U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Meeting Environmental Challenges

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ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

- South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Program
- Coastal
- Cultural Resources
- Military/Interagency & International Services (MIL/IIS)
CHALLENGES

- Fiscal Uncertainty
- Coordination with Agencies
- Balancing construction requirements and natural resource protection
Increased operational flexibility/Construction of Everglades projects = Relief to estuaries Restoration of flows to Everglades
SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

- Improve water quality and reduce impacts to endangered species
- How do you have the right information for these decisions?
RECOVER

- REstoration COoordination & VERification
**RECOVER**

- **Challenge:** USGS Priority Ecosystems Science (PES) program cuts
  - RECOVER monitoring leverages USGS hydrology and water quality data

- **Meeting the challenge:** USACE and USGS are working together to maintain the integrity of the monitoring
Challenge: Consultation for coral species newly listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Meeting the Challenge: Ongoing consultation with NMFS to update the Regional Biological Opinion.

Pillar Coral (Dendrogyra cylindrus)

Photo credit: NOAA
REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT

- **Challenge**: Lack of sand for coastal projects. Increasing development puts pressure on species on the coastline.

- **Meeting the Challenge**: Actively manage the beneficial use of sediments in the region.
CULTURAL RESOURCES

- **Challenge:** Timing for cultural resources early in the project planning process.

- **Meeting the Challenge:** Coordinating with Tribal and State historic preservation officers early and often in the planning process
  - Maintaining agreements with Tribes
MILITARY / INTERAGENCY & INTERNATIONAL SERVICES (IIS)

- Installation Restoration Program (IRP)
- Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)
- Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)
- Support for Others (SFO)

As of: 23 August 2017
POC: Lee-Duffell
Challenge: Goal is 90% of IRP sites to achieve Response Complete (RC) by the end of FY18, and 95% to achieve RC by the end of FY21.

Meeting the Challenge: Focus on challenging sites and prepare for PRP.
ENVIROMENTAL INITIATIVES

- Formerly Used Defense Sites Chemistry Database (FUDSChem)
Advanced Geophysical Classification (AGC) at FUDS MMRP Projects
SUPPORT FOR OTHERS

- **Challenge**: Fiscal uncertainty of other agencies
- **Meeting the Challenge**: USACE has the capability to support any size project
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