

**Lake Okeechobee Watershed Project
Project Delivery Team Meeting
Draft Meeting Summary**

Wednesday August 10, 2016

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

1. Participants

Lisa Aley (USACE)	Tom MacVicar (FDACS)
Gretchen Ehlinger (USACE)	Cecilia Harper (EPA)
Robin Moore (USACE)	Eric Hughes (EPA)
Tim Gysan (USACE)	Glenn Landers (USACE)
Lesley Bertolotti (SFWMD)	Dennis Duke (DOI)
Brian Dillehay (USACE)	Joan Lawrence (DOI)
June Mirecki (USACE)	Deb Drum (Martin Co.)
Matt Morrison (SFWMD)	Rebecca Elliot (FDACS)
Jennifer Leeds (SFWMD)	Paul Carlisle (Glades Co.)
Matt Alexander (SFWMD)	Gary Ritter (City of Okeechobee)
Clay Brown (SFWMD)	Doug Young
Kim Taplin (USACE)	Hugh Harling
Jaime Graulau-Santiago (USACE)	Jack Richie (Highlands Co.)
Zulamet Vega-Liriano (USACE)	James Erksine
Chris Graham (USACE)	Jason Bessey (St. Lucie Co.)
Cal Neidrauer (SFWMD)	Jessica Ward
Joyce Zhang (SFWMD)	Kathleen Burchett (USFWS)
Lawrence Glenn (SFWMD)	Katie Hallas (FDACS)
Agnes Ramsey	Kelli Edson (FDEP)
Barry Rosen (USGS)	Liz raab (FDEP)
Bernice Towers	Kurt Harclerode (Lee Co.)
Bill Balcer	Lisa Kreiger (Lee Co.)
Bradley Marshall	Jamie Higgins (EPA)
Brent Bachelder (FFWCC)	Tim Breen (USFWS)
Caitlin Hart	Paul Gray (Audubon)
Cara Capp (NCPA)	Kathy Burchett (USFWS)
Clell Ford (Highlands Co.)	Andrea Dominguez (FFWCC)
Craig Grossenhacher	Stan Ganthier (FDEP)
Kent Loftin (Seminole Tribe)	Paul Julian (FDEP)
Leonard Rawlings (BIA)	Beth Ross (SEN Nelson's Office)
Nick Aumen (USGS)	
Patrick Iler	
Roland Ottolini (Lee Co.)	
Scott Kuipers (NRCS)	
Shannon Bogdanov (FDEP)	
Steve Davis	

2. Summary of discussion

- a. Introduction - Tim Gysan, USACE PM, welcomed all participants to the first PDT meeting, reviewed basic FACA constraints and phone etiquette.

- b. Sub-Teams and Leads - Lisa Aley, USACE PTL, went through sub-team responsibilities and team leads to give PDT
- c. Updates Since Project Kick-off – see attached slides presented by Lisa Aley
 - i. Project area map
 - ii. Purpose, scope, problems, opportunities, objectives, constraints
 - iii. Management measures
 - iv. Project risks
- d. Real estate overview and considerations – see attached slides presented by Matt Morrison, SFWMD
- e. Existing screening tools
 - i. RESOPS and LOOPS – see attached slides presented by Clay Brown, SFWMD.
 - ii. Capital, real estate, and O&M cost estimating tool overview - Tzufit Boyle, SFWMD, provided a brief synopsis of the tool that was used in CEPP and its application to reservoirs. Bob Verrastro, SFWMD, asked about inclusion of ASR wells in the tool and Tzufit said the capability is included.
 - iii. Land Suitability Model - Lisa Aley, USACE, gave an overview of the work performed by HDR on the land suitability model used in the previous LOWP. Much of the work done to determine area suitable for reservoirs and wetland restoration can be used by this PDT.
- f. Existing and future without project model assumptions – see slides presented by Clay Brown, SFWMD
- g. Milestone schedule overview, 60 day look ahead and budget review - Tim Gysan, USACE presented the overall project schedule highlighting the Alternatives Milestone coming on October 18, the TSP Milestone in January 2018 and the total project duration of 3 years culminating with the Chief's report by July 25, 2019. Opportunities to expedite the TSP selection process will be explored to try and beat the January 2018 schedule. Reminder that the total project budget is \$3million. This project has different budgetary and schedule constraints than the CEPP project, so the amount of public involvement will not be the same. However there will still be several opportunities for public input/involvement.
- h. Tasks to get to Alternatives Milestones - Lisa Aley, USACE and Tim Gysan, USACE gave an overview of the tasks to be completed prior to the AM. These include the PMP, the Peer Review Plan, Decision Management Plan, Report Synopsis, Risk Register, Value Engineering Plan and developing the array of alternatives. The PDT was reminded that read aheads are to be provided to SAD and HQ by October 4, further limiting the time to complete all of these efforts.
- i. PDT Member Comments
 - Clell Ford (Highlands County) reminded the team of opportunities for restoration north of Lake Istokpoga and will submit a formal comment
 - Tom MacVicar (FDACS) asked about how PDT input will fit into what had already been completed.
 - Nothing is final at this point. Everything presented is a working product with an opportunity for input.
 - Jaime Higgins (USEPA) asked if project features are constrained to state owned lands
 - State owned lands are a consideration, but a constraint

- Tim Breen (USFWS) asked if the PORs of the models be updated and Bruce Sharfstein (SFWMD) was concerned that the more recent conditions years may have an effect.
 - The Screening models are through 2005 and RSM Basins is through 2012, and the PORs are very long (~41 years) with extremes of dry and wet periods. Also with schedule constraints there is not enough time to extend the POR.
- ii. Tim Breen (USFWS) asked if Dispersed Water Management would be included in the Future without project conditions
 - No – they are term contracts with clauses for either entity to cancel.
- iii. Dennis Duke (USDOJ) asked if the work from the previous effort will be leveraged.
 - Yes – there was a lot of good detailed work done that will be leveraged to expedite completion of the PIR
- iv. Jamie Higgins (USEPA) asked about the schedule for the release of the draft and final EIS.
 - Currently the schedule has the draft EIS in January 2018 and the final would be approximately 3-4 months after that. Keep in mind that opportunities to release the draft EIS are being considered to further expedite this effort.
- v. Gary Ritter (City of Okeechobee) asked for clarification about perpetual flowage easement management measures.
 - It was suggested by a participant at the project kick-off meeting. Not sure if this would fit into the CERP framework as fee simple is preferred over easements. Is this in the federal interest?
- j. Public Comments
 - i. Paul Gray – Audubon
 - Presentations – take comments after each presentation?
 - Post documents from previous PDT and post PDT document earlier for people to digest prior to the meeting?
 - PMs – lake stage, salinity envelope
 - Discreet goal for the PMs?
 1. Worry about big reservoir – open-ended project - first PDT didn't change the lake or estuaries very much
 2. Not sure what the ultimate goal is for lake and estuaries, how to account for management measures
 3. More specific goals needed
 - ii. Shannon Larson
 - Difficulty keeping the projects separate
 - Larger map with what is happening that depicts everything happening in the area would be helpful to show what other projects and how they integrate with each other
 - iii. Miccosukee – send slides and documents – no computer
 - Interested in clean water for tribes
 - Restore the wetlands – cover ditches to clean up water –
 - Need to look at the interest of future generations
 - iv. Charles Greenburg

- Chart that talks about ppm of P – 40 ppb goal – if we reach that goal will that fix the algae bloom in the lake and what is the current level
- v. Allan Stuart
- Answer above – LO P is 120 ppb

3. Comments, Issues and Concerns

- a. Need to determine how features from BMAP are included in the Future w/o Project conditions
- b. Need to determine how we are addressing climate change requirements

4. Action items

- a. None

5. Schedule

PDT meeting 24AUG16 from 9-12

Task Force Working Group hosted workshop 31AUG16, time TBD

Task Force Working Group/SCG 28SEP16