

Workshop Purpose

- Identify Areas of Critical Ecological Concern for Everglades Restoration

Workshop Guidelines

- Information should be broad in scales – think system-wide; it is ecosystem restoration
- Discussions should consider the entire South Florida Ecosystem
- Describe the science-based information in a way that will be useful in assisting policy-makers



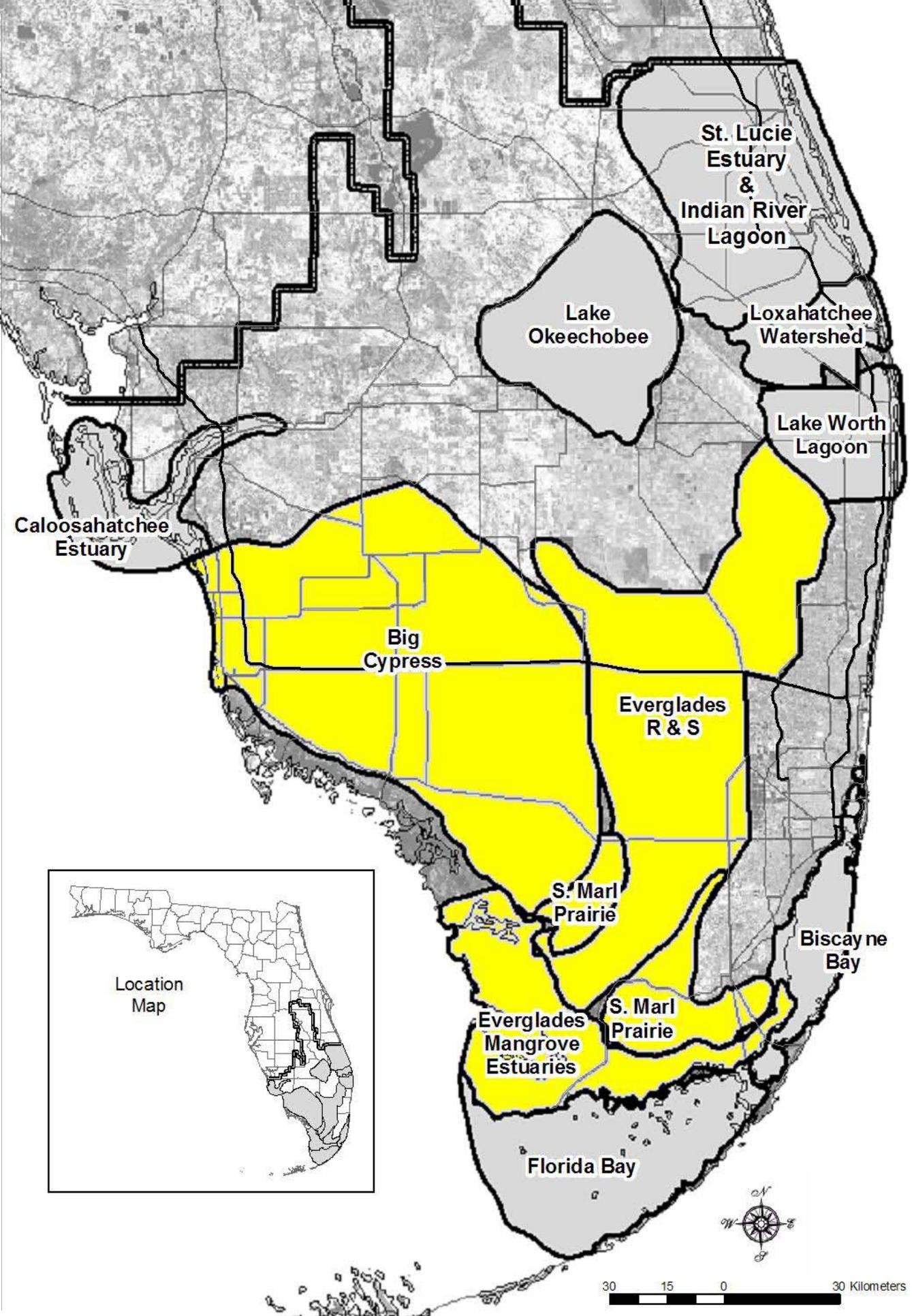
What are Attributes of an Area of Critical Ecological Concern

- Frames of reference to include?
 - Spatial or Regional Context
 - Time and Trends
 - Scale or Relative Magnitude
 - Level of data or empirical knowledge

ARE CEMS A GOOD STARTING POINT?

- Lake Okeechobee
- Southern Estuaries
 - Biscayne Bay
 - Florida Bay
- Northern Estuaries
 - Caloosahatchee Estuary
 - Lake Worth Lagoon
 - St. Lucie Estuary & Indian River Lagoon
 - Loxahatchee Watershed
- Greater Everglades
 - Everglades Ridge & Slough
 - Southern Marl Prairies
 - Big Cypress Regional Ecosystem
 - Everglades Mangrove Estuaries

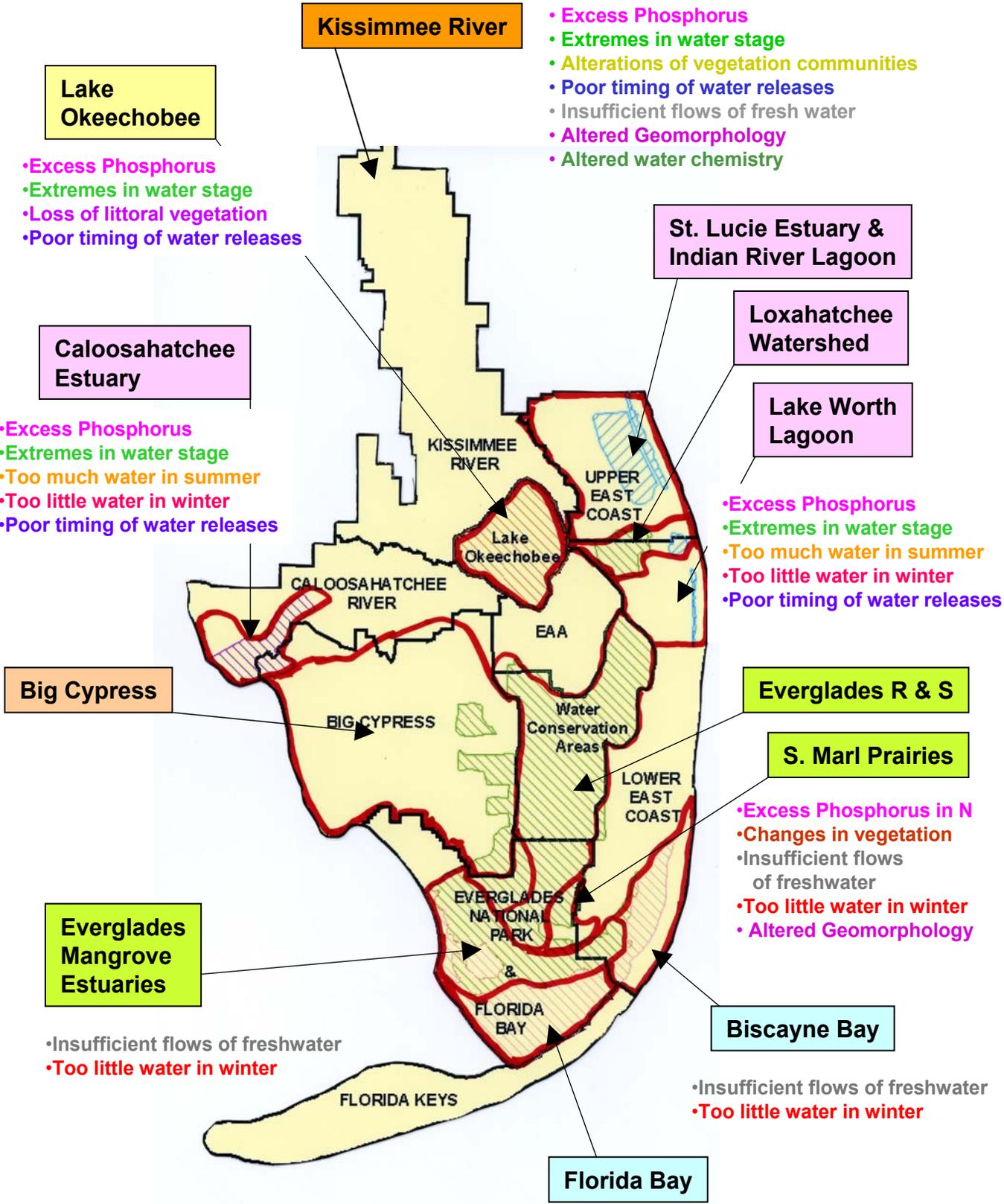
**ARE THERE OTHER APPROACHES
THAT MIGHT BE MORE USEFUL OR
PRODUCTIVE?**



Sources of Science Information

- *System Status Report*
- *System-wide Indicator Reports*
- *Conceptual Ecological Models*
- *Technical Reports, Journal Articles*
- *Technical Expert Opinion*
- *Other?*

Where Science Converges - Locations



Tan areas/black boundary = Cerp planning regions
 Purple hatch = N Estuaries West Coast
 Blue Hatch = N Estuaries East Coast
 Green Hatch = Greater Everglades
 Brown Hatch = Southern Estuaries
 Red Outline = CEM boundaries

“...the restoration effort risks being data rich and information poor in the absence of ecosystem-wide “synthesis” and “integration”.”

NRC 2006

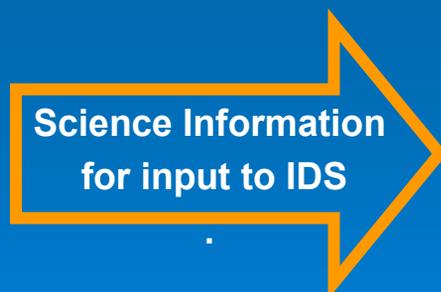
“**Synthesis** is a complex process of accumulating, interpreting, and articulating scientific results (NRC 2006).”

To put together; the composition or combination of parts or elements so as to form a whole (Wikipedia 2008).”

“**Integration** is the process of applying the resultant scientific information to project planning (NRC 2006).”

This workshop is intended to help synthesize information from a scientific point of view to assist policy-makers in integrating this information, along with other information, into IDS sequencing decisions

Synthesis



Integration



Next Steps

➤ potential topics

- Identify areas of scientific uncertainty
- Help clarify the distinction between scientific uncertainty and policy decisions
- Ecological Metrics (system and project level)
- Modeling Workshop
- Determining Ecological Lift
- Determining Interdependencies
- IAR
- Benefit Analysis

