

## **SOUTHEASTERN AND ISLAND REGION RESEARCH PRIORITIES**

Research and technology transfer will be concentrated on the following areas:

**WATER QUALITY:** Research needs in the water quality area involve information, information management, and the protection of surface and ground water from degradation. It includes industrial and municipal wastewater treatment and subsurface disposal of hazardous/toxic wastes. In addition, problems from non-point sources of both municipal and agricultural sources including soil erosion, agricultural runoff, and pesticides pertain to this area. The development and improvement of monitoring techniques and analysis are also important, as well as water quality problems associated with eutrophication and weed control. This area also includes remediation research, drinking water quality, salt water intrusion, and near coastal and island water quality issues.

**WATER MANAGEMENT:** Research needs in the area of water management include legal, institutional, and financial arrangements. Specific items such as basin planning, water use control, transfers and/or diversions of water flood control, and drought planning are all priority issues. It also includes construction of facilities, financing and pricing, and water conservation and reuse. Management includes quality protection studies, upgrading of supplies, and state and/or federal and interstate interactions or compacts.

**WATER QUANTITY:** Research needs in the water quantity area include studies of the basin water cycle for an understanding of prediction. It also includes items of surface water flow, basin planning, low flow prediction (7Q10), flood control, water use, and water allocation. Included also are studies of ground water availability and the locations, movement, and volume of groundwater. Also of importance are use and user impacts and surface and ground water interaction.

**AQUATIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION:** Research needs in this area include studies of wetlands, swamps and marshes, fish and other biota, and the quality of life. It also includes studies of ecological balance, protection of endangered species, and studies of dredging and filling. This area also includes exotic species issues and ecosystem studies.

**EMERGING PROBLEMS:** Studies not included in other priority areas but which are dedicated to solving emerging water problems which are identified as critical issues by key state water management officials in the region are included in this category.