

## MEETING SUMMARY

South Florida Ecosystem Working Group Public Workshop  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
Building B-1, Governing Board Auditorium  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
March 9, 2012  
9:00 – 5:00

### Central Everglades Planning Project Workshop Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introductions Barry Rosen, SFERTF Working Group Vice  
Chair  
Allyn Childress, SFERTF

Meeting called to order at 9:15 due to technical problems with the internet connection. Allyn Childress introduced Barry Rosen as the new Vice Chair of the Working Group. The participants welcomed Barry with applause. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Meeting Procedures and Ground Rules Allyn Childress, SFERTF

As the majority of the participants in attendance were familiar with the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP), Allyn Childress did not review the power point on meeting procedures and ground rules in order to make up time lost due to the delayed start of the meeting. She stated that the new table set up should be conducive to the nature of the workshop exercise and allow for the exchange of ideas among the groups at each table. She reminded everyone to introduce themselves and speak into the microphones for the benefit of the internet audience. She repeated the web address that members of the internet audience can use to submit questions. Her full power point presentation can be found at [http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Groundrules\\_030912.pdf](http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Groundrules_030912.pdf) .

3. Project Feature Siting Analysis Matt Morrison

Matt Morrison informed that group that this workshop deals with storage in the southern Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) and management features in the southern portion of the EAA that facilitate storage and conveyance into Northern WCA 3A. Information was provided in the packets on the tradeoffs and pros and cons of the various configurations that could be used to accomplish this goal. He provided a power point on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and the screening analysis conducted by the CEPP Project Delivery Team (PDT). His presentation can be found at [http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/CEPP\\_Overview\\_%20Siting\\_Analysis\\_MM\\_Co\\_mparisons.pdf](http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/CEPP_Overview_%20Siting_Analysis_MM_Co_mparisons.pdf)

He reviewed the purpose of CERP, the status of the foundation, second generation and third generation projects and the three purposes of the CEPP. Today's workshop will focus on the features north of the red line loosely defined as the southern portion of the EAA. The focus is on the storage treatment and conveyance of water through the EAA for today's workshop. Future workshops will focus on moving water through WCA 3A, moving water through Shark

Slough in Everglades National Park and ultimately to Florida Bay. But for today, the focus is on storage, treatment and conveyance of water through the EAA.

He reminded everyone that CEPP is an accelerated process that will culminate in a Project Implementation Report (PIR) sometime this fall.

He reviewed the Regional Storage and Treatment Screening Analysis conducted by the PDT. The primary conclusions reached by the PDT are that lands owned by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) in the southern portion of the EAA demonstrated better cost effectiveness on a cost per acre-foot of storage and treatment when compared to other locations therefore there is no compelling reason to pursue meeting the planning objectives elsewhere in the study area.

Matt also presented the Management Measure Comparisons to be considered by the participants in designing features that could be used for storage, treatment and conveyance.

He showed a map of the lands that will be subject to the analysis. Responding to a question from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Matt stated that there may be some lands with agrochemical pollution. Today's exercise will not have an analysis of these lands but will be a "high level" analysis of what lands can be used for storage, conveyance and treatment with the presumption that all lands are suitable for use by the project.

In response to another question about management of other WCAs, Matt stated that Storage and treatment in the EAA, Decomp in WCA 3 and Seepage Management Everglades National Park are the CERP three projects subject to today's CEPP planning process. The idea is to store the water, treat the water to restore WCA 3, and create tree island habitat with the ultimate goal of delivering water to Shark River Slough and into Florida Bay. The focus is on the water from Lake Okeechobee and delivering it south. The planning area for CEPP is the central portion of the area between the Miami Canal and the North New River Canal.

In response to another question, no lands purchased from U.S. Sugar as a result of the River of Grass will be part of this exercise; those lands will most likely be used for water quality treatment features. Other lands that have been purchased by the SFWMD like Talisman will be used for the storage, treatment and conveyance for this first increment of restoration. Matt acknowledged that this is only the first increment.

Matt reviewed the management measures that folks can bolt together for the first increment:

- Shallow storage
- Deep storage
- Stormwater Treatment Area (STA)
- Reclaimed wetlands
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)
- Operations

He reviewed the graphics in the packets like wet vs. dry footprints as an illustration of the factors that participants will have to take into consideration in their footprint configurations. He reviewed the requirements of deep storage (reservoirs) and shallow impoundments. Greater than four feet is classified as deep storage and more robust features are required to mitigate any breach hazards. There was discussion of the slope of the reservoirs and the desire of

some participants to design reservoirs that provide refugia for fish (this might be a slope of 10:1 as opposed to 3:1).

Discussion turned to the STAs and their contribution to water quality treatment. Shallow impoundments may also contribute to water quality treatment if vegetation is part of the STA. Deep water storage provides very limited improvements in water quality. There is no data on ASR for water treatment. The cost of storage on a per acre basis was discussed. Performance and Cost Relationships are non-linear; performance is not strictly tied to cost or total storage volume. Performance is highly dependent on management measure type and operations.

Management of the Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule can be part of the configuration process. The maps were reviewed again. Clarification was sought on the lands available for this planning effort.

Matt stated that the lands west of the Miami Canal are being planned for use in water quality treatment. CEPP is to move new water south for Everglades restoration. Other lands will most likely be used for water quality treatment purposes. Ownership questions were asked. The participants were instructed to exclude the white areas on the maps as these lands are in private ownership and to only deal with those lands that are in yellow. The Tribes have asked for the analysis of the C-139 basin and the analysis reveals that there are no lands available in this basin for CEPP. The participants can assume that the lands purchased for the A-1 Reservoir and A-2 Reservoir are fair game for any component the groups want to put on them.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Chad Kennedy	Joan Bausch
Matt Morrison	Bret Hauquitz
Rosa Durando	Matt Morrison
Matt Morrison	Walter Wilcox
Alex Larson	Bret Hauquitz
Allyn Childress	Walter Wilcox
Carl Woehlcke	Galen Miller
Walter Wilcox	Kim Taplin
Joel VanArman	Galen Miller
Barry Rosen	Kim Taplin
Matt Morrison	Drew Martin
Inger Hansen	Carl Woehlcke
Charles Shinn	Barry Rosen
Pete Quasius	Joel VanArman
Matt Morrison	Bret Hauquitz
Rob Tucker	Rosa Durando
Commissioner Tom Bausch	Matt Morrison
Allyn Childress	Martha Musgrove
Drew Martin	Matt Morrison
John Marshall	Adrian Aighita
Walter Wilcox	Matt Morrison
John Marshall	Shannon Estenoz
Barry Rosen	Carl Woehlcke
John Marshall	

5. Configuration Development Exercise

Allyn Childress, SFERTF

Barry Rosen reviewed the maps that illustrate the lands that are under consideration for this planning exercise. He reminded everyone that the exercise is to figure out how to get water from the EAA into northern WCA 3A. This water will ultimately be delivered south to Everglades National Park, through Shark River Slough and into Florida Bay. Future workshops will deal with delivery of water below the “red line”. A power point describing the configuration development exercise can be found at [http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Configuration\\_Development\\_Exercise.pdf](http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Configuration_Development_Exercise.pdf).

Allyn Childress explained that the Working Group sponsored workshop is not designed as a consensus building exercise. These workshops are to provide a forum to identify a range of configurations that will ultimately be transmitted to the Task Force.

Base maps were provided to the participants. A common legend was also provided and participants were encouraged to use those terms to illustrate their configurations. Participants were also asked to fill out a configuration summary sheet for each configuration. The exercise ran until the lunch break with the participants invited to share their configurations after the break.

5. Configuration Development Exercise (continued after lunch) Barry Rosen

Some of the participants briefed the full group on the configurations they developed. All configurations will be submitted to the PDT for further analysis.

The following lists the presenters and the order in which they spoke:

Drew Martin: presented “Pulse Flow”

Kevin Kotun: Presented “Northern Spreader”

John Marshall: Presented “The Marshall Plan”

Pete Quasius: Presented “Storage, Storage, Storage”

Dawn Shirreffs: Presented “Naturally Upgraded Storage and Treatment”

Joel Van Aman: Presented “Optimized Shallow/deep Storage”

Jerilyn Ashworth: presented “Step-Down Storage”

Chris McVoy: presented “Plumber’s Delight”

Bret Hauquitz: presented “First Stage of Eventual Flow-way into the Everglades”

Barry thanked the staff that helped with the maps and other materials needed for the workshop.

6. Existing Conditions Performance Walter Wilcox

Walter Wilcox presented a power point presentation on this topic. The power point can be found at

[http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Existing\\_Conditions\\_WG\\_03092012.pdf](http://www.sfrestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Existing_Conditions_WG_03092012.pdf)

Walter reviewed the models used to simulate the existing conditions. The period of record is 1965 – 2005. The models take observed climate conditions like rainfall, assume project features and construction features and illustrate how the features put on the maps would function in response to the different hydrology represented during this period of record. Two models are being used; the RSM and RSOPS. The output from both models will be able to be used together as they are compatible.

New information from the Rock Mining industry has been inputted into the model to incorporate real world data. This has resulted in a revision in the assumptions in the model from 90% of the

water in this area entering the canal with 10% lost to seepage to the revised data of 70% in the canal with 30% groundwater recharge . Seepage management must be carefully planned for so that there is no increase in flooding of private property.

Improvements to the Cross and Bolles canals (or E-CART) will need to be completed in order to move water south. These improvements are part of the Long-Term Plan and perhaps these improvements should be part of the CEPP process.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Drew Martin	Drew Martin
Walter Wilcox	Shannon Estenoz
Carl Woehlcke	Matt Morrision
Drew Martin	Jonathan Ullman
Nick Aumen	Tom MacVicar
Martha Musgrove	Kim Taplin
Walter Wilcox	Martha Musgrove
Bret Hauquitz	Galen Miller
Jennifer Jurado	Bob Johnson

## 7. Screening Framework

Walter Wilcox

The screening framework Walter presented at this workshop on behalf of the CEPP Modeling Team deals with the area north of the red line. The goal is to get at the key drivers to get water from north of the red line south into the system. The screening does not replace the detailed models but the screening allows us to test the various concepts to see which ones should be modeled with the more detailed models. Inverse modeling allows us to identify the size of the feature that meets the various performance objectives. His power point presentation can be found at [http://www.sfestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Screening\\_WG\\_03092012.pdf](http://www.sfestore.org/cepp/meetings/030912/Screening_WG_03092012.pdf)

He illustrated some examples of the screening graphics with the idea of using these tools developed as part of the River of Grass planning effort. One can get an idea of how well a management measure will perform with the goal of improved hydrologic performance which needs to be coupled with ecological response. Identify hydrology where we get meaningful ecological response in the system. The trend analysis graphic from the River of Grass process leads us to believe that the first increment of 2,000 acre feet will yield significant benefits for the natural system. Graphics more specific to this workshop/area will be developed.

Walter solicited input on which CEPP Performance Measures linked to key objectives are most important to the workshop participants. For example, phosphorus treatment features are important as deep water reservoirs do provide the best water quality treatment. The cost of the features would be helpful information up front to assist the selection of the various components. The difference between deep and shallow storage and the mix of the two is an important consideration. While there may be flexibility in how much water is stored in a reservoir, operations much be modified to deal with deep vs. shallow storage. We must consider all the management features that can be used in the southern EAA.

Walter clarified that evapotranspiration (ET) is + or – 5%. Also many configurations included putting water into the Holey Land and this water must meet phosphorus standards.

The next PDT meeting is March 27. This date is the deadline for participants to provide input to Walter, the two project managers or to bring the information to the PDT meeting.

The following lists the discussion participants and the order in which they spoke:

Dawn Shirreffs	Martha Musgrove
Walter Wilcox	Bret Hauquitz
Shannon Estenoz	Joan Bausch
Bret Hauquitz	Carl Woehlcke
John Marshall	Walter Wilcox
Pete Quasius	Barron Moody
Matt Morrison	Matt Morrison
Joel VanArman	

#### 9. Closing Comments and Adjourn

Barry Rosen

General Comment: Dawn Shirreffs spoke of several off-line meetings by persons interested in the CEPP process. These folks have developed a set of components that they would like considered by the PDT. Barry Rosen said he would accept these on behalf of the Working Group and make sure they were part of the configuration planning process.

Barry reminded everyone of the next CEPP workshop on April 17 addressing recreation issues south of the red line.

Bret Hauquitz reminded everyone that this is the first step.

Allyn Childress thanked the staff of the SFWMD for their great support and recognized the Task Force staff assisting with the meeting.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.