



**SUMMARY OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING #9**  
**Florida Adaptation Technical Work Group (TWG)**  
**July 28, 2008**  
**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EST**

**Attendance: (Joel to confirm attendance)**

1. **TWG members:** Gary Appleson, Audrey Brown, Jim Murley, Doug Shaw, Wendy Nero for Matt Alvarez, Ricardo Alvarez, Richard Owen, Steve Boutelle, Meg Lowman, Hilary Swain, John Ogden, Richard Owen, Camille Coley, Kathy Baughman-Mcleod, Diana Ferguson, Doug Parsons, Paul Johnson.
2. Bruce Deterding, Florida Department of Environment; Doug FFWildlife,
3. **Members of the Public:** Eric Poole, FL Association of Counties, Barry Heimlich, Laura Gesselbrecht, Bob Krasowski, Florida Alliance for Green Environment.
4. **Center for Climate Strategies:** Linda Schade, and Joel Smith.

**Background materials**

(Posted at [www.flclimatechange.us](http://www.flclimatechange.us))

Documents for this call:

- Notice and Agenda
- Call #8 Approved Summary
- Powerpoint
- Revised ADP Policy Options
- Policy Options - tracked changes version
- Updated Framework - for reference

**Discussion Items and Issues**

This was the ninth call of the Florida Adaptation TWG.

Joel Smith of CCS called the meeting to order, called roll, and reviewed the agenda for the call. The Call #8 Summary needed one correction regarding clarification that listing only mining as a land use was decided against.

**ADP-1. Advancing Science Data and Analysis for Climate Change**

Mapping is important for monitoring.

Florida Ocean Coastal Council—monitoring Florida’s coastal oceans.

Paul Johnson agrees that mapping and monitoring are pre-cursors to a lot of the adaptation we have in this document.

There was a section on Existing Action— they are all carbon emissions. The legislation does not deal with Adaptation.

Gary—we need to focus on monitoring and LIDAR and all that. What priority do we place on waiting for this data as opposed to acting now?

Don’t we need caveats that say “This does not preclude the state planning now?” The need for adaptation strategies is now.

There is some funding forthcoming from the Hind Center to measure carbon and then expand it statewide. I’ve been working with Alex Sink’s staff.

There is an incipient group who are already running carbon towers.

The policies we are putting into place now are poorly guided because we don’t have the science.

Yes those practices exist but FL needs to tap into them.

Yes that needs to be in Description of Issues

Jim – we don’t need mitigation in this chapter.

Joel asked if we should take it out and possibly refer it to another TWG.

Bruce said that other TWGs are looking at these matters

**Goals:**

Jim – GOAL 3: Mapping and monitoring should be a goal, and it will probably be an early action item.

DEM and the regional planning councils – 20 million of investment and ongoing.

Hilary will draft something on LIDAR

Ogden – modeling should be added to mapping and monitoring.

**ADP-2. Comprehensive Planning**

What about coordination of adaptation strategies? Where does that take place?

Joel said we will ask for strategies.

A lot of this will be driven by economics, markets.

The new Commission will be doing some of the coordination.

What do you intend to achieve with this strategy? Embedding that.

Joel suggests that we note the need for coordination in ADP-12.

How does anyone possibly sift through this laundry list?

Need a systematic approach; need to identify mechanisms.

### **ADP-3. Protection of Ecosystems and Biodiversity**

Should cut down lengthy strategy under Goal 4.

#### **Priorities for Research:**

Mapping and Monitoring

Mangroves should appear.

Ricardo- we do have some areas are fully built out, conversations are not applicable there but there are other places. It would be a contribution to have a map. Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy has a map.

We were going to expand ADP-5 to put beaches and infrastructure there. Better to keep these goals in ADP-3.

#### **Goals:**

There are a lot of state lands that agencies are responsible. Goal to update those land management plans. They are coordinated by ARC and then by DEP, at the end of the day. Take language from ADP-1 and put it here.

Move to ADP-1: **Goal 4:** Conduct research needed to support incorporation of climate change into protection of Florida's ecosystems and biodiversity.

Add other systems beyond coral reefs.

~~DELETE: **Goal 11:** Increase and expand the toolbox of adaptation strategies (Currently the beach protection program relies on one leg; beach nourishment.)~~

We need state guidance on how we incorporate SLR into land acquisition plans.

Move this to up above: The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) includes in its annual Florida Forever workplan, a list of lands on the Florida Forever list that sequesters carbon, provides habitat, protects coastal lands or barrier islands, and otherwise mitigates and helps adapt to the effects of sea-level rise.

**Move this to GOAL 2: under 3.1**

**Goal 5:** Acquire and appropriately manage lands needed to complete critical south to north migration corridors to accommodate climate change driven range changes in species and natural communities.

**Reference nexus between climate change and x. And move to ADP-1 as it seems like a research question? Goal 6:** Areas that may serve as refuges for at risk species are identified, prioritized, protected and managed in a manner that maximizes the persistence of at-risk species.

Assess impacts of shoreline hardening ..? blanket prohibition will not work.

**Goal 1:** Prohibit hardening/stabilization of estuarine shorelines under state and local law.

Limit whenever possible hardening,

GOAL: **Goal 2:** Estimate the ecological value of beach resources around the state and select a subset in each geographic region to aggressively protect.

What areas we can forego and what areas can we protect

ADD: Prioritize protection on areas that have the highest ecological value.

Add climate change under Goal 3.

We have discussion of this subject FL's Resilient Coasts.

**Move to ADP-2 Goal 12:** Enhance communication and planning between state and local governments and between and within regulatory agencies.

**ADP-4. Water Resource Management**

There is not enough on water management and how the built and natural systems work together.

There is a trend toward use of surface rather than ground water. Water Supply –

Needs to address water supply infrastructure.

GOALS: Goal 7 to 17 have different verb tenses.

Adapt minimal water use levels xx in response to climate change including how structures are operated.

12 and 17 can be combined.

Combine 9, 10 and 11.

Delete 16.

**ADD water re-use as a separate strategy. Goal 3:** Develop conservation programs that address and incentivize both water and energy usage efficiencies

**Goal 12:** Retain as much freshwater in natural systems, and restore previously drained systems, to ensure this head of pressure. ~~DELETE:~~ Similarly, the restoration of peat layers in extreme South Florida in the course of Everglades restoration will help buffer that region from saltwater intrusion.

**Add water resources and healthy wildlife populations Goal 15:** To allow coastal estuaries, riverine and other water dependent ecosystems to migrate or adapt to maintain healthy wildlife and fish populations consistent with new weather regimes.

**Move to ADP-12 and make positive statement. Goal 18:** It may no longer make sense to allow land, transportation and water planning and management to be considered separately at all levels of government. To manage these elements effectively, planning and implementation efforts will need to be better integrated.

**Goal 19:** Wellfields, surface or sub-surface storage facilities and water treatment plants may be vulnerable. Siting such **NEW** facilities should be closely examined and plans developed to mitigate impacts or locate them or reduce the risks from winds and flooding.

Develop conservation and reuse of water supplies.

## **ADP-5. Built Environment, Infrastructure, and Community Protection Built Environment, Infrastructure and Community Protection**

Description of Issues – we need to change the mindset of how we design buildings.

Gary - First or second role of structure of the beach. Currently under state law when you build on that first line of beach, you are supposed to be elevated, for water to be able to go under the building for storm surges. Currently there is no enforcement so what happens is that sea walls were built which increases erosion so reduces the resiliency of the shoreline even though it increases resiliency of the built environment.

Ricardo – the high risk line will move.

Should address LEED certification. Joel – can argue that is also adaptation.

GOALS: Protecting urban areas from SLR. Look at technical and economic feasibility of protecting urban areas.

**MOVE this to ADP-2 Goal 8:** Require Comprehensive Plans, at all jurisdictional levels in Florida, to incorporate cost-effective climate change adaptation measures or plans for the built environment as a requirement for approval of any new development or redevelopment projects in Florida.

**Check for redundancy in ADP-4 Goal 10:** Require the Water Management Districts to consider the adaptation of the built environment to climate change impacts on a community-wide or regional basis in the implementation of flood control and other civil works projects and the adoption of related policy.

**Is in GP-TWG: Goal 3:** Require public universities in Florida to develop and deliver required educational programs for building design and construction professionals, planners and other pertinent fields, focusing on vulnerability to climate change and adaptation methodologies.

- Can the above be “required?”

**GOAL: Looking at where natural systems protect the built environment from extreme weather events and SLR. An example would be a dune setback law, coral reefs, mangroves, etc.**

**Move to ADP-15 Goal 13:** Revise the state Sunshine Standards for K-12 education so that vulnerability to climate change and the practice of adaptation become require subject matter in the curricula of public schools in Florida.

## **ADP-6. Transportation and Other Infrastructure**

No comments on introductory sections

### **GOALS:**

Title of ADP-6 utilities infrastructure communication, drinking and waste water water, health and hospitals, schools, beaches.

Ricardo - Key issue is how you adapt.

Move ADP-6 under ADP-5. Note that ADP-5 covers all forms of infrastructure, including electric utilities, communications, water (drinking and waste water), health, and schools.

## **ADP-7. Economic Development**

Agriculture – need to discuss crops that won’t grow anymore, crops that will grow, the role of environmental services of agricultural land. The geographic distribution of crops. Temperate crops, new diseases for livestock and plants. Loss of ag lands, with the movements of pp to the interior.

The whole question of carbon sequestration. Demand for irrigation.

Reference Visit Florida for tourism.

Needs to acknowledge the built environment investment that we have on beaches.

Note emerging industries i.e. the Gov is on a trade mission promoting a knowledge-based economic development based on renewable technologies.

Ricardo – I contributed the piece on construction. As I was doing this, it was frustrating as I think that quantification seems very important.

Jim - Ocean Coastal Resources Council has info on economic data.

GOALS: 1 area of the economy that is stressed is the knowledge

**Covered by AFW TWG: Goal 3:** Explore relative carbon sequestration capacity of Florida's native tree species.

**Move this up higher. Goal 3:** Identify possible programs or policies to mitigate any climate-rated damage.

### **ADP-8. Insurance (Property and Casualty)**

Jerry – Flood insurance should be mentioned. Over 50% of flood policies are in Florida. FL has the highest number of repeat claims under FEMA.

### **ADP-9. Emergency Preparedness and Response (Extreme Events)**

Ricardo sent the name of an individual in DEM. The state has a hazard mitigation plan. In that mitigation plan for the state they have conducted a risk assessment for the whole state for three years. I think it would benefit from an inclusion of climate change in its mission. Ricardo will send the contact person again.

Paul – local planning efforts and other connections need to be made. This ADP needs to be enhanced and tied to other ADPs.

Camille has info on in ADP-10 that can be incorporated here.

### **ADP-10. Human Health Concerns:**

Wendy – we need a goal on potable water treatment.

ADP-4 does not deal with potable water.

FL has done FL Entomology Lab should be referenced.

Climate increased livestock health issues also have human health impacts.

### **ADP-11. Social Effects:**

Jim – Miami-Dade work we referenced the long term possibility of economic refugees. FL is a refugee destination state.

Also note refugees from coast toward inland.

### **ADP-12. Organizing State Government for the Long Haul**

Jim – Goals on organizing state government should be moved from other ADPs into 12.

### **ADP-13. State Funding and Financing**

There are funding needs for all of the ADPs.

For example, beach re-nourishment is clearly an adaptation strategy if we make the decision to do that.

Coastline is about 1,300 miles

### **ADP-14. Coordinating with Other Regulatory and Standards Entities**

Suggestion to put Heinz Center in the list of organizations.

### **ADP-15. Public Education and Outreach**

Meg – Sent new paragraph on K-12 education

#### **Early Action items:**

Things that need to be done first

Things that need decades to get done, let's get started.

Priorities by sector.

Emergency Preparedness

#### **Next Steps**

- The next meeting of the Climate Action Team is August 6–7, 2008 in Orlando.
- TWG Call #9 is scheduled for Monday, July 28, 2008 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### **Public Comment**

Bob Krasowski had a question about ADP-8 (paraphrasing): From a layperson's perspective, I've heard reference to some mechanism for low and high areas, if SLR does occur as expected, for removing insurability for building properties in hazard zones. I see hotels and developments going forward on barriers islands and rivers and am wondering when the line will be drawn in terms of the state liability. Also how will we handle to issues if communities under water?

The TWG has discussed these issues but Bob was appreciated for articulating them so clearly. Audrey Brown also responded that a lot of those condos are not insured by Citizens Insurance but agreed that the TWG should definitely address those issues.