



South Florida Water Management District

GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

February 13, 2025
9:00 AM
District Headquarters, B-1 Auditorium
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

FINAL

1. Call to Order - Chauncey Goss, Chairman, Governing Board
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Employee Recognitions
 - January 2025 Employee of the Month: Shimelis Dessu, Section Leader, Water Resources & Systems Modeling
 - January 2025 Team of the Month: Enforcement/Wetland Protection Team
 - February 2025 Employee of the Month: Guianeya "Yenny" Herrera Osorio, Attorney
 - February 2025 Team of the Month: Western Everglades Restoration Project Team
 - 30-Year Service Award: Benjamin Bolan, Senior Scientist, Water Resources
 - 35-Year Service Award: Marcy Zehnder, Section Administrator, Real Estate
4. Agenda Revisions
5. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
6. Audit & Finance Committee Report - Jay Steinle, Chairman
7. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the December 12, 2024, Meeting
8. Executive Director's Report - Drew Bartlett

9. General Public Comment
10. Board Comment
11. Move Consent Agenda Items to Discussion Agenda
12. Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items
13. Board Vote on Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

14. Release of Rights within Polk County Vacated Plat, Lake Marion Creek Project, Polk County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District is the owner of certain parcels of property located in the Lake Marion Creek Project area in Polk County (County) within the Plat of the Poinciana Neighborhood 1 West Village 7. In connection with a County conservation and water management project, the County has acquired the balance of the lands in the Plat. The County has passed Resolution No. 2024-107 vacating portions of the Plat and has requested that the District release certain rights and interests it has in portions of the Plat.

Pursuant to Section 373.056 of the Florida Statutes, the Governing Board of the District, under terms and conditions determined by the Board, is authorized to release its rights in the lands owned by the District to benefit the County as the rights are not required for the District's purposes.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0201 Authorize release of certain interests in a vacated plat located in Lake Marion Creek Project area in Polk County.

[Resolution No. 2025-0201](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

15. Release of Reservations (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District has certain reserved rights to construct canal and road rights of way. Applications requesting release of these reservations are received as they constitute a defect on title which must be resolved prior to a property sale, especially when financing is involved. Applications are reviewed to determine if there is a present or future need for the reservations. Applications are also routed to local governments and water control districts to ascertain their potential need for the reservations. If it has been determined there is no present or future need, the reservations may be released for a reasonable and appropriate payment based on the value of the land and may require such other terms and conditions determined by the Board.

Staff evaluated the property's size and location for future flood control and reclamation purposes related to water storage and conveyance. It has been determined that there is no present or apparent future need for the reservations listed below, therefore staff asks the Board to consider approval of the following:

Broward County

- Release District canal and road reservations for City of Coconut Creek, a municipal subdivision of the State of Florida (File No. 18952) for 4.77+/- acres; release value exempt (government-owned).

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0202 Authorize release of certain canal and road reservations.

[Memorandum Exhibit A](#)
[Resolution No. 2025-0202 with Exhibit A](#)
[Maps](#)

16. Exchange with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), S-356E Pump Station, Central Everglades Planning Project - South Phase (CEPP South), Miami-Dade County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District, together with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is commencing the process for the construction of the S-356E Pump Station of the Central Everglades Planning Project - South Phase (CEPP South). The majority of the S-356E will be constructed within the District's existing L-29 (Tamiami Canal) right of way; however, some of the structure features will be located within FDOT's Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) right of way. The USACE is requiring a permanent easement over these areas from FDOT. The District owns a portion of the Tamiami Trail right of way and will convey its fee simple interest in exchange for a fee simple interest, a perpetual easement, and a temporary work area easement from FDOT, which includes a General Use Permit over portions of the Tamiami Trail right of way needed during the construction.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0203 Authorize surplus and conveyance to Florida Department of Transportation fee simple interests containing 1.29 acres, more or less, in exchange for fee simple interests and easements within the Central Everglades Planning Project, South Phase, located in Miami-Dade County.

[Resolution No. 2025-0203](#)
[Exhibit A Map](#)
[Exhibit B Map](#)
[Exhibit C Map](#)

17. Request for Right of Way Occupancy Permit (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department (Applicant) requests a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 16727-R (ROW Permit) to construct a linear park within the south right of way of the C-103 Canal from S.W.

127th Avenue to S.W. 117th Avenue. The proposed linear park will include a 1-mile, 12-foot-wide multi-use path for bicycles and pedestrians, vehicle access barriers (i.e., removable bollards), District gates, and existing vegetation.

The Application has been reviewed by District Field Operations and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has granted Section 408 authorization. The permittee will be required to maintain the improvements and the entire right of way as a condition of the ROW Permit, which will relieve the District of mowing and maintenance responsibilities for this segment of the C-103 Canal right of way. District vehicles will be able to drive on and over the proposed multi-use path. If approved, the linear park and its related improvements will not interfere with or adversely impact the District's routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities.

Recommended Action:

Approve issuance of Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 16727-R (Application No. 220616-34820).

[Presentation Backup](#)

18. Side Slope Hand Mowing and Trimming Services Contract for Big Cypress Basin Field Station Area of Responsibility, Collier County (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Maintenance of District lands is required to ensure that vegetation is controlled at the appropriate height to provide for optimal performance and operational efficiency of the District's flood control system. This project for the Big Cypress Basin Field Station area of responsibility provides for side slope hand mowing and trimming services of approximately 356 acres annually of various District lands and canal and levee rights of way in Collier County.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0204 Authorize entering into a 3-year contract with two 1-year renewal options with Charles Wesley O'Ferrell DBA Southern Svcs, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for side slope hand mowing and trimming services of various District lands and rights of way in Collier County in an amount not-to-exceed \$548,240 of which \$109,648 in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds is budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005142)

[Resolution No. 2025-0204](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

19. Designation of the Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area in St. Lucie County as a Stormwater Treatment Area as Defined in Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code, and as an Impoundment Area as Defined in Rule 40E-7.521(13), Florida Administrative Code (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area, which includes a 143-acre stormwater treatment area and a 725-acre impoundment, is located in St. Lucie County (Property). The District proposes to designate the Property as a Stormwater Treatment Area

(STA) in accordance with Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and as an Impoundment Area (Reservoir) in accordance with Rule 40E-7.521(13), F.A.C.

Designating the Property as a STA and an Impoundment Area will provide a regulatory framework for managing nature-based recreational use on the Property consistent with the purpose that the Property was acquired, and consistent with the operation of the STA and Reservoir. A STA and Impoundment Area designation will allow the District to apply the rules codified in Chapter 40E-7, F.A.C., to manage public recreation within the Property. These rules include establishing public access points and providing for a variety of recreational activities including but not limited to hiking, biking, fishing, and wildlife viewing opportunities that are compatible with operating the STA and Reservoir. Recreational groups and public use stakeholders have indicated a public interest in opening the Property for recreation.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0205 Designate the Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area, located in St. Lucie County, as a Stormwater Treatment Area as defined in Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code, and as an Impoundment Area as defined in Rule 40E-7.521(13), Florida Administrative Code, for the purpose of managing public access and recreational use.

[Resolution No. 2025-0205](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

20. Data Management Consultant (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Information Technology (IT) is developing a workflow and reporting system to support the District's vegetation management program using the Pega Business Process Management platform. This will replace the Oracle-based vegetation management data tracking system (WEEDDAR). To assist the Project Team with system testing, IT procured a data management and application testing consultant in January 2023. This consultant works with the Pega Development and Vegetation Management teams to test code changes and functionality of the system and create tickets for the software based on issues identified by users.

This request is to amend Purchase Order Number 4500139270 with Vitaver and Associates, Inc., extending the services for a Data Management Consultant through September 30, 2025, and increasing the amount by \$65,695 for a revised total of \$315,694, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services Contract Number 80101507-23-STC-ITSA.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0206 Authorize an amendment to Purchase Order Number 4500139270 with Vitaver and Associates, Inc., extending the services for a Data Management Consultant through September 30, 2025, and increasing the amount by \$65,695 for a revised total of \$315,694, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services Contract Number

80101507-23-STC-ITSA, for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Purchase Order No. 4500139270)

[Resolution No. 2025-0206](#)

21. Evergreen Hardware and Software Upgrade (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The District uses the Emerson Ovation system for Supervised Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA). The Emerson Ovation system is the central control system used by water managers and other District staff to analyze water conditions, make mission critical decisions, and operate structures throughout the sixteen counties served by the District. This highly redundant hardware and software and hardware infrastructure was originally purchased in 2017. To ensure that the system remains current, supported, and secure, Information Technology is entering into an Emerson process called “Evergreen” to upgrade the underlying hardware and software. Many of the components operating the existing SCADA system are nearing end-of-life or end-of-support.

This request is to approve issuing multiple purchase orders to Flagler Technologies, LLC, a Dell Marketing L.P. Value-Added Reseller, to procure the hardware and software required for the Evergreen upgrade project in the amount of \$2,745,392, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District’s Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0207 Approve issuing multiple purchase orders to Flagler Technologies, LLC, a Dell Marketing L.P. Value-Added Reseller, to procure hardware and software for the Evergreen upgrade project in the amount of \$2,745,392, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District’s Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P., for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

[Resolution No. 2025-0207](#)

22. Omada Identity Management System Subscription (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Management of user accounts is an important information technology security function. The Information Technology Division uses the Omada Identity Management System, which is a cloud-based software that supports user account creation, maintenance, and deletion. The Omada software also provides user account automation and user account auditing. These accounts are used by many of the District’s business applications including Microsoft and SAP.

This request is to authorize amending a contract with SHI International Corporation for the Omada Identity Management Systems Cloud-Based Software for an additional

three years in the amount of \$480,477.87 for a revised contract total of \$1,156,299.24 using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS with SHI International Corporation.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0208 Authorize amending a contract with SHI International Corporation for the Omada Identity Management Systems Cloud-Based Software for an additional three years, increasing the amount by \$480,477.87 for a revised total of \$1,156,299.24, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS with SHI International Corporation, of which \$153,920.38 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600004372-A02)

[Resolution No. 2025-0208](#)

23. Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement, Collier County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Big Cypress Basin Bird Rookery Land Management Plan, the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) Bird Rookery Replacement Project, located in the Bird Rookery Swamp Management Area in Collier County, will fully replace the existing 1,400-foot boardwalk. The project scope includes replacement of the foundation, substructure, boardwalk, posts and railings. The boardwalk leads to a 12-mile tram road trail that is frequently used by the public for outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, running, biking, nature photography, geocaching, and birding. The replacement of the boardwalk will ensure the public can continue enjoying their outdoor recreational activities where the maple-cypress swamp is home to alligators, otters, Florida panthers, bobcats, white-tailed deer and more.

The District is using the Progressive Design/Build procurement method to work in collaboration with the Contractor from the design phase through construction phase. The design/build solicitation was advertised on October 11, 2024. The Committee reviewed the four firms that submitted their qualifications and selected a shortlist of Respondents. The Authorization to Proceed with the Evaluation of Shortlisted Respondents was posted on the District's Procurement Calendar on January 3, 2025, in compliance with Chapter 120 of the Florida Statutes. The Committee selected two firms to further evaluate their respective Project Approach Packages and conduct Interviews with the Shortlisted Respondents. Scores were entered on January 23, 2025.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0209 Authorize the official ranking of short-listed firms and enter into a 427-day contract for Phase One (Design) and Phase Two (Construction) Services of the Design/Build contract for the CREW Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement Project, subject to successful negotiations with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000, for which \$2,000,000 in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal

Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. If negotiations are unsuccessful with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., the District will proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract has been successfully negotiated. (Contract No. 4600005163)

[Resolution No. 2025-0209](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

24. Design/Build for the Operations Facility Project, Amendment No. 4, Phase Two Services, Palm Beach County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Operations & Maintenance Capital Program, the Operations Facility Project, located in Palm Beach County, will relocate our flight operations to a permanent facility on District lands. The Flight Operations Unit (FOU) provides safe, efficient, and economical aircraft support for the District. Highly experienced pilots fly 1,800 hours per year cumulatively performing the FOU support activities. Flight activities support emergency operations such as pre- and post- storm flights, water quality sampling, inspections of the flood control system and construction projects, regulation flights, wildlife and blue green algae surveys, and other important District initiatives and mandates.

In recent years, the FOU has been leasing office, workshop and hangar space at the Palm Beach International Airport from Signature Flight Support (SFS). The lease with SFS is scheduled to expire December 2025 and is non-renewable. An extensive investigation to find a new location has been conducted and no existing alternative facility has been found. A District-owned and operated facility needs to be constructed to relocate District aircraft and staff to continue to conduct required operations and maintenance activities, and moving the facility to District-owned land ensures uninterrupted operations, saves in long-term capital and future lease costs, and allows the District to purchase fuel at half the price.

This Project consists of the design and construction of a new and easily accessible, permanent Operations Facility located at the southwest intersection of Southern Boulevard and Flying Cow Road adjacent to Stormwater Treatment Area 1E. It includes a hanger building space to support maintenance of helicopters, parts storage, and office facilities for mechanics and pilots. The site will include a helipad, tarmac for helicopter flight path, site security, vehicle parking and fuel facility. The facility will be built to current building code and will protect District assets during storm events making them available for immediate deployment after the damaging winds have receded from a storm event.

The District is using the Progressive Design/Build procurement method to work in collaboration with the Contractor from the conceptual phase through construction phase. Amendment 4 advances Phase 1 Services for the design of the hangar building (including pilot's offices, maintenance workshop, equipment storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, and restrooms), apron, and appurtenances, to Phase 2 Services for construction of a fully functional Operations Facility project.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0210 Authorize an amendment to the Design/Build contract

with State Contracting and Engineering Corporation for the Operations Facility Project, for Phase Two Construction Services of the hangar building (including pilot's offices, maintenance workshop, equipment storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, and restrooms), apron, and appurtenances, to provide construction of a fully functioning Operations Facility project for 360 days in an amount not-to-exceed \$9,493,976, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Contract No. 4600004936-A04).

[Resolution No. 2025-0210](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

25. Professional Engineering Services Contracts (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the District's Restoration and Capital Improvement Programs, the District has maintained a series of continuing professional engineering services contracts for several years. This agenda item addresses the need to contract external professional engineering services to facilitate the delivery of the District's capital improvement and restoration projects. The purpose of this Request for Proposals was to solicit technical proposals from qualified firms to provide professional engineering services for the District's Gravity Control Structures, Canal/Levee Refurbishment and Low Hazard Impoundments Projects. Multiple contract awards are anticipated for a contract duration of a 3-year period with two 1-year options to renew. Assignments under each contract will be handled through various work orders under the contract. Approval of this agenda item will allow the District to continue or commence new design and construction support efforts for projects such as microwave tower replacements, canal bank stabilizations, control building replacements, culvert replacements and infrastructure repairs along with other District initiatives.

The fifteen firms selected for these contracts include Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos; Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.; Nova Consulting, Inc.; Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.; CES Consultants, Inc.; Ardurra Group, Inc.; Radise International LC; TY Lin International; Stanley Consultants, Inc.; Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.; Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.; Keith & Associates, Inc. dba KEITH; RJ Behar & Company, Inc.; Taylor Engineering, Inc.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0211 Authorize the official ranking of firms and entering into a 3-year contract, with two 1-year extensions, with Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos; Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.; Nova Consulting, Inc.; Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.; CES Consultants, Inc.; Ardurra Group, Inc.; Radise International LC; TY Lin International; Stanley Consultants, Inc.; Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.; Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.; Keith & Associates Inc., dba KEITH; RJ Behar & Company, Inc.; Taylor Engineering, Inc., subject to successful negotiations to provide professional engineering services for the District's Gravity Control Structures, Canal/Levee Refurbishment and Low Hazard Impoundments Projects, in an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000,000 for all 15 contracts, for which the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget includes approved Ad Valorem and dedicated funds (state, federal, and local revenue sources) and the remainder is subject to the Governing Board approval of the future years'

budgets; if negotiations are unsuccessful with any of the firms, the District may proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract is successfully negotiated.

Contract Number	Consulting Firm
4600005084	Mock Roos & Associates, Inc.
4600005155	Gannett Fleming, Inc.
4600005083	Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.
4600005093	Nova Consulting, Inc
4600005094	Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.
4600005150	CES Consultants, Inc.
4600005085	Ardurra Group, Inc.
4600005151	Radise International LC
4600005092	TY Lin International
4600005087	Stanley Consultants, Inc.
4600005089	Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
4600005091	Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.
4600005088	Keith & Associates, Inc.
4600005090	RJ Behar & Company, Inc.
4600005086	Taylor Engineering, Inc.

[Resolution No. 2025-0211](#)
[Backup Presentation](#)

26. Agreements with the University of Miami, Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation at the University of South Florida, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the Development of Atmosphere-Ocean Simulations to Compute Boundary Conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model (Staff contact, Carolina Maran, Ph.D., P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The District has been collaborating with academic, federal, and state agencies for the assessment of future water and climate conditions and their implications on flood protection, water supply, and ecosystem restoration efforts. With the goal of reducing uncertainty in estimating future conditions, the District is partnering with the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation (FFH) at the University of South Florida (USF), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), University of Miami (UM), and Florida State University (FSU) to develop atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model. The goal of this project is to develop state-of-the-art, high-resolution simulations (~25 km in the atmosphere and ~10 km in the ocean) from a global climate model to support the development of projections of tidal, extreme rainfall and risk of flooding across a range of scenarios throughout the state of Florida. This agenda item is requesting authorization from the Governing Board to enter into three agreements:

- \$540,000 25PLN51 Reimbursement Grant Agreement with DEP (Contract No. 4600005156)
- \$540,000 Agreement with UM (Contract No. 4600005164)

- \$150,000 Agreement with FFH/USF (Contract No. 4600005165)

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0212 Authorize entering into three agreements for the development of atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model.

- **\$540,000 25PLN51 Reimbursement Grant Agreement with DEP (Contract No. 4600005156)**
- **\$540,000 Agreement with the University of Miami, for which dedicated funds (State Grant 25PLN51) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (Contract No. 4600005164)**
- **\$150,000 Agreement with the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research, for which \$50,000 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005165)**

[Resolution No. 2025-0212](#)

Discussion Agenda

27. Central Everglades Planning Project Update (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

A. CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project, Locally Funded Agreement with FDOT, Palm Beach County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project - Everglades Agricultural Area Phase (CEPP EAA) US-27 Bridges Project, located in Palm Beach County, will construct a canal segment and new bridge crossings to connect the North New River to the CEPP EAA Reservoir / STA Complex. The CEPP EAA Project will help dramatically reduce the volume of damaging discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the coastal estuaries for flood protection purposes. It will also provide storage, treatment, and conveyance for an annual average of 370,000 acre-feet of additional water to the Southern Everglades each year.

The District has completed the CEPP EAA STA for approximately \$300 Million and is currently in the vegetative grow-in phase. The USACE has awarded construction contracts totaling approximately \$3.9 Billion for construction of the adjacent CEPP EAA Reservoir. As part of the CEPP EAA Project, the District, USACE, and FDOT will collectively construct approximately 12 miles of a 3,000 cfs Inflow-Outflow Canal located along the northern boundary of the project stretching from the North New River Canal to the Miami Canal. In March 2023, the District completed approximately 4.1 miles of the Inflow-Outflow Canal which lies adjacent to the STA, and in November 2022, the USACE began construction of approximately 7.3 miles of the Inflow-Outflow Canal which lies adjacent to the Reservoir.

The Governing Board authorized the execution of a Locally Funded Agreement (LFA) with FDOT to develop signed and sealed construction plans for the canal crossing and new bridge crossings at its May 2021 meeting. This new LFA and Escrow Agreement

with FDOT will allow them to move to the construction phase for the CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0213 Authorize entering into an agreement with the FDOT to provide financial assistance to FDOT for the CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project, in amount not to exceed \$35,172,987, for which dedicated funds (Everglades Trust Fund, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State General Revenue) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Contract No. 4600005152)

[Resolution No. 2025-0213](#)

B. CEPP North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements, Palm Beach and Broward Counties

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project - North Phase (CEPP North) L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, located in Palm Beach and Broward Counties, will enlarge approximately 5.8 miles of the L-5 Remnant Canal to meet CEPP North conveyance capacity requirements. The project also includes the construction of a new Dredge Materials Management Area, construction village, overbuilding of the existing L-5 exterior (south) levee, and stockpile area for the placement of the excess excavated material for future use as well as replacement of the staff gauge at S-150.

CEPP was authorized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Acts of 2016, 2018, and 2020. CEPP includes four phases: CEPP North, CEPP South, CEPP EAA and CEPP New Water. The construction of CEPP New Water is complete and the other three phases are currently under construction. The CEPP North Phase will improve conveyance and flow distribution to northern Water Conservation Area 3A. The eastern CEPP North feature, S-620 Gated Culvert and L-6 Improvements, as well as S-8 Modifications Phase 1 are currently in construction.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on January 21, 2025.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0214 Authorize entering into a 1,243-day contract with Forgen, LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, in the amount of \$71,246,497, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005160)

[Resolution No. 2025-0214](#)

C. CEPP North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2, Broward County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades

Planning Project - North Phase (CEPP North) S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, located in Broward County at the intersection of the Miami, L-5, and L-4 Canals, will refurbish and repurpose the S-8 Pump Station to extend its service life to serve CEPP North “new water” delivery purpose. This pump station was built in 1962 and is beyond its useful life. The purpose of CEPP North suite of projects is to convey and distribute additional flows to hydrate the northern portion of Water Conservation Area 3A.

The project includes refurbishment of all four 1,040 cfs horizontal axial pump units, associated cooling water pumps, booster pumps and gearboxes; replacement of fuel storage facility, generators, vacuum pump units, trash rake system, septic system and drain field, discharge roller gates and components, and various bulkhead channel guides; conduct Arc Flash Hazard Analysis including arc hazard placards and suggested operation procedure for safe operations and maintenance of electrical equipment; replacement of roofing system, existing fencing, and exterior lights; installation of fall protection improvements; upgrade of station windows and doors for hurricane winds; repair of concrete and pavement deficiencies; fabrication of new stop logs for spillway bay; refurbishment of existing steel bulkheads and steel pick-up beams; and painting of the interior and exterior of the building.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on January 15, 2025.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0215 Authorize entering into a 1,347-day contract with Harry Pepper & Associates, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, in the amount of \$73,977,993, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years’ budgets. (Contract No. 4600005161)

[Resolution No. 2025-0215](#)

Technical Reports

- 28. Water and Ecological Conditions Report - John P. Mitnik, P.E., and Lawrence Glenn

Staff Reports

- 29. Monthly Financial Report - Jennifer Smith
 - Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Work Plan Performance
- 30. General Public Comment
- 31. Board Comment

32. Adjourn

Final presentations, CERP Report, and NEEPP Report

Agenda Item Background:

[27 Dadrian CEPP Update](#)

[28 Mitnik Glenn Water and Ecological Conditions Report](#)

[CERP Report](#)

[NEEPP Report](#)

Public Comment Procedure

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board encourages the public to provide comment and input to the Governing Board. Public comment is accepted at the two dedicated General Public Comment periods at the beginning and the end of the meeting. Public comment is also accepted on the Consent Agenda and each Discussion Agenda item.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Ray Palmer, Real Estate

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Release of Rights within Polk County Vacated Plat, Lake Marion Creek Project, Polk County

Agenda Item Background:

The District is the owner of certain parcels of property located in the Lake Marion Creek Project area in Polk County (County) within the Plat of the Poinciana Neighborhood 1 West Village 7. In connection with a County conservation and water management project, the County has acquired the balance of the lands in the Plat. The County has passed Resolution No. 2024-107 vacating portions of the Plat and has requested that the District release certain rights and interests it has in portions of the Plat.

Pursuant to Section 373.056 of the Florida Statutes, the Governing Board of the District, under terms and conditions determined by the Board, is authorized to release its rights in the lands owned by the District to benefit the County as the rights are not required for the District's purposes.

Additional Item Background:

The resolution to vacate the plat essentially returned the land to acreage and had the effect of vacating all streets and alleys which have not become highways necessary for use by the travelling public. It also removed any dedicated easements for utilities or drainage which were not developed. The County must obtain the approval of owners of other parcels in the subdivision, which is what the release will accomplish. The District's release has no adverse impact on its ownership of the District-owned parcels, including the District's access to and management of the parcels.

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The County's conservation project will maintain hundreds of acres of scrub and sandhill around Lake Marion, aid improvement of water quality of the region, and assist in management of existing District and County lands in the area.

Funding Source:

There is no purchase price or any closing costs to fund. The County will incur all costs associated with the release.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Ray Palmer, rpalmer@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2246

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution No. 2025-0201

Exhibit A Map

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025-02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize release of certain interests in a vacated plat located in Lake Marion Creek Project area in Polk County; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the District is the owner of certain parcels of property located in the Lake Marion Creek Project area within the Poinciana Neighborhood 1 West Village 7 Plat in Polk County, Florida (the “Plat”); and

WHEREAS, Polk County (the “County”) passed Resolution No. 2024-107 vacating portions of the Plat (the “Vacated Property”) and has requested that the District release rights or interests it may have in portions of the Vacated Property; and

WHEREAS, the District is empowered to grant such release pursuant to Section 373.056, Florida Statutes, under terms and conditions determined by the Governing Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

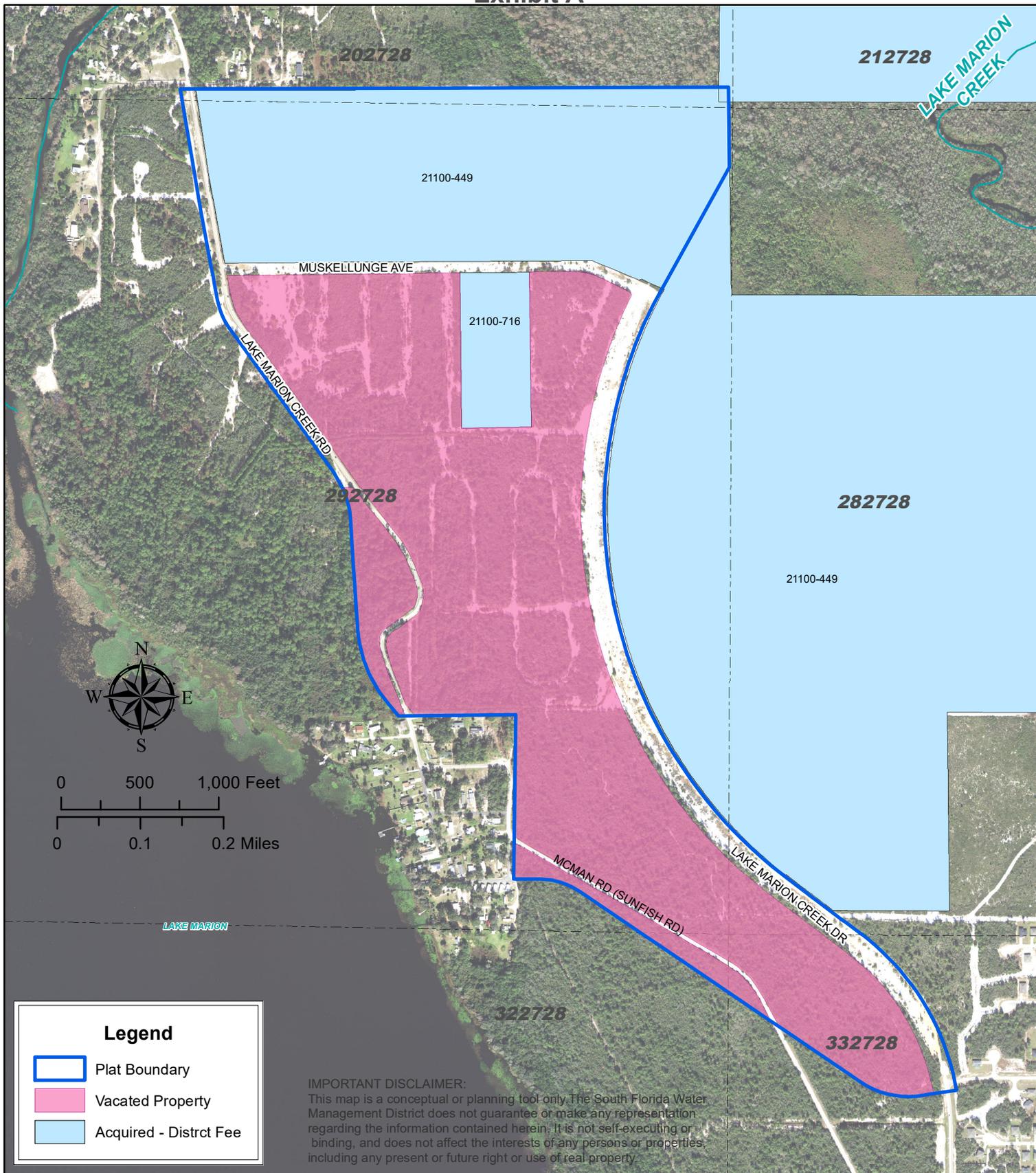
Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby approves the release of the District’s rights in portions of the Vacated Property, as depicted in Exhibit “A” attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Section 2. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the Chairman to execute the release document. No release document shall be effective until such release has been recorded in the Public Records of Polk County.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

Exhibit A



IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:
 This map is a conceptual or planning tool only. The South Florida Water Management District does not guarantee or make any representation regarding the information contained herein. It is not self-executing or binding, and does not affect the interests of any persons or properties, including any present or future right or use of real property.



Lake Marion Creek Release of Interests - Vacated Plat Polk County, Florida



MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members
FROM: Ray Palmer, Real Estate
DATE: February 13, 2025
SUBJECT: Release of Reservations

Agenda Item Background:

The District has certain reserved rights to construct canal and road rights of way. Applications requesting release of these reservations are received as they constitute a defect on title which must be resolved prior to a property sale, especially when financing is involved. Applications are reviewed to determine if there is a present or future need for the reservations. Applications are also routed to local governments and water control districts to ascertain their potential need for the reservations. If it has been determined there is no present or future need, the reservations may be released for a reasonable and appropriate payment based on the value of the land and may require such other terms and conditions determined by the Board.

Staff evaluated the property's size and location for future flood control and reclamation purposes related to water storage and conveyance. It has been determined that there is no present or apparent future need for the reservations listed below, therefore staff asks the Board to consider approval of the following:

Broward County

- Release District canal and road reservations for City of Coconut Creek, a municipal subdivision of the State of Florida (File No. 18952) for 4.77+/- acres; release value exempt (government-owned).

Additional Item Background:

See Memorandum Exhibit "A" and maps attached hereto and made a part hereof, which contain the details and location of the release to be issued.

Pursuant to Section 373.096 of the Florida Statutes, the Governing Board of the District may issue a release for any reservation for which it has no present or apparent use under terms and conditions determined by the Board.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Ray Palmer, rpalmer@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2246

ATTACHMENTS:

[Memorandum Exhibit A](#)

[Resolution No. 2025-0202 with Exhibit A](#)

Maps

MEMORANDUM – EXHIBIT “A”

Broward County

File No: 18952
Applicant: City of Coconut Creek, a municipal subdivision of the State of Florida
Reserving Deed: E-367 (DB 439-522, 2/21/1944)
Application Fee: \$250.00
Release Value: N/A (government)
Action: Release District canal and road reservations
Acres: 4.77 acres, more or less
Legal Description: Portion of Tract 19, Block 89, PALM BEACH FARMS COMPANY PLAT NO. 3, PB 2-45 (PB), Section 18, Township 48 South, Range 42 East

Location: Vacant land on the South side of Wiles Road, a quarter mile East of State Road 7 (U.S. Hwy 441), Coconut Creek, Broward County

Reviewed By: Real Estate Bureau; Field Operations Division; Water Supply Development Section; Right of Way Section; Environmental Resource Permitting Bureau; Ecosystem and Capital Projects Division; Engineering, Construction and Modeling Division; Office of Resiliency; Broward County Road Division, and Cocomar Water Control District

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025-02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize release of certain canal and road reservations; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the applicant has requested that the South Florida Water Management District release certain District canal and road reservations; and

WHEREAS, the District is empowered to grant such release pursuant to Section 373.096, Florida Statutes, under terms and conditions determined by the Governing Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby approves the release of certain canal and road reservations for the property described in Resolution Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Section 2. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the Chairman to execute the release document.

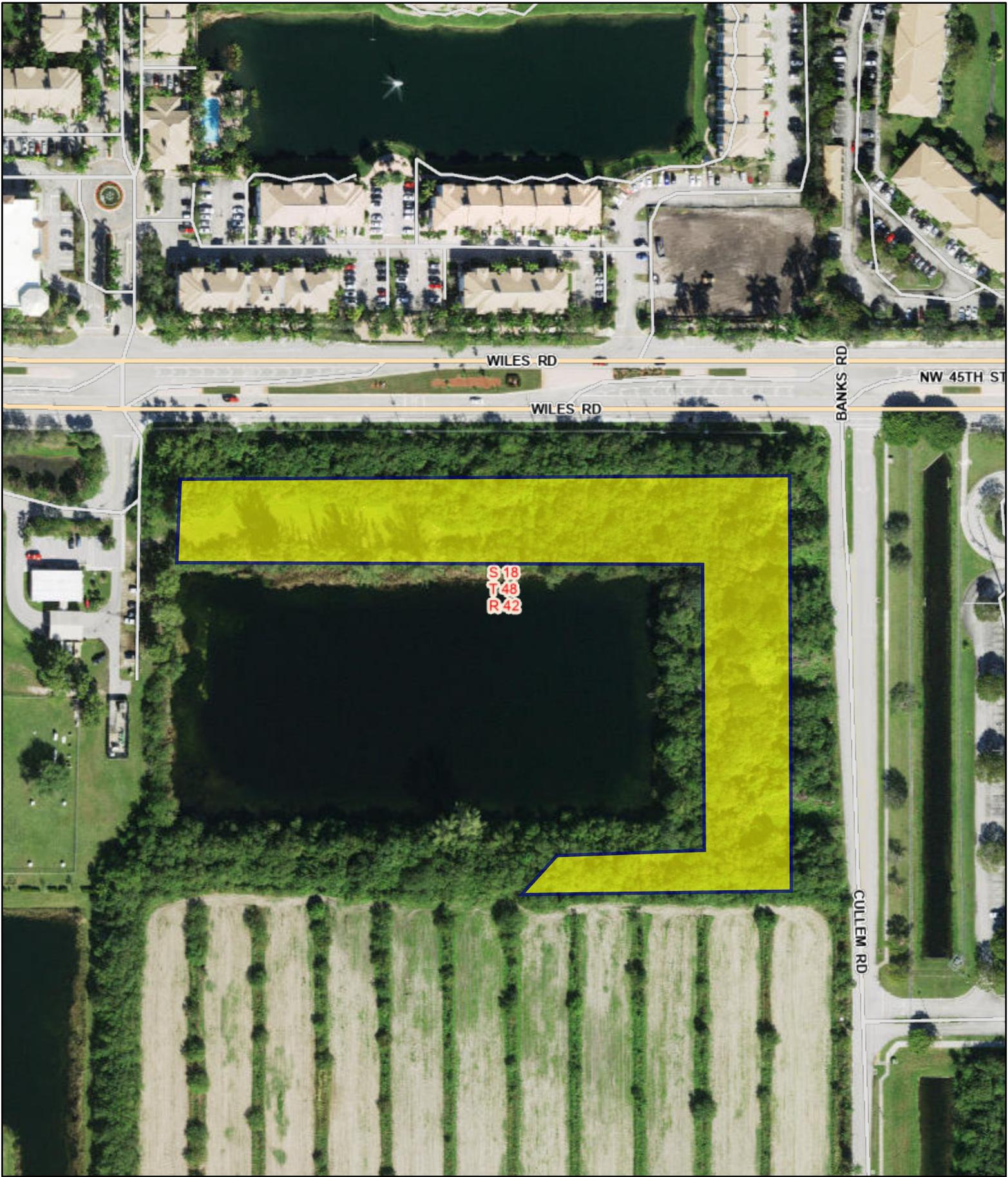
Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this 13th day of February, 2025.

RESOLUTION – EXHIBIT “A”

Broward County

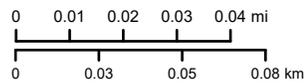
File No: 18952
Applicant: City of Coconut Creek, a municipal subdivision of the State of Florida
Reserving Deed: E-367 (DB 439-522, 2/21/1944)
Release Value: N/A (government)
Action: Release District canal and road reservations
Acres: 4.77 acres, more or less
Legal Description: Portion of Tract 19, Block 89, PALM BEACH FARMS COMPANY PLAT NO. 3, PB 2-45 (PB), Section 18, Township 48 South, Range 42 East
Location: Vacant land on the South side of Wiles Road, a quarter mile East of State Road 7 (U.S. Hwy 441), Coconut Creek, Broward County



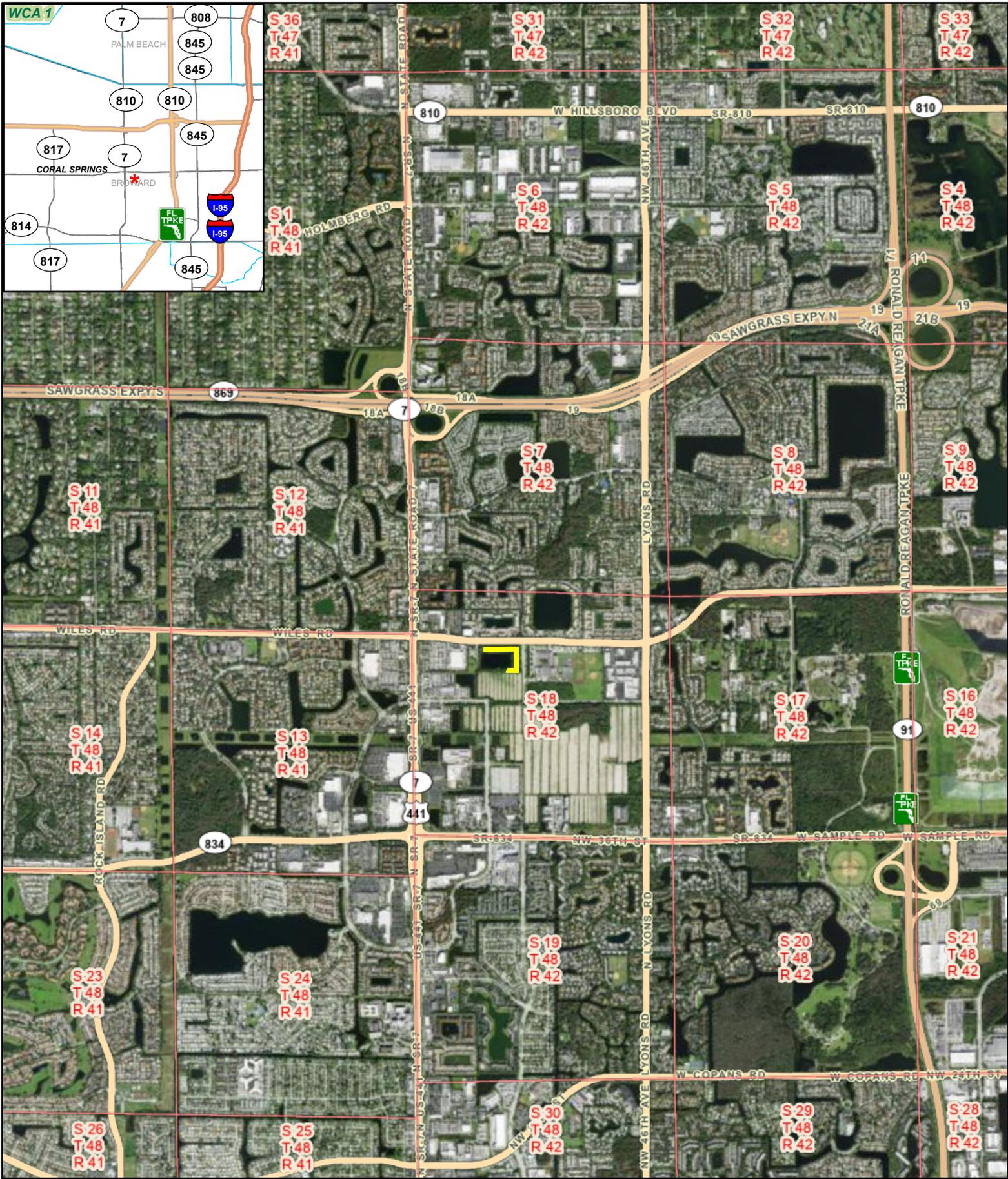
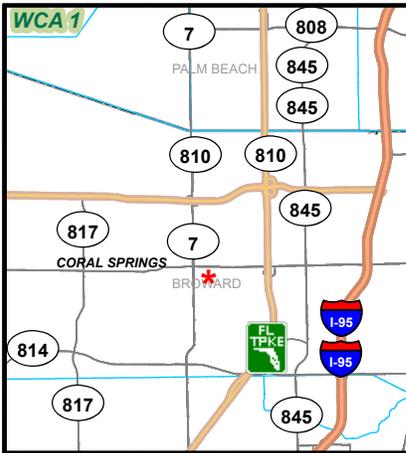
18952 - 4.77 acres



South Florida Water Management District
 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
 561-686-8800; www.sfwmd.gov



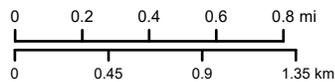
DISCLAIMER:
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18952 - 4.77 acres



South Florida Water Management District
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Ray Palmer, Real Estate

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Exchange with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), S-356E Pump Station, Central Everglades Planning Project - South Phase (CEPP South), Miami-Dade County

Agenda Item Background:

The District, together with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is commencing the process for the construction of the S-356E Pump Station of the Central Everglades Planning Project - South Phase (CEPP South). The majority of the S-356E will be constructed within the District's existing L-29 (Tamiami Canal) right of way; however, some of the structure features will be located within FDOT's Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) right of way. The USACE is requiring a permanent easement over these areas from FDOT. The District owns a portion of the Tamiami Trail right of way and will convey its fee simple interest in exchange for a fee simple interest, a perpetual easement, and a temporary work area easement from FDOT, which includes a General Use Permit over portions of the Tamiami Trail right of way needed during the construction.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The purpose of the CEPP South Project is to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water flows to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay from Water Conservation Areas 3A and 3B. CEPP South supports the District's core mission of ecosystem restoration and water quality improvement.

Funding Source:

As this is an even exchange between two governmental entities, there is no purchase price to fund. The only closing costs the District will incur will be for recording the required documents.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Ray Palmer, rpalmer@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2246

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0203](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

[Exhibit B Map](#)

[Exhibit C Map](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing surplus and conveyance to Florida Department of Transportation fee simple interests containing 1.29 acres, more or less, in exchange for fee simple interests and easements within the Central Everglades Planning Project, South Phase, located in Miami-Dade County; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the Central Everglades Planning Project, South Phase (Project) was authorized by Congress in Section 1401(4) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2016, Public Law 114-322, and is a Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Project (CERP); and

WHEREAS, the S-356E Pump Station is a Project feature located within the L-29 right of way in Miami-Dade County, and construction of the S-356E, together with other Project features, will improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water flows to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay from Water Conservation Areas 3A and 3B; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to exchange land and easements with any governmental entity under terms and conditions approved by the governing board, pursuant to Section 373.056, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the District will convey fee simple interests containing 1.29 acres, more or less, to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and FDOT will convey fee simple interests containing 0.16 acre, more or less, to the District, as shown on Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the FDOT will convey a Perpetual Easement containing 0.49 acre, more or less, and a Temporary Work Area Easement containing 1.60 acres, more or less, within the Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) right of way to the District, all as shown on Exhibits "B" and "C"; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has determined that it is in the public interest to declare the District fee simple interest surplus; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 373.089(6), Florida Statutes, the Governing Board shall be required, by at least a two-thirds majority, to make a determination that conveying the District's fee simple interest is consistent with conservation purposes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby approves declaring surplus for conveyance to Florida Department of Transportation fee simple interests containing **1.29** acres, more or less, as identified in the attached Exhibit "A", in exchange for the Florida Department of Transportation conveying a fee simple interest containing 0.16 acre, more or less, as identified in the attached Exhibit "A" and granting a Permanent Easement for a

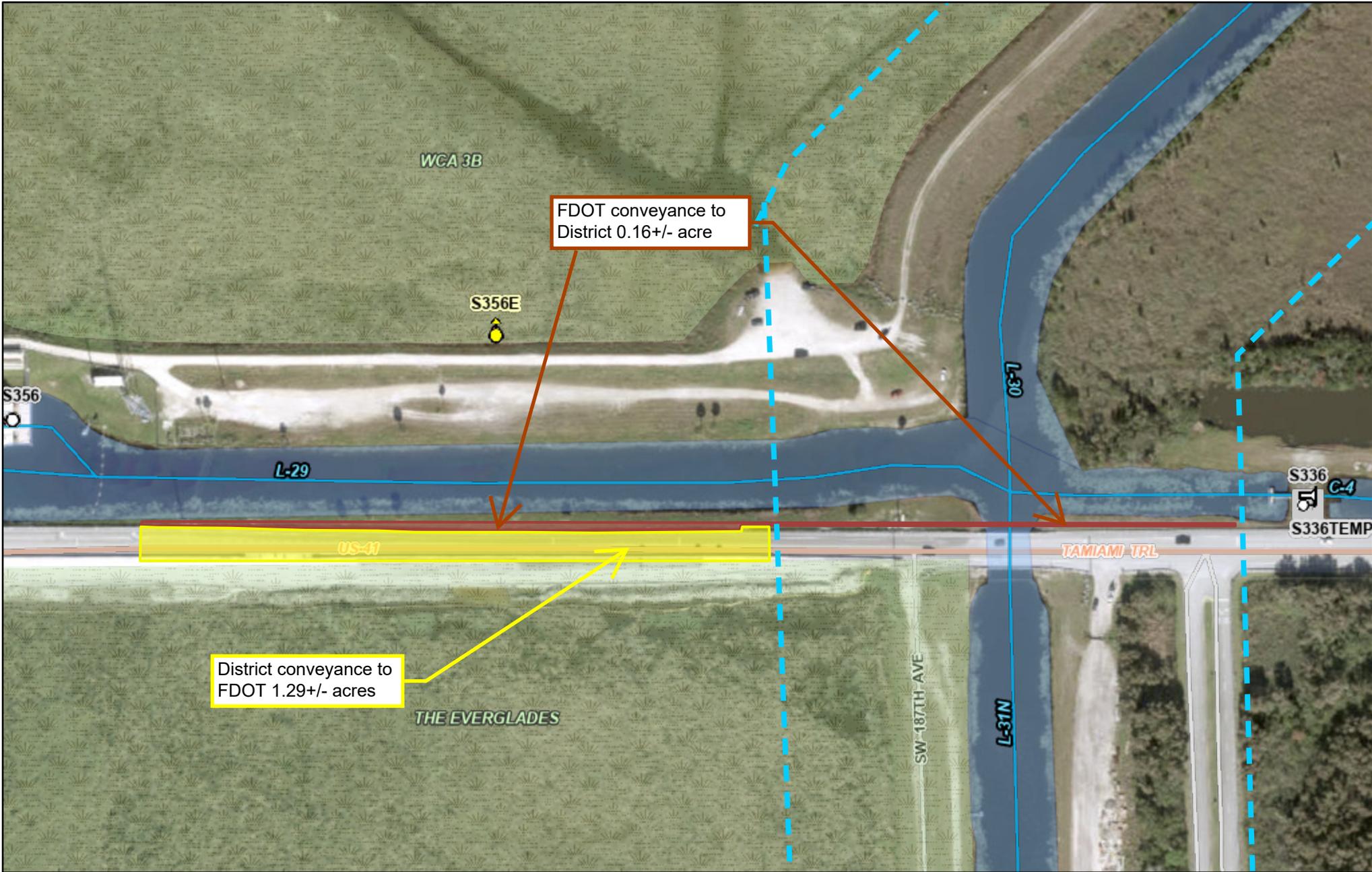
portion the S-356E Pump Station over 0.49 acre, more or less, as identified in the attached Exhibit "**B**" and a Temporary Work Area Easement over 1.60 acres, as identified in the attached Exhibit "**C**", all within the Central Everglades Planning Project, South Phase.

Section 2. Consistent with the requirements of Section 373.089(6), Florida Statutes, the conveyance of the District's fee simple interest supports and is needed for the implementation of the Central Everglades Planning Project, South Phase, and the Governing Board hereby determines that granting the fee simple interest is consistent with conservation purposes, and this Resolution was approved by the Governing Board by at least a two-thirds vote.

Section 3. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Chairman or Vice Chairman to execute any instrument(s) of conveyance required to consummate the transaction contemplated therein. The Governing Board hereby authorizes the Executive Director or the Executive Director's designee to make any determination in connection with the transaction and execute all other documents necessary to consummate this transaction.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

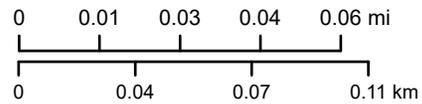


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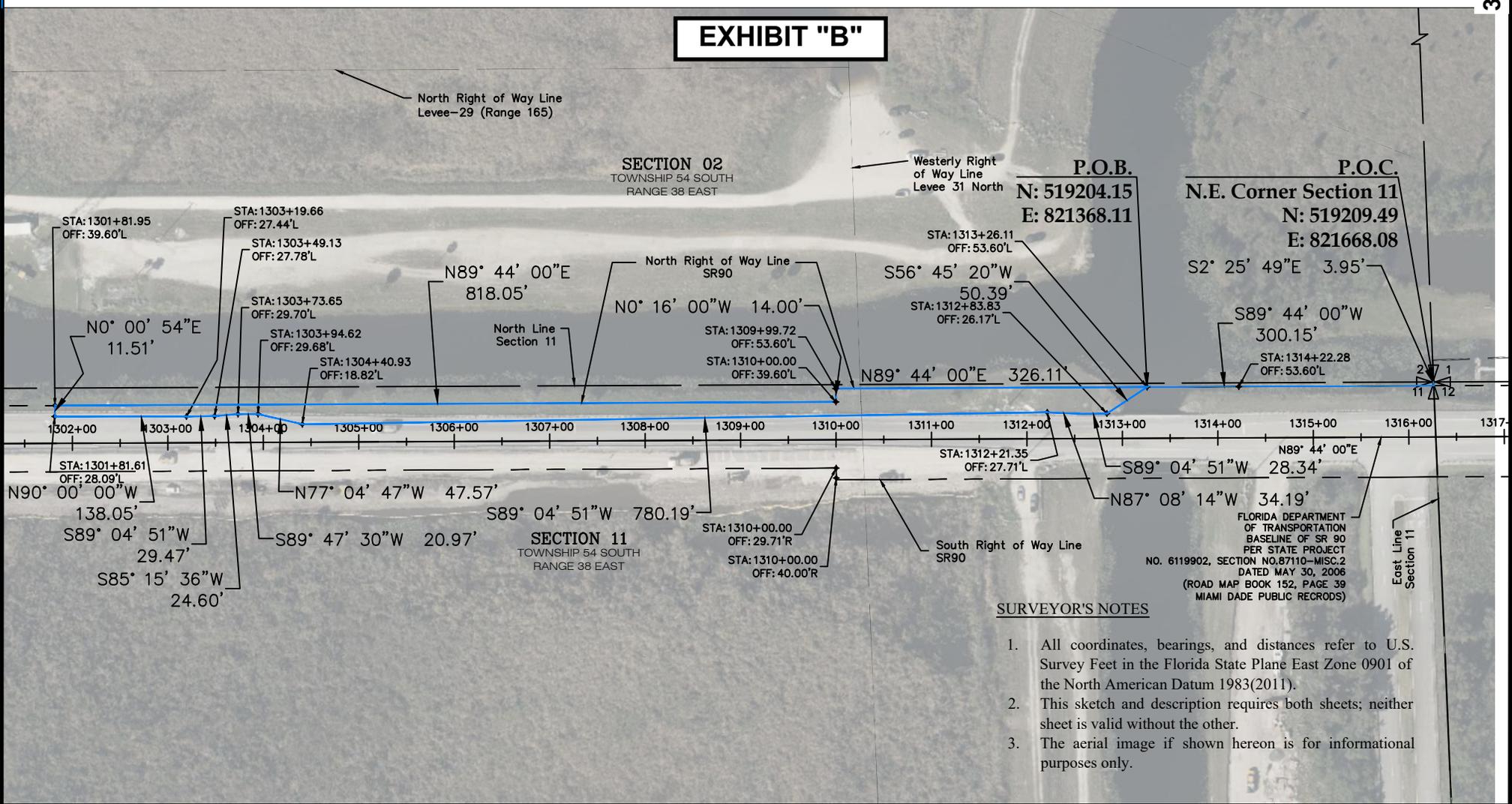


Exhibit "A"



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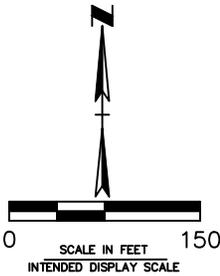
EXHIBIT "B"



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 BASELINE OF SR 90
 PER STATE PROJECT
 NO. 6119902, SECTION NO.8710-MISC.2
 DATED MAY 30, 2006
 (ROAD MAP BOOK 152, PAGE 39
 MIAMI DADE PUBLIC RECORDS)

SURVEYOR'S NOTES

1. All coordinates, bearings, and distances refer to U.S. Survey Feet in the Florida State Plane East Zone 0901 of the North American Datum 1983(2011).
2. This sketch and description requires both sheets; neither sheet is valid without the other.
3. The aerial image if shown hereon is for informational purposes only.



LEGEND

- O.R.B. = OFFICIAL RECORDS BOOK
- PG. = PAGE
- TWP. = TOWNSHIP
- RNG. = RANGE STA. = STATION
- AC. = ACRES OFF: = OFFSET
- POB = POINT OF BEGINNING
- POC = POINT OF COMMENCEMENT
- R/W = RIGHT OF WAY
- ⊕ = SECTION CORNER
- #-#S-#E = SECTION-TOWNSHIP-RANGE
- S.F.W.M.D. = SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
THIS IS NOT A BOUNDARY SURVEY

**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
 ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
 SURVEY & MAPPING SECTION
 P.O. BOX 24680, 3301 GUN CLUB ROAD
 WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33416-4680**

**PERMANENT EASEMENT
 SECTION 11 TOWNSHIP 54 SOUTH RANGE 38 EAST**

DRAWN BSM	CHECKED	DATE 02/03/25	SCALE AS SHOWN	DRAWING NUMBER S356.dwg	SHEET 2 OF 2
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EXHIBIT "C"

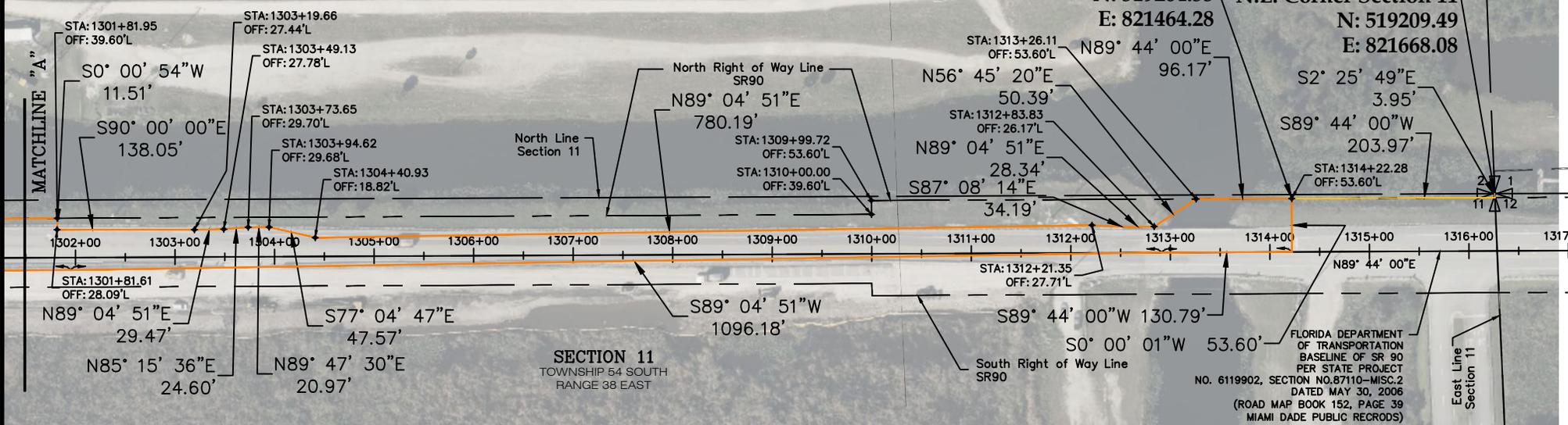
SECTION 02
TOWNSHIP 54 SOUTH
RANGE 38 EAST

Westerly Right of Way Line
Levee 31 North

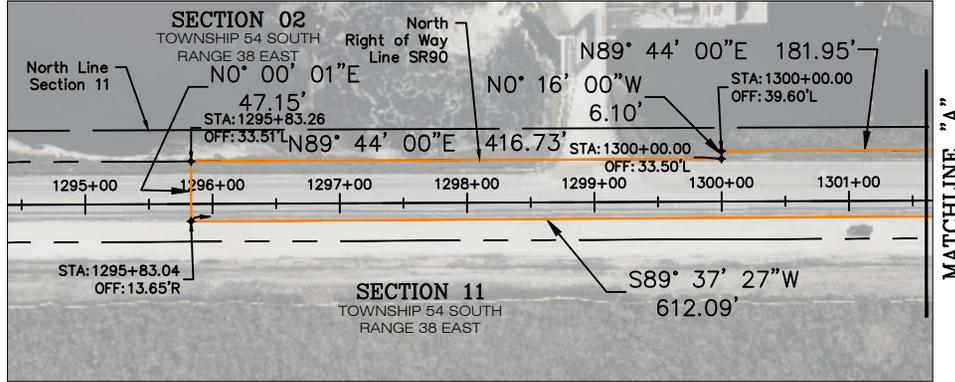
P.O.B.
N: 519204.53
E: 821464.28

P.O.C.
N.E. Corner Section 11
N: 519209.49
E: 821668.08

31



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BASELINE OF SR 90
PER STATE PROJECT
NO. 6119902, SECTION NO.87110-MISC.2
DATED MAY 30, 2006
(ROAD MAP BOOK 152, PAGE 39
MIAMI DADE PUBLIC RECORDS)



SURVEYOR'S NOTES

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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
THIS IS NOT A BOUNDARY SURVEY

**SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION BUREAU
SURVEY & MAPPING SECTION
P.O. BOX 24680, 3301 GUN CLUB ROAD
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33416-4680**

**TEMPORARY EASEMENT
SECTION 11 TOWNSHIP 54 SOUTH RANGE 38 EAST**

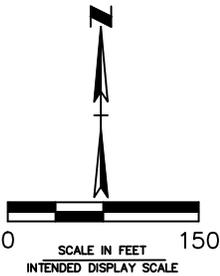
DRAWN BSM	CHECKED	DATE 02/03/25	SCALE AS SHOWN	DRAWING NUMBER S356.dwg	SHEET 2 OF 2
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LEGEND

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⊕ = SECTION CORNER

#-#S-#E = SECTION-TOWNSHIP-RANGE
S.F.W.M.D. = SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Rich Virgil, P.E., Field Operations Division

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Request for Right of Way Occupancy Permit

Agenda Item Background:

Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department (Applicant) requests a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 16727-R (ROW Permit) to construct a linear park within the south right of way of the C-103 Canal from S.W. 127th Avenue to S.W. 117th Avenue. The proposed linear park will include a 1-mile, 12-foot-wide multi-use path for bicycles and pedestrians, vehicle access barriers (i.e., removable bollards), District gates, and existing vegetation.

The Application has been reviewed by District Field Operations and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has granted Section 408 authorization. The permittee will be required to maintain the improvements and the entire right of way as a condition of the ROW Permit, which will relieve the District of mowing and maintenance responsibilities for this segment of the C-103 Canal right of way. District vehicles will be able to drive on and over the proposed multi-use path. If approved, the linear park and its related improvements will not interfere with or adversely impact the District's routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Rich Virgil, P.E., rvirgil@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6759

ATTACHMENTS:

[Presentation Backup](#)

RIGHT OF WAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT (ROW PERMIT) REQUEST

Applicant	Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department
Application Number	220616-34820
Canal	C-103
Location	South Right of Way Between S.W. 127th Avenue and S.W. 117th Avenue
Proposed Improvements to be Authorized by Issuance of a Standard Permit	Linear park with a 1-mile, 12-foot-wide multi-use path, vehicle access barriers (i.e., removable bollards), District gates, and existing vegetation.
ROW Permit Number (proposed)	16727-R

SUMMARY

Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department (Applicant) requests a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 16727-R (ROW Permit) to construct a linear park within the south right of way of the C-103 Canal from S.W. 127th Avenue to S.W. 117th Avenue. The proposed linear park will include a 1-mile, 12-foot-wide multi-use path for bicycles and pedestrians, vehicle access barriers (i.e., removable bollards), District gates, and existing vegetation.

Linear parks can only be authorized by issuance of a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit, which is a permit type that must be approved by the District’s Governing Board. The proposed linear park complies with all District requirements and no waivers of any rules are necessary.

The Application has been reviewed by District Field Operations and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has granted Section 408 authorization. The permittee will be required to maintain the improvements and the entire right of way as a condition of the ROW Permit, which will relieve the District of mowing and maintenance responsibilities for this segment of the C-103 Canal right of way. District vehicles will be able to drive on and over the proposed multi-use path. If approved, the linear park and its related improvements will not interfere with or adversely impact the District’s routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends **approval** of issuance of Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit 16727-R (Application No. 220616-34820).

(Fee)

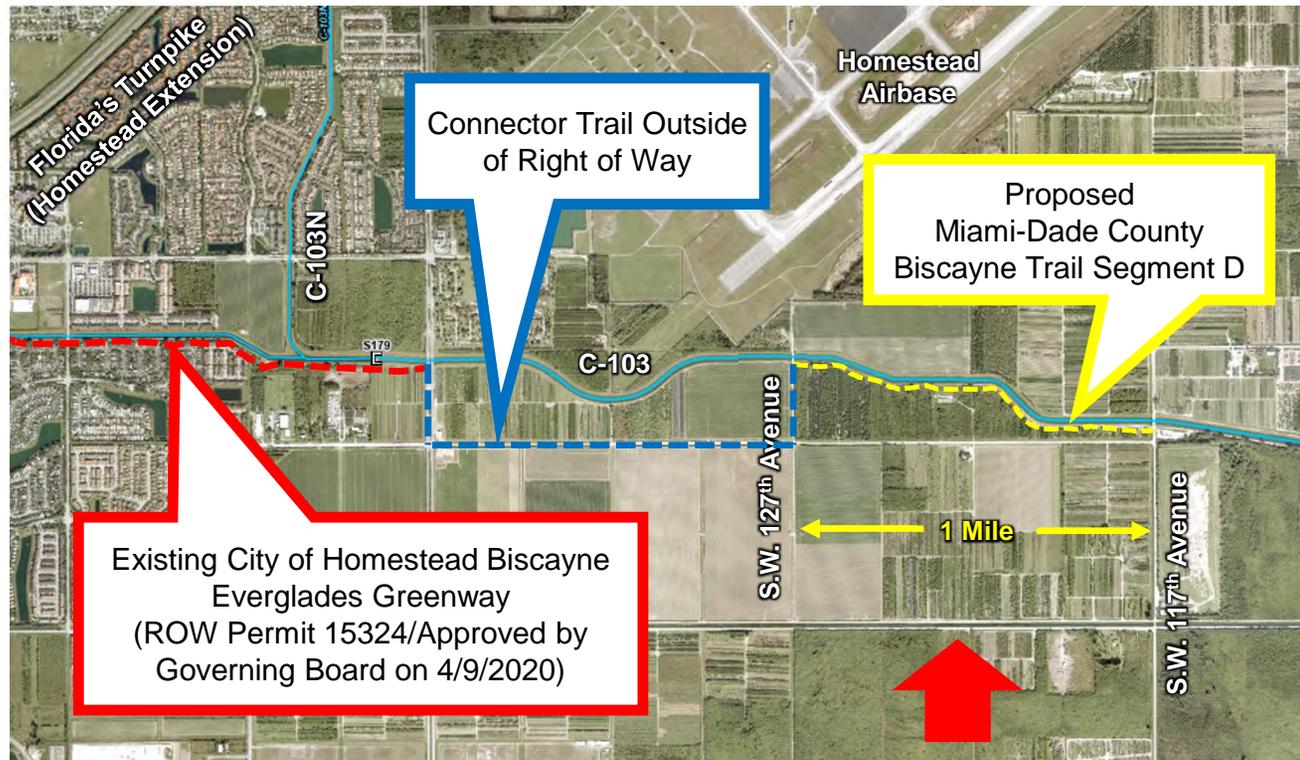
Biscayne Trail Segment D
Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department, Applicant
C-103 Canal – Miami-Dade County

Right of Way Occupancy Permit No. 16727-R

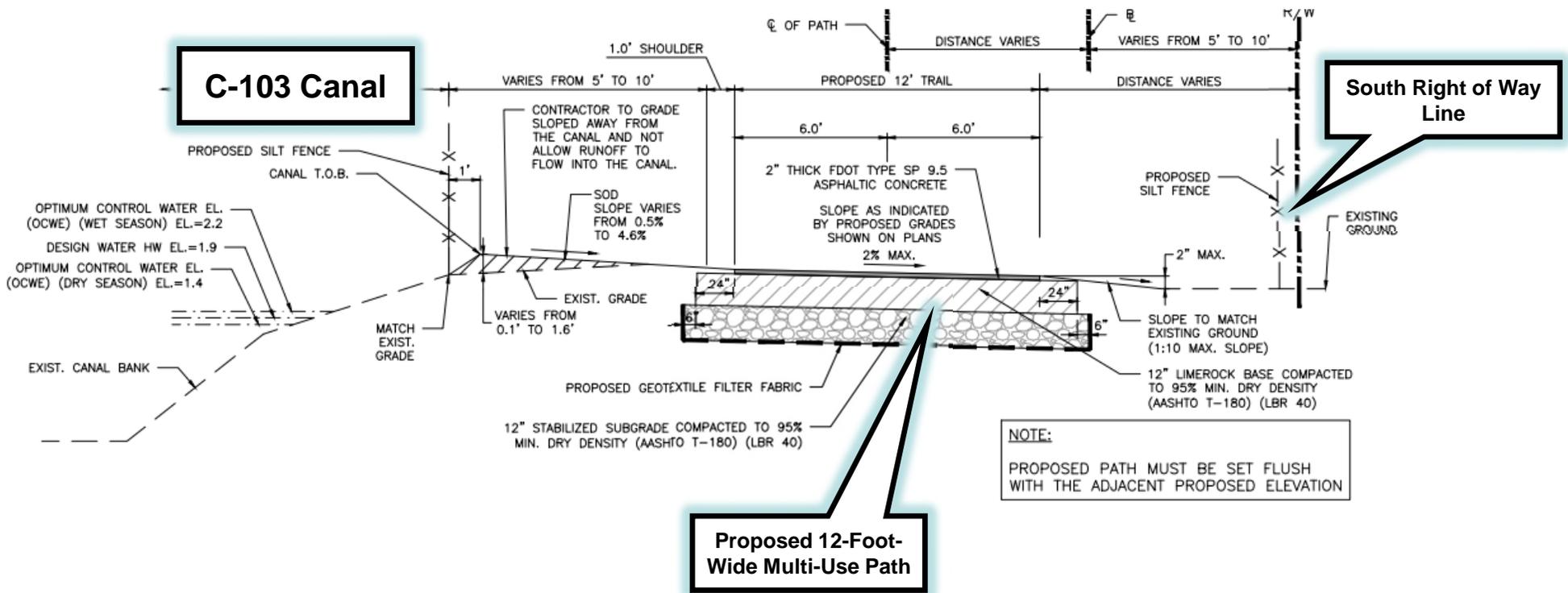
John R. Hixenbaugh, J.D, AICP
Right of Way Section Administrator
South Florida Water Management District
Governing Board Meeting
February 13, 2025

Application Information and Location Map

- **Applicant:** Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces Department
- **Permit Number:** 16727-R
- **Application Number:** 220616-34820
- **Canal:** C-103
- **Location:** South Side of the C-103 Canal Right of Way from S.W. 127th Avenue to S.W. 117th Avenue, Miami-Dade County
- **Request:** Approval of Biscayne Trail Segment D – A linear park with a 1-mile, 12-foot-wide asphalt multi-use pathway with vehicle access barriers (i.e., removable bollards), District gates, and existing vegetation.



Typical Path Section (Looking East)



District Gate Detail



Access at each end of the trail will be secured by removable bollards and a District gate.

Left: District gate and trail configuration installed at the entry to the existing Biscayne Everglades Greenway located within the C-103 right of way.

Project Details

- The linear park will include:
 - A 1-mile, 12-foot-wide asphalt multi-use pathway;
 - Vehicle access barriers (i.e., removable bollards) and District gates; and
 - Existing native vegetation (no new landscaping is proposed).
- No waiver of District criteria is required.
- The permittee will be required to maintain the improvements and the entire right of way as a condition of the ROW Permit, which will relieve the District of mowing and maintenance responsibilities for this segment of the C-103 Canal right of way.
- If approved, the linear park and its related improvements will not interfere with or adversely impact the District's routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities.

Discussion

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Rich Virgil, P.E., Field Operations Division

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Side Slope Hand Mowing and Trimming Services Contract for Big Cypress Basin Field Station Area of Responsibility, Collier County

Agenda Item Background:

Maintenance of District lands is required to ensure that vegetation is controlled at the appropriate height to provide for optimal performance and operational efficiency of the District's flood control system. This project for the Big Cypress Basin Field Station area of responsibility provides for side slope hand mowing and trimming services of approximately 356 acres annually of various District lands and canal and levee rights of way in Collier County.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

Mowing the District's rights of way reduces and controls vegetative growth along canal banks, which can impede operations, inspections and access to the District's water control facilities.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Rich Virgil, P.E., rvirgil@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6759

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0204](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a 3-year contract with two 1-year renewal options with Charles Wesley O’Ferrell DBA Southern Svcs, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for side slope hand mowing and trimming services of various District lands and rights of way in the Big Cypress Basin Field Station’s area of responsibility, Collier County, in an amount not-to-exceed \$548,240, of which \$109,648 of Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds is budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years budgets; providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005142)

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate and in the public interest to authorize entering into a 3-year contract with two 1-year renewal options with Charles Wesley O’Ferrell DBA Southern Svcs for side slope hand mowing and trimming services of various District lands and canal and levee rights of way in the Big Cypress Basin Field Station area of responsibility, Collier County, in an amount not-to-exceed \$548,240, of which \$109,648 is in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds is budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years budgets.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes entering into a 3-year contract with two 1-year renewal options with Charles Wesley O’Ferrell DBA Southern Svcs for side slope hand mowing and trimming services of various District lands and canal and levee rights of way in the Big Cypress Basin Field Station area of responsibility, Collier County, in an amount not-to-exceed \$548,240.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.



**Slope Mowing Services
Big Cypress Basin Field Station**

**Richard Virgil
Division Director - Field Operations
Governing Board Meeting
February 13th, 2025**

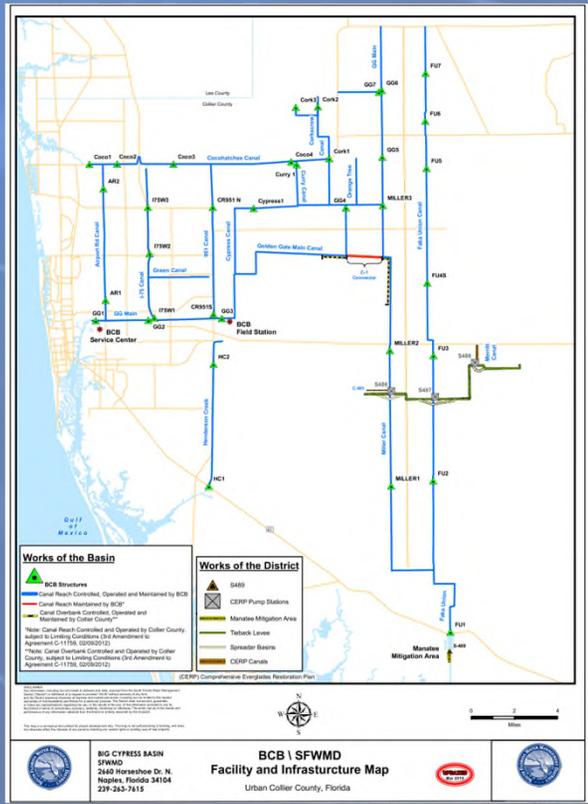
Introduction



Big Cypress Basin Field Station mowing work area includes approximately:

- 26 miles of and levee rights-of-way
- 89 acres of mowing per cycle, including hand trimming side-slopes from water line to top of bank, mowing of grassed levees and berms, and maintaining vegetation surrounding 22 access gates

BIG CYPRESS BASIN FIELD STATION AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY



Big Cypress Basin
Field Station
Area of Responsibility
Collier County, Florida

Slope Mowing of the System



RFB Number: 6000001583



- Request for Bids (RFB): 6000001583
- RFB Advertised: October 11, 2024
- Bid Opening: November 12, 2024
- Number of Bids Received: 3
- Bid Range: \$99,680 to \$174,240.64

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members
FROM: Rich Virgil, P.E., Field Operations Division
DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Designation of the Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area in St. Lucie County as a Stormwater Treatment Area as Defined in Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code, and as an Impoundment Area as Defined in Rule 40E-7.521(13), Florida Administrative Code

Agenda Item Background:

The Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area, which includes a 143-acre stormwater treatment area and a 725-acre impoundment, is located in St. Lucie County (Property). The District proposes to designate the Property as a Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) in accordance with Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and as an Impoundment Area (Reservoir) in accordance with Rule 40E-7.521(13), F.A.C.

Designating the Property as a STA and an Impoundment Area will provide a regulatory framework for managing nature-based recreational use on the Property consistent with the purpose that the Property was acquired, and consistent with the operation of the STA and Reservoir. A STA and Impoundment Area designation will allow the District to apply the rules codified in Chapter 40E-7, F.A.C., to manage public recreation within the Property. These rules include establishing public access points and providing for a variety of recreational activities including but not limited to hiking, biking, fishing, and wildlife viewing opportunities that are compatible with operating the STA and Reservoir. Recreational groups and public use stakeholders have indicated a public interest in opening the Property for recreation.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

This Governing Board item supports the District's core mission and strategic goals by allowing for public recreation consistent with Section 373.1391, F.S. The Land Resources Bureau within the Field Operations Division is responsible for implementing this item and administering public recreation on District lands.

Funding Source:

This item does not require the expenditure of District funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Rich Virgil, P.E., rvirgil@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6759

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0205](#)

Exhibit A Map

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- _____

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to designate the Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area, located in St. Lucie County, as a Stormwater Treatment Area as defined in Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code, and as an Impoundment Area as defined in Rule 40E-7.521(13), Florida Administrative Code, for the purpose of managing public access and recreational use; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the District owns Tracts GI100-012 and GI100-017, located in St. Lucie County consisting of approximately 868 acres known as the Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area and identified in Exhibit A which is attached and incorporated into this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board desires to designate Tract GI100-012 as a 143-acre Stormwater Treatment Area as defined in Rule 40E-7.521(27), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), to manage public recreation on the property in accordance with the District's Public Use Rules set forth in Chapter 40E-7, F.A.C., including Rule 40E-7.5383, F.A.C.; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board desires to designate Tract GI100-017 as a 725-acre Impoundment Area as defined in Rule 40E-7.521(13), F.A.C., to manage public recreation on the property in accordance with the District's Public Use Rules set forth in Chapter 40E-7, F.A.C., including Rule 40E-7.5384, F.A.C.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby designates Tract GI100-012 as a Stormwater Treatment Area, as defined in Rules 40E-7.521(27) and 40E-7.5383, F.A.C., for the purpose of managing public access and recreational use.

Section 2. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby designates Tract GI100-017 as an Impoundment Area as defined in Rules 40E-7.521(13) and 40E-7.5384, F.A.C., for the purpose of managing public access and recreational use.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this 13th day of February, 2025.

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT, BY ITS GOVERNING BOARD

By: _____
Chairman

ATTEST:

Legal for approved:

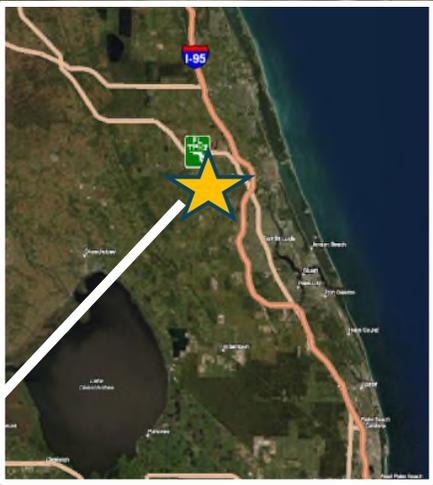
By: _____
District Clerk/Secretary

By: _____
Office of Counsel

Print Name:

Exhibit "A"

SR 70



Impoundment
(Reservoir)
725-acres

Tract:
G1100-012

STA
143-acres

Tract:
G1100-017

Ten Mile Creek
Water Preserve Area



MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Akintunde Owosina, P.E., Information Technology

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Data Management Consultant

Agenda Item Background:

Information Technology (IT) is developing a workflow and reporting system to support the District's vegetation management program using the Pega Business Process Management platform. This will replace the Oracle-based vegetation management data tracking system (WEEDDAR). To assist the Project Team with system testing, IT procured a data management and application testing consultant in January 2023. This consultant works with the Pega Development and Vegetation Management teams to test code changes and functionality of the system and create tickets for the software based on issues identified by users.

This request is to amend Purchase Order Number 4500139270 with Vitaver and Associates, Inc., extending the services for a Data Management Consultant through September 30, 2025, and increasing the amount by \$65,695 for a revised total of \$315,694, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services Contract Number 80101507-23-STC-ITSA.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Akintunde Owosina, P.E., aowosin@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2924

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0206](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize an amendment to Purchase Order Number 4500139270 with Vitaver and Associates, Inc., extending the services for a Data Management Consultant through September 30, 2025, and increasing the amount by \$65,695 for a revised total of \$315,694, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services Contract Number 80101507-23-STC-ITSA, for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date. (Purchase Order No. 4500139270)

WHEREAS, the District obtained this purchase order using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services Contract Number 80101507-23-STC-ITSA; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to authorize an amendment to Purchase Order 4500139270 with Vitaver and Associates, Inc. by increasing the purchase order by \$65,695.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes an amendment to Purchase Order Number 4500139270 with Vitaver and Associates, Inc. extending the services for a Data Management Consultant through September 30, 2025 and increasing the amount by \$65,695 for a revised total of \$315,694, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Information Technology Staff Augmentation Services Contract Number 80101507-23-STC-ITSA. (Purchase Order No. 4500139270)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Akintunde Owosina, P.E., Information Technology

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Evergreen Hardware and Software Upgrade

Agenda Item Background:

The District uses the Emerson Ovation system for Supervised Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA). The Emerson Ovation system is the central control system used by water managers and other District staff to analyze water conditions, make mission critical decisions, and operate structures throughout the sixteen counties served by the District. This highly redundant hardware and software and hardware infrastructure was originally purchased in 2017. To ensure that the system remains current, supported, and secure, Information Technology is entering into an Emerson process called “Evergreen” to upgrade the underlying hardware and software. Many of the components operating the existing SCADA system are nearing end-of-life or end-of-support.

This request is to approve issuing multiple purchase orders to Flagler Technologies, LLC, a Dell Marketing L.P. Value-Added Reseller, to procure the hardware and software required for the Evergreen upgrade project in the amount of \$2,745,392, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District’s Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Akintunde Owosina, P.E., aowosin@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2924

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0207](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to approve issuing multiple purchase orders to Flagler Technologies, LLC, a Dell Marketing L.P. Value-Added Reseller, to procure hardware and software for the Evergreen upgrade project in the amount of \$2,745,392, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P., for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the District will obtain this hardware and software using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P.; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to authorize issuing multiple purchase orders to Flagler Technologies, LLC, a Dell Marketing L.P. Value-Added Reseller, to procure hardware and software for the Evergreen upgrade project in the amount of \$2,745,392, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes issuing multiple purchase orders to Flagler Technologies, LLC, to procure hardware and software for the Evergreen upgrade project in the amount of \$2,745,392, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43210000-23-NASPO-ACS with Dell Marketing L.P.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Akintunde Owosina, P.E., Information Technology

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Omada Identity Management System Subscription

Agenda Item Background:

Management of user accounts is an important information technology security function. The Information Technology Division uses the Omada Identity Management System, which is a cloud-based software that supports user account creation, maintenance, and deletion. The Omada software also provides user account automation and user account auditing. These accounts are used by many of the District's business applications including Microsoft and SAP.

This request is to authorize amending a contract with SHI International Corporation for the Omada Identity Management Systems Cloud-Based Software for an additional three years in the amount of \$480,477.87 for a revised contract total of \$1,156,299.24 using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS with SHI International Corporation.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Akintunde Owosina, P.E., aowosin@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2924

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0208](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize amending a contract with SHI International Corporation for the Omada Identity Management Systems Cloud-Based Software for an additional three years, increasing the amount by \$480,477.87 for a revised total of \$1,156,299.24, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS with SHI International Corporation, of which \$153,920.38 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets; providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600004372-A02)

WHEREAS, the District obtained this software using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to authorize amending a contract with SHI International Corporation for the Omada Identity Management Systems Cloud-Based Software for an additional three years increasing the amount by \$480,477.87 for a revised total of \$1,156,299.24 using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number, 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes amending a contract with SHI International Corporation for the Omada Identity Management Systems Cloud-Based Software for an additional three years, increasing the amount by \$480,477.87 for a revised total of \$1,156,299.24 using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of Florida Department of Management Services Contract Number 43230000-23-NASPO-ACS with SHI International Corporation. (Contract No. 4600004372-A02)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Lucine Dadrian, P.E., Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement, Collier County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Big Cypress Basin Bird Rookery Land Management Plan, the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) Bird Rookery Replacement Project, located in the Bird Rookery Swamp Management Area in Collier County, will fully replace the existing 1,400-foot boardwalk. The project scope includes replacement of the foundation, substructure, boardwalk, posts and railings. The boardwalk leads to a 12-mile tram road trail that is frequently used by the public for outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, running, biking, nature photography, geocaching, and birding. The replacement of the boardwalk will ensure the public can continue enjoying their outdoor recreational activities where the maple-cypress swamp is home to alligators, otters, Florida panthers, bobcats, white-tailed deer and more.

The District is using the Progressive Design/Build procurement method to work in collaboration with the Contractor from the design phase through construction phase. The design/build solicitation was advertised on October 11, 2024. The Committee reviewed the four firms that submitted their qualifications and selected a shortlist of Respondents. The Authorization to Proceed with the Evaluation of Shortlisted Respondents was posted on the District's Procurement Calendar on January 3, 2025, in compliance with Chapter 120 of the Florida Statutes. The Committee selected two firms to further evaluate their respective Project Approach Packages and conduct Interviews with the Shortlisted Respondents. Scores were entered on January 23, 2025.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The CREW Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement Project supports the District's missions of ecosystem restoration, land management and recreation.

Funding Source:

The CREW Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement Project will be funded through Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Lucine Dadrian, P.E., ldadrian@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2685

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0209](#)

Presentation Backup

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize the official ranking of short-listed firms and enter into a 427-day contract for Phase One (Design) and Phase Two (Construction) Services of the Design/Build contract for the CREW Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement Project, subject to successful negotiations with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000, for which \$2,000,000 in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. If negotiations are unsuccessful with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., the District will proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract has been successfully negotiated; providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005163)

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to enter into a 427-day contract with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., for the Phase One (Design) and Phase Two (Construction) Services of the Design/Build contract for the CREW Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement Project.

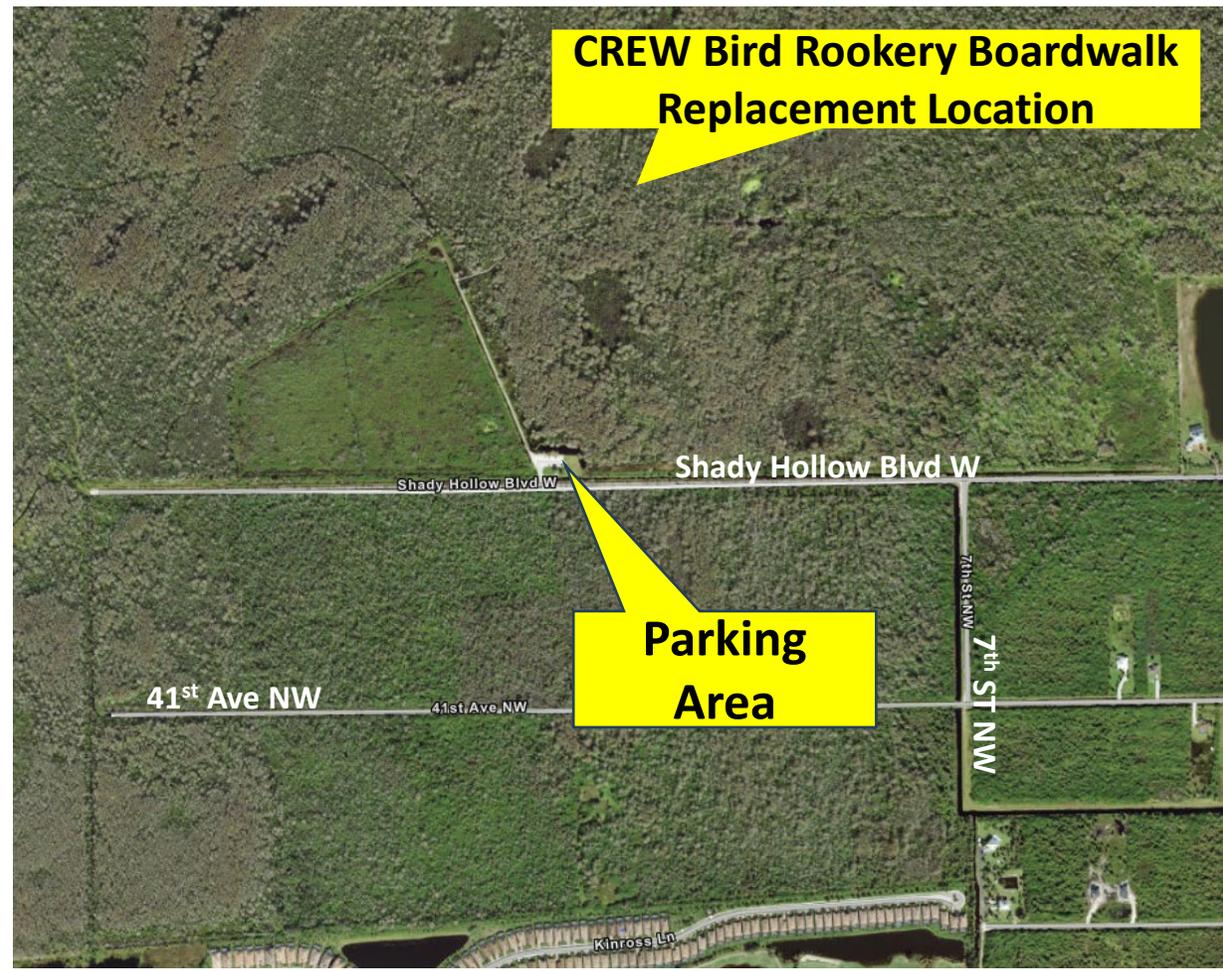
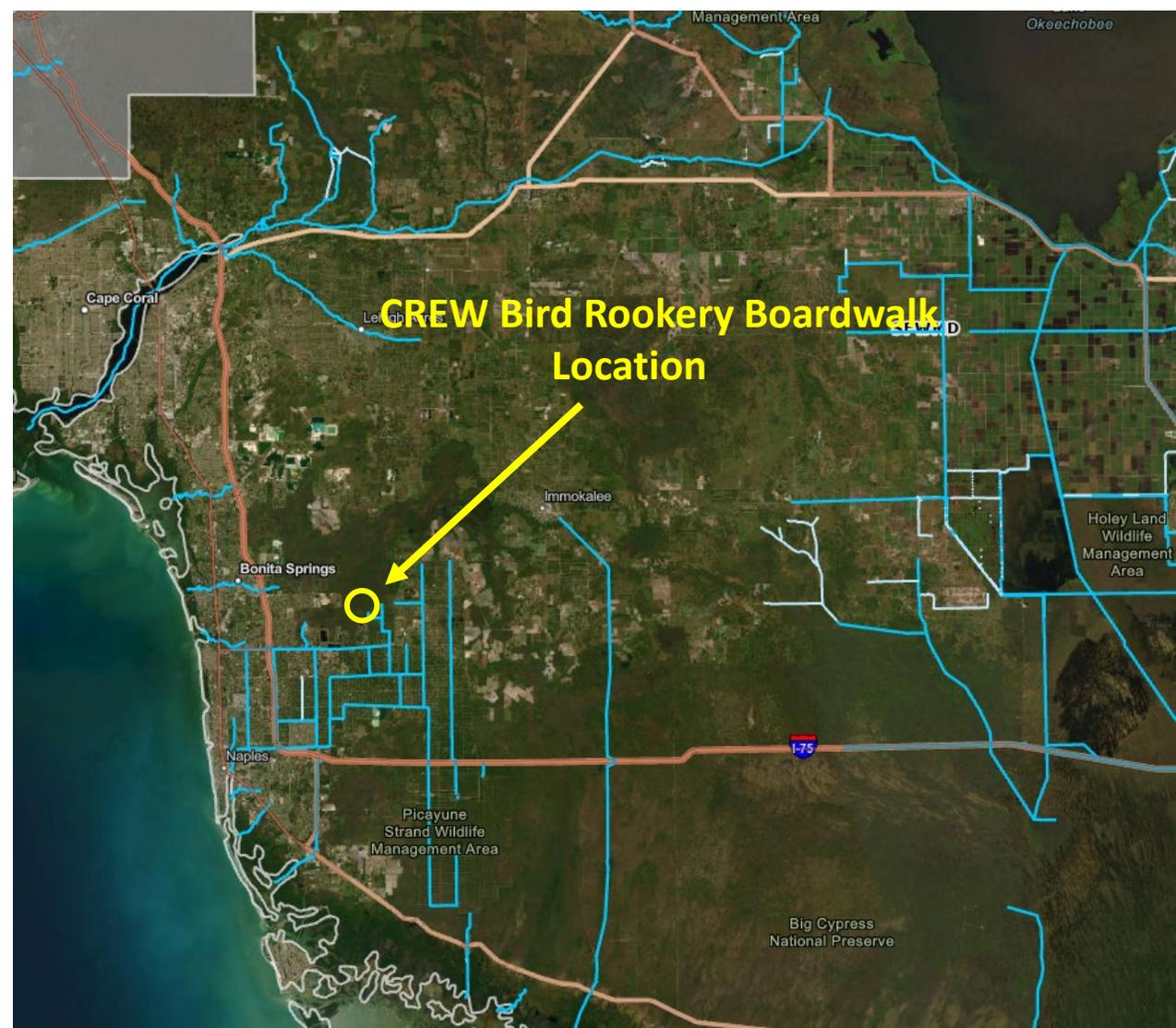
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby approves the official ranking of short-listed firms and entering into a 427-day contract for Phase One (Design) and Phase Two (Construction) Services of the Design/Build contract for the CREW Bird Rookery Boardwalk Replacement Project, subject to successful negotiations with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000, for which \$2,000,000 in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. If negotiations are unsuccessful with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., the District will proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract has been successfully negotiated. (Contract No. 4600005163)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

Location Map



Background

- The Bird Rookery Swamp Trail Management Area is a popular public recreation area with more than 30,000 visitors per year
- The Bird Rookery Swamp Trail consists of 12 miles of hiking and biking trails, including a 1,400 ft boardwalk with wheelchair access, built 20 years ago
- Boardwalk current conditions include:
 - Posts, railing, foundation and sub-structure show signs of deterioration
 - Wood decking replaced with composite materials over the years
 - Underlying wooden components need to be replaced
 - Temporary repairs performed in November 2024



Railing Deteriorating

Temporary Repairs



Replaced Decking



Scope

- This project involves completing the design phase (Phase 1), followed by the construction (Phase 2) to replace the existing boardwalk with a new structure that will ensure structural integrity, enhance public accessibility while maintaining the current footprint and alignment.
- The Progressive Design/Build approach will be utilized, allowing the District to collaborate closely with the Design Builder from the conceptual phase through construction.
- Phase 1 allows the official ranking of short-listed firms and initiate the project's design phase.

Solicitation Summary

- Step 1 - Qualifications (Package 1) evaluation
 - 4 firms submitted Statements of Qualifications
 - 2 firms were short-listed
 - **Thomas Marine Construction, Inc.**
 - **Lambert Bros, Inc.**
 - Capital Consulting Solutions, LLC (**Non-Responsive**)
 - Persons Services Corp (**Non-Responsive**)
- Step 2 - Project Approach (Package 2) Evaluation and Interviews
- Combine scores from Steps 1 and 2 to establish the final ranking of firms
- Final Ranking of Design/Build Respondents
 1. **Thomas Marine Construction, Inc.**
 2. Lambert Bros, Inc.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Lucine Dadrian, P.E., Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Design/Build for the Operations Facility Project, Amendment No. 4, Phase Two Services, Palm Beach County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Operations & Maintenance Capital Program, the Operations Facility Project, located in Palm Beach County, will relocate our flight operations to a permanent facility on District lands. The Flight Operations Unit (FOU) provides safe, efficient, and economical aircraft support for the District. Highly experienced pilots fly 1,800 hours per year cumulatively performing the FOU support activities. Flight activities support emergency operations such as pre- and post- storm flights, water quality sampling, inspections of the flood control system and construction projects, regulation flights, wildlife and blue green algae surveys, and other important District initiatives and mandates.

In recent years, the FOU has been leasing office, workshop and hangar space at the Palm Beach International Airport from Signature Flight Support (SFS). The lease with SFS is scheduled to expire December 2025 and is non-renewable. An extensive investigation to find a new location has been conducted and no existing alternative facility has been found. A District-owned and operated facility needs to be constructed to relocate District aircraft and staff to continue to conduct required operations and maintenance activities, and moving the facility to District-owned land ensures uninterrupted operations, saves in long-term capital and future lease costs, and allows the District to purchase fuel at half the price.

This Project consists of the design and construction of a new and easily accessible, permanent Operations Facility located at the southwest intersection of Southern Boulevard and Flying Cow Road adjacent to Stormwater Treatment Area 1E. It includes a hanger building space to support maintenance of helicopters, parts storage, and office facilities for mechanics and pilots. The site will include a helipad, tarmac for helicopter flight path, site security, vehicle parking and fuel facility. The facility will be built to current building code and will protect District assets during storm events making them available for immediate deployment after the damaging winds have receded from a storm event.

The District is using the Progressive Design/Build procurement method to work in collaboration with the Contractor from the conceptual phase through construction phase. Amendment 4 advances Phase 1 Services for the design of the hangar building (including pilot's offices, maintenance workshop, equipment storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, and restrooms), apron, and appurtenances, to Phase 2 Services for construction of a fully functional Operations Facility project.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The Operations Facility Project supports the District's missions of ecosystem restoration, water quality, water supply, emergency management and flood control.

Funding Source:

The Operations Facility Project will be funded through Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Lucine Dadrian, P.E., ldadrian@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2685

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0210](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize an amendment to the Design/Build contract with State Contracting and Engineering Corporation for the Operations Facility Project, for Phase Two Construction Services of the hangar building (including pilot's offices, maintenance workshop, equipment storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, and restrooms), apron, and appurtenances, to provide construction of a fully functioning Operations Facility project for 360 days in an amount not-to-exceed \$9,493,976, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600004936-A04).

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate and in the public interest to amend the contract with State Contracting and Engineering Corporation, authorizing Phase Two Construction Services of the hangar building (including pilot's offices, maintenance workshop, equipment storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, and restrooms), apron, and appurtenances, to provide construction of a fully functioning Operations Facility Project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the contract amendment with State Contracting and Engineering Corporation for the Design/Build of the Operations Facility Project for 360 days in an amount not-to-exceed \$9,493,976, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, (Contract No. 4600004936-A04).

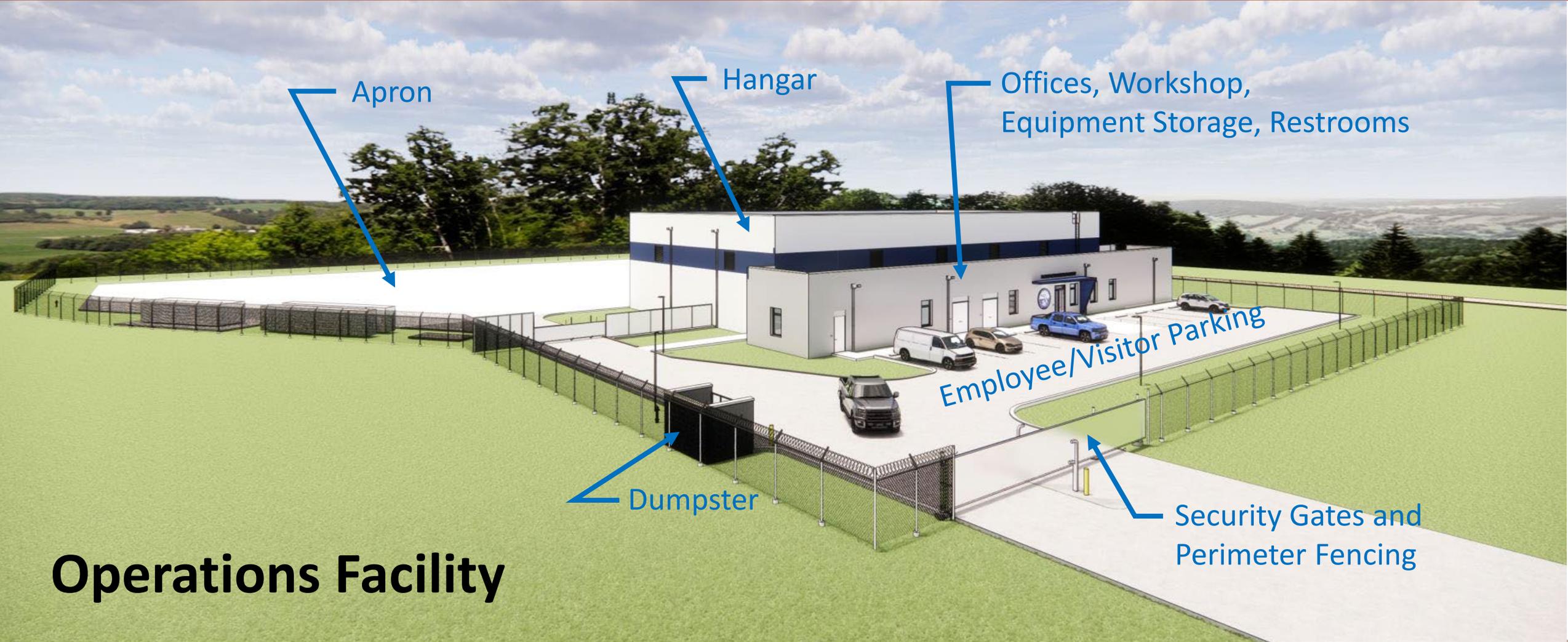
Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

Location Map



Phase 2 – Field Station Buildings and Site Work



Apron

Hangar

Offices, Workshop,
Equipment Storage, Restrooms

Employee/Visitor Parking

Dumpster

Security Gates and
Perimeter Fencing

Operations Facility

Background

- The Operations Facility is committed to providing safe, efficient, and economical aircraft support for all SFWMD needs.
- The pilots fly approximately 1,800 hours per year.
- In recent years, the District has been leasing office, workshop and hangar space at the Palm Beach International (PBI) Airport from Signature Flight Support, and the existing lease is expiring December 2025.
- To reduce costs of operation and enhance the operations and maintenance, it has been determined that it is more cost effective for the Facility to be on SFWMD lands and would provide more control over resources.
- During hurricane events and other critical emergency situations/operations, full control over an Operations Facility is more beneficial.
- Having a central facility like the one proposed allows for a quicker response time and easier planning to transfer the helicopters to hurricane-safe buildings/structures, and faster access post-storm, which are crucial for a timely response by the SFWMD.

Background

- On May 15, 2024, the Governing Board approved State Contracting and Engineering Corp (SCEC) advancing design and stipulated price proposal for the construction of a new Operations Facility. Total costs for Phase 1 design are \$1,342,270.00 for Amendments 1 through 3.
- On November 14, 2024, the Governing Board approved Amendment 2 to the Design Build Contract, in the amount of \$3,144,588.00, for the Phase 2 Early Works Operations Facility Site Development construction.
- This item seeks the approval of Amendment 4 to the Design Build Contract to add Phase 2 Construction Services in the amount of \$9,493,976.00 to complete the Operations Facility hangar building (includes pilot's offices, maintenance workshop, equipment storage, mechanical/electrical rooms, and restrooms), apron, and appurtenances. In accordance with the Design Build Contract, the work was competitively bid out by SCEC and a stipulated price for construction was submitted to the District and negotiated.

Scope

- Phase 1
 - Final Design Plans and Specifications
 - Stipulated Price Proposal
- Phase 2
 - Contract Amendment with Stipulated Price Agreement
 - Construction, Testing, Commissioning, and Warranties
 - Stipulated Price Agreement Provides:
 - Project Cost and Cost Loaded Project Schedule
 - Assumptions, Exclusions, and Clarifications
 - Allowances
 - Subcontractors and Suppliers

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Lucine Dadrian, P.E., Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Professional Engineering Services Contracts

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the District's Restoration and Capital Improvement Programs, the District has maintained a series of continuing professional engineering services contracts for several years. This agenda item addresses the need to contract external professional engineering services to facilitate the delivery of the District's capital improvement and restoration projects. The purpose of this Request for Proposals was to solicit technical proposals from qualified firms to provide professional engineering services for the District's Gravity Control Structures, Canal/Levee Refurbishment and Low Hazard Impoundments Projects. Multiple contract awards are anticipated for a contract duration of a 3-year period with two 1-year options to renew. Assignments under each contract will be handled through various work orders under the contract. Approval of this agenda item will allow the District to continue or commence new design and construction support efforts for projects such as microwave tower replacements, canal bank stabilizations, control building replacements, culvert replacements and infrastructure repairs along with other District initiatives.

The fifteen firms selected for these contracts include Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos; Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.; Nova Consulting, Inc.; Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.; CES Consultants, Inc.; Ardurra Group, Inc.; Radise International LC; TY Lin International; Stanley Consultants, Inc.; Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.; Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.; Keith & Associates, Inc. dba KEITH; RJ Behar & Company, Inc.; Taylor Engineering, Inc.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The Professional Engineering Services Contracts supports the District's core missions of ecosystem restoration, resiliency, water quality, water supply and flood control.

Funding Source:

The Professional Engineering Services Contracts will be funded through dedicated funds (state, federal, and local revenue sources) and Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Lucine Dadrian, P.E., ldadrian@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2685

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0211](#)

Backup Presentation

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing the official ranking of firms and entering into a 3-year contract, with two 1-year extensions, with Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos; Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.; Nova Consulting, Inc.; Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.; CES Consultants, Inc.; Ardurra Group, Inc.; Radise International LC; TY Lin International; Stanley Consultants, Inc.; Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.; Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.; Keith & Associates Inc., dba KEITH; RJ Behar & Company, Inc.; Taylor Engineering, Inc., subject to successful negotiations to provide professional engineering services for the District's Gravity Control Structures, Canal/Levee Refurbishment and Low Hazard Impoundments Projects, in an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000,000 for all 15 contracts, for which the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget includes approved Ad Valorem and dedicated funds (state, federal, and local revenue sources) and the remainder is subject to the Governing Board approval of the future years' budgets; if negotiations are unsuccessful with any of the firms, the District may proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract is successfully negotiated; providing an effective date.

Contract Number	Consulting Firm
4600005084	Mock Roos & Associates, Inc.
4600005155	Gannett Fleming, Inc.
4600005083	Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.
4600005093	Nova Consulting, Inc.
4600005094	Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.
4600005150	CES Consultants, Inc.
4600005085	Ardurra Group, Inc.
4600005151	Radise International LC
4600005092	TY Lin International
4600005087	Stanley Consultants, Inc.
4600005089	Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
4600005091	Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.
4600005088	Keith & Associates, Inc.
4600005090	RJ Behar & Company, Inc.
4600005086	Taylor Engineering, Inc.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate and in the public interest to authorize the official ranking of firms and entering into a three-year contract, with two (2) one-year extensions, with Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos; Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.; Nova Consulting, Inc.; Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.; CES Consultants, Inc.; Ardurra Group, Inc.; Radise International LC; TY Lin International; Stanley Consultants, Inc.; Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.; Kimley Horn

& Associates, Inc.; Keith & Associates, Inc. dba KEITH; RJ Behar & Company, Inc.; Taylor Engineering, Inc., subject to successful negotiations to provide professional engineering services for the District's Gravity Control Structures, Canal/Levee Refurbishment and Low Hazard Impoundments Projects, in an amount not-to-exceed \$100,000,000 for all 15 contracts, for which the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget includes approved Ad Valorem and dedicated funds (state, federal, and local revenue sources) and the remainder is subject to the Governing Board approval of the future years budgets; if negotiations are unsuccessful with any of the firms, the District may proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract is successfully negotiated.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby approves entering into a contract with the following firms subject to successful negotiations to provide professional engineering services for the District's Gravity Control Structures, Canal/Levee Refurbishment and Low Hazard Impoundments Projects, in an amount not-to- exceed \$100,000,000 for all 15 contracts; if negotiations are unsuccessful with any of the firms, the District may proceed with negotiations in ranked order until a contract is successfully negotiated.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

Full Services Engineering Contracts

CR-92 Culvert Replacement



S26 Pump Replacement



S-6 Bridge Replacement



➤ Types of Projects

- Microwave Tower Replacement
- Bridge Replacement
- Pump Station Refurbishments
- Culvert Replacement
- Canal & Levee Rehabilitations
- Low Hazard Impoundments
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Stilling Well Platforms
- Level of Service / Resiliency

Full Services Engineering Contracts



STA 2 Cell 8 FPL Pads



C-25 Canal Bank Repair

➤ Full Engineering Services for Planning, Design and Construction Phases

- Survey
- Geotechnical
- Environmental Permitting
- H&H Modeling
- Engineering Design
- Cost Estimating & Scheduling
- Engineering During Construction
- Construction Management Services
- Staff Augmentation

Request for Proposals Process



Request for Proposals

Prepare Request for Proposal and select Evaluation Committee Members

Advertise Request for Proposals (Procurement single point of contact through entire process)

Publicly Noticed Pre-Proposal Meeting held with Consultants to answer questions & discuss the process

Consultant Inquiry Period (Questions submitted to Procurement)

Issue an Addendum with any questions arising from the Inquiry Period

Consultants submit their proposals on specified date



1st Evaluation Period

Evaluation Committee Kick-Off Meeting held to define committee rules of conduct, evaluation process, and compliance with Sunshine Law

Evaluation Committee reviews Consultant proposals and scores them online based on criteria set forth in RFP

Publicly Noticed Meeting held with Evaluation Committee to review summation of written scores to determine Shortlist of Firms for Oral Presentations



2nd Evaluation Period

Oral Presentations (audio recorded) from Shortlisted Firms are presented to Evaluation Committee

Evaluation Committee completes their online scoring of Presentations

Publicly Noticed Meeting held with Evaluation Committee to review summation of written and oral scores as ranked by each evaluator for determining final ranking and selection of firms recommended to Governing Board for award consideration

Request for Proposals Process

- Request for Proposals was issued May 24, 2024
- 23 Firms responded by the due date of June 24, 2024
 - Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.
 - Ardurra Group, Inc.
 - Baxter & Woodman, Inc.
 - Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
 - CES Consultants, Inc
 - CHA Consulting, Inc.
 - Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.
 - CSA Central, Inc.
 - Gannett Fleming, Inc.
 - Johnson Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.
 - Keith & Associates, Inc. dba KEITH
 - Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.
 - Miller Legg & Associates, Inc.
 - Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos
 - Newlines Land Consultants, LLC
 - Nova Consulting, Inc.
 - Radise International, LC
 - RJ Behar & Company, Inc.
 - Rummel Klepper & Kahl, LLP
 - South Florida Engineering & Consulting, LLC
 - Stanley Consultants, Inc.
 - Taylor Engineering, Inc.
 - TY Lin International

Request for Proposals Process

- The 23 firms were evaluated based on the following criteria:
 - Proposed Project Team/Staffing Availability and Workload Distribution
 - Qualifications/experience of firm and subconsultants with similar projects
 - Proposed Approach and Methodology
 - Quality Assurance/Quality Control
 - Management Capabilities and Office Locations
 - Volume of District Work for past 3 years (Pursuant to CCNA)
- Evaluation Committee shortlisted 17 firms based on proposal scoring and ranking during a Publicly Noticed Meeting on November 21, 2024
- Oral Presentations were held, and audio recorded on December 9-10, 2024
- Evaluation Committee recommended 15 firms based on overall scoring and ranking during a Publicly Noticed Meeting on December 18, 2024

Request for Proposals Process

- Based on Written and Oral Information on the 23 Firms, Evaluation Committee Recommends Final Ranking and Selection of the following 17 Firms:

1. **Mock Roos & Associates, Inc. dba Mock Roos**
2. **Gannett Fleming, Inc.**
3. **Chen Moore & Associates, Inc.**
4. **Nova Consulting, Inc.**
5. **Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc.**
6. **CES Consultants, Inc.**
7. **Ardurra Group, Inc.**
8. **Radise International, LC**
9. **TY Lin International**
10. **Stanley Consultants, Inc.**
11. **Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.**
12. **Kimley Horn & Associates, Inc.**
13. **Keith & Associates, Inc. dba KEITH**
14. **RJ Behar & Company, Inc.**
15. **Taylor Engineering, Inc.**

16. **CSA Central, Inc.**
17. **Miller Legg & Associates**
18. **Baxter & Woodman, Inc. (Withdrew)**

19. **South Florida Engineering & Consulting, Inc.**
20. **Rummel Klepper & Kahl, LLP**
21. **CHA Consulting, Inc.**
22. **Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc.**
23. **Newlines Land Consultants, LLC**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Carolina Maran, Ph.D., P.E., Chief of District Resiliency

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: Agreements with the University of Miami, Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation at the University of South Florida, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the Development of Atmosphere-Ocean Simulations to Compute Boundary Conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model

Agenda Item Background:

The District has been collaborating with academic, federal, and state agencies for the assessment of future water and climate conditions and their implications on flood protection, water supply, and ecosystem restoration efforts. With the goal of reducing uncertainty in estimating future conditions, the District is partnering with the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation (FFH) at the University of South Florida (USF), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), University of Miami (UM), and Florida State University (FSU) to develop atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model. The goal of this project is to develop state-of-the-art, high-resolution simulations (~25 km in the atmosphere and ~10 km in the ocean) from a global climate model to support the development of projections of tidal, extreme rainfall and risk of flooding across a range of scenarios throughout the state of Florida. This agenda item is requesting authorization from the Governing Board to enter into three agreements:

- \$540,000 25PLN51 Reimbursement Grant Agreement with DEP (Contract No. 4600005156)
- \$540,000 Agreement with UM (Contract No. 4600005164)
- \$150,000 Agreement with FFH/USF (Contract No. 4600005165)

Additional Item Background:

Florida Senate Bill (SB) 1954, titled “Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience,” and later updates to 380.093, F.S., include a mandate to assess vulnerability to flooding across the State. Estimating vulnerability to flooding requires reliable information on the duration and frequency of extreme rainfall events and tidal flooding, both in the historical record and projected for the future. A clear and increasing demand for this information comes from a variety of governmental, non-governmental, and private entities, and there is no consistent statewide process to project climatic impacts at the desired spatial resolution. Available Global Climate Models and respective downscaled products have large uncertainties resulting from the lack of spatial resolution required to support stakeholders’ decisions. Florida, in particular, requires fine-resolution models to simulate the processes that affect convective storms and the details of neighboring seas (i.e., the west Florida Shelf, the Bahama Bank, Florida Current). These processes include sea breezes, lake effects, and the effects of land use, coastal geometry, and narrow, coastal gradients in temperature.

This project to guide critical decisions about water management is leveraging the unique capability of UM to develop state-of-the-art, high-resolution simulations (~25 km in the atmosphere and ~10 km in the ocean) and FSU to downscale and integrate the output from coupled ocean-atmosphere models to yield results at the 10-km scale that are centered over Florida. The results from UM and FSU models will be used to drive further downscaling of high-resolution (2- to 4-km scale) Weather Research & Forecasting Model (WRF) to be conducted by the USGS through an agreement with FFH/USF. The work products will be peer-reviewed by the scientific and technical workgroups – Rainfall / Sea Level Rise – led by the FFH.

The Resilient Florida Program has been funding the development of vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning studies throughout the state of Florida. The SFWMD Flood Protection Level of Service (FPLOS) Program is assessing basin by basin, in the entire SFWMD's 16-county region, to determine their current and future level of service for flood protection. This effort requires an evaluation of current sea levels and rainfall patterns and future scenarios of sea level rise and extreme rainfall conditions. Results of this project will support local, regional, and state governments, and the District in particular, in managing and developing south Florida's stormwater and water-supply infrastructure by providing more accurate estimates of future conditions. Benefits of the project include:

- Providing science-based information to support the implementation of the District's mission of safeguarding and restoring south Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protecting its communities from flooding, and meeting the region's water needs, now and under future conditions.
- Strengthening the District's planning capacity by providing inputs to hydrologic models and anticipating future conditions districtwide, based on regional and more accurate regional climate models informed by high-resolution atmosphere-ocean simulations.
- Informing and supporting the District's resiliency efforts in assessing flood risk and helping our communities understand vulnerabilities under changing future climate conditions.
- Supporting the assessment of the Central & Southern Florida (C&SF) Project to ensure the system provides the desired level of flood protection upstream of the tidal structures today, and will continue to do so into the future, with consideration of future changing conditions.

This project is necessary for Florida, and has far broader applications given that all current global climate models comprising assessments conducted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change are unable to resolve processes critical to the terrestrial climate of Florida (e.g., the Loop Current (LC) system, the shallow bathymetry of West Florida Shelf (WFS), and tropical cyclones that feed off these warm water regions of the surrounding oceans).

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

This project supports the District's core missions of flood protection, water supply, and ecosystem restoration.

Funding Source:

Development of atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model would be cost-shared between DEP, the District, and FDOT. DEP will provide funding through State Grant 25PLN51 to the District for the agreement with UM in the amount of \$540,000. Funding for the agreement with FFH/USF in the amount of \$150,000 will come from Ad Valorem funds, of which \$50,000 is budgeted in

Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. FDOT will be partnering with FFH/USF for additional project tasks totaling \$335,318, which will be funded by FDOT.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Ana Carolina Coelho Maran, Ph.D., P.E., cmaran@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6868

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0212](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing entering into three agreements for the development of atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model; providing an effective date.

- **\$540,000 25PLN51 Reimbursement Grant Agreement with DEP (Contract No. 4600005156)**
- **\$540,000 Agreement with the University of Miami, for which dedicated funds (State Grant 25PLN51) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (Contract No. 4600005164)**
- **\$150,000 Agreement with the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research, for which \$50,000 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005165)**

WHEREAS, South Florida is susceptible to increased inundation, erosion, and loss of critical habitats resulting from natural disasters, sea level rise, and climate change impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Resilient Florida Program was established on May 12, 2021, upon Governor Ron DeSantis signing Senate Bill 1954 into law, and ensures a coordinated approach to Florida's coastal and inland resilience by providing grants that are available to counties, municipalities, and special districts to address impacts of flooding and sea level rise; and

WHEREAS, the Statewide Regional Climate Model project is part of the SFWMD Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan ("Resiliency Plan"). The Resiliency Plan, updated annually, is the first SFWMD initiative to compile a comprehensive list of priority resiliency projects with the goal of reducing the risks of flooding, sea level rise, and other climate impacts on water resources and increasing community and ecosystem resiliency in South Florida; and

WHEREAS, the SFWMD and the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation at the University of South Florida (FFH/USF) have been partnering to advance scientific data and research to ensure resiliency planning and implementation projects in South Florida and statewide are founded on the best available science and robust technical analyses; and

WHEREAS, the SFWMD is an active member of the Rainfall Workgroup led by Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation at the University of South Florida and had provided the results of the future extreme rainfall scenarios, developed in collaboration with USGS for South Florida, to be extended statewide, and is currently contributing to the initial development of the Statewide Regional Climate Model, Weather Research & Forecasting Model (WRF) reanalysis, being conducted by the USGS; and

WHEREAS, this project is necessary for SFWMD's Resiliency Efforts and for the State of Florida and has far broader applications given that all current global climate models comprising assessments conducted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change are unable to resolve processes critical to the terrestrial climate of Florida (e.g., the Loop Current (LC) system, the shallow bathymetry of West Florida Shelf (WFS), and tropical cyclones that feed off these warm water regions of the surrounding oceans); and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2024, DEP awarded the SFWMD a sum of \$540,000 to cover the tasks to be developed by the University of Miami for the development of atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model; and

WHEREAS, SFWMD and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) are partnering with FFH/USF to support additional project tasks to be developed by FSU and FFH at a total cost of \$505,318, of which \$150,000 in ad valorem funds is budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and \$355,318 will be contributed by FDOT pursuant to a separate agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the Executive Director, or designee, to enter into three agreements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, University of Miami, and the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation at the University of South Florida for the development of atmosphere-ocean simulations to compute boundary conditions for the Statewide Regional Climate Model, for which \$150,000 in ad valorem funds and \$540,000 in dedicated funds (State Grant 25PLN51) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

- \$540,000 25PLN51 Reimbursement Grant Agreement with DEP (Contract No. 4600005156)
- \$540,000 Agreement with the University of Miami (Contract No. 4600005164)
- \$150,000 Agreement with FFH/USF (Contract No. 4600005165)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February 2025.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: , Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: A. CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project, Locally Funded Agreement with FDOT, Palm Beach County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project - Everglades Agricultural Area Phase (CEPP EAA) US-27 Bridges Project, located in Palm Beach County, will construct a canal segment and new bridge crossings to connect the North New River to the CEPP EAA Reservoir / STA Complex. The CEPP EAA Project will help dramatically reduce the volume of damaging discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the coastal estuaries for flood protection purposes. It will also provide storage, treatment, and conveyance for an annual average of 370,000 acre-feet of additional water to the Southern Everglades each year.

The District has completed the CEPP EAA STA for approximately \$300 Million and is currently in the vegetative grow-in phase. The USACE has awarded construction contracts totaling approximately \$3.9 Billion for construction of the adjacent CEPP EAA Reservoir. As part of the CEPP EAA Project, the District, USACE, and FDOT will collectively construct approximately 12 miles of a 3,000 cfs Inflow-Outflow Canal located along the northern boundary of the project stretching from the North New River Canal to the Miami Canal. In March 2023, the District completed approximately 4.1 miles of the Inflow-Outflow Canal which lies adjacent to the STA, and in November 2022, the USACE began construction of approximately 7.3 miles of the Inflow-Outflow Canal which lies adjacent to the Reservoir.

The Governing Board authorized the execution of a Locally Funded Agreement (LFA) with FDOT to develop signed and sealed construction plans for the canal crossing and new bridge crossings at its May 2021 meeting. This new LFA and Escrow Agreement with FDOT will allow them to move to the construction phase for the CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project supports the District's core missions of ecosystem restoration and flood control.

Funding Source:

The CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project will be funded through dedicated funds (Everglades Trust Fund, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State General Revenue).

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Lucine Dadrian, P.E., ldadrian@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2685
Jennifer Reynolds, jreynolds@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6672

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2025-0213](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - 02XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing entering into an agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to provide financial assistance to FDOT for the CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project, in an amount not to exceed \$35,172,987, for which dedicated funds (Everglades Trust Fund, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State General Revenue) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005152)

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to enter into a Local Funding Agreement with FDOT to fund the reconstruction of a portion of US-27 as two parallel bridges over the CEPP EAA Reservoir and STA Inflow-Outflow Canal, including the construction of the canal segment through, and just beyond, US-27's east and west right-of-way-lines.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes entering into an agreement with FDOT to provide financial assistance to FDOT for the CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project, in an amount not to exceed \$35,172,987, for which dedicated funds (Everglades Trust Fund, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State General Revenue) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Contract No. 4600005152)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: , Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: B. CEPP North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements, Palm Beach and Broward Counties

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project - North Phase (CEPP North) L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, located in Palm Beach and Broward Counties, will enlarge approximately 5.8 miles of the L-5 Remnant Canal to meet CEPP North conveyance capacity requirements. The project also includes the construction of a new Dredge Materials Management Area, construction village, overbuilding of the existing L-5 exterior (south) levee, and stockpile area for the placement of the excess excavated material for future use as well as replacement of the staff gauge at S-150.

CEPP was authorized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Acts of 2016, 2018, and 2020. CEPP includes four phases: CEPP North, CEPP South, CEPP EAA and CEPP New Water. The construction of CEPP New Water is complete and the other three phases are currently under construction. The CEPP North Phase will improve conveyance and flow distribution to northern Water Conservation Area 3A. The eastern CEPP North feature, S-620 Gated Culvert and L-6 Improvements, as well as S-8 Modifications Phase 1 are currently in construction.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on January 21, 2025.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The CEPP North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project supports the District's core missions of ecosystem restoration and flood control.

Funding Source:

The CEPP North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project will be funded through dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund).

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Lucine Dadrian, P.E., ldadrian@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2685

ATTACHMENTS:

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - XXXX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a 1,243-day contract with Forgen, LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, in the amount of \$71,246,497, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue and Everglades Trust Fund) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets, providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005160)

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to enter into a contract with Forgen, LLC for the Central Everglades Planning Project North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, in the Amount of \$71,246,497.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes entering into a 1,243-day contract with Forgen, LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, in the amount of \$71,246,497, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue and Everglades Trust Fund) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005160)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption

PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: , Engineering, Construction & Modeling

DATE: February 13, 2025

SUBJECT: C. CEPP North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2, Broward County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project - North Phase (CEPP North) S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, located in Broward County at the intersection of the Miami, L-5, and L-4 Canals, will refurbish and repurpose the S-8 Pump Station to extend its service life to serve CEPP North “new water” delivery purpose. This pump station was built in 1962 and is beyond its useful life. The purpose of CEPP North suite of projects is to convey and distribute additional flows to hydrate the northern portion of Water Conservation Area 3A.

The project includes refurbishment of all four 1,040 cfs horizontal axial pump units, associated cooling water pumps, booster pumps and gearboxes; replacement of fuel storage facility, generators, vacuum pump units, trash rake system, septic system and drain field, discharge roller gates and components, and various bulkhead channel guides; conduct Arc Flash Hazard Analysis including arc hazard placards and suggested operation procedure for safe operations and maintenance of electrical equipment; replacement of roofing system, existing fencing, and exterior lights; installation of fall protection improvements; upgrade of station windows and doors for hurricane winds; repair of concrete and pavement deficiencies; fabrication of new stop logs for spillway bay; refurbishment of existing steel bulkheads and steel pick-up beams; and painting of the interior and exterior of the building.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on January 15, 2025.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The CEPP North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project supports the District’s core mission of ecosystem restoration and flood control.

Funding Source:

The CEPP North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project will be funded through dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) and Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Lucine Dadrian, P.E., ldadrian@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-2685

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution No. 2025-0215

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2025 - XXXX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a 1,347-day contract with Harry Pepper & Associates, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, in the amount of \$73,977,993, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets, providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005161)

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to enter into a contract with Harry Pepper & Associates, Inc., for the Central Everglades Planning Project North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, in the amount of \$73,977,993.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes entering into a 1,347-day contract with Harry Pepper & Associates, Inc., for the Central Everglades Planning Project North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, in the amount of \$73,977,993, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005161)

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

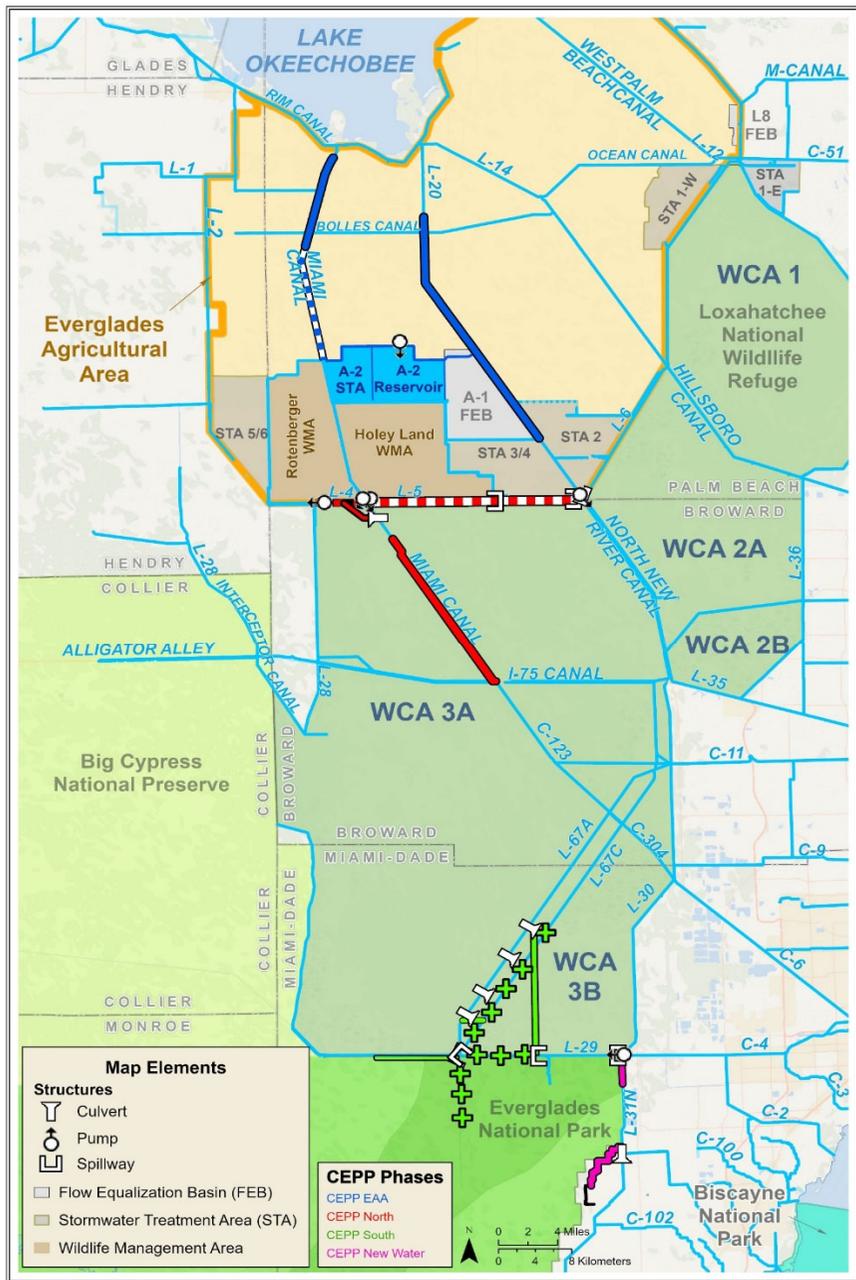
PASSED and ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2025.

Central Everglades Planning Project Update

Lucine Dadrian, P.E.
Division Director, Engineering, Construction & Modeling
South Florida Water Management District
Governing Board
February 13, 2025



CEPP Features



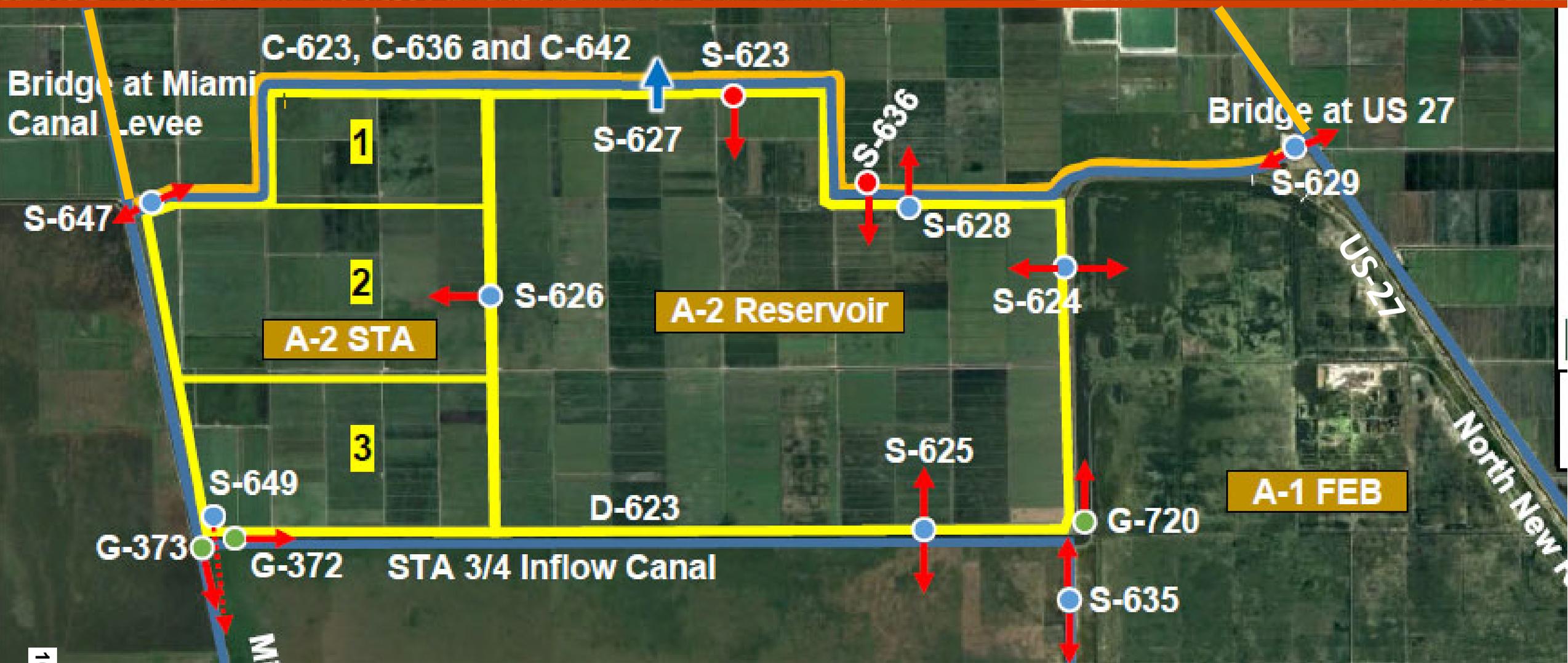
- EAA Phase**
 - Construct 10,500-acre EAA Reservoir and 6,500-acre STA
 - Increase conveyance in Miami Canal (1,000 cfs) and North New River Canal (200 cfs)
 - Refine Lake Okeechobee operations
- North Phase**
 - Divert 500 cfs of L-6 flow to L-5 and improve 13.6 miles of the L-5 canal
 - Improve L-4 canal and distribution features along the northwest boundary of WCA-3A
 - Construct S-8A inline culvert and canal to deliver water from Miami Canal to L-4 canal
 - Install gravity structure at western terminus of the L-4 canal
 - Backfill 13.5 miles of the Miami Canal including vegetated hammocks
- South Phase**
 - Construct three 500 cfs gated structures in the L-67A Levee and 6,000-foot gap in the L-67C
 - Remove 0.5-mile of spoil piles west of L-67A canal, north and south of structures
 - Construct S-356E pump station increasing capacity to 1,000 cfs
 - Construct S-333N to increase S-333 combined capacity to 2,500 cfs
 - Construct S-355W divide structure in the L-29 canal
 - Remove 6 miles of Old Tamiami Trail Road
 - Construct 8.5-mile levee (Blue Shanty Levee) in WCA-3B, connecting L-29 to L-67A.
 - Remove 8.3 miles of L-67C levee in Blue Shanty flow-way
 - Remove entire 5.5 miles of L-67 Extension levee; backfill L-67 Extension canal
 - Remove 4.3 miles of L-29 levee in Blue Shanty flow-way
- New Water Phase**
 - Construct 5-miles of Seepage Barrier in L-357W Levee



US-27 Bridges - Construction Local Funding & Escrow Agreements

Central Everglades Planning Project – Everglades
Agricultural Area Update

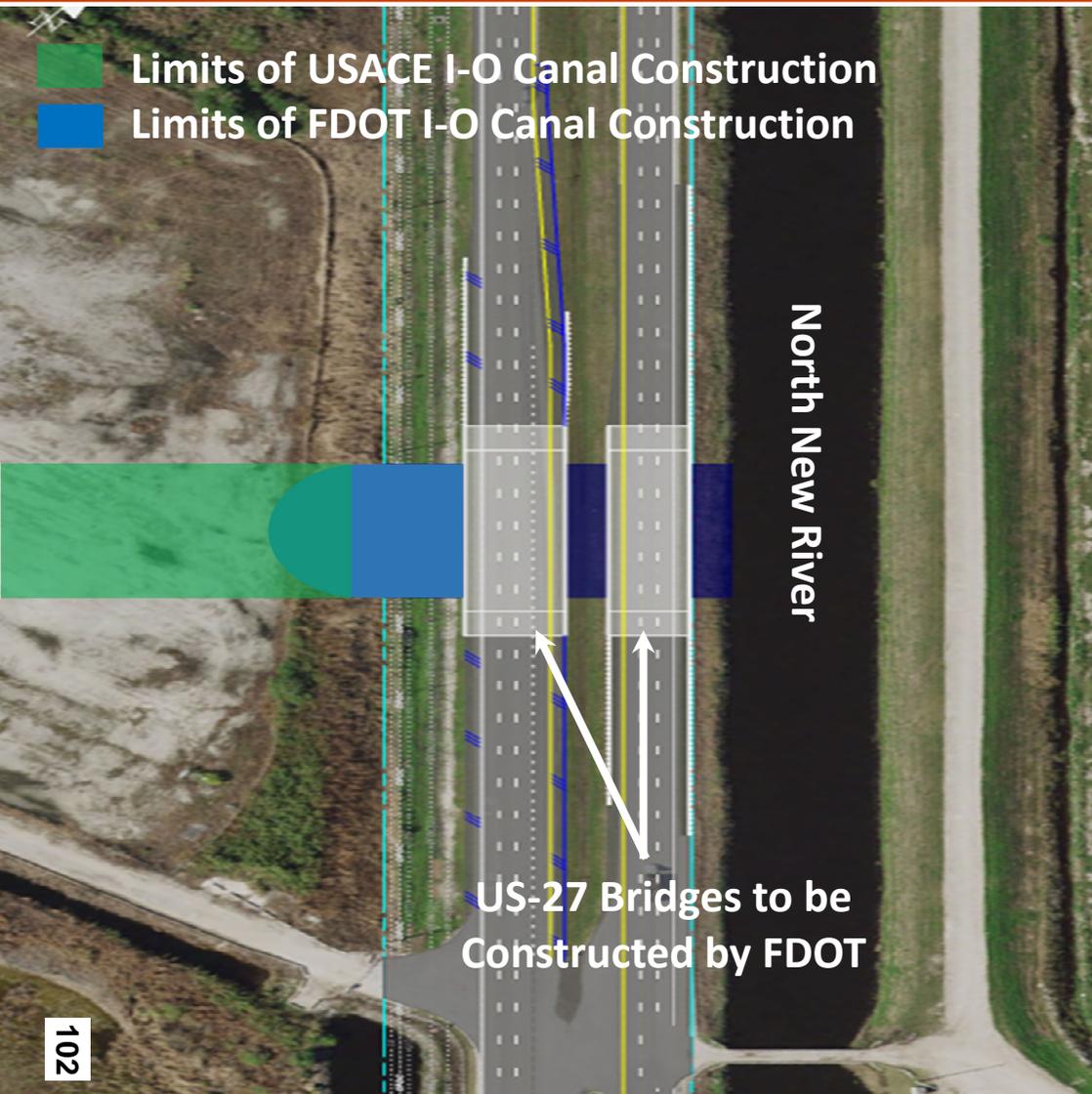
CEPP EAA Map



Construction Village

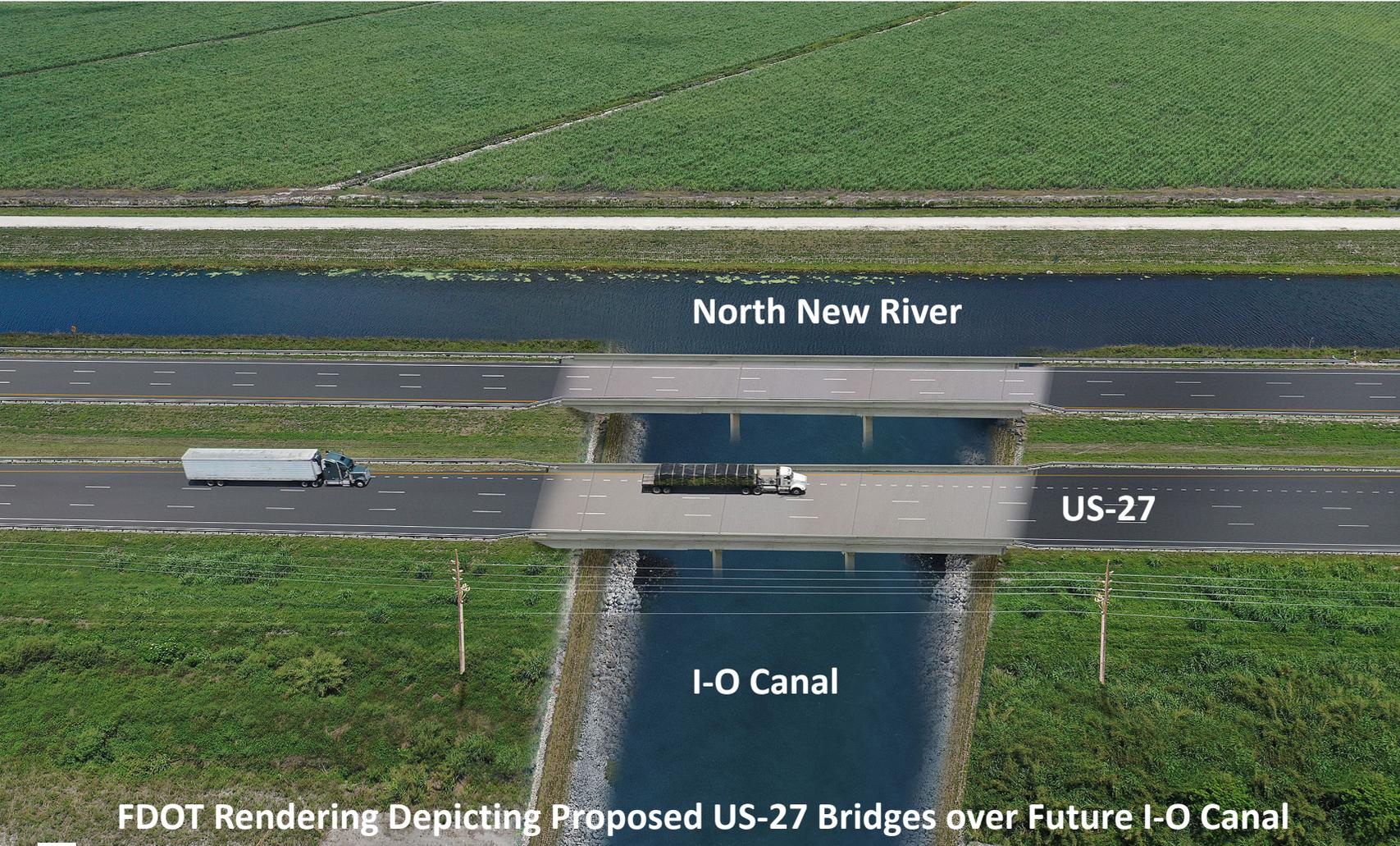


US-27 Bridges Background



- Inflow-Outflow Canal (I-O) is a 12 mile long, 3,000 cfs canal on the northern border of project from North New River (NNR) Canal to the Miami Canal
- May 2021 Governing Board authorized execution of a Locally Funded Agreement for FDOT to develop signed and sealed construction plans for FDOT's construction of US 27 Bridges over the I-O Canal
- FDOT is completing the Final Design for the US-27 Bridges including the I-O Canal segment from NNR and to tie into the USACE's I-O Canal work to the west

US-27 Bridges Scope



FDOT Rendering Depicting Proposed US-27 Bridges over Future I-O Canal

- The estimated project costs total \$35,172,987.
- The estimated costs include Construction, EDC, CMS and 20% Contingency.
- If actual cost is less than funds provided, the difference will be refunded to the District.



Existing Roadway

L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements

S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2

Central Everglades Planning Project - North Update



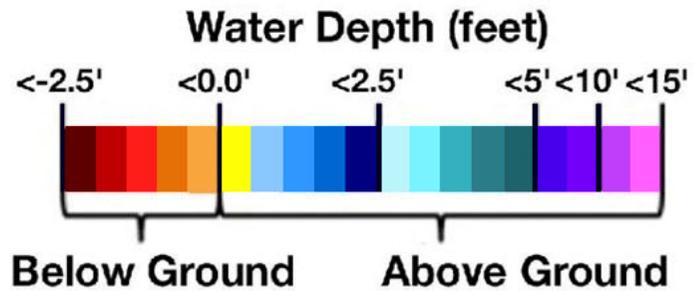
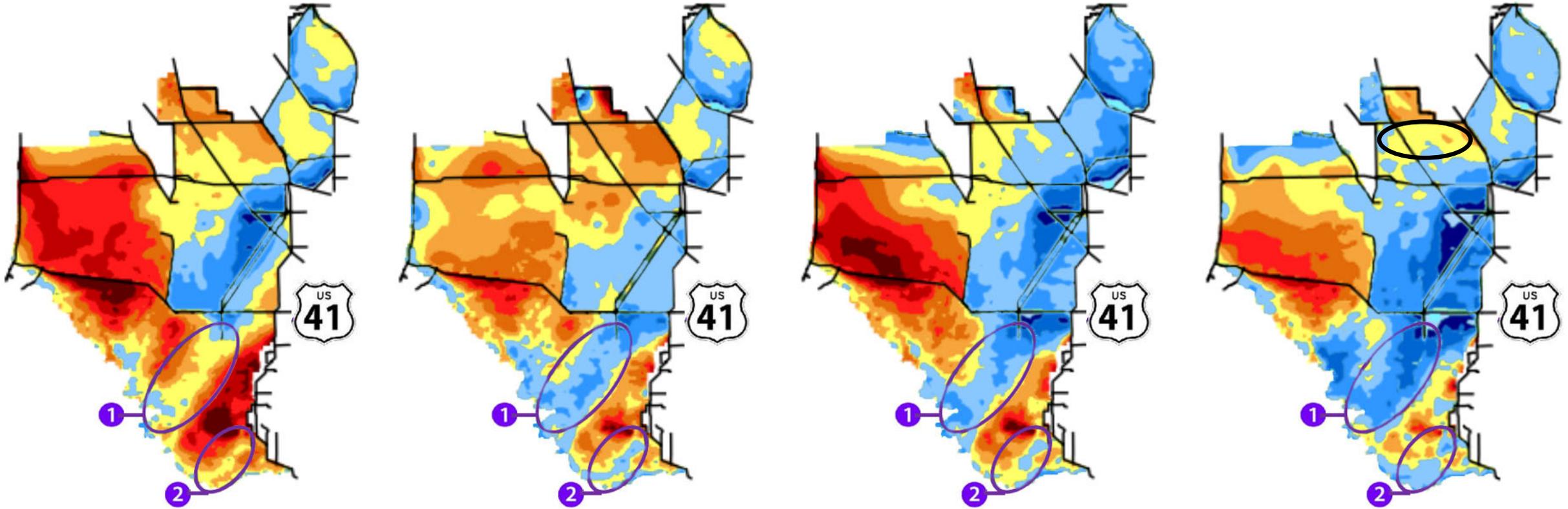
May 1st

2002-2021 (20yr avg)

2022

2023

2024



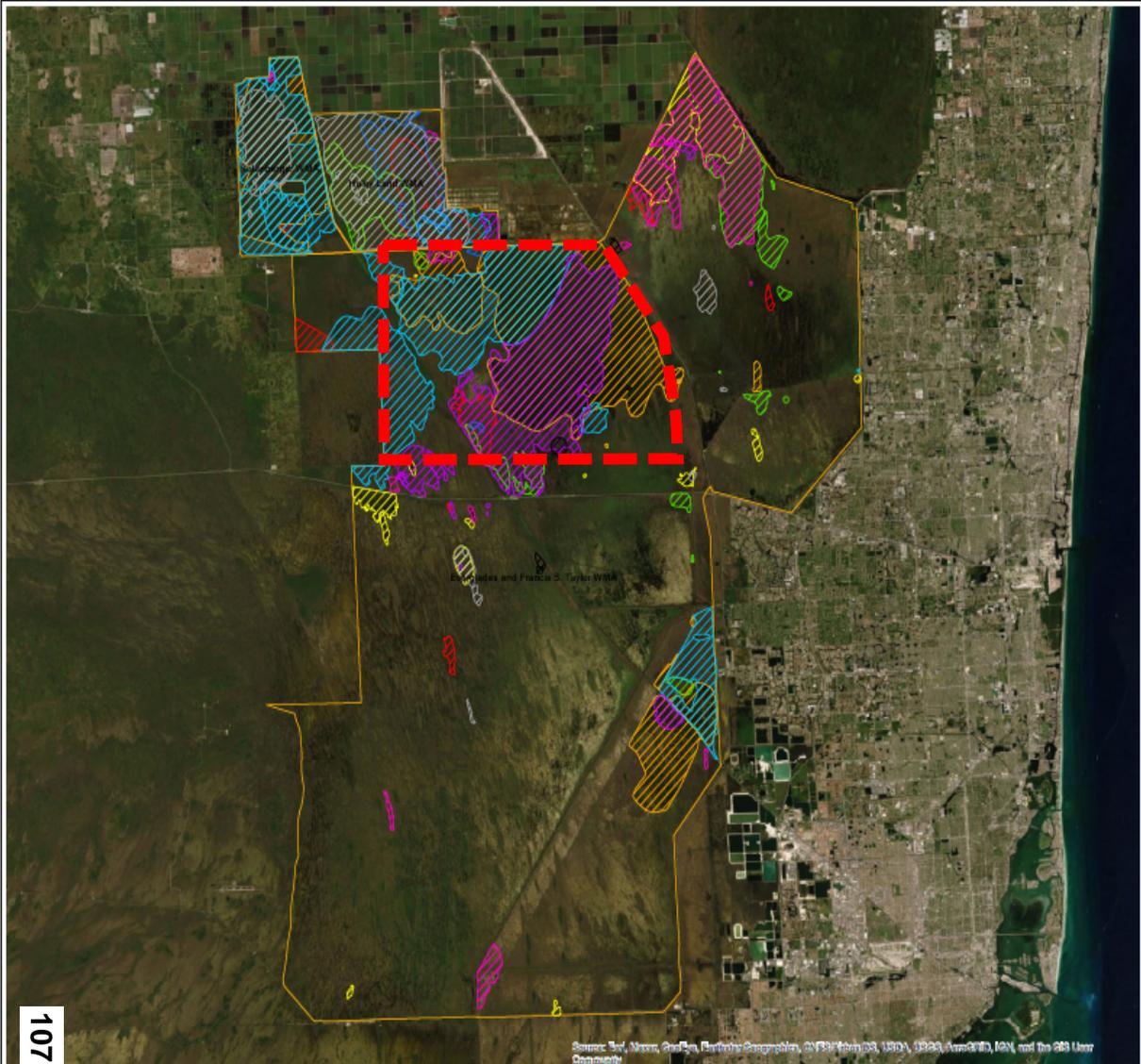
- 1 Shark River Slough
- 2 Taylor Slough

CEPP North Update



- S-620 Gated Culvert
- L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements
- S-8 Pump Station Modification
- S-622 Gated Culvert
- L-4 Canal Improvements, Distribution Features & S-630 Gated Culvert
- S-8A Gated Spillway & Connecting Canal
- L-5 Canal Improvements, Miami Canal Backfill & Vegetated Hammocks

Drydowns Increase Fire Risk and Soil Loss



Areas Burned by Wildfire in Everglades & Francis S. Taylor, Holey Land, and Rotenberger Wildlife Management Areas (Aug 2012 - Jan 2022)

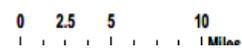


Legend

- 2021-22 Wildfires
 - 2020-21 Wildfires
 - 2019-20 Wildfires
 - 2018-19 Wildfires
 - 2017-18 Wildfires
 - 2016-17 Wildfires
 - 2015-16 Wildfires
 - 2014-15 Wildfires
 - 2013-14 Wildfires
 - 2012-13 Wildfires
 - WMA/WEA Boundaries - outline
- World Imagery

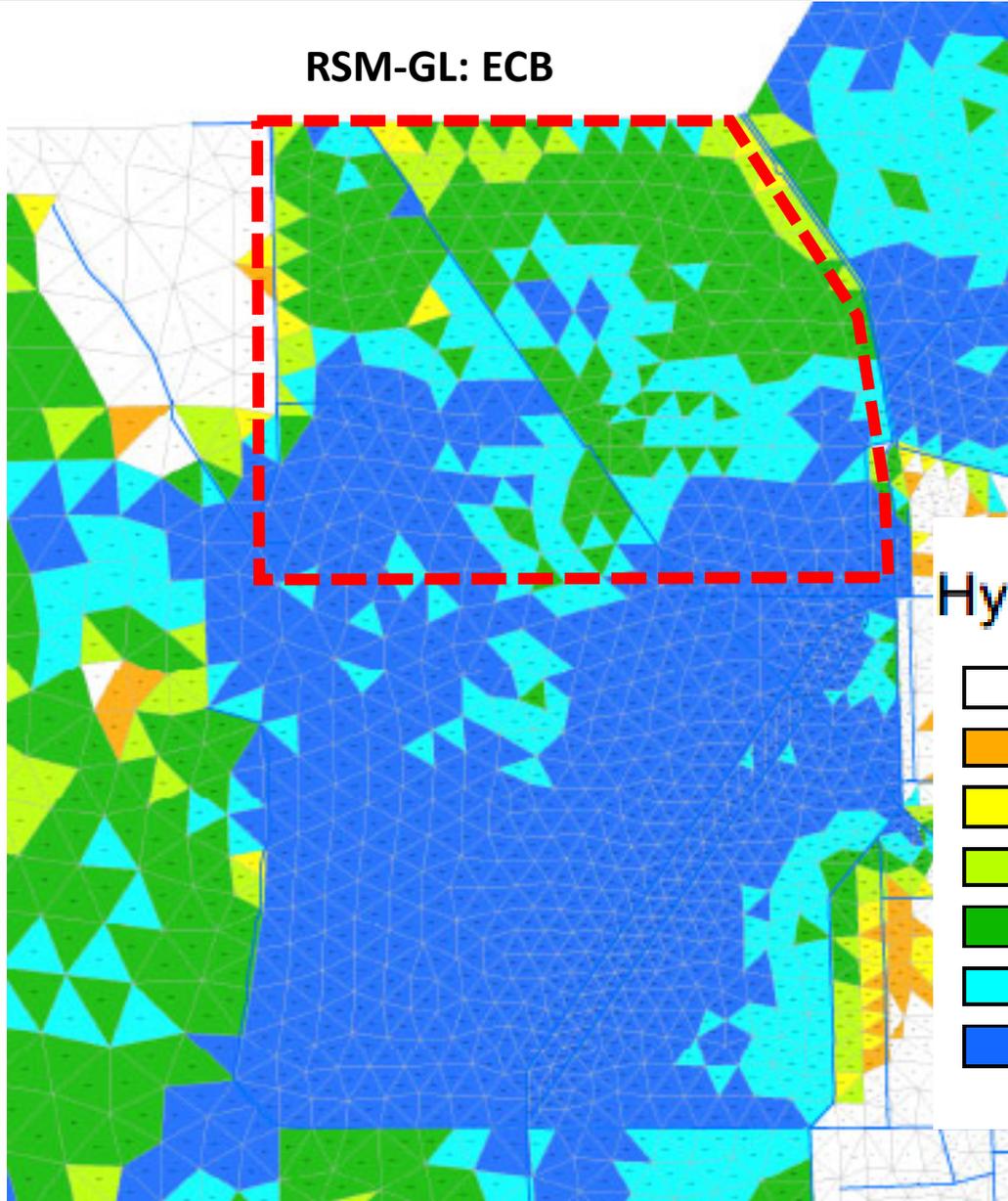


Scale
1:322,055

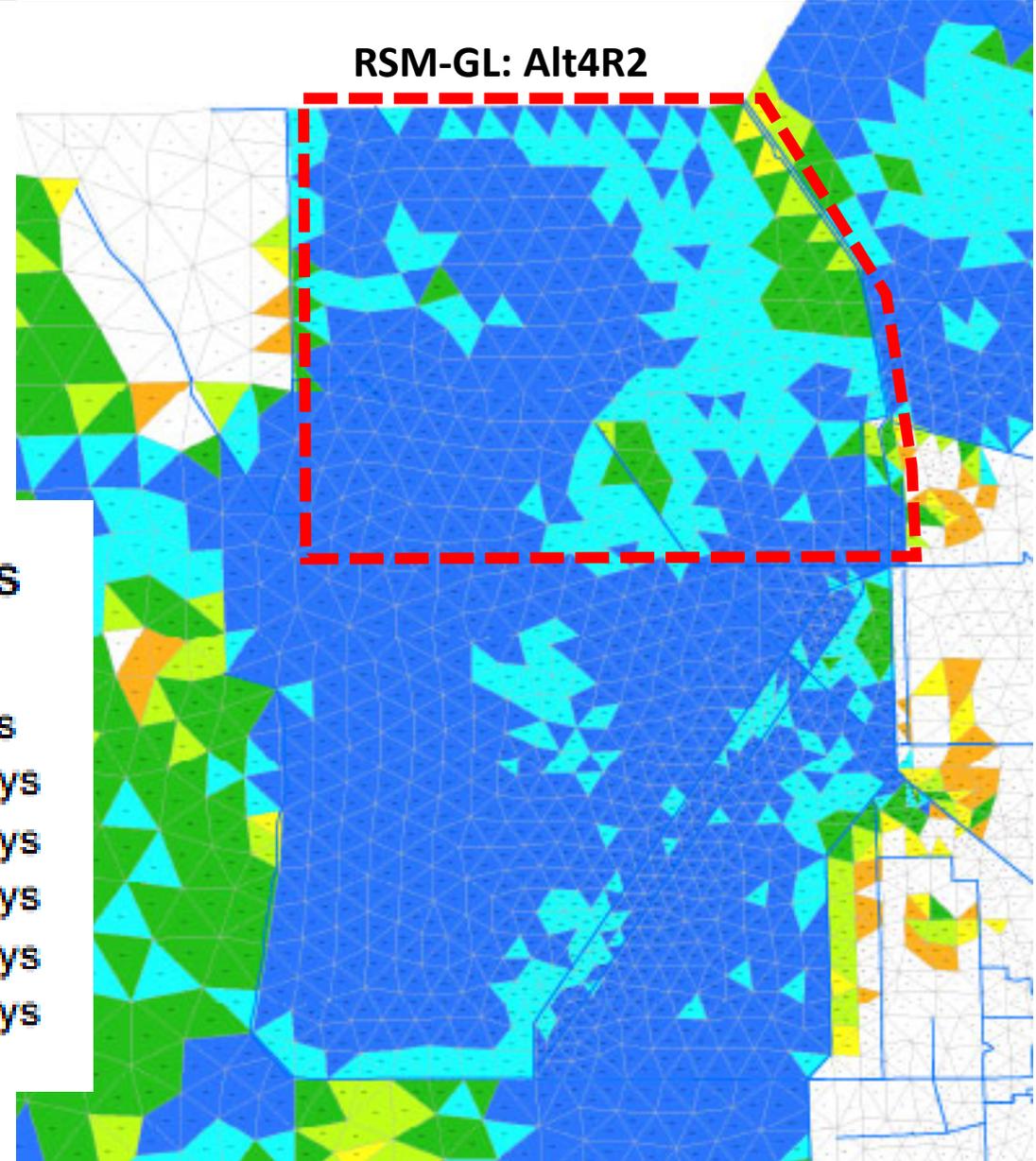


Source: US, Mexico, and San, Barbara Geography, GISM from US, USA, USA, America, PAN, and the GIS User Community

RSM-GL: ECB



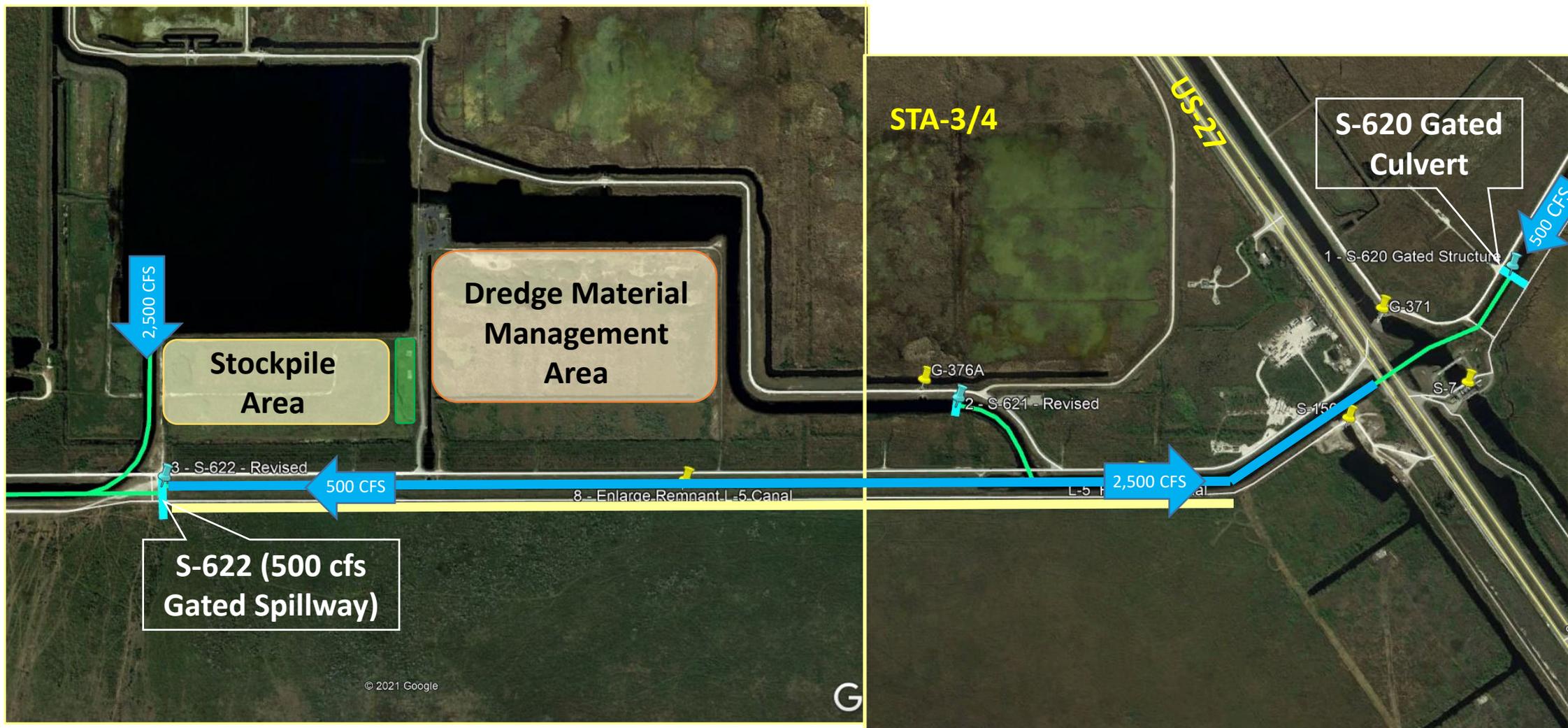
RSM-GL: Alt4R2



Hydroperiod Class

-  0 to 60 days
-  60 to 120 days
-  120 to 180 days
-  180 to 240 days
-  240 to 300 days
-  300 to 330 days
-  330 to 365 days

L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Scope



S-8 Pump Station Modification Scope

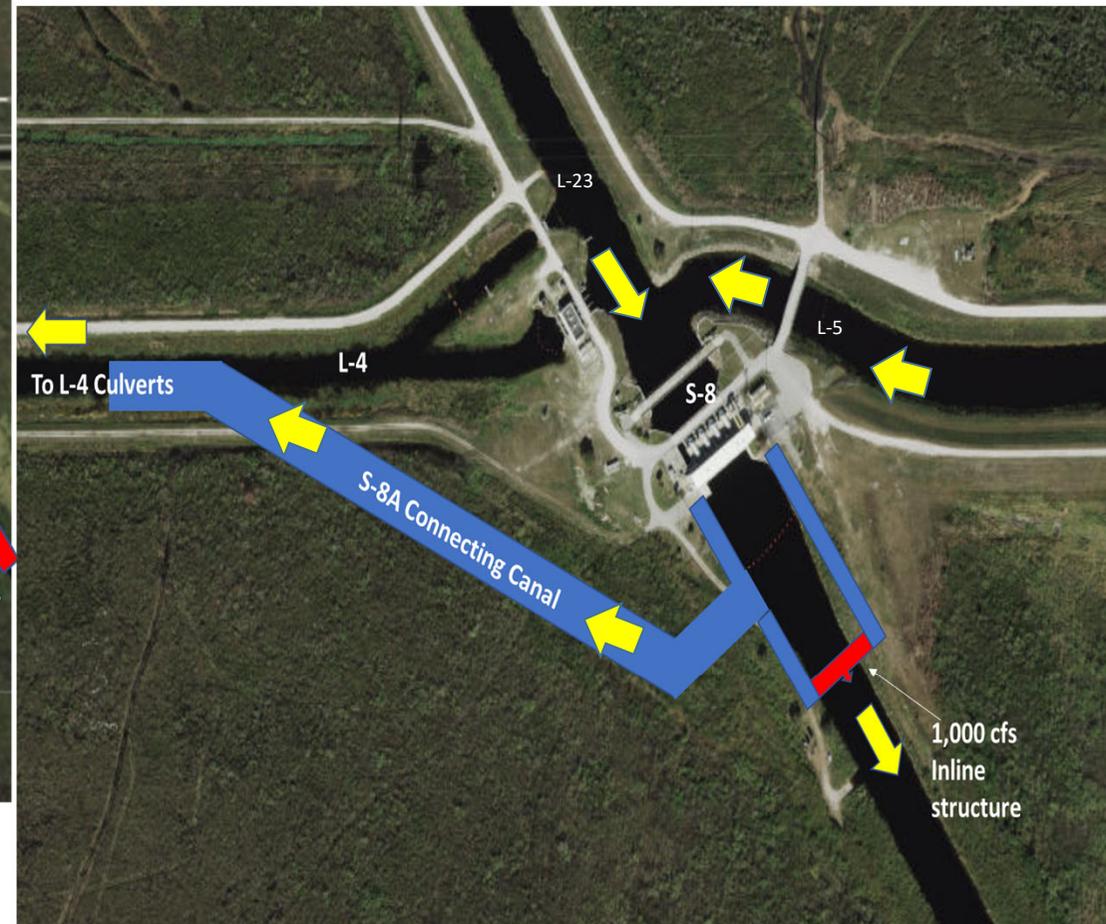
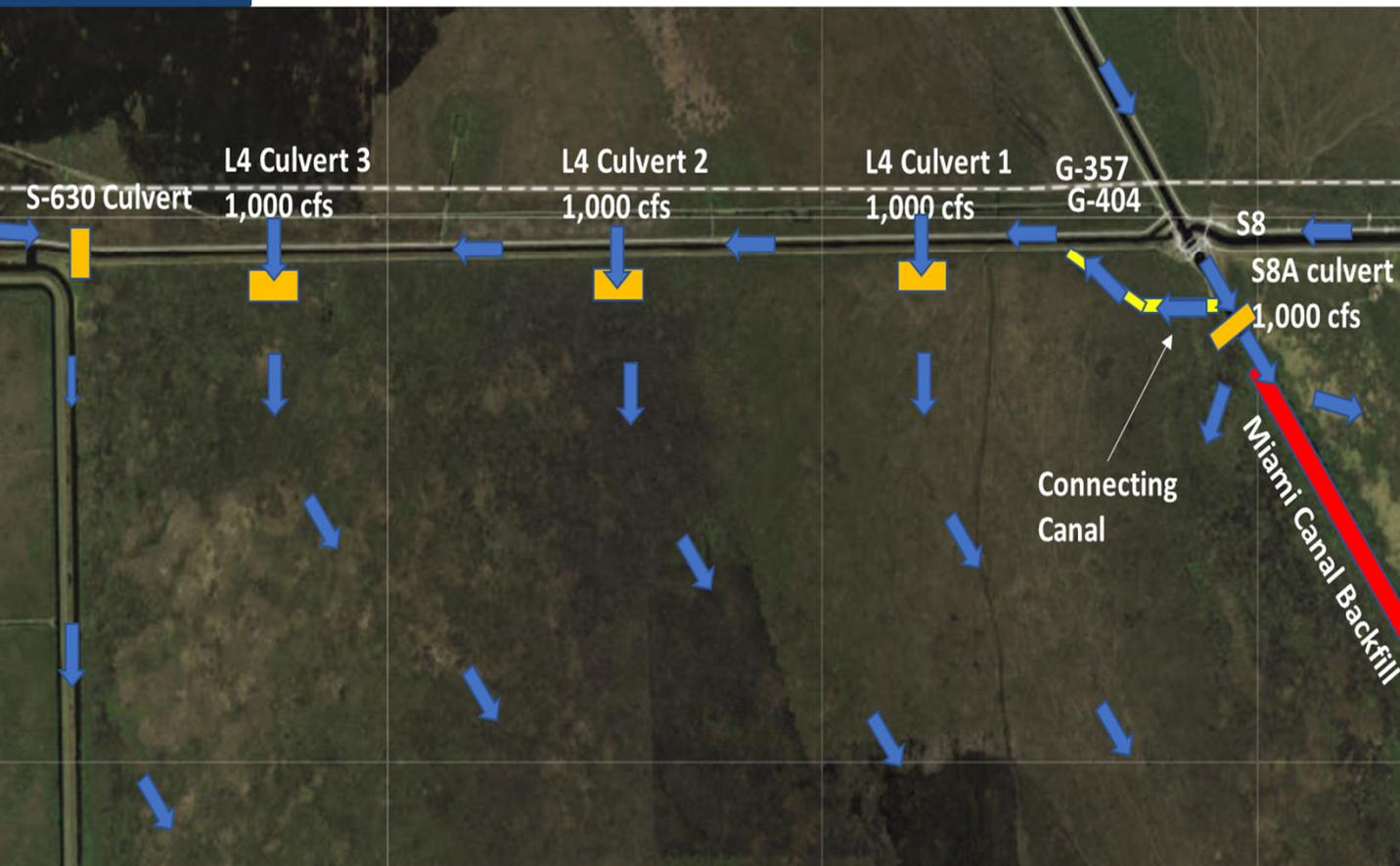
- Refurbishment of all four (4) 1,040 CFS horizontal axial pump units (152 inches diameter each), associated cooling water pumps, booster pumps and gearboxes, and existing steel bulkheads and steel pick-up beams
- Replacement of fuel storage facility, generators, vacuum pump units, trash rake system, septic system and drainfield, discharge roller gates and components, various bulkhead channel guides and stop logs, roofing system, existing fencing, and exterior lights
- Implementation of fall protection improvements based on the latest SFWMD and USACE design standards
- Upgrade station windows and doors to the highest wind load rating, repair concrete and pavement deficiencies, and paint the interior and exterior of the building



4 x 1,040 CFS Pumps

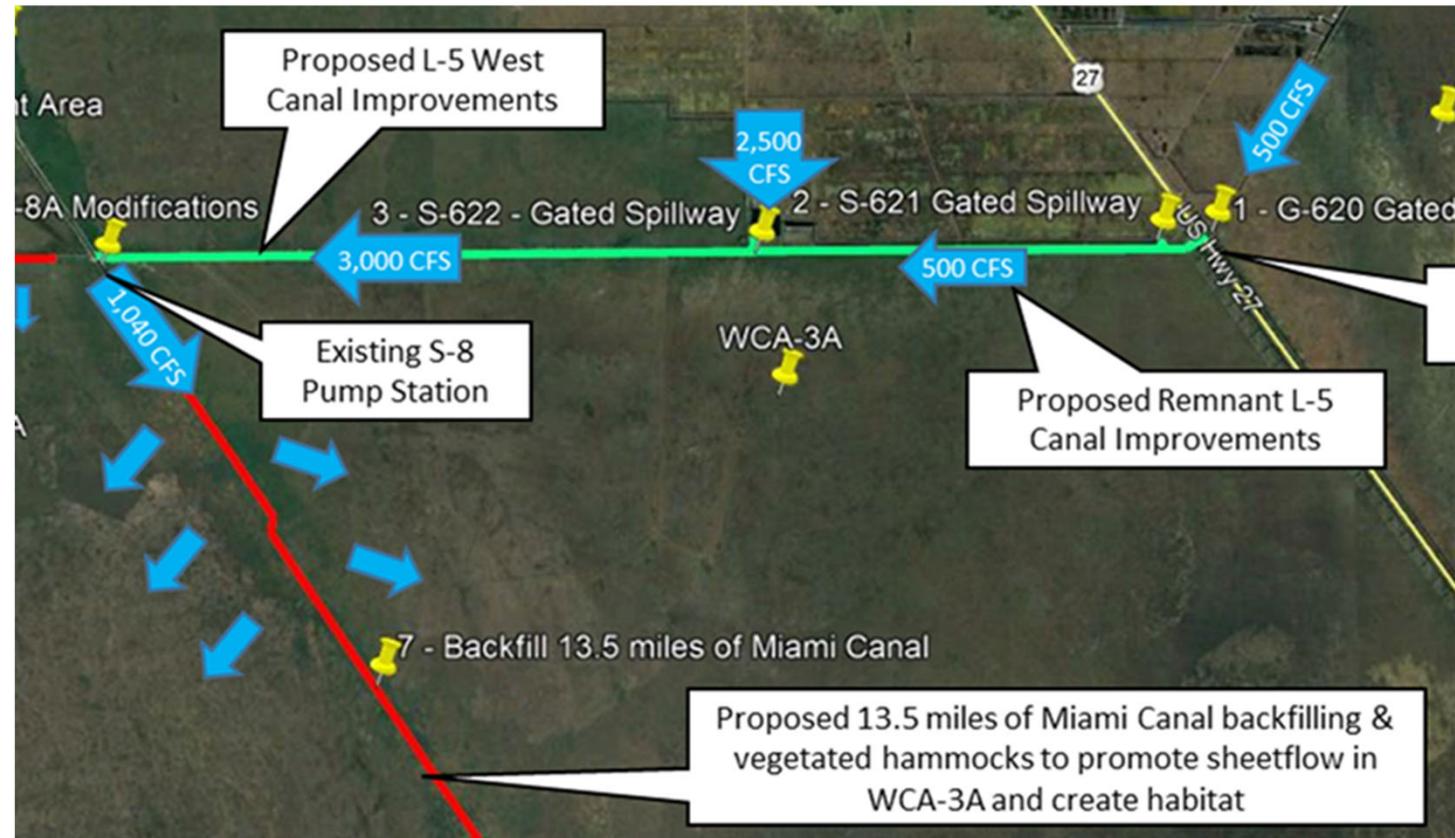


L-4 Canal Improvements & S-8 Complex



L-5 Canal Expansion, Miami Canal Backfill & Vegetated Hammocks

- L-5 Canal Expansion design complete, future construction package to be coupled with Miami Canal Backfill to minimize rehandling of materials
- Miami Canal survey is complete, and Vegetated Hammocks survey is in progress
- 13.5 miles of Miami Canal backfill and 13 Vegetated Hammocks are in design



CEPP North - USACE Permits & Agreements Status

- L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements: Anticipate 408 Approval and 404 Permit by March 2025
- S-8 Pump Station Repurposing: Anticipate 408 Approval and 404 Permit by March 2025
- Agreements required for preserving construction cost share
 - Pre-Partnership Crediting Agreement (PPCA) #3 Amendment #1 for S-622 construction by April 2025, going to March GB, Anticipate 408 Approval and 404 Permit by April 2025
 - Final Validation Report and EA/FONSI for L-4 Canal Improvements and Distribution features by July 2025, features are in design
- All other CEPP North features are covered by existing agreements

27 A. Resolution No. 2025-0213

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing entering into an Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to provide financial assistance to FDOT for the CEPP EAA US-27 Bridges Project, in amount not to exceed \$35,172,987, for which dedicated funds (Everglades Trust Fund, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State General Revenue) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005152)

27 B. Resolution No. 2025-0214

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a 1,243-day contract with Forgen, LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North L-5 Remnant Canal Improvements Project, in the amount of \$71,246,497, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets, providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005160)

27 C. Resolution 2025-0215

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a 1,347-day contract with Harry Pepper & Associates, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the Central Everglades Planning Project North S-8 Pump Station Modification Phase 2 Project, in the amount of \$73,977,993, for which \$15,500,000 in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund, State General Revenue, and Everglades Trust Fund) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets, providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005161)

Water and Ecological Conditions Summary

South Florida Water Management District Governing Board Meeting February 13, 2025

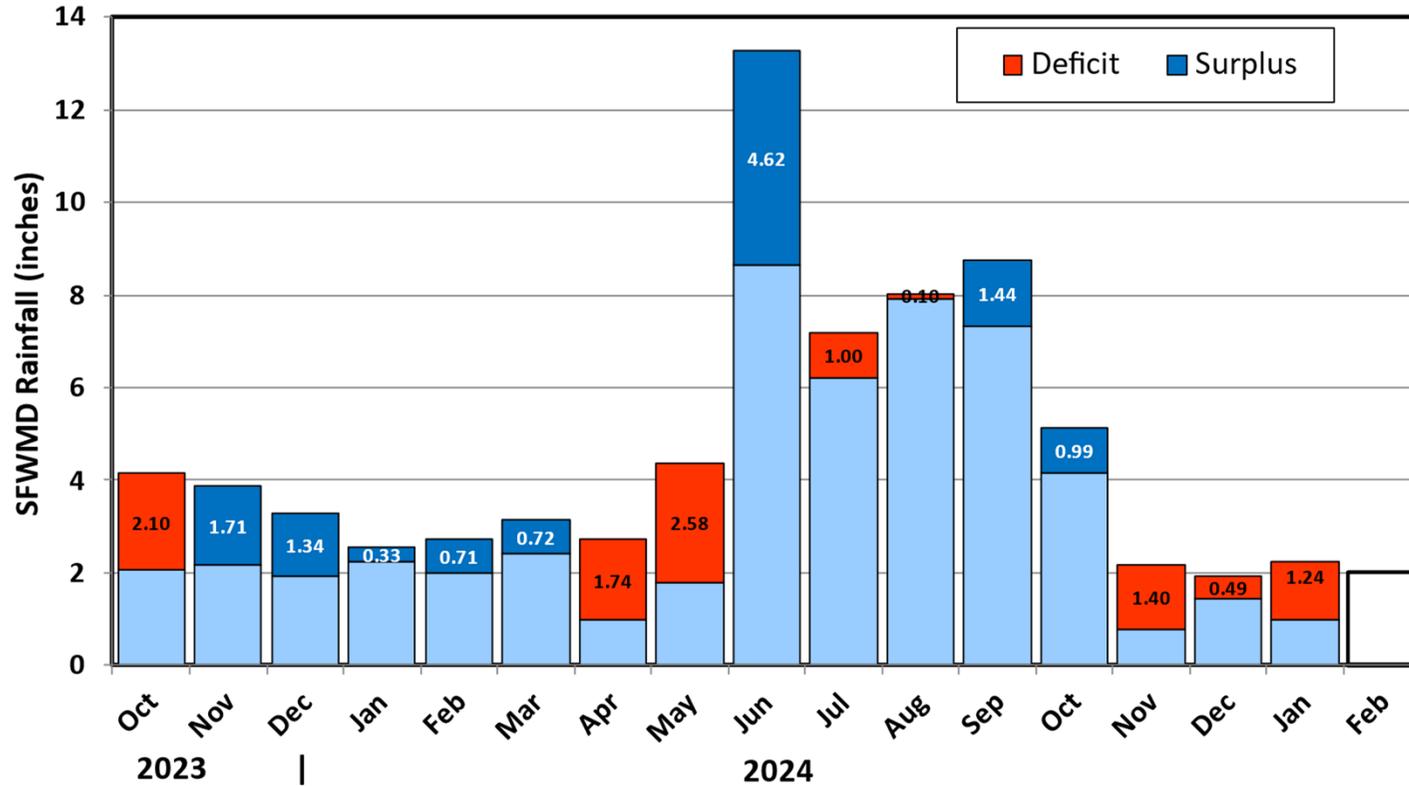


John P. Mitnik, PE
Chief District Engineer
Assistant Executive Director



Lawrence Glenn
Division Director
Water Resources

SFWMD Rainfall Distribution Comparison (October 2023 - February 2025)



Wet-Season Rainfall

- Total rainfall 120% of normal since the start of the 2024 wet season (13 May)
- May and July were below Normal
- June finished above 90th percentile
- August near normal
- September was above Normal

District Wide Average Rainfall

Month	Average (inches)
Jan	2.24
Feb	2.01
Mar	2.43
Apr	2.71
May	4.37
Jun	8.65
Jul	7.20
Aug	8.03
Sep	7.31
Oct	4.15
Nov	2.18
Dec	1.94

Wet Season

2023-2024 DRY SEASON

- Started 10/01/2023 ended 5/12/2024
- October 2023 and April 2024 were extremely dry
- Large isolated rainfall events November to March
- November 2023 through March 2024 above normal

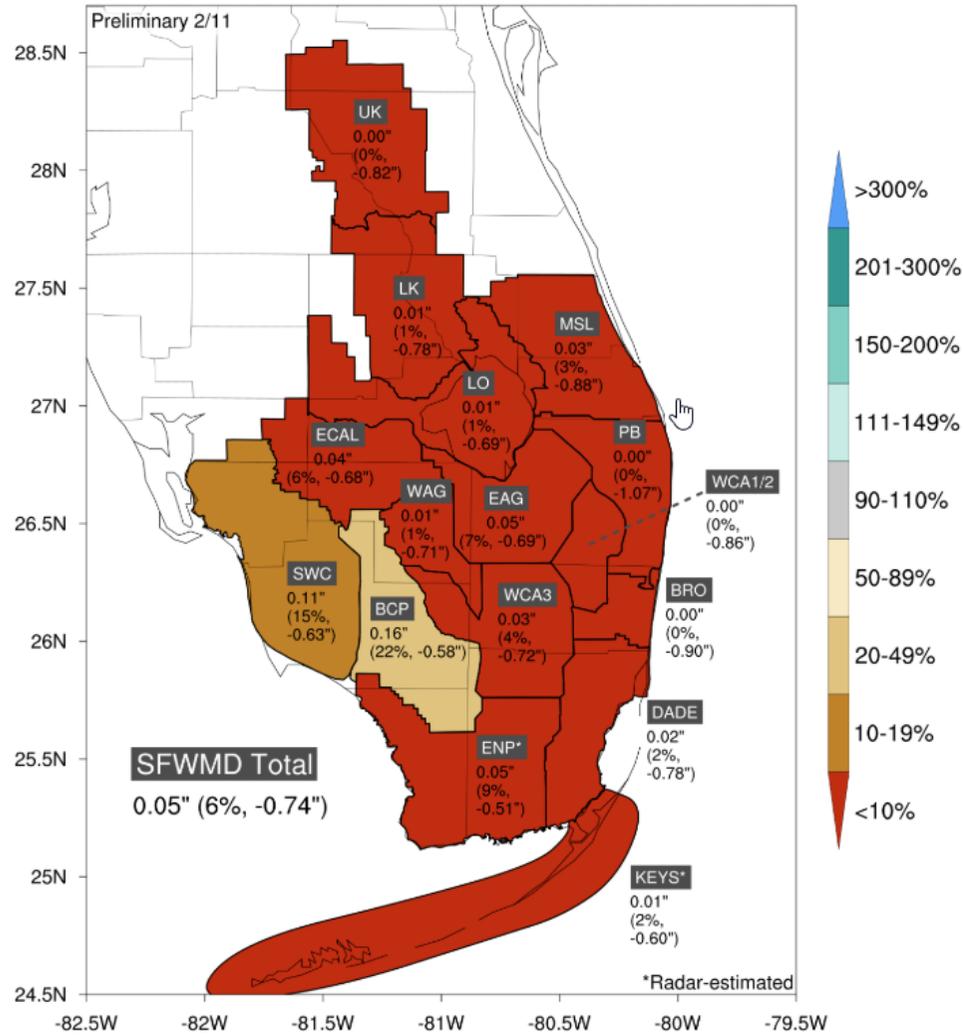
2024 WET SEASON

- Total rainfall 120% of normal (5/13 – 10/9/2024)
- May and July were below Normal
- June finished above 90th percentile
- August near normal
- September was above Normal

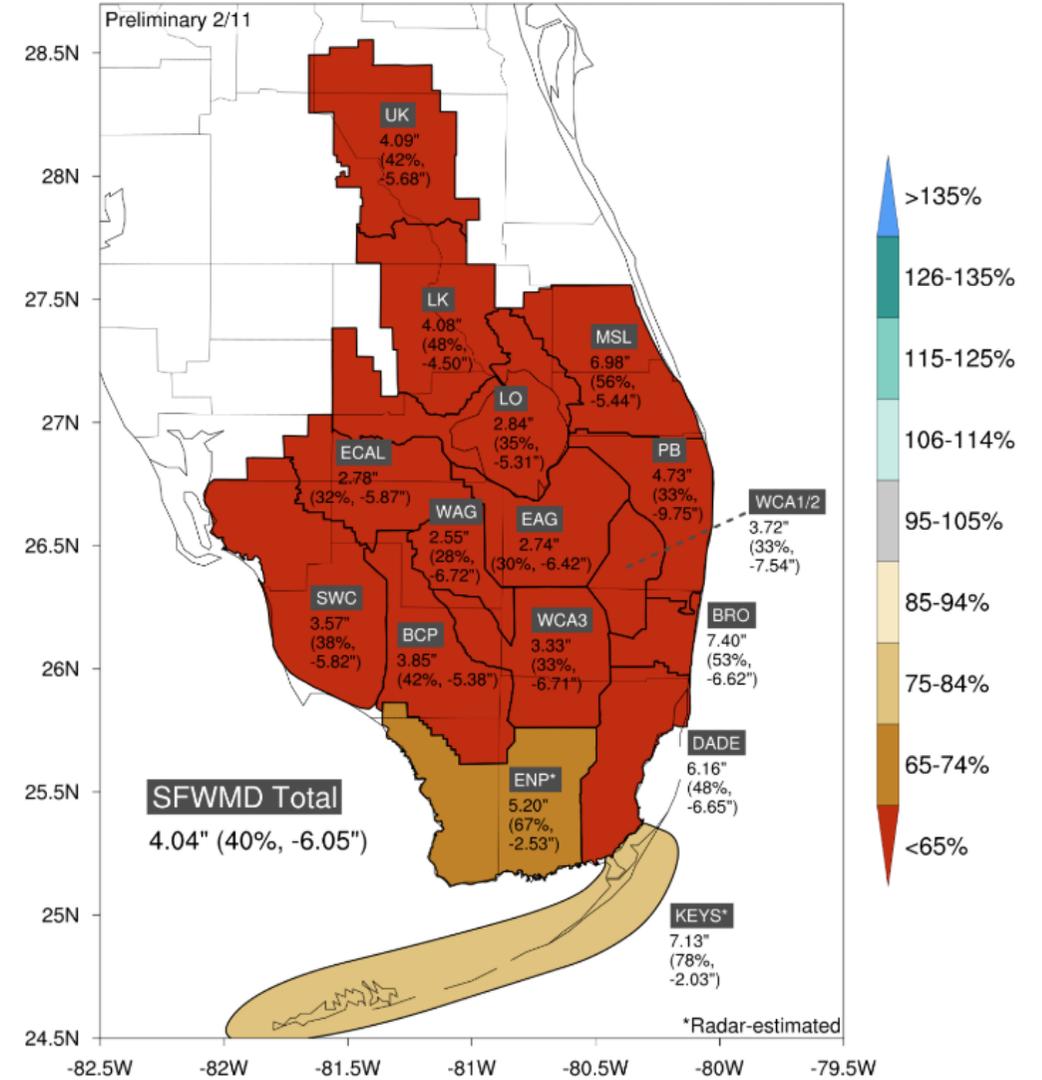
2024-2025 DRY SEASON

- Total rainfall 42% of normal (10 Oct – Present)
- October was 120% of Normal
- Nov. 2024 and Jan. 2025 were extremely dry
- December was dry (75% of Normal)
- La Nina conditions (drier) are expected to persist through February-April 2025.

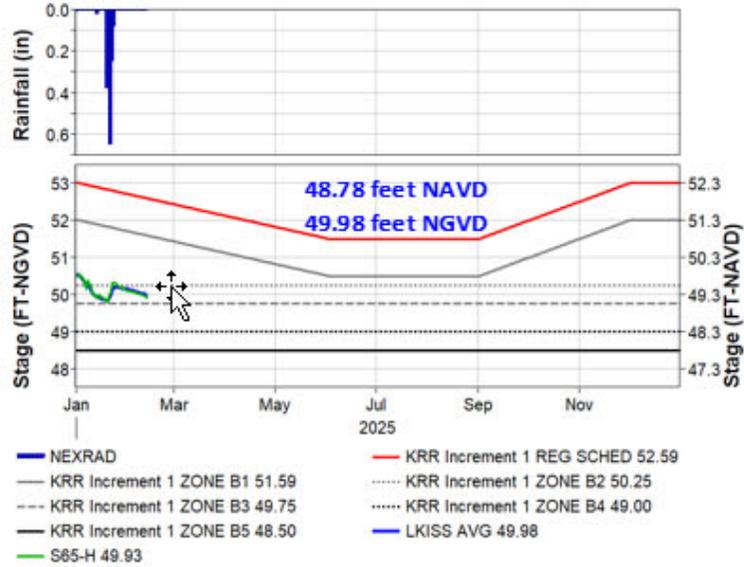
February 2025 (2/1/25 to 2/11/25)
 Rainfall, Percent of Normal, and Departures



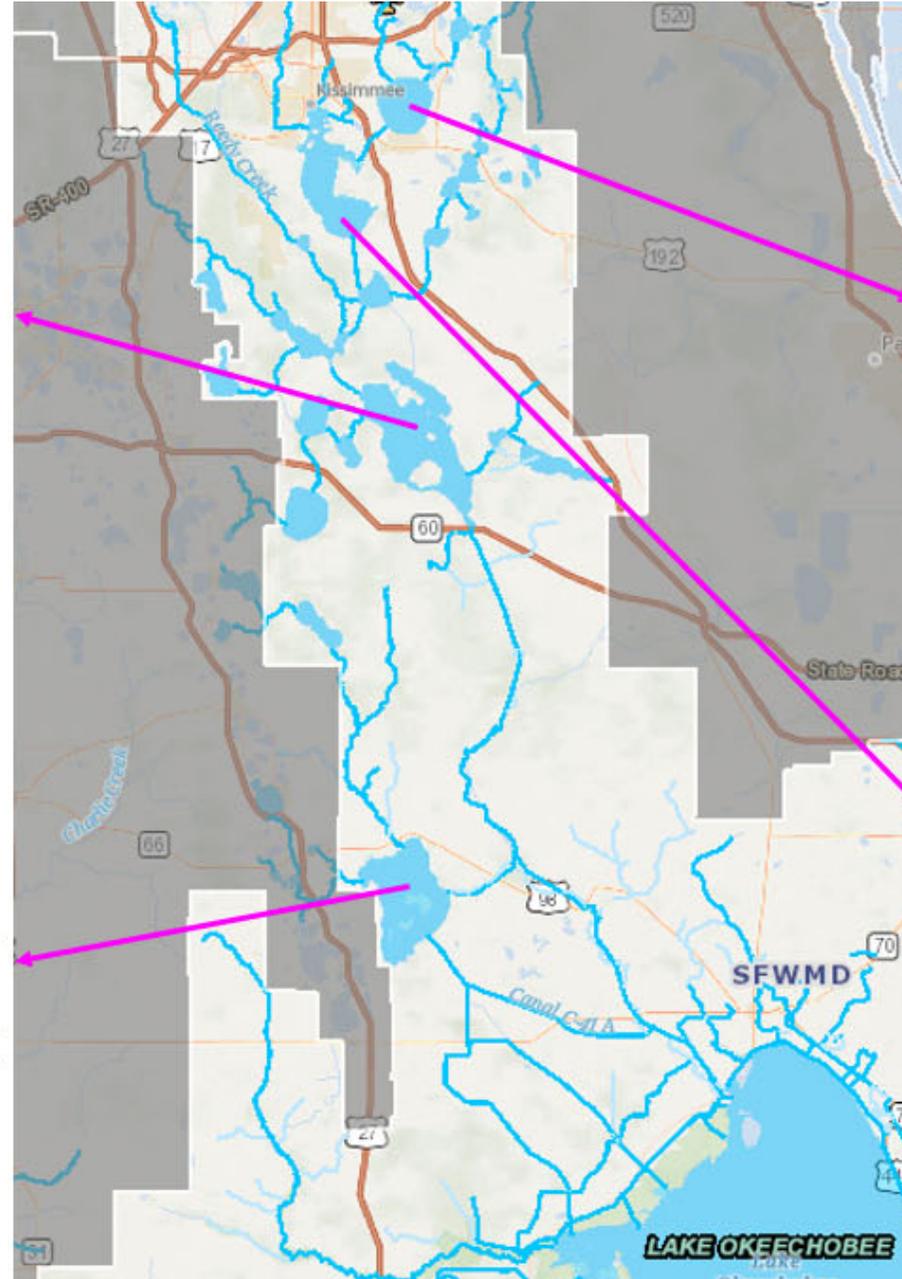
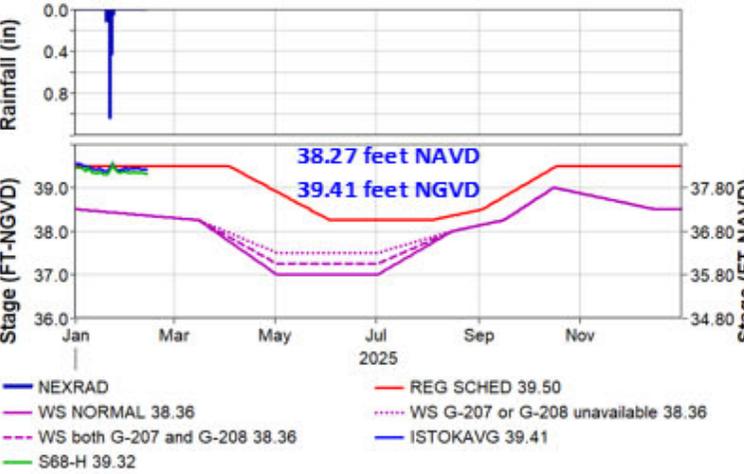
2024-2025 Dynamic Dry Season (10/10/24 to 2/11/25)
 Rainfall, Percent of Normal, and Departures



Lake Kissimmee (11 February 2025)



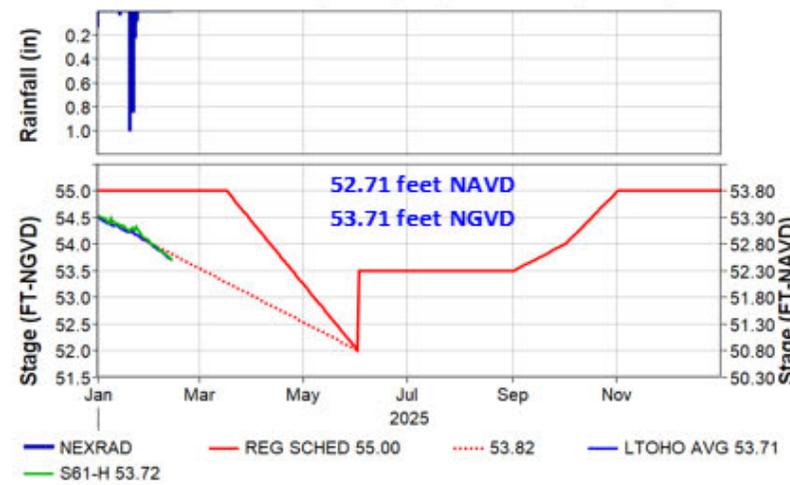
Lake Istokpoga (11 February 2025)



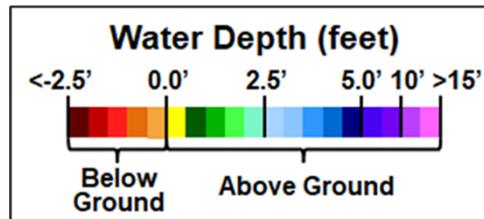
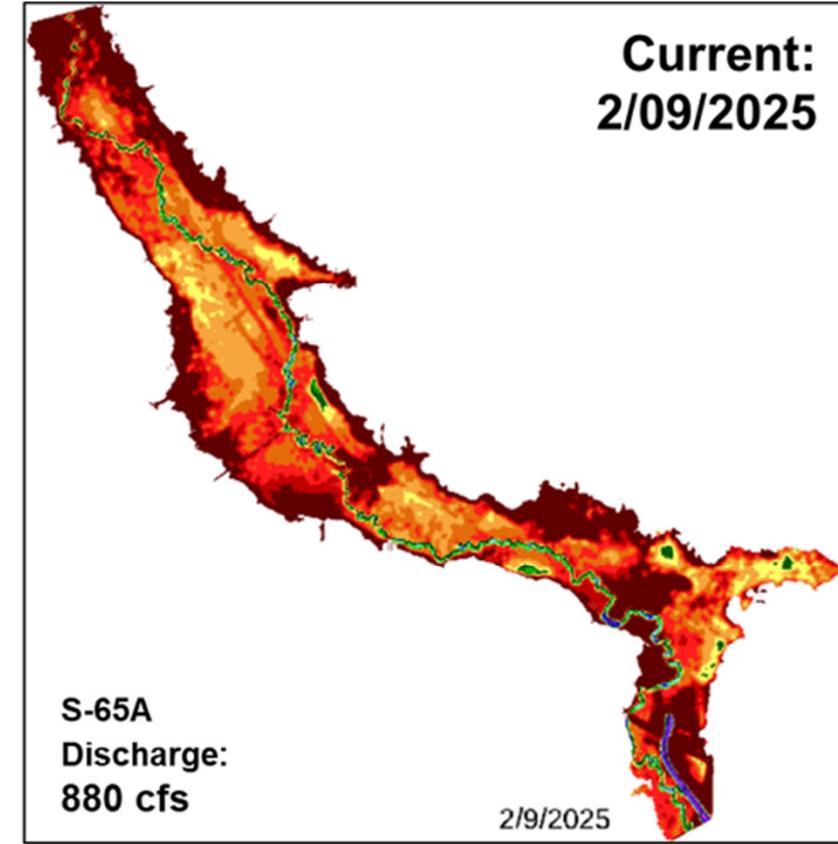
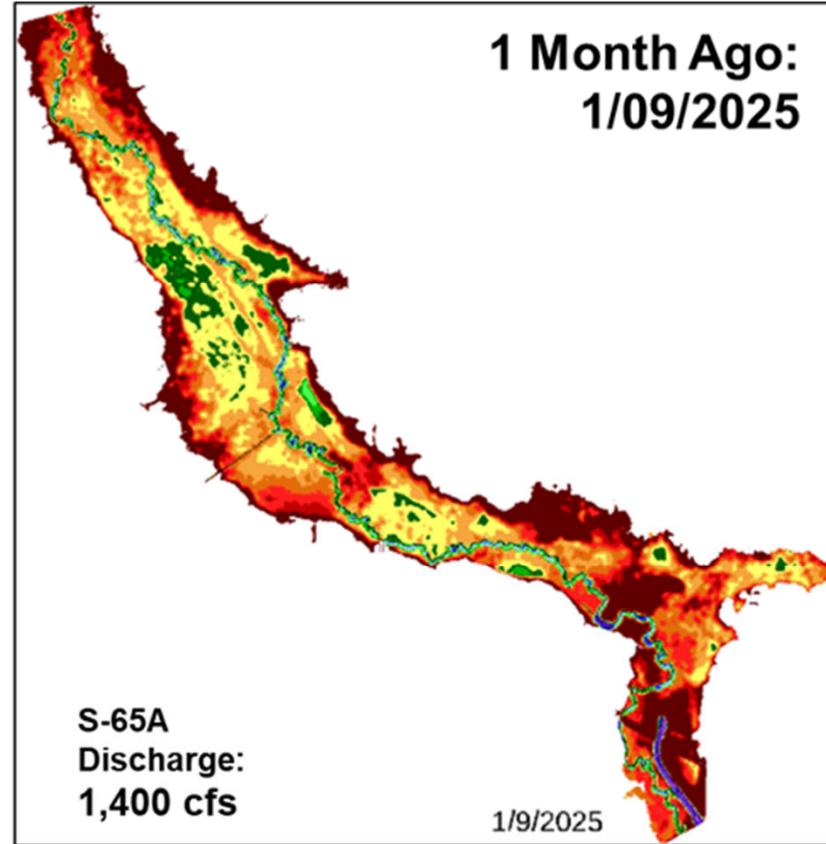
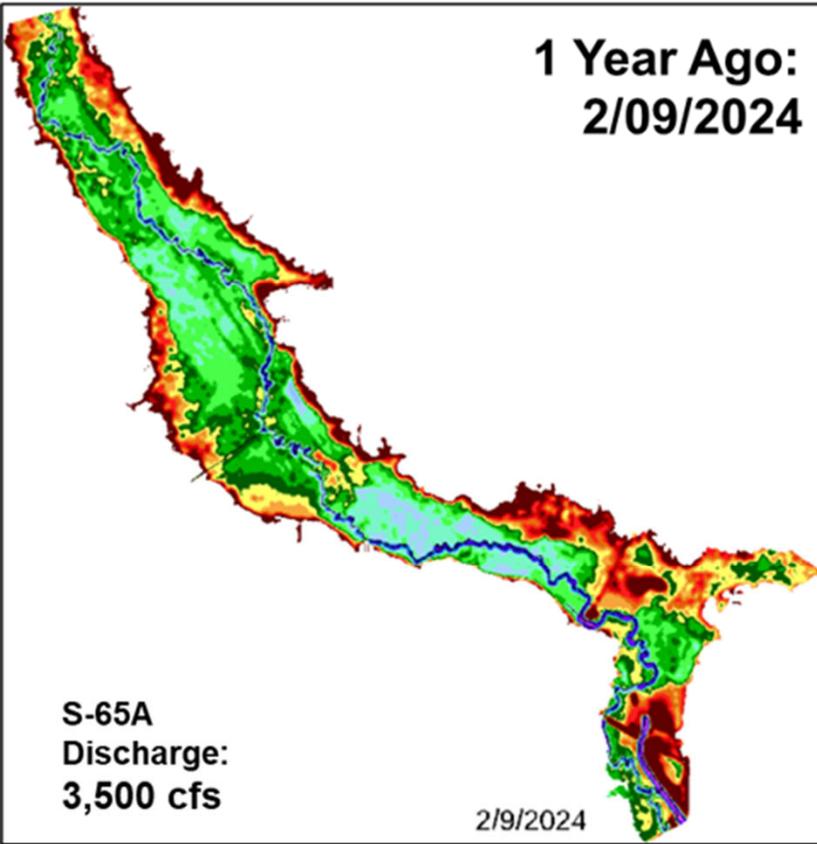
Lake East Tohopekaliga (11 February 2025)



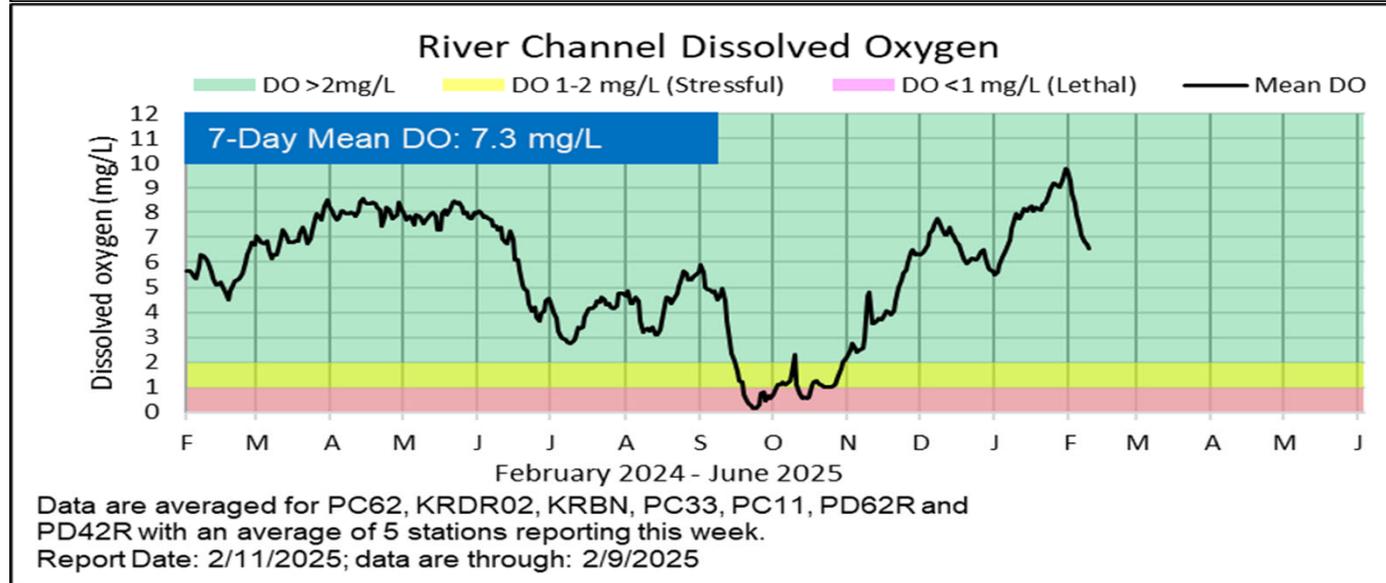
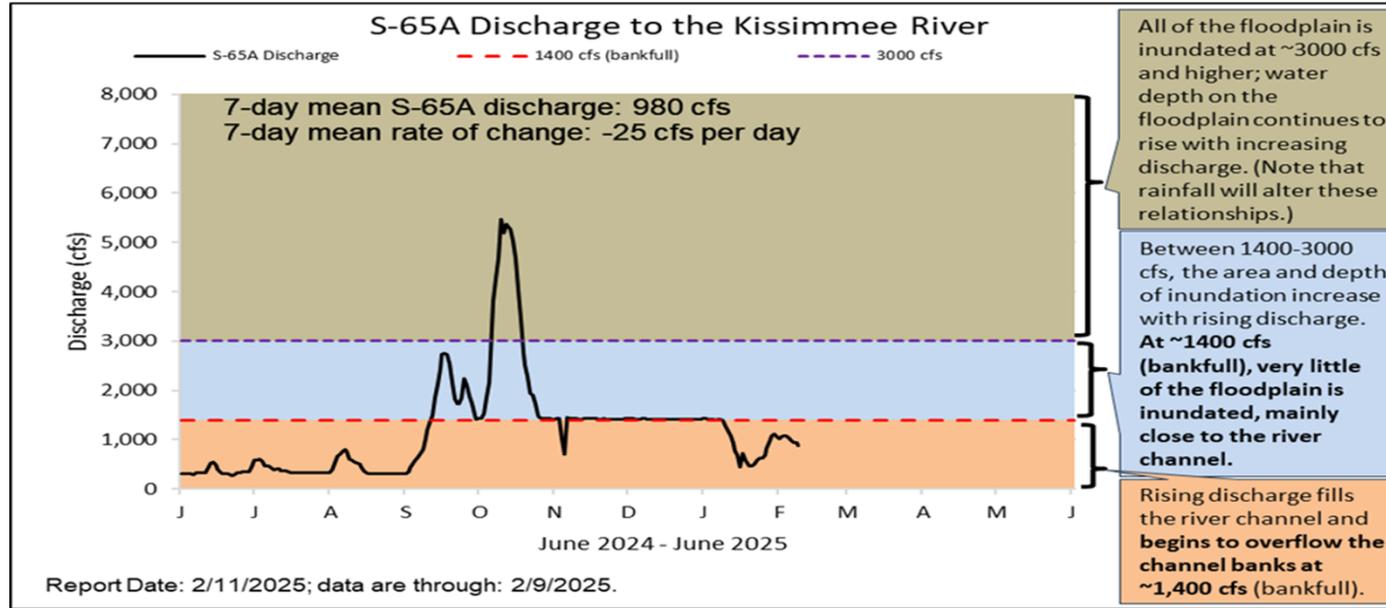
Lake Tohopekaliga (11 February 2025)

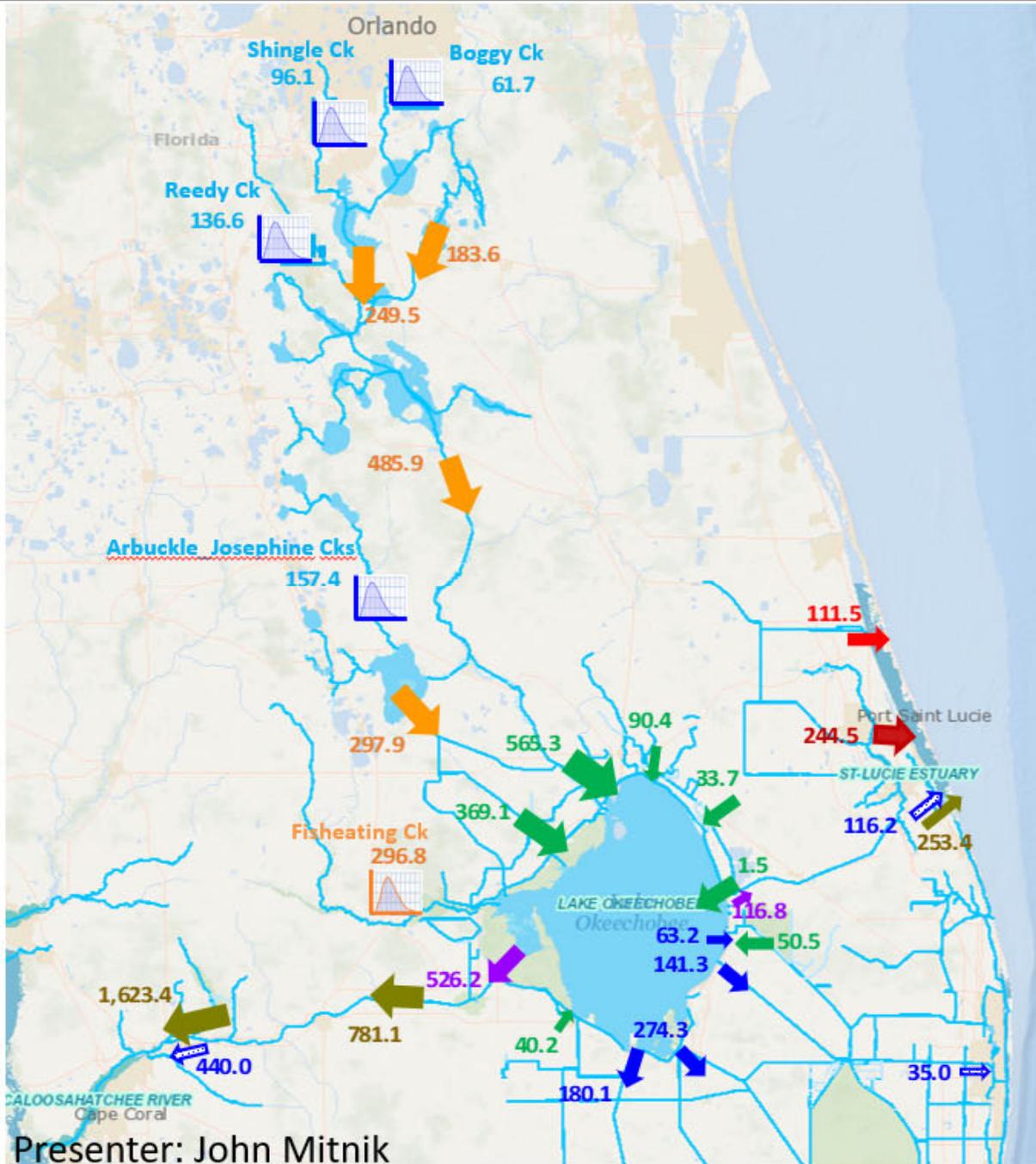


Kissimmee River Floodplain Inundation



Kissimmee River Discharge and Dissolved Oxygen



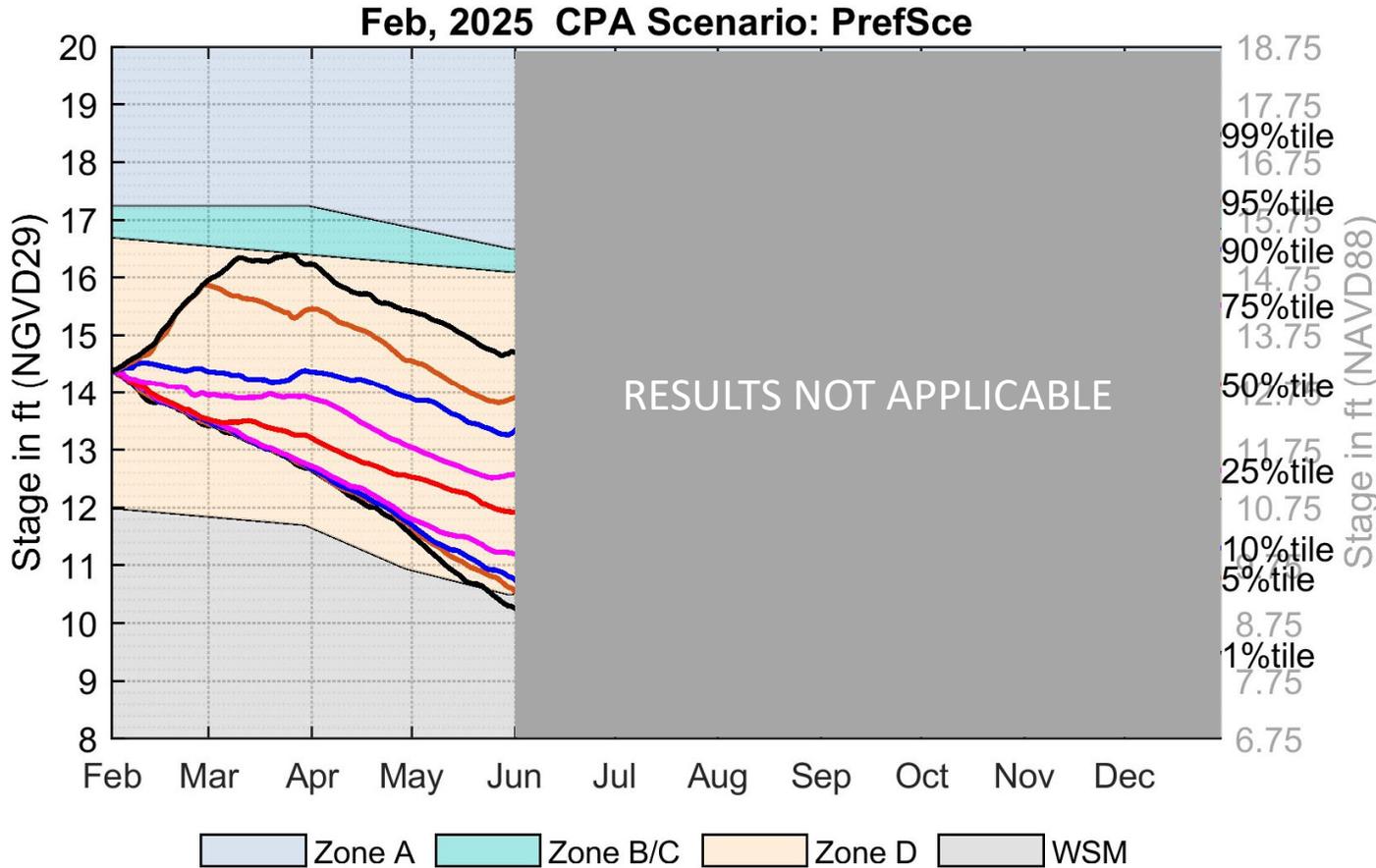


SFWMD – Selected Release Volumes for the Period May 1, 2024 to February 11, 2025
(volumes in 1,000 acre-feet)

Symbol	Description	Volume (1,000 acre- feet)	
		WYR 2025	Last Month
	Upper Kissimmee to Lower Kissimmee	485.9	22.9
	Inflows to Lake Okeechobee (including Fisheating Creek)	1,447.5	34.5
	Lake Releases and Basin Runoff	1,876.8	189.7
	Lake Releases East and West	643.0	135.5
	Lake Flood Control to Estuaries	556.2	129.8
	Total Lake Releases South	658.9	161.3
	Releases to Indian River Lagoon	111.5	2.0
	Upper East Coast discharges to St. Lucie Estuary	244.5	1.2
	Uncontrolled flows - Creeks (does not include Fisheating Creek)	451.7	17.1

1,000 acre-feet = 325.9 Million Gallons

Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) LOK under LOSOM RO

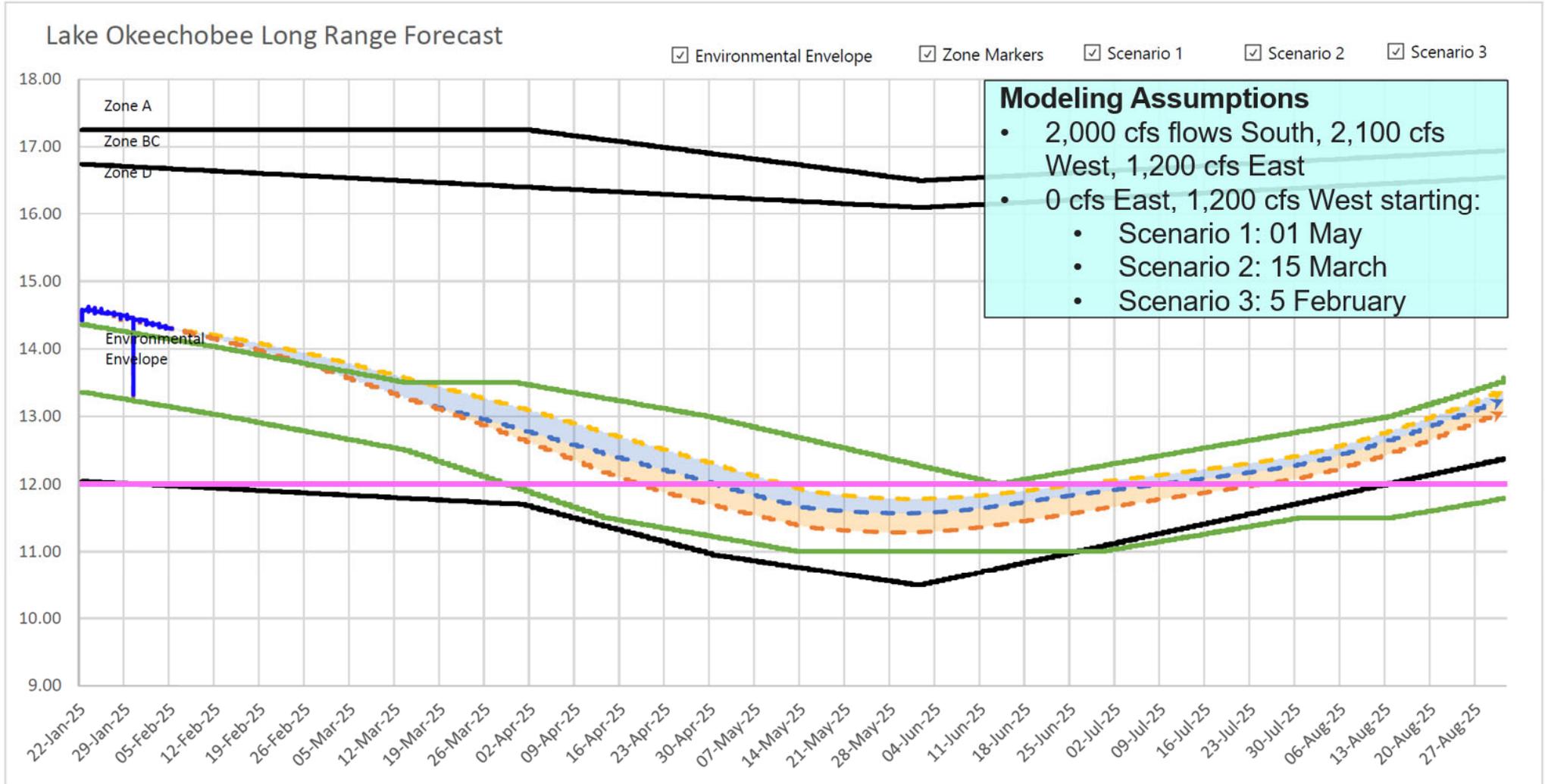


- Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) improves DPA predicted stages by taking into account the anticipated rainfall conditions.
- Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) is a stochastic technique that utilizes robust and well-established approaches, such as Monte Carlo simulation and NonLinear Programming, to correctly apply the rainfall to stage Transition Probability Matrix and recognize non-unique solutions.



U.S. ARMY

FEB 6 FORECAST

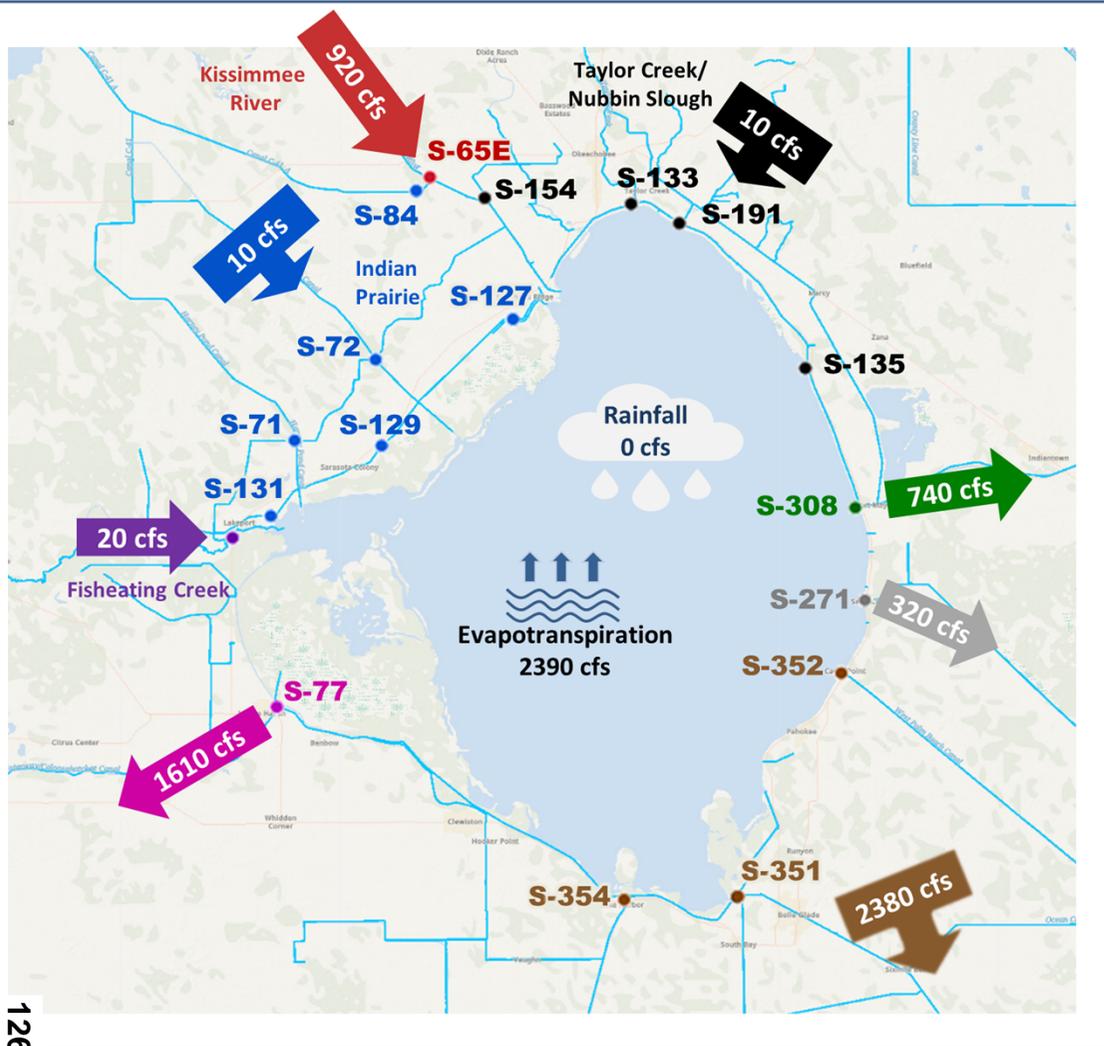


	Forecast Assumptions	Forecast Low	Date	Days Possible Below 12.0 ft
Scenario 1	80% normal precip remainder of dry season, End Flows East 01 May	11.28	30-May-25	97
Scenario 2	80% normal precip remainder of dry season, End Flows East 15 March	11.56	30-May-25	69
Scenario 3	80% normal precip remainder of dry season, End Flows East 5 Feb	11.78	30-May-25	46

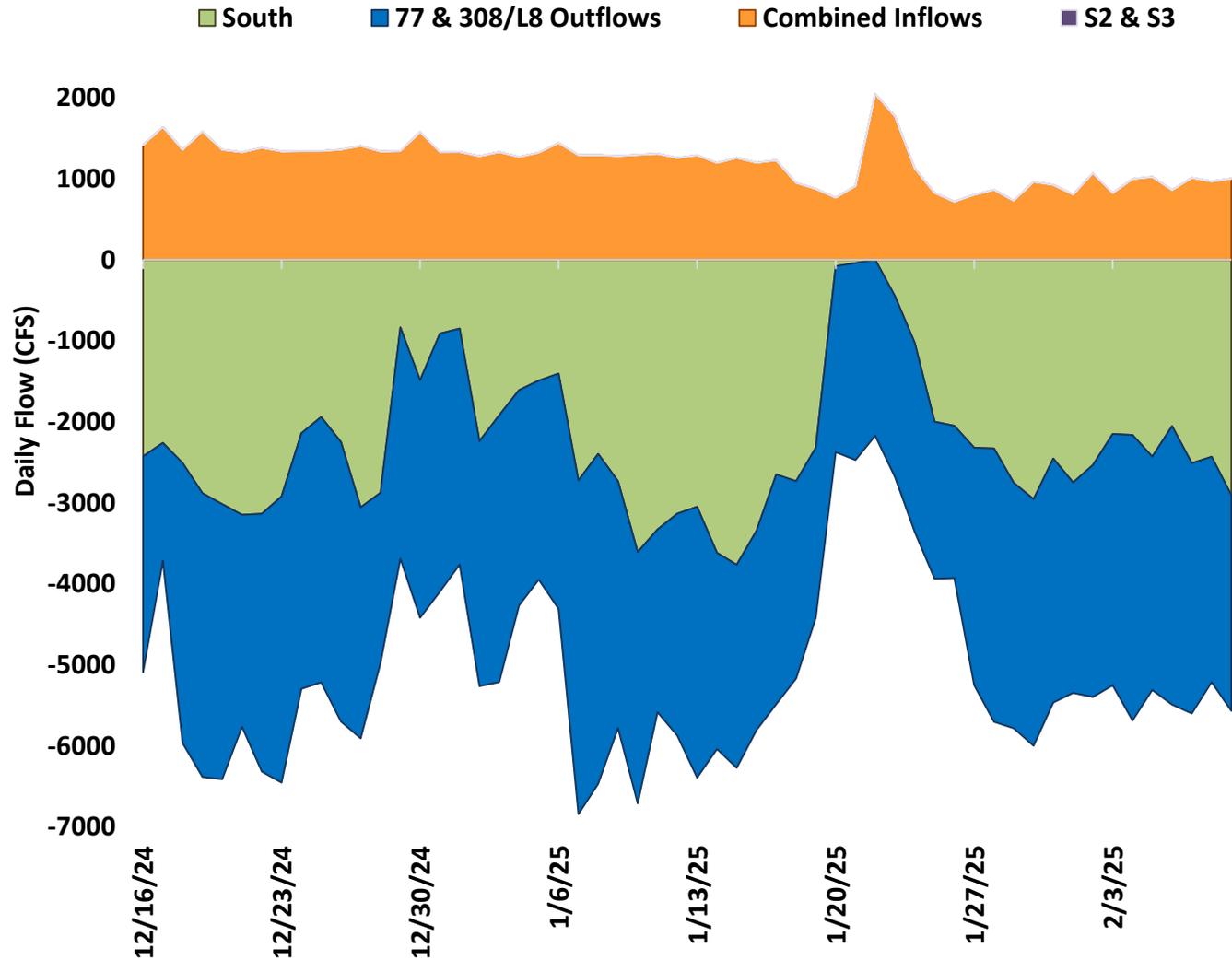
Lake Okeechobee Hydrology

(*Provisional Data)

February 03 - 09, 2025 Inflows and Outflows

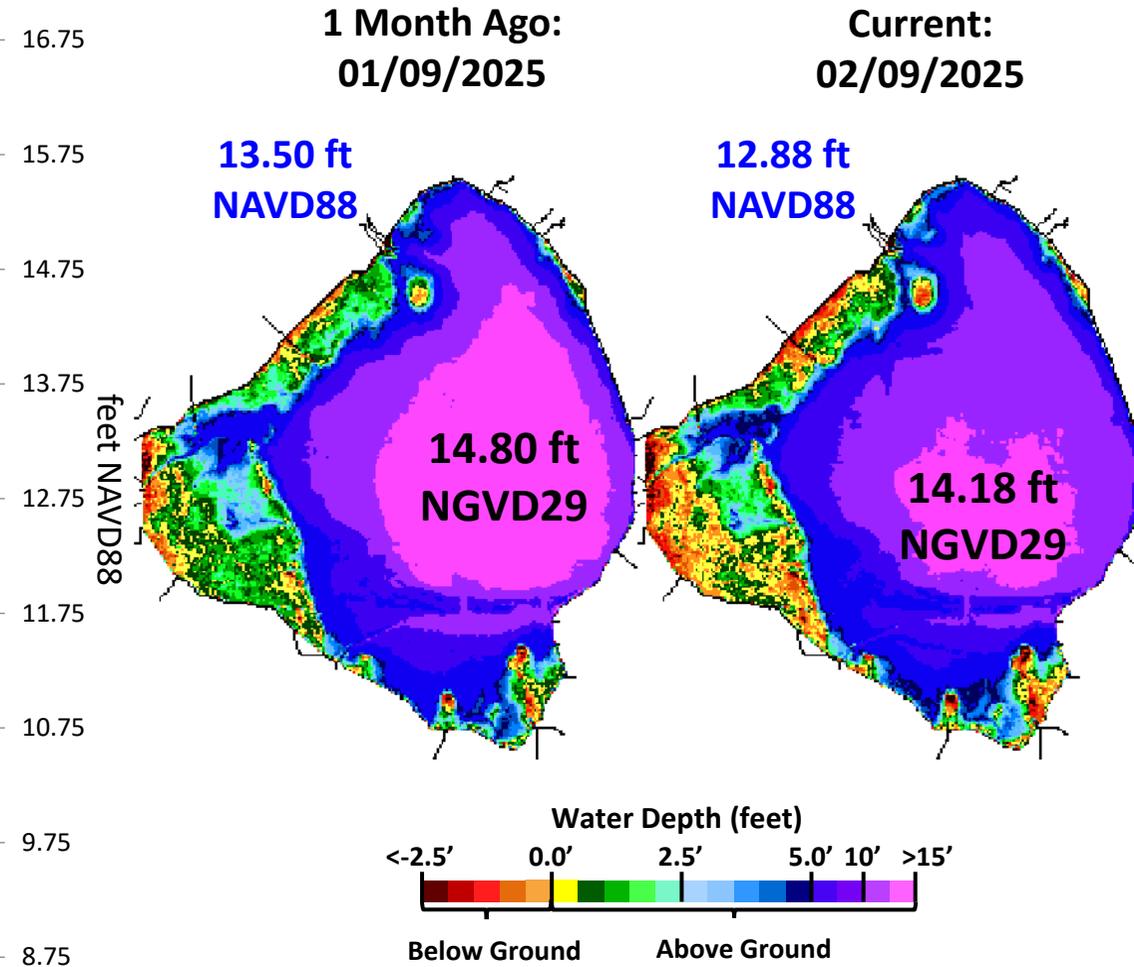
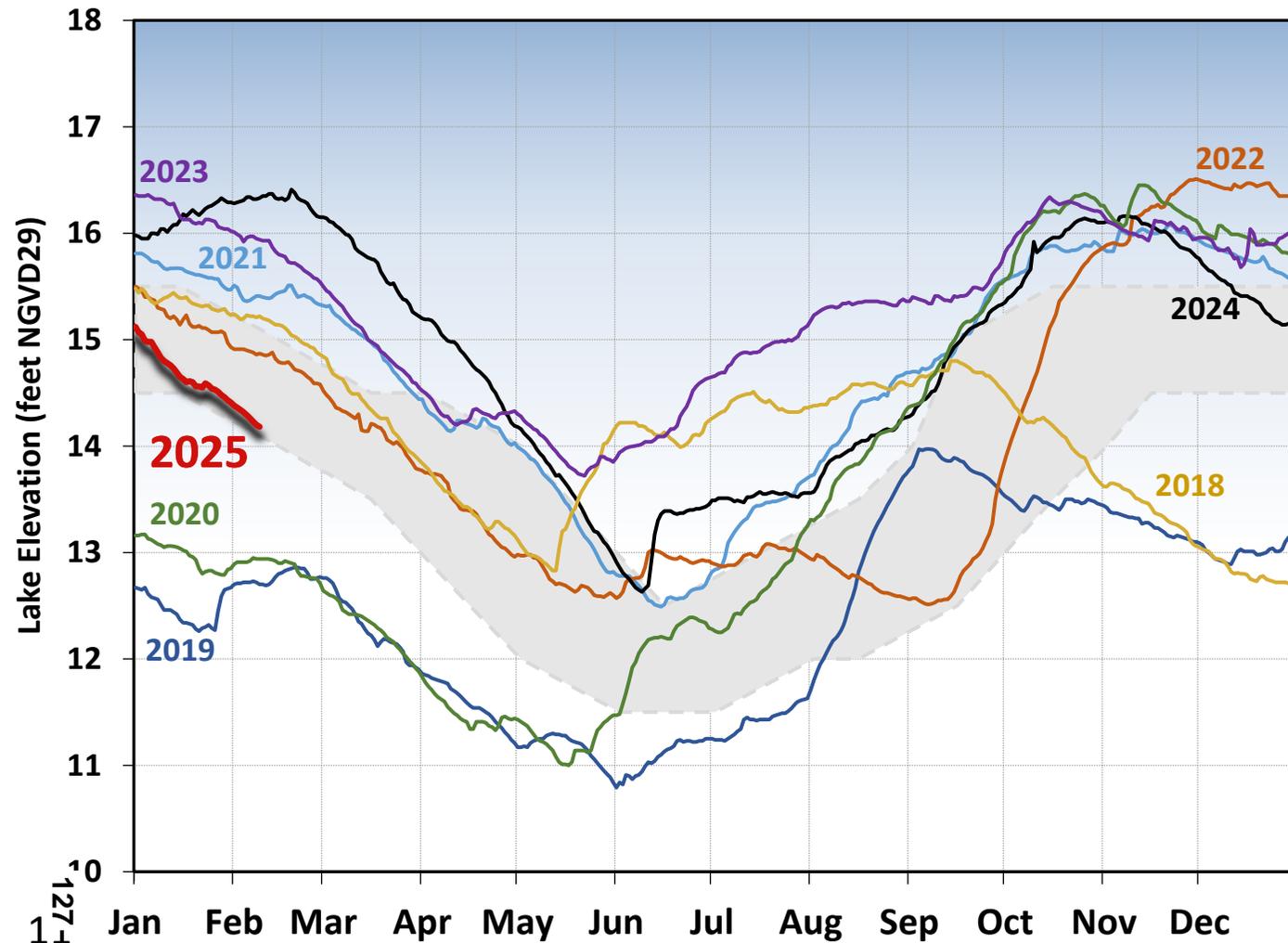


Prior 8 Weeks Inflows and Outflows



Ecological Envelope and Water Depths

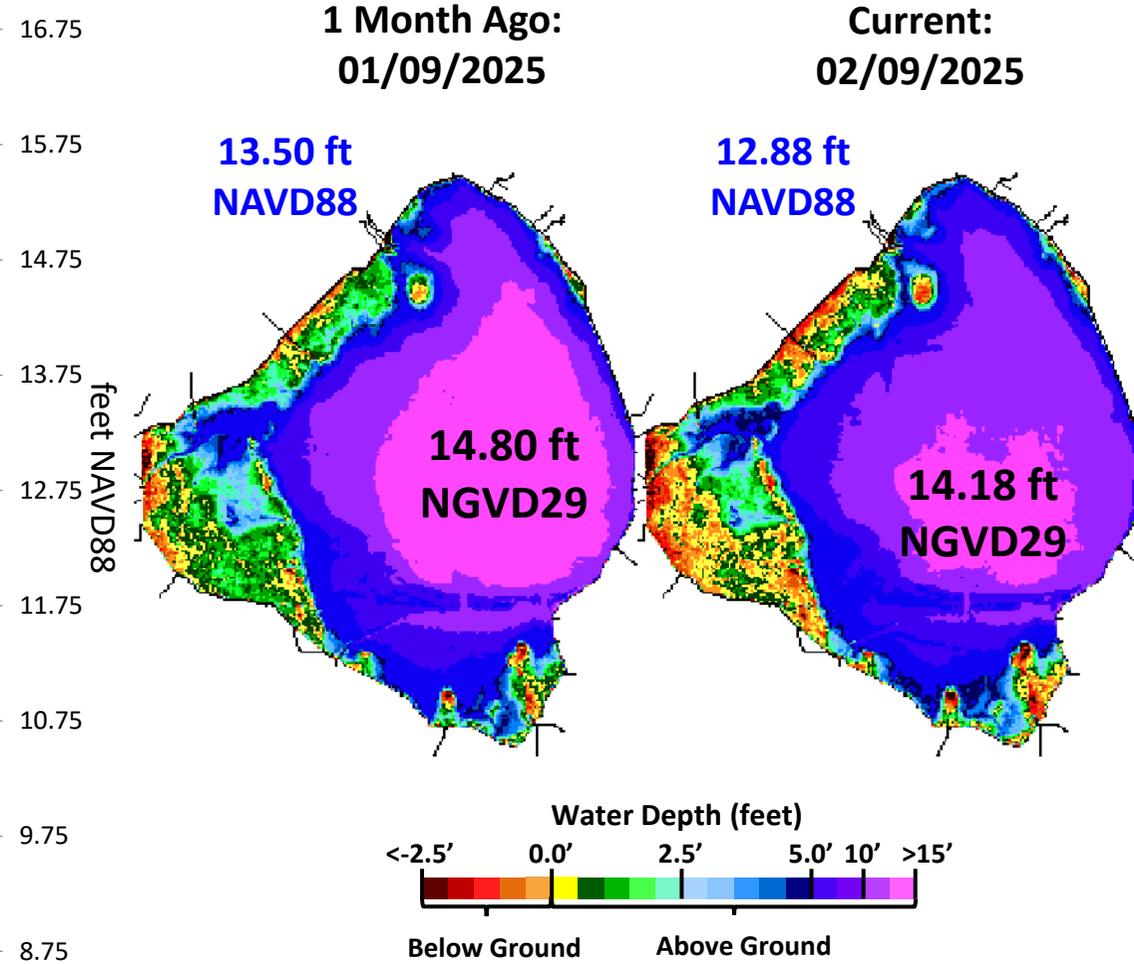
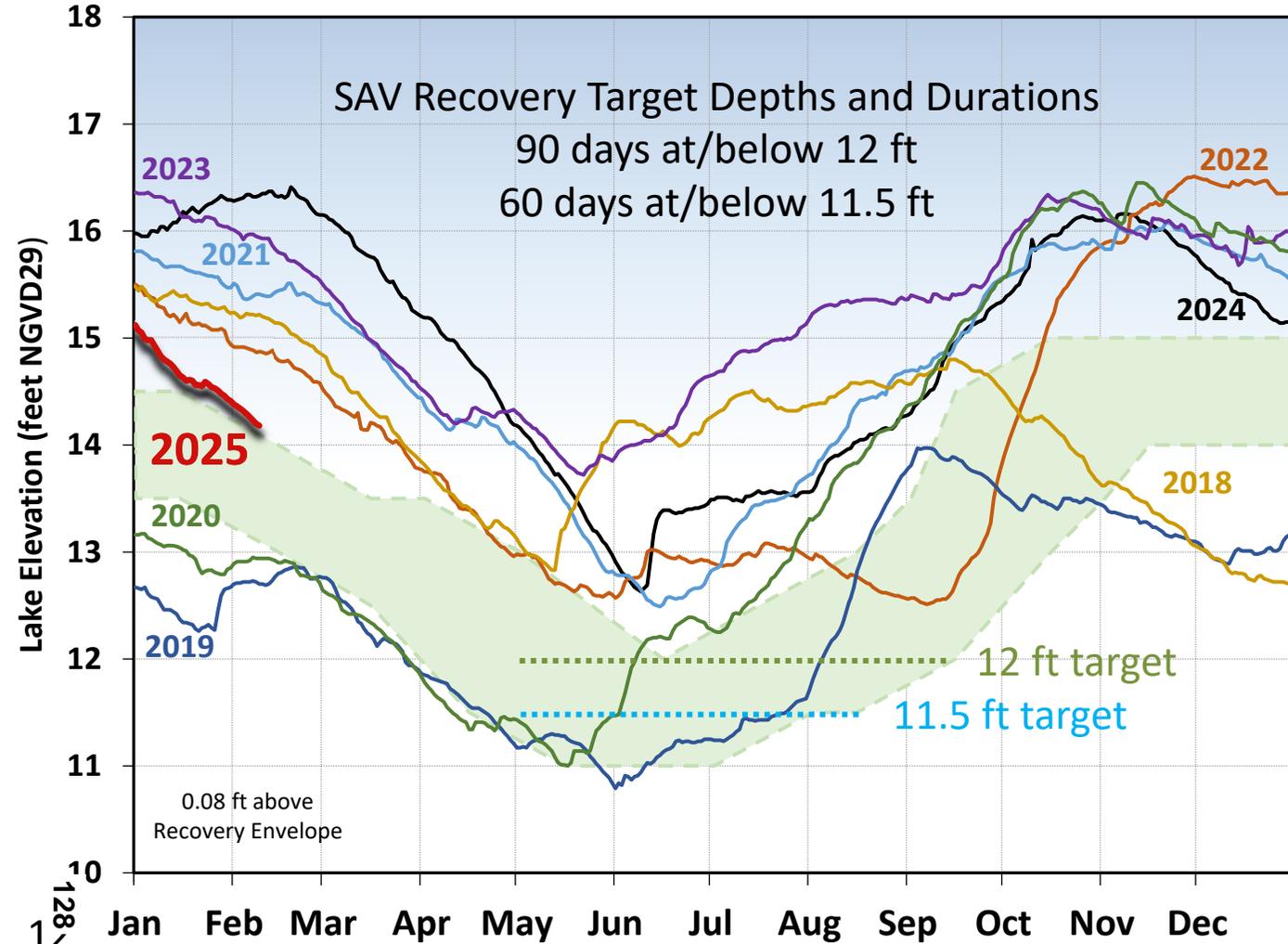
Lake Okeechobee Stage vs Ecological Envelope



Presenter: Lawrence Glenn

Ecological Envelope and Water Depths

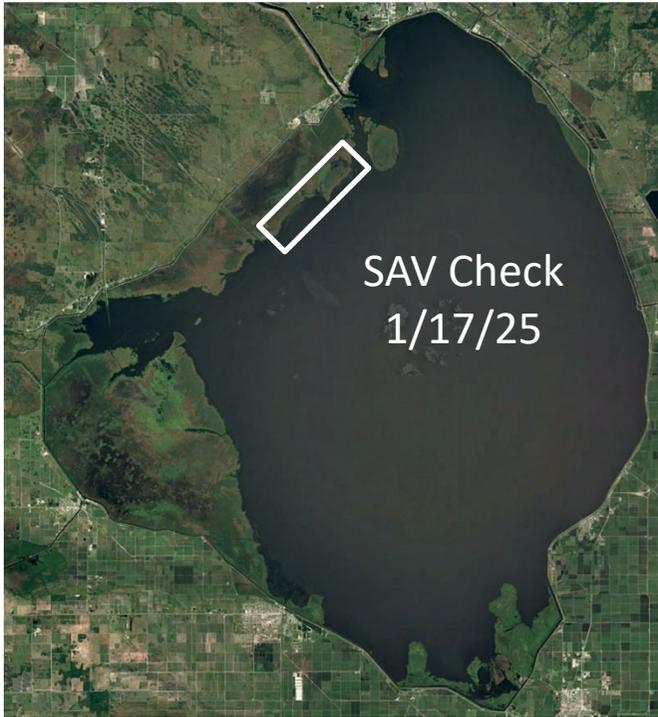
Lake Okeechobee Stage vs Recovery Envelope



Presenter: Lawrence Glenn

Lake Okeechobee

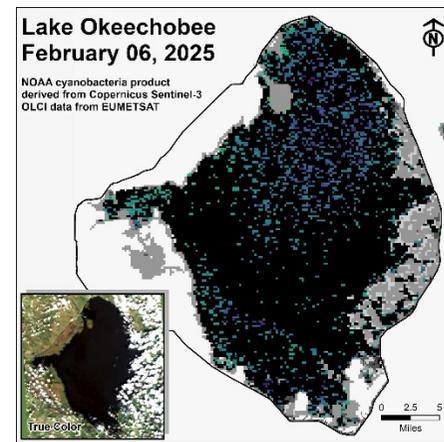
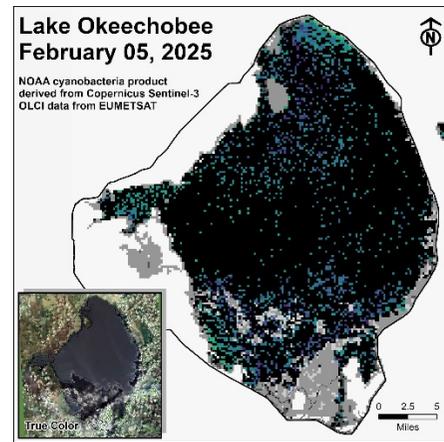
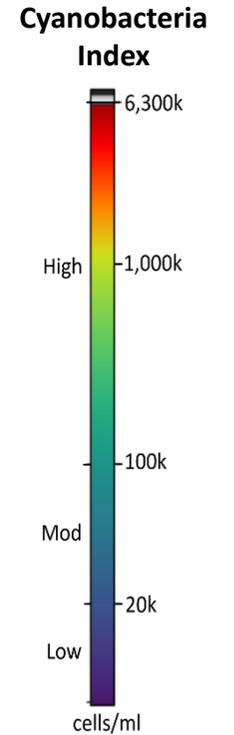
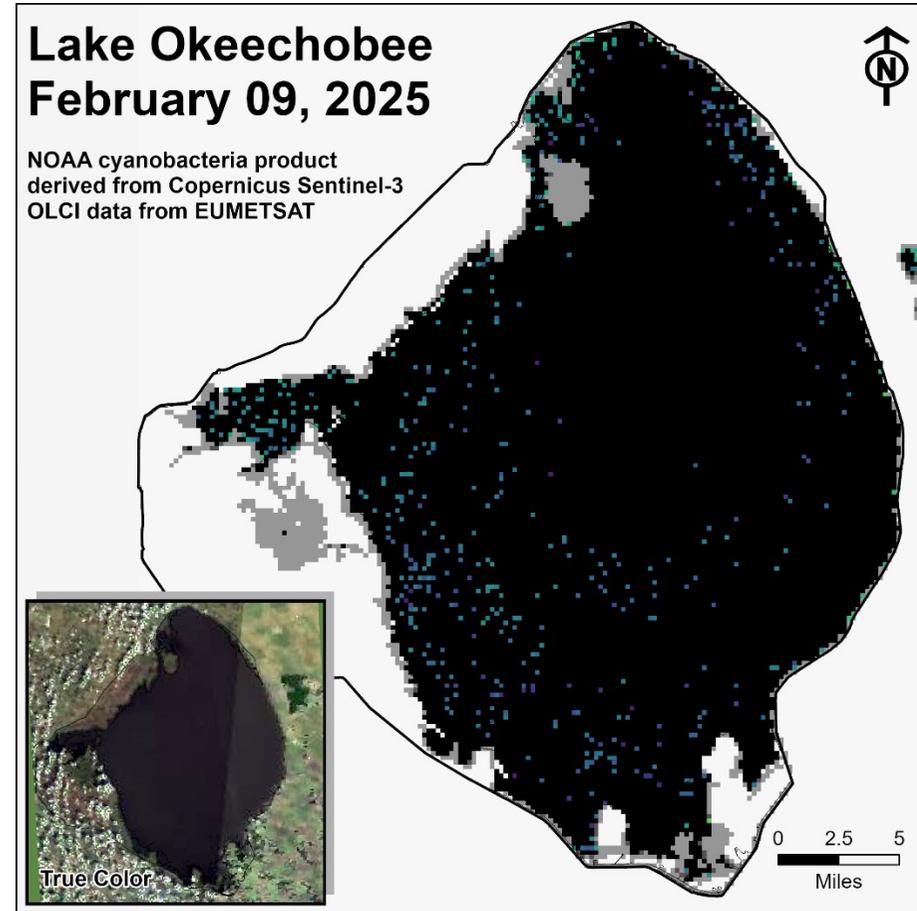
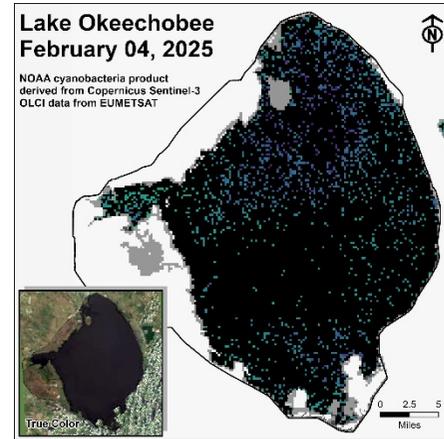
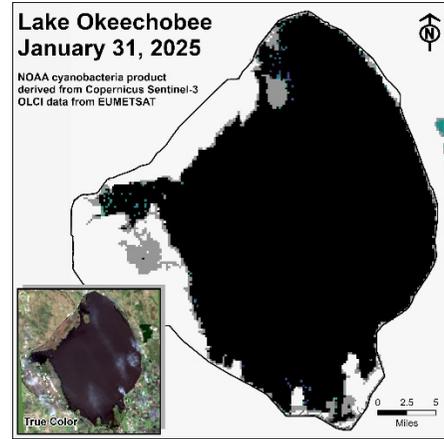
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation



- SAV found in numerous areas along Indian Prairie shoreline, usually 2-3 inches tall and appearing grazed.
- Some areas had 6-8 inch plants at moderate densities.
- Lower water levels should benefit these communities, regardless of whether stage gets low enough for seed germination and expansion of existing beds.



Lake Okeechobee Cyanobacterial Bloom Distribution and Intensity



NOAA cyanobacteria product derived from Copernicus Sentinel-3 OLCI data from EUMETSAT

Maps' Source: <https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/science-areas/habs/hab-monitoring-system/cyanobacteria-algal-bloom-satellite-lake-okeechobee-fl/>

Lake Okeechobee

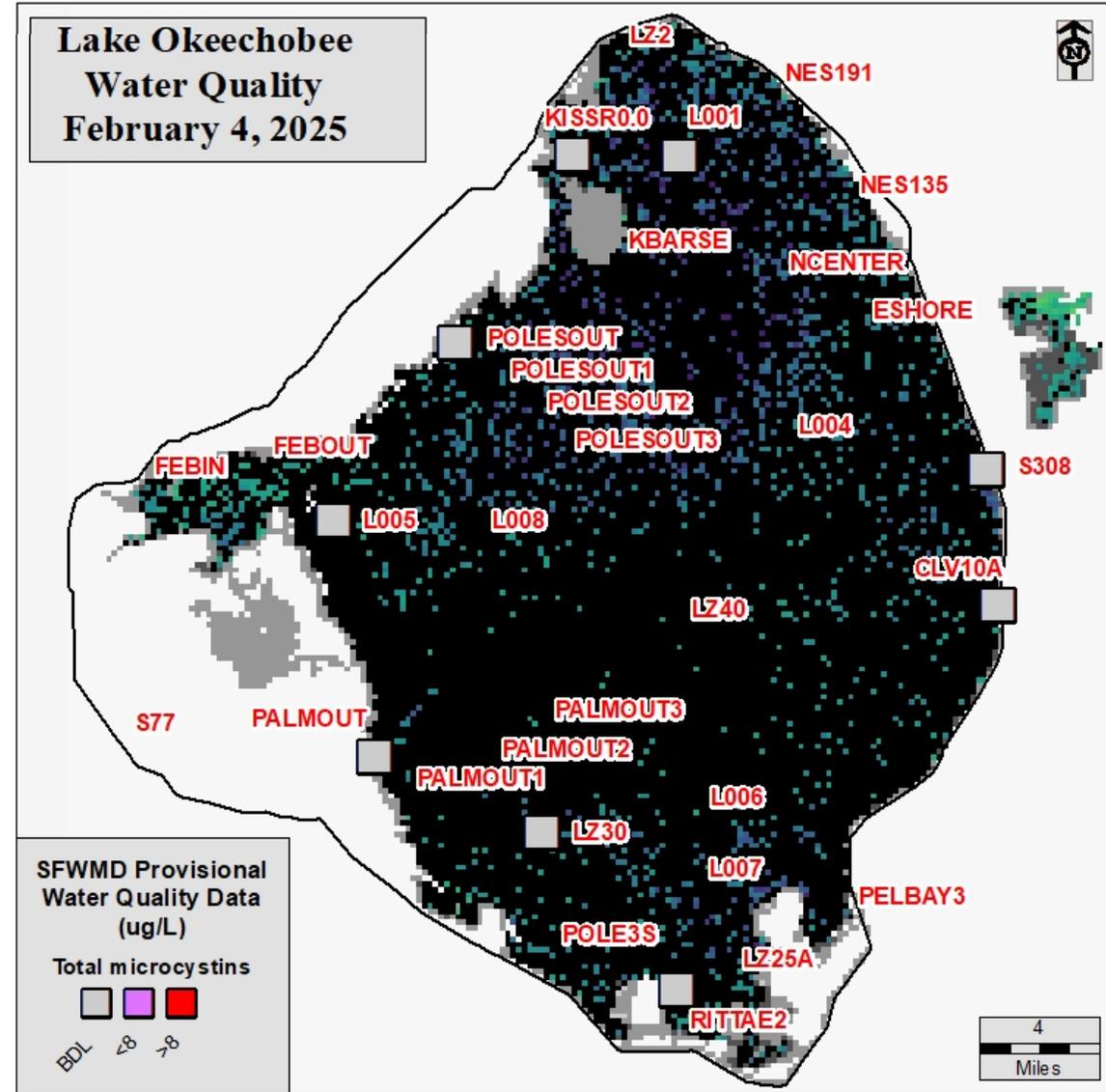
Chlorophyll *a*, Total Microcystins, and Dominant Taxa

Collection Date: February 3-5, 2025

Station	CHL <i>a</i> (ug/L)	TOXIN (ug/L)	TAXA	Station	CHL <i>a</i> (ug/L)	TOXIN (ug/L)	TAXA
FEBIN	NS	NS	NS	L001	P		
FEBOUT	NS	NS	NS	L004	P		
KISSR0.0	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	L006	P		
L005	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	L007	P		
LZ2	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	L008	P		
KBARSE	P			LZ30	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
RITTAE2	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	LZ40	P		
PELBAY3	P			CLV10A	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
POLE3S	P			NCENTER	P		
LZ25A	P						
PALMOUT	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>	S308C	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>
PALMOUT1	P			S77	P		
PALMOUT2	P						
PALMOUT3	P						
POLESOUT	P	BDL	<i>mixed</i>				
POLESOUT1	P						
POLESOUT2	P						
POLESOUT3	P						
EASTSHORE	P						
NES135	P						
NES191	P						

- SFWMD considers >40 µg/L Chlorophyll *a* (Chl*a*) an algal bloom
 - BDL – Below Detectable Limit of 0.25 µg/L
 - ND – No Dominant taxa
 - P – Pending (white squares)
 - NS – Not Sampled
 - Station bold font – crew observed possible BGA
 - Chlorophyll *a* analyzed by SFWMD
 - Toxin and Taxa analyzed by FDEP:
- Microcys* = *Microcystis*; *Raphidio* = *Raphidiopsis*; *Planktol* = *Planktolyngbya*; *Dolicho* = *Dolichospermum*; *Pseud* = *Pseudanabaena*; *Cylindro* = *Cylindrospermopsis*

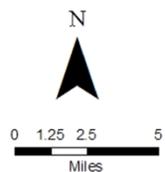
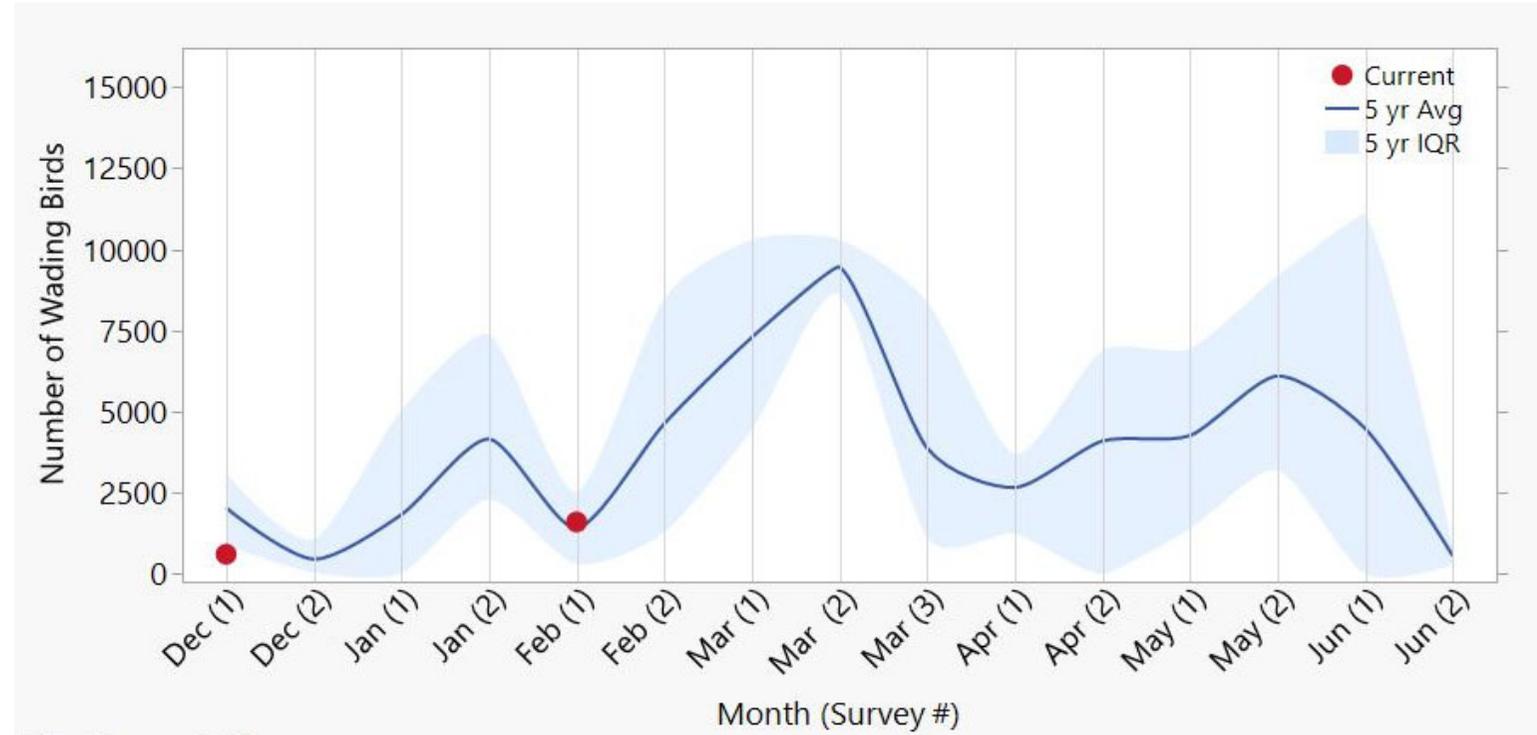
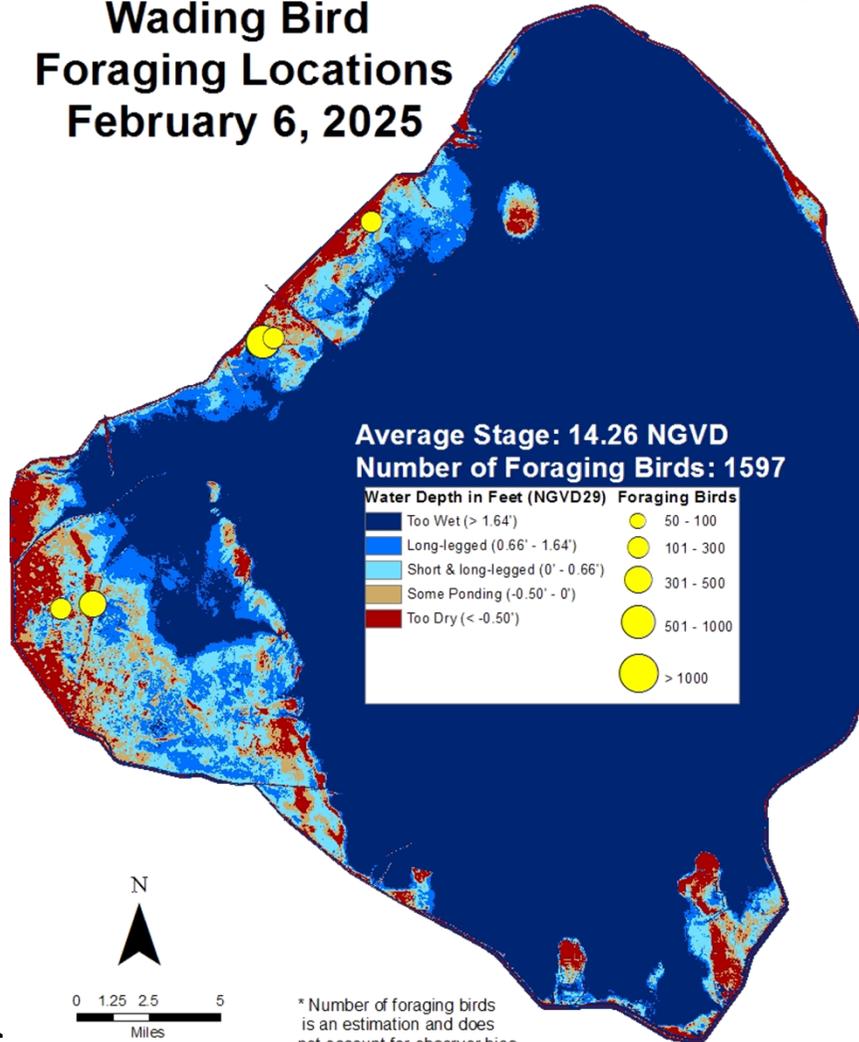
Presenter: Lawrence Glenn 15



Lake Okeechobee

Foraging Wading Birds

Wading Bird
Foraging Locations
February 6, 2025



* Number of foraging birds is an estimation and does not account for observer bias

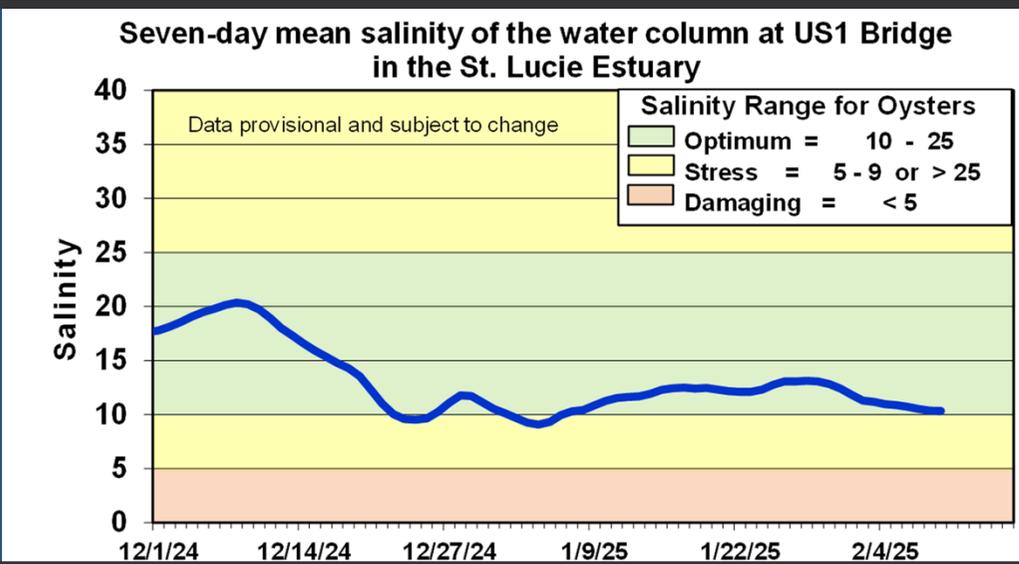
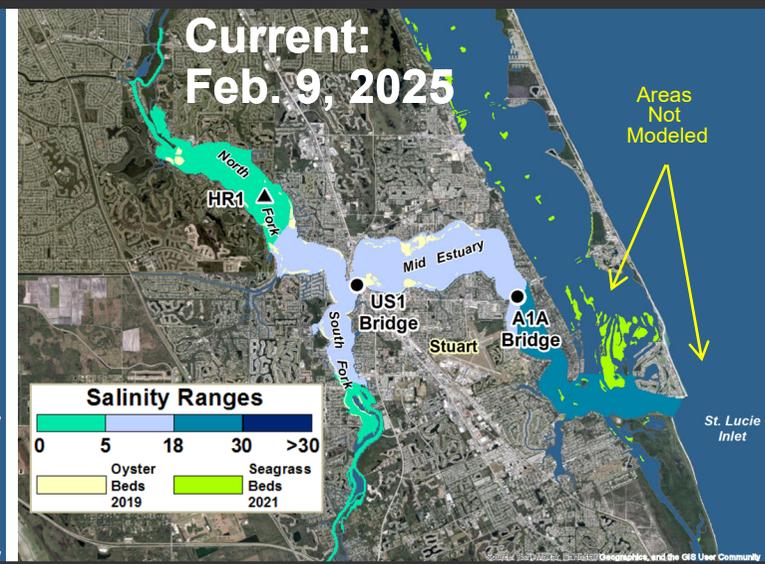
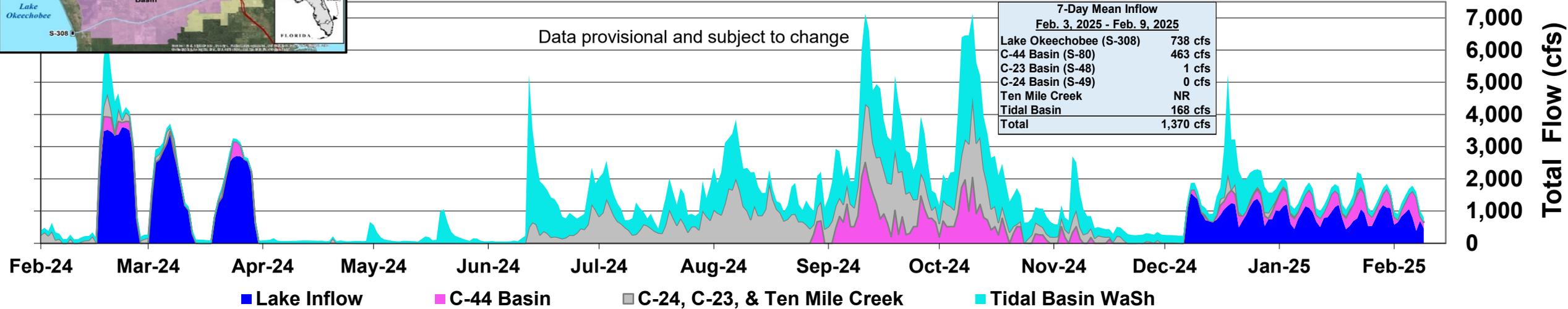
St. Lucie Inflows and Salinity Conditions



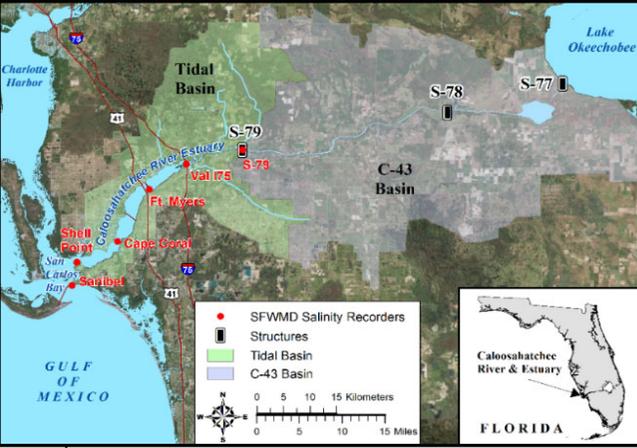
Total Daily Inflow into the St. Lucie Estuary

Data provisional and subject to change

7-Day Mean Inflow Feb. 3, 2025 - Feb. 9, 2025	
Lake Okeechobee (S-308)	738 cfs
C-44 Basin (S-80)	463 cfs
C-23 Basin (S-48)	1 cfs
C-24 Basin (S-49)	0 cfs
Ten Mile Creek	NR
Tidal Basin	168 cfs
Total	1,370 cfs



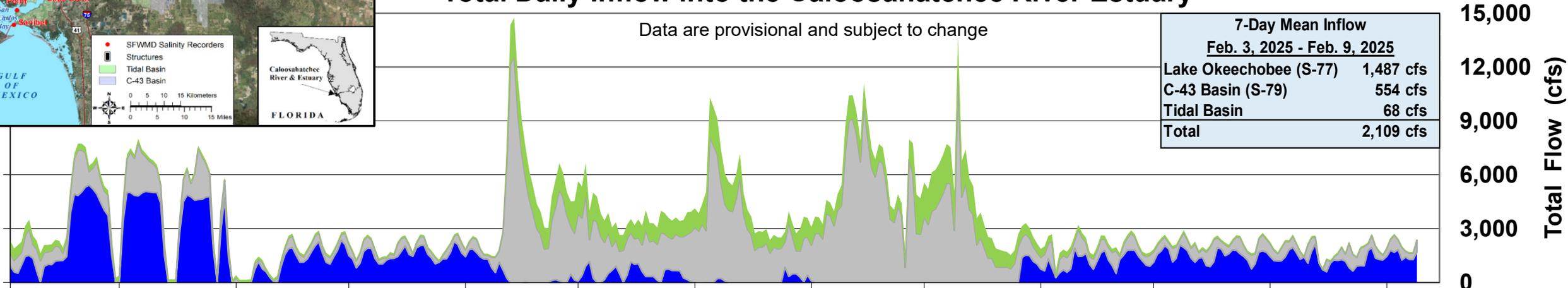
Caloosahatchee Inflows and Salinity Conditions



Total Daily Inflow into the Caloosahatchee River Estuary

Data are provisional and subject to change

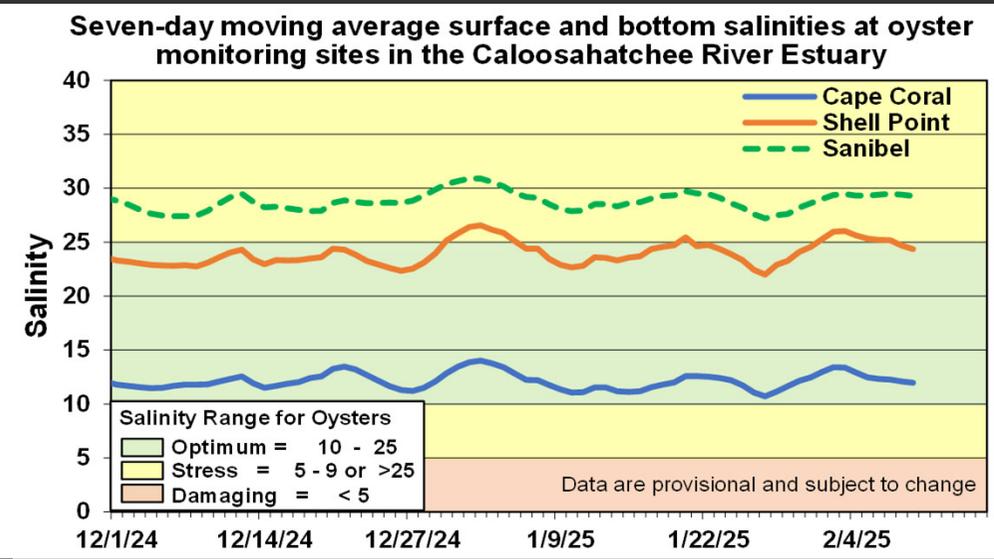
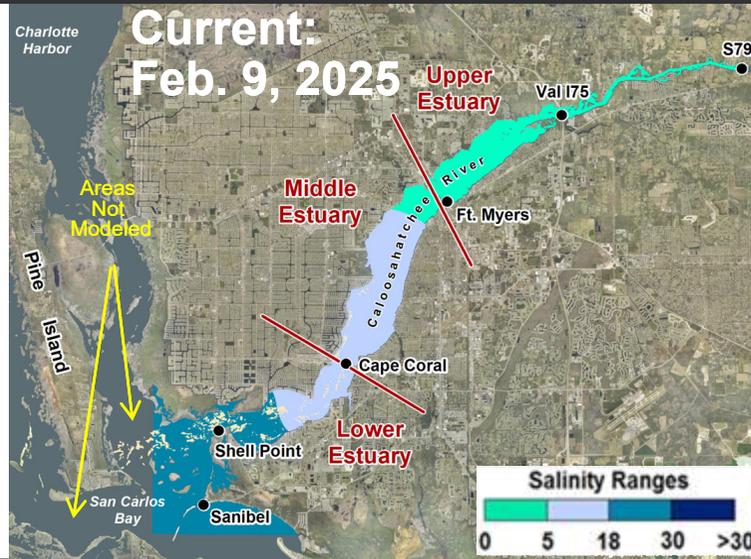
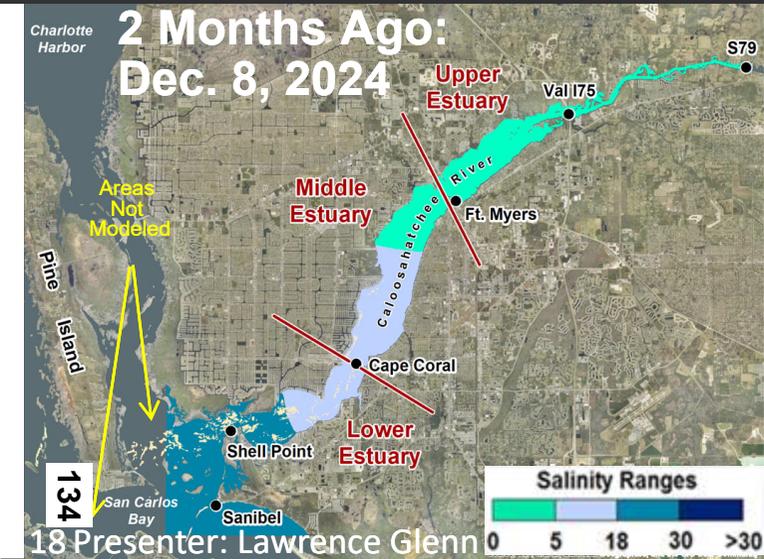
7-Day Mean Inflow Feb. 3, 2025 - Feb. 9, 2025	
Lake Okeechobee (S-77)	1,487 cfs
C-43 Basin (S-79)	554 cfs
Tidal Basin	68 cfs
Total	2,109 cfs



■ Inflow from Lake

■ C-43 Basin Inflow

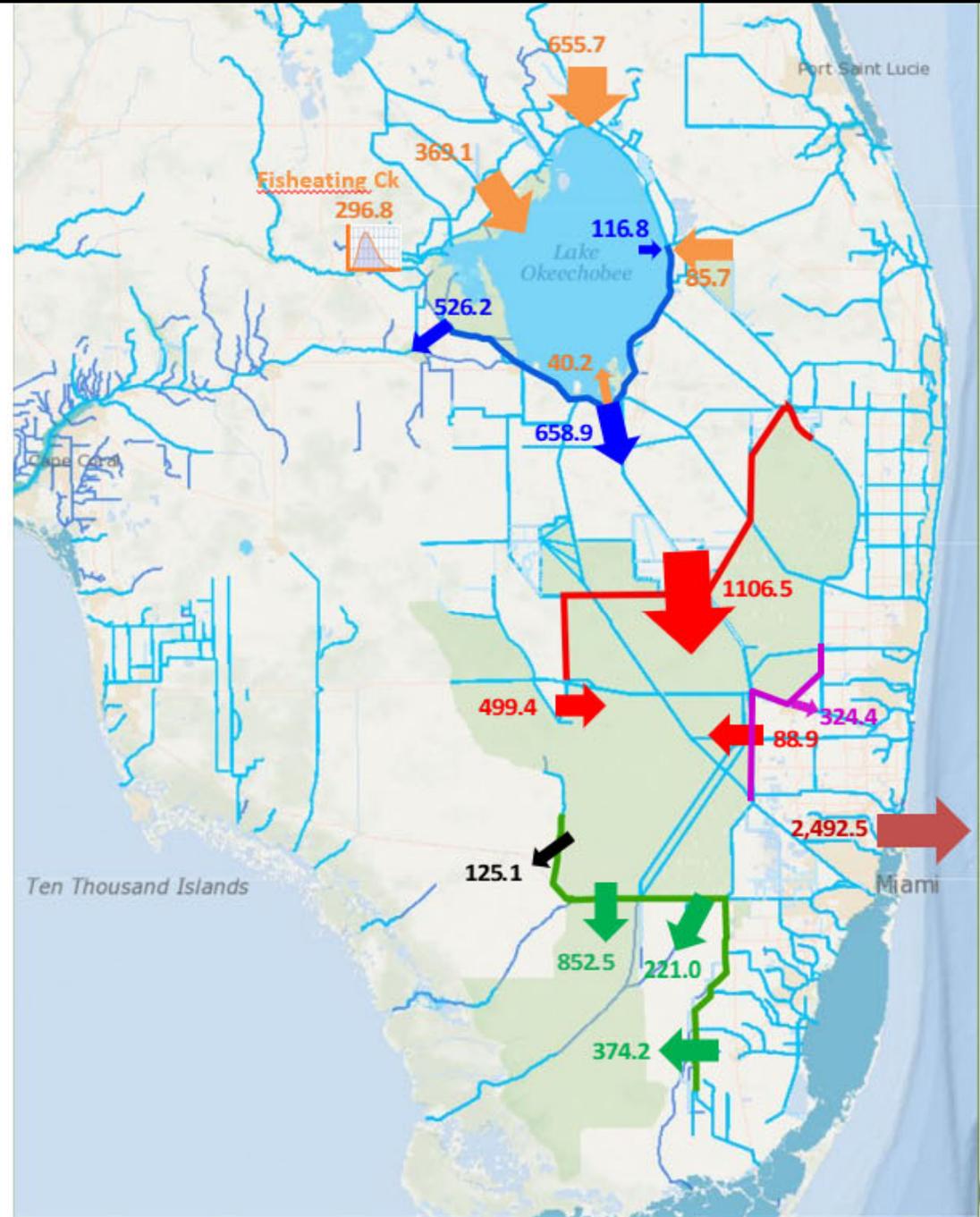
■ Tidal Basin Inflow (downstream of S-79)



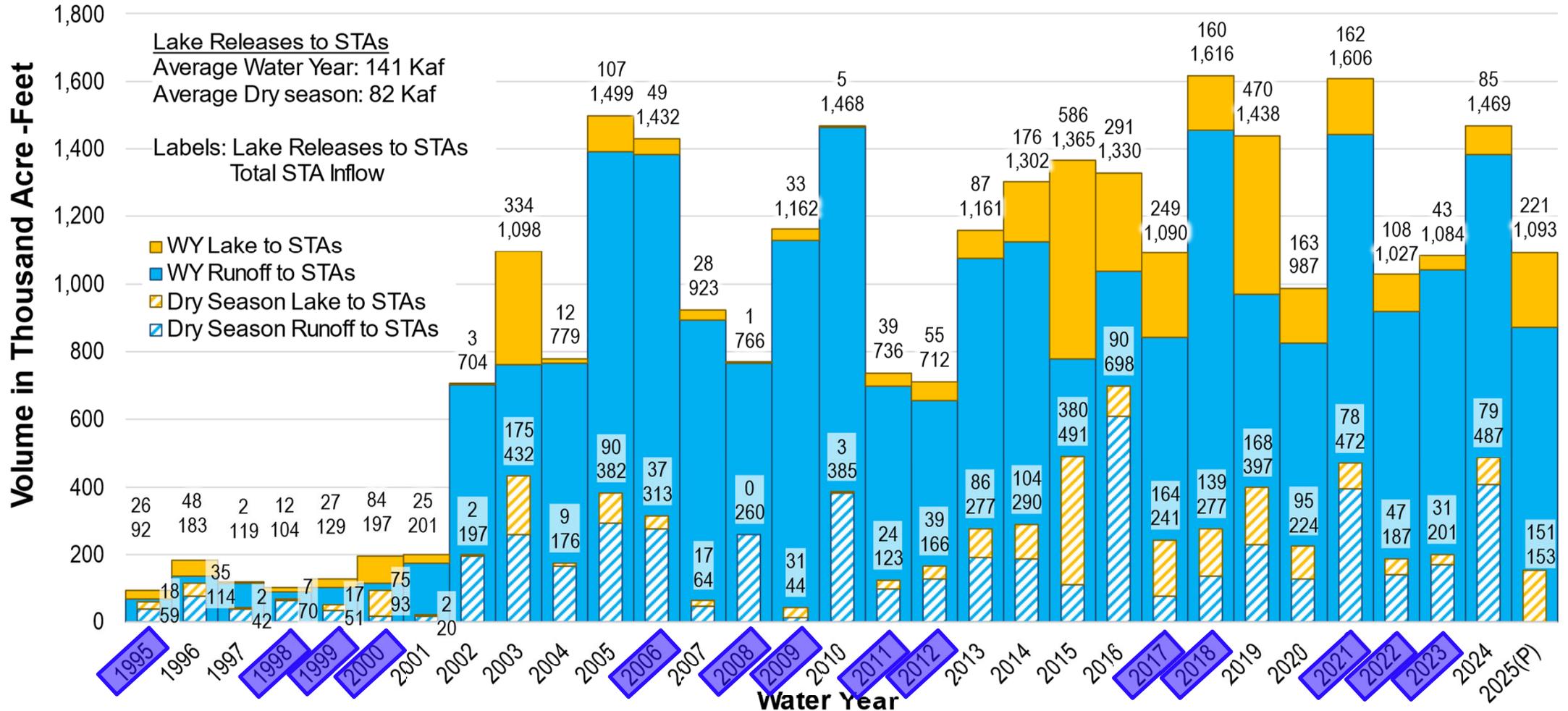
**SFWMD –Volumes Flowing
Down the System for the
Period May 1, 2024 to February 11, 2025**
(volumes in 1,000 acre-feet)

Symbol	Description	Volume (1,000 acre- feet)	
		WYR 2025	Last Month
	Lake Okeechobee Inflows	1447.5	34.5
	Lake Okeechobee Outflows	1301.9	296.8
	WCAs Inflows	1694.8	60.2
	ENP / Detention Cell Inflows	1447.7	97.8
	WCAs to East	324.4	8.6
	Flows to Intracoastal	2492.5	67.1

1,000 acre-feet = 325.9 Million Gallons



Total STA Inflow and Lake Releases to STAs



2025(p): Data from May 1, 2024 to Feb 9, 2025. Total STA Inflow includes inflows to STA -1E, STA-1W, STA-2, STA-3/4, and STA-5/6.

La Niña Water Years

Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas - STAs

Estimated Inflow and Outflow Volumes

Feb. 3 – Feb. 9, 2025

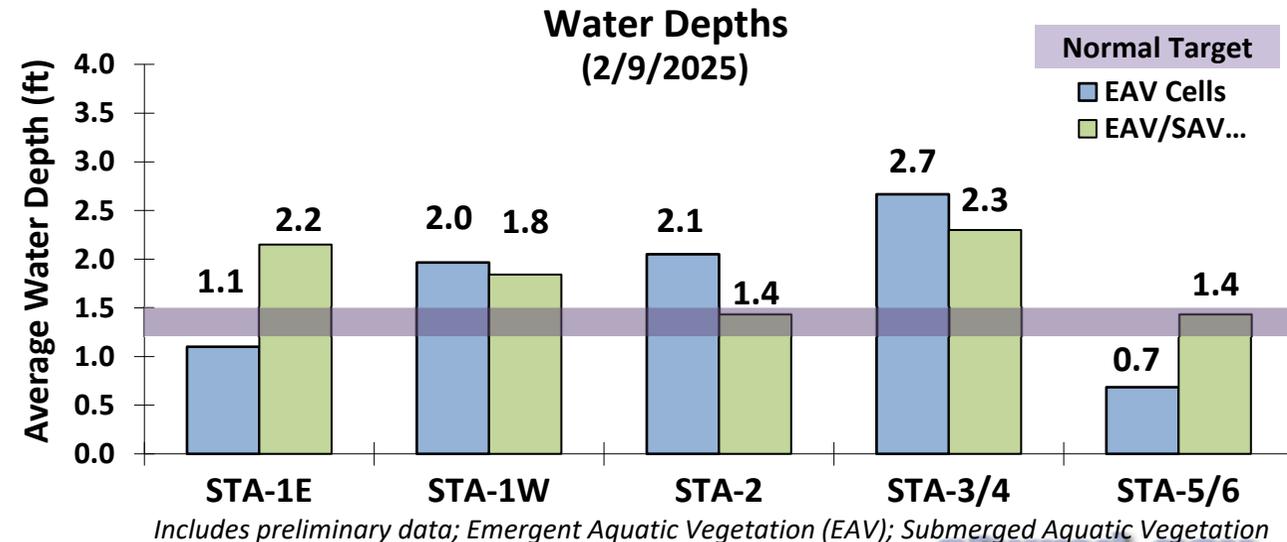
Includes preliminary data

- STAs treated basin runoff and Lake Okeechobee releases in January
 - Total WY2025 inflows to STAs (5/1/2024 to 2/9/2025): ~1,093,000 ac-ft
 - Lake Okeechobee releases to FEBs/STAs in WY2025: ~221,300 ac-ft

- Extensive vegetation management activities underway to address stressed and highly stressed vegetation in EAV cells

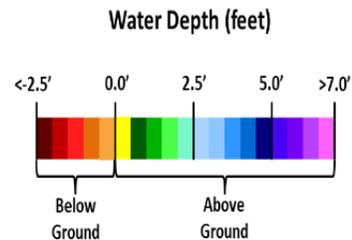
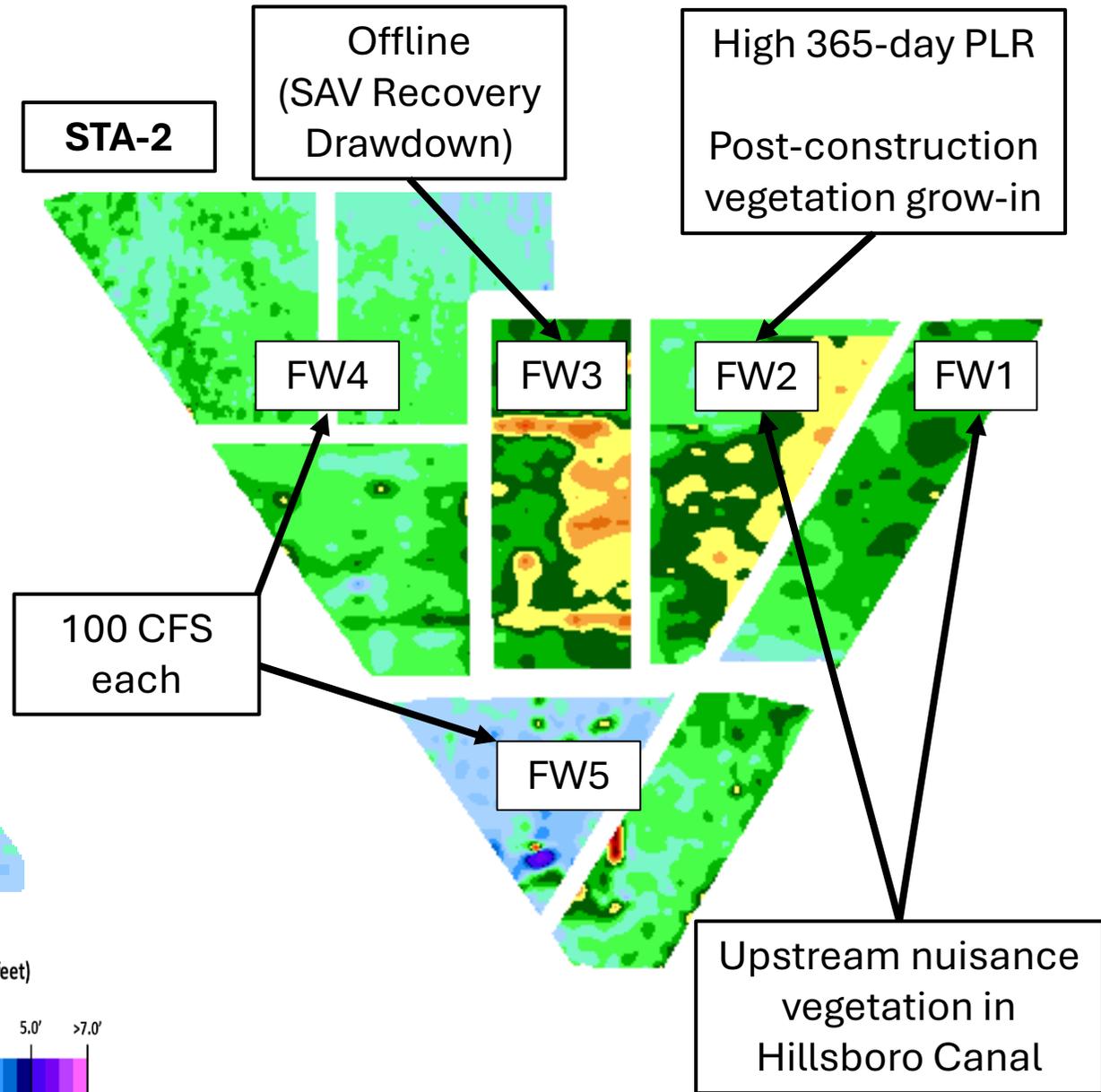
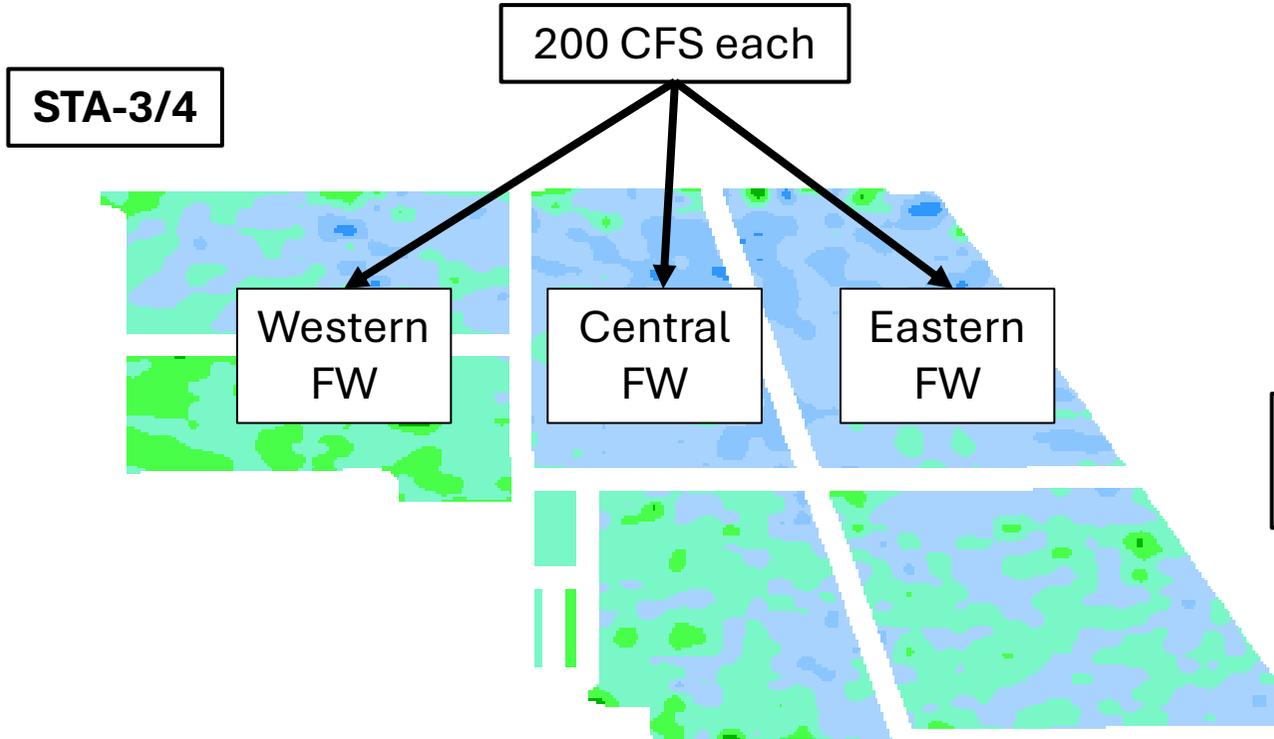
- Most treatment cells are near or above target water depth except STA-5/6 EAV cells which are below target

	Total Inflow (acre-feet)	Total Outflow (acre-feet)
STA-1E	1,400	200
STA-1W	2,700	3,700
STA-2	1,500	3,700
STA-3/4	8,500	5,100
STA-5/6	0	0



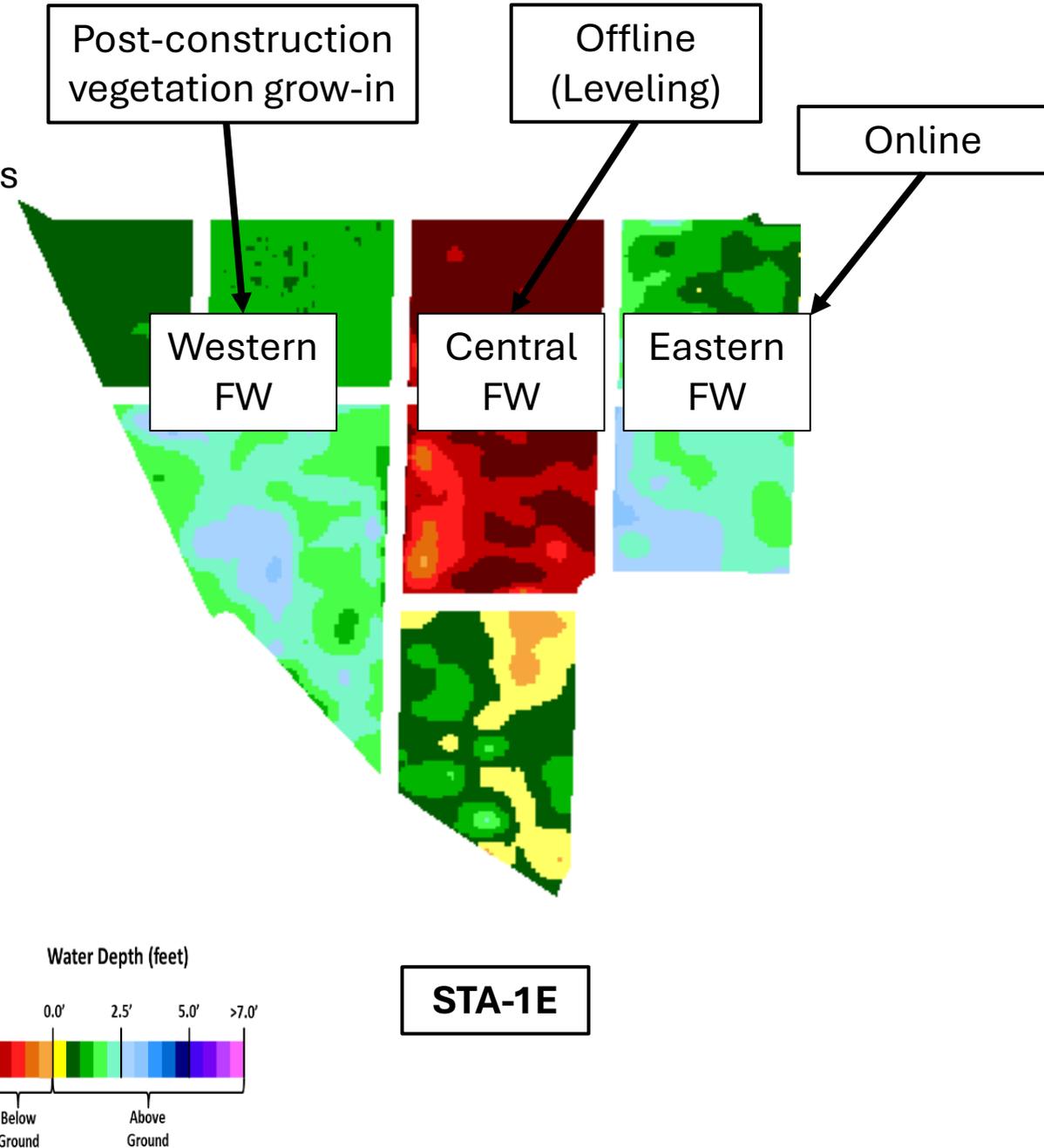
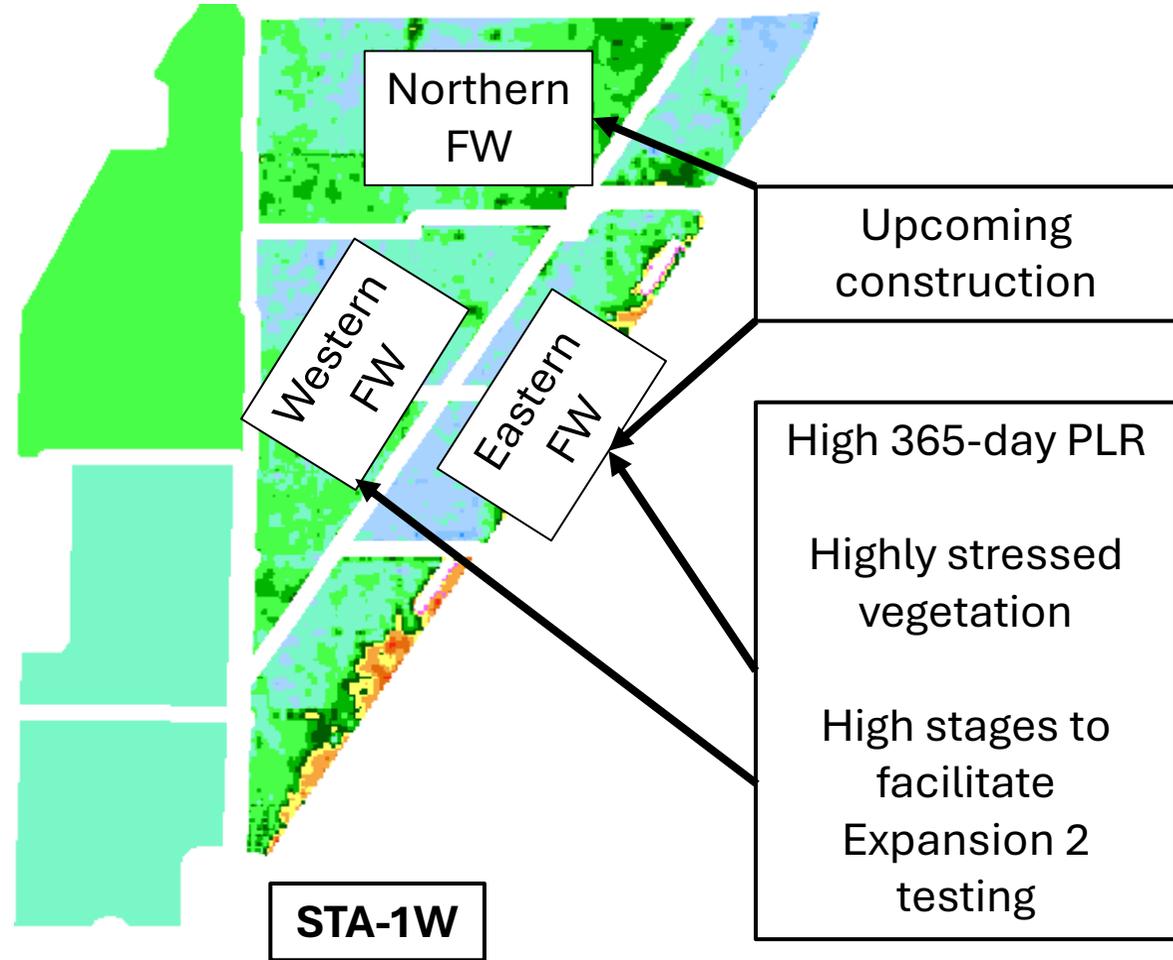
800 CFS capacity currently identified in Central Flow Path

- 600 CFS in STA-3/4
- 200 CFS in STA-2
- Subject to change weekly as dry season progresses

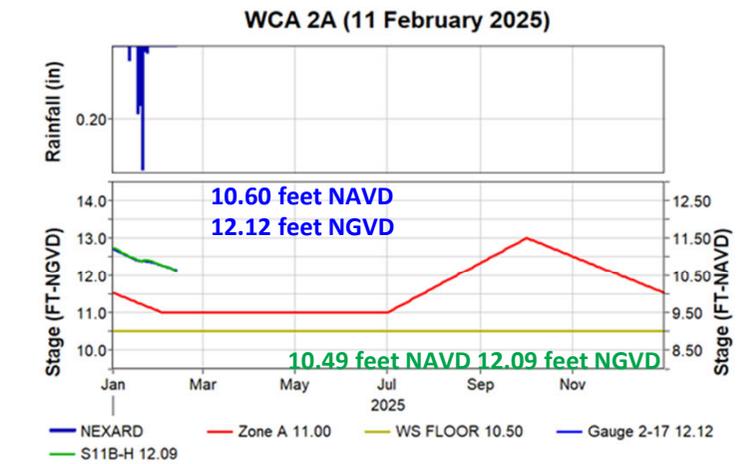
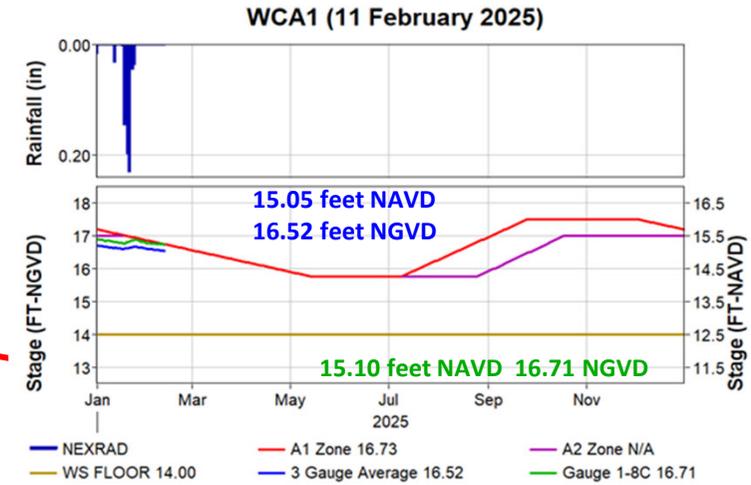
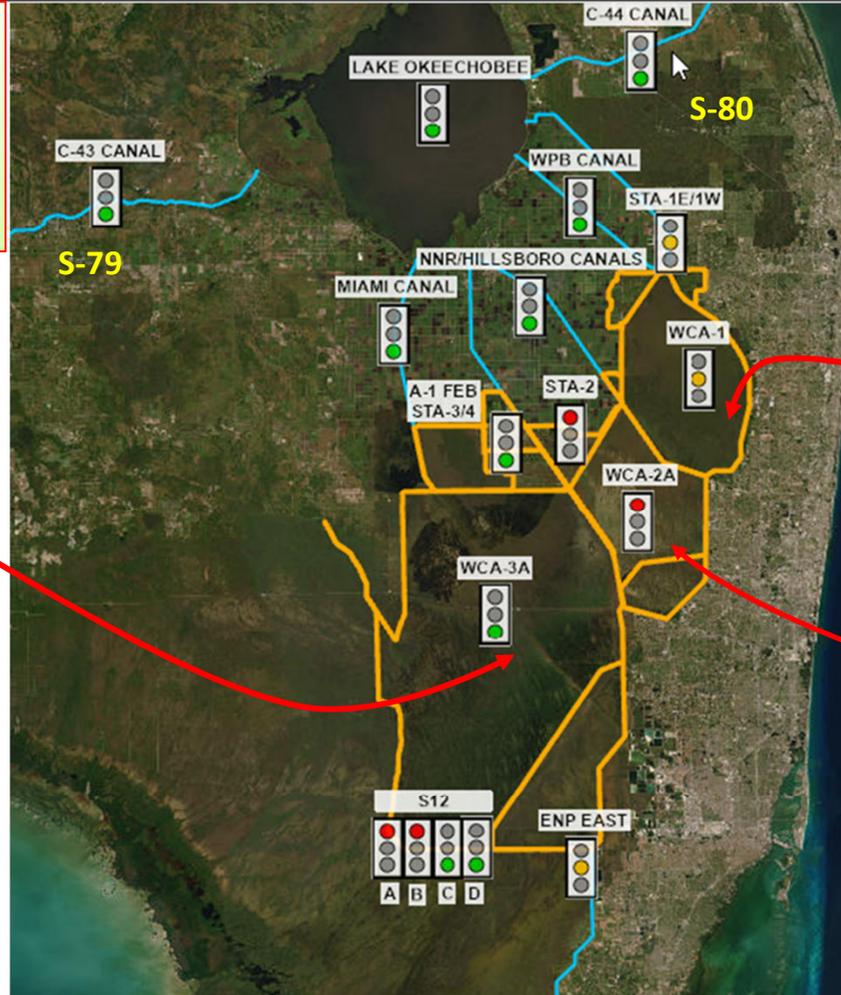
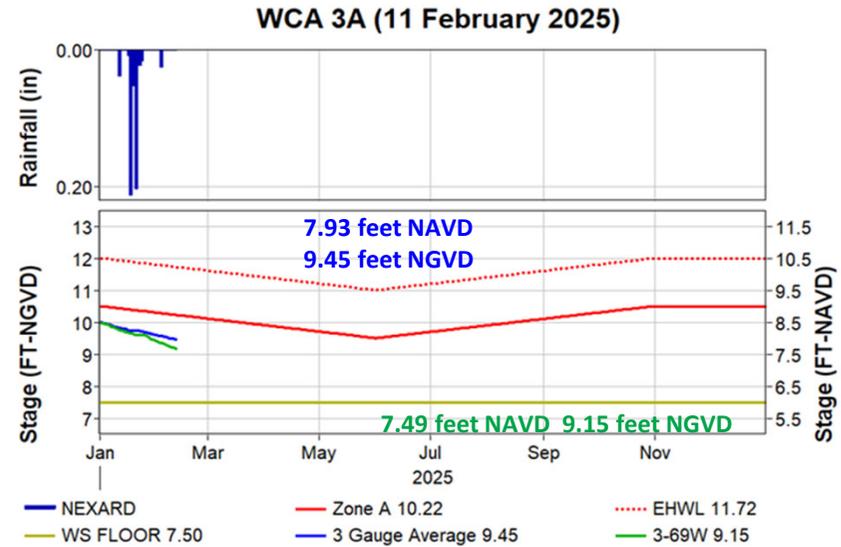


300 CFS current capacity in Eastern and Western Flow Paths

- Currently 150 CFS in STA-1W Northern Flow-way
- 50 CFS as needed for STA-1W Exp 2 start-up operation
- 100 CFS to STA-5/6 (offscreen)
- Capacity subject to change weekly as dry season progresses



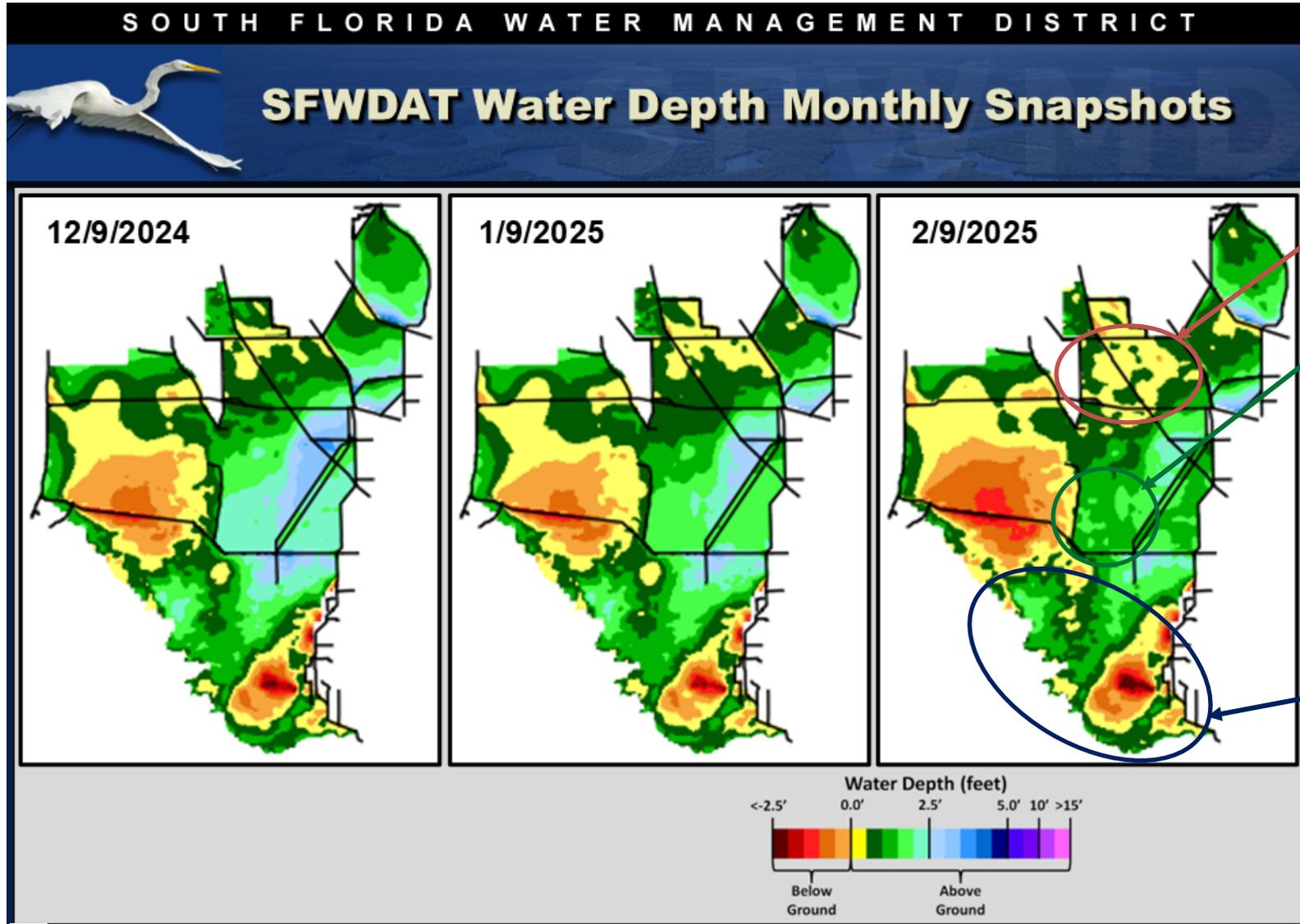
Lake Okeechobee stage is in the middle third of Zone D (Zone D2 of the PA25 simulation) of the LOSOM above the ecological envelope. LOSOM RO release guidance Up to 1,400 cfs total to S-80, S-97, S-49, and Gordy Road combined, Up to 300 cfs at S-271 or S-352, Up to 2,100 cfs at S-79, and Maximum practical at S-351 and S-354.



For this week, the Tamiami Trail Flow Formula calls 981 cfs releases from WCA-3A to NESRS. Current L-29 stage constraint is at 6.7 feet NAVD (8.3 feet NGVD). South Dade Conveyance System is stable. S-335 and S-338 are open. S-356 is closed. G-211 is open. S-332B and D are pumping as needed. S-176 and S177 are closed. S-18C is open and S-197 is closed. LPG-2 stage at 8.5 SMA is below ground. S-357 is pumping as needed to maintain stages 4.0 to 4.5 ft NGVD in the C-357 canal. S199 and S200 are pumping as needed to maintain the stage in the canal within range.

WCA-1 stage is below regulation schedule in Zone B; WCA-2A stage is above regulation schedule; WCA-3A stage is below regulation schedule in Zone B. S-10s and S-11s are closed. S12s are opened ~400. S-333 and S-333N are limited due to L-29 stage constraint ~ 500 cfs. S-343 A/B and S-344 are closed. Interior structures to WCA-3A S-339 and S-340 are closed.

Everglades Water Depths



The SFWDAT model output for February 2, 2025, illustrates shallower conditions across WCA-3A. Northern WCA-3A continues to dry out and approaches the soil surface.

The ponded conditions in southern WCA3A are now absent.

Most of the Big Cypress Basin, both to the north and south of Tamiami trail, is below soil surface, with some areas now significantly so.

Hydrologic connectivity within the major sloughs of ENP has diminished over the past two months, especially in the west, but remains conducive for water flow to the south.

Everglades Gauge Data Color Trend: Weekly Change and Depth

Weekly Change		12/16/24	12/23/24	12/30/24	1/6/25	1/13/25	1/20/25	1/27/25	2/3/25	2/10/25
WCA-1	1-7	-0.02	0.03	0.01	-0.04	-0.04	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	-0.04
	1-9	0.00	0.01	0.00	-0.04	-0.04	-0.01	0.04	-0.06	-0.05
	1-8T	-0.04	0.04	-0.01	-0.05	-0.02	0.01	0.00	-0.06	-0.02
WCA-2A	2-17	-0.06	-0.07	-0.09	-0.14	-0.13	-0.08	-0.06	-0.09	-0.09
WCA-2B	99	-0.14	-0.06	0.16	0.10	0.09	0.15	0.09	0.02	0.00
	EDEN-13	-0.13	0.00	0.21	0.06	0.07	0.12	0.02	0.10	-0.04
WCA-3A	62 NW	-0.13	0.01	0.04	-0.06	-0.05	-0.03	-0.03	-0.05	-0.06
	63 NE	-0.17	-0.08	-0.04	-0.10	-0.08	-0.07	-0.03	-0.07	-0.07
	64 central	-0.16	-0.14	-0.01	-0.15	-0.12	-0.06	-0.12	-0.10	-0.10
	65 southern	-0.13	-0.11	0.01	-0.14	-0.13	-0.08	-0.09	-0.10	-0.11
WCA-3B	76	-0.10	-0.09	0.00	-0.08	-0.11	-0.04	-0.07	-0.06	-0.08
	71	-0.08	-0.07	0.01	-0.09	-0.08	-0.06	-0.05	-0.09	-0.09
	SRS1	-0.09	-0.06	0.04	-0.10	-0.13	-0.04	-0.06	-0.09	-0.09
ENP	NESRS2	-0.03	-0.01	0.04	-0.05	-0.08	-0.03	0.00	-0.05	-0.13

Depth		12/16/24	12/23/24	12/30/24	1/6/25	1/13/25	1/20/25	1/27/25	2/3/25	2/10/25
WCA-1	1-7	1.63	1.66	1.67	1.63	1.59	1.58	1.59	1.56	1.52
	1-9	1.97	1.98	1.98	1.94	1.90	1.89	1.93	1.87	1.82
	1-8T									
WCA-2A	2-17	2.14	2.07	1.98	1.84	1.71	1.63	1.57	1.48	1.39
WCA-3A	62 NW	1.09	1.10	1.14	1.08	1.03	1.00	0.97	0.92	0.86
	63 NE	1.29	1.21	1.17	1.07	0.99	0.92	0.89	0.82	0.75
	64 central	1.91	1.77	1.76	1.61	1.49	1.43	1.31	1.21	1.11
	65 southern	2.41	2.30	2.31	2.17	2.04	1.96	1.87	1.77	1.66
WCA-3B	76	1.84	1.75	1.75	1.67	1.56	1.52	1.45	1.39	1.31
	71	1.92	1.85	1.86	1.77	1.69	1.63	1.58	1.49	1.40
	SRS1	2.13	2.07	2.11	2.01	1.88	1.84	1.78	1.69	1.60
ENP	NESRS2	2.35	2.34	2.38	2.33	2.25	2.22	2.22	2.17	2.04

Recession rate ecological characterization criteria: WY25 dry season (feet/week)

Poor or fair: ascension based on region

Good: 0.0' to -0.12' per week

Fair: greater than -0.12' to less than -0.18

Poor: a recession faster than -0.19

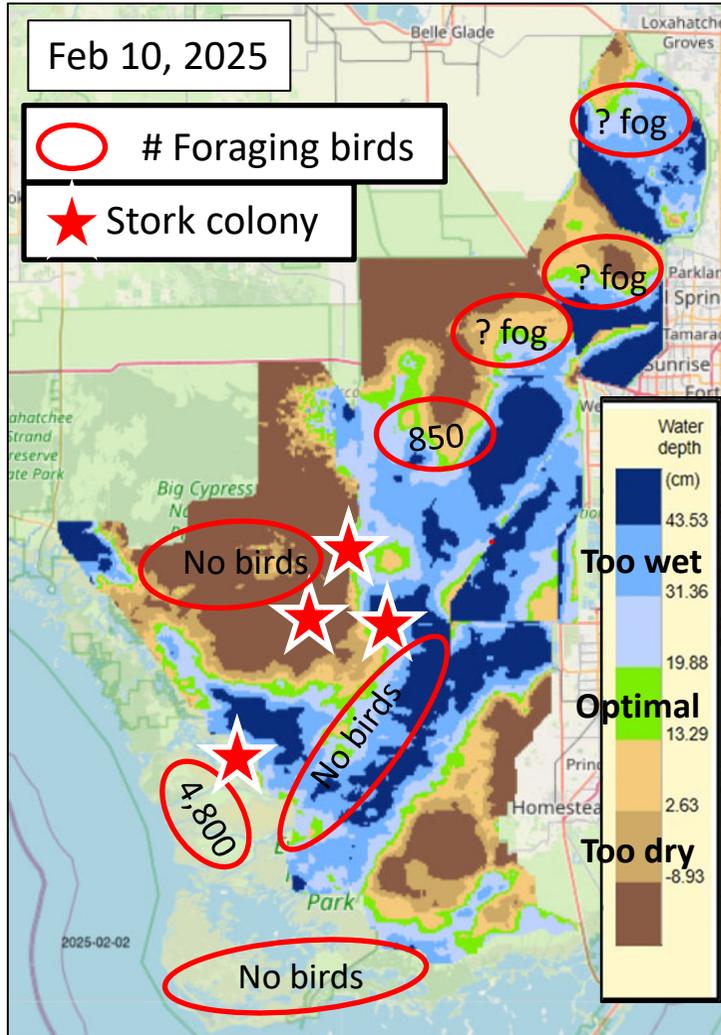
The current characterization for stage change is based on rates that are beneficial for wetland ecology and wading bird foraging success. Rates of stage change were fair to good over the last week across the WCAs and Northeastern Shark River Slough. Recession rates in **WCA-South** (an important region for wading bird foraging later in the dry season) are about twice as fast as those in WCA-1.

Depths are the lowest in **northern WCA-3A** with the depths at both gauges in that region below 1.0 foot and deepest in NESRS at over 2.0 feet.

DEPTH
Shades of blue to brown = Deep to Shallow

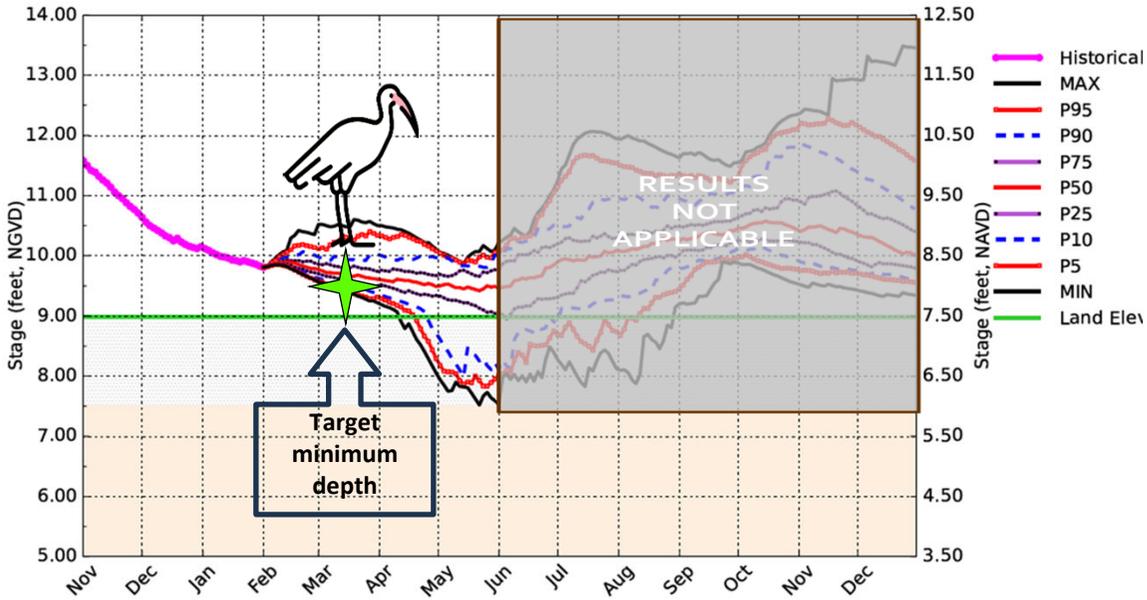
Current Conditions & Predicted Outlook for the Remainder of the 2025 Wading Bird Nesting Season

Wading Bird Habitat Suitability Map



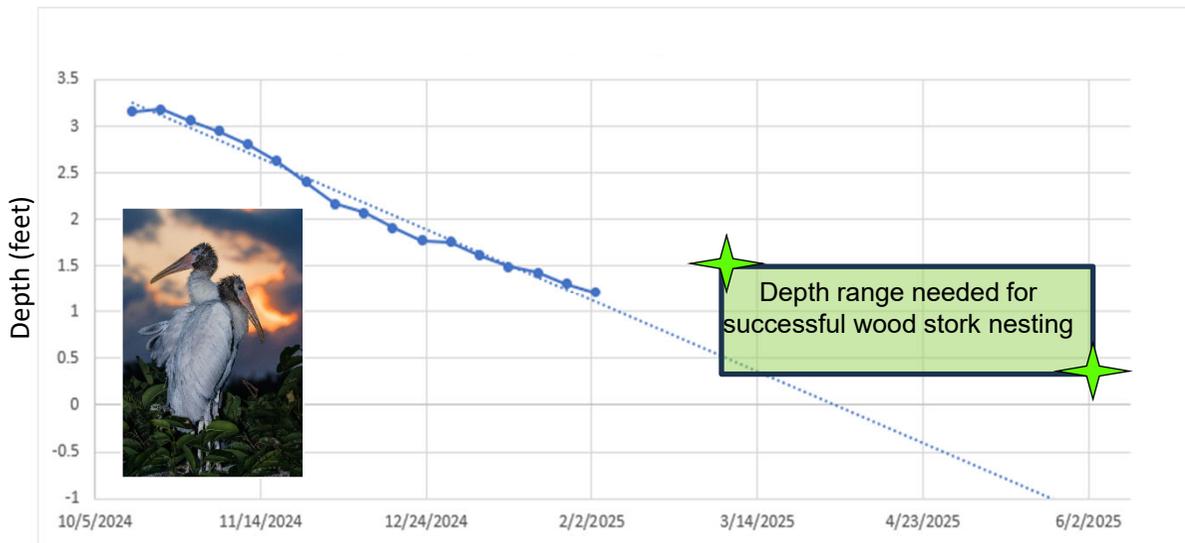
- Relatively long hydroperiods have been conducive for aquatic prey production.
- Relatively large numbers of birds continue to forage along the SW coast, but the Florida Bay coast and Big Cypress are now too dry to support foraging.
- Birds have started to forage in southern WCA-3A about one month earlier than during successful nesting years.
- Wood Stork nesting started in early February along coastal ENP (~180 pairs), SW WCA-3A (-115 pairs) and Big Cypress (~50 pairs). Nesting is about one month late.
- Recent rapid recession rates (up to 3x the optimal rates for foraging) have led to reduced water levels in critical foraging areas (WCA-3A) such that depths may not be sufficient to support foraging through the wood stork nesting season (4 months).

Dynamic Position Analysis Modeling for Gage 63 (WCA-3AN)



Stage at gage 63 needs to be >9.4 ft NGVD on March 15 (start of White Ibis nesting) to trigger nesting at the Alley North colony.

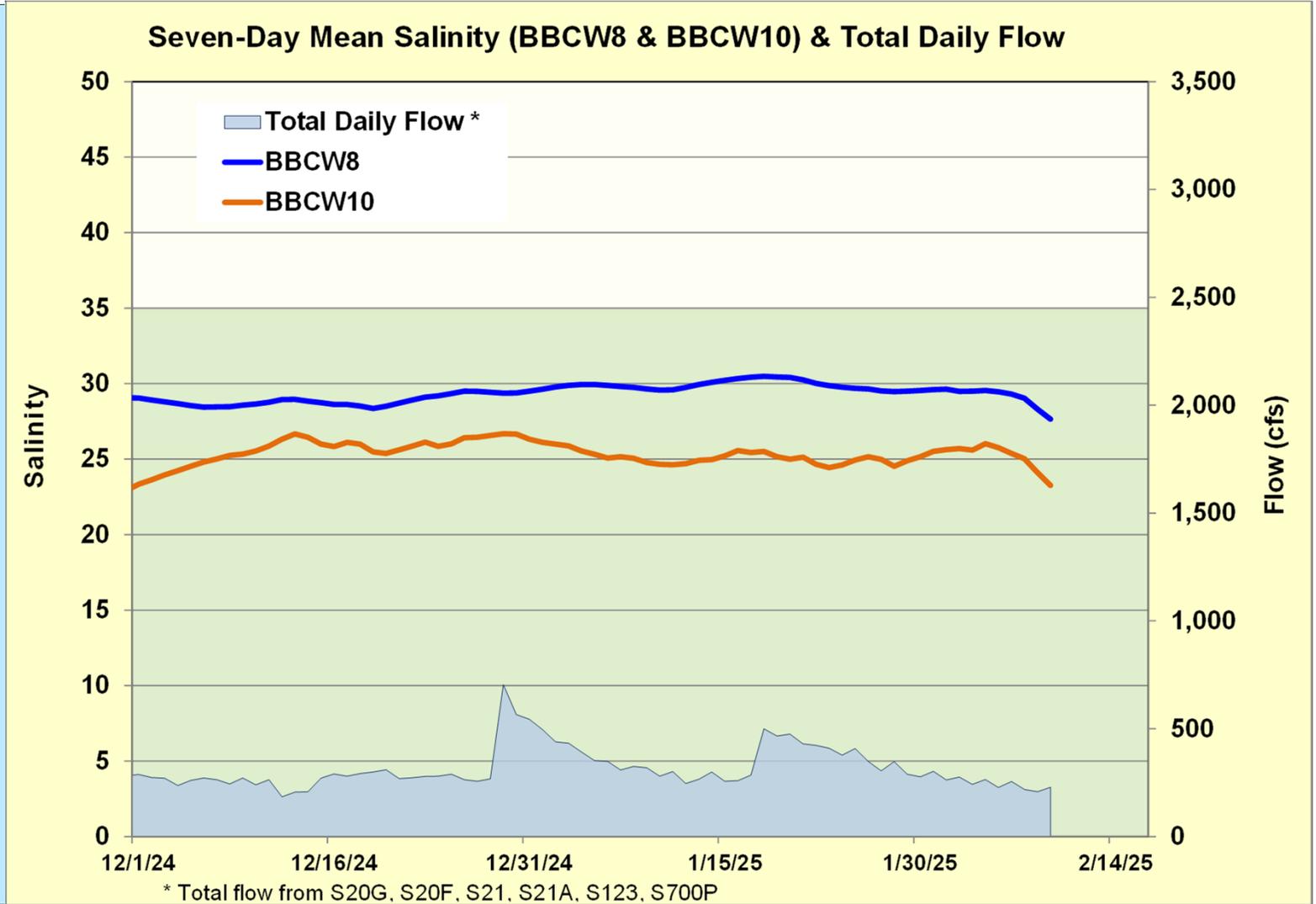
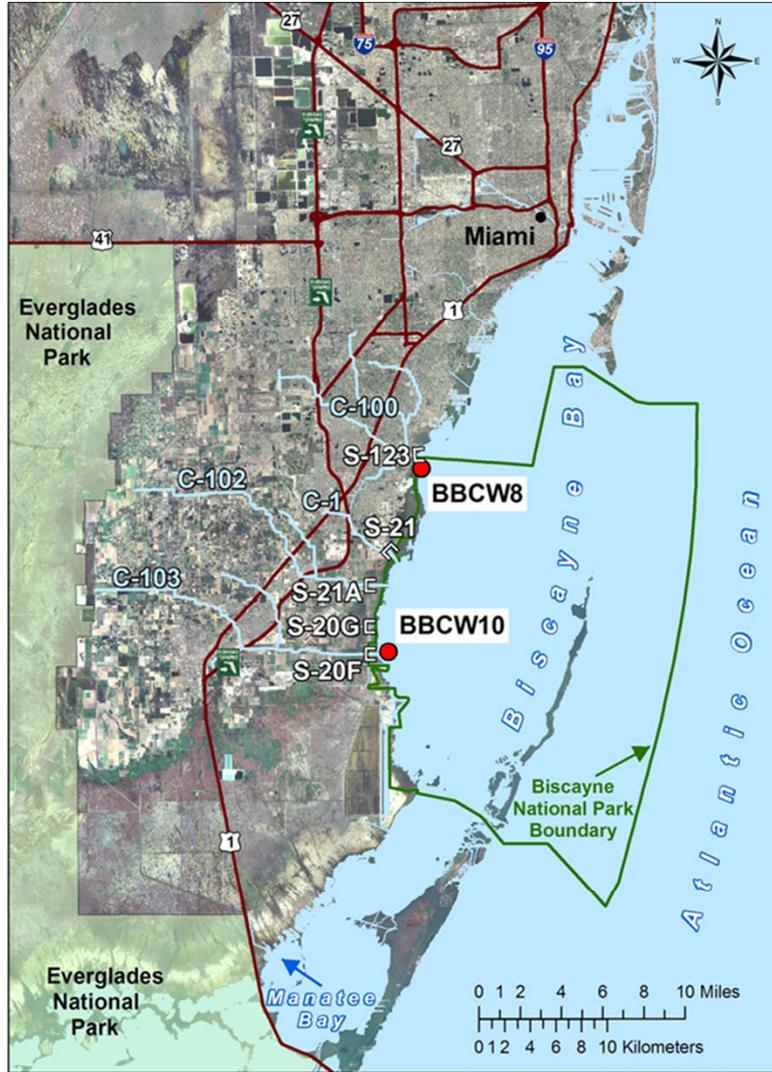
Depths at Gage 64 (Central WCA-3AS) in Relation to Requisite Depth Range for Successful Stork Nesting



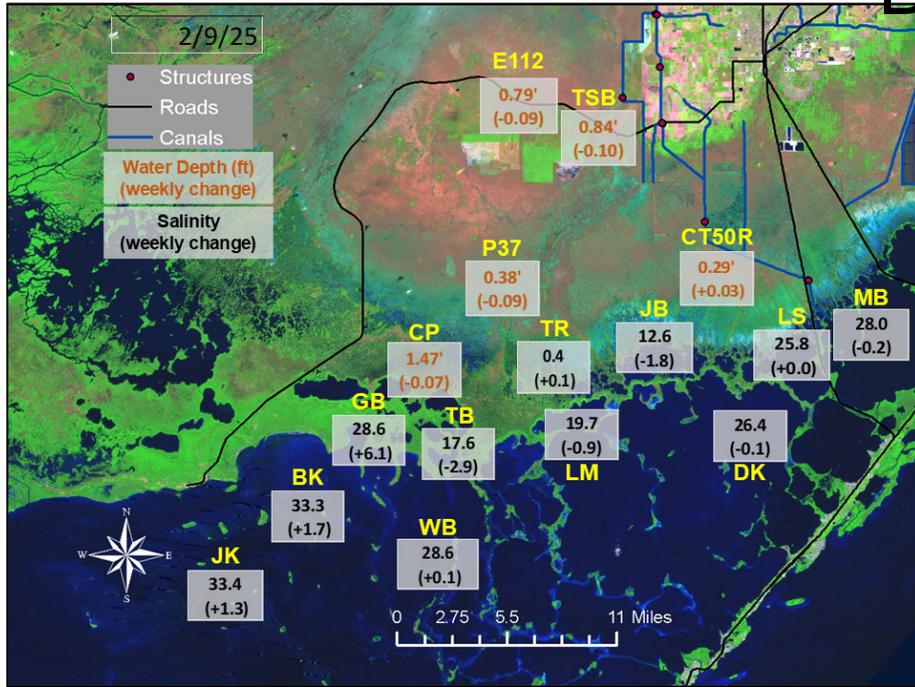
Depths in central WCA-3A need to be between 1.5 – 0.5 ft from March through the end of the dry season to support successful Wood Stork nesting.

Current and predicted depths appear to be suitable for triggering white ibis nesting at the Alley North colony but are probably too shallow to support successful wood stork nesting in northern & central WCA-3A. Slower recession rates in these areas will benefit nesting wood storks and white ibis.

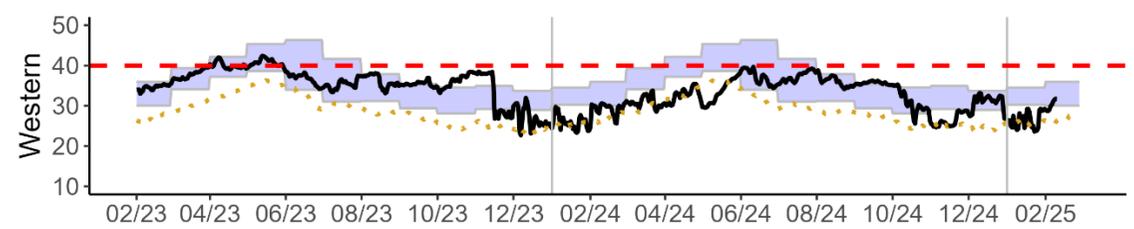
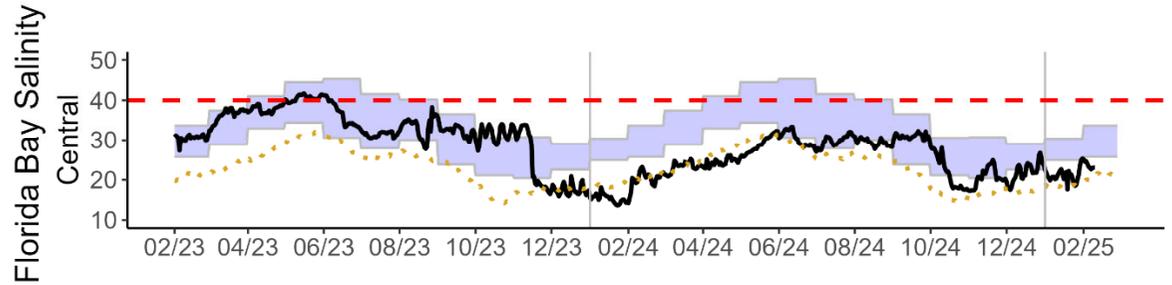
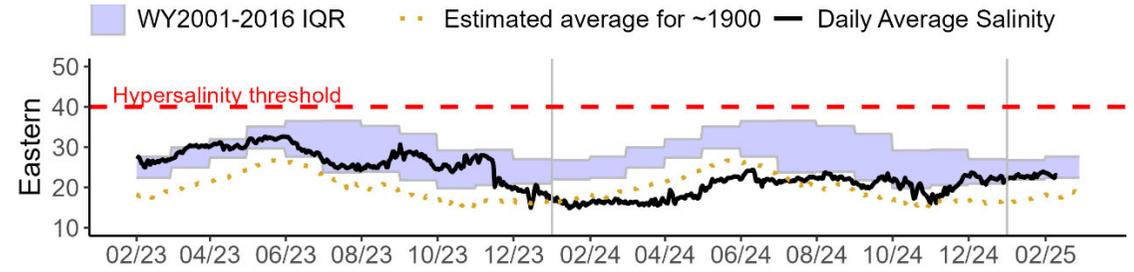
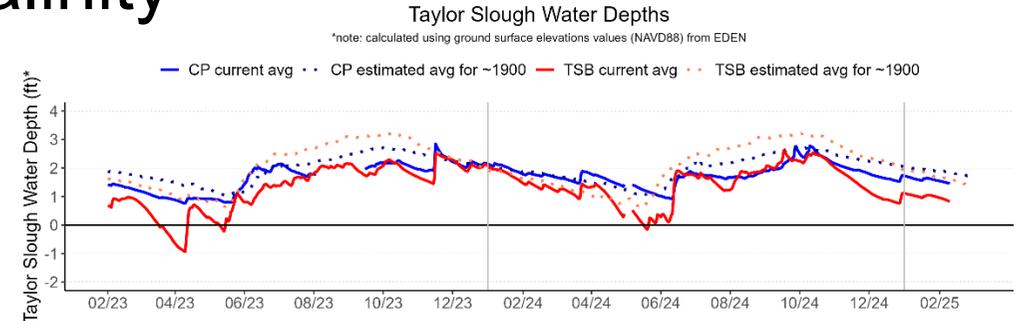
Biscayne Bay Salinity Conditions



Taylor Slough Bridge (TSB) and Craighead Pond (CP) Stages, and Florida Bay Salinity

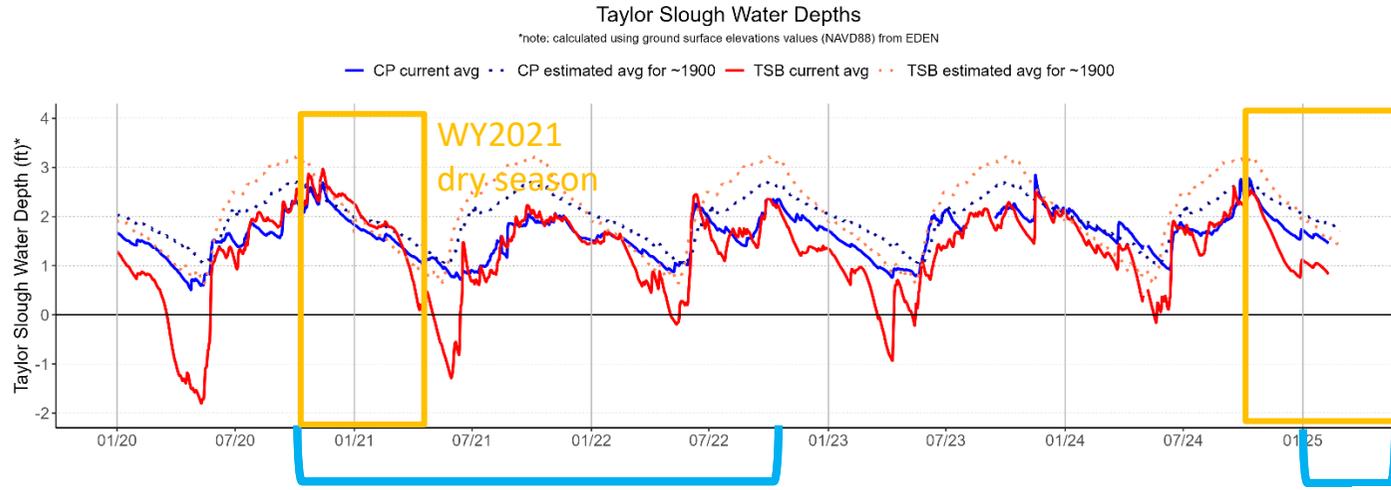


- Nearly all stages across Taylor Slough decreased over the past week
- Taylor Slough water levels remain above the recent average for this time of year
- Salinity is above the historical comparison (estimated average for 1900) and within the WY2001-2016 IQR in the eastern and western regions, and below the IQR in the central region
- Salinity remains below its recent average for this time of year



Remaining Dry Season Outlook

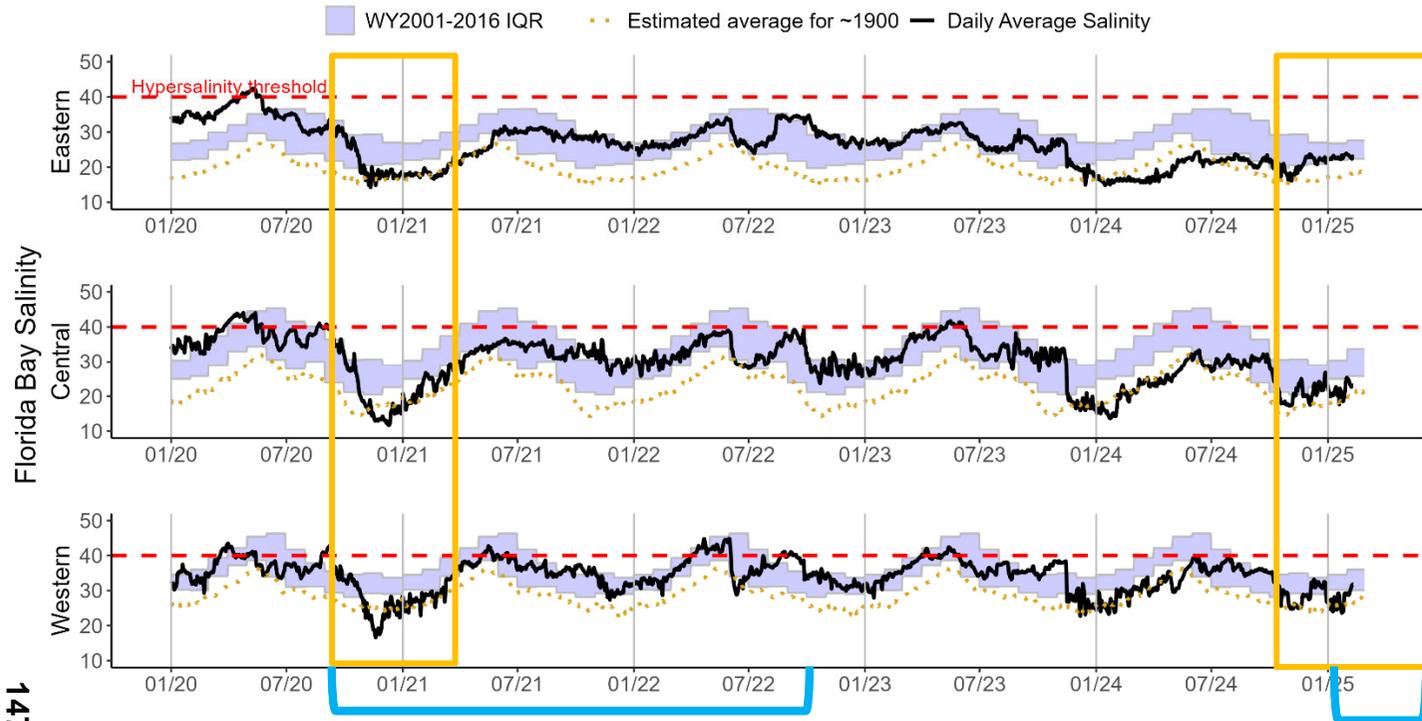
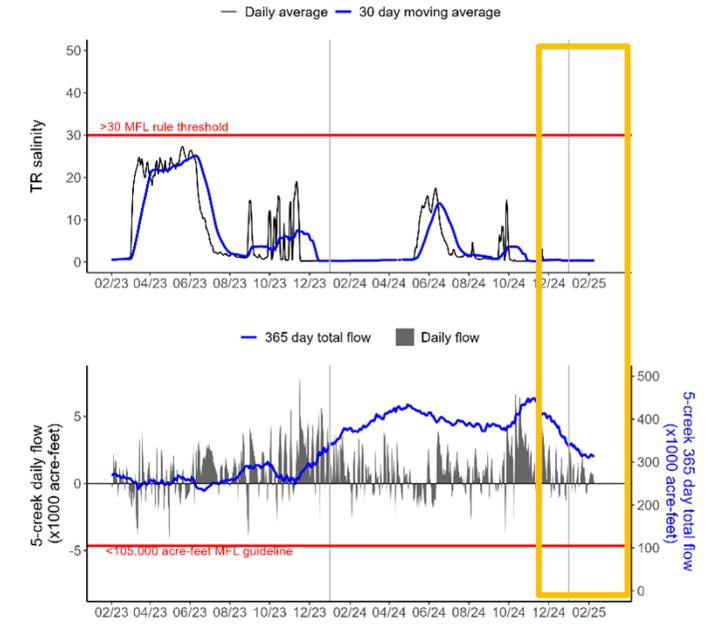
Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) conditions



WY2025 dry season

Previous La Niña

Current La Niña



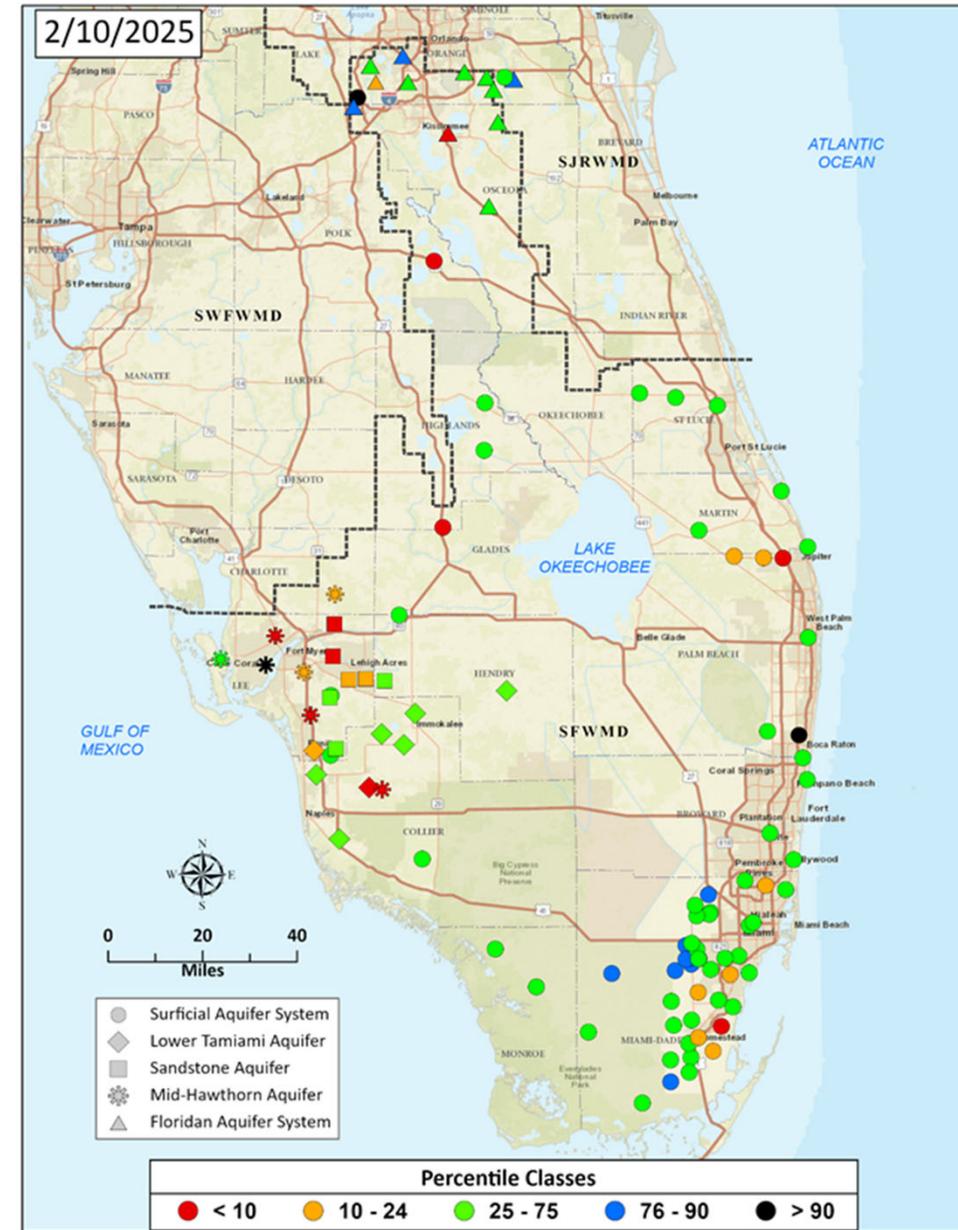
- TSB and CP stages currently lower than at beginning of last La Niña in 2020
- Want to avoid negative TSB stage as this means no inflow at head of Taylor Slough
- Low salinities at beginning of last La Niña helped maintain conditions through remainder of dry season
- Current salinities (regional and MFL) are in good position at this point in the dry season. However, a steep decline in creek flow may be a cause of concern for salinities later in the dry season.

Status of Groundwater Conditions

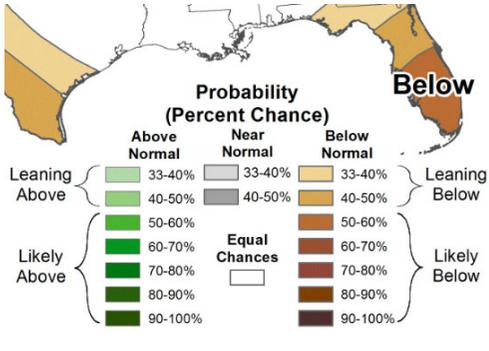
- 10% of the Floridan aquifer wells in the Upper Kissimmee Basin are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year. None of the surficial aquifer wells in the Upper Kissimmee Basin are in the lower percentile ranges. Approximately 50% of the surficial aquifer wells in the Lower Kissimmee Basin are in the lower percentile ranges.
- Upper East Coast groundwater water levels decreased during the last week. None of the UEC wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year.
- 80% of the surface and groundwater stations in the Lower East Coast recorded decreasing water levels over the last week. About 10% of the LEC surficial aquifer system stations are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year.
- Groundwater levels decreased in approximately 90% of the Lower West Coast (LWC) stations over the last week. None of the surficial aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year. Approximately 30% of Lower Tamiami aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year. Approximately 40% of the Sandstone aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year. Approximately 70% of the Mid-Hawthorn aquifer wells are in the lower percentile ranges for this time of year.

The map to the right shows a statistical comparison between current groundwater levels and long term monthly average groundwater levels:

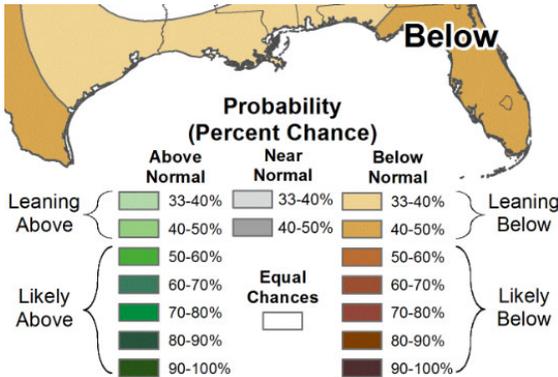
- Each colored symbol represents a monitoring well that continuously records groundwater levels.
- Color coding represents a statistical comparison of current water levels to long-term monthly historical water levels for this time of the year. The percentile rankings are based on monthly long-term groundwater level averages. The red symbols represents water levels that are in the lowest 10th percentile range, orange 10th to 24th percentile range, green the median range, blue is the 76th to 90th percentile range and black shows those stations about the 90th percentile range.



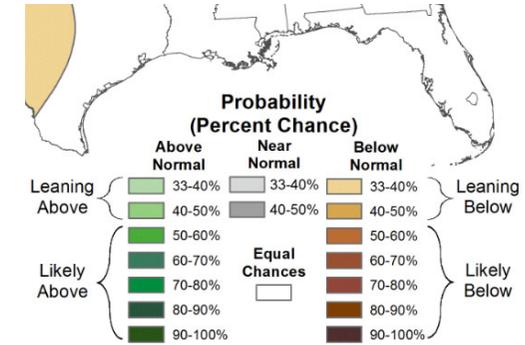
CPC Precipitation Outlook for South Florida



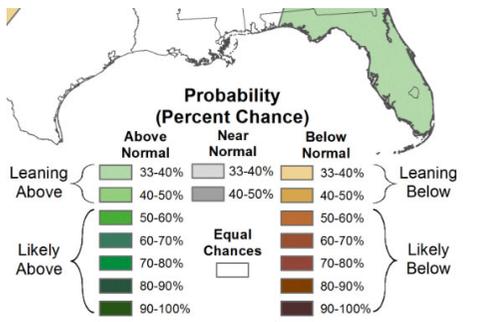
Feb 2025



Feb 2025 – Apr 2025



Apr 2025 – Jun 2025



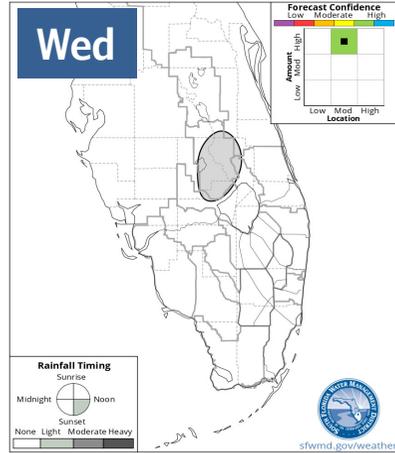
May 2025 – Jul 2025

- The most recent CPC precipitation outlook for Feb 2025 is for substantial increased chances (50-60%) of below normal rainfall for south Florida.
- The 3-month window of Feb 2025 – Apr 2025 shows increased chances (40-50%) of below normal rainfall for the entire District.
- The 3-month window of Mar 2025 – May 2025 shows outlooks for Slightly increased chances (33-40%) of below normal rainfall for south Florida.
- The 3-month window of Apr 2025 – Jun 2025 indicates equal chances of below, normal and above normal rainfall (EC) for the entire District.
- May 2025 – Jul 2025 to Dec 2025 – Feb 2026 show slightly increased chances (33-40%) of above normal rainfall for south Florida.

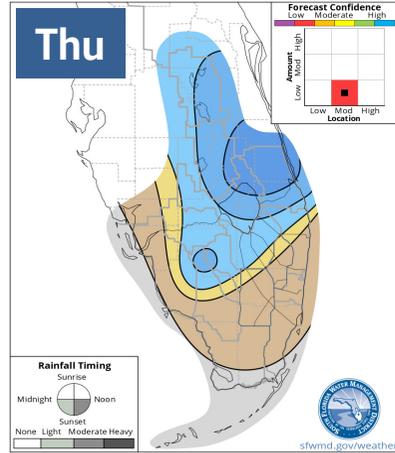
Updated Jan 16, 2025

Short-, Medium-, & Extended-Range Outlooks

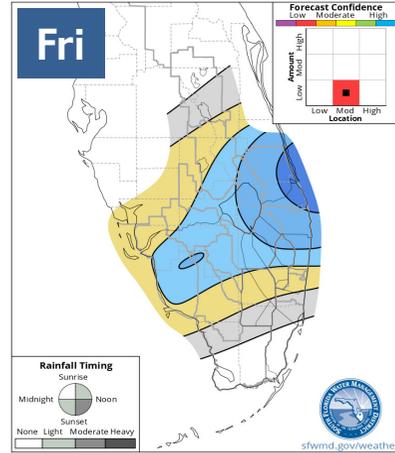
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 1 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Wednesday



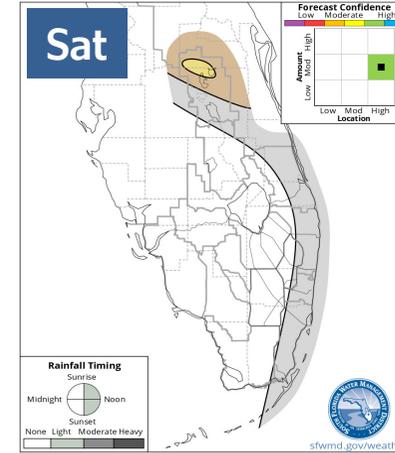
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 2 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Thursday



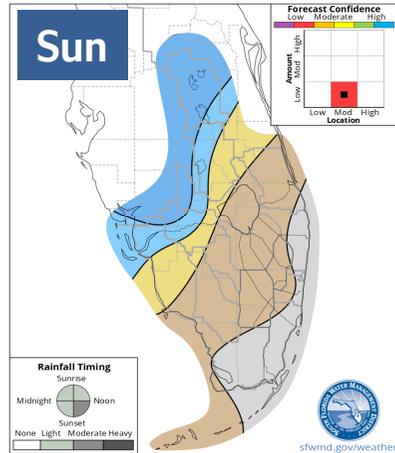
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 3 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Friday



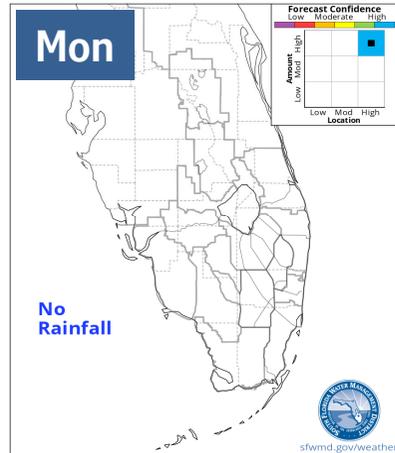
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 4 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Saturday



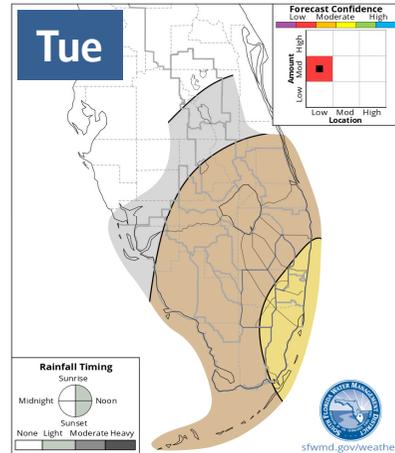
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 5 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Sunday



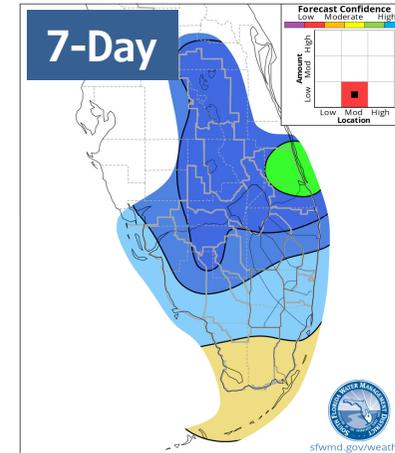
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 6 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Monday



SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 7 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Tuesday



SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Days 1-7 Total Accumulated Precipitation



Weekly Summary

Week 1 (Historical Avg: 0.49"): Below normal
Week 2 (Historical Avg: 0.49"): Near to above normal



Western Everglades Restoration Project (WERP) L-28 Culverts Area

CERP Construction and Planning Projects

Progress Report

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Projects including the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) are authorized when a planning study is approved by Congress as part of a Water Resource Development Act (WRDA). Responsibility for design and construction of CERP and other restoration projects is shared between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), based on coordination between the two agencies, the Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS), and the Project Partnership Agreement for each project. This document reports on the USACE's progress on CERP efforts for the restoration of the Greater Everglades as directed by Governor DeSantis in Executive Order 23-06, as well as the SFWMD's continued efforts to expedite Everglades restoration projects and improve water quality and quantity.

Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands Component

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2025

Project Description: The Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project – Cutler Wetlands Component will improve the health of Biscayne Bay, aid in wetland rehydration, build coastal resiliency and improve water quality. This is the final component of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project.

Status: Construction.

- Contract 6A – Pump Station S-701 under construction.
- Contract 6B – Conveyance channel under construction.

Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – L-31 East Flowway

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2025

Project Description: The project restores freshwater flows to southern Biscayne Bay and Biscayne National Park while improving salinity distribution near the shore. It also restores historical freshwater wetland habitat adjacent to the Bay, which acts like a sponge, soaking up water in the wet season and slowly releasing it in a more natural pattern.

Status: Construction.

- Contract 5C – Pump Stations S-710 and S-711, Seepage Canal C-711W: Construction work is progressing on Pump Stations S-710 and S-711. Seepage canal berm and spreader canal construction are substantially complete. S-711 control building is complete. Electrical work continues at S-710 control building. Permanent power work by FPL is ongoing at S-710 while the S-710 permanent power work is complete. Contract forecasted to stay on track with construction completed in June 2025.



Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project

Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration (BBSEER)

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: TBD

Project Description: The BBSEER Project aims to restore natural areas in southeastern Miami-Dade County, including the Model Lands, Southern Glades, nearshore estuarine habitats of Biscayne Bay, and the associated coastal and freshwater wetlands.

Status: Planning; Approval from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works is required to continue the study due to the need for additional scheduling and budget. The planning study is currently awaiting approval for the additional budget and funding.

Next Milestone: Approval of request for additional budget and funding to continue study. Targeting a Tentatively Selected Plan in Summer 2025.

Broward County Water Preserve Areas

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2035

Project Description: This project will reduce water loss from the Central Everglades. It is designed to perform two primary functions: reduce seepage loss from Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3A/3B to the C-11 and C-9 Basins; and capture, store and distribute surface water runoff from the western C-11 Basin that has been discharged into WCA 3A/3B.

Status: Construction; Design.

- Contract 2.1 – Initial land clearing and grubbing contract awarded September 24, 2024.
- Contract 2.2 – C-11 Impoundment Embankment: The design for the C-11 Impoundment and Mitigation Area A was updated in December to include a seepage wall throughout and revised levee toe. Preparations continue to advertise the construction contract in April 2025, with a contract award forecasted by September 2025.
- Contract 3 – C-11 Impoundment Pump Station: Design is in progress and was updated to reflect seepage wall and revised levee toe design changes, and the construction award is expected towards the end of FY2026.
- Contract 4 – WCA3A Seepage Management Area: Design to begin in 2025.
- Contract 5 – C-9 Impoundment: Design to begin in 2026.

Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2025

Project Description: The project will capture excess C-43 Basin runoff and regulatory releases from Lake Okeechobee during the wet season and release water from the reservoir during the dry season. It includes development of one aboveground reservoir, with a total storage capacity of approximately 170,000 acre-feet. The project will reduce the extreme salinity changes in the Caloosahatchee River Estuary by providing a more consistent flow of freshwater discharging into the estuary.

Status: Construction.

- Package 1 – Embankment Preloading at six critical structures around the dam and demolition of existing infrastructure work is complete.
- Package 2 – S-476 Pump Station replaces the original irrigation pump station located on the header canal that supplied water to existing water users work is complete.
- Package 3 – S-470 Inflow Pump Station which pulls water from the Caloosahatchee River through the Townsend Canal to the Reservoir work is complete. Ribbon cutting event held on December 19, 2023.
- Package 4 – Reservoir: Soil cement (buttress) 20.75 of 21 miles completed, soil cement (slope) 19.5 of 21 miles completed, perimeter canal and intake canal completed. 8 of 16 miles of wave wall installed. Sand column relief manifold (north reach) is 35% complete and the southern 3 reaches have completed proof of concept. S-470 discharge piping installation is complete. Monitoring platform installation is complete, except for one platform awaiting canal bottom reconfiguration. Phase II soil bentonite wall complete except cell 2 access gap east of S-473. S-475 gate installation commenced with three sill plates poured and vertical rails are underway. Gate rails and sill plate installation has commenced at S-471. S-475 gate hoist mechanism to be delivered in February 2025. S-471 gates are in transit to the Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir site. Sod has now been completed on the north down stream slope (south and east slopes completed previously). Piezometer installation is presently 35% complete. Townsend canal dredging has commenced at intake canal interface.

Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2034

Project Description: CEPP includes four phases of projects that help restore the natural flow of water south from Lake Okeechobee to Central & Southern Everglades. The CEPP EAA Phase will store, treat and send new water to the Everglades. The EAA Reservoir reduces damaging discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the Northern Estuaries. The 10,000-acre reservoir component includes 240,000 acre-feet of storage and delivers water to the 6,500-acre A-2 STA for water quality treatment. The project provides an additional average annual 370,000 acre-feet of clean water sent to the Everglades.

Status: Construction; Design.

- Contract 10A – Seepage Inflow/Outflow Canal: De-mucking, clearing, and grubbing activities are about 99% complete. Excavation of the canal footprint continues and is 94% complete. Seepage canal and inflow/outflow canal blasting is about 98% complete. Embankment construction began and is about 28% complete. Forecasting completion date of July 2025.
- Contract 11A – Foundation Preparation & Cutoff Wall: Contractor has completed Demonstration Section 1 and is in the testing phase. Demonstration Section 3 and 4B are also complete and will begin the testing phase, while Demonstration Section 4A is nearing completion. Drilling and blasting of borrow area 3 is 50% complete. Contractor is estimating final contract completion in August 2029.

- Contract 11B – Embankment, outlet structures and spillway: Final design completed in November 2023 and construction contract awarded September 27, 2024. The bid was not protested. Notice to Proceed was issued on December 2, 2024. This is the largest contract in USACE Jacksonville District's history and is the largest USACE Civil Works stand-alone contract this year. The scope of work includes clearing, excavation, and processing of materials to construct a 17.75-mile embankment dam up to 38 feet high, as well as four gated outlet structures, one un-gated overflow spillway, one multi-bay gated inline spillway, rock foundation preparation, and installation of a seepage cutoff wall. Contractor is expected to mobilize and begin construction in March 2025.
- Contract 11C – S-636 Seepage Pump Station: Design began in March 2023, and the construction award is expected in FY2030.
- Contract 12 – S-623 Reservoir Inflow Pump Station: The microwave tower portion of the project is in design and is expected to be awarded for construction by SFWMD in Q4 FY2025.

Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Canal Conveyance Improvements

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2027

Project Description: The North New River Canal Conveyance increases canal capacity by 200 cfs. The Miami Canal Conveyance Improvements increase canal capacity by 1,000 cfs.

Status: Construction; Design

- Contract 9A – EAA North New River Canal Improvements: Construction Notice to Proceed issued on June 20, 2024. Dredge Material Management Area is fully complete and mechanical excavation and hydraulic dredging are underway.
- Contract 9A – EAA Miami River Canal Improvements Phase I: Design is ongoing and construction award by Q3 FY2025.
- Contract 9A – EAA Miami River Canal Improvements Phase 2: Design is ongoing and construction award in FY2025.

Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) North Phase

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2032

Project Description: CEPP North will restore water levels in the northern portion of the Central Everglades and improve our water resource resiliency in South Florida. The CEPP North features include the backfilling of approximately 13 miles of the Miami Canal, modifications to the S-8 pump station complex, construction of seven new structures and one new canal as well as improving approximately 18 miles of existing canal.

Status: Design; Construction.

- Contract 7A – L-6 Diversion: A groundbreaking for S-620 was held in May 2023 and construction is almost complete. S-622 design is complete and contract award is planned in Q3 FY2025.
- Contract 7A – L-4 Canal Improvements & Distribution Features & S-630 Gated Culverts are in design.
- Contract 7B – S-8 Pump Station Modifications Phase 1 construction contract Notice to Proceed was issued on April 8, 2024. S-8 Pump Station Modifications Phase 2 design is complete. Contract award is planned in Q2 FY2025.
- Contract 8A – L-5 Canal Improvements will be constructed in two packages and design is complete. Contract award for Package 1 is planned in Q2 FY2025. Package 2 design will be combined with Contract 8B once its design is complete.
- Contract 8B – Miami Canal Backfill and Vegetated Hammocks survey is complete, and design is underway.

Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South Phase

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2033

Project Description: CEPP South removes water flow barriers to allow natural flow of water south into Everglades National Park. Components include the construction of a pump station, the installation of culverts and spillways and the removal of a roadway and levees that will all help increase the flow of clean water south from WCA 3A to Everglades National Park.

Status: Design; Construction.

- Contract 1AR – L-67A Culverts: Work continues at the S-631, S-632, and S-633 sites. There were delays with the contractor as they managed mechanical and equipment issues. Progress and quality assurance meetings were held to address delays. Contractor is forecasting a construction completion date of December 2026.
- Contract 2A – Pump Station S-356E and S-334E Gated Spillway: Project design is complete and the land acquisition phase is finalizing. Updated Real Estate needs should conclude with a new real estate agreement and review of that agreement forecasted to complete in June 2025. Contract advertisement scheduled for February 2026 and contract award scheduled for July 2026.
- Contract 3B – S-355W Gated Spillway in L-29 Canal: Final design is complete. To expedite the CEPP South implementation schedule, the SFWMD is proposing to accept the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers request to take on construction of the S-355W gated spillway structure. This structure is a critical component in construction sequencing for CEPP South. Contract award is planned in Q4 FY2025.
- Contract 5 – Blue Shanty Flowway: Final design is scheduled to be complete in FY2026, and the contract award is scheduled for FY2026. The USACE and the SFWMD are coordinating how best to incorporate design refinements based on science recommendations from the Decomposition Physical Model into this contract.
- Contract 6 – L-29 Levee Removal: Design is scheduled to begin in FY2025, and the contract award is scheduled for FY2028.

Indian River Lagoon South – C-23 Estuary Discharge Diversion Canal

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2025

Project Description: This interconnect canal project will divert harmful discharges from the C-23 Canal and send it south to the C-44 Reservoir. It improves water quality in the St. Lucie Estuary and helps bring flows to the Estuary closer to its natural pattern.

Status: Construction; S-457 Pump Station wall pours have reached an elevation of 30 feet NAVD88, canal excavation in Segment 1 is 95% and Segment 3 is 95% complete, Segment 2 canal excavation 95%, box culvert concrete construction, backfilling and handrails completed. Commenced installation of S-458 Box Culvert under State Road 714/Martin Highway this month.

Indian River Lagoon South – C-23/24 North Reservoir

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2031

Project Description: The C-23/24 North Reservoir is a component of the Indian River Lagoon South Project, encompassing more than 2,000 acres. Once completed, it will store approximately 32,000 acre-feet of water.

Status: Design.

- Contract 4A – S-426 Pump Station, Afterbay, S-425 Culvert, PC-37 Canal and Structure: Contract awarded on September 30, 2024, with Notice to Proceed issued on October 29, 2024. The contractor is forecasting a completion date of April 2028.
- Contract 4B – S-425 Sag Culvert, S-426 Afterbay and Reservoir Embankment Construction: The final design is scheduled to be complete in December 2025.

Indian River Lagoon South – C-23/24 South Reservoir

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2030

Project Description: The C-23/24 South Reservoir is a component of the Indian River Lagoon South Project, encompassing more than 3,500 acres. Once completed it will store approximately 57,000 acre-feet of water.

Status: Design is ongoing by the SFWMD. Package 1 of the canal and structure construction contract was approved by the SFWMD Governing Board in April 2024, and Package 2 – Reservoir construction contract will be awarded in FY2025.

Indian River Lagoon South – C-23/24 STA

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2026

Project Description: The 2,700-acre C23/24 STA is designed to treat water from the C-23 and C-24 Basins. Its purpose is to reduce the sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen going to the St. Lucie River Estuary and the southern portion of the Indian River Lagoon.

Status: Construction; Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) Cells 1 and 2 are complete. Cell 3, 4, and 5 are all progressing with construction work on foundations, berms, and canals. The project is forecasted to stay on track with a completion date of January 2026.

Indian River Lagoon South C-25 Reservoir and STA

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2028

Project Description: The C-25 Reservoir and STA will capture, store and treat local stormwater runoff from the C-25 Canal. The project reduces the rate of harmful flows to downstream estuaries and improves water quality in the estuary and lagoon. Project features include an 803-acre reservoir with 5,176 acre-feet of storage, a 532-acre STA, and a 250 cfs pump station.

Status: Construction; Package 1 for Site Preparation contract awarded in August 2024. Design; Package 2 is in design, estimated contract award is Q4 FY2025.

Indian River Lagoon South Natural Water Quality Storage Areas and Muck Removal

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: TBD

Project Description: This project is part of Indian River Lagoon South Phase II and will work together with other Indian River Lagoon South components to protect and restore the lagoon and estuary. It will create natural storage by preserving and restoring lands in the contributing basins of the north and south forks of the St. Lucie River and the estuary.

Status: Planning; Acquiring Lands.

Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP)

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: TBD

Project Description: LOWRP is an Everglades restoration planning effort that will improve water levels in Lake Okeechobee; improve the quantity and timing of discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries; restore degraded habitat for fish and wildlife throughout the study area; and increase the spatial extent and functionality of wetlands.

The Florida Legislature appropriated a total of \$150 million for the LOWRP during the previous three legislative sessions. During the 2021 legislative session, the Florida Legislature also passed Senate Bill 2516 to further support and expedite the implementation of LOWRP. This funding was provided to the SFWMD for the design, engineering and construction of specific LOWRP components designed to achieve the greatest reduction in harmful discharges to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries.

Status: Planning; Design, Well Testing and Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Science Plan. There is ongoing planning coordination between USACE and SFWMD to develop the best course of action to mitigate any delays in the project. A request for additional time and funding will be submitted to allow the planning study to continue.

Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project

Lead Agency: SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: 2032

Project Description: The Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project will restore and sustain the overall quantity, quality, timing and distribution of fresh water to the federally designated “National Wild and Scenic” Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River for current and future generations. This project also seeks to restore, sustain and reconnect the wetlands and watersheds that form the historic headwaters for the river. These areas include Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Pal Mar East/Cypress Creek, DuPuis Wildlife and Environmental Management Areas, J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area, Grassy Waters Preserve, Loxahatchee Slough, the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River and the Loxahatchee River Estuary.

Status: Design.

- Flowway 1: Anticipated to execute design contract in FY2025.
- Flowway 2 and 3: In design, survey and geotechnical work underway.

Picayune Strand Restoration Project

Lead Agency: USACE

Anticipated Completion Year: 2025

Project Description: This project restores the natural water flow across 85 square miles in western Collier County that were drained in the early 1960s in anticipation of extensive residential development. The restoration involves plugging 48 miles of canals, removing 260 miles of crumbling roads, and constructing three major pump stations, all of which will restore more than 55,000 acres of natural habitat.

Status: Construction. All three pump stations, Miller Tram and the road removal are complete.

- Southwest Protection Feature (SWPF) Levee: Six of seven lifts for the full seven miles are complete and the seventh lift is in progress with only 2,000 feet remaining. Embankment work is expected to be complete in March 2025. Construction is expected to be complete in July 2025.
- Conveyance Features (Design/Build Contract): The construction of the US-41 culvert was completed in May 2024. CR-92 culvert was completed in December 2024. The SWPF conveyance features began the Operational Testing and Monitoring Period in January 2025, with the removal of stoplogs at the US-41 culvert.
- Canal Plugging: The Faka Union Canal plugging was completed in May 2024. The Miller Canal plugging began in January 2025 and is progressing.

Southern Everglades

Lead Agency: USACE/SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: TBD

Project Description: The Southern Everglades project aims to provide substantial amounts of freshwater to improve the quantity, timing, and distribution of freshwater in the Greater Everglades and Everglades National Park wetlands and Florida Bay.

Status: Planning; The study is forecasted to plan a kick-off date in 2025.

Western Everglades Restoration Project (WERP)

Lead Agency: USACE/SFWMD

Anticipated Completion Year: TBD

Project Description: The Western Everglades Restoration Project is an Everglades restoration planning effort that aims to improve the quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of water in the western Everglades. The study area covers approximately 1,200 square miles, bounded by the L-1 Canal to the north; the L-2 Canal, STA 5/6, and the eastern boundary of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida Reservation to the east; a natural watershed boundary to the west; and portions of U.S. Highway 41, Loop Road, and the southern Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida Reservation area to the south.

Status: Planning, Design & Construction; The draft Project Implementation Report (PIR) and draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) were released for public comment on December 15, 2023. A series of “open house” public meetings were held to discuss the project. In-person and virtual National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Public Meetings were held January 17 & 18, 2024. The review period for the final PIR/EIS began on September 27, 2024 and closed on October 28, 2024, and the Record of Decision was signed. The project was authorized in the 2024 Water Resources Development Act.

- Region 4 Design and Construction – L-28 Culverts under construction, Notice to Proceed issued in April 2024. Modeling complete, geotechnical work ongoing and design commenced for 11-Mile Road, US-41 and Loop Road Culverts. A groundbreaking was held on July 10, 2024 for the first major feature of the Western Everglades Restoration Project, the L-28 South Culverts, which will support Everglades restoration.

PROJECTS/FEATURES WITH CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED SINCE 2019

- ▶ CEPP New Water Seepage Barrier Wall
- ▶ BBCW L-31E Flowway Pump Stations S-703, S-705 and S-709
- ▶ EAA A-2 Stormwater Treatment Area
- ▶ C-44 Stormwater Treatment Area
- ▶ C-44 Reservoir and Pump Station
- ▶ CEPP South Old Tamiami Trail Removal
- ▶ CEPP South S-333N Gated Spillway
- ▶ Picayune Strand Miller Pump Station
- ▶ Broward County Water Preserve Areas Mitigation Area A Berm



Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP)

Progress Update – February 2025

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PROGRESS UPDATE

The South Florida Water Management District collaborated with the Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) to study the health and ecosystem of Lake Okeechobee. The study took into account the health of plants, fish, and wildlife to be used for future planning of invasive plant control, replanting of native vegetation, and fish and game management.

Following input from more than 500 stakeholders during a series of public workshops, focused interviews with participants (representing fishing, recreational, environmental, agricultural, and business groups; communities around the lake; scientific organizations; and state and federal agencies), and via a dedicated online portal, a report on the study’s findings was prepared by FGCU and submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on January 1, 2025.



Wading birds at Lake Okeechobee.

INTERAGENCY SPOTLIGHT

The public and peer review comment period for the *Draft 2025 South Florida Environmental Report (SFER) – Volume I* closed on December 17, 2024.

Comments were received on the Coordinating Agencies NEEPP Annual Progress Report (Chapter 8A) and the Watershed Protection Plan 5-Year Updates for the Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie River, and Caloosahatchee River Watersheds (Chapters 8B-8C-8D). Visit the [SFER WebBoard](#) for more information.

This review also covered over 10 associated appendices with supporting information on the Research and Water Quality Monitoring efforts (including long-term trend analyses and watershed basin assessments) as well as the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Plan Regional Simulation Model Update (Appendix 8A-1).

Revisions to the draft will be incorporated into the final report and responses will be sent to the public and panel commenters.

The complete, three-volume, final report will be published on March 1, 2025. Visit [SFWMD.gov/SFER](#) for more information.



Caloosahatchee estuary oyster reef.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRESS UPDATE

The 2024 *Five-Year Review of the Lake Okeechobee Basin Management Plan Action Plan* (BMAP) was published on the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) BMAP website at FloridaDEP.gov/BMAPs. Through December 31, 2023, 292 projects were completed and an additional 60 projects were underway or planned. Based on the load estimation model, completed activities in the watershed are estimated to achieve total reductions of 243,895 lbs/yr of Total phosphorus (42% of the reductions needed to meet the Total phosphorus TMDL).

The next Lake Okeechobee BMAP update – including actions from the wastewater treatment and onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plans being prepared by local governments – will be completed by July 1, 2025.

DEP is working through the verification process for updated project information from stakeholders through December 31, 2024, in support of the 2024 *Statewide Annual Report on Total Maximum Daily Loads, Basin Management Action Plans, Minimum Flows or Minimum Water Levels, and Recovery or Prevention Strategies* (STAR), which will be published by July 1, 2025. This comprehensive annual report provides updates on the implementation of 6,000+ water quality restoration projects in over 30 active BMAPs across the State of Florida. Visit FloridaDEP.gov/STAR for more information.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES PROGRESS UPDATE

As of December 31, 2024, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has completed 92% of required implementation verifications (IVs) for agricultural operations within the NEEPP boundary. All IV site visit deferrals for the counties impacted by the 2024 Hurricanes have ended. FDACS continues to collect and retain required nutrient application records as IVs are conducted.

Statewide, agricultural enrollments have increased by 12% (total: 12,317 operations and 6,839 producers) and a 14% increase in the enrolled acreages (total: 5,369,549) since January 2023, when Agricultural Commissioner Wilton Simpson took office.

FDACS continues with rulemaking to revise the existing Florida agricultural BMP manuals and rules. Rule Chapters 5M-1, 5M-9 (Sod), 5M-11 (Cattle), and 5M-19 (Poultry) have been adopted. The rule adoption for 5M-21 (Small Farms and Specialty Livestock) is scheduled for 2/3. Rule adoptions for 5M-13 (Specialty Fruit & Nut), 5M-6 (Nursery), and 5M-14 (Equine) should be filed soon. A notice of change was published in the Florida Administrative Register for 5M-8 (Florida Vegetable and Agronomic Crop on 1/10), 5M-16 (Citrus on 1/15), and 5M-17 (Dairy on 1/16). Visit FDACS.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy/Rule-Development-Activities for a complete list of all rule development activities.

Current projects like the Arbuckle Creek project focuses on water quality improvements through floating aquatic vegetative treatments and other innovative approaches, while a project in St. Lucie County emphasizes canal enhancements that also include vegetative treatments and sediment reduction. Additionally, collaborative efforts with dairies in the Lake Okeechobee Basin aim to transition grazing pastures to field crops and construct free stall barns, reducing nutrient runoff and improving regional water quality in the area. These projects provide insights into scalable practices that align with the program's goals.

FDACS is advancing the framework for the regional agricultural water quality improvement projects program, emphasizing projects that achieve measurable nutrient load reductions, enhance regional water quality, and provide scalable, sustainable agricultural solutions. The request for applications language reflects this vision, incorporating lessons from current initiatives and establishing selection criteria to determine projects best suited to achieve these goals. An application portal is under development and set to be launched on July 1, 2025. FDACS will work with partners to ensure potential applicants are aware and understand the requirements of the program ahead of the official launch.



A LOOK AHEAD

March 1, 2025

The Final 2025 South Florida Environmental Report (SFER) will be published at SFWMD.gov/SFER.

March 12 and 13, 2025 2025 SFER Open House

An Open House will be held to showcase the 2025 South Florida Environmental Report. This Open House will include a poster session and staff will be present to answer questions and discuss the report. The Open House will be held at District Headquarters in West Palm Beach.

Visit SFWMD.gov/Meetings for more information.

Spring 2025 Public Meetings for Draft 2025 BMAP Updates

As part of the Clean Waterways Act, nutrient BMAPs are required to be updated and adopted by July 1, 2025. DEP anticipates the 2025 BMAP Updates for draft public review will be ready in Spring 2025. These updates will incorporate recent legislative requirements, including the wastewater and onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems remediation plans.

Visit FloridaDEP.gov/BMAPs for more information on upcoming meetings.