

RECOVER INTERACTIONS WITH PROJECT TEAMS ACCOMPANYING TEXT

① **RECOVER Input to PMP** – As part of the PMP development process, RECOVER will provide the project team with language describing interactions between the project team and RECOVER technical teams, to be included in Section 7.0 Functional Area Plans of the PMP. This language will outline specific interaction points and a proposed timeline for those interactions based on the standard Corps planning process. It is suggested that these interactions be included in the project's schedule.

② **Project Kickoff Meeting: RECOVER Overview Presentation**– When the project team first organizes, RECOVER would like to provide an overview of RECOVER's purpose, scope of interactions, and system-wide view. This interaction is intended as a broad overview of RECOVER to familiarize the project team with the following concepts:

- How project goals and expected benefits relate to broader CERP objectives.
- Box 1 of the Adaptive Management Strategy. Specifically, how to deal with large uncertainties during project planning including the potential consideration of robust alternatives, pilot studies, sensitivity analyses, or physical models.
- Applicable conceptual ecological models and CERP restoration hypotheses for the project area.
- Applicable MAP activities for the project area
- RECOVER's role in reviewing project-level performance measures, conducting regional evaluations, reviewing project monitoring plans, and providing input for project operating manuals.
- System-wide modeling assumptions will be provided for the SFWMM Existing Condition (2000), Future Without Project Condition (2050), and Future With CERP Condition to conduct plan formulation activities.

③ **Performance Measure Development: RECOVER Performance Measure Presentation** – Because RECOVER is involved in reviewing project-level performance measures, it is beneficial to both RECOVER and the project team to meet and discuss performance measure development and RECOVER's role in reviewing the project's performance measures. This interaction is intended to familiarize the project team with the following concepts:

- RECOVER's system-wide performance measures and interim goals & interim targets.
- Minimizing redundancy while maintaining consistency between project and system-wide performance measures.
- RECOVER's role in ensuring consistency between project performance measures and system-wide performance measures.

④ **Performance Measure Consistency Review** – The RECOVER Evaluation Team will review project-level performance measures to ensure consistency with system-wide

performance measures. This interaction will be conducted according to RECOVER's SOP for PM consistency reviews. The SOP as well as previous reviews conducted by RECOVER can be found at the following web site:

http://www.evergladesplan.org/pm/recover/rap_assist_projects.aspx.

RECOVER's report should be included in the project PIR, Annex E: Reports Provided by RECOVER, and the project team should notify RECOVER as to how their comments are being addressed.

⑤ **Plan Formulation: RECOVER Regional Evaluation Presentation** – A presentation from RECOVER should be scheduled to assist the project team with the following concepts specific to project evaluation:

- RECOVER's evaluation of project alternative plans
- RECOVER's assistance in helping the project team determine which benefits to evaluate and how they relate to system-wide monitoring
- RECOVER's role in helping the projects determine their contribution toward interim goals and interim targets
- RECOVER's availability to provide input during the development of the project's initial array of alternative plans at the project's request.

⑥ **RECOVER Monitoring Plan Presentation** – RECOVER will deliver a presentation providing information related to project monitoring plans. This presentation may be integrated with the Plan Formulation Regional Evaluation (Point 6) or provided separately to a subset of the project team. Key points in this presentation will include:

- Relating project monitoring to project goals and objectives
- Identifying monitoring taking place in the project area that could be used/built on by the project team
- Focus on assessing project success and fostering adaptive modifications to improve project performance
- Available guidance documents on monitoring plan development
- RECOVER review of the project monitoring plan for consistency with system-wide assessment based monitoring under the MAP.

⑦ **RECOVER Evaluation of Project Alternative Plans** – The RECOVER Evaluation Team conducts a review of a project's final array of alternative plans and reports on how well each alternative performs in the context of the system as a whole. Currently, RECOVER uses the SFWMM to evaluate plans at the system scale. Smaller projects and hydrologically distinct projects that cannot be effectively modeled using the SFWMM will be evaluated using the project's performance measures, available regional modeling output, and best professional judgment.

The project team should contact RECOVER as they are nearing selection of their final array of alternatives. Once the project team has begun modeling its final array of alternative plans, RECOVER should begin its evaluation of alternative plans process. Information pertaining to the project's alternative plan modeling (SFWMM or other regional model) should be given to RECOVER upon completion of model runs. Since

current planning guidance requires RECOVER's evaluation of alternative plans to be included in the project's AFB package sent to HQ, it is imperative that RECOVER begin its evaluation as soon as modeling results are available to ensure the report is completed at least 35 days prior to the project's scheduled AFB meeting. This interaction will be conducted according to RECOVER's SOP for Regional Evaluations. The SOP as well as previous regional evaluations conducted by RECOVER can be found at http://www.evergladesplan.org/pm/recover/rap_assist_projects.aspx. RECOVER's report should be included in the project PIR, Annex E: Reports Provided by RECOVER, and the project should notify RECOVER as to how their submitted comments are being addressed.

⑧ **System-Wide Benefits Analysis** – The RECOVER Evaluation Team developed a system-wide benefits methodology model, Benefits Evaluation and Analysis Methodology (BEAM), to assist the project teams in quantifying the project's system-wide benefits. Once completed and approved, the BEAM model will be available for use by projects teams in their planning process.

⑨ **Project Monitoring Plan Review** – RECOVER's review of project monitoring plans is intended to (1) ensure the design and implementation of project-level monitoring plan components are consistent, complimentary, and compatible with the MAP, (2) identify any duplication of monitoring efforts or reliance on the MAP by the project team, and (3) identify potential information developed by the project team that may be incorporated into future system-wide assessment reports. This interaction will be conducted by the RECOVER Assessment Team in accordance with their SOP for project-level monitoring plan reviews. This SOP can be found at the following web site: http://www.evergladesplan.org/pm/recover/rap_assist_projects.aspx. RECOVER's report should be included in the project PIR, Annex E: Reports Provided by RECOVER, and the project should notify RECOVER as to how their submitted comments are being addressed.

⑩ **Project Operating Manuals** – RECOVER's Planning Team is available to provide assistance in developing each project's draft operating manual and interim operating strategy in order to optimize the performance of each feature in the context of the rest of CERP and the overall system-level goals. This interaction is not required; assistance is provided at the project's request.