

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

To: Council Members AGENDA ITEM 6

From: Staff

Date: October 16, 2015 Council Meeting

Subject: Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan/Central Everglades Planning Project and Lake Okeechobee Operations – Presentation by Thomas M. Teets, Office of Everglades Policy and Coordination Division Director, South Florida Water Management District

Introduction

As part of Council's scheduled four-part educational series on regional water resource issues, Thomas Teets from the South Florida Water Management District will present an update on Lake Okeechobee Operations, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP), and the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP). He will discuss some of the history and challenges associated with managing Lake Okeechobee operations as well as give an update of the restoration efforts being undertaken as part of the CERP. The CEPP is a component of CERP, which was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 as a framework for restoring the south Florida ecosystem and providing for other water-related needs.

Mr. Teets has worked at the District on regional water resource planning and implementation for more than 25 years. He was named Division Director of the Office of Everglades Policy and Coordination in December 2014. In his previous position as Federal Policy Chief for the District's ecosystem restoration initiative, he was responsible for helping lead the implementation of CERP and other federal projects for which the District is the local sponsor.

Recommendation

For information, education, and discussion purposes.