

System-wide Ecological Indicators

Status of TF Recommendations to the SCG

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Recommendations From Oct 2011 TF Meeting

- 1. Direct the SCG to assess the loss of system-wide ecological indicators and provide recommendations on how to best retain their intended purpose.*
- 2. Direct the SCG and WG to work with RECOVER to review the MAP to ensure it is positioned to support the Everglades next step planning process, evaluate ongoing projects, and continue an adaptive management approach to restoration regarding monitoring recommendations related to the System-wide Ecological Indicators reporting and support of the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) .*

Status Summary Recommendation 1

- During the SCG Meeting Jan 13, 2012. The group agreed that the data for the 2012 Biennial Report have been collected
- A next step is to find resources to support synthesis and reporting of the data for the assessment and the stoplight report
- The SCG and RECOVER are still working on 2014 and beyond needs to meet recommendation 1

STOPLIGHTS – ALGAL BLOOMS SOUTHERN ESTUARIES

Performance Measure Chlorophyll a	CURRENT STATUS ²	CURRENT STATUS
BARNES, MANATEE & BLACKWATER SOUNDS (BMB)		The region of the bay experienced an unusual cyanobacterial bloom in 2006. The bloom was initiated by a large spike in phosphorus from a combination of highway construction and canal releases in response to the active hurricane season. The bloom has abated somewhat but chlorophyll concentrations have not returned to previous levels.
NORTHEAST FLORIDA BAY (NEFB)		The current status is due to the periodic expansion of the cyanobacterial bloom from Barnes, Manatee and Blackwater Sounds into this region.
NORTH-CENTRAL FLORIDA BAY (NCFB)		The current status is due to the presence of a seasonal cyanobacterial bloom in both early and late 2006. These blooms do not appear every year, but have occurred intermittently over the past 15 years. It is unlikely that this signifies a long-term negative trend.
SOUTH FLORIDA BAY (SFB)		The current status is due to the extension of the cyanobacterial bloom from the north-central region of the bay during both years. This has occurred intermittently over the past 15 years and it is unlikely that this signifies a long-term negative trend.
WEST FLORIDA BAY (WFB)		The seasonal diatom blooms in this region for both 2006 and current were not as dense or widespread as in the past.
MANGROVE TRANSITION ZONE (MTZ)		The chlorophyll concentrations were slightly higher in this region for both 2006 & 2007. This may have been due to the active 2005 hurricane season and is unlikely to indicate a negative long-term trend.
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SHELF (SWFS)		The chlorophyll concentrations were slightly higher in this region for both 2006 & 2007. This may have been due to the active 2005 hurricane season and is unlikely to indicate a negative long-term trend.
NORTH BISCAYNE BAY (NBB)		The chlorophyll concentrations were slightly higher in this region for both 2006 & 2007. Neither year had concentrations that were significantly higher than baseline.
CENTRAL BISCAYNE BAY (CBB)		The chlorophyll concentrations were slightly higher in this region for both 2006 & 2007. Neither year had concentrations that were significantly higher than baseline.
SOUTH BISCAYNE BAY (SBB)		The chlorophyll concentrations were slightly higher in this region for both 2006 & 2007. The area was also influenced by periodic expansion of the cyanobacterial bloom from Barnes, Manatee and Blackwater Sounds into this region.

Example of Stoplight Report

Status Summary

Recommendation 2

- The Central Everglades Planning Project is not yet at a stage in which its monitoring needs can be assessed.
- The SCG members have been briefed on the CEPP and will remain engaged until the project is more defined and will work with RECOVER to make appropriate monitoring recommendations.

Questions?