

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

Council Overview 2006-2011



Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

DESCRIPTION & BRIEF HISTORY

“ . . . the Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council is to protect, preserve, manage and restore water resources in the state of Florida by coordinating water resource monitoring and by sharing information . . . ”

--- FWRMC Vision statement, 2007

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

DESCRIPTION & BRIEF HISTORY

- **Preliminary Council meetings 2004-2006**
- **Council Created** in 2006 *initially* to advise FDEP in setting data & monitoring standards to meet Chap. 373.026 (2), F. S.
 - Also developed in concert with FOCC efforts to link fresh- and saltwater monitoring programs
- **10 Voting Members**
 - WMDs, state agencies, and FLERA

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

AUTHORITY

- Chap. 373.026 (2) F.S.
 - Focuses on Dept. serving as data repository with other monitoring entities and disseminating such information to the public.
- Chap. 373.026 (3), F.S.
 - Focuses on Dept. cooperation, assistance, and data and information exchange with other monitoring entities.
- Chap. 62-40.540 [1]
 - Requires state entities to cooperate with the Dept. by sharing data, and for the Dept. to prescribe data format and QA.

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

DESCRIPTION & BRIEF HISTORY

4 Primary Objectives

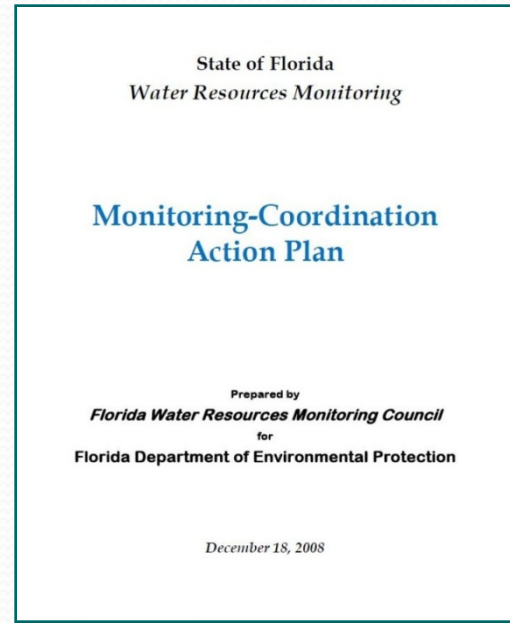
- Develop water resource metadata standards
- Support development of a replacement for STORET
- Coordinate Florida's fresh water monitoring with coastal / marine monitoring networks
- Coordinate Florida's state monitoring with local and federal monitoring programs

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

DESCRIPTION & BRIEF HISTORY

Achievements/Products

- **Monitoring-Coordination Action Plan 2008**
- **Recommendations for Structure and Oversight**
- In conjunction with the Florida Oceans & Coastal Council, developed **metadata** for data compatibility



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DESCRIPTION & BRIEF HISTORY

Suggests **Action Steps** to:

- **Improve Knowledge** of monitoring activities
- **Increase Consistency** of monitoring strategies & data comparability
- **Improve Coordination** among monitoring entities
- **Provide Support:**
 - **Coordinate Stewardship** among Local, State, & Federal Monitoring Programs
 - **Increase Funding** for monitoring efforts

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

NEWLY-FORMED COUNCIL 2011

Extended Membership (Now 19 Voting Members):

- **3 federal agencies (EPA, USGS, NOAA)**
- **Increased FLERA representation – 1 member from each region**
- **Representative - Ocean Observing Community**
- **Representative -Volunteer organization**

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NEWLY-FORMED COUNCIL 2011

Oversight Structure - Tiered approach

(Recommended by original Council)

- **Tier 1:** Statewide Council supported by FDEP
- **Tier 2:** Statewide Council instrumental in developing 5 Regional Councils
 - Regional Councils will facilitate information exchange & engage monitoring stakeholders at a local level
- **Tier 3:** Sub-regional groups, as needed, to achieve regional goals

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NEWLY-FORMED COUNCIL 2011

- **Shift in Council Responsibility** within DEP – from CAMA to DEAR
- Next steps are to **prioritize action items** & develop more detailed / specific plans

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COUNCIL WEBSITE

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/monitoring/council/index.htm>

