



Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Office of Air Monitoring

Florida PQAO: Air Monitoring Goals 2.0

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Objectives

- History and Background
 - PQAO Defined
 - Program Organization
 - Lead Agency's Role
- EPA Changes/Impacts
- Accomplishments
- Goals
- Vision
- Benefits





What is a PQAO?

“A primary quality assurance organization (PQAO) is defined as a monitoring organization or a group of monitoring organizations or other organization that is responsible for a set of stations that monitors the same pollutant and for which data quality assessments will be pooled. Each criteria pollutant sampler/monitor must be associated with only one PQAO. In some cases, data quality is assessed at the PQAO level.”

- 40 CFR Part 58, Appendix A

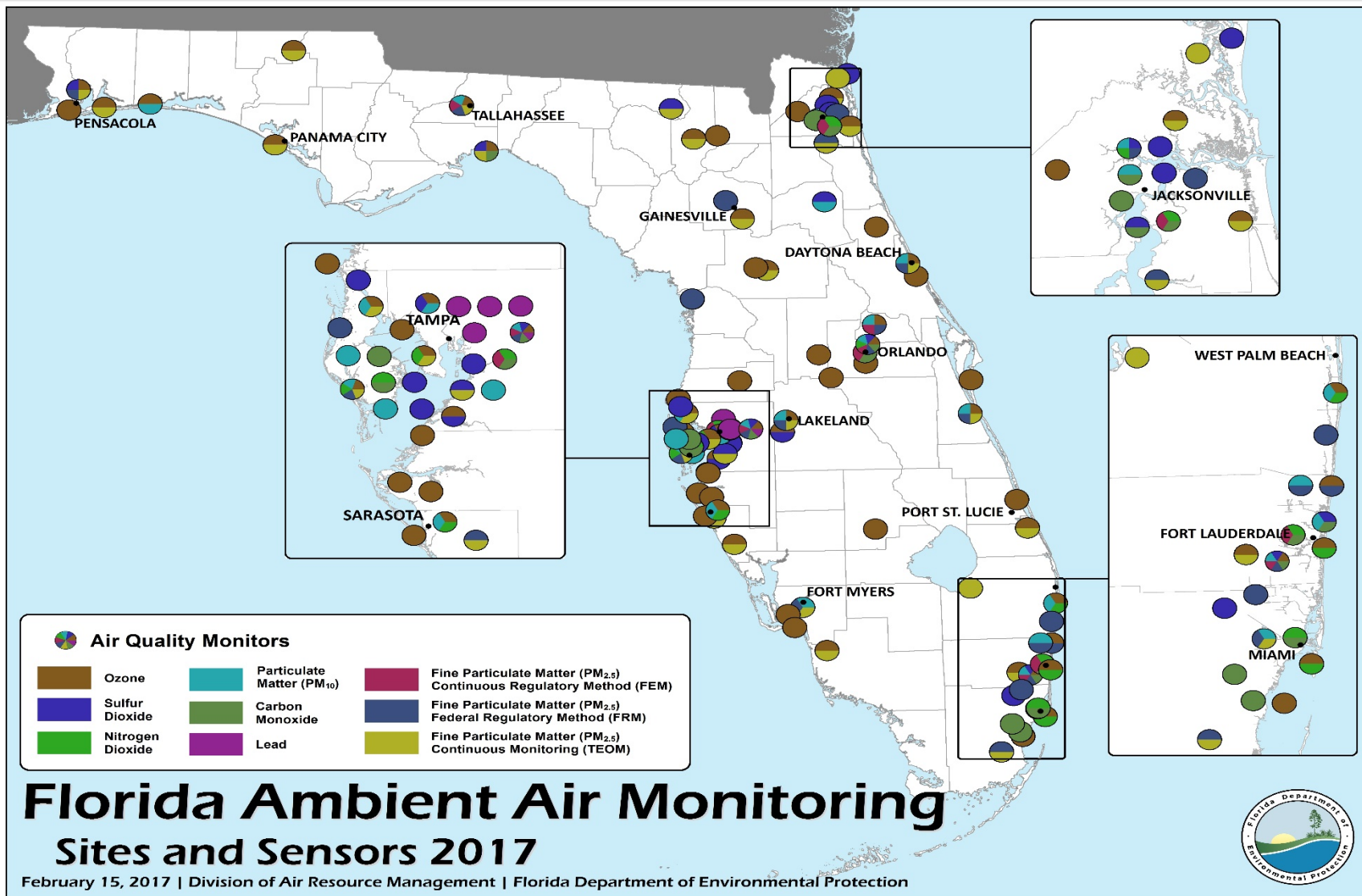


History and Background

- Florida Primary Quality Assurance Organization (PQAO) effective January 2015
- Florida = multi-agency PQAO
 - o Florida DEP Office of Air Monitoring (lead organization)
 - o 9 local program agencies
- Each agency
 - o Management
 - o QA Staff
 - o Field Staff
- Laboratories
 - o 1 PM_{2.5} lab
 - o 1 Lead lab – Hillsborough county
 - o 3 PM₁₀ labs – Hillsborough, Broward, Pinellas, and Miami-Dade counties

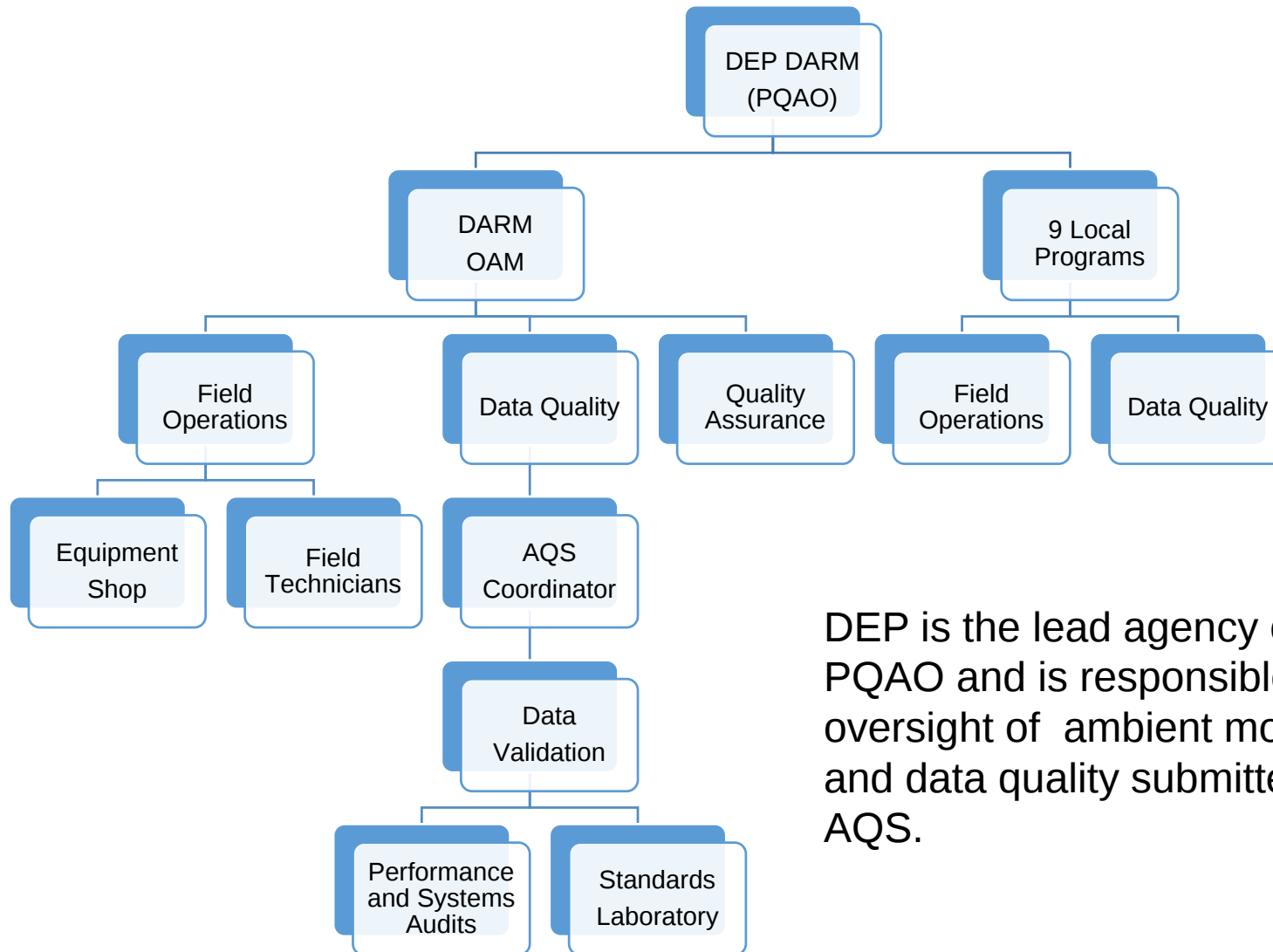


Monitoring Network Map





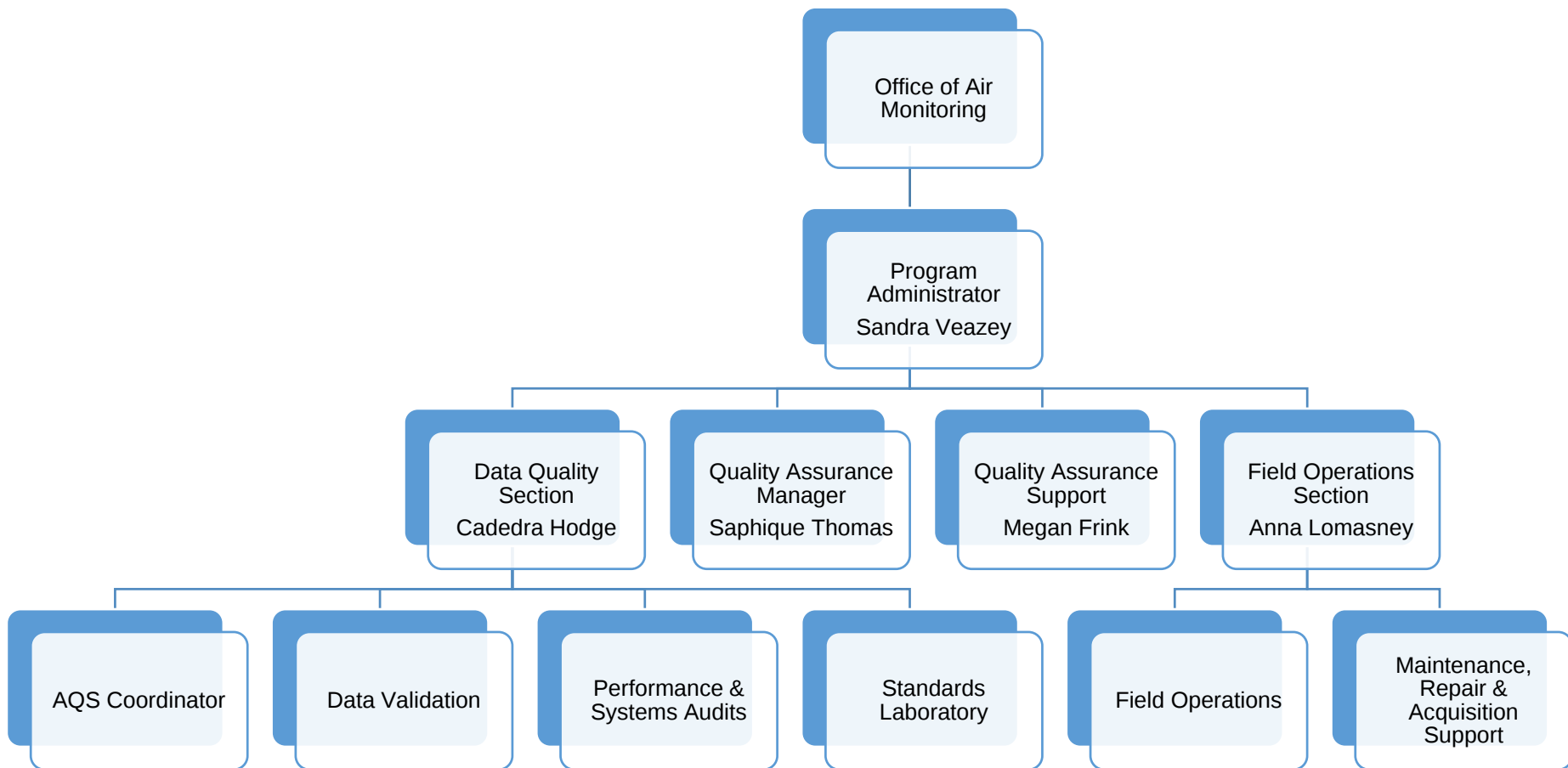
Florida Air Monitoring Program Organization



DEP is the lead agency of the Florida PQAO and is responsible for the oversight of ambient monitoring data and data quality submitted to EPA's AQS.



OAM Office Structure





Lead Agency Role

Oversight for Florida's Local Air Monitoring Programs

- Florida DEP OAM is the lead organization for the PQAO:
 - o Manage the statewide air monitoring network to ensure federal requirements are met
 - o Operate and maintain Florida DEP air monitoring equipment
 - o Collect and validate ambient air quality data
 - o Develop statewide air monitoring plans, reports, and procedures for EPA review and/or approval
 - o Perform and maintain statewide air monitoring and certifications





Lead Agency Role (cont.)

- o Provide training to statewide air monitoring staff
- o Conduct statewide performance audits, systems audits, and site reviews
- o Report statewide air monitoring data to EPA's air quality repository
- o Provide guidance to local air programs on air monitoring activities





EPA Changes/Impacts

- 40 CFR Part 58 Appendix A
 - o PQAO Definition Revision/Clarification (1.2)
 - o Low-level audits (3.1.2.1)
 - o One-Point QC Check Ranges (3.1.1)
- 40 CFR Part 58 Appendix D
 - o Year-Round Ozone Season
- SESD Control Limits and Warning Limits Policy (November 2016)
- Near-Road Revocation (December 2016)
- EPA QA Handbook Revision (January 2017)



EPA Changes/Impacts (cont.)

- EPA QA Handbook Appendix D Data Validation Templates Updates (March 2017)
- EPA OIG Report (February 2017)
 - o Adjusted ozone data (zero checks)
 - o Adhering to data validation templates (critical criteria)
- EPA TSAs (November 2016 thru July 2017)





Five Common Factors of a PQAO





Accomplishments – QA Documents and SOPs

- Statewide SOPs
 - o Submittals (13+)
 - o EPA Approvals (2)
- Data Handling and Data Validation SOP
 - o Revision 2 submitted April 14, 2017.
- Gaseous QAPP
 - o Revision 2 submitted March 2017.





Accomplishments – Field Operations and Procedures

- Field Proficiency Exam
 - o Phase 1 (April 2017)
- Standardized Procedures
 - o SLIC (November 2016)





Accomplishments – Increased Communication

- Monthly Data Quality Teleconferences
- FAMAC Meetings (every other month)
- Bi-Weekly SOP Meetings
- TSA Preparation and Involvement
- Training Opportunities
 - AQS
 - FAMAS
 - Automated Nightly Checks





Goals 2.0 – QA Documents and SOPs

- Finalize remaining statewide SOPs
 - o 2025 – May 2017
 - o 2025i – May 2017
 - o Miscellaneous others
- Update QAPPs
 - o PM_{2.5} – June 2017
 - o Lead – June 2017





Goals 2.0 – Field Operations and Procedures

- Fully-implemented statewide proficiency exam
- Reduce PM_{2.5} FRM network
- Evaluate PM₁₀ network
 - o Manual to continuous?
- Digital Communication
 - o Automated zero/span/precision checks
 - o Remote desk topping





Goals 2.0 – Quality Assurance Organization

- Consistent use of null codes and qualifiers and data handling
- Continue routine “spot-checks” of records
 - o Adhering to SOPs?
 - o Utilizing correct forms?
 - o Transparency?





Vision



- Continue to improve data quality & legal defensibility of these data
- Reduce overall air monitoring costs
- Improve efficiency by removing redundancies
- Maintain effectual working relationships across agencies
 - Regular communication and interaction
 - Training opportunities



Benefits

- Data consistency
- Comparability
- Time and resource saving
- Improved data quality
- Opportunities to share expertise
- Standardizes formal documentation
 - Greater consistency
 - Reduced workload in creation and review of QA documents





Questions

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