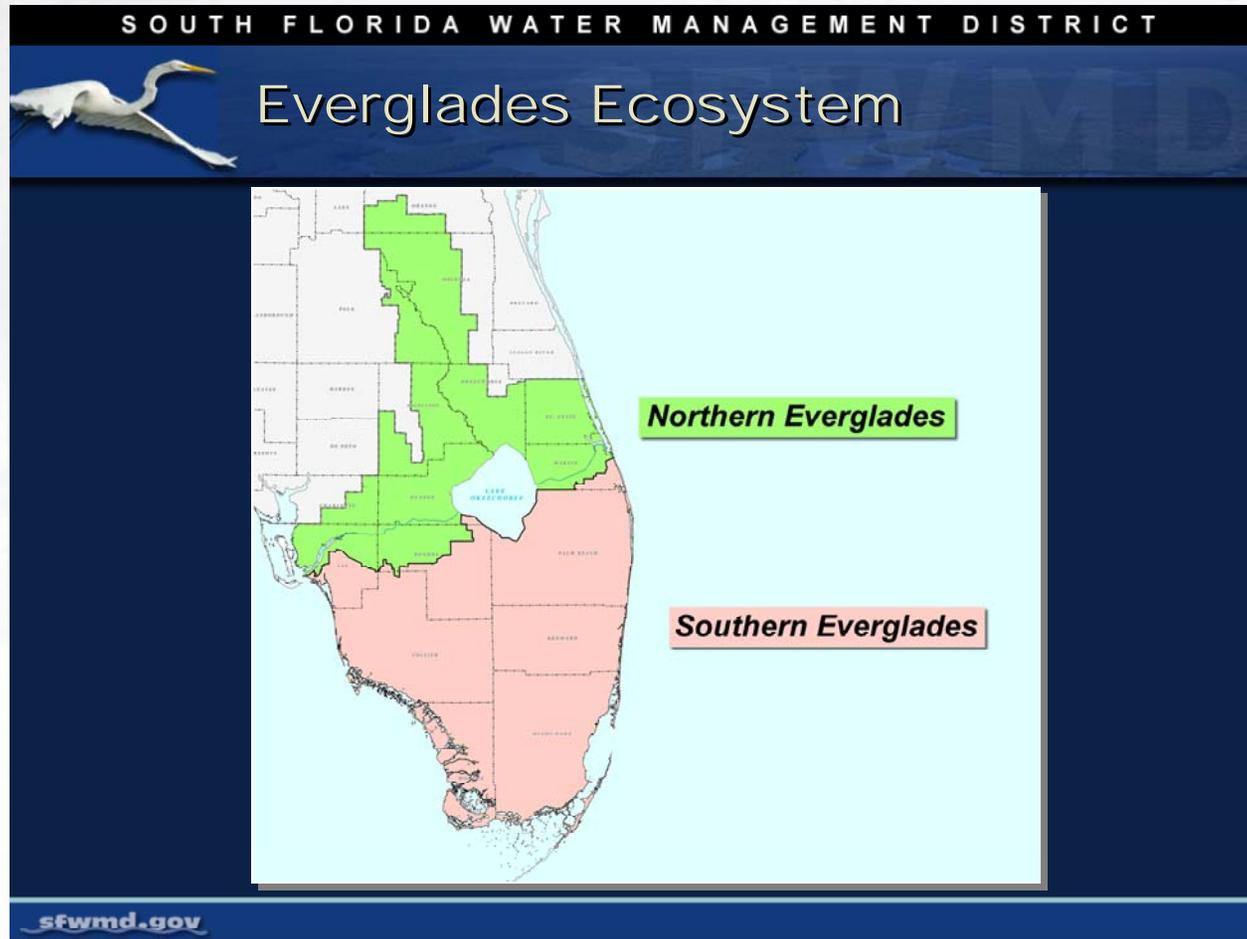




Northern Everglades Initiative Update  
Tom Teets  
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Working Group  
July 19, 2007



# Everglades Ecosystem



## Northern Everglades Legislation

- **The Northern Everglades legislation provides a dedicated state funding source for the Northern Everglades restoration**
  - **Expanding the use of the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund to include the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Protection Plan and the River's Watershed Protection Plans for the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie.**
- **The Bill will also extend the state's commitment to provide funding for CERP and the Northern Everglades through the year 2020.**

## Northern Everglades Legislation

- **Expands Lake Okeechobee Protection Program to the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program**
- **Development of a technical plan to identify the storage and water quality treatment requirements for the Lake Okeechobee watershed by February 1, 2008.**
  - **Process Development and Engineering component**
- **Development of the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers Watershed Protection Plans to identify watershed storage projects and water quality targets by January 1, 2009.**

## Northern Everglades Legislation

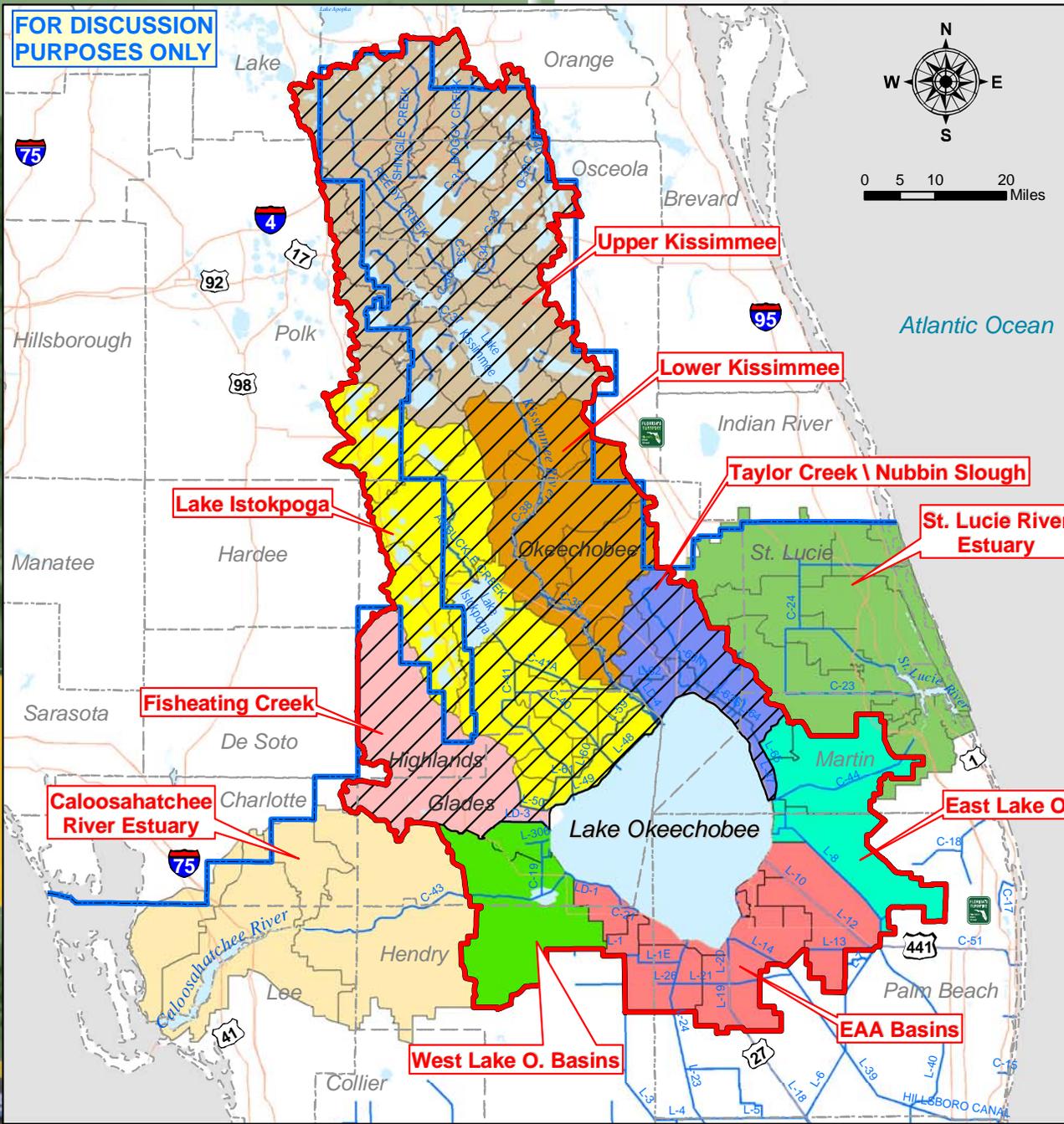
- **Implementation of projects to meet the Lake Okeechobee Total Maximum Daily Load of 140 metric tons of phosphorus to the Lake by 2015.**
- **The watershed protection plans will be the basis for Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)**
- **Data used in the technical plans will be updated every three years**

## Northern Everglades Legislation

- **The Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie River Watershed Protection Programs will include goals for salinity envelopes and freshwater inflow targets for each estuary**
- **Total maximum daily loads for tidal portions of Caloosahatchee River and estuary to be proposed for final agency action by December 31, 2008 by Department of Environmental Protection**

# SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

FOR DISCUSSION  
PURPOSES ONLY



- ### Northern Everglades Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed
- Roads
  - SFWMD Northern Border
  - County Boundary
  - SFWMD Major Canals
  - LOPP Hydrologic Boundary
  - Upper Kissimmee
  - Lower Kissimmee
  - Lake Istokpoga
  - Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough
  - Fisheating Creek
  - West Lake O. Basins
  - East Lake O. Basins
  - EAA Basins
  - Caloosahatchee River Estuary
  - St. Lucie River Estuary
  - Basins
  - Regional Simulation Model - Sub Watersheds

This map is a conceptual tool utilized for project development only. This map is not self-executing or binding, and does not otherwise affect the interests of any persons including any vested rights or existing uses of real property and is not a survey.



## Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

### Problems

- **Undesirable high levels in Lake Okeechobee**
- **Undesirable low levels in Lake Okeechobee**
- **Excess regulatory discharges to the Caloosahatchee Estuary**
- **Undesirable low flows to the Caloosahatchee Estuary**
- **Excess regulatory discharges to the St. Lucie Estuary**
- **Excessive phosphorus loads to Lake Okeechobee**
- **Limited operating flexibility for lakes stage management**
- **Upper Floridan – groundwater water supply limitations in Upper Kissimmee Basin**

## Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

### Objectives

- **Meet Lake Okeechobee Watershed Total Maximum Daily Loads**
- **Manage Lake Okeechobee levels within an ecologically desirable range**
- **Manage flows to meet desirable salinity ranges for the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries**
- **Identify opportunities for alternative surface water supply sources in the watershed**

## Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

### Constraints

- **Provide Kissimmee River restoration flows**
- **Avoid precluding Everglades restoration flows**
- **Maintain water supply for affected water user basins**
- **Herbert Hoover Dike limitations**
- **Maintain existing levels of flood protection**
- **Minimum flows and levels- Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie Estuary, Caloosahatchee Estuary, Lake Istokpoga**
- **Water quality standards**

# Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

## Management Measures

### ■ Definition

- **A management measure is a feature or activity that can be implemented at a specific site to address one or more planning objectives.**
- **A feature is defined as a structural element that requires construction or assembly on-site.**
- **An activity is defined as a non-structural action or a practice that is implemented to achieve one or more project goals.**

# Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

## Management Measures

- **Currently compiling and sorting measures by levels**
- **Levels of management measures**
  - **Level 1- Already constructed/implemented or construction/implementation imminent**
  - **Level 2- Construction/implementation likely; Detailed design/activity development ongoing; Location well defined**
  - **Level 3- Implementation certainty unknown; Conceptual level of design/activity development complete; Location defined**
  - **Level 4- Implementation certainty unknown- Conceptual idea; May have rough order of magnitude cost and/or general basin location**
  - **Level 5- Implementation certainty unknown-Conceptual idea with limited information**

## Phase II Technical Plan Lake Okeechobee Watershed

### Schedule

- **Assemble Baseline Information  
and Alternative Formulation** Summer 2007
- **Draft Plan** October 2007
- **Final Plan to Governing Board** January 2008
- **Submit Plan to Legislature** February 1 2008

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The foreground is dominated by a patchwork of vibrant green agricultural fields, separated by thin, light-colored roads or paths. A small, dark blue pond is visible on the right side of the middle ground. In the background, a dense line of trees separates the fields from a large, calm body of water. Above the water, a massive, bright white cumulus cloud formation rises into a deep blue sky, casting a soft shadow over the water below. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Questions