

The PMC Role

- Expanded to include adjoining waters
- Identifies research/monitoring needs and coordinates science programs
- Developed Strategic Science Plan for Florida Bay
 - research teams
 - expert oversight
 - workshops and conferences
- Science based management for CERP and regional plans

Developing a Science Plan for Biscayne Bay

- Extensive existing data and models under development
- Dynamic information and tools needed to define PERFORMANCE MEASURES and support MANAGEMENT DECISIONS
- Need to coordinate and prioritize STRATEGIC science tasks so that Biscayne Bay is not left behind in CERP

Biscayne Bay “Themes”

- Fundamental role of freshwater input (surface and groundwater)
- Stable, mesohaline region within the larger system
- A geographic setting of a natural system within an intensely developed urban landscape

Central Science Questions

- What volume, timing, and distribution of freshwater inflow are needed?
- How are plant and animal communities linked to each other, water quality and quantity? What is the role of coastal wetlands?
- What are the patterns in water and sediment quality in relation to land use?
- What level of exploitation and direct impact can the Bay tolerate?