

The background of the slide features a dense pattern of vibrant green leaves, likely from a tree or shrub, with prominent veins. The bottom portion of the image transitions into a depiction of clear, rippling water, suggesting a natural, aquatic environment. The overall color palette is dominated by various shades of green and blue.

Everglades P Criterion Monitoring Network

TOC - 5/23/06

Frank Nearhoof

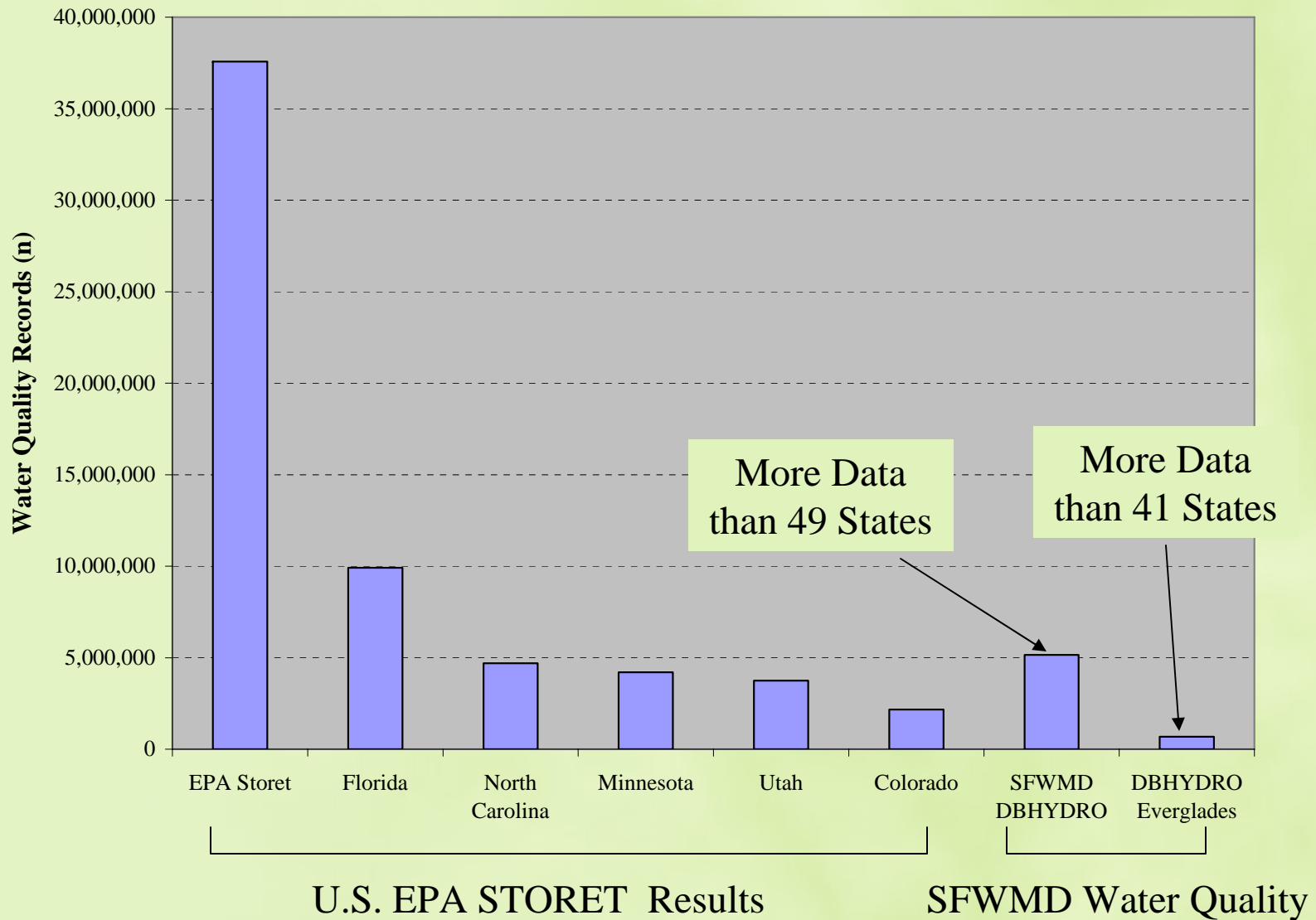


Background

- Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires states to submit lists of surface waters that do not meet applicable water quality standards (impaired waters) and establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these waters on a prioritized schedule
- DEP performs basin assessments as part of TMDL process
- Basin assessments utilize “found” data, mostly from STORET
- “found” data supplemented as necessary to further characterize basin conditions.

Florida Data

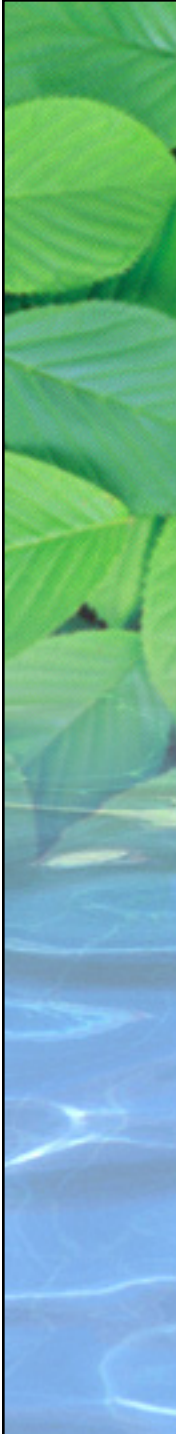
Comparison between State Water Quality Data Submissions
to STORET and the SFWMD
The Five Top State Submitters are Presented





Everglades Data

- The Everglades is one of the most studied & monitored ecosystems in the world
- 27% of stream monitoring data for phosphorus in Florida is from Everglades
 - STORET and IWR classify Everglades stations as stream
 - 10% of all phosphorus monitoring data within Florida are from the EPA
 - EPA encompasses approximately 5% of the landmass of Florida.



EFA Requirement

Section 373.4592(4)(e)3., F.S.

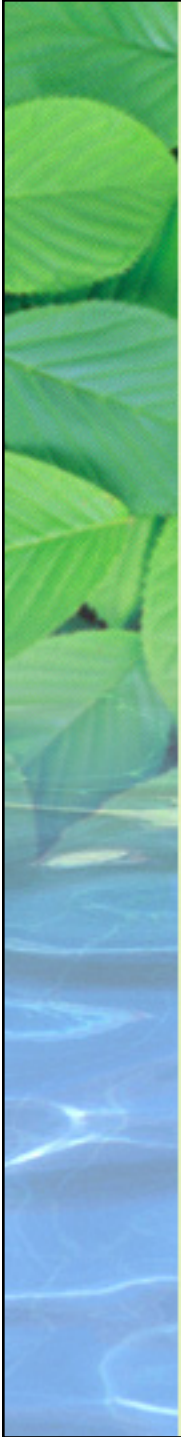
“Compliance with the phosphorus criterion shall be based upon a long-term geometric mean of concentration levels to be measured at sampling stations recognized from the research to be **reasonably representative** of receiving waters in the Everglades Protection Area, and so located so as to assure that the Everglades Protection Area is not altered so as to cause an imbalance in natural populations of aquatic flora and fauna and to assure a net improvement in the areas already impacted.”



Rule Requirements

Rule 62-302.540(4)(b), F.A.C.

Achievement of the phosphorus criterion for waters in the EPA shall be determined separately in impacted and unimpacted areas in each of the following water bodies: Water Conservation Areas 1, 2 and 3, and the Everglades National Park.

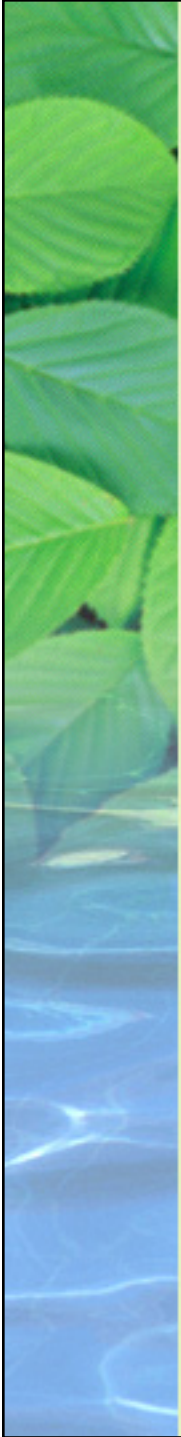


Rule Requirements (continued)

Rule 62-302.540(4)(d)1., F.A.C.

Unimpacted Areas

- Achievement of the criterion in unimpacted areas in each WCA shall be determined based upon data from stations that are **evenly distributed** and located in freshwater **open water sloughs** similar to the areas from which data were obtained to derive the phosphorus criterion.
- Achievement of the criterion shall be determined based on data collected **monthly** from the network of monitoring stations in the unimpacted area.



Rule Requirements (continued) Rule 62-302.540(4)(d)2., F.A.C.

Impacted Area

- Achievement of the criterion shall be determined based on data collected **monthly** from the network of monitoring stations in the impacted area.



Process

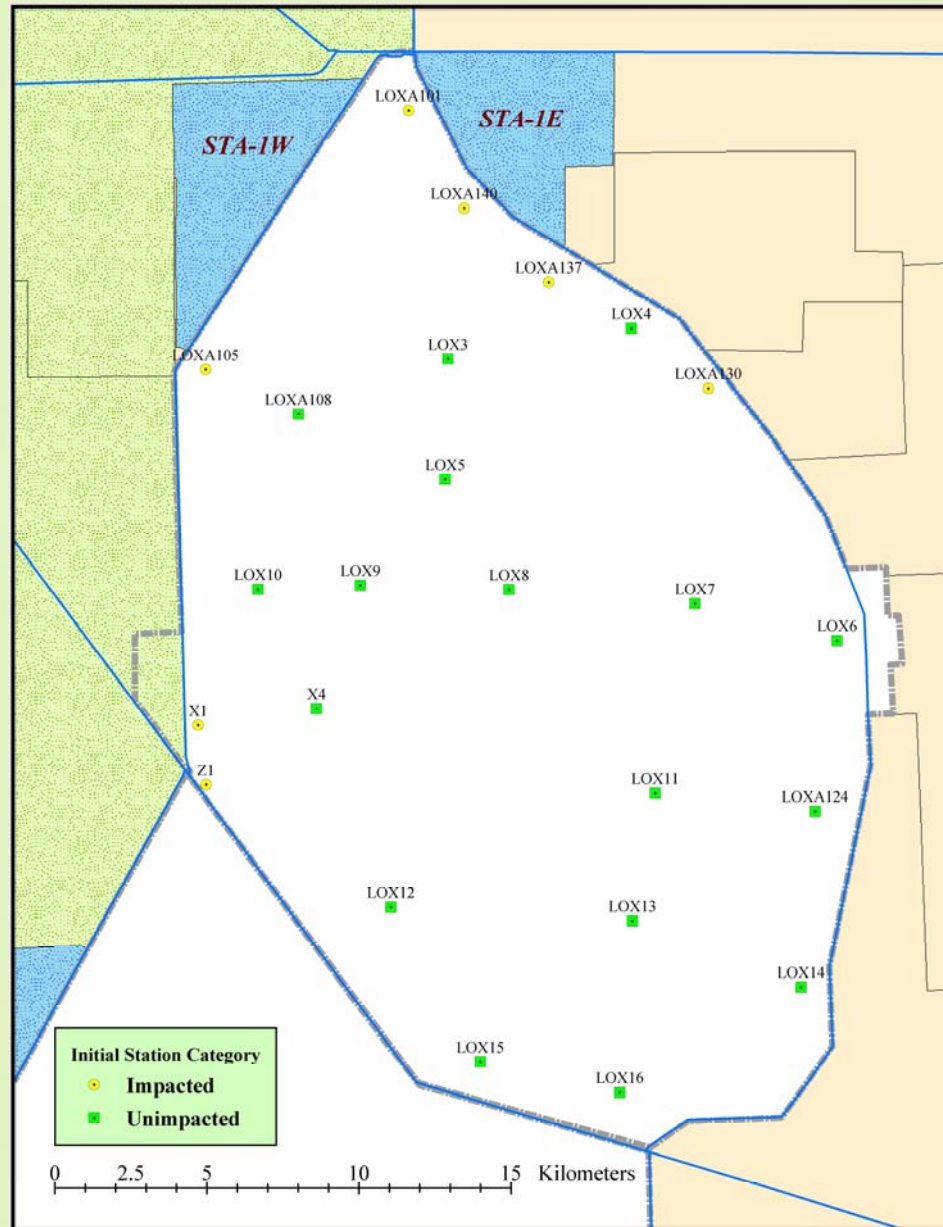
- Public workshop – August 17, 2005 – West Palm Beach – draft network presented
- Comments requested – received from USEPA & DOI
- Network revised and field recon conducted



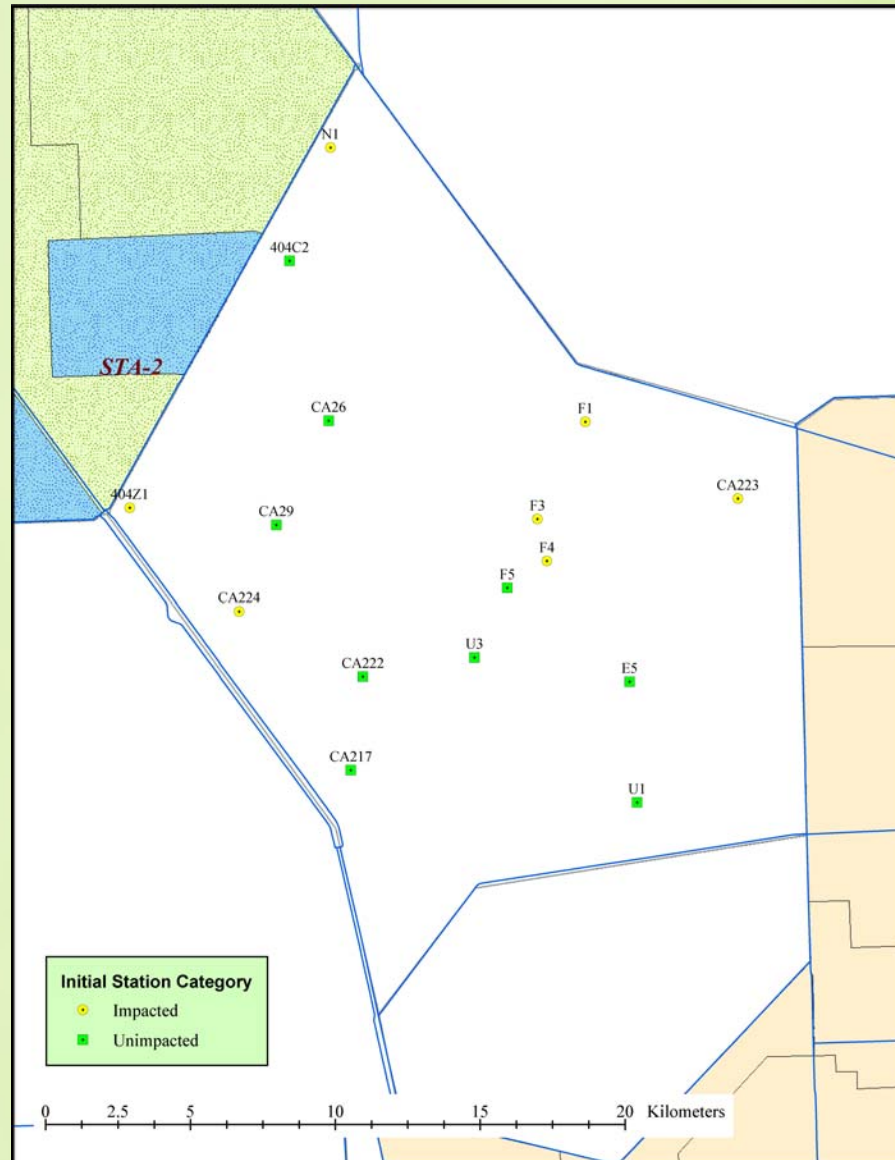
Implementation

- Network presented in 2007 SFER
- Initial assessment also presented in 2007 SFER

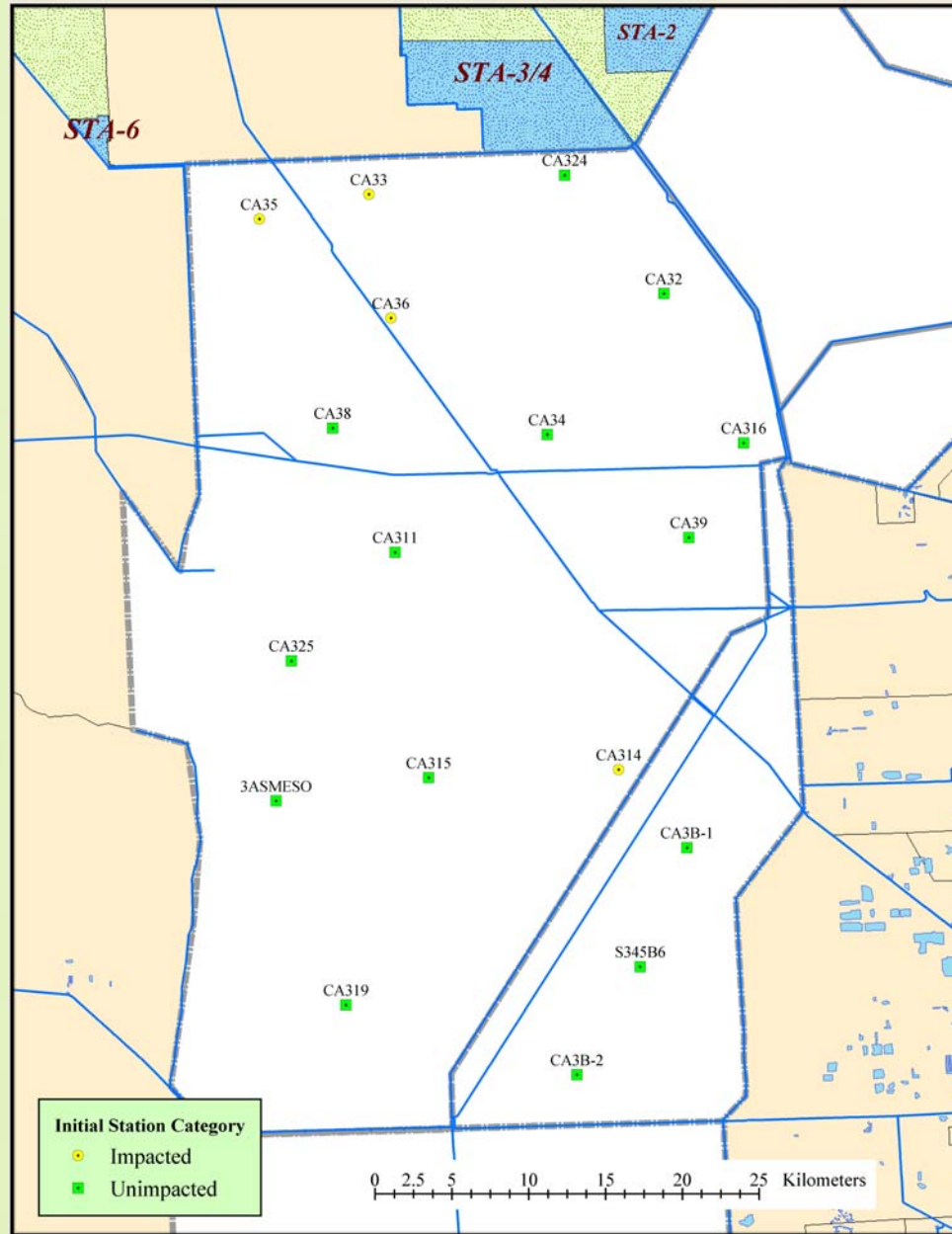
WCA-1



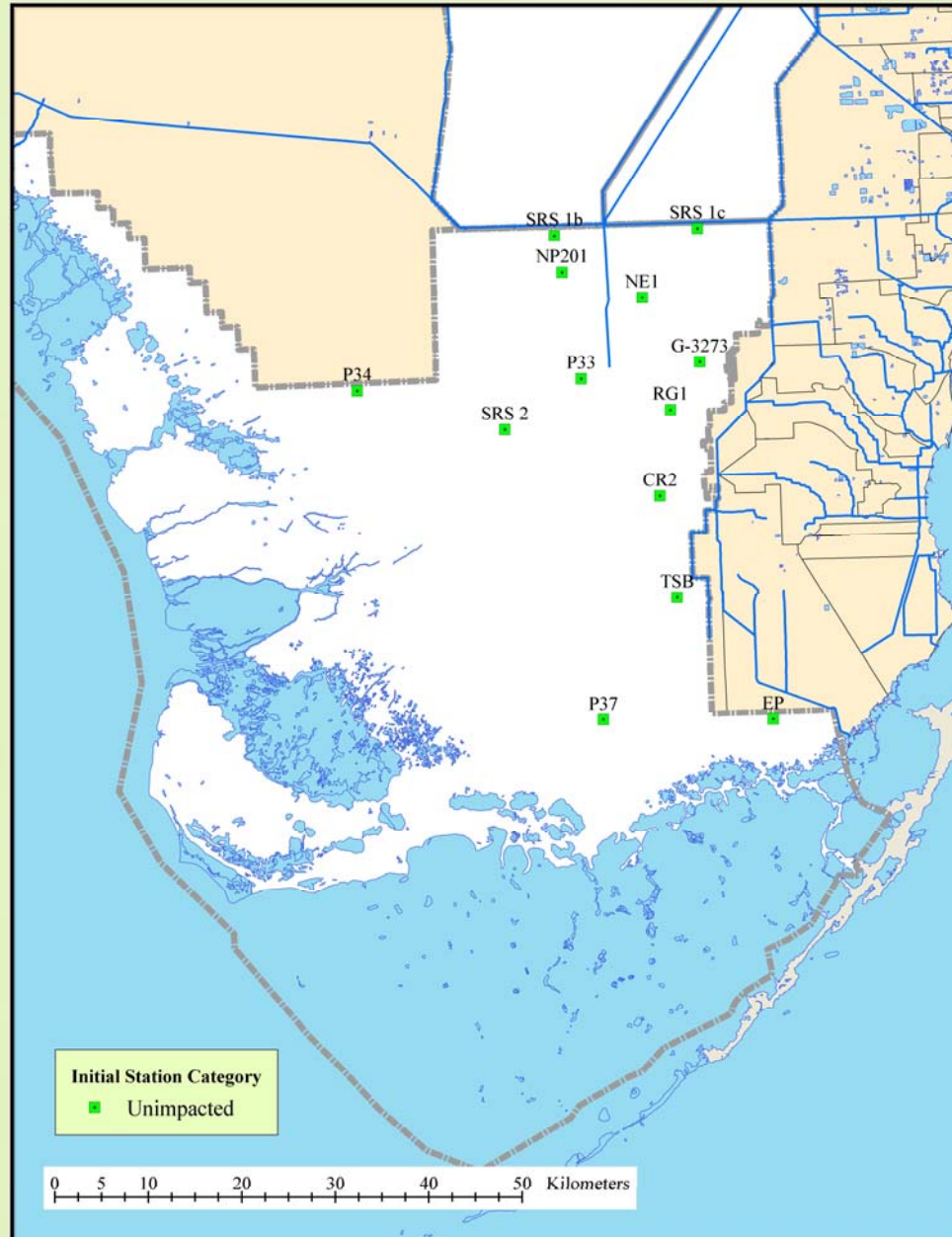
WCA-2



WCA-3



ENP





FAQs

- Is the network final?
- A - This is the network we are proceeding to set up new stations for and evaluate. However, it is intended that the network be evaluated on a continuing basis and there is potential for additional revisions to occur through the adaptive implementation process. There will also be additional transect stations monitored and assessed through the permits.



FAQs

- When will achievement be assessed?
- A – annually, starting in 2007. As additional data are collected, they will also be assessed.

