

Comprehensive Integrated Water Quality Feasibility Study

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Jacksonville District, US Army Corps of Engineers

Authorization

- Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)
- WRDA 2000 - 11 Dec. 2000
- Section 9.7.3-Recommended the Comprehensive Integrated Water Quality Feasibility Study (CIWQFS)

CIWQFS Study Area:

Includes all lands/waters within:

- South Florida Water Management District boundary, and
- all lands within the northern Indian River Lagoon boundary

Project Participants - Interagency Members

- USFWS
- Everglades National Park
- NOAA
- USGS
- FDACS
- SFWMD
- Miccosukee Tribe of Indians
- Seminole Tribe of Indians
- FWC
- USDA
- Broward DPEP
- Miami-Dade DERM
- Collier and Lee Counties

CIWQFS Scope-Objectives

- Phased Feasibility Study-Phase 1 encompasses Planning Steps 1 and 2 only
- Identify links between water quality and ecosystem function
- Identify degraded ecosystems and quantify the types and sources of pollution
- Develop targets for ecosystem restoration
- Inventory and evaluate a suite of structural and other measures capable of improving water quality

CIWQFS Scope-Objectives (Continued)

- Integrate planned and existing water-quality restoration and management programs with projects of the Everglades restoration plan and with other federal, state, tribal, and local programs and projects
- Recommend additional programs and projects needed to achieve ecosystem restoration
- Identify appropriate sources of funding

Feasibility Study Schedule- Phase 1

Planning Step 1: Problems & Opportunities –

- Report on Conceptual Ecosystem Models, NER Benefit Units, and identification of Problems and Opportunities -

Planning Step 2: Inventory & Forecast Conditions

- List and Map of Existing Degraded Waters
- List and Map of Existing and Future Conditions
- Identification of potential Management Measures
- Report on overall findings

Feasibility Study-Phase I

- Potential Results from Phase I:
 - Recommendations for management measures including additional Best Management Practices and conceptual alternatives
 - Recommendations for additional studies for modifications to the Comprehensive Plan – Comp Plan Modification Report

Feasibility Study-Phase I

- Schedule for Phase I:
 - Initiate Study – July 2004
 - Complete Phase 1 – Apr 2008
(Restudy Projected Completion Date - Dec 2006 for total study)
- Cost Estimate for Phase I:
 - \$5.8 million
(Restudy projected total cost - \$8.0 million)

Unique Factors

- Focus is on Water Quality as it relates to Restoration
- Division of Federal versus State responsibility for Water Quality is key item
- FDEP is local sponsor for Feasibility Study
- Other Sponsors needed for project specific implementation – SFWMD, Counties, etc.

Status

- **Scope, schedule, and cost of Feasibility Study and detailed Project Management Plan developed**
- **Negotiations with FDEP were in progress over schedule and cost estimate**
- **Discussions on overall MISP, Banding, resources, and funding delayed completion of negotiations and start of study**
- **Currently assessing timing, cost, and resources for study**

Issues

- Priority of this effort versus other ongoing efforts – Relative to resource (both funding and manpower) constraints
- Scope of Effort – All inclusive over entire system, or limited only to potential additional features for C&SF/CERP projects

Comments??
