

# 2008 South Florida Environmental Report

*Final Report of the Peer  
Review Panel*

*Jeffrey L. Jordan, Chair  
University of Georgia*

## General Response to 2008 SFER

- The panel continues to be impressed with the effort describing a comprehensive environmental management program for the complex South Florida environment
- The panel's final report has 11 major recommendations; this presentation focuses just on the key thoughts and suggestions

# Reengineering Water Quality Network

## Recommendation #1:

- The panel strongly supports efforts to redesign and reengineer the water quality monitoring network of the District
- The panel suggests that the District continue to develop proposals for reengineering that are reviewed, on a regular basis, by an interagency working group with appropriate expertise

## Sulfur and Mercury

### Recommendation #2:

- The panel recognizes that Everglades studies to date are too limited to support broad conclusions on the role of sulfur
- The panel supports the high-priority projects recommended in the appendix on sulfur to delineate the root causes of sulfur loading and its link to mercury and encourages proactive thinking on sulfur BMPs

# Agency Science Plans

## Recommendation #4:

- The panel recommends integrating all District science plans to enhance the connection of research with regional management information needs and strategic performance measures
- Combined peer review of all research plans is also recommended

# Performance Measures

## Recommendation #5:

- The panel recommends the integration of performance measures across South Florida that will further enhance accountability and reporting to the District's Governing Board and the public
- For the 2009 Integrative Chapter (IB), the panel recommends an integration of performance measures, and a clarification of linkages between broader strategic planning documents, work plans, and Everglades recovery mandates

# Hydrological Monitoring

## Recommendation #7:

- The panel recommends a District-wide assessment of hydrologic information to assemble existing data in one place and to guide development of an integrated hydrologic “information system”

# Phosphorus

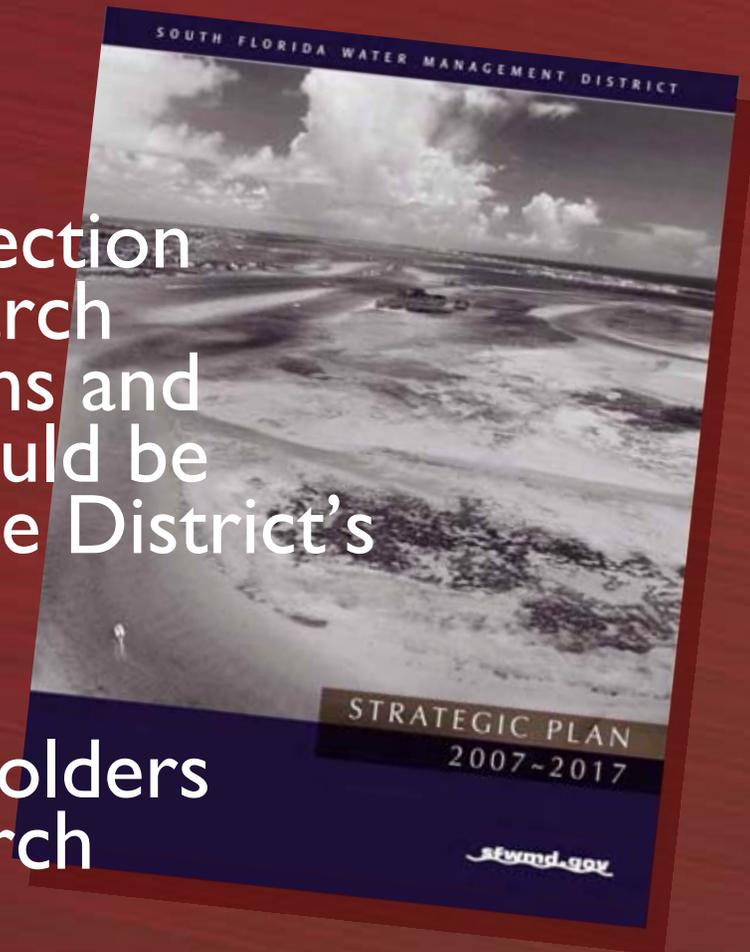
## Recommendation #8:

- Increased phosphorus levels at the southern end of Lake Kissimmee are as yet unexplained, and could confound management goals; the sustained drought impeded work to resolve the sources
- This important work should be emphasized as soon as climatic conditions permit, with progress assessed in the 2009 SFER

# Research and District Goals

## Recommendation #9:

- The panel seeks more connection between the District's research projects and agency programs and strategic goals; research should be more fully integrated into the District's Strategic Plans
- Decision-makers and stakeholders need a greater role in research planning





Northern Everglades

# Northern/Southern Everglades

## Recommendation #10:

- The panel recognizes that Everglades planning has changed with the passage of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program in 2007
- The panel recommends that careful attention be paid to maintaining strong links between the northern and southern areas and continued communication of progress in an integrated manner

Southern Everglades



Questions?