



Draft Interim Goals and Interim Targets Agreements

Task Force Meeting – February 23, 2006



Background

- **Water Resources Development Act of 2000 requires the development of Interim Goals**
- **Programmatic Regulations**
 - **Set forth process for development of Interim Goals and Interim Targets**
 - **Require execution of a three-party agreement to memorialize interim goals**
 - **Army, DOI and Florida**
 - **Require establishment of Interim Targets**
 - **Army and Florida**



Background

■ Programmatic Regulations:

- Interim Goals are a means for agency managers, the State and Congress to evaluate the *restoration success* of the CERP at specific points in time throughout the planning and implementation process
- RECOVER recommendations for Interim Goals shall consist of:
 - Regional hydrologic performance targets
 - Improvements in water quality; and
 - Anticipated ecological responses



Background

- **Programmatic Regulations:**
 - Interim Targets are a means for evaluating the progress of the CERP towards meeting the ***other water-related needs of the region*** throughout the planning and implementation process
 - Interim Goals and Interim Targets shall be consistent with each other



Basis for Draft Interim Goals and Targets

- RECOVER developed a set of recommended Interim Goals and Targets based on best available science and information
 - Predictions of CERP performance are based on 1999 modeling performed for the recommended plan and implementation schedule included in the April 1999 Feasibility Report
 - Agreements include an indicator () along with a goal or target statement () followed by the expected condition in:
 - 2010
 - 2015
 - 2050 – Full Implementation of D13R



Process for Development of Agreements and Status

- Agencies drafted for consultation initial draft Agreements after consideration of RECOVER recommendations
- Consultation underway with federal, state, local and tribal governments
- Consider comments, revise, finalize and execute agreements





Proposed Schedule For Public Review of Agreements

- **WRAC meeting** Feb 2
- **Governing Board workshop** Feb 8
- **Consultation with Tribes** Feb 21-22
- **Consultation with Task Force** Feb 23
- **Continued consultation with federal, state and local agencies, as required** Feb - March
- **Post in Federal Register for Public Review** March





Interim Goals and Targets

How will they be used?

- **Interim Goals and Targets will be used to facilitate adaptive management, including**
 - Adjustments to projects if actual project performance is less than anticipated
 - Recommending changes to the Plan
- **Corps and SFWMD will sequence and schedule Plan Projects to achieve Interim Goals and Targets**
 - Given funding, technical and other constraints
 - Given the assumptions on which the 1999 Plan implementation schedule was based



Commitment to Update

- **Interim Goals and Targets will be modified as a priority initiative to reflect:**
 - **New information (e.g., new MISP or CERP Updates)**
 - **New or updated models**
 - **New scientific and technical information**
 - **Information developed through assessment principles**
 - **Future authorized changes to the Plan**
 - **Changed or unforeseen circumstances**



Commitment to Update

(continued)

- Agreements will be reviewed by the signatories at least once every five years to determine if the Interim Goals or Interim Targets should be revised



Draft Interim Goals



Draft Interim Goals

■ Northern Estuaries Region

- Increase areal coverage of American oysters in the northern estuaries
- Reduce high volume flows to the northern estuaries

■ Lake Okeechobee Region

- Reduce phosphorus concentrations in Lake Okeechobee
- Restore more natural water levels in Lake Okeechobee
 - Reduce frequency of harmful high stages, i.e., above 17 feet
 - Reduce frequency of harmful low stages, i.e., below 11 feet
 - Restore natural spring recession events



Draft Interim Goals *(continued)*

■ **Everglades Region**

- **Increase spatial extent of natural habitat**
- **Increase wading bird nesting patterns**
- **Increase the frequency of super-colony events**
- **Establish conditions that encourage wood storks to initiate nesting earlier in winter**
- **Provide more natural surface water flows to the northern boundaries of the Water Conservation Areas**
- **Provide more natural surface water flows to Everglades National Park**



Draft Interim Goals *(continued)*

- **Southern Estuaries Region**
 - Reduce high salinity levels in Florida Bay
 - Little Madeira Bay
 - Terrapin Bay
 - North River Mouth
 - Increase freshwater flows to Florida Bay
- **System-wide Water Volume**
 - Reduce the quantity of freshwater lost to tide



Interim Goals Agreement

- **Comments to date:**
 - **Interim Goals Agreement omits many of the RECOVER recommendations**
 - **Interim Goals do not reflect the new models, the new schedule, actual funding or the revised project designs (i.e. Indian River Lagoon)**
 - **Interim Goals do not reflect that we are entering wet cycle**



Draft Interim Targets



Draft Interim Targets

- Reduce frequency of water shortages resulting from regional system conditions
 - Lower East Coast Service Area
 - Lake Okeechobee Service Area
- Protect Biscayne Aquifer from saltwater intrusion during severe drought
 - Palm Beach, Broward and Miami Dade counties
 - South Miami-Dade County

Thank you



Discussion