



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ROOM 9M15, 60 FORSYTH ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8801

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CESAD-PDD-J

15 September 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Jacksonville District (CESAJ-DP-E)

SUBJECT: CERP Master Recreation Plan, Request for Approval on Multi-Purpose Project Designation

1. References:

a. Memorandum, CESAJ-DP-E, 11 May 2004, subject as above.

b. Memorandum, CESAJ-PD-PN, (not dated), subject: Response to SAD Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP) Master Recreation Plan (MP) Position Paper Questions.

2. Jacksonville District has proposed in reference 1.a. that CERP be recognized as a modification of the multi-purpose C&SF project and, as such, that the Master Recreation Plan (MRP) efforts take a comprehensive approach to a study of the recreation needs that exist in the study area. Further, the District notes the concerns and interests expressed by stakeholder groups in avoiding impacts to existing recreational facilities, while exploring the "potential for expanded recreation resources offered by the many components and features of CERP" and requests that the "multi-purpose project" designation be approved for cost-sharing purposes during implementation of the Comprehensive Plan.

3. The South Atlantic Division concurs in the District's assessment that the CERP is a multipurpose project. In conducting the MRP study effort the District should keep the following guidelines in mind:

a. Focus on identifying potential recreational opportunities that may exist in the region which complement the primary project purposes.

b. The overarching goal of the CERP is the restoration, preservation and protection of the South Florida ecosystem, while providing for other water resource needs of the region. As such proposed recreation features may be considered only on lands needed to meet the basic project purposes. Additionally, proposed recreation features may not increase the Federal cost of the basic project by more than 10 percent.

c. Defer further evaluation of identified recreational opportunities to the appropriate Project Implementation Report (s) where cost sharing decisions on specific features will be made. The

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scope of any proposed recreation facility planning should be presented at the applicable PIR Feasibility Scoping Meeting.

d. Avoid studying/incorporating proposals that will not ultimately be supported by the Corps or project sponsor(s) by ensuring that specific commitments for recreational development are not made during the MRP effort and soliciting early engagement of the vertical team on related issues during individual PIR formulation efforts. Applicable policies for formulation, evaluation and federal participation should be adequately documented.

e. The draft MRP should be presented at an In-Progress Review meeting prior to any public release of the report.

4. This response has been coordinated with HQUSACE.

5. Questions may be directed to Mike Magley at (404) 562-5206.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



LESTER S. DIXON, P.E.
Director of Programs

CF:
CECW-SAD