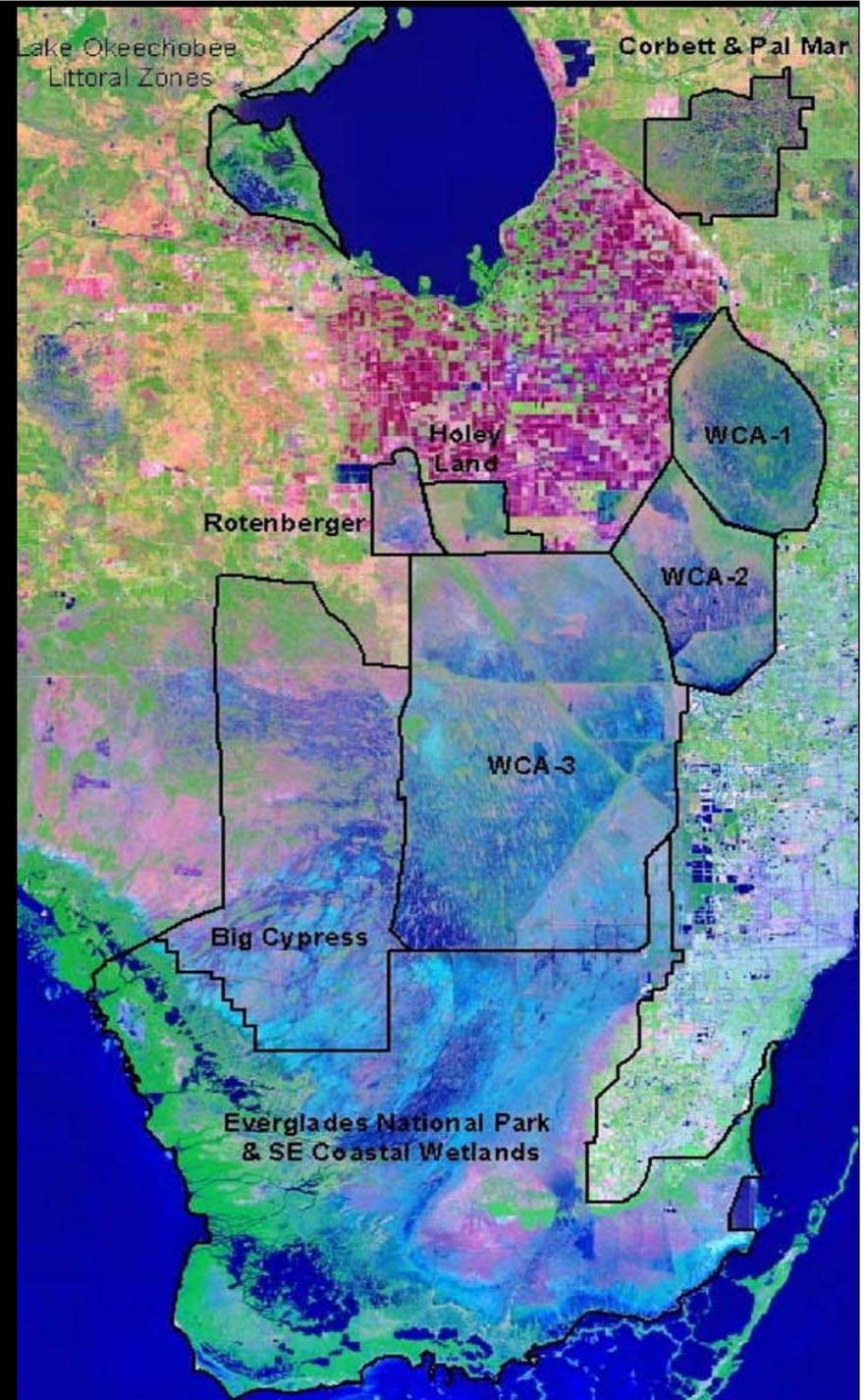


REMAP

- 250 sites throughout the Everglades Protection Area
 - 125 dry season, 125 wet season
 - Rigorous statistical application to plot locations & data
- Detailed vegetation survey at each site
 - General visual survey of dominant species
 - 2 types of visual surveys for vegetation & exotics
 - Photographic records of site (ground and aerial)
 - Transects across different identified habitats at each site
 - 5 X 1 m² with complete plant census at each transect

RECOVER MAPPING

- Vegetation Mapping of 4,216 mi²
 - Water Conservation Areas, Loxahatchee, Holeyland, Rotenberger, Lake O., Corbett & Pal Mar Natural Areas, Everglades National Park, Southeastern coastal wetlands, Big Cypress National Preserve
- Using Aerial Photography
- ¼ Hectare mapping unit (2,918,819 cells)
- Vegetation Classification for South Florida National Park (D. Jones, et al. 1999 – revised version Rutchey & Schall 2005)



TREE ISLAND SURVEY

- SFWMD – FAU (John Volin, PI)
- Transects (good statistical application)
- 600 islands to be surveyed
- Conservation Areas 2B, 3A & 3B
- Stratified by size of hammock
(Randomized survey)
- Exotic species occurrence

Phase I Independent Scientific Review Questions

- **Since the Task Force has no authority to coordinate science at an individual project or agency program level do you feel that the Plan employs a reasonable and useful approach for helping to coordinate the larger science picture among the agencies represented on the Task Force?**
- **Given the non-traditional nature of this level of coordinating science do you feel that the use of the RECOVER Conceptual Ecological Models with expert teams to identify “critical science needs and gaps” is a good approach and if so, how might it be improved?**
- **Are the critical science needs and gaps pertinent to the issues of restoration based on what information is currently available?**
- **Are the identified needs and gaps unambiguous and the remedies clear?**
- **As an overall approach do you think this method of determining needs and gaps adequate to helping coordinate the broad strategic science program elements?**
- **How would you suggest that the Task Force utilize the information on science needs and gaps to help them coordinate and persuade agencies of the importance of “filling the gaps” in the critical science needs?**

Phase II Status

- Needs & Gaps – meetings with RECOVER members
 - August 16 AND 17
 - September 13 AND 14
- Email notification of meeting & details sent
- Preparation of agendas and additional read ahead materials for delivery this month
- Quality Assurance, Progress Tracking, Information Sharing & Built System Indicators – being lead through experts from Booz Allen.
- Developing revised project schedule to be ready within 2 weeks for all Phase II work tasks and indicators

From May SCG Meeting

- Ronnie Best– Alligator & Crocodile Metrics for the Indicators
- Joan Browder - Contaminants Indicator initial development meeting
- Lisa Beever –
 - additional SW region map showing areas not in current modules map
 - SW FL indicators report by Dr. Peterberg