

RECOVER Update:

Three topics

Dec. 2001

- 1. What is Adaptive Assessment (& How do we Implement)?**
- 2. RECOVER Interim Goals Process**
- 3. RECOVER MOU**

Adaptive Management vs. Adaptive Assessment*

MORE LATER...

*** i.e., “Adaptive Implementation”**

Senate Committee Report 2000

“Under the adaptive assessment approach, the Plan can be modified...”

“With a project of this size and duration, it is inevitable that new technologies will emerge, modeling systems will be perfected, and monitoring of the ecosystem will continue to provide up-to-the-minute data... it is important that these factors be incorporated into the Plan,...”

“Endorsement of the Plan as a restoration framework is not intended as an artificial constraint on innovation in its implementation. The committee does not expect rigid adherence to the Plan as it was submitted to Congress. This result would be inconsistent with the adaptive assessment principles in the Plan.”

The “Yellow Book” 1999

“The Comprehensive Plan does not provide all the answers - no plan could. The plan, however, contains an aggressive adaptive assessment strategy... A major strength of the current plan is that its flexibility allows for efficient and successive opportunities to make further improvements...”

“...the Study Team identified a process by which key ecosystem restoration features could be further improved through optimization and adaptation of the draft comprehensive plan (D-13R).”

“The RECOVER Team... is a system-wide evaluation and analysis team that will be responsible for helping to determine the overall regional contributions provided by individual projects and whether or not revisions to the Comprehensive Plan are necessary.”

Evaluation vs. Assessment

- ✦ **Evaluation - Analysis of proposed plans or projects to determine expected performance (pre-construction/modeling)**
- ✦ **Assessment - Analysis of actual performance of projects (experimental or post-construction/monitoring)**

Two Opportunities for Improvements

- 1. Modeling & Evaluation: Create the best plan possible using existing models and knowledge; identify major areas of uncertainty, and build in plan flexibility.**
- 2. Monitoring & Assessment: Reduce uncertainties, improve models & knowledge, & revise CERP based on new understandings**

Adaptive Assessment*

- ✦ **Measuring and assessing real world responses as projects are implemented, and using these assessments as a basis for making improvements in the design or operations of the plan.**
- ✦ **Provides a means for continually reducing the levels of uncertainty and refining the design of the restoration plan in response to improving information databases (including the learning that comes from monitoring and researching actual system responses).**
- * **“Adaptive Implementation”**

Adaptive Assessment: A Simpler Definition

Learning by doing,...

**and using what we learn to improve
what we do!**

Adaptive Assessment: two levels of learning

- 1. Planned experiments to maximize learning; e.g., CERP pilot projects (Adaptive Management/active learning)**
- 2. Implement & monitor; e.g., most CERP projects (Adaptive Assessment/passive learning)**

Options for dealing with undesirable responses in an adaptive management strategy

- 1. Change project design pre-construction**
- 2. Eliminate future project(s)**
- 3. Modify future project(s)**
- 4. Add new project(s)**
- 5. Operational fixes**

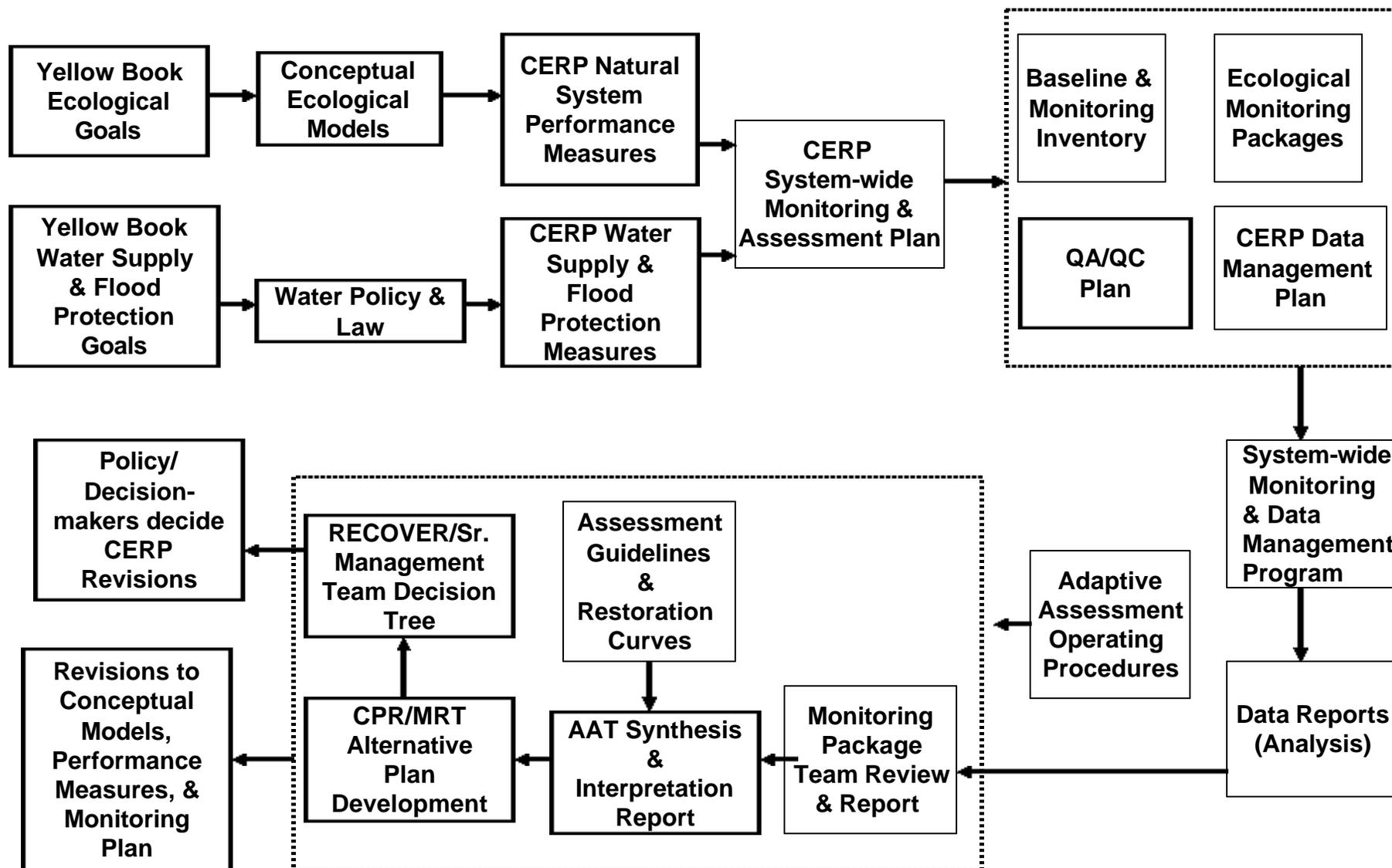
Options for dealing with undesirable responses in an adaptive assessment strategy

- 1. Eliminate some future project(s)**
- 2. Modify design of some future project(s)**
- 3. Add new project(s)**
- 4. Operational fixes**
- 5. Remove or modify some structural component already in place**
- 6. Do nothing**

RECOVER Monitoring & Assessment Program

- 1. Monitoring and Assessment Plan,**
- 2. Conceptual ecological models,**
- 3. Data management & QA/QC strategies,**
- 4. Adaptive assessment technical reports,**
- 5. Adaptive assessment operating protocol,**
- 6. Interim goals protocol - & develop goals,**
- 7. Research needs and coordination.**

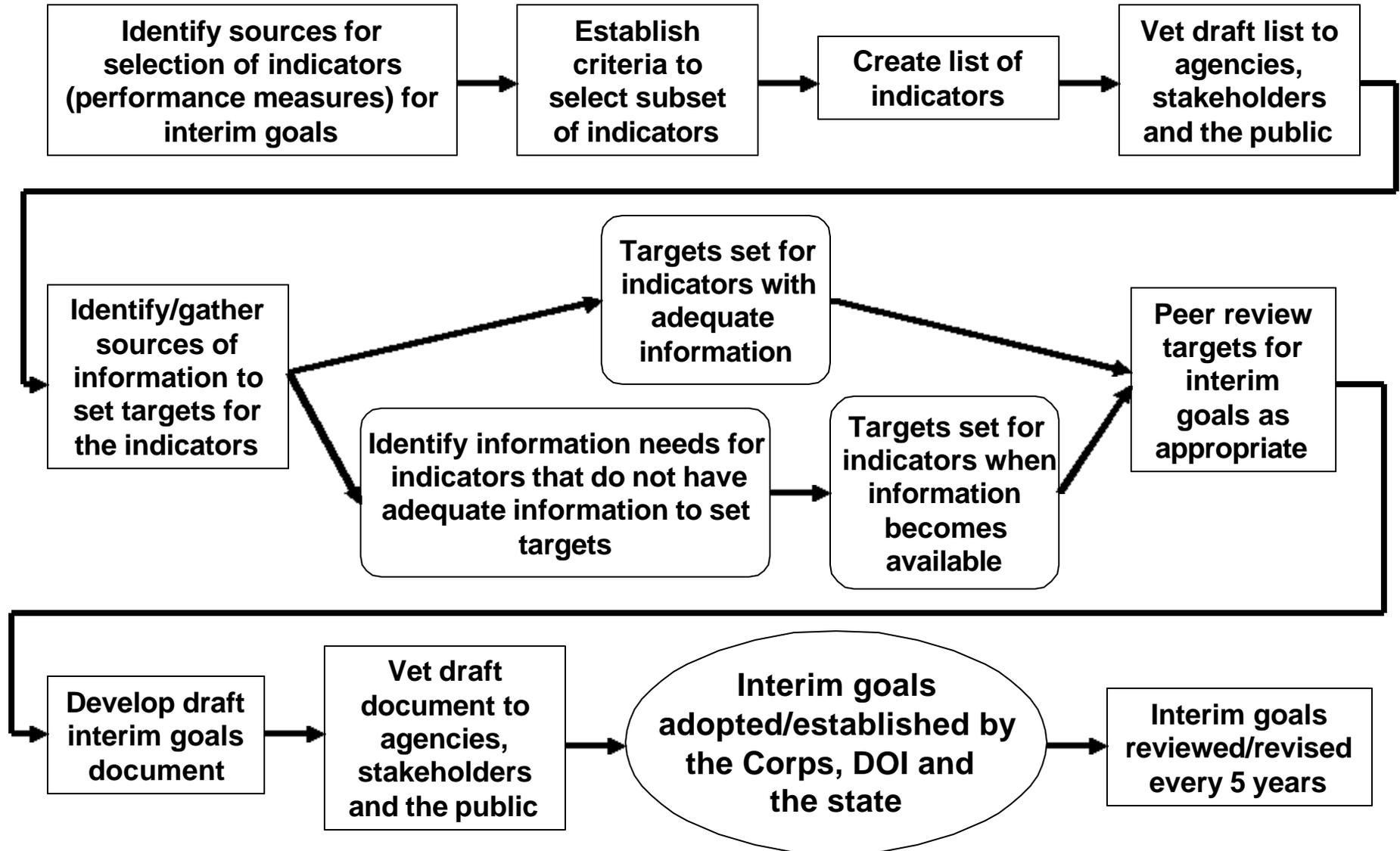
The RECOVER Adaptive Assessment Program



CERP / RECOVER

Process to Establish Interim Goals

11/21/01 Draft



RECOVER MOU

Ready for activation and signing.

When?

Everglades Coalition, Ft. Lauderdale

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