

State of Florida

Water Resources Monitoring

Action Plan

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The FWRMC was established as an advisory Council to make recommendations to DEP upper management on improving water resource monitoring and coordination of surface and ground water in Florida to help address water resource management issues. The Council was charged with: a,b,c,d.

This Action Plan lays out the Council's understanding of what is necessary to provide the needed quality of monitoring information. The parts of this Plan include aspects of water monitoring at all levels and pertinent to all monitoring. This Action Plan provides guidance on implementation of its various steps.

ISSUE: CHARACTERIZE MONITORING ACTIVITIES

LONG-TERM GOAL: Inventory water resources monitoring activities throughout the state of Florida and provide accessibility to the information. [Include list of information that needs to be collected. Emphasize management needs that the monitoring addresses.]

Action Item M-1: Identify and characterize existing monitoring activities.

- A) group similar activities and programs
- B) identify and assimilate existing monitoring inventories
- C) develop a template or questionnaire
- D) identify gaps in the inventory and strategy for bringing them in

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: Catalog monitoring methods: sampling and analytical, quality and quantity, frequency and duration.

STEP 2: Create a site map detailing all existing current activities.

STEP 3: Create a site map detailing all historic activities.

Action Item M-2: Create and populate a master repository of monitoring activities.

WHY DO THIS?: ??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: Harness the concept of the Water Atlas or other existing tools (don't reinvent).

STEP 2: Interface with IDM effort

Action Item M-3: Develop a strategy for making the master repository accessible.

WHY DO THIS?: ??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

Action Item M-4: Develop a strategy for continual updating of the master repository.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

ISSUE: IMPROVE MONITORING PRACTICES

LONG-TERM GOAL: To establish best resource monitoring practices (BWRMP) for surface and groundwater.

Action Item CM-1: Agree on a core set of monitoring variables to assess status and trends of our water resources.

WHY DO THIS?: To identify the minimum information required to address core management needs such as those described in the Oceans Council's collection of resource-agency management needs.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: ??

Action Item CM-2: Support development and application of new, emerging, and enhanced technologies, indicators, and methods to improve monitoring.

WHY DO THIS? It will provide resource managers with **additional** tools to assess the status and trends of water resources to **better** support management decisions.

Sub Action Item CM-2a: Seek out, validate, and standardize research methods to transfer them to the monitoring arena.

WHY DO THIS? To turn promising research methods and devices into routine monitoring tools.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

Sub Action Item CM-2b: Identify or develop methods to improve integration of freshwater and coastal resource monitoring.

WHY DO THIS? Freshwater and coastal (salt) water resource management is typically carried out independently of each other. There is a gap in our understanding of how to assess the health of the biological communities in the transition from fresh to salt. Because the condition of coastal water resources is heavily dependent on freshwater inputs, better integration is needed. This Action Item will provide resource managers with tools to better integrate the monitoring and management of freshwater and coastal systems.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: bio

Action Item CM-3: Recommend that monitoring programs develop or adopt data-quality objectives to address the program's resource management questions.

WHY DO THIS?: Appropriate data-quality objectives provide scientifically and legally defensible data on which to base monitoring conclusions.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: ??

Action Item CM-4: Encourage agencies to adopt standardized and complementary monitoring designs and update monitoring systems as necessary. [moved from Coordinate]

WHY DO THIS?: To reduce monitoring program costs and increase data comparability. For example, identification of organisms at different taxonomic levels can prevent data sets from being combined.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: Initiate intra-agency review of monitoring to coordinate with outside agencies.

5	4	3	2	1
4	4	1	0	0

ISSUE: COORDINATE MONITORING ACTIVITIES

LONG-TERM GOAL: Develop full coordination, perform gap analyses and eliminate redundancy in monitoring to provide integrated information to support effective management of Florida natural resources.

Action Item CM-5: Implement communication between state, federal, and local monitoring efforts.

WHY DO THIS?: [especially on east coast similar to GOMA and NERRs.]

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: ??

Action Item CM-6: Establish regional coordination among monitoring groups.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: ??

Action Item CM-7: Assist agencies and organizations with data delivery.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: Develop mechanisms for sharing data.

ISSUE: STEWARDSHIP OF FLORIDA WATER**RESOURCES**

LONG-TERM GOAL: Increase and maintain stewardship of Florida's water resources through a collaborative effort.

Action Item S-1: Get support from the general public and public officials through awareness and education.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

Action Item S-2: Get buy-in from all private and governmental monitoring entities through awareness and education.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

Action Item S-3: Create and sustain collaborative partnerships to leverage resources for and improve efficiencies in monitoring..

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

ISSUE: FUNDING

LONG-TERM GOAL: Ensure that adequate short and long term funding is available to support the Action Plan. Establish long-term funding for the improvement and coordination of monitoring.

Action Item F-1: Identify and prioritize the short and long-term funding needs to implement this Action Plan.

Action Item F-2: Develop a budget to carry out the Action Plan.

Action Item F-3: Pursue funding options

Action Item F-3: Create a funding allocation strategy.

WHY DO THIS?:? incorporated into F-1

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

5	4	3	2	1
3	6	0	0	0

ISSUE: WATER RESOURCE MONITORING LEGISLATION

LONG-TERM GOAL: Recommend legislation enacted to improve water resource monitoring and coordination statewide.

Action Item L-1: Establish and provide funding support for a dedicated monitoring coordination entity.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1:

Action Item L-2: Provide funding incentives for monitoring entities to work with the coordination entity.

WHY DO THIS?:??.

36-MONTH OUTCOME: ??

STEP 1: