



Draft Interim Goals and Interim Targets Agreements

Task Force Meeting - September 21, 2006



Presentation Outline

- **Background**
- **Feedback received on initial draft of Agreements presented in February 2006**
- **Summary of changes to Draft Agreements**
- **Schedule for continued consultation and public comment**



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
 - Require establishment of interim targets

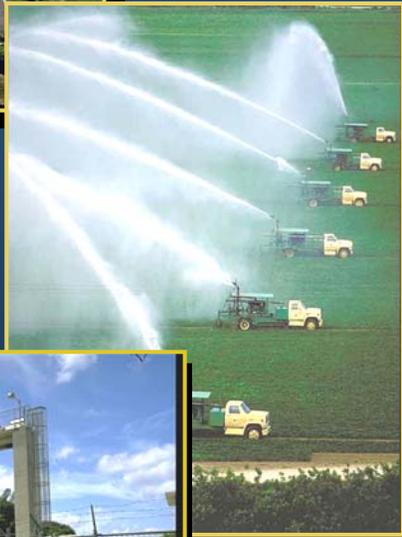


Interim Goals



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

Interim Targets



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 Targets



Interim goals and interim targets shall be consistent with each other



Separate Agreements

- **Interim Goals Agreement**
 - Secretary of Army
 - Secretary of Interior
 - Governor of Florida
- **Interim Targets Agreement**
 - Secretary of Army
 - Governor of Florida



Feedback on Initial Draft Agreements

- Draft Agreements omitted many of RECOVER's recommended indicators, goals and targets
- Incremental performance predictions did not reflect updated models, topography or water supply demands
- Performance predictions did not reflect new project implementation schedule, updated Federal funding projections, or revised project designs
- Establishing inaccurate or unrealistic interim goals and targets could prejudice Congress' future decisions on appropriations for CERP
- Too many "Whereas" clauses



Revised Draft Agreements

- **Whereas clauses eliminated**
- **Indicators expanded to address all of RECOVER's recommendations**
- **Initial interim goals and interim targets modified**
 - **Most are qualitative goal statements for which progress may be measured**
 - **Where included, incremental performance predictions are based on standard Corps implementation process**
 - **Incremental performance predictions will be added for additional indicators, as developed, through future amendments to Agreements**



Example Indicator and Interim Goal Statements

Water Levels in Lake Okeechobee

- *Reduce the frequency of harmful high stages above 17 feet*
- *Reduce the frequency of harmful low stages below 11 feet*
- *Restore natural spring recession events*

Lake Okeechobee Aquatic Vegetation

- *Increase the areal coverage of aquatic vegetation in Lake Okeechobee*



Example Indicator and Interim Target Statements

Water Supply for the Lower East Coast Service Area

- *Increase water supplies available for meeting existing and future water supply needs*

Flood Control: Groundwater Stages for Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties and Seminole Tribe Surface Water Management Basins

- *Maintain or improve the level-of-service of flood protection consistent with WRDA 2000 and Section 385.37 of the Programmatic Regulations*



Interim Goals and Targets

How will they be used?

- Interim goals and targets will be used to facilitate adaptive management
- Corps and SFWMD agree to sequence and schedule Plan Projects to achieve interim goals and targets - given funding, technical and other constraints



Commitment to Update Interim Goals and Targets

Interim goals and targets will be modified, through amendment to Agreements, to reflect:

- **Revised hydrologic models**
- **Updated project implementation schedules**
- **New scientific and technical information**
- **Information developed through assessment and adaptive management**
- **Future authorized changes to the Plan**



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**
- **Interim goals and interim targets will be revised through amendment of the Agreements**



Proposed Revision to Draft Interim Goals Agreement

New item #2 under Duties section:

The Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Interior and Governor of the State of Florida agree to streamline permit and agency review processes and to assign appropriate staffing levels to provide timely decisions on permit applications and expedite agency reviews.



Proposed Schedule For Consultation and Public Review

- WRAC meeting Sep 7
- Governing Board workshop Sep 12
- Task Force meeting Sep 21
- Continued consultation with Tribes Sep - Oct
- Continued consultation with federal, state and local agencies, as required Sep - Oct
- Post in Federal Register for Public Review Oct



Thank you

