



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS | Jacksonville District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public workshop Aug. 4 to incorporate new science into Everglades restoration

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District will hold a public workshop Wednesday, Aug. 4, in West Palm Beach in an effort to incorporate new science into Everglades restoration. The workshop will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the South Florida Water Management District headquarters auditorium, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33406.

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) provides a framework and guide to restore, protect and preserve the water resources of central and south Florida, including the Everglades. CERP was approved in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. CERP includes more than 60 elements that will take more than 30 years to construct, and calls for Adaptive Management to incorporate new learning during the plan's implementation.

Much has been learned about the Everglades and south Florida ecosystem since the Comprehensive Plan was developed. As part of the Adaptive Management program for CERP, a Restoration Coordination and Verification (RECOVER) team has developed a Scientific Knowledge Gained (SKG) document. The document summarizes what has been learned since DERP was approved, including information from monitoring and research, engineering, and modeling. The intent of the SKG document is to provide a factual, accessible scientific reference for managers, scientists, and all interested parties. The summaries are short and relatively easy to read, making them useful to managers and interested parties who may not have the time, resources, or the specialized knowledge needed to sort through primary scientific literature. The SKG document is part of a larger effort called the 2010 Shared Definition of Everglades Restoration (Shared Definition).

The RECOVER team has opened a public review process and is holding two workshops to solicit input on the new scientific information in the SKG document. The first workshop was July 14 in Naples; the second is Aug. 4 in West Palm Beach. Comments will be accepted through Aug. 26, 2010. The workshops are free and open to the public.

The draft SKG document is the “read-ahead” for the public workshops, and is available online for review and comment. The comment period opened June 28 and will close Aug. 26, 2010.

The finalized document will constitute the first phase of the Shared Definition effort. The second phase, starting in 2011, will consist of formal meetings with agencies, stakeholder groups and the public to discuss CERP

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goals and targets in light of the new science, changing ecological conditions, stakeholder values, and updated policies. The third phase, starting in 2012, will apply the new information to the planning, implementation and operation of CERP.

To learn more, visit www.evergladesplan.org and click “2010 Shared Definition of Everglades Restoration” on the top left of the home page, or contact Dave Tipple at david.a.tipple@usace.army.mil or 904-232-1375.

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