

# **RECOVER Status**

**Working Group Meeting**

**February 7, 2001**



**COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES  
RESTORATION PLAN**

# Agenda

- ✦ **RECOVER - What and Why**
- ✦ **RECOVER Organization and Function**
- ✦ **Current Activities**

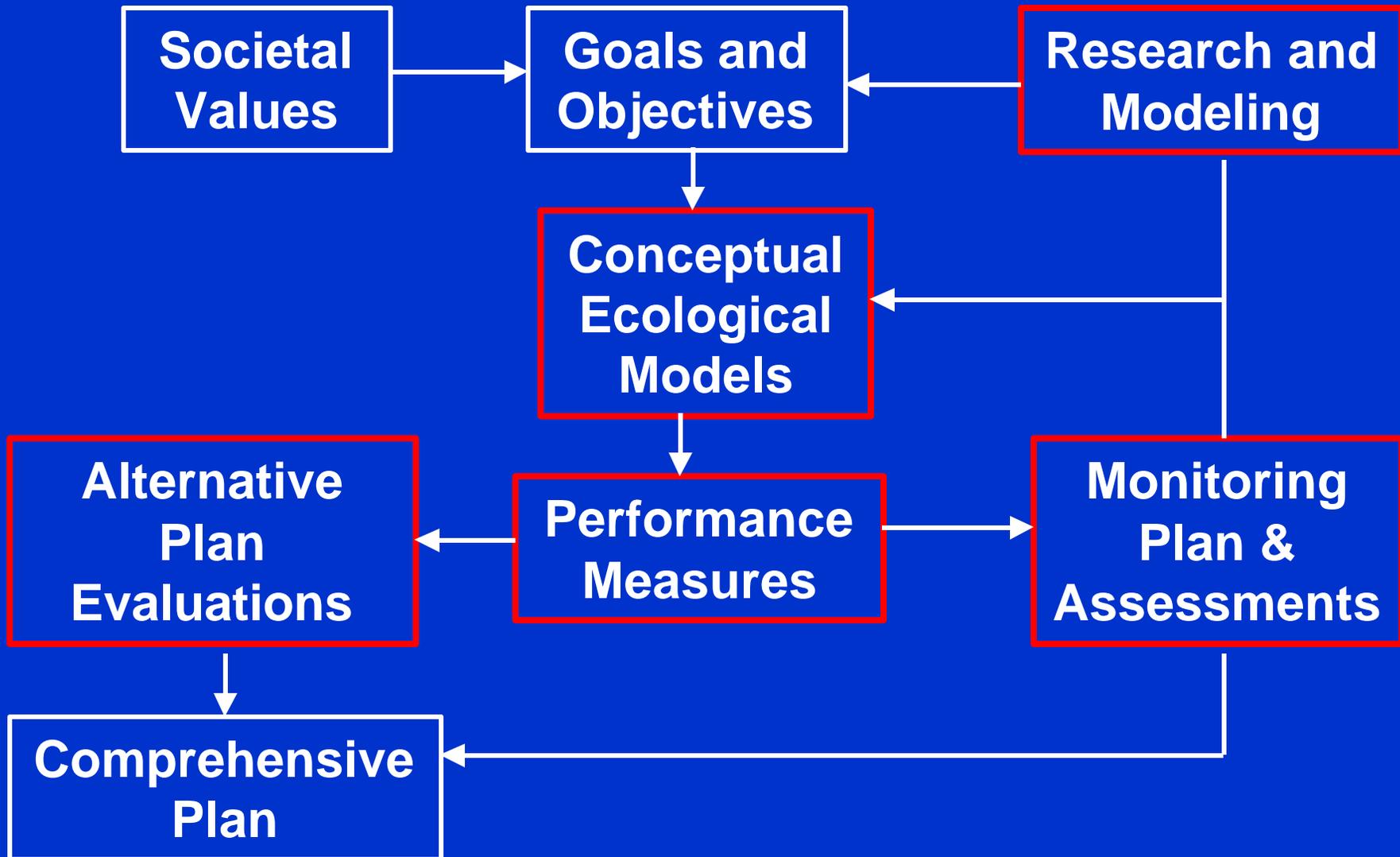
*“We made too many wrong mistakes.”*

**-Yogi Berra**

# WHAT IS RECOVER?

- ✦ **RECOVER - Restoration Coordination and Verification**
- ✦ **Role - Organize and apply scientific and technical information to support the objectives of CERP**

# Applied Science Strategy



# Evaluation vs. Assessment

- + **Evaluation - Analysis of proposed plans or projects to determine expected performance**
- + **Assessment - Analysis of actual performance of projects**

# WRDA 2000 Provisions

- + **Authorization of adaptive assessment program - \$100 million**
- + **Programmatic Regulations - process for:**
  - Ensuring that goals of Plan are met
  - Ensuring that information developed through adaptive assessment are integrated into Plan
- + **Independent scientific review**
- + **Periodic reports to Congress**

# RECOVER OBJECTIVES

- + Evaluate and assess Comprehensive Plan performance
- + Recommend refinements and improvements in design and operations of CERP components
- + Review effects of other restoration projects on Comprehensive Plan performance
- + Ensure that system-wide focus is maintained
- + Develop consensus among agencies regarding scientific and technical aspects of the restoration plan

**Comprehensive Everglades  
Restoration Plan**

**RECOVER  
Leadership Group**

**Operations  
Planning Team**

**Model  
Development and  
Refinement Team**

**Comprehensive  
Plan Refinement  
Team**

**Adaptive  
Assessment  
Team**

**Regional  
Evaluation Team**

**Water Quality  
Team**

# **RECOVER Leadership Group**

- + Provide direction and leadership to RECOVER effort**
- + Coordinate activities of RECOVER teams**
- + Set overall priorities of RECOVER**
- + Issue annual report card**
- + Ensure appropriate public and agency review of RECOVER products**
- + Refine the overall vision of success for CERP**

# **Adaptive Assessment Team**

- + Create and refine conceptual ecological models**
- + Create and refine attribute-based biological performance measures**
- + Develop and coordinate implementation of regional monitoring program**
- + Produce annual adaptive assessment report**
- + Coordinate scientific peer reviews**
- + Recommend priorities for research to support CERP**

# Regional Evaluation Team

- ✦ Review and revise set of system-wide stressor-based performance measures
- ✦ Conduct system-wide evaluations of CERP components (PIRs)
- ✦ Evaluate effects of proposed changes to Comprehensive Plan

# Comprehensive Plan Refinement Team

- + Recommend proposed refinements and changes to Comprehensive Plan
- + Be the “keeper” of current version of Comprehensive Plan and without project condition
- + Provide coordination with Project Delivery Teams
- + Coordinate technical issue resolution

# **Model Development and Refinement Team**

- + Coordinate and oversee refinement of major regional scale models**
- + Coordinate development of new models**
- + Undertake regional model simulations for system-wide evaluations**
- + Develop and maintain web pages to display performance measures and indicators generated from system-wide models**

# Operations Planning Team

- + **Support Project Delivery Teams in design of operations and water control plans**
- + **Develop system-wide interim operational plans**

# Water Quality Team

- + Provide linkage to PDTs to ensure integration of water quality considerations
- + Provide evaluation of CERP components on water quality
- + Develop and review water quality performance measures
- + Coordinate with other water quality efforts underway
- + Provide input on water quality for annual assessment

# Current Activities

# Management Plan

- ✦ **Outlines RECOVER activities and tasks for next three years**
- ✦ **Establishes costs and responsibilities for Corps and SFWMD**
- ✦ **Staff draft in preparation**

# Public Involvement / Review Process for RECOVER Management Plan

Program team develops draft PMP



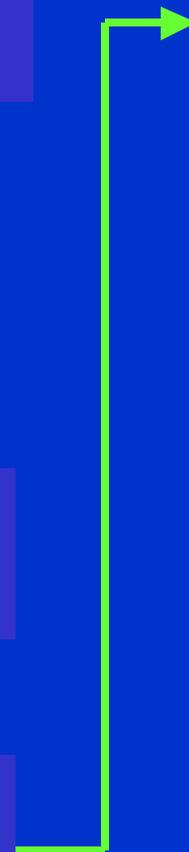
Program managers brief DCT on draft PMP



PMP is posted on the web for public and agency review



Program team hosts PMP workshop(s)



Program team revises PMP based on workshop



CRG/PRB review PMP



Program managers brief Governing Board



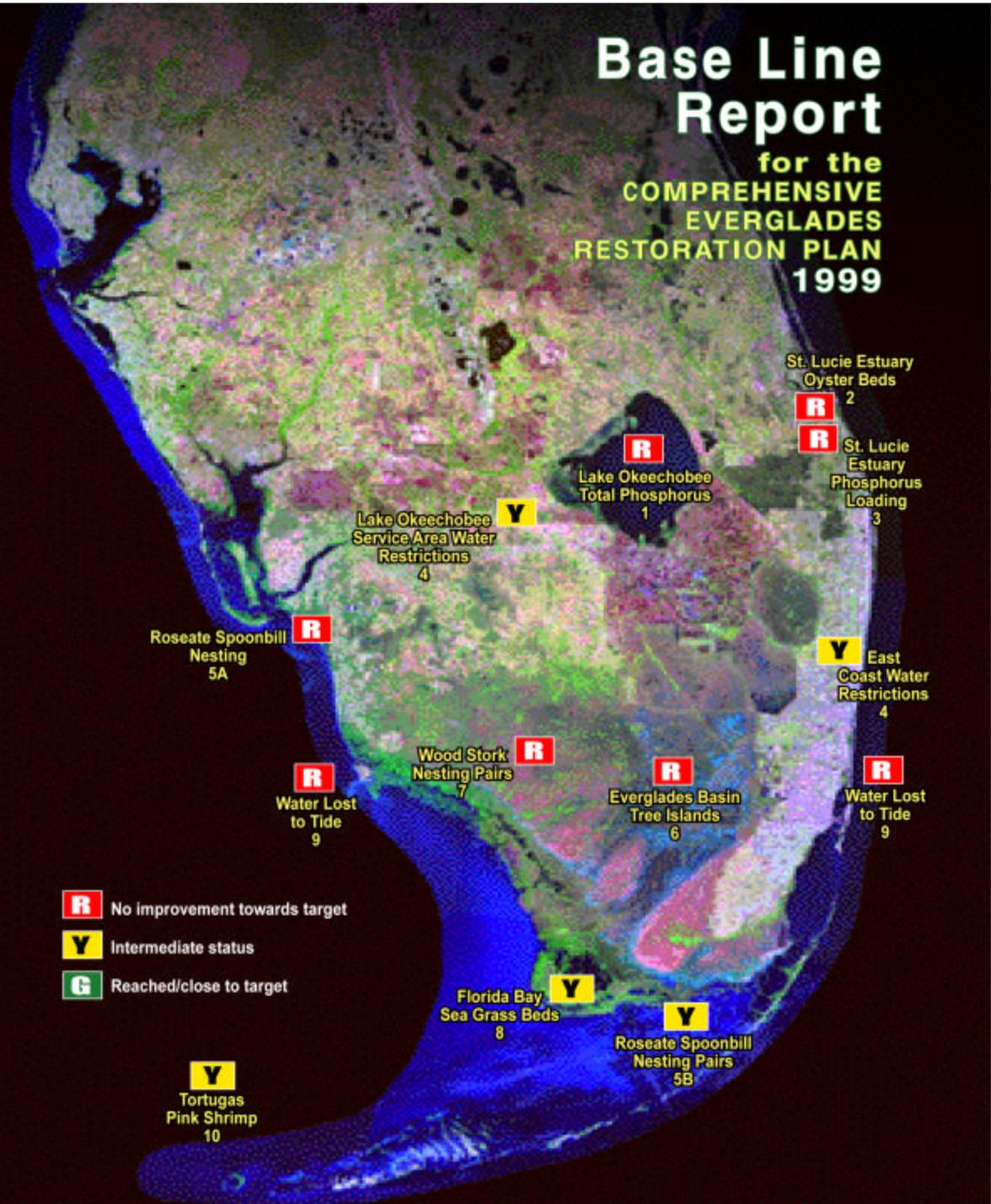
PMP approved by Executive Director and PRB

# Annual Report Card

- + Convey to public and decision makers how well Plan is meeting objectives
- + Base Line Report developed in 1999
- + Other report cards under review
- + Workshops to be held to review base line report and design report card

# 1999 Base Line Report

## Base Line Report for the COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN 1999



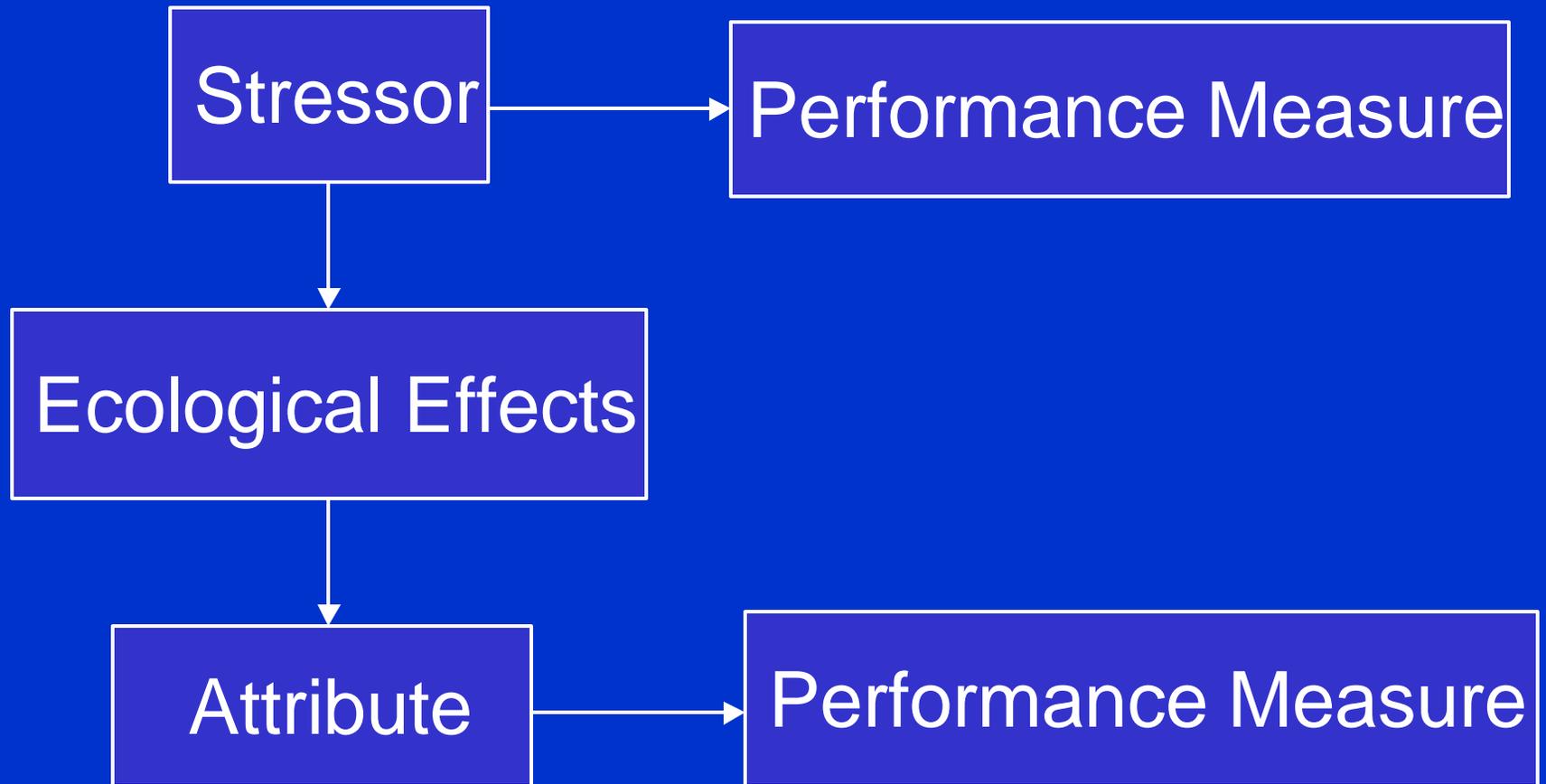
# RECOVER Charter

## + Purpose

- Describe participation and roles of federal, tribal, state, and local agency participants
- Clarify expectations for each participating agency

## + Initial draft being prepared

# Conceptual Ecological Models



# Current Activities

- ✦ **Conceptual model workshops held last summer to revise models**
- ✦ **Draft total system model prepared**
- ✦ **Performance measures being reviewed and revised by RET**

# Monitoring and Assessment Program

- + **Elements**
  - **Monitoring and Assessment Plan**
  - **Monitoring Plan Implementation Strategy**
  - **Sampling Protocol**
  - **Adaptive Assessment Protocol**
  - **Research Needs to Support Monitoring and Assessment Plan**
- + **Draft Monitoring and Assessment Plan being prepared**

# Monitoring Plan Outline

- + **Introduction**
- + **Conceptual Models**
- + **Documentation sheets for performance measures**
- + **Summary of uncertainties in conceptual models & recommendations for research to support CERP**
- + **Annual spreadsheets for tracking status of each element of monitoring plan**

# Restudy Performance Issues

- + Increase flows to Florida Bay, Northeast Shark River Slough, and Taylor Slough
- + Improve performance in WCAs
- + Identify alternatives to wastewater reuse for flows to Biscayne Bay
- + Develop features to allow greater operational flexibility to address uncertainties in ecological responses within WCAs

# Other Activities

- + Evaluations of WPA and IRL alternatives
- + Operations white paper

