

A Web-Based Sensitive Areas Plan for Southern Florida

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ABSTRACT

After a study of the consequences and hazards of oil spills to watersheds in EPA Region 4, EPA, in conjunction with the Regional Response Team, determined that the watersheds of Southern Florida were the most vulnerable and most sensitive. As a result of that analysis, a model area plan for Southern Florida to meet the Area Contingency Plan (ACP) requirements of the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

The model plan is completely digital and in a format accessed using web browsers. Text and graphic files are used to present the following elements of the plan, which are inter-linked at multiple levels:

- Area covered by the sub-area plan
- Priority protection areas in the sub-area
- Resources at risk summaries for each priority protection area
- Protection strategies
- Habitat descriptions, including photographs
- Response matrices for selection of appropriate response strategies for each habitat
- Guidelines for the use of *insitu* burning in the sub-area
- List of facilities
- List of experts and contacts
- Sensitivity maps at two scales: 1:24,000 scale around each of the priority areas; and 1:100,000 scale for the entire sub-area

The model plan also includes all of the digital data on sensitive resources (including public water supply wells), base map information, _____ as ArcView shapefiles. Customized queries to support area planning and spill response needs and standard maps products are also part of the plan.