

# GLOSSARY

## Terms

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*Adaptive assessment:* A process for learning and incorporating new information into the planning and evaluation phases of the restoration program. This process ensures that the scientific information produced for this effort is converted into products that are continuously used in management decision-making.

*Best management practices:* Agricultural and other industrial management activities designed to achieve an important goal, such as reducing farm runoff or optimizing water use.

*Ecosystem:* A community of organisms, including humans, interacting with one another and the environment in which they live.

*Goal:* Something to be achieved. Goals can be established for outcomes (results) or outputs (efforts).

*Hydrology:* Literally, the properties, distribution, and effects of water. Used in this report to mean water quantity, timing, and distribution.

*Objective:* A goal expressed in specific, directly measurable terms.

*Outcome:* An end result. For purposes of this plan, a quality of the restored South Florida ecosystem.

*Output:* Levels of work and effort. For purposes of this plan, the products or services produced by a project or program.

*Performance measure:* A desired result stated in quantifiable terms to allow for an assessment of how well the desired result has been achieved.

*Restoration:* The recovery of a natural system's vitality and biological and hydrological integrity to the extent that the health and ecological functions are self-sustaining over time.

*South Florida ecosystem / Greater Everglades ecosystem:* An area consisting of the lands and waters within the boundary of the South Florida Water Management

District, including the Everglades, the Florida Keys, and the contiguous nearshore coastal waters of South Florida.

*Stormwater:* Surface water resulting from rainfall that does not percolate into the ground or evaporate.

*Subsidence:* The lowering of the soil level caused by shrinkage of organic layers. This shrinkage is due to desiccation, consolidation, and biological oxidation.

*Success indicator:* A subset of performance measures selected as a good representation of overall performance.

*Sustainability:* The state of having met the needs of the present without endangering the ability of future generations to be able to meet their own needs.

*Vision:* An aspiration for the future. In this case the results that the task force members intend to achieve in terms of ecosystem health and quality of life for South Florida residents and visitors.

*Wetlands:* Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that require saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.

## Acronyms

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ASR     Aquifer storage and recovery

BMP     Best management practices

C&SF Project: Central and Southern Florida Project

CARL    Conservation and Recreational Lands

CERP    *Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan*

DEP     Florida Department of Environmental Protection

EAA     Everglades Agricultural Area

SFWMD: South Florida Water Management District

STA     Stormwater treatment area

TMDL   Total maximum daily load

WCA     Water conservation area