



# **Draft Interim Goals and Interim Targets Agreements**

**Joint WRAC/Task Force Meeting  
December 5, 2006**



# Presentation Outline

- **Background on public and agency consultation**
- **Changes made based on feedback from Task Force at September meeting**
- **Feedback received from 30-day public review and comment period ending December 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **Next Steps**



# Background on Consultation and Public Process

- **Provided multiple presentations and opportunities for public input dating back to July of 2005:**
  - **WRAC Meetings**
  - **Task Force Meetings**
  - **Governing Board Meetings**
  - **Public comment period through Federal Register**
- **Consulted with Miccosukee and Seminole Tribes on initial draft agreements**
- **Consulted with Seminole Tribe on proposed final Agreements**
- **Miccosukee Tribe submitted written comments in lieu of consultation on proposed final agreement**



## Revisions Made Based on Public and Agency Comments on Initial Draft Agreements

- Whereas clauses eliminated
- Indicators expanded to address all of RECOVER's recommendations
- Initial interim goals and interim targets developed for each indicator
  - Most are qualitative goal statements for which progress can be measured
  - Where included, incremental performance predictions are based on standard Corps implementation process
  - Incremental performance predictions will be added for additional indicators, as developed, through future amendments to Agreements



## **Revisions Based on Feedback From Task Force at September Meeting**

### **Language added to Interim Goals Agreement to clarify that:**

- **As future amendments to Agreements are developed, the same consultation and public review process will be followed**
- **As the State of Florida, Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Interior carry out the duties outlined in the Interim Goals Agreement, this will be done “consistent with State and Federal law”**



## **Feedback Received During 30-Day Public & Agency Review Period**

### **Commenters on Interim Goals Agreement:**

- **Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida**
- **Seminole Tribe of Florida**
- **Big Cypress National Preserve**
- **Florida Department of Environmental Protection**
- **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**
- **Lee County Board of County Commissioners**
- **City of Sanibel**
- **Everglades Foundation**



## **Feedback Received During 30-Day Public & Agency Review Period**

### **Commenters on Interim Goals Agreement con't:**

- **Arthur R. Marshall Foundation**
- **Natural Resources Defense Council**
- **St. Lucie River Initiative**
- **S.A.F.E.R, Inc.**



# Feedback Received During 30-Day Public & Agency Review Period

## Summary of Comments on Interim Goals Agreement

- **Proposals for new /updated indicator statements**
  - Invasive exotic plant control
  - Quantity and distribution of “new” water
- **Modifications to existing qualitative interim goal statements**
  - Submerged aquatic vegetation- Caloosahatchee River
  - Algal blooms in Northern estuaries
- **Concern over lack of quantitative incremental performance goals**



## **Feedback Received During 30-Day Public & Agency Review Period**

### **Summary of Comments on Interim Goals Agreement (*continued*)**

- **Need for establishment of baselines and monitoring programs for measuring progress on interim goals**
- **More focus on hydrological and water quality indicators needed**
- **Concern that hydrologic goals do not contain enough specifics about which areas of the natural system will benefit**



## **Feedback Received During 30-Day Public & Agency Review Period**

### **Commenters on Interim Targets Agreement:**

- **Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida**
- **Seminole Tribe of Florida**
- **Big Cypress National Preserve**
- **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Comm'n**
- **Lee County Board of County Commissioners**
- **City of Sanibel**
- **Arthur R. Marshall Foundation**
- **Natural Resources Defense Council**
- **St Lucie River Initiative**



# Revisions Based on Feedback From Task Force at September Meeting

## Summary of Comments on Interim Targets Agreement

- Proposed new indicator statements
  - Freshwater lost to tide
  - Water supply for lower Caloosahatchee Basin
  - Flood protection for lower west coast
  - Protection of Seminole Water Rights compact
- Concern that that there are not more specifics about volumes of water made available for water supply



## Next Steps

- Complete review comments from 30-day public and agency review Dec 10
- Governing Board Meeting Dec 14
- Consider and evaluate comments received
- Decision on whether to sign or not Jan 31



***Thank you***

