



South Florida Water Management District

GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

December 12, 2024

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
 - October 2024 Employee of the Month: Gregory Vazquez, Section Leader, Environmental Resource Bureau
 - October 2024 Team of the Month: Geospatial Services (GIS) Team
 - December 2024 Employee of the Month: Nicolle Masters, External Affairs Specialist
 - December 2024 Team of the Month: North of Lake Okeechobee Storage Reservoir Section 203 Study (LOCAR) Team
 - 25-Year Service Award: Brian Garrett, Scientist Senior, Land Stewardship
 - 25-Year Service Award: Jose "Joe" Marquez, Engineering Specialist
4. Agenda Revisions
5. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
6. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the November 14, 2024, Meeting
7. Executive Director's Report - Drew Bartlett
8. General Public Comment

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

Consent Agenda

13. Land Acquisition, Pal Mar, Martin County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The Pal Mar project area is located in western Martin County and is generally considered to be a broad flat area of wetlands containing hundreds of small lakes and depression marshes interconnected by seasonal flow ways made up of grassy wet prairies and cypress swamps. The District has been acquiring land on a willing seller basis to preserve and protect this area. Staff is seeking Governing Board approval to acquire one parcel containing 1.0 acres from a willing seller for a purchase price of \$16,000.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1201 Authorize the acquisition of land interests containing 1.0 acres, more or less, in the total amount of \$16,000, located in the Pal Mar Project in Martin County, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

[Resolution No. 2024-1201](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

14. Easement Exchange with Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component of the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, St. Lucie County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

In support of the United States Army Corps of Engineers' construction of the C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component of the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, the District will adjust the existing utility easement to FPL. The North Reservoir Component requires electrical power lines to convey power to District structures. Adjustment of the existing utility easement is needed to correctly identify the location of the existing electrical power line improvements within the North Reservoir Component. For the purposes of the easement exchange, a new utility easement will be granted by the District to FPL and FPL will terminate the existing utility easement, with the value of the new utility easement being deemed equal to the value of the terminated easement interest.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1202 Approve surplus for exchange and conveyance to Florida Power & Light Company easement interests encumbering 2.29 acres, more or less, in exchange for Florida Power & Light Company terminating an

existing easement interest within the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component, located in St. Lucie County.

[Resolution No. 2024-1202](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

15. Pump Station S-9 Temporary Pumps Purchase Order Amendment, Ft. Lauderdale Field Station Area of Responsibility, Broward County (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Operations and Maintenance Capital Improvement Plan, the S-9 Pump Station Main Engine, Gear Box and Pump Refurbishment Project, located in Broward County, is part of the annual Operations and Maintenance Pump and Engine Overhaul Program. The purpose of the structure is to pump excess water into Water Conservation Area 3A (WCA-3A) via C-11 Extension Canal from the Western C-11 Basin and to assist Pump Station S-9A to pump seepage under L-33 and L-37 Levees back into WCA-3A.

The existing purchase order for five 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) temporary pumps in support of the S-9 Pump Station Refurbishment with the MWI Corporation was approved in August 2024 and expires in January 2025. The amendment is for an additional seven months of temporary pumping through the end of July 2025. The temporary pumps are needed to supplement the capacity of the S-9 Pump Station during the refurbishment of the main pumping units 1 and 2 at the station. This proposed amendment is for temporary pumping during the refurbishment of the S-9 Pump Station for the Ft. Lauderdale Field Station area of responsibility (Broward County). The proposed amendment will add seven additional months of standby temporary pumping in an amount not-to-exceed \$908,950.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1203 Authorize an amendment to the purchase order with the MWI Corporation for temporary pumps in support of the S-9 Pump Station refurbishment in the Ft. Lauderdale Field Station area of responsibility, in Broward County, for an additional seven months of temporary pumping through the end of July 2025, in an amount not-to-exceed \$908,950 for a total revised contract amount of \$1,736,498.50 of which \$1,286,648.50 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and \$449,850 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Purchase Order No. 4500150383)

[Resolution No. 2024-1203](#)

[Backup Presentation](#)

16. C-38S Aquifer Storage and Recovery Demonstration Treatment Facility - Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase, Glades County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP) Aquifer Storage and Recovery program, the C-38S Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Demonstration Treatment Facility - Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase, located in Glades County, will provide treatment for 10 million gallons per day (MGD) of surface water from the C-38 Canal through the C-38S ASR

Demonstration Facility. This facility will allow the demonstration cycle testing necessary to address the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council (NRC, 2015) recommendations on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) ASR Pilot Studies. The membrane equipment pre-selection and pre-purchase is necessary to complete the Final Design of the Demonstration Treatment Facility.

The C-38S ASR facility will be expandable to accommodate 50 MGD once cycle testing is successfully completed. The Demonstration Facility will run three separate membrane systems from three separate pre-qualified suppliers to gain more experience and conduct additional testing prior to selecting the type of membrane that will be used in the future expansion.

The membranes have a long lead time so the Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase will allow a shorter overall facility construction schedule. Approval of the agenda item will provide authorization to negotiate and enter into contract with Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc., FilmTec Corporation, and Veolia WTS Systems USA Inc., all responsive vendors.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1204 Authorize the official ranking and entering into contracts with Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc., FilmTec Corporation and Veolia WTS Systems USA Inc., subject to successful negotiations for the C-38S Aquifer Storage and Recovery Demonstration Treatment Facility - Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase, in an amount not-to-exceed \$13,238,000 for all three contracts, for which dedicated funds (State General Revenue, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State Grant) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets.

Contract No.	Vendor
4600005137	Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc.
4600005136	FilmTec Corporation
4600005135	Veolia WTS Systems USA, Inc.

[Resolution No. 2024-1204
Presentation Backup](#)

- 17. STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, Palm Beach County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) Refurbishments Program, the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, located in Palm Beach County, is needed to correct poor flow patterns caused in part by the uneven dispersal of inflow water across the upstream end of the cell caused by accumulation of sediment in the spreader canal. The function of the spreader canal is to disperse inflow water across the upstream end of the cell allowing the water to sheet flow downstream across the treatment area of the cell. The resulting sheet flow moves gently through the emergent vegetation without causing scour, wash out, or short circuits.

This project will remove sediment build up in the spreader canal through maintenance dredging and stockpile of the dredged material in an unused part of the cell. The resulting work will improve water quality discharges to the Everglades Protection Area by helping to balance flows and loads to meet the Water Quality Based Effluent Limit (WQBEL) that would achieve compliance with the State of Florida's numeric phosphorous criterion in the Everglades Protection Area.

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 November 26, 2024.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1205 Authorize entering into a 165-day contract with Ryan Incorporated Civil, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, in the amount of \$4,540,380, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Contract No. 4600005140)

[Resolution No. 2024-1205](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

18. Field Operations Center Eco-Friendly Janitorial Contract (Staff contact, Candida Heater)

Agenda Item Background:

This proposed service contract is for the eco-friendly janitorial services for B-374 Environmental Laboratory building, B270 SCADA building and B-271 Warehouse, located at the Field Operations Center on Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach. The proposed contract is for a term of three years with two one-year renewal options for a not to exceed amount of \$409,728. Seven bids were received ranging from \$409,728 to \$808,320 annually. Amer-Plus Janitorial Maintenance, LLC was the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1206 Authorize entering into a three-year contract with two one-year renewal option with Amer-Plus Janitorial Maintenance, LLC, for eco-friendly janitorial services at the Field Operations Center using a competitive bid process in an amount not-to-exceed \$409,728 of which \$61,459.20 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. 4600005138)

[Resolution No. 2024-1206](#)

19. Implementation and Subscription Service for Budget System (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The Information Technology Division will implement Euna Solutions' Sherpa Budget Software as a Service (SaaS) to modernize and enhance the District's budgeting process by integrating it with the existing SAP S/4HANA ERP system. This effort is driven by the need to retire the current "in-house" developed Oracle-based budgeting

tool, which relies on Oracle Forms, a component that has reached end-of-life and soon to be unsupported. The District's Budget Bureau will use the new system to modernize and enhance its budgeting processes by integrating it with the District's existing SAP S/4HANA ERP system. Transitioning to Sherpa ensures continuity in financial operations, mitigates the risk associated with outdated technologies, and leverages the scalability and flexibility of a cloud-based solution. This integration aligns with the District's goals to optimize resource management and increase operational efficiency.

This request is to enter into a contract with Sherpa Government Solutions, LLC for two services totaling \$2,127,409:

1. Sherpa Budget annual software subscription service for an initial three years with two one-year renewal options for a five-year total of \$1,575,928
2. One-time implementation services for design, configuration, testing, and training for a total cost of \$551,481

The SaaS and implementation services will be procured using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1207 Authorize entering into a contract with Sherpa Government Solutions, LLC, for two services totaling \$2,127,409, 1) Sherpa Budget annual software subscription service for an initial three years with two one-year renewal options in the amount of \$1,575,928, and 2) Implementation services for a one-time cost of \$551,481, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907, of which \$860,481 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. 4600005128)

[Resolution No. 2024-1207](#)

20. Smithsonian Institute Benthic Infauna Contract (Staff contact, Cassondra Armstrong, Ph.D.)

Agenda Item Background:

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Restoration, Coordination, Verification (RECOVER) program has included under its Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP) monitoring of benthic infauna in the St. Lucie Estuary and southern Indian River Lagoon since 2005. This monitoring has taken place under the direction of the Smithsonian Institute's Ft. Pierce Marine Station. Benthic infauna are one of the most effective and well-established biological indicators of environmental change. Their limited mobility, fast generation times, and predictable tolerances to different stressors allow infauna communities to reflect, and sometimes predict, ecosystem health status and restoration progress. Infauna respond to disturbance events and restoration projects that alter water and sediment quality, principally: salinity, dissolved oxygen, presence of hydrogen sulfide, sediment organic content, and sediment grain size.

This request is to enter a two-year contract with Smithsonian Institute's Ft. Pierce Marine Station to process a two-year sample backlog. These data will support status

reporting of the benthic infaunal community, and on trends in the St. Lucie Estuary and southern Indian River Lagoon resulting from the implementation of the CERP. This includes expected benefits from projects such as the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, which will create additional storage in the watershed, reducing deleterious freshwater inflows, treat water through stormwater treatment areas, and directly augment habitat in the St. Lucie Estuary.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1208 Authorize entering into a two-year contract with the Smithsonian Institute Fort Pierce Marine Station to provide services to support ecosystem assessment for Restoration, Coordination, and Verification (RECOVER) in an amount of \$320,000, for which dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund and State Grant) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Contract No. 4600005123)

[Resolution No. 2024-1208](#)

21. Strategic Plan 2025-2030 (Staff contact, Jennifer Smith)

Agenda Item Background:

The purpose of this agenda item is to present the District's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan and request Governing Board approval in accordance with the statutory requirement under Section 373.036, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The strategic plan is based on ongoing guidance received from the Governing Board and is updated to reflect agency strategic priorities, objectives, and policy direction. Staff reviews, updates, and requests approval by the Governing Board annually during October - December to establish high-level priorities for the upcoming preliminary budget development. The approved Strategic Plan will be included within the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2025-2026 District budget submitted to the Governor and Legislature on January 15, 2025. Public comments have been gathered and reviewed as part of this plan update. The document includes updates for Strategic Priorities, Success Indicators and Strategic Project recommendations to continue support of Governor DeSantis' Executive Order 23-06 "Achieving Even More Now for Florida's Environment" to advance Everglades restoration and improve water quality in the Sunshine State, the District's mission "To safeguard and restore South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region's water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders," and to deliver on the management and the resiliency of South Florida's primary water management infrastructure that provides flood control and water supply for over 9 million residents and tens of millions of visitors.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1209 Adopt the updated 5-Year Strategic Plan of the District for the purpose of establishing Board Guidance, strategic priorities, goals, projects and success indicators.

[Resolution No. 2024-1209](#)

22. Settlement of a Property Damage Pre-Suit Claim Filed by Land Trust Partners of Florida, LLC against the South Florida Water Management District (Staff contact, Maricruz R. Fincher)

Agenda Item Background:

This is a claim for property damage that occurred on June 19, 2024. After the claim was filed against the District, the parties reached a pre-suit resolution of the claim, including payment of monetary damages in exchange for the execution of a mutually agreed upon release.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2024-1210 Authorize entering into a proposed settlement for the purpose of resolving a pre-suit property damage claim filed by Land Trust Partners of Florida, LLC., contingent upon execution of a mutually agreed upon Release.

[Resolution No. 2024-1210](#)

Discussion Agenda

23. Expediting Progress to Send Water South (Staff contact, Jennifer Reynolds)

Agenda Item Background:

Sending water south is a top priority for the South Florida Water Management District (District). A primary component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) is to restore the balance of water flows between the Central Everglades, Everglades National Park, and Florida Bay. The restoration will also help the recovery of critically endangered species including the imperiled Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow, the Everglades Snail Kite, and the Florida Panther.

This presentation will address the Central Everglades Planning Project South Phase (CEPP-South). The Blue Shanty Flowway is the most efficient means to restore continuous southernly sheet flow through WCA-3 and alleviate concerns over effects on tree islands and the wildlife they support.

To expedite the CEPP-South implementation schedule and mitigate further delays, the District is proposing to accept the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' request to take on construction of the S-355W gated spillway (Contract 3B). This structure is a critical component in construction sequencing for CEPP-South.

To mitigate for restoration delays associated with management of the critically endangered Cape Sable seaside sparrow (*Ammospiza maritima mirabilis*; CSSS), the District is proposing to support the interagency efforts to implement a captive breeding program. A proposed five-year (2026-2030) pilot project by the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida entails building enclosures and other necessary structures for the propagation and continued managed care of the CSSS at White Oak Conservation Foundation, located in Yulee, Florida, for reintroduction and wild population augmentation.

At this meeting, staff is seeking authority from the Governing Board to (1) authorize a second amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the District for the CEPP-South project expediting a component necessary for balancing the flow of water south through the Everglades; and (2) authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida to support year 1 costs for construction and operations of the

CSSS Captive Breeding and Release Pilot Program at the White Oak Conservation Center in an amount not to exceed \$584,322.

Recommended Action:

A. Resolution No. 2024-1211 Authorize a second amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the District for the Central Everglades Planning Project South Phase (CEPP-South) expediting a component necessary for balancing the flow of water south through the Everglades.

B. Resolution No. 2024-1212 Authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida for the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Captive Breeding and Release Pilot Program at the White Oak Conservation Center, for an amount not to exceed \$584,322, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

[A. Resolution No. 2024-1211](#)

[B. Resolution No. 2024-1212](#)

24. 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update (Staff contact, Mark Elsner, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

This presentation will provide an overview of the Draft 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update. Staff is requesting the Governing Board issue a final order approving the 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin (LKB) Water Supply Plan Update (2024 LKB Plan Update). Water supply plans are updated every five years and identify sustainable water supplies for all water users while protecting water resources and related natural systems. This five-year update for the LKB Planning Area includes portions of Glades, Okeechobee, and Highlands counties (generally northwest of Lake Okeechobee) and the Seminole Tribe of Florida Brighton Reservation.

The 2024 LKB Plan Update provides demand projections through 2045 and identifies sources and strategies to meet these demands pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. The 2024 LKB Plan Update concludes that future water needs of the LKB Planning Area can be met with appropriate management, conservation, and implementation of projects identified in the plan.

The 2024 LKB Plan Update was developed in an open public forum. The Draft 2024 LKB Plan Update was made available for public review and comment. The comments were evaluated and incorporated into the 2024 LKB Plan Update where appropriate.

Recommended Action:

Enter a Final Order approving the 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update

[Final Order](#)

Technical Reports

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

Staff Reports

26. Monthly Financial Report - Candida Heater, Division Director - Administrative Services
27. General Public Comment
28. Board Comment
29. Adjourn

Final Presentations and Supplemental Documents

Agenda Item Background:

- [21 Draft Strategic Plan 2025-2030](#)
- [23 Reynolds Sending Water South](#)
- [23 eComment Cara Capp](#)
- [23 eComment Steffanie Munguia](#)
- [23 eComment Email Valeriia Tolkacheva](#)
- [23 eComment NGOs](#)
- [24 Elsner 2024 LKB Plan Update](#)
- [25 Mitnik Glenn Water and Ecological 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: December 12, 2024
SUBJECT: Land Acquisition, Pal Mar, Martin County

Agenda Item Background:

The Pal Mar project area is located in western Martin County and is generally considered to be a broad flat area of wetlands containing hundreds of small lakes and depression marshes interconnected by seasonal flow ways made up of grassy wet prairies and cypress swamps. The District has been acquiring land on a willing seller basis to preserve and protect this area. Staff is seeking Governing Board approval to acquire one parcel containing 1.0 acres from a willing seller for a purchase price of \$16,000.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The proposed acquisition of privately-owned land within the Pal Mar Project allows the District to achieve ownership consistent with its environmental goals. The acquisition will consolidate District ownership with other District owned lands.

Funding Source:

The \$16,000 purchase price for the parcel is equal to the \$16,000 appraised value. The \$16,000 appraised value is based on an appraisal of similar Pal Mar Project lands conducted earlier in 2024. The closing costs will be paid by the seller. All costs, including acquisition and associated costs, were or will be funded from the District's Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1201](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024-12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize the acquisition of land interests containing 1.0 acres, more or less, in the total amount of \$16,000, located in the Pal Mar Project in Martin County, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District is currently acquiring land from willing sellers in connection with the implementation of the Pal Mar Project in Martin County; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District desires to purchase land interests containing 1.0 acres, more or less, in the total amount of \$16,000, located in the Pal Mar Project, as shown on the location map Exhibit "A," attached hereto and made a part hereof, and declare surplus, disposal of, and removal from the asset records, any such structures and improvements deemed unnecessary for the stated purpose for the original land acquisition; and

WHEREAS, all costs are to be funded from the District's Lease Revenue for the acquisition and associated costs; and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Water Management District is authorized to acquire land, or interests or rights in land, pursuant to Section 373.139, Florida Statutes; and

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 acquisition of land interests containing 1.0 acre, more or less, in the amount of \$16,000, for the Pal Mar Project in Martin County, together with associated costs, for which Ad Valorem funds have been budgeted as follows:

Owner	Tract No.	Interest	Acres	Appraised Value*	Purchase Price
Carol Di Quattro and George Di Quattro	23114-290	Fee	1.0	\$16,000	\$16,000

*Based on a 2024 appraisal of similar lands within the Pal Mar Project in Martin County

Amount	Fund	Fund Center	Functional Area	GL Account #	Account Description
\$16,000	402000	3510144000	AA00	580020	Acquisition

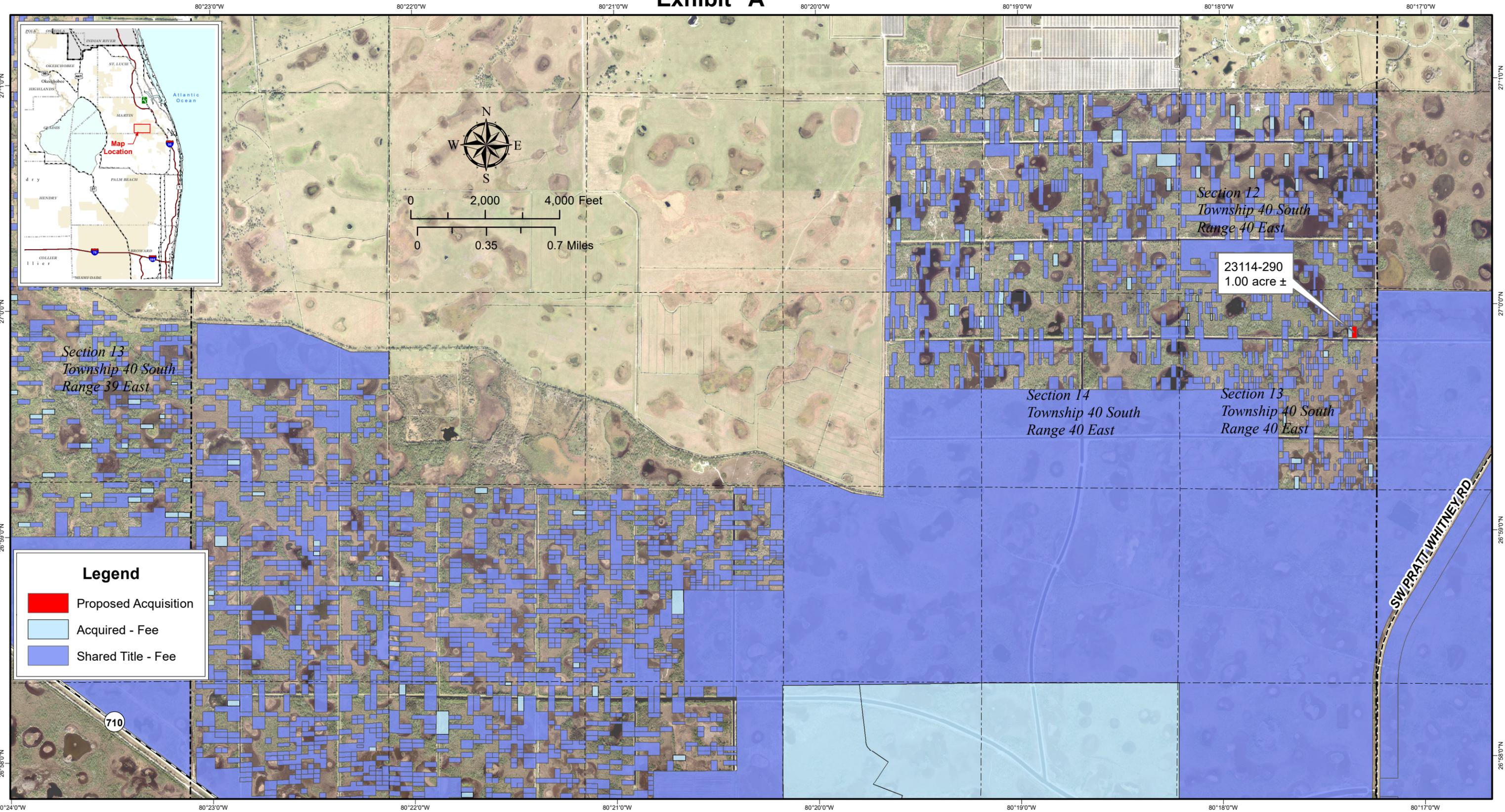
Section 2. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby further approves declaring surplus, disposal of, and removal from the asset records, any such structures and improvements deemed unnecessary for the stated purpose of the original land acquisition.

Section 3. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the Chairman or Vice Chairman to execute the Agreement for Sale and Purchase instrument. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the Executive Director or the Executive Director’s designee to make any determinations 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 12th day of December, 2024.

Exhibit "A"



Legend

- Proposed Acquisition
- Acquired - Fee
- Shared Title - Fee

BASE CREDITS:

- Base map from South Florida Water Mgmt. District, February 2017
- State Plane Projection, Florida East Zone, NAD 83-HARN, US feet
- Martin 2023 6IN Aerial

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

Pal Mar Tracts 23114-290 Martin County, Florida

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.

Map Date: November 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Ray Palmer, Real Estate

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Easement Exchange with Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component of the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, St. Lucie County

Agenda Item Background:

In support of the United States Army Corps of Engineers' construction of the C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component of the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, the District will adjust the existing utility easement to FPL. The North Reservoir Component requires electrical power lines to convey power to District structures. Adjustment of the existing utility easement is needed to correctly identify the location of the existing electrical power line improvements within the North Reservoir Component. For the purposes of the easement exchange, a new utility easement will be granted by the District to FPL and FPL will terminate the existing utility easement, with the value of the new utility easement being deemed equal to the value of the terminated easement interest.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

As a part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Indian River Lagoon - South Project, the C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component, located in St. Lucie County, will assist with the reduction of harmful discharges to the southern portion of the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie River and Estuary. The C-23/C-24 North Reservoir component supports the District's core mission of ecosystem restoration and water quality improvement. The C-23/C-24 North Reservoir will be comprised of an approximately 2,438-acre reservoir, capable of storing approximately 30,000 acre/feet of water and will allow stormwater originating in the C-23 and C-24 basins to be directed into the C-23/C-24 Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) to be treated before returning to the C-23 or C-24 canals to reclaim storage capacity or meet a water supply demand.

Funding Source:

As this is an even exchange, there is no purchase price to fund. The only closing costs the District will incur will be for recording the easement instrument and termination of easement instrument.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1202](#)

Exhibit A Map

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2024-12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District approving surplus for exchange and conveyance to Florida Power & Light Company easement interests encumbering 2.29 acres, more or less, in exchange for Florida Power & Light Company terminating an existing easement interest within the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component, located in St. Lucie County; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component (“Project Component”), located in St. Lucie County, will assist with the reduction of harmful discharges to the southern portion of the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie River and Estuary; and

WHEREAS, the District is currently implementing the Project Component, which includes the construction of electrical power lines to convey power to District structures; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to exchange lands, or interests or rights in lands, pursuant to Section 373.089, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the District will convey easement interests containing 2.29 acres, more or less, (the “New Easement Interest”), in exchange for FPL terminating an existing easement interest (“Terminated Easement Interest”), all as shown on Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has determined that it is in the public interest to declare the New Easement 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 granting the New Easement 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 exchange and conveyance to Florida Power & Light Company easement interests encumbering 2.29 acres, more or less, in exchange for Florida Power & Light Company removing and relocating certain existing electrical power line improvements and terminating an existing easement interest, as identified in the attached Exhibit “A”, all within the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component. The value of the Terminated Easement Interest is deemed equal to the value of the New Easement Interest for purposes of the exchange.

Owner	Tract No.	Interest	Acres
South Florida Water Management District	KE10E-101	Electrical Utility Easement	2.29
Florida Power & Light Company	KE10E-094	Electrical Utility Easement	2.27

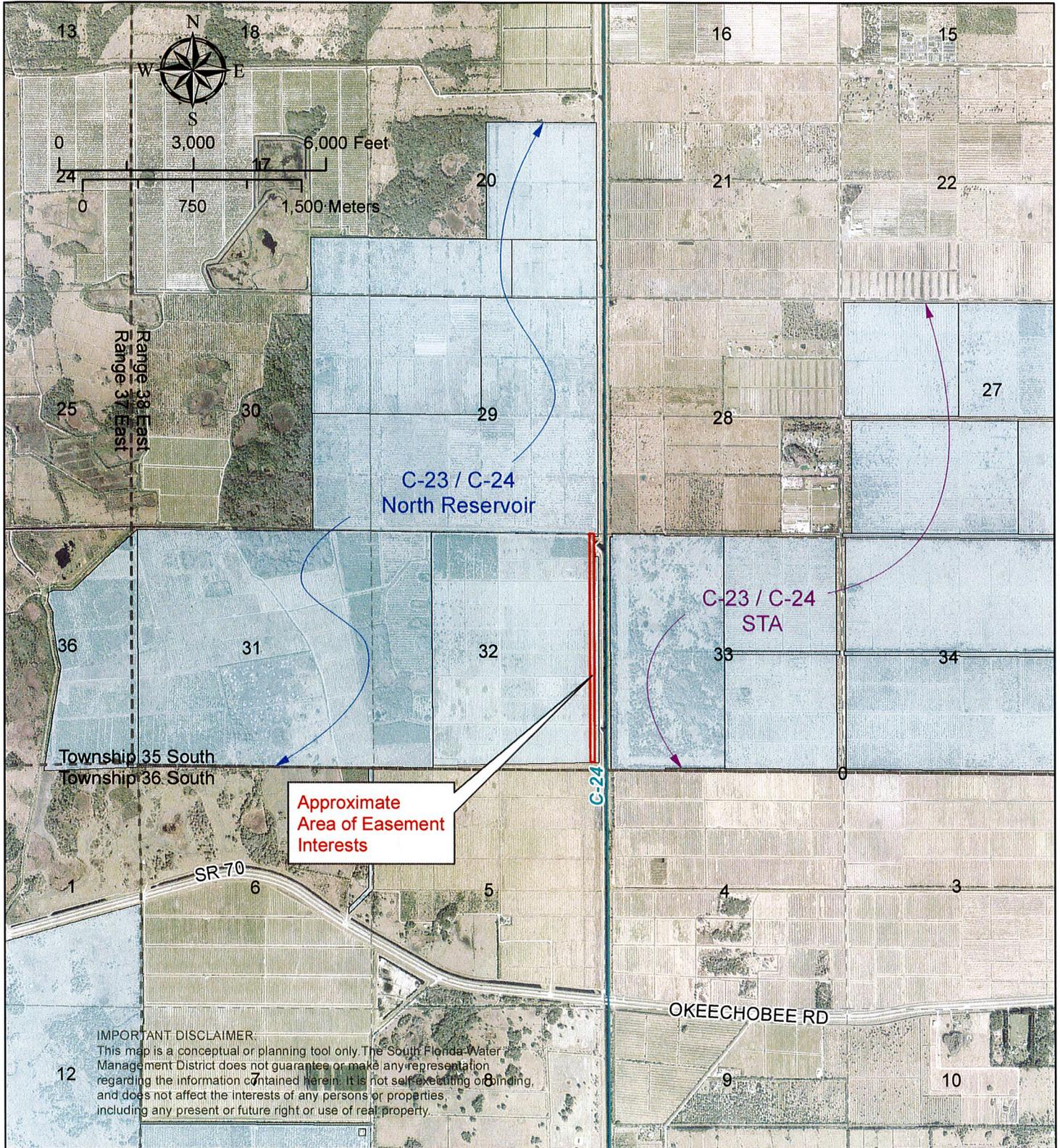
Section 2. Consistent with the requirements of Section 373.089(6), Florida Statutes, as the conveyance of the New Easement Interest supports and is needed for the implementation of the Indian River Lagoon - South Project, C-23/C-24 North Reservoir Component, the Governing Board hereby determines that granting the New Easement 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.

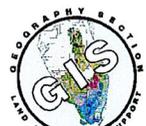
PASSED and **ADOPTED** this 12th day of December, 2024.

Exhibit "A"





IRL South C23 / C24 North Reservoir St. Lucie County



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

BASE CREDITS
 • Base map from South Florida Water Mgmt. District, February 2023
 • State Plane Projection, Florida East Zone, NAD 83-HARN, US feet
 • St. Lucie 2021 6IN Aerial

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

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

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Pump Station S-9 Temporary Pumps Purchase Order Amendment, Ft. Lauderdale Field Station Area of Responsibility, Broward County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Operations and Maintenance Capital Improvement Plan, the S-9 Pump Station Main Engine, Gear Box and Pump Refurbishment Project, located in Broward County, is part of the annual Operations and Maintenance Pump and Engine Overhaul Program. The purpose of the structure is to pump excess water into Water Conservation Area 3A (WCA-3A) via C-11 Extension Canal from the Western C-11 Basin and to assist Pump Station S-9A to pump seepage under L-33 and L-37 Levees back into WCA-3A.

The existing purchase order for five 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) temporary pumps in support of the S-9 Pump Station Refurbishment with the MWI Corporation was approved in August 2024 and expires in January 2025. The amendment is for an additional seven months of temporary pumping through the end of July 2025. The temporary pumps are needed to supplement the capacity of the S-9 Pump Station during the refurbishment of the main pumping units 1 and 2 at the station. This proposed amendment is for temporary pumping during the refurbishment of the S-9 Pump Station for the Ft. Lauderdale Field Station area of responsibility (Broward County). The proposed amendment will add seven additional months of standby temporary pumping in an amount not-to-exceed \$908,950.

Additional Item Background:

The S-9 pump station was constructed in 1956 and the station was repowered with new engines in 1990. Deficiencies were found during an inspection conducted by District staff, indicating the need for the refurbishment. The purpose of the project is to refurbish and modernize three Caterpillar Series 3606 Diesel Engines, three Philadelphia right-angle drive gear boxes and three 1,000 cfs pumps. Each refurbishment will take place during the dry season, with an estimated 3 months out of service. The project efforts include modernization, replacement and/or refurbishment of all major components to ensure an additional 20 years of uninterrupted service, pumping efficiency, and continued reliability of the pump station to perform its intended functions by reducing the potential for a catastrophic failure of the pumping components.

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The S-9 Pump Station Main Engine, Gear Box and Pump Refurbishment Project supports the District's missions of flood control, water supply, water quality and ecosystem restoration.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution No. 2024-1203

Backup Presentation

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - XXXX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize an amendment to the purchase order with the MWI Corporation for temporary pumps in support of the S-9 Pump Station refurbishment in the Ft. Lauderdale Field Station area of responsibility, in Broward County, for an additional seven months of temporary pumping through the end of July 2025, in an amount not-to-exceed \$908,950 for a total revised contract amount of \$1,736,498.50 of which \$1,286,648.50 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and \$449,850 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date. (Purchase Order No. 4500150383)

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 the purchase order with the MWI Corporation for temporary pumps in support of the S-9 Pump Station refurbishment in the Ft. Lauderdale Field Station area of responsibility, in Broward County, for an additional seven months of temporary pumping through the end of July 2025, in an amount not-to-exceed \$908,950 for a total revised contract amount of \$1,736,498.50 of which \$1,286,648.50 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and \$449,850.00 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

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 the Purchase Order with the MWI Corporation for temporary pumps in support of the S-9 Pump Station refurbishment in the Ft. Lauderdale Field Station area of responsibility. (Purchase Order No. 4500150383)

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2024.



S-9 & S-9A Pump Station Complex

Field Operations Division

**Pump Station S-9 Temporary Pump Purchase Order Amendment
Governing Board Meeting
December 12, 2024**

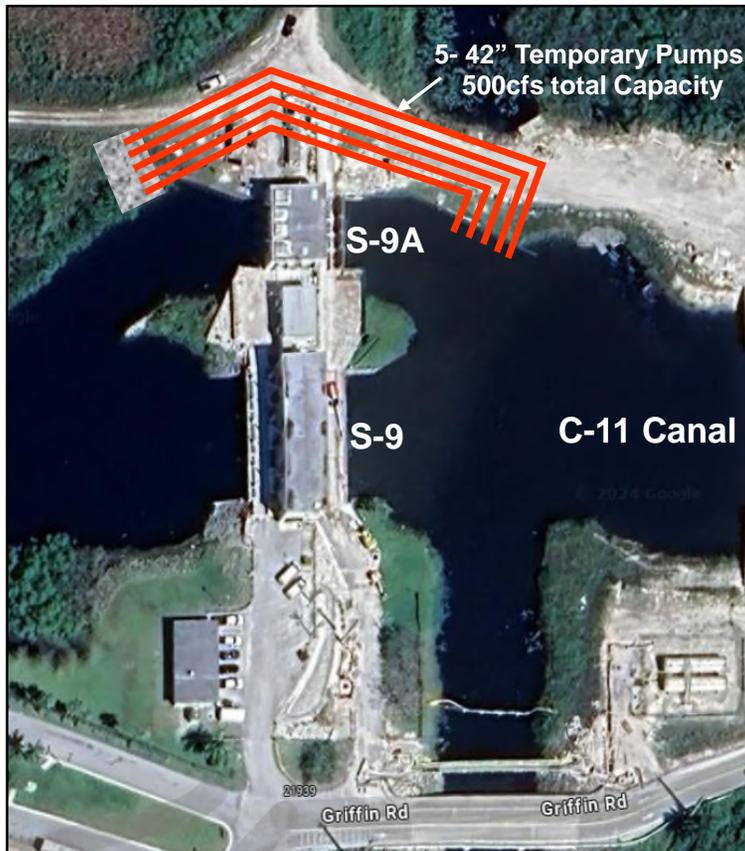
Need for Rental Extension

- The purpose of the project is to refurbish and modernize 3-Caterpillar Series 3606 diesel engines, 3-Philadelphia gear boxes and 3-1,000 (cfs) pumps.
- Each pumping unit refurbishment will take place during the dry season, with an estimated 3 months out of service.
- The project efforts include modernization, replacement and/or refurbishment of all major components to ensure continued reliability of the pump station to perform its intended functions by reducing the potential for a catastrophic failure of the pumping components.



Refurbishment of Engine No. 1 Completed

Need for Rental Extension



- When each pumping unit is out for refurbishment, there are concerns of not being able to fully respond in a severe rain event. Another concern is the age of the units and the fact that we have a failure of one unit already. If there is a failure of a second unit while a unit is being overhauled, the area would be at risk.
- The solution was to have temporary pumps installed with the ability to move at least 500 cfs if needed through the end of the 2024 hurricane season.
- **The amendment** is needed to extend the time to the end July of 2025 to complete the refurbishment of pumping units 1 and 2.

Need for Rental Extension

- Existing installation of 5-100 cfs Temporary Pumps provided by the MWI Corporation.



Field Operations Division



QUESTIONS?

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

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

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: C-38S Aquifer Storage and Recovery Demonstration Treatment Facility - Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase, Glades County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP) Aquifer Storage and Recovery program, the C-38S Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Demonstration Treatment Facility - Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase, located in Glades County, will provide treatment for 10 million gallons per day (MGD) of surface water from the C-38 Canal through the C-38S ASR Demonstration Facility. This facility will allow the demonstration cycle testing necessary to address the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council (NRC, 2015) recommendations on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) ASR Pilot Studies. The membrane equipment pre-selection and pre-purchase is necessary to complete the Final Design of the Demonstration Treatment Facility.

The C-38S ASR facility will be expandable to accommodate 50 MGD once cycle testing is successfully completed. The Demonstration Facility will run three separate membrane systems from three separate pre-qualified suppliers to gain more experience and conduct additional testing prior to selecting the type of membrane that will be used in the future expansion.

The membranes have a long lead time so the Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase will allow a shorter overall facility construction schedule. Approval of the agenda item will provide authorization to negotiate and enter into contract with Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc., FilmTec Corporation, and Veolia WTS Systems USA Inc., all responsive vendors.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

LOWRP ASR Demonstration Treatment Facility Project supports the District's core mission of ecosystem restoration, water supply and flood control.

Funding Source:

LOWRP ASR Demonstration Treatment Facility Project will be funded through dedicated funds (State General Revenue, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State Grant).

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution No. 2024-1204

Presentation Backup

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - XXXX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize the official ranking and entering into contracts with Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc., FilmTec Corporation and Veolia WTS Systems USA Inc., subject to successful negotiations for the C-38S Aquifer Storage and Recovery Demonstration Treatment Facility - Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection and Pre-Purchase, in an amount not-to-exceed \$13,238,000 for all three contracts, for which dedicated funds (State General Revenue, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State Grant) 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 Number	Vendor
4600005137	Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc.
4600005136	FilmTec Corporation
4600005135	Veolia WTS Systems USA, 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 vendors and entering into contracts with Aqua Aerobic Systems Inc., FilmTec Corporation and Veolia WTS Systems USA inc., subject to successful negotiations to provide design construction and installation services. in an amount not-to-exceed \$13,238,000 for all three contracts, for which dedicated funds (State General Revenue, Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and State Grant) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to the Governing Board approval of the 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 approves entering into a contract with the following vendors subject to successful negotiations to provide design, construction, and installation of the membranes for the LOWRP C-38S Demonstration Treatment Facility, in an amount not-to-exceed \$13,238,000 for all three contracts.

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

PASSED and **ADOPTED** this 12th day of December 2024.

Location

Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project ASR Program
 C-38S Demonstration Treatment
 Demonstration Facility



Background

- Project is part of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project for Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) program
- Provides treatment of 10 million gallons per day (MGD) of surface water from C-38 Canal through the C38A ASR Demonstration Facility
- C-38S ASR facility will be expandable to accommodate 50 MGD once cycle testing is successfully completed.
- Demonstration Facility will run three separate membrane systems from three separate pre-qualified suppliers to gain more experience and conduct additional testing prior to selecting the type of membrane that will be used in the future expansion

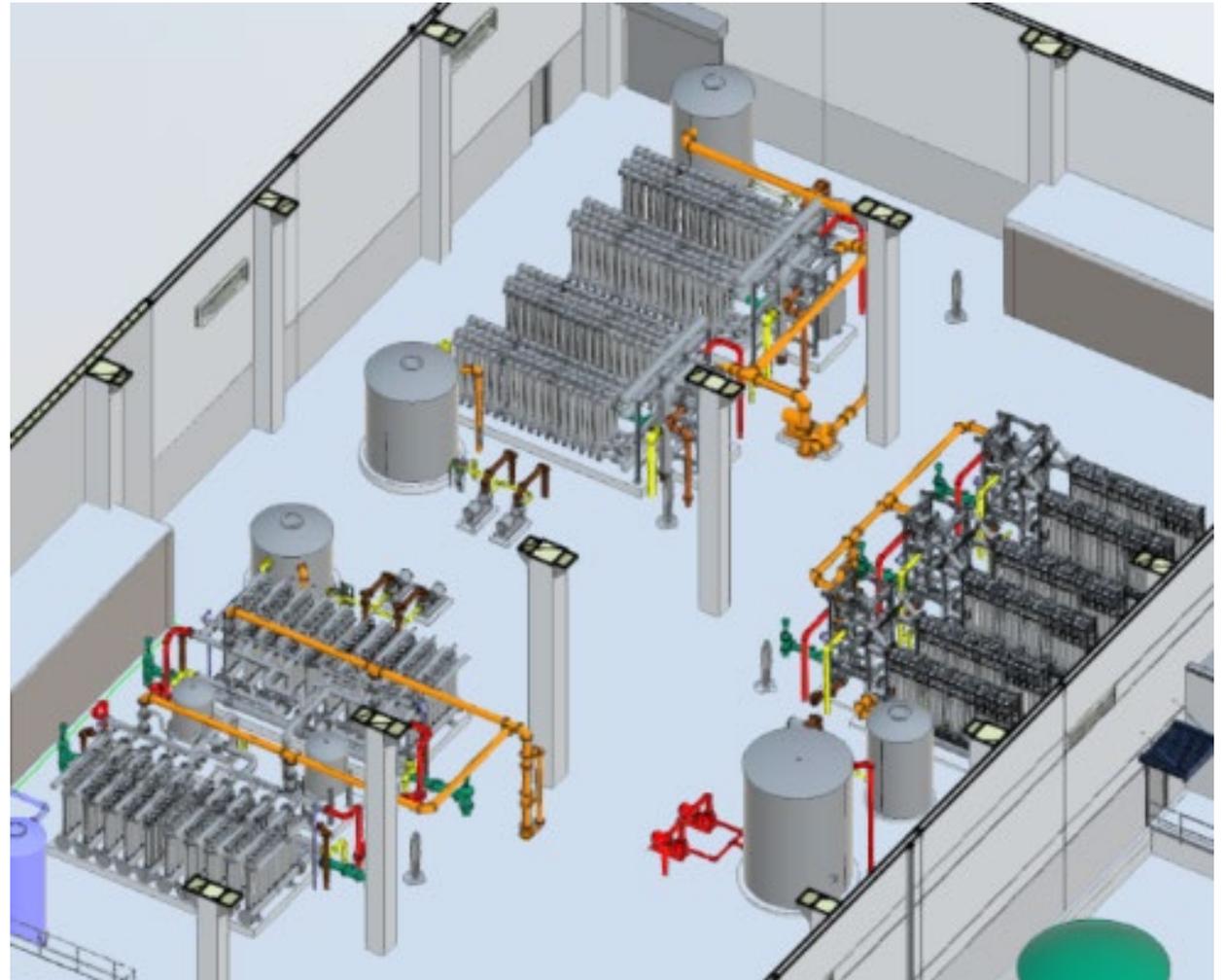
Scope

The three MF/UF membrane systems suppliers are:

- Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc.,
- FilmTec Corporation, and
- Veolia WTS Systems USA Inc.

These manufacturers will provide design submittals, fabricate individual membrane skids and install the equipment into the facility under a future General Contractor responsible for the entire facility.

The membranes have a long lead time so the Membrane Equipment Pre-Selection (EQPS) and Pre-Purchase will allow a shorter overall facility construction schedule.



Bid Summary

- RFP Released: August 23, 2024
- RFP Opening: October 25, 2024
- Number of Proposals Received: 03
 1. Aqua Aerobic Systems, Inc.
 2. FilmTec Corporation
 3. Veolia WTS Systems USA Inc.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

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

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, Palm Beach County

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) Refurbishments Program, the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, located in Palm Beach County, is needed to correct poor flow patterns caused in part by the uneven dispersal of inflow water across the upstream end of the cell caused by accumulation of sediment in the spreader canal. The function of the spreader canal is to disperse inflow water across the upstream end of the cell allowing the water to sheet flow downstream across the treatment area of the cell. The resulting sheet flow moves gently through the emergent vegetation without causing scour, wash out, or short circuits.

This project will remove sediment build up in the spreader canal through maintenance dredging and stockpile of the dredged material in an unused part of the cell. The resulting work will improve water quality discharges to the Everglades Protection Area by helping to balance flows and loads to meet the Water Quality Based Effluent Limit (WQBEL) that would achieve compliance with the State of Florida's numeric phosphorous criterion in the Everglades Protection Area.

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 November 26, 2024.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project supports the District's core missions of water quality and ecosystem restoration.

Funding Source:

STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project is funded with Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1205](#)

Presentation Backup

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - XXXX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a 165-day contract with Ryan Incorporated Civil, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, in the amount of \$4,540,380, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005140)

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 contract with Ryan Incorporated Civil, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, in the amount of \$4,540,380.

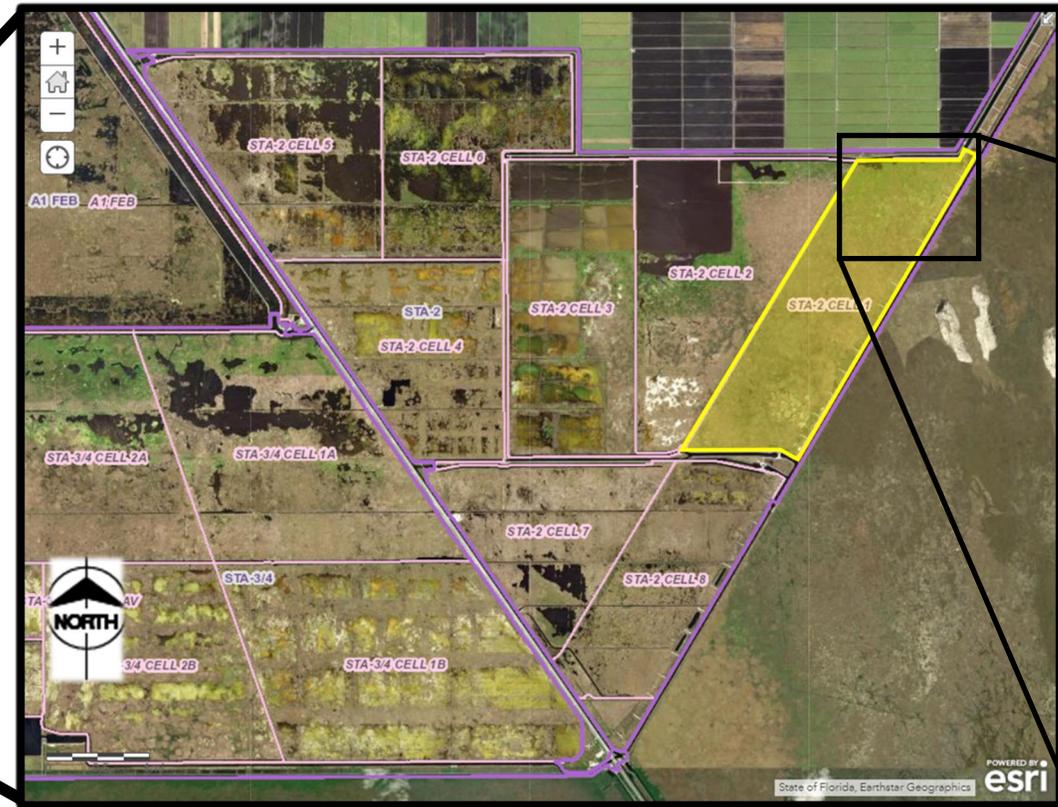
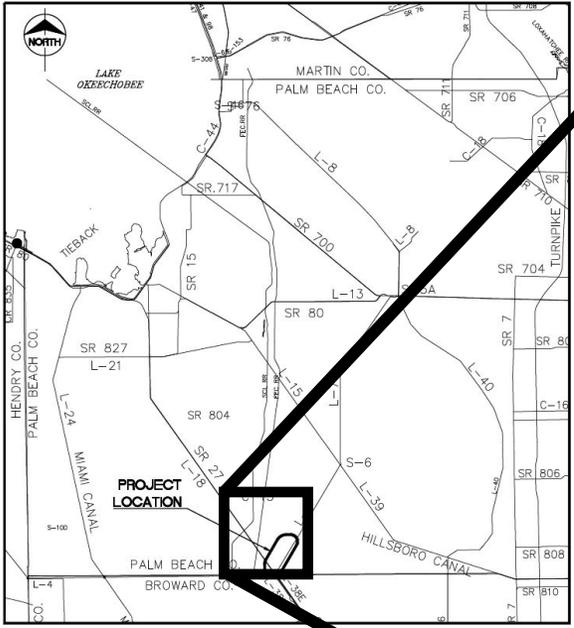
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Section 1. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes entering into a 165-day contract with Ryan Incorporated Civil, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal Maintenance Dredging Project, in the amount of \$4,540,380, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Contract No. 4600005140)

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2024.

Location Map



**STA-2 CELL 1
SPREADER CANAL**



Background

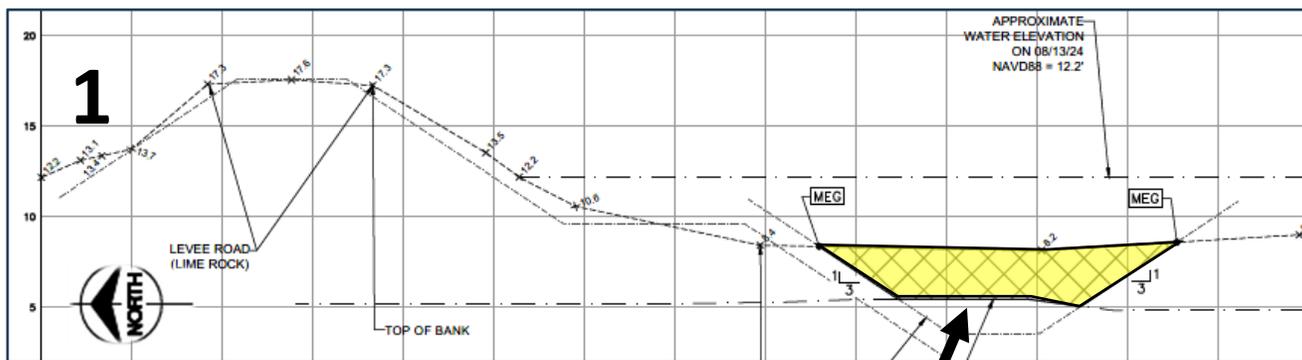
- Constructed by the District, Cells 1 – 3 and began operations in 2000 (Cells 4 - 8 added later)
- Provides stormwater treatment through plant uptake of phosphorus
- Decline in treatment performance with outflow concentrations exceeding WQBEL requirements
- Primary cause is poor flow patterns caused in part by the uneven dispersal of inflow water across the upstream end of the cell caused by accumulation of sediment in the Spreader Canal

Background



Sediment build-up in the STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader Canal

Scope



1. Canal Dredging (typical cross section of the canal)
2. Dredge material stockpile location (unused treatment area between FPL peninsulas)



Bid Summary

- RFB Advertised: October 25, 2024
- Bid Opening: November 26, 2024
- Number of Bids Received: 3
- Bid Range: \$5,995,380 - \$6,942,019
- Engineer's Estimate: \$5,995,000 - \$6,942,000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Candida Heater, Administrative Services, Facilities Bureau

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Field Operations Center Eco-Friendly Janitorial Contract

Agenda Item Background:

This proposed service contract is for the eco-friendly janitorial services for B-374 Environmental Laboratory building, B270 SCADA building and B-271 Warehouse, located at the Field Operations Center on Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach. The proposed contract is for a term of three years with two one-year renewal options for a not to exceed amount of \$409,728. Seven bids were received ranging from \$409,728 to \$808,320 annually. Amer-Plus Janitorial Maintenance, LLC was the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

This item supports the District's core mission by providing a clean, healthy working environment for staff and the public at the Field Operations Center.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Candida Heater, cheater@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6486

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1206](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024-12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing entering into a three-year contract with two one-year renewal option with Amer-Plus Janitorial Maintenance, LLC, for eco-friendly janitorial services at the Field Operations Center using a competitive bid process in an amount not-to-exceed \$409,728 of which \$61,459.20 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. 4600005138)

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 three-year contract with two one-year renewal option with Amer-Plus Janitorial Maintenance, LLC, for eco-friendly janitorial services at the Field Operations Center using a competitive bid process in an amount not-to-exceed \$409,728 of which \$61,459.20 in Ad Valorem funds are 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 approves the contract with Amer-Plus Janitorial Maintenance, LLC for the eco-friendly janitorial services at the Field Operations Center. (Contract No. 4600005138)

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2024.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

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

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Implementation and Subscription Service for Budget System

Agenda Item Background:

The Information Technology Division will implement Euna Solutions' Sherpa Budget Software as a Service (SaaS) to modernize and enhance the District's budgeting process by integrating it with the existing SAP S/4HANA ERP system. This effort is driven by the need to retire the current "in-house" developed Oracle-based budgeting tool, which relies on Oracle Forms, a component that has reached end-of-life and soon to be unsupported. The District's Budget Bureau will use the new system to modernize and enhance its budgeting processes by integrating it with the District's existing SAP S/4HANA ERP system. Transitioning to Sherpa ensures continuity in financial operations, mitigates the risk associated with outdated technologies, and leverages the scalability and flexibility of a cloud-based solution. This integration aligns with the District's goals to optimize resource management and increase operational efficiency.

This request is to enter into a contract with Sherpa Government Solutions, LLC for two services totaling \$2,127,409:

1. Sherpa Budget annual software subscription service for an initial three years with two one-year renewal options for a five-year total of \$1,575,928
2. One-time implementation services for design, configuration, testing, and training for a total cost of \$551,481

The SaaS and implementation services will be procured using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1207](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - 12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize entering into a contract with Sherpa Government Solutions, LLC for two services totaling \$2,127,409, 1) Sherpa Budget annual software subscription service for an initial three years with two one-year renewal options in the amount of \$1,575,928, and 2) Implementation services for a one-time cost of \$551,481, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907, of which \$860,481 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. 4600005128)

WHEREAS, the District obtained these services using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907; and

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 contract with Sherpa Government Solutions, LLC for two services totaling \$2,127,409, 1) Sherpa Budget annual software subscription service for an initial three years with two one-year renewal options in the amount of \$1,575,928, and 2) Implementation services for a one-time cost of \$551,481, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907.

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 contract with Sherpa Government Solutions, LLC for two services totaling \$2,127,409, 1) Sherpa Budget annual software subscription service for an initial three years with two one-year renewal options in the amount of \$1,575,928, and 2) Implementation services for a one-time cost of \$551,481, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the State of North Dakota Contract Numbers 199 and 907. (Contract No. 4600005128)

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2024.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Cassandra Armstrong, Ph.D., Water Resources Division

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Smithsonian Institute Benthic Infauna Contract

Agenda Item Background:

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Restoration, Coordination, Verification (RECOVER) program has included under its Monitoring and Assessment Plan (MAP) monitoring of benthic infauna in the St. Lucie Estuary and southern Indian River Lagoon since 2005. This monitoring has taken place under the direction of the Smithsonian Institute's Ft. Pierce Marine Station. Benthic infauna are one of the most effective and well-established biological indicators of environmental change. Their limited mobility, fast generation times, and predictable tolerances to different stressors allow infauna communities to reflect, and sometimes predict, ecosystem health status and restoration progress. Infauna respond to disturbance events and restoration projects that alter water and sediment quality, principally: salinity, dissolved oxygen, presence of hydrogen sulfide, sediment organic content, and sediment grain size.

This request is to enter a two-year contract with Smithsonian Institute's Ft. Pierce Marine Station to process a two-year sample backlog. These data will support status reporting of the benthic infaunal community, and on trends in the St. Lucie Estuary and southern Indian River Lagoon resulting from the implementation of the CERP. This includes expected benefits from projects such as the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, which will create additional storage in the watershed, reducing deleterious freshwater inflows, treat water through stormwater treatment areas, and directly augment habitat in the St. Lucie Estuary.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

Smithsonian Institute services support the District's core mission of ecosystem restoration, resilience, water quality, and water supply.

Funding Source:

Dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund and State Grant) are budgeted to be used to procure these services.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Cassandra Armstrong, Ph.D., cthomas@sfwmd.gov; 561-682-6716

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1208](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - 12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing entering into a two-year contract with the Smithsonian Institute Fort Pierce Marine Station to provide services to support ecosystem assessment for Restoration, Coordination, and Verification (RECOVER) in an amount of \$320,000, all of which is budgeted in dedicated funds (Land Acquisition Trust Fund) as Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant funds in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date. (Contract No. 4600005123)

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to authorize the agreement with the Smithsonian Institute Fort Pierce Marine Station to provide services to support ecosystem assessment for Restoration, Coordination, and Verification (RECOVER) in an amount of \$320,000, which the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget includes approved dedicated funds; the District may proceed with negotiations with the selected vendor until 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 authorizes entering into a contract with the Smithsonian Institute Fort Pierce Marine Station to provide services to RECOVER within the Water Resources Division, in an amount of \$320,000 for this agreement; the District may proceed with negotiations with the vendor until contracts are successfully negotiated. (Contract No. 4600005123)

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December 2024.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Jennifer Smith, Executive Office

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Agenda Item Background:

The purpose of this agenda item is to present the District's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan and request Governing Board approval in accordance with the statutory requirement under Section 373.036, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The strategic plan is based on ongoing guidance received from the Governing Board and is updated to reflect agency strategic priorities, objectives, and policy direction. Staff reviews, updates, and requests approval by the Governing Board annually during October - December to establish high-level priorities for the upcoming preliminary budget development. The approved Strategic Plan will be included within the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2025-2026 District budget submitted to the Governor and Legislature on January 15, 2025. Public comments have been gathered and reviewed as part of this plan update. The document includes updates for Strategic Priorities, Success Indicators and Strategic Project recommendations to continue support of Governor DeSantis' Executive Order 23-06 "Achieving Even More Now for Florida's Environment" to advance Everglades restoration and improve water quality in the Sunshine State, the District's mission "To safeguard and restore South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region's water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders," and to deliver on the management and the resiliency of South Florida's primary water management infrastructure that provides flood control and water supply for over 9 million residents and tens of millions of visitors.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The Strategic plan sets the priorities that align with the District's core missions.

Funding Source:

Multiple funding sources fund the projects and process that align with the strategic plan priorities.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Jennifer Smith, jsmith@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6285
Candida Heater, cheater@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6486

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1209](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024-12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to adopt the updated 5-Year Strategic Plan of the District for the purpose of establishing Board Guidance, strategic priorities, goals, projects and success indicators.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District deems it necessary, appropriate and in the public interest to adopt the updated attached 5-year strategic plan to establish the strategic priorities of the District Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 373.036, Florida Statutes (F.S.) the 5-year strategic plan includes goals, deliverables and strategic level project and process metrics as measures of achieving the Governing Board's established priorities for restoration of water resources and ecosystems (natural systems and water quality), flood protection, water supply and public engagement and administration; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Florida Legislature passed legislation requiring water management district governing boards to develop a list of critical wetlands per Section 373.036, F.S.

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 adopts the attached "Strategic Plan 2025-2030" of the South Florida Water Management District, authorizes staff to make edits as necessary, and be made available on the District's website.

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12 day of December, 2024.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Maricruz R. Fincher, Office of Counsel

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Settlement of a Property Damage Pre-Suit Claim Filed by Land Trust Partners of Florida, LLC against the South Florida Water Management District

Agenda Item Background:

This is a claim for property damage that occurred on June 19, 2024. After the claim was filed against the District, the parties reached a pre-suit resolution of the claim, including payment of monetary damages in exchange for the execution of a mutually agreed upon release.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Maricruz R. Fincher, mfincher@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6457

ATTACHMENTS:

[Resolution No. 2024-1210](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - XXXX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing entering into a proposed settlement for the purpose of resolving a pre-suit property damage claim filed by Land Trust Partners of Florida, LLC., contingent upon execution of a mutually agreed upon Release.

WHEREAS, the Claimant filed a claim for damages to its property that occurred on July 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the property affected by this claim is located in Hendry County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed to settle the claim for payment of monetary damages in exchange for execution of a mutually agreed upon Release in order to avoid litigation; and

WHEREAS, Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, authorizes the South Florida Water Management District to settle this type of claim; and

WHEREAS, the Claimant and the District have proposed settlement of the claim pre-suit.

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 proposed settlement for the purpose of resolving a pre-suit property damage claim filed by Land Trust Partners of Florida, LLC., contingent upon the execution of a Release mutually agreed upon by the parties.

Section 2. The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District hereby authorizes the Executive Director or his designee to execute all documents needed to effectuate the terms of the settlement.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon full execution of a mutually agreed upon Release.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2024.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Jennifer Reynolds, Ecosystem Restoration

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Expediting Progress to Send Water South

Agenda Item Background:

Sending water south is a top priority for the South Florida Water Management District (District). A primary component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) is to restore the balance of water flows between the Central Everglades, Everglades National Park, and Florida Bay. The restoration will also help the recovery of critically endangered species including the imperiled Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow, the Everglades Snail Kite, and the Florida Panther.

This presentation will address the Central Everglades Planning Project South Phase (CEPP-South). The Blue Shanty Flowway is the most efficient means to restore continuous southernly sheet flow through WCA-3 and alleviate concerns over effects on tree islands and the wildlife they support.

To expedite the CEPP-South implementation schedule and mitigate further delays, the District is proposing to accept the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' request to take on construction of the S-355W gated spillway (Contract 3B). This structure is a critical component in construction sequencing for CEPP-South.

To mitigate for restoration delays associated with management of the critically endangered Cape Sable seaside sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus mirabilis*; CSSS), the District is proposing to support the interagency efforts to implement a captive breeding program. A proposed five-year (2026-2030) pilot project by the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida entails building enclosures and other necessary structures for the propagation and continued managed care of the CSSS at White Oak Conservation Foundation, located in Yulee, Florida, for reintroduction and wild population augmentation.

At this meeting, staff is seeking authority from the Governing Board to (1) authorize a second amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the District for the CEPP-South project expediting a component necessary for balancing the flow of water south through the Everglades; and (2) authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida to support year 1 costs for construction and operations of the CSSS Captive Breeding and Release Pilot Program at the White Oak Conservation Center in an amount not to exceed \$584,322.

Additional Item Background:

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

The Central Everglades Planning Project and the Captive Breeding for the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow project support the District's core missions of flood control, water supply, and

ecosystem restoration.

Funding Source:

The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan projects will be funded through a variety of sources, including dedicated funds (Everglades Trust Fund, General Revenue and Land Acquisition Trust Fund), and Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Jennifer Reynolds, jreynolds@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6672

ATTACHMENTS:

[A. Resolution No. 2024-1211](#)

[B. Resolution No. 2024-1212](#)

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - 12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize a second amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the District for the Central Everglades Planning Project South Phase (CEPP-South) expediting a component necessary for balancing the flow of water south through the Everglades; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, Governor DeSantis directed the South Florida Water Management District (District) to expedite Everglades restoration in his Executive Order 23-06 (Achieving *Even More* Now for Florida's Environment).

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the District has determined that it is necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to expedite construction of CEPP-South.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requested the District assume the lead responsibility for construction of a critical component of the CEPP-South project in a letter dated November 25, 2024.

WHEREAS, the District can award a construction contract in 2025, two years ahead of the projected funding for construction of the feature by the USACE, and thereby mitigate additional delays of the CEPP-South 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 a second amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the District for the Central Everglades Planning Project South Phase (CEPP-South) expediting a component necessary for balancing the flow of water south through the Everglades.

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2024

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2024 - 12XX

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida for the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Captive Breeding and Release Pilot Program at the White Oak Conservation Center, for an amount not to exceed \$584,322, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District has determined that it is necessary, appropriate, and in the public interest to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida at the White Oak Conservation Center in an amount not to exceed \$584,322.

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 to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida to implement the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Captive Breeding and Release Pilot Program at the White Oak Conservation Center in an amount not to exceed \$584,322.

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

PASSED and ADOPTED this 12th day of December, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Mark Elsner, P.E., Water Resources Division

DATE: December 12, 2024

SUBJECT: 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update

Agenda Item Background:

This presentation will provide an overview of the Draft 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update. Staff is requesting the Governing Board issue a final order approving the 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin (LKB) Water Supply Plan Update (2024 LKB Plan Update). Water supply plans are updated every five years and identify sustainable water supplies for all water users while protecting water resources and related natural systems. This five-year update for the LKB Planning Area includes portions of Glades, Okeechobee, and Highlands counties (generally northwest of Lake Okeechobee) and the Seminole Tribe of Florida Brighton Reservation.

The 2024 LKB Plan Update provides demand projections through 2045 and identifies sources and strategies to meet these demands pursuant to Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. The 2024 LKB Plan Update concludes that future water needs of the LKB Planning Area can be met with appropriate management, conservation, and implementation of projects identified in the plan.

The 2024 LKB Plan Update was developed in an open public forum. The Draft 2024 LKB Plan Update was made available for public review and comment. The comments were evaluated and incorporated into the 2024 LKB Plan Update where appropriate.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

Mark Elsner, P.E., melsner@sfwmd.gov, 561-682-6156

ATTACHMENTS:

[Final Order](#)

BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

ORDER NO.: 2024-XXX-DAO-WU

IN THE MATTER OF:

Approval of the 2024
Lower Kissimmee Basin
Water Supply Plan Update

**FINAL ORDER APPROVING THE 2024 LOWER KISSIMMEE
BASIN WATER SUPPLY PLAN UPDATE**

The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District (“District”), after considering staff’s recommendations and being otherwise fully apprised, issues this Final Order pursuant to Sections 373.036, 373.083, and 373.709, Florida Statutes, based on the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Lower Kissimmee Basin (“LKB”) is one of five regional planning areas in the District. The planning area covers approximately 1,800 square miles and includes parts of Glades, Highlands, and Okeechobee counties as well as reservations for the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

2. The LKB Planning Area includes unique and critical ecosystems, such as the Kissimmee River and floodplain, Lake Istokpoga, Taylor Creek, Nubbin Slough, Fisheating Creek, and Nicodemus Slough.

3. In 2000, the District’s Governing Board approved the Water Supply Plan for the Kissimmee Basin (upper and lower basins), and the plan was updated in 2005-2006. Thereafter, the Kissimmee Basin was split into upper and lower planning regions, and the LKB Plan was updated in 2014 and 2019.

4. The purpose of this effort is to update the 2019 LKB Water Supply Plan Update (“2024 LKB Plan Update”) and establish a framework for future District actions to meet the water supply and natural resource protection requirements of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes (“Fla. Stat.”).

5. The 2024 LKB Plan Update is based on a planning period of 2022-2045. It includes the following: 1) water demand projections for six water use categories; 2) a water supply development component; 3) a water resource development component; 4) the adopted MFLs; 5) the MFL recovery and prevention strategies; 6) consideration of how the water supply and resource development components serve the public interest or save costs; 7) technical data; and 8) a funding strategy.

6. The population in the LKB Planning Area is expected to increase from 52,742 people in 2022 to 57,508 people in 2045.

7. Irrigated agricultural acreage is projected to increase from an estimated 103,667 acres in 2022 to 109,761 acres in 2045.

8. Total average water use in the LKB Planning Area is projected to be 260.55 million gallons per day (“mgd”) in 2045, which is 35.11 mgd more than the estimated 2022 average water use.

9. Agricultural water supply is the largest water use category in the LKB Planning Area, representing 91 percent of the total 2045 average projected water demand, and is expected to increase from 211.04 mgd in 2022 to 236.15 mgd in 2045.

10. Landscape/recreational irrigation is the second largest water use category in the LKB Planning Area and is expected to increase from 6.12 mgd in 2022 to 14.68 mgd in 2045.

11. Public water supply is the third largest water use category in the LKB Planning Area and is expected to increase from 4.14 mgd in 2022 to 5.03 mgd in 2045.

12. The 2024 LKB Plan Update concludes there is sufficient water to continue meeting the needs of the LKB Planning Area during a 1-in-10-year drought condition through 2045 with appropriate management, conservation, and implementation of projects.

13. The 2024 LKB Plan Update takes into account cumulative impacts on water resources and guides future management of those resources to ensure adequate water supply for existing and projected reasonable-beneficial uses and to sustain the water resources and related natural systems during average and 1-in-10-year drought conditions through the year 2045.

14. The 2024 LKB Plan Update also concludes that additional water resource development projects are vital to improving and maintaining the viability of the region's natural systems and water resources, but no specific water supply development projects are needed by utilities to meet the projected 2045 water demands.

15. The 2024 LKB Plan Update recommends continued coordination with local governments, utilities, agricultural stakeholders and other water users; natural resource protection; and water level and water quality monitoring.

16. The public participated in the development of the 2024 LKB Plan Update. The District held two public workshops in April and October 2024. The role of these workshops was to receive public input, contribute local knowledge and expertise, and reflect the collective concerns of the various stakeholders in the planning region.

17. The Draft 2024 LKB Plan Update was made available for public review and

comment from October 14, 2024 through November 13, 2024. The comments were evaluated and, where appropriate, incorporated into the final draft.

18. The 2024 LKB Plan Update is not a self-executing document. Implementation of the 2024 LKB Plan Update will occur through a variety of future Governing Board actions. A flexible course of action is proposed. Future decisions about contracts, research, budgetary appropriations, cost-sharing arrangements, rulemaking, permitting, operational protocol, local agreements, and inter-governmental coordination will commit the District to a specific direction.

19. The 2024 LKB Plan Update, including the associated appendices and supporting document, can be found at the following link: <https://www.sfwmd.gov/our-work/water-supply/lower-kissimmee>.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

20. Water management district governing boards are authorized to undertake regional water supply planning efforts. This authorization includes updating existing plans such as the 2024 LKB Plan Update. § 373.709, Fla. Stat.

21. Section 373.709, Fla. Stat., establishes a framework for the regional water supply plan's scope, analysis, implementation, and process. Specific water resource development and water supply development projects must also be included in regional water supply plans.

22. Water supply plans must include intermediate water use projections for each five-year interval. Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-40.531(1)(a). Water management districts shall update each regional water supply plan every five years. Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-40.531(8).

23. The Governing Board concludes that the 2024 LKB Plan Update meets the requirements of Section 373.709, Fla. Stat., and Rule 62-40.531, Fla. Admin. Code.

24. While the Governing Board's approval of a water supply plan is not subject to rulemaking requirements, any portion of an approved water supply plan that affects the substantial interests of a party is subject to challenge pursuant to Section 120.569, Fla. Stat. § 373.709(5), Fla. Stat. A Notice of Rights is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

25. The Notice of Rights does not cover future Governing Board actions to implement the 2024 LKB Plan Update. When implementing action is taken, the Governing Board will provide a point of entry to substantially affected parties, as appropriate.

26. The 2024 LKB Plan Update may be updated or amended as new technical information and analysis become available. Such updates will occur no later than five years from the entry of this order and in accordance with Section 373.709, Fla. Stat.

ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is ORDERED:

27. The 2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update is approved.

28. Staff is authorized to make minor changes to the 2024 LKB Plan Update that do not alter its substance in response to submitted stakeholder comments. Staff is also authorized to address minor typos, grammar, and spacing issues to the 2024 LKB Plan Update that do not alter its substance. Such changes must occur within 30 days of the December 12, 2024 Governing Board meeting.

29. Staff may distribute notice of this Order by certified mail, regular mail,

and/or electronic mail to persons who have participated in the LKB Water Supply Plan development process and those entities identified as appropriate for implementing water supply development projects. Notice shall also be published in the Florida Administrative Register and newspapers of general circulation within the planning region.

DONE AND SO ORDERED in West Palm Beach, Florida, on this _____ day of December, 2024.

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
By its Governing Board

Drew Bartlett, Executive Director

Exhibit A

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

As required by Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, the following provides notice of the opportunities which may be available for administrative hearing pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, or judicial review pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, when the substantial interests of a party are determined by an agency. Please note that this Notice of Rights is not intended to provide legal advice. Some of the legal proceedings detailed below may not be applicable or appropriate for your situation. You may wish to consult an attorney regarding your legal rights.

RIGHT TO REQUEST ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

A person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the South Florida Water Management District's (District) action has the right to request an administrative hearing on that action pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Persons seeking a hearing on a District decision which affects or may affect their substantial interests shall file a petition for hearing in accordance with the filing instructions set forth herein within 21 days of receipt of written notice of the decision unless one of the following shorter time periods apply: (1) within 14 days of the notice of consolidated intent to grant or deny concurrently reviewed applications for environmental resource permits and use of sovereign submerged lands pursuant to Section 373.427, Florida Statutes; or (2) within 14 days of service of an Administrative Order pursuant to Section 373.119(1), Florida Statutes. "Receipt of written notice of agency decision" means receipt of written notice through mail, electronic mail, posting, or publication that the District has taken or intends to take final agency action. Any person who receives written notice of a District decision and fails to file a written request for hearing within the timeframe described above waives the right to request a hearing on that decision.

If the District takes final agency action that materially differs from the noticed intended agency decision, persons who may be substantially affected shall, unless otherwise provided by law, have an additional point of entry pursuant to Rule 28-106.111, Florida Administrative Code.

Any person to whom an emergency order is directed pursuant to Section 373.119(2), Florida Statutes, shall comply therewith immediately, but on petition to the board shall be afforded a hearing as soon as possible.

A person may file a request for an extension of time for filing a petition. The District may grant the request for good cause. Requests for extension of time must be filed with the District prior to the deadline for filing a petition for hearing. Such requests for extension shall contain a certificate that the moving party has consulted with all other parties concerning the extension and whether the District and any other parties agree to or oppose the extension. A timely request for an extension of time shall toll the running of the time period for filing a petition until the request is acted upon.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS

A petition for administrative hearing must be filed with the Office of the District Clerk. Filings with the Office of the District Clerk may be made by mail, hand-delivery, or e-mail. Filings by facsimile will not be accepted. A petition for administrative hearing or other document is deemed filed upon receipt during normal business hours by the Office of the District Clerk at the District's headquarters in West Palm Beach, Florida. The District's normal business hours are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., excluding weekends and District holidays. Any document received by the Office of the District Clerk after 5:00 p.m. shall be deemed filed as of 8:00 a.m. on the next regular business day. Additional filing instructions are as follows:

- Filings by mail must be addressed to the Office of the District Clerk, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406.
- Filings by hand-delivery must be delivered to the Office of the District Clerk. Delivery of a petition to the District's security desk does not constitute filing. It will be necessary to request that the District's security officer contact the Office of the District Clerk. An employee of the District's Clerk's office will receive and process the petition.
- Filings by e-mail must be transmitted to the Office of the District Clerk at clerk@sfwmd.gov. The filing date for a document transmitted by electronic mail shall be the date the Office of the District Clerk receives the complete document.

INITIATION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Pursuant to Sections 120.54(5)(b)4. and 120.569(2)(c), Florida Statutes, and Rules 28-106.201 and 28-106.301, Florida Administrative Code, initiation of an administrative hearing shall be made by written petition to the District in legible form and on 8 1/2 by 11 inch white paper. All petitions shall contain:

1. Identification of the action being contested, including the permit number, application number, District file number or any other District identification number, if known.
2. The name, address, any email address, any facsimile number, and telephone number of the petitioner, petitioner's attorney or qualified representative, if any.
3. An explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination.
4. A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the District's decision.
5. A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate.
6. A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the District's proposed action.
7. A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the District's proposed action.
8. If disputed issues of material fact exist, the statement must also include an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes.

9. A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the District to take with respect to the District's proposed action.

MEDIATION

The procedures for pursuing mediation are set forth in Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, and Rules 28-106.111 and 28-106.401–.405, Florida Administrative Code. The District is not proposing mediation for this agency action under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, at this time.

RIGHT TO SEEK JUDICIAL REVIEW

Pursuant to Section 120.68, Florida Statutes, and in accordance with Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.110, a party who is adversely affected by final District action may seek judicial review of the District's final decision by filing a notice of appeal with the Office of the District Clerk in accordance with the filing instructions set forth herein within 30 days of rendition of the order to be reviewed, and by filing a copy of the notice with the appropriate district court of appeals via the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal.



2025-2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

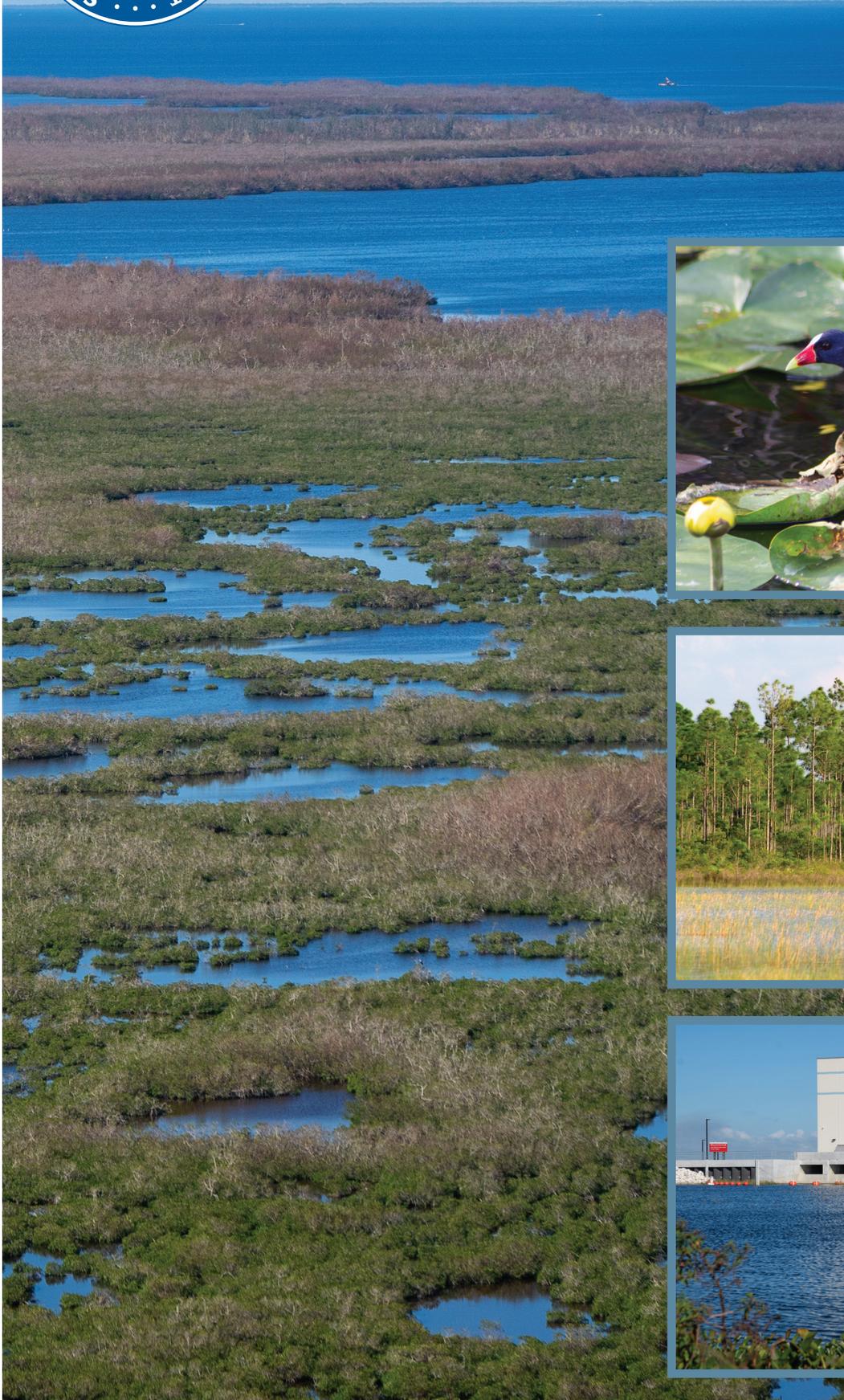
CORE MISSIONS

Restoration of Water Resources and Ecosystems

Flood Protection

Water Supply

Public Engagement and Administration



INTRODUCTION

This document provides the South Florida Water Management District and the public it serves with a blueprint to successfully achieve balanced regional water resource management for the next five years and beyond.

District resources are focused on the District’s core mission to safeguard and restore South Florida’s water resources and ecosystems while protecting communities from flooding and meeting the region’s present and future water supply needs.

The commitments and strategies in this document will be put into action in order to make a positive and meaningful difference in South Florida.

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District Overview

Headquartered in West Palm Beach, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD or the District) is a regional governmental agency that oversees the water resources in 16 counties from Orlando to the Florida Keys. With a population of more than 9 million, this region covers 17,930 square miles (31% of the entire state) and includes vast areas of urban development, agricultural lands and conservation areas.

Operating for over 70 years, the SFWMD is the oldest and largest of the state’s five water management districts. State legislation further divides the District into two taxing basins: the Big Cypress Basin includes all of Collier County and a portion of mainland Monroe County; the larger Okeechobee Basin comprises the remaining area within SFWMD boundaries.

A nine-member Governing Board sets the mission and provides overall direction for the entire District. Board members are appointed by the Governor, confirmed by the Florida Senate and generally serve four-year terms. The annual budget is funded by a combination of property taxes and other sources such as federal, state and local revenue, licenses, permit fees, grants, agricultural taxes, investment income and reserve balances.

The SFWMD is charged with safeguarding the region’s water resources today and for the future. This includes protecting water supplies and supporting water quality improvements in close collaboration with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The District also operates and maintains the Central and Southern Florida Project, one of the world’s largest water management systems. The District is made up of an extensive network of canals, levees, water storage areas, pump stations and other water control structures. This highly engineered system was built through one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world: the interconnected Greater Everglades Ecosystem, which the SFWMD is helping protect and restore.

South Florida itself encompasses a mosaic of diversity from landscapes and habitats to people and cultures. The District strives to ensure that the public is informed and engaged, and that both local and regional perspectives are considered and incorporated into decisions and actions.

In addition to the headquarters complex in West Palm Beach, three Regulatory Service Centers and eight Field Stations provide assistance and operational support on water management related issues. The Big Cypress Basin office in Naples provides intergovernmental and project support in the region.

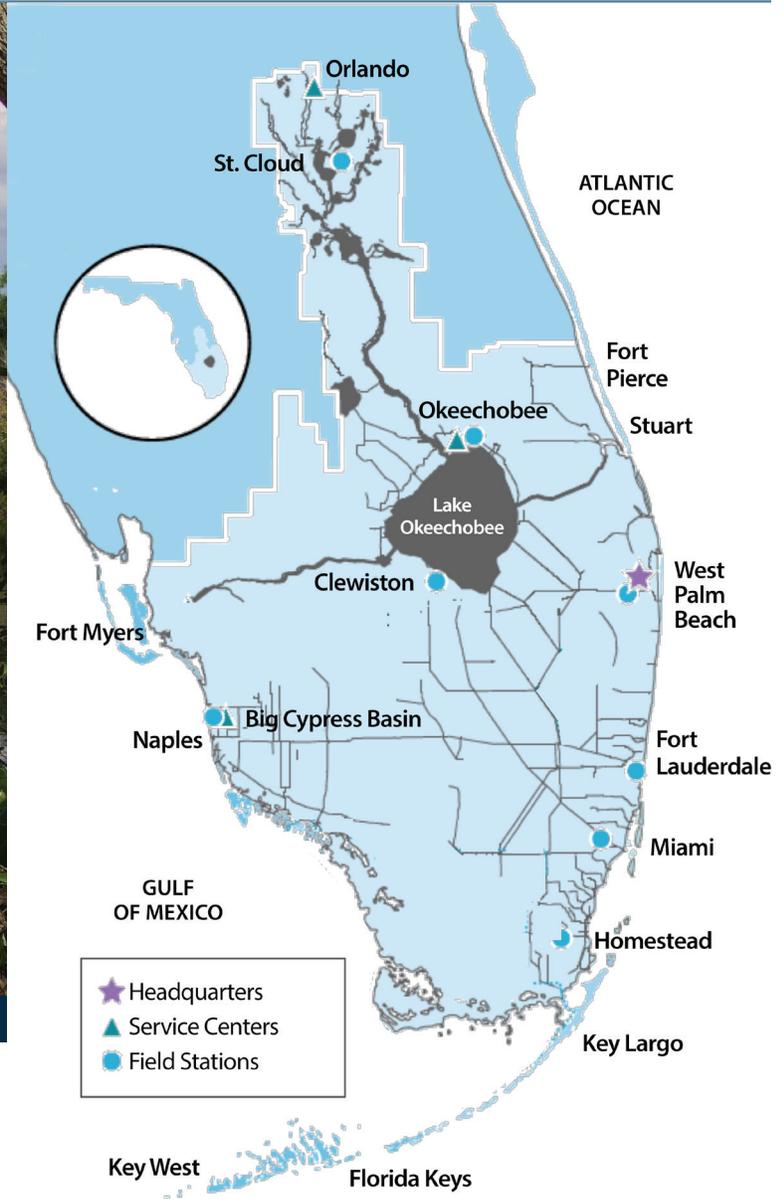
OUR MISSION

To SAFEGUARD and RESTORE South Florida’s water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region’s water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders.

SFWMD LOCATIONS



District Headquarters, West Palm Beach



HEADQUARTERS

- ▶ 3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

SERVICE CENTERS

- ▶ **Big Cypress Basin (Naples)**
2660 N. Horseshoe Dr., Ste. 101A
- ▶ **Fort Myers**
2301 McGregor Blvd.
- ▶ **Okeechobee**
316 Northwest 5th St.
- ▶ **Orlando**
1707 Orlando Central Pky., Ste. 200

FIELD STATIONS

- ▶ **Big Cypress Basin (Naples)**
3875 City Gate Blvd. N.
- ▶ **Clewiston**
2425 Hookers Point Rd.
- ▶ **Fort Lauderdale**
2535 Davie Rd.
- ▶ **Homestead**
2195 NE 8th S.
- ▶ **Miami**
9001 NW 58th St.
- ▶ **Okeechobee**
1000 NE 40th Ave.
- ▶ **St. Cloud**
3800 Old Canoe Creek Rd.
- ▶ **West Palm Beach**
801 Sansburys Way

CORE MISSION

RESTORATION OF WATER RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS

Safeguarding and Restoring South Florida's Delicate Ecosystem

South Florida is characterized by its unique, diverse ecosystems including: the Northern Everglades covering the Kissimmee River, Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River and St. Lucie River watersheds; and the Southern Everglades encompassing the watersheds south of Lake Okeechobee to the Florida Keys.

A comprehensive effort is underway to protect and restore America's Everglades and make our water resources more resilient - now and for future generations. New data demonstrates the success of restoration and resilience projects across our region - proving recent investments and momentum are working. On January 10, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Executive Order 23-06 (Achieving *Even More Now* for Florida's Environment) to enhance ongoing efforts to expedite restoration projects and further advance the protection of Florida's natural resources. Executive Order 23-06 was issued exactly four years to the day after he signed Executive Order 19-12 (Achieving *More Now* For Florida's Environment) that resulted in record environmental funding, expedited Everglades projects, and water quality improvements. We have celebrated more than 60 ribbon cuttings, groundbreakings and major milestones on Everglades projects since January 2019.

Together with our partners at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville District, the State of Florida will continue our significant efforts implementing Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution with the Greater Everglades Ecosystem. Unprecedented State funding and momentum are making a real difference to protect Florida's precious natural resources, support our economy and restore America's Everglades.

The scheduling and sequence for implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), Foundation, and Operational Modification projects are in the Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS). The IDS provides the sequencing strategy for planning, designing, and constructing projects based on ecosystem needs, benefits and available funding. The IDS is a living document that reflects federal and state program and project priorities.



Completion of the Construction Phase of Restoration Strategies Ribbon Cutting Celebration



Gov. DeSantis at the Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal Groundbreaking Ceremony

Key Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects

- ◆ Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir Project
- ◆ Caloosahatchee Reservoir
- ◆ C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area
- ◆ Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project
- ◆ Central Everglades Planning Projects – North, South and New Water
- ◆ Indian River Lagoon - South Components
- ◆ Picayune Strand Restoration Project
- ◆ Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands
- ◆ Broward County Water Preserve Area
- ◆ Western Everglades Restoration Plan
- ◆ Biscayne Bay Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration

Foundation & Other Restoration Projects

- ◆ Everglades National Park (ENP)/South Dade Hydrologic Improvement (C-111 Detention Areas)
- ◆ Kissimmee River Restoration
- ◆ Improve Water Deliveries to ENP - Phase II: Tamiami Trail Road Raising
- ◆ C-139 Annex Wetland Restoration - Phase II
- ◆ South Dade Seepage Barrier
- ◆ Picayune Watershed Water Quality Project

Operational Modifications

- ◆ Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation and Repair
- ◆ Lake Okeechobee System Operation Manual (LOSOM)
- ◆ Upper Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Regulation Schedule

Restoration Strategies and Clean Water for America's Everglades

- ◆ Bolles Canal Hydrologic Improvement
- ◆ Stormwater Treatment Area 1-West Expansion #2
- ◆ C-139 Flow Equalization Basin

Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP)

- ◆ Brighton Valley Dispersed Water Management Project
- ◆ Bluefield Grove Water Farm
- ◆ Scott Water Farm
- ◆ Caulkins Water Farm
- ◆ Lake Hicpochee Restoration
- ◆ BOMA Flow Equalization Basin
- ◆ Caloosahatchee Reservoir Water Quality Component Study



Mangroves along Biscayne Bay

CORE MISSION

RESTORATION OF WATER RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS

Federal, State and Local Partnerships

In partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the District is implementing Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) to improve the quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of water delivered to freshwater and coastal systems in South Florida. Taxpayers have invested \$3.7 billion toward the acquisition of more than 255,000 acres required for CERP implementation, project construction and science-based research and monitoring.

The Kissimmee River and floodplain construction is complete. This project was completed in partnership with the USACE and produced a functioning mosaic of wetland plant communities. The District acquired 100,000 acres for the restoration effort and conducts on-going scientific evaluations of the ecosystem response. Backfilling the C-38 canal was completed in three phases by the USACE. Continuous water flow re-established 24 miles of the river's original course.

Governor Ron DeSantis directed the District to expedite the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir Project. Construction began ahead of schedule on the Stormwater Treatment Area (STA), the state's portion of the EAA Reservoir Project, in April 2020 and will be complete by FY2024. The project will provide a significant increase in southern storage to reduce high-volume discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the northern estuaries and deliver increased clean freshwater south. Much of the District's efforts in the Northern and Southern Everglades are guided by state law in the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP) [Chapter 373.4595, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#) and the Everglades Forever Act, [Chapter 373.4592, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), respectively. These efforts consist of projects, programs, and cooperative initiatives.

An extensive monitoring network is used to measure restoration progress and ensures that SFWMD science staff provides consistent environmental data to decision makers. The District recently expanded the existing monitoring network to transparently provide data on South Florida's waterways to support projects, programs, and efforts.

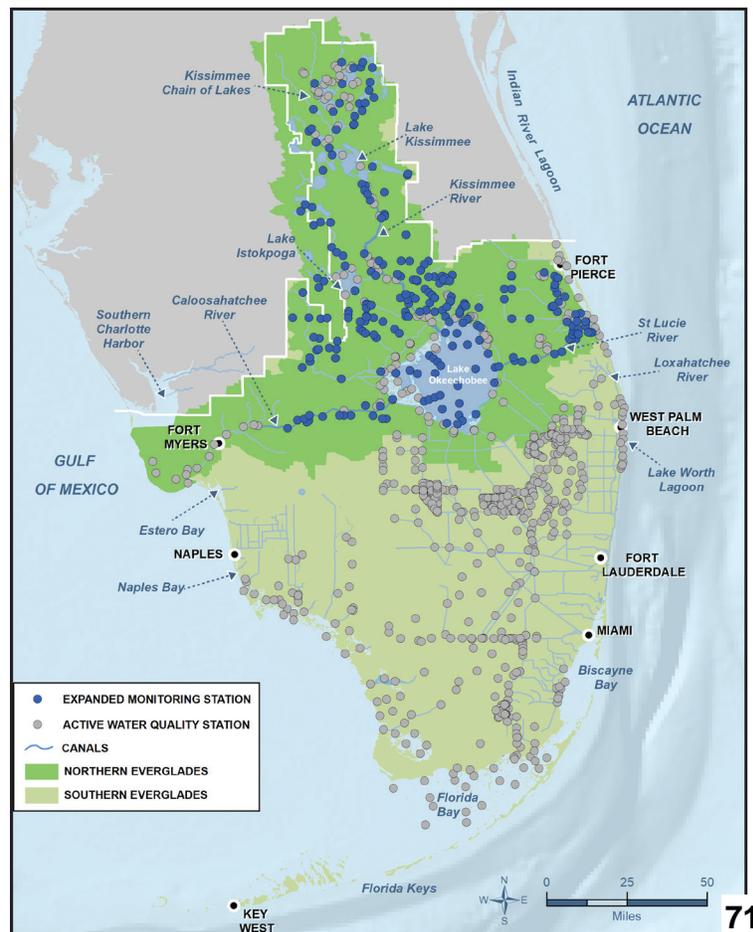
In the Northern Everglades, state law directs the coordinating agencies, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) and the SFWMD, to restore the health of Lake Okeechobee, its watershed, and the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee River watersheds and estuaries, while continuing to balance flood protection, water supply, navigation and recreational needs. The District supports the coordinating agencies in implementing research, water quality monitoring, and providing technical support in hydrological and ecological evaluation and assessment methods needed to understand how the NEEPP is progressing. The District's three Watershed Protection Plans provide a comprehensive road map of activities the District will undertake to fulfill its role in the Northern Everglades program areas. Strategies involving one or more of the three coordinating agencies include construction projects; alternative treatment technologies; local water quality projects; public-private partnerships; habitat restoration; and agricultural and urban harmful nutrient reduction programs.

In the Southern Everglades, to achieve compliance with the long-term phosphorus water quality standards established for the Everglades Protection Area, a combination of approaches including STAs and programs like agricultural best management practices (BMPs) are in place. In the EAA and C-139 Basins, existing programs for implementing BMPs are a part of the overall strategy. As for the STAs, more than 57,000 acres of constructed marshes and 105,000 acre-feet of storage are now successfully at work improving Everglades water quality.

The State of Florida and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reached consensus on supplemental strategies to further improve water quality. This program is referred to as the Restoration Strategies program. The District is implementing a technical plan to complete several projects that will create more than 6,500 acres of new STAs and approximately 120,000 acre-feet of additional water storage through construction of flow equalization basins (FEBs). The strategies also identify funding for additional sub-regional projects to further reduce phosphorus in areas where phosphorus levels are elevated.

Restoration Strategies includes a science plan that targets research and monitoring necessary to improve and optimize the performance of water quality treatment within the facilities. Additional projects south of Lake Okeechobee intended to further assist in managing flow and improving water quality continue to be implemented along with other sub-regional programs and habitat restoration. The USACE signed the Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSON) Record of Decision on August 12, 2024. This process took five years to complete. The South Florida Water Management District worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to ensure LOSOM was implemented in a manner that reduces harmful discharges into our estuaries, sends more water south to benefit the environment and meets the needs of our communities.

The District participates in several interagency working groups that seek to achieve ecosystem restoration and stormwater and flood protection improvements. Examples of these groups include the Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Initiative, Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative and Lehigh Headwaters Initiative. Projects developed by interagency working groups often complement restoration programs such as CERP and NEEPP.



CORE MISSION

RESTORATION OF WATER RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS

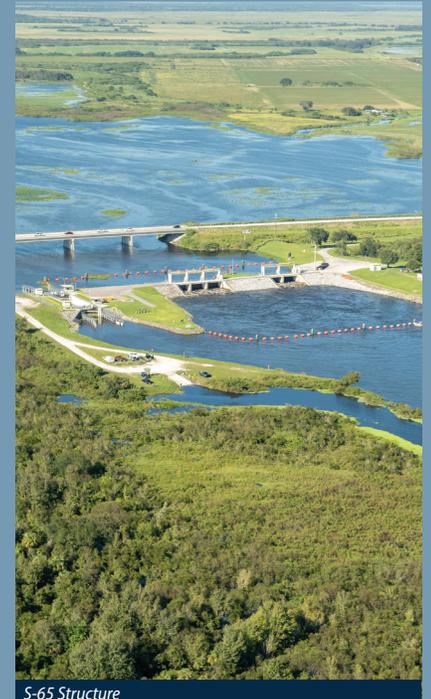
Expanding Storage Opportunities, Improving Habitats and Cleaning Water

Improved water storage, habitat restoration and water quality treatment in both the northern and southern reaches of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem are key to a healthy environment and strong economy. The natural environment will experience significant benefits as restoration projects come online and begin operating and delivering their desired results.

The District is committed to identifying and implementing cost-effective and sustainable solutions to meet the region's water quality and ecosystem restoration challenges. Specifically, the District will work collaboratively with DEP and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) over the next five years to develop a road map to meet the storage and treatment goals described in the Basin Management Action Plans. The District provides natural resource protection and management while allowing compatible, multiple uses on select public lands in accordance with state law. The District primarily uses the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan's Integrated Delivery Schedule, Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program, and funding opportunities to identify further restoration projects.

Resiliency and Ecosystem Restoration

Ecosystem restoration supports the District's efforts to increase resiliency in the face of warmer temperatures, sea level rise and other climate change impacts. In particular, the restoration of beneficial freshwater flows, as the main Everglades restoration goal, slows down saltwater intrusion, promoting more sustainable aquifer recharge rates, healthier freshwater habitats, estuaries and bays, enhanced water quality, more stable coastlines, reduced marsh dry-outs, and greater coastal resiliency. Ecosystem restoration also results in increased freshwater flows to and within the Everglades, higher flexibility and storage options to address water management seasonal needs, increased wetland acreage, and increased connectivity to coastal ecosystems.



S-65 Structure

Restoration of Water Resources and Ecosystems: Strategic Priorities and Success Indicators

Mission – Expediting Restoration Results in the Everglades

PRIORITY – Advancing the projects identified by Governor DeSantis

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Complete project milestones to advance Key Everglades Restoration Projects identified by Governor DeSantis

PRIORITY – Implementing solutions to improve water quality treatment, reduce nutrient loads and reduce the potential for harmful algal blooms in the Northern Everglades

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Identify storage needs by watershed (WPP goals) to meet environmental goals established to help restore Lake Okeechobee, its watershed, and the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee River watersheds and estuaries
- ◆ Establish and track a series of SFWMD milestones to meet the storage goals for the Northern Everglades watersheds
- ◆ Measure SFWMD progress towards achieving nutrient reduction milestones for Northern Everglades projects
- ◆ Reduced intensity and frequency of harmful algal blooms in Lake Okeechobee
- ◆ Reduced watershed nutrient loading to receiving waterbodies
- ◆ Continue progress toward meeting Lake Okeechobee TMDL; maintain Chlorophyll a concentrations below 40 micrograms/liter

PRIORITY – Implementing water quality treatment solutions to reduce nutrient loading in the Southern Everglades.

- ◆ Meet established Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA Basin) and C-139 Basin total phosphorus reduction requirements annually

PRIORITY – Utilizing regulatory permitting and compliance authority

- ◆ Encourage pre-application meetings for environmental permit applications to facilitate submission of complete applications incorporating implementation of statutorily mandated water quality, water quantity and environmental resource conditions of issuance

PRIORITY – Restoring native habitats through invasive species management and prescribed fire

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Annually protect 250,000 acres of native habitat from invasive plant impacts through integrated pest management strategies
- ◆ Investigate and implement efficient invasive plant control methods. Reduce herbicide use (lbs active ingredient/acre swept) by a total of 20% between 2020 and the end of 2025
- ◆ Remove 1,200 Burmese pythons from Everglade Region annually. Expand adaptive management program to improve python detection and removal rates
- ◆ Ensure 80% of the fire-maintained plant communities on District conservation lands are within the appropriate burn rotation

PRIORITY – Increasing access and recreational opportunities on public lands when it does not conflict with ecosystem restoration goals

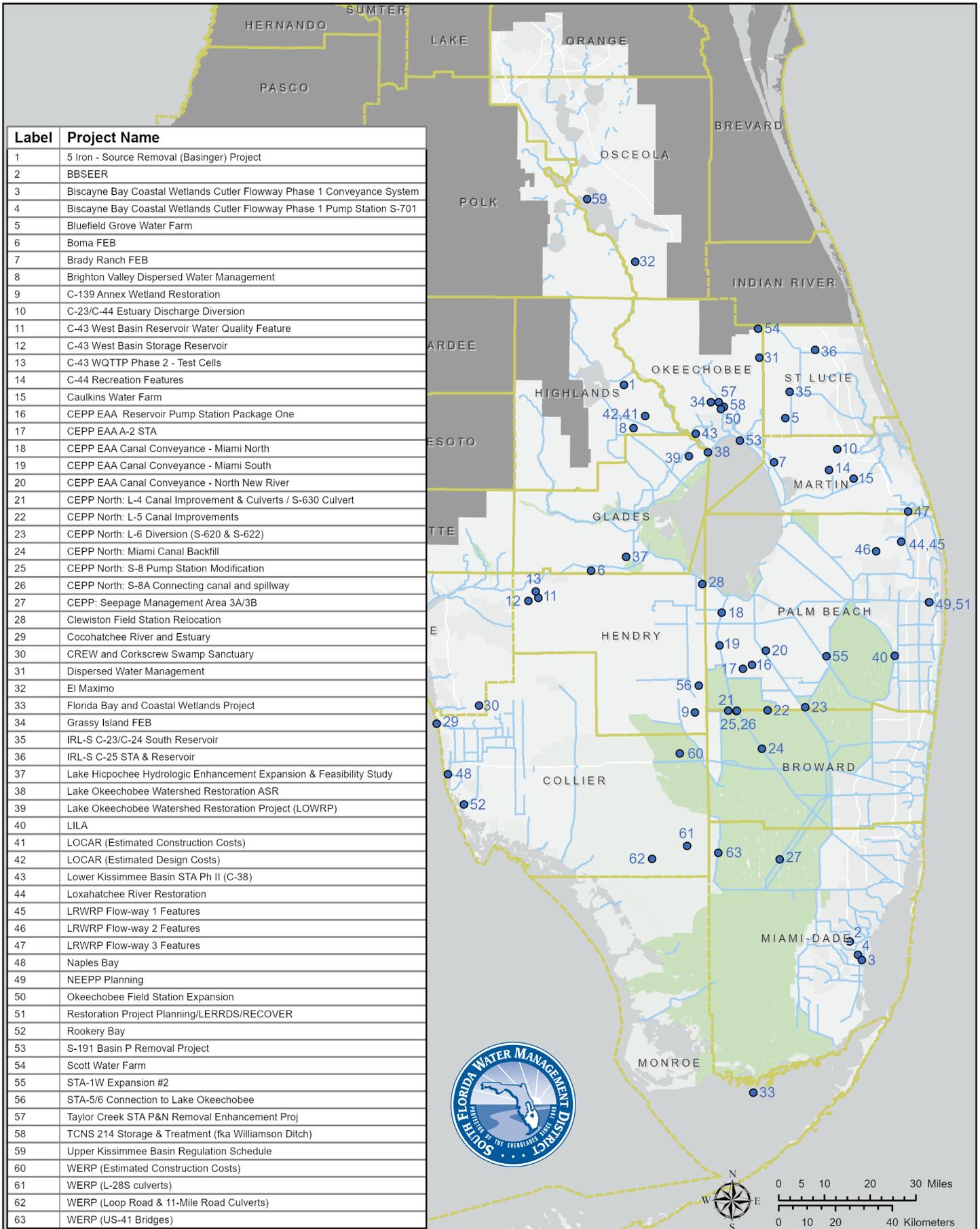
Success Indicators:

- ◆ Provide public recreational opportunities on lands acquired by the District in accordance with state law, maintain a minimum of 80% of all fee-owned lands open for public recreation and provide hunting opportunities where such use is consistent with restoration goals

CORE MISSION

RESTORATION OF WATER RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS

Strategic Projects for Safeguarding and Restoring South Florida's Delicate Ecosystem



CORE MISSION

FLOOD PROTECTION

Protecting South Florida's Communities from Flooding, Ensuring & Managing Water Flow

Tempering South Florida's weather extremes of flood and drought was the impetus for the creation of the District in 1949. That principal directive continues today through effective operation, maintenance and management of the primary canals, water control structures, pump stations and District-owned public lands. In addition, proper coordination with local governments, water control districts, homeowners and private landowners assists with the continual operation of secondary and tertiary systems.

South Florida receives 52 inches of rainfall per year on average, and approximately 75% of the region's annual rainfall typically falls in the six-month period from May through October, when intense rainfall is common. Flood protection is a critical responsibility. Rainfall fluctuates annually and conditions move quickly between flooding and drought, and the region is extremely vulnerable to hurricanes and tropical storms. These weather extremes add to the challenges of water resource management. Highly variable rainfall coupled with flat topography necessitates flood protection for more than 9 million residents in the region. When the regional Central and Southern Florida Project was designed in the late 1940s, its primary function was flood protection.

Since the USACE's construction of the public works project from the 1950s to 1970s, the District's responsibilities as local sponsor of the flood

protection system expanded to emphasize various aspects of water resource management and address changing conditions. These include land development, extreme rainfall, sea level rise, and other climate change impacts.

Today, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) operates and maintains more than 2,175 miles of canals, 2,130 miles of levees/berms, 915 water control structures, 620 project culverts and 89 pump stations. The system is continuously expanding as new restoration projects such as stormwater treatment areas and resiliency projects such as coastal structure enhancements are completed or expanded.

Major flood protection responsibilities include operations, maintenance and refurbishment of system-wide infrastructure, vegetation management, along with hydrological data collection, flow determination and hydrological basin management.

Improvements and upgrades to the District's flood protection system include automation, pump station repair and refurbishment and new pump installations, gravity structure repair and enhancements, levee inspections and repair, and canal conveyance improvement. Project design efforts continuously consider the integration of green infrastructure into District capital projects.



C-139 Flow Equalization Basin in Hendry County

CORE MISSION

FLOOD PROTECTION

District's Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan

The SFWMD is strongly committed to addressing the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels and changing rainfall patterns. Current SFWMD resiliency efforts focus on assessing how sea level rise and extreme events happen under current and future climate conditions and how they affect water resource management. The SFWMD's resiliency efforts also focus on understanding the impacts of future climate conditions on communities, ecosystems and restoration efforts. The SFWMD is making infrastructure adaptation investments that are needed to implement its mission of safeguarding and restoring water resources and ecosystems, protecting communities from flooding, and ensuring an adequate water supply for people and the environment with special attention to natural and green infrastructure solutions.

Resiliency efforts are in collaboration with the State of Florida through the Resilient Florida Program under:

- ◆ Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- ◆ Statewide Office of Resilience and the Hazard Mitigation Programs under the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)
- ◆ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- ◆ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- ◆ U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- ◆ Partners in Local Governments

The SFWMD's goal is to ensure flood protection needs into the future. The SFWMD is assessing the flood management risks from compounding drivers (rainfall, high tides, groundwater and surge) and exacerbating factors such as land development, and a changing climate. The results of these assessments support decision-making on prioritizing investments and implementing adaptation solutions which will provide long-term resiliency and ensure flood protection needs are met into the future.

The SFWMD accounts for sea level rise according to available projections advanced by federal agencies, including National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and USACE and the upcoming Statewide Sea Level Rise Projections being developed by the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Sciences and Innovation. Beyond sea level rise, the SFWMD is also estimating future extreme rainfall conditions and other future climate scenarios, based on the evaluation of existing climate model results in contrast to historic observation data. These observed datasets are being integrated into a set of water and climate resiliency metrics to document and communicate trends and shifts in relevant water and climate data, informing the District's resiliency efforts.

A key piece of the SFWMD's resiliency efforts is the Flood Protection Level of Service Program (FPLOS). Under this program, the SFWMD studies the canals, structures and pump stations it operates. This ensures that they can provide the level of flood protection they were designed to under future conditions with consideration for sea level rise and other climate impacts. Where the studies identify canals and/or structures throughout the entire District boundary that will no longer adequately provide flood protection, improvements are recommended to ensure adequate flood protection. These improvements are being integrated into the SFWMD's Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan for implementation, along with post-storm event project recommendations, Capital Improvement Plan project integration and other innovative strategies.

The SFWMD's Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan sets a priority list for implementation of projects with the goal to reduce the risks of flooding, sea level rise, and other climate impacts on water resources and increasing community and ecosystem resiliency in South Florida. The plan is updated annually by September 1 and is available at: sfwmd.gov/our-work/sea-level-rise-and-flood-resiliency-plan.



Structure Maintenance



Levee Maintenance



Canal Maintenance

CORE MISSION

FLOOD PROTECTION

Flood Protection: Strategic Priorities and Success Indicators

Mission – Refurbishing, Replacing, Improving, and Managing the Components of Our Water Management System

PRIORITY – Implementing flood protection infrastructure refurbishment projects

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Complete flood control strategic projects per established milestone

PRIORITY – Assessing and operating the water management system to meet flood protection and water supply needs considering sea level rise and the impacts of a changing climate

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Maintain operating water levels within established target ranges to the extent that weather and climatological conditions allow

PRIORITY – Coordinating with the USACE on infrastructure inspections and results

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Achieve passing rating for annual inspection of District infrastructure and provide results to USACE

PRIORITY – Coordinating with state/federal partners and assisting local governments to ensure operational readiness for optimal level of flood control by optimizing infrastructure maintenance, adhering to, or exceeding, industry standards and best management practices

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Reduce the average risk rating of District infrastructure through structure inspections and improvements
- ◆ Ensure that 90% of field station repairs are completed within one year of inspection reports
- ◆ Improve communication and coordination with adjacent landowners, including 298 Districts, by developing a process for reducing sources of litter to District-managed canals and other waterbodies
- ◆ Resolve Right of Way unpermitted encroachments
- ◆ Perform at least 80% of all field maintenance work activities as planned work; no more than 20% as unplanned
- ◆ Expend no more than 20% of field maintenance funds for unplanned work

PRIORITY – Assessing sea level rise and changing weather patterns to determine impacts of future conditions on the District’s mission

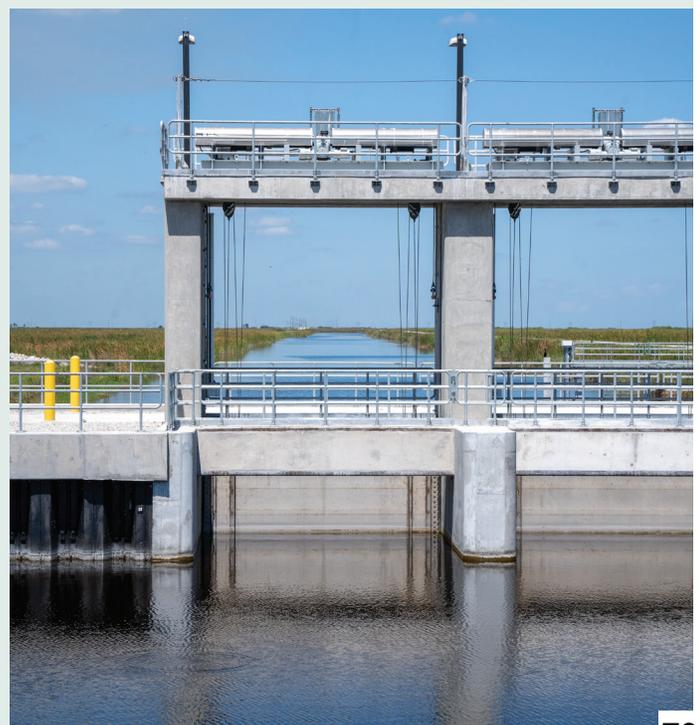
Success Indicators:

- ◆ Establish key water and climate resilience metrics to document and communicate observed trends and shifts in relevant water and climate data, informing the District’s resiliency efforts and modernizing design standards
- ◆ Estimate future extreme rainfall conditions and other future climate scenarios, based on the evaluation of climate downsizing datasets in contrast to historic observation data

PRIORITY – Advancing adaption strategies and infrastructure investments, in coordination with local, regional, state and federal partners, to continue to increase resiliency of its flood protection system and other mission critical services

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Complete FPLOS Flood Vulnerability (Phase I) and Adaptation Planning (Phase II) Studies on time and on budget and in close coordination with local governments and stakeholders
- ◆ Complete the annual update of the District’s Sea Level Rise and Flood Resiliency Plan and submit a list of projects to DEP for consideration into the Statewide Flood and Sea Level Resiliency Plan, and submit to the Governor, Legislators and DEP by Oct. 1
- ◆ Complete District resiliency strategic project milestones, along with the identification and pursuit of funding alternatives to support full implementation of the recommended adaptation projects, including enhancement of coastal structures, levees, canals, and other critical flood protection infrastructure
- ◆ Plan and implement a curtain wall in South Miami-Dade County, to mitigate flooding and support Everglades restoration goals
- ◆ Partner with USACE in advancing the C&SF Flood Resiliency Study to revisit the C&SF Project, with the goal of addressing changed conditions and future climate impacts
- ◆ Coordinate restoration, flood protection and water supply efforts to incorporate actions to address climate related impacts and promote resilience adaptation strategies, based on consistent scenario planning and regional modeling approaches

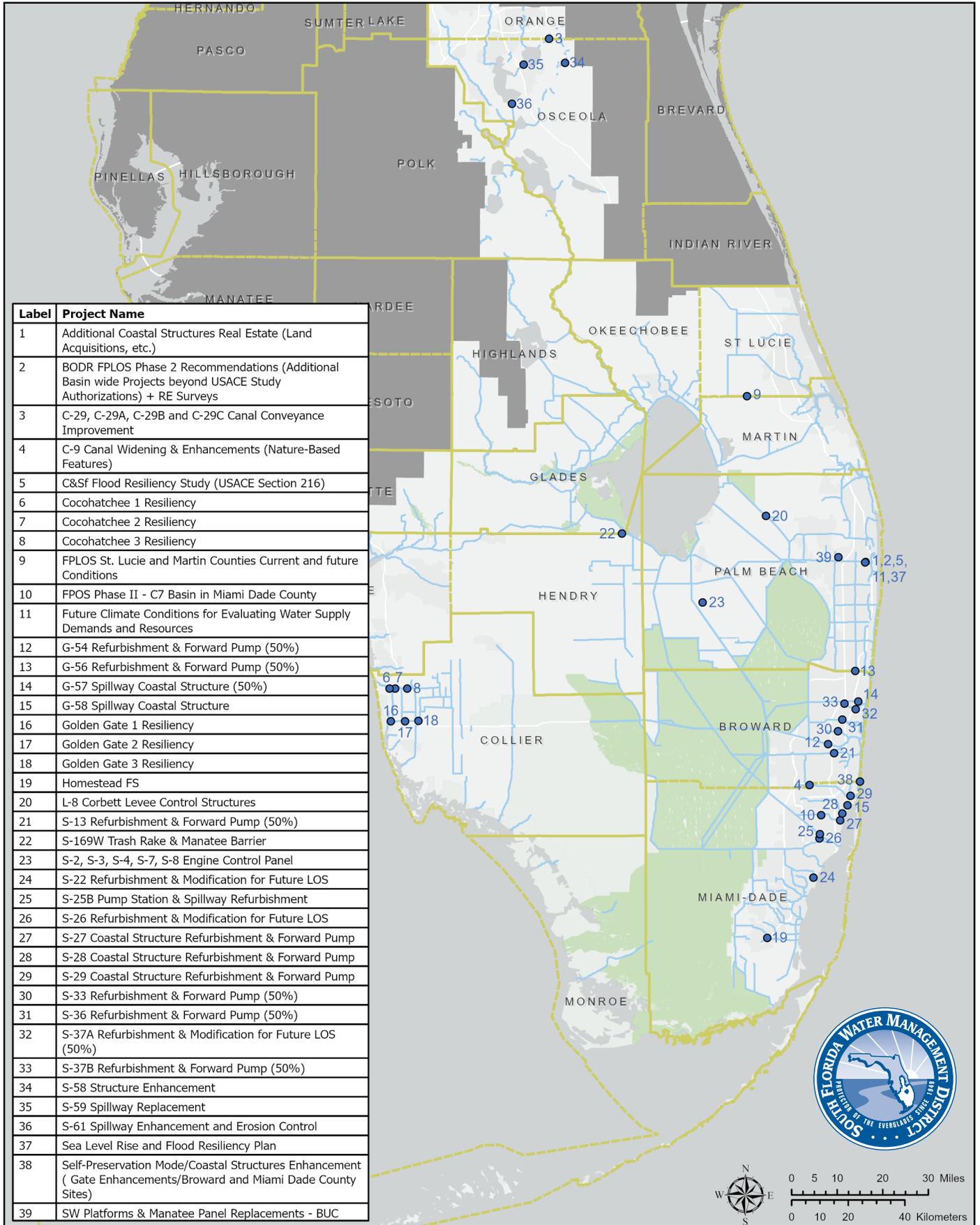


STA 1 West Structure

CORE MISSION

FLOOD CONTROL – DISTRICT RESILIENCY STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Strategic Infrastructure Projects to Address Climate Change and Sea Level Rise



CORE MISSION

FLOOD PROTECTION CORE MISSION STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Strategic Projects for Protecting South Florida's Communities from Flooding, Ensuring and Managing Water Flow

Label	Project Name
1	Arc Flash C&SF (G775, G6A, B134, S9A, S191A, S650, S401, G539, S5A, G780, G781, G782)
2	Arc Flash STA (G335, G310, G370, G372, G775, G434, G436, G435, S319, S362)
3	Automation Upgrade: Picayune Command & Control Center
4	Automation Upgrades C&SF: G-420, C-4 Impoundment
5	Automation Upgrades C&SF: S-127 N Shore PS
6	C-1 Connector Canal Control Gate
7	C-100A Tree Removal & Bank Stabilization
8	C-139: G-136, G-150, G-151
9	Canals Evaluations and Improvements (C-16, G-16, C-14, C-41, C-1W, C-1N, C-15, L-65)
10	Corkscrew Canal Headwater Improvements
11	East Coast Protective Levee Improvements
12	Emergency & Field Support Facility
13	Faka Union Tower Replacement
14	Fall Protection Retrofits (S60, S65E, S140, S49, S21, S135, S22, S148, S18C, S33, S2, S68, G334, S127, S131, S39, S236, S59, S62, S63, S335, S26, G57, S20, S76, S29, S40, S20G, S123, G338, S70, S21A, S79, S25B, S190, G58, S177, S155A, S333, S153, S118, S7154 - Through 2030)
15	FEMA: C-29B
16	FEMA: G-103
17	FEMA: S-58 & C-32C
18	FEMA: S-60 & C-33
19	FEMA: S-65 Navigation Lock
20	FTL Field Station Building Expansion
21	G-114 Weir Replacement
22	G-251 Dewatering Provision
23	G-310 Trash Rake Refurb/Replace
24	G-335 Trash Rake Refurb/Replace
25	G-370/G-372 Concrete Refurbishment
26	G-370/G-372 Pump Overhaul
27	G-409 Pump Station Replacement
28	G-539 PS - Pump Replacement
29	G-57 Wingwall Replacement & G16
30	G-6A Pump Station
31	WPB FS Sandblast, Air Compressor Facilities
32	G-6A/S-6 Access Bridge
33	G-93 Control Building Relocation
34	Generator Replacement (B325, S167, G58, G308, G309, G332, G334, G339, S62, S165, S179, S20, S166, S338, S18C, B210, B127, S129, S133, S68, B361, S21A, S199, S200, S650, S21, S199, S200, S650, B424, S700, G78, G79, G81, S20G, S150, G332D, S61, S63A, S123, S31, B487, S176, S20F, S197, S21, S149, S177)
35	Golden Gate Canal Weir #5 Replacement
36	Henderson Creek HC1
37	Henderson Creek HC1A
38	Hillsboro Package 3
39	Hoist Conversion Project (S-176/S-179/S-333/S-335/S-62/S-153)
40	HQ Fueling Station & Parking Refurbishment
41	I75 Canal Weir #2 Replacement
42	I75 W1 Removal
43	L-8 Boil Repair/Dupuis Canal Backfill
44	Large Project Culvert Replacements
45	Levee Improvements (L28, L14, L20, L63SW, L8E, STA 1W ENR, L62, L8, C51, L29, L30, L31E, L63S, L1E, L12, L48, L31E, L35)
46	Manatee Mitigation Feature Maintenance - Picayune Strand
47	Miami Field Station Building Replacements
48	Miami SCADA Stilling Well Platforms
49	North Shore Pump Stations Staff Facilities
50	NRCS: L-15
51	NRCS: S-63
52	NRCS: S-63A
53	NRCS: S-65A
54	PC Replacements ~ STCL FS PC to Bridge conversion
55	PC Replacements ~ WPB FS Area, 6 Sites on L-15
56	PS Automation Cybersecurity Upgrades Master Plan (C&SF)

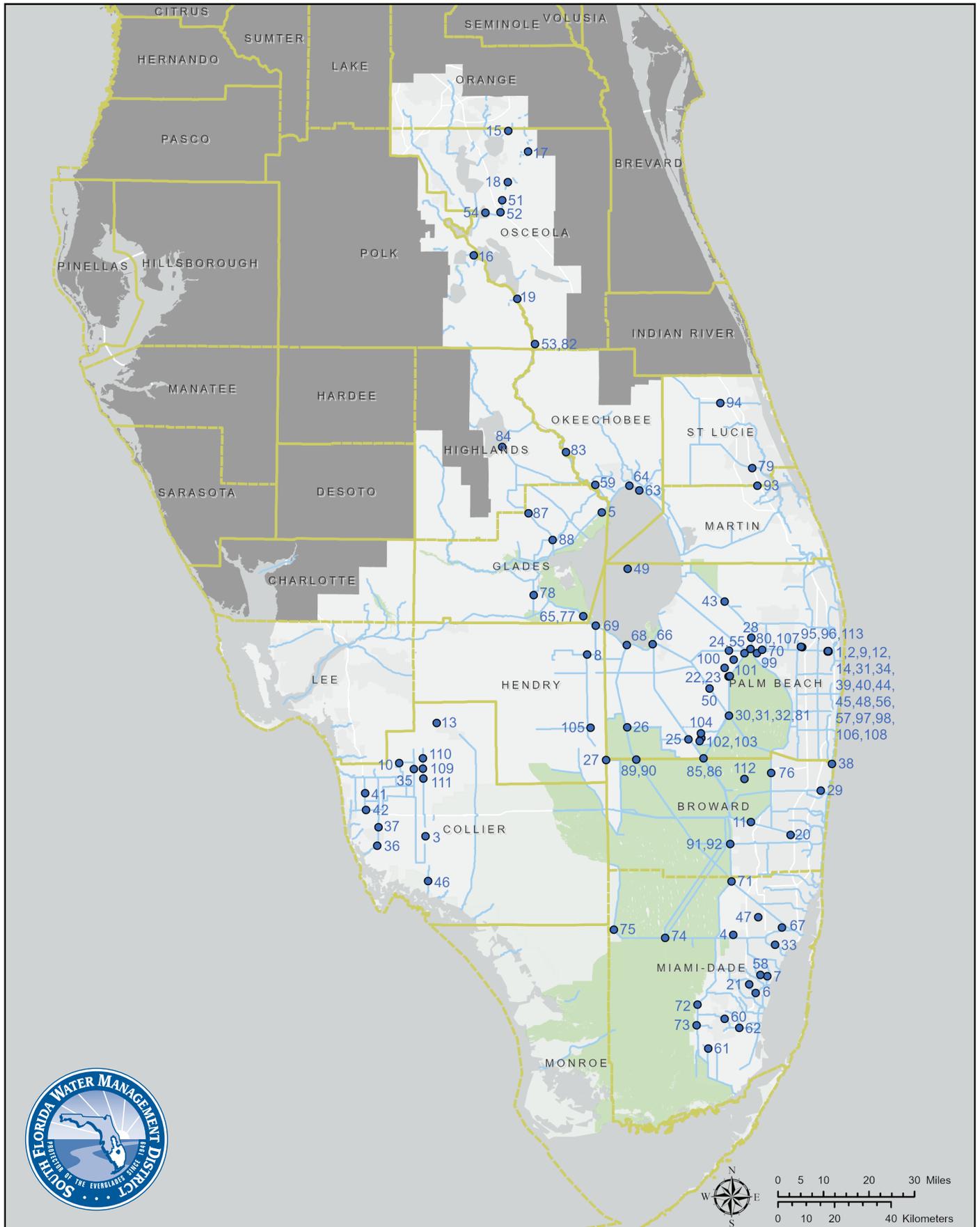
Label	Project Name
57	Remote Monitoring & Communications
58	S-119 Spillway Replacement
59	S-154C & S-154 Culvert Replacements
60	S-167 Spillway Replacement
61	S-178 Culvert Replacement
62	S-179 Spillway Wingwall Replacement
63	S-191 Spillway Replacement
64	S-193 NL Lakeside Gate Replacement
65	S-2 & S-4 Pump Station Concrete & Structural
66	S-2 PS Pump & Generator Overhauls
67	S-25B & S-26 Generator & Pumps Resiliency
68	S-3 PS Pump & Generator Overhauls
69	S-310 Navigational Lock Refurbishment
70	S-319/S-362 Pump Overhaul
71	S-32/S-32A Culvert Replacements
72	S-332B Pump Station Replacement
73	S-332D Trash Rake Replacement
74	S-333 Refurbishment (Wingwalls & Concrete)
75	S-343A & S-343B Culvert Replacements & Automation
76	S-38B Culvert Gate & Platform Replacement
77	S-4 PS Pump & Generator Overhauls
78	S-47B Culvert Relocation (from under SCXF railway)
79	S-49 Replacement
80	S-5A Tower Replacement
81	S-6 Pump Station Refurbishment
82	S-65A Spillway & S-65AX Complex
83	S-65D Spillway Replacement
84	S-68 Spillway Replacement
85	S-7 Pump Refurbishment (P1: Crane)
86	S-7 Pump Refurbishment (P2: PS)
87	S-70 Replacement
88	S-71 Replacement & Navigation Lock
89	S-8 Pump Station Refurbishment Phase 1: Crane
90	S-8 Pump Station Refurbishment Phase 2
91	S-9 Engine & Pump
92	S-9/S-9A Trash Rakes & Refurb
93	S-97 Spillway Replacement
94	S-99 Spillway Refurbishment
95	SCADA C&SF Stilling Well/Platform Refurbishments (EAA2, S13, S145, S148, S178, S18C, S197, S2, S20, S200, S20F, S20G, S21, S21A, S22, S25B, S2BP, S26, S26P, S27, S28, S29, S3, S30, S33, S334A/B, S363A, S366D, G402A/B/C, G404, G420, G422, G56, G57, G58, G700 & more)
96	SCADA STA Stilling Well/Platform Refurbishments (G304B/F/I, G305G/N, G306C/E/G/J, G308, G309, G330A/D, G332, G334, G342A/B/C/D/G/H/I/M, S343C/K/N/O, G344C/F/G/K, G349B/C, G305B, G352B, G354C & more)
97	SIP (C&SF)
98	SIP (STA)
99	STA-1E Cell 3 & 4 North
100	STA-1W EXP1 Generator
101	STA-1W Refurbishment (G-253/G-304/G-306 Series)
102	STA-2 Cell 1 Spreader
103	STA-2 Cell 8
104	STA-2 Culvert Replacements (G-367 series & G-368)
105	STA-5/6 Stilling Well Platforms
106	Tower Repair (ACME, WPB FS, STC FS, SA-N, SA-S, L28, G434, G436, Highland S65D, Brighton S70, Allapattah, C18, B66 - HQ, S47B, S129, C44, S135, S362, S319, S361, S3, S2, Miami S)
107	Underground Storage Tanks (S5A, WPB, Miami)
108	Underground Storage Tanks, Generator, Circuit Breaker (HQ)
109	Upper Faka Union Replacement (FU6)
110	Upper Faka Union Replacement (FU7)
111	Upper Faka Union Replacement (FUS)
112	WCA2 SCADA Stilling Wells
113	WPB Field Station Modifications (B-198 Vehicle/B-131 Bldg. Repl.)

Note: Supports multiple areas of responsibility including Restoration.
Clewiston Field Station Replacement #55 & Okeechobee Field Station Replacement #46

CORE MISSION

FLOOD PROTECTION CORE MISSION STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Strategic Projects for Protecting South Florida's Communities from Flooding, Ensuring and Managing Water Flow



CORE MISSION

WATER SUPPLY

Ensuring Water for South Florida's Communities

Water in the State of Florida is a public resource. The District utilizes a variety of tools and technologies to help ensure a reliable and sustainable supply of water for South Florida's environment, citizens, and communities.



Water supply needs are continually evaluated by the District and appropriate programs are developed to achieve sustainable water resources and related natural systems. Data, computer modeling and analysis are used to evaluate water source conditions for current and projected uses. Increasing development and population have resulted in higher demands for water supply over time and are projected to continue to increase into the future.

Planning for a growing water demand must be balanced while ensuring water remains available for natural systems. Changing climate patterns, such as increased rainfall variability, sea level rise, increased evapotranspiration, and warmer air temperatures, may affect water supply demands and sources. This needs to be taken into consideration in water supply plans and future water supply vulnerability analyses. Freshwater aquifers in coastal counties remain vulnerable to saltwater intrusion. Therefore, coordinated efforts with local governments and other partner agencies are necessary to ensure sustainable water supplies.



Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells C-385 Cluster Site

To meet Florida's future water demands, the state's water management districts are working with water users to best use the state's traditional water sources while also promoting the development and use of alternative sources. Water supply management strategies include sound planning and permitting; demand reduction through water conservation; development of alternative water sources such as new surface water storage, reclaimed water and desalination of brackish and saline water; and Everglades restoration.

Data collection to monitor conditions and increase our knowledge of water resources is integral to the sustainability of these resources. The District conducts groundwater monitoring, and aquifer system research through installation and testing of new wells.

Resiliency and Water Supply

To support water supply plans, the District has several groundwater models that simulate current and future groundwater withdrawals and identify potential impacts on water resources, both for traditional fresh groundwater aquifer systems as well as the brackish Floridan Aquifer System (FAS). The SFWMD is currently developing the East Coast Surficial Model (ECSM), which is a density-dependent groundwater model. The ECSM will be able to explicitly simulate the effects of sea level rise and potential movement of the saltwater interface and climate change on the surficial groundwater system. The ECSM includes most of the Lower East Coast (LEC) planning region and the entire Upper East Coast (UEC) planning region and will be completed in 2024.

For assessing longer-term evolving conditions, Water Supply Vulnerability Assessments will utilize the existing surface water model and the enhanced groundwater ECSM model. These models will be used to evaluate the effects of sea level rise and climate change on water supplies. The outputs of the model runs will identify potential impacts on water resources and areas the District needs to focus on. The identification of strategies and projects can increase water supply resilience. The Water Supply Vulnerability Assessment was initiated in 2023, with data preparation tasks, and has a two-year estimated duration to complete. The Water Supply Vulnerability Assessment will look beyond the traditional water supply planning efforts and 20-year planning horizon. It will also incorporate additional climate scenarios and a longer planning horizon. This more detailed evaluation of the vulnerability of water supply sources can help inform the development of new projects. These new projects will enhance South Florida's water supply resiliency. This is part of an overall effort to help the District understand and plan around the complexities that factor into the current and future resilience of water supplies.



S-340 on Miami Canal, Structure Gate C-123

CORE MISSION

WATER SUPPLY

Planning, Regulation and Conservation

Water supply plans are updated every five years in collaboration with stakeholders in accordance with the statutory direction provided in Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. The FY2025 Five-Year Water Resources Development Program includes an estimated \$4.65 billion of projected expenditures for Fiscal Years 2025-2029 for water resource development activities and projects. This Work Program is included as Chapter 5A in the 2023 South Florida Environmental Report, Volume II.

Based on at least a 20-year outlook, water supply plans include water demand estimates and projections; an evaluation of regional water resources; identification of water supply-related issues and options; water resource and water supply development components, including funding; and recommendations for meeting projected demands while sustaining water resources and related natural systems.

Alternative water supplies, regional solutions and water conservation are encouraged through strategies that include public outreach/education, policy, voluntary efforts, and financial incentives.

The District regulates and manages the consumptive use of water through consumptive use permits. These permits ensure that proposed uses are reasonable and beneficial, will not interfere with any current

existing legal users and are consistent with the public interest. Rules protect water for Florida's natural systems and wetlands to preclude harm that could result from water supply over-pumping. In addition, the state's water reservations authority allows water to be set aside in an ecosystem for the protection of fish and wildlife. Minimum flows and minimum levels are established at specific water resource locations to protect the water resource and/or ecology of those areas from significant harm due to further withdrawals. Associated recovery or prevention strategies are also developed for all minimum flows and levels.

Effective planning and permitting, along with source diversification and water conservation, are key to ensuring that communities are less susceptible to water supply shortages. South Florida's primary water supply challenges include the need for storage, saltwater intrusion, changing climatic conditions and a growing demand coupled with competing uses.

Finding and implementing cost-effective solutions to resource protection and water supply availability issues require a collaborative approach. Water supply development projects that support the reuse of treated wastewater are included in regional water supply plans, and its beneficial use is encouraged with consideration to improve regional water quality.

Water Supply: Strategic Priorities and Success Indicators

Mission – Meeting the Water Needs of the Environment and Preparing for Current and Future Demands of Water Users

PRIORITY – Developing and implementing regional water supply plans in coordination with local governments, utilities, stakeholders and the public

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Approval of five-year water supply plan updates on schedule
- ◆ SFWMD water supply plans will identify sufficient water supply sources and future projects to meet existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses during 1-in-10 year drought conditions through 2045 while sustaining water resources and natural systems

PRIORITY – Planning for the region's water resource needs with consideration of climate change and sea level rise challenges

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Ensure cumulative percentage of the 2015-2040 increase in public water supply demand is met by planning region
- ◆ Incorporate sea level rise and other climate impacts as a part of advanced integrated water supply planning, with consideration of projected water demands and availability under future conditions
- ◆ Maintain and enhance saltwater interface groundwater monitoring network where appropriate; and expand variable density groundwater models to predict the extent and rate of inland movement of the saltwater interface
- ◆ Develop a range of sea level rise and other climate scenarios including Everglades Restoration efforts to evaluate strategies to slow saltwater intrusion
- ◆ Advance the Water Supply Vulnerability Assessment, utilizing the enhanced ECSM model for the Lower East Coast Region

PRIORITY – Encouraging development of alternative water supply projects to diversify water supply

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Provide financial support of AWS and water conservation projects through the Cooperative Funding Program

PRIORITY – Promoting water conservation measures

Success Indicators:

- ◆ District-wide average annual uniform gross per capita water use public water supply is less than 135 gallons per capita daily

PRIORITY – Utilizing regulatory permitting and compliance authority

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Encourage pre-application meetings for water use permit applications to facilitate submission of complete applications incorporating implementation of statutorily mandated water quality, water quantity and environmental resource conditions of issuance.

PRIORITY – Using water reservation and minimum flow and minimum level authority to protect water for natural systems

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Provide Priority Waterbody List and Schedule for the establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels and Water Reservations annually by November 1
- ◆ Complete reservations, minimum flow and minimum water levels analyses on schedule

CORE MISSION

WATER RESOURCE AND WATER SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Strategic Projects for Ensuring Water for South Florida's Communities



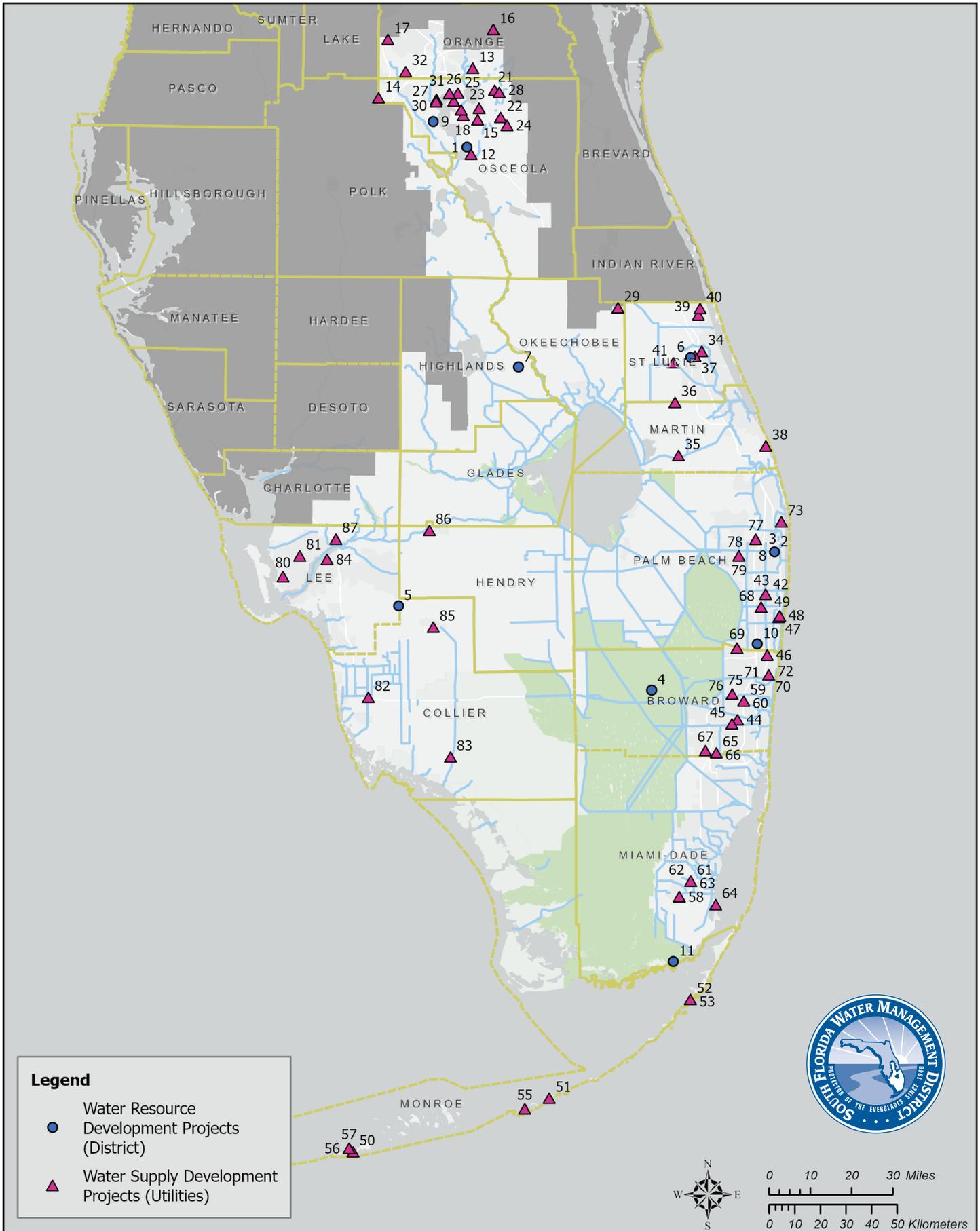
Drill Rig at SFWMD ASR Well Site.

Label	Project Name
1	Boynton Beach 3.30 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution System Extension
2	Boynton Beach 8.0 mgd RO Facility and 3 FAS Wells
3	Cape Coral 1.00 mgd ASR Wells for Irrigation Supply Storage
4	Cape Coral 5.00 mgd Southwest WRF Expansion
5	CFTOD 0.35 mgd Epcot Reclaimed Water Irrigation Conversion
6	Collier County 3.50 mgd Golden Gate City WWTP Expansion
7	Davie 0.30 mgd Broward College Reclaimed Distribution Line Expansion
8	Davie 1.00 mgd SW 92 Ave Reclaimed Distribution Line Expansion
9	Deerfield Beach 1.00 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution Line
10	Delray Beach 0.15 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution Expansion Area 15
11	Delray Beach 0.20 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution Expansion Area 9
12	Delray Beach 0.42 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution System Extension Areas 2, 3, 5
13	Everglades City 0.10 mgd Reclaimed Water Rapid Infiltration Basins
14	FKAA New 4.00 mgd Crawl Key Seawater RO WTP
15	FKAA New 4.00 mgd Stock Island Seawater RO WTP
16	Fort Myers 6.0 mgd Central WRF Expansion
17	FPUA 8.00 mgd Mainland Water Reclamation Facility
18	Grove Land Utilities 100.00 mgd Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Areas
19	Homestead 4.00 mgd Reclaimed Water Treatment Expansion
20	Immokalee 3.00 mgd Reclaimed Water Treatment Facility
21	Indiantown 1.20 mgd RO WTP and FAS Well
22	Key Largo WWTD and FKAA - 0.50 mgd Direct Potable Reuse Demonstration Project
23	Key Largo WWTD and FKAA - 3.45 mgd Direct Potable Reuse Demonstration Project Expansion
24	Key West Resort Utilities - 0.85 mgd Reuse Distribution Mains and Irrigation Systems
25	Key West Resort Utilities and FKAA - 0.50 mgd Direct Potable Reuse Distribution Line
26	LaBelle 0.50 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution Main to Golf Course
27	Lauderhill 1.00 mgd RO WTP and FAS Wells Phase 1
28	Lauderhill 2.00 mgd Expansion of RO WTP Phase 2
29	Lee County 5.00 mgd North Lee County WTP and Wellfield Expansion
30	Marathon and FKAA - 1.40 mgd Potable Reuse with ASR and RO
31	Miami-Dade 12.45 mgd South Miami Heights RO WTP and FAS Wells Phase 1
32	Miami-Dade 15.00 mgd South District Reclaimed Water Distribution Extension to FPL Turkey Point
33	Miami-Dade 2.55 mgd South Miami Heights SAS WTP
34	Miami-Dade 5.00 mgd South Miami Heights RO facility Expansion
35	Miramar 2.50 mgd RO Train No. 2 (West WTP) for Standby
36	Miramar 2.50 mgd RO Train No. 3 (West WTP) for Standby and FAS Wells 4 and 5
37	Miramar 3.50 Reclaimed Water System Distribution Extension West of I-75
38	Orange County 5.00 mgd Hamlin Phase II WRF Expansion
39	Orlando Eastern 3.00 mg Reclaimed Water Storage
40	OUC 10.00 mgd Southeast Brackish Wellfield and WTP
41	PBC - Broward Interconnect Phase 1B 10.51 mgd South Reclaimed Water Distribution Extension
42	PBC 2.00 mgd Green Cay Wetlands Indirect Potable Reuse Project - WTP, Distribution Mains, and SAS Wells
43	Pompano Beach -Broward Interconnect 10.00 mgd Reclaimed Water Distribution Extension
44	Pompano Beach 3.50 mg Reclaimed Water Storage Tank with Booster Station
45	Pompano Beach 6.90 mgd Multiphase Reuse Distribution Expansion
46	PSL 2.66 mgd James E Anderson WTP Expansion Phase 3
47	PSL McCarty Ranch Reservoir, Water Quality Storage Areas, and ASR - 10.00 mgd Storage
48	Riviera Beach 16.00 mgd RO and Membrane Softening WTP and 9 FAS Wells
49	SLC 0.30 mgd North County/Holiday Pines WRF Expansion
50	SLC 2.0 mgd Central County RO WTP Phase 1
51	SLC 2.0 mgd Taylor Dairy FAS Wells and RO WTP
52	SMRU 0.2 mgd WRF Expansion
53	Sunrise 0.20 mgd Springtree RO Conversion to Membrane Softening Phase 1
54	Sunrise 1.70 mgd Springtree RO Conversion to Membrane Softening Phase 2
55	TWA 2.00 mgd South Bermuda WRF Expansion
56	TWA 5.00 mgd Jack Brack Road Reuse Main Extension
57	TWA 6.00 mgd Cross-Prairie Parkway Reuse Distribution Main
58	TWA 0.60 mgd Harmony WRF Expansion Phase 2
59	TWA 1.00 mgd Parkway WRF Expansion Phase 1
60	TWA 1.50 mgd Parkway WRF Expansion Phase 2
61	TWA 2.50 mgd Harmony West Reclaimed Water Storage and Repump Facility
62	TWA 2.50 mgd Sunbridge WRF Expansion
63	TWA 3.00 mgd Old Hickory Tree/10th Street Reuse Distribution Main Extension
64	TWA 3.20 mgd 160-Acre Recharge Site and WTP
65	TWA 30.00 mgd Cypress Lake Wellfield and WTP
66	TWA 36.00 mg Southside Reclaimed Water Reservoir Expansion
67	TWA 5.00 mg Edgewater Reclaimed Water Storage and Repump Facility
68	TWA 6.00 mgd Toho Reservoir Reclaimed Water Augmentation Project
69	TWA 6.00 mgd Toho Stormwater Reservoir and Reuse Distribution Main
70	TWA Shingle Creek Potable Water Supply Project - 6.00 mgd Storage
71	Wellington 0.20 mgd WRF Expansion - Phase 2
72	Wellington 0.70 mgd Membrane Softening Expansion and Decommissioning of Lime Softening WTP
73	West Palm Beach 3.00 mgd Grassy Waters Preserve Storage Improvements

CORE MISSION

WATER RESOURCE AND WATER SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

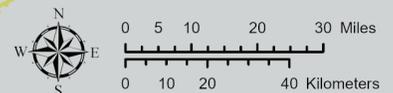
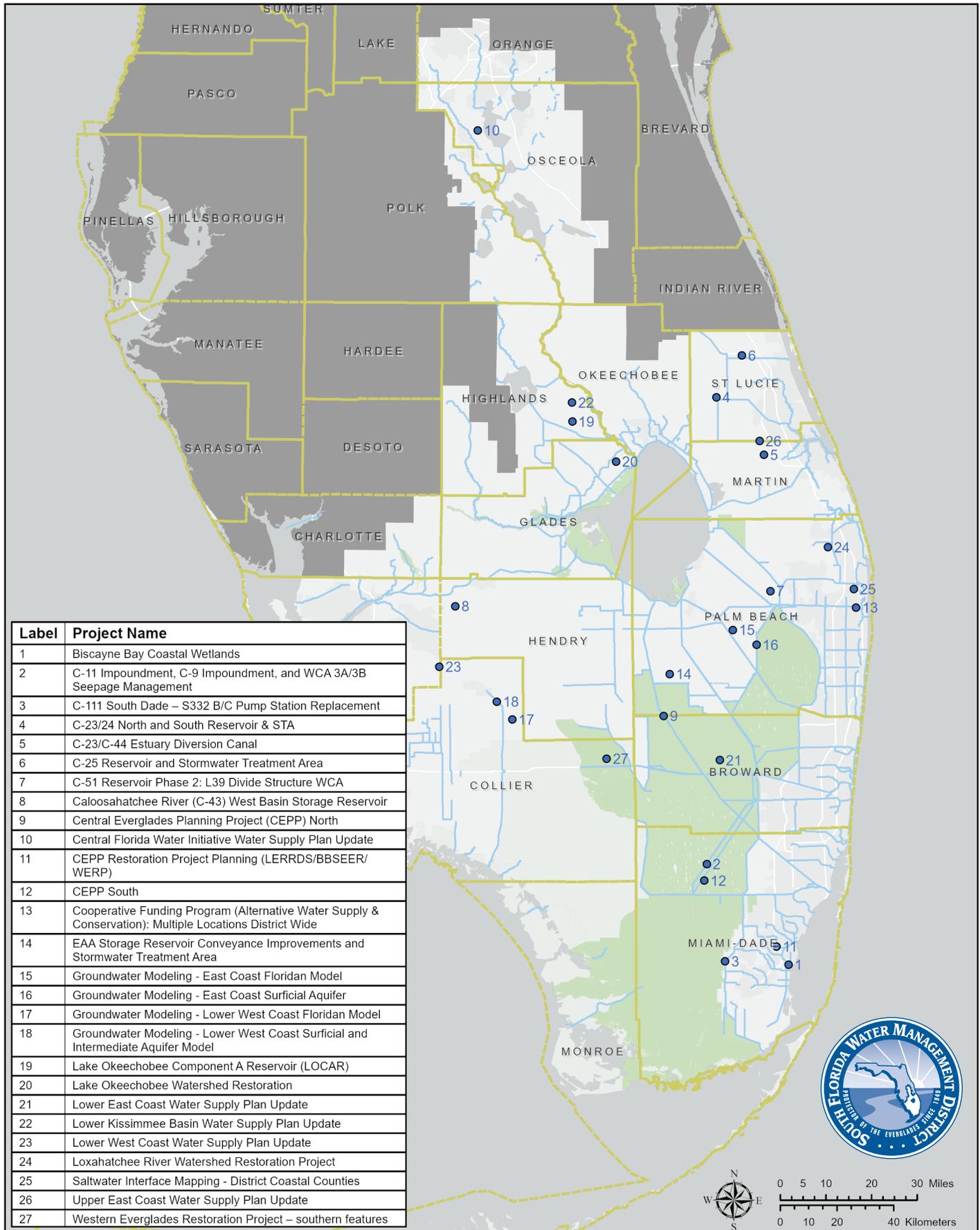
Strategic Projects for Ensuring Water for South Florida's Communities



CORE MISSION

WATER SUPPLY STRATEGIC PROJECTS

Strategic Projects for Ensuring Water for South Florida's Communities



SUPPORT MISSION

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

Delivering Efficient and Cost-Effective Services on Behalf of South Florida Citizens

The District constantly looks for opportunities to implement strategies to improve operations, enhance fiscal efficiency, ensure public access and engagement, create more accountability and, most importantly, deliver the services and results that the public expects. Project and operational progress, along with overall organizational efficiency and effectiveness, are continuously measured and reported. Monthly financial statements are publicly presented at Governing Board meetings and posted online to clearly demonstrate how the District utilizes taxpayer dollars. By routinely collaborating with the public, state and federal agencies, local governments, non-governmental organizations, community organizations and the business community, the District works to further leverage public dollars by identifying additional cost-saving strategies.

Public Engagement & Administration: Strategic Priorities and Success Indicators

Mission – Ensuring South Florida Taxpayers Receive Efficient and Effective Customer Service

PRIORITY – Focusing resources on core functions, minimizing administrative costs, and measuring performance

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Process and pay 95% of all vendor invoices within 30 days.
- ◆ Post monthly financial statements to the District's publicly available website within 24 hours after each Governing Board meeting
- ◆ Procurement Negotiated Cost Savings/Avoidance
- ◆ Submit annual audit to the Florida Department of Financial Services and Auditor General within 45 days after Governing Board acceptance but not later than nine months after the end of the prior fiscal year
- ◆ Complete required distribution of annual audit within 10 days after Governing Board acceptance and ensure posting on the District's publicly available website within 10 days of acceptance

PRIORITY – Ensuring accountability, transparency, and public involvement in District decisions

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Document, assign and respond to 90% of public records requests within 14 days
- ◆ Small Business Enterprise Program Outreach

PRIORITY – Employing and developing a high-quality, workforce

Success Indicators:

- ◆ Maintain workforce turnover rate at less than 6%
- ◆ Foster a culture of safety awareness and preparedness across the District to enhance workplace safety and ensure compliance by providing comprehensive safety training and educational programs to employees
- ◆ Ensure more than 90% of new hires are retained after the six-month probation period
- ◆ Complete quarterly training events via e-learning, classroom and/or virtually that further develop employee and supervisor skills such as Respect in the Workplace, new supervisor training, and team building
- ◆ Promote a healthier, more engaged workforce by offering a range of wellness programs, health screening, and fitness activities aimed to support employees' physical and mental well-being, improve overall health outcomes and enhance workplace productivity



Resiliency Coordination Forum Meeting, February 2024



SFWMD Staff, Contract Inspector



SFWMD Staff, Administrative Assistant



SFWMD Staff at Small Business Enterprise Procurement Meeting

DISTRICT BUSINESS CYCLE

PUTTING THE PLAN INTO ACTION



C-44 Construction

The Strategic Plan...

The Strategic Plan is a key component of the South Florida Water Management District's integrated business cycle. It establishes the overall policy direction and strategic priorities set by the Governing Board to carry out the District's core mission responsibilities. Serving as the agency blueprint for long-term planning and implementation, the Strategic Plan provides overarching guidance in development of the annual budget and work plan and the success indicators used for measuring progress.

Implementing the priorities identified in this Strategic Plan will result in:

- ◆ Restoration of South Florida's ecosystem, including improvements of water flows and restored habitats
- ◆ Regional flood protection provided by a refurbished water management system
- ◆ Achievement of water quality standards
- ◆ Affordable and reliable water supplies
- ◆ Public and private partnerships that help stretch limited resources
- ◆ Efficient and effective customer service for the District's taxpayers
- ◆ Transparency to the public on the District's priorities

GROUND BREAKING SINCE 2019

✓ Indicates these projects have been completed.

#	PROJECT	GROUND BREAKING	COMPLETION DATE (EST.)
1	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	2022	✓
2	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase II	2021	2027
3	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2021	2024
4	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2020	2024
5	EAA Reservoir Project Conveyance Improvements	2024	2027
6	STA 2 Refurbishments	2020	2023
7	STA 1W – Expansion No. 2	2020	2024
8	Raising Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2021	2026
9	Lake O Watershed – Aquifer Storage & Recovery Wells	2021	2030
10	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir – Final Phase of Construction	2019	2025
11	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - L-31E Flow-way	2020	2026
12	C-23/C-24 Treatment Wetland	2022	2025
13	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2022	✓
14	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2019	✓
15	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2022	✓
16	C-23/C-44 Canal to Divert Harmful Discharges to St. Lucie River	2022	2025
17	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2020	✓
18	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2020	✓
19	Scott Water Storage Farm	2020	✓
20	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2021	✓
21	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023	✓
22	EAA Reservoir	2023	2034
23	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023	✓
24	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands	2023	2025
25	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) North	2023	2032
26	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South	2020	2033
27	Western Everglades Restoration-South Features	2024	2028



Gov. DeSantis at the EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland Ribbon Cutting



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland

MAJOR MILESTONE SINCE 2019

#	PROJECT	RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT	COMPLETION DATE
28	Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem (BBSEER)	Began Planning Efforts	TBD
29	Boma Water Storage Basin (FEB)	Started Design	2027
30	C-23/C-24 Interim Water Storage	Started Design	TBD
31	C-23/C-24 North Reservoir	Completed Final Design	2028
32	C-23/C-24 South Reservoir	Started Design	2030
33	C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	Completed Land Acquisition, Started Design	2028
34	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II	Started Design	2026
35	Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration	Authorized by Congress, Started Design	TBD
36	S-332B Pump Station Replacement	Started Design	2028
37	Western Everglades Restoration-Remaining Features	Finished Planning	2024
38	Lake O Watershed – Wetland Restoration	Began Real Estate Acquisition	TBD
39	Lower Kissimmee Treatment Wetland	Began Initial Planning and Design	TBD
40	EAA Reservoir Project Partnership Agreement Signed	Agreement Executed	2030
41	Faka Union Pump Station/Canal Plugging – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration	Began Partial Rehydration of Drained Wetlands	2025
42	C-11 Water Storage Impoundment	Began Final Design	2028
43	Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir (LOCAR)	Finished Planning	2024

COMPLETED SINCE 2019

#	PROJECT	YEAR
44	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023
45	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2022
46	Allapattah Flats Wetland Restoration	2021
47	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2021
48	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 3	2020
49	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2022
50	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2023
51	Brighton Valley Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2020
52	C-44 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	2021
53	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir Water Quality Improvements Study	2021
54	Improved Water Deliveries for ENP (COP) and C-111 South Dade Project	2020
55	Kissimmee River Restoration	2021
56	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase I	2020
57	Lakeside Ranch Treatment Wetland	2019
58	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2021
59	S-191A Pump Station	2021
60	S-333N Structure for Everglades Nat'l Park Water Deliveries	2020
61	Scott Water Storage Farm	2021
62	STA 1W – Expansion No. 1	2020
63	STA 1E Improvements	2022
64	STA 5/6 Improvements	2020
65	Bridging Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2019
66	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase I	2019
67	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023
68	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir S-470 Pump Station	2023
69	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2024
70	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2024
71	S-191 Basin Surface Runoff Phosphorus Removal Project	2024
72	Partin Family Ranch Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2024
73	Clewiston Field Station Groundbreaking	2024
74	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2024
75	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	2024



S-191 Basin Surface Runoff Phosphorus Removal Project Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir S-470 Pump Station Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

List of critical wetlands to be acquired using funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund

In 2022, the Legislature enacted new legislation (i.e., Senate Bill 882) that requires the District's strategic plan to include a list of critical wetlands to be acquired using funds from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, in accordance with sections 373.036(2)(e) and 373.036(2)(f)5., Florida Statutes (F.S.). This Strategic Plan includes the District's list of critical wetlands, which was adopted by the Governing Board on March 9, 2023. The list of critical wetlands is available on the District's website at: [SFWMD.gov/CriticalWetlands](https://www.sfwmd.gov/CriticalWetlands).



Miami Skyline



Water Sampling at C-44



Egret at Everglades National Park



Blacknecked Stilt at C-139

Ron DeSantis, Governor

SFWMD Governing Board

Chauncey Goss, Chairman
 Scott Wagner, Vice Chairman
 Ron Bergeron Sr.
 Ben Butler
 Charlie E. Martinez
 Cheryl Meads
 Charlette Roman
 Jay Steinle

SFWMD Executive Management

Drew Bartlett, Executive Director
 John Mitnik, Asst. Executive Director & Chief Engineer
 Jennifer Smith, Chief of Staff
 Jill Creech, Regulation Director
 Lucine Dadrian, Engineering, Construction & Modeling Director
 Maricruz Fincher, General Counsel
 Lawrence Glenn, Water Resources Director
 Candida Heater, Administrative Services Director
 Lisa Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator
 Vacant, Chief Communications & Public Policy Officer
 Dr. Carolina Maran, Chief of District Resiliency
 Akin Owosina, Chief Information Officer
 Jennifer Reynolds, Ecosystem Restoration Director
 Rich Virgil, Field Operations Director

Alexis A. Lambert, Secretary
 Florida Department of
 Environmental Protection

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Learn more by signing up for the District's emails.
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3301 Gun Club Road
 West Palm Beach, FL 33406
[SFWMD.gov](https://www.sfwmd.gov)



Expediting Progress to Send Water South

Jennifer Reynolds, Division Director
Ecosystem Restoration



Governing Board Meeting – December 12, 2024

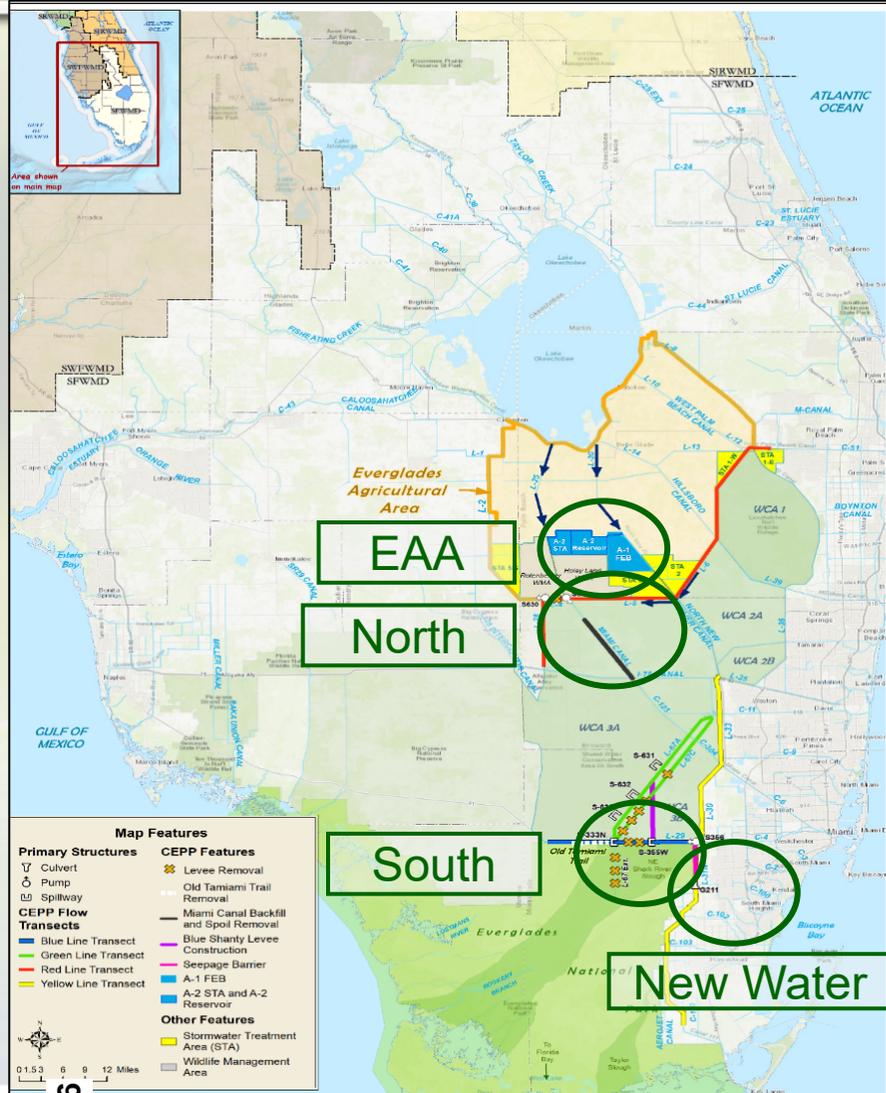
Everglades Restoration Depends on Our Ability to Convey Water South

- Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) is a critical component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)
- Priority of Governor Ron DeSantis to move water south
- CEPP facilitates sheet flow of water into Everglades National Park



Governor Ron DeSantis at Old Tamiami Trail

Central Everglades Planning Project

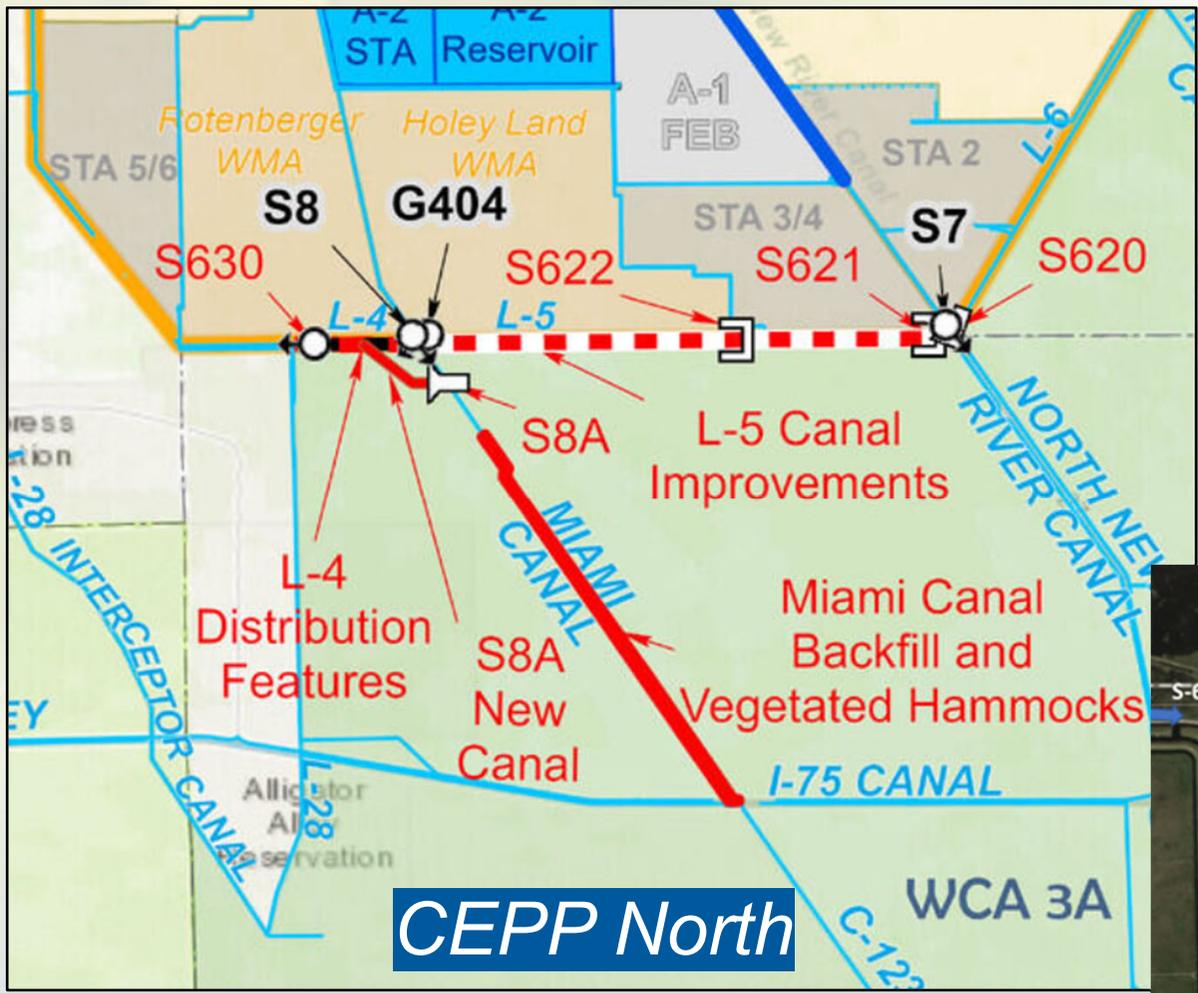


Progress on CEPP New Water



- August 2021-8.5 Square Mile Groundbreaking
- September 2022-8.5 Square Mile Ribbon Cutting
- December 2022-CEPP New Water Groundbreaking
- April 2024-CEPP New Water Ribbon Cutting

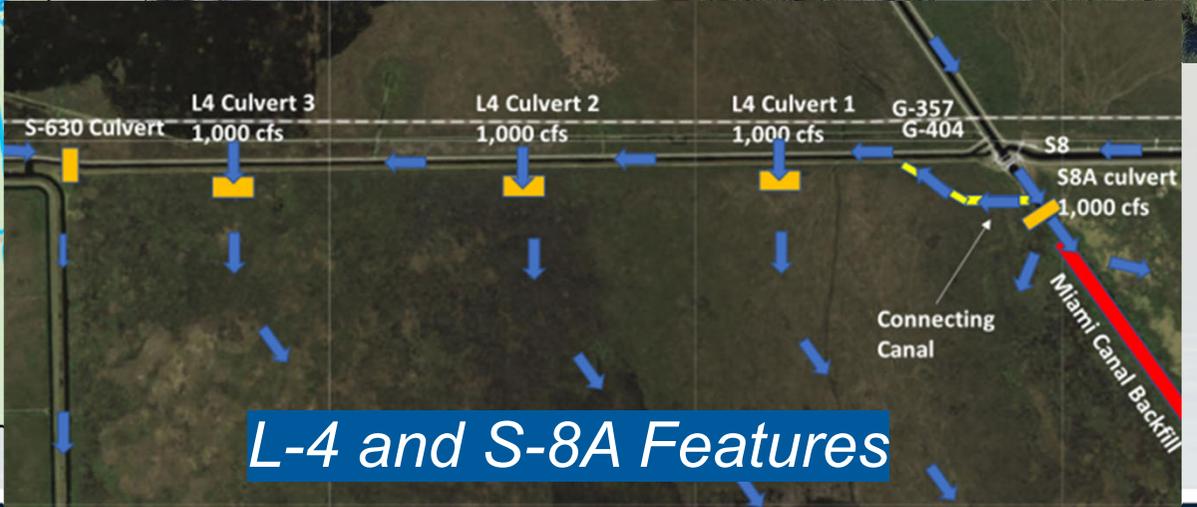
Progress on CEPP North



CEPP North



Construction at S-620



L-4 and S-8A Features

Progress on CEPP EAA

➤ District Efforts:

- STA construction 2020-2024
- Construction village
- Inflow canals
- US27 bridges (FDOT)
- Inflow pump station

➤ USACE Efforts:

- Reservoir started 2024

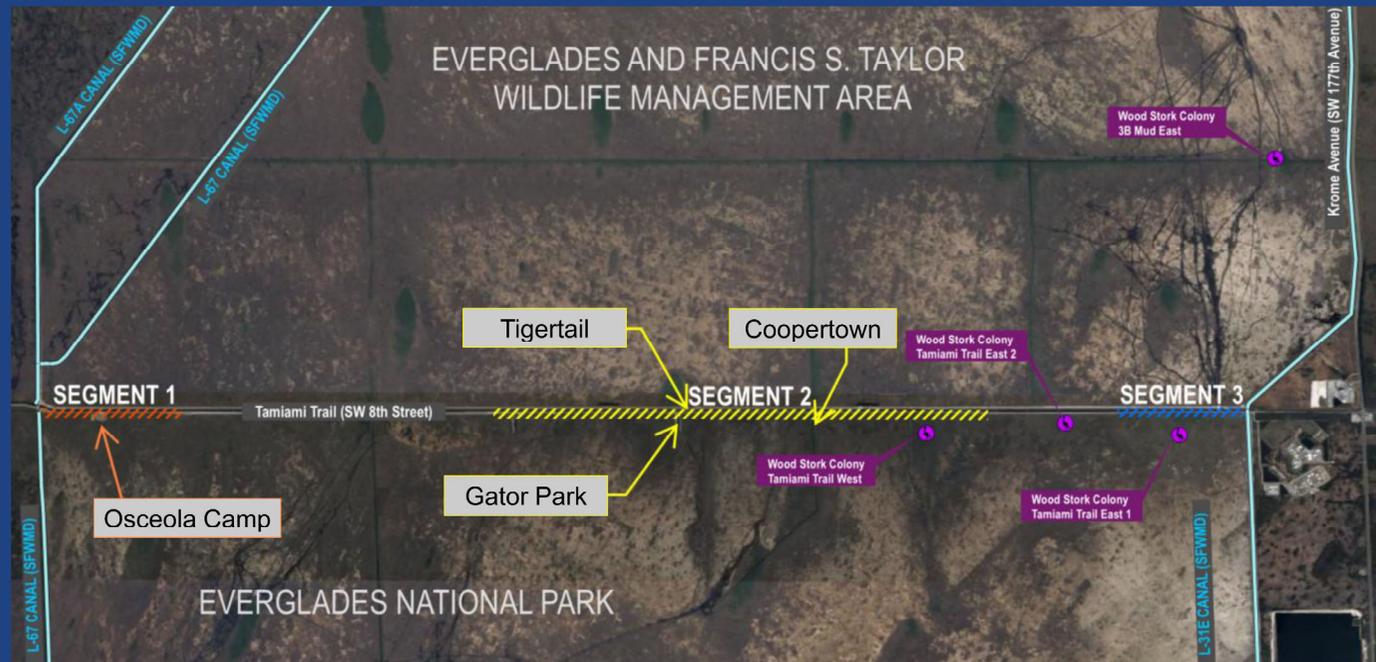


Progress on Tamiami Trail Next Steps

Tamiami Trail Next Steps Phase 2

PROJECT INFORMATION

Boundaries –
 Tamiami Trail from
 S-333 to S-334
 Design-Build Project
 Construction Timeline
 –
 spring 2021
 through spring 2026
 Estimated Project
 Cost –
 \$57 million



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Progress On the CEPP South Phase

➤ The District has started portions of the CEPP South Phase already:

- Old Tamiami Trail Removal

- Construction started 2020
- Completed 2021

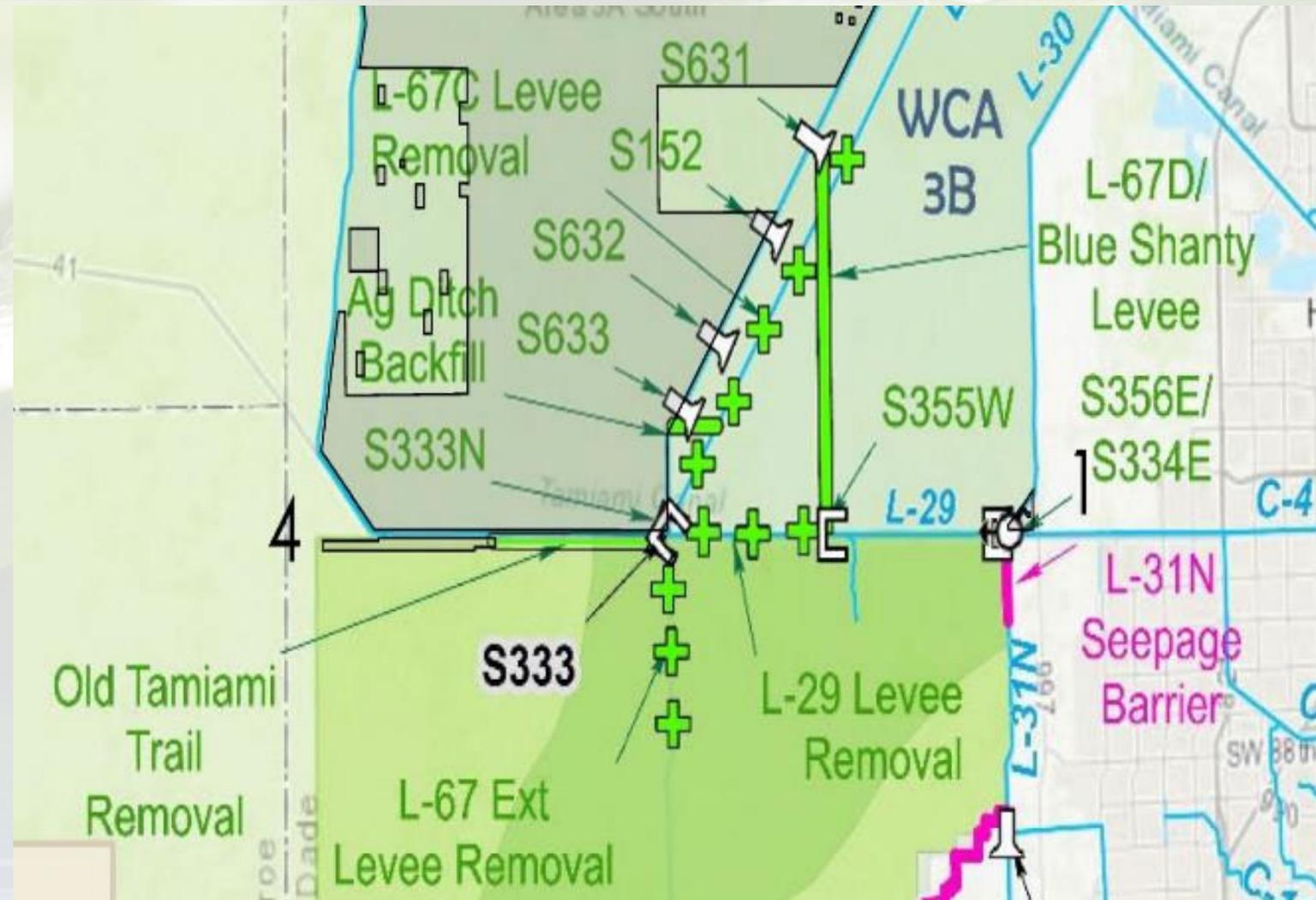
- S-333N

- Construction started 2018
- Completed 2021



CEPP South Construction Contracts

- **Contract 1A(r):** Structures S-631, S-632, S-633 in the L-67A Canal
- **Contract 2A:** Pump Station S-356E and S-334E Gated Spillway
- **Contract 3B:** S-355W Gated Spillway
- **Contract 5:** Removal L-67C Levee, Construct L-67D Levee and gap in L-67C Levee N
- **Contract 6:** Removal L-29 Levee & L-67 Extension Levee, Backfill L-67 Ext Canal
- **Contract 2B:** Demolition of Existing S-356 Pump Station



CEPP South Contract 3B

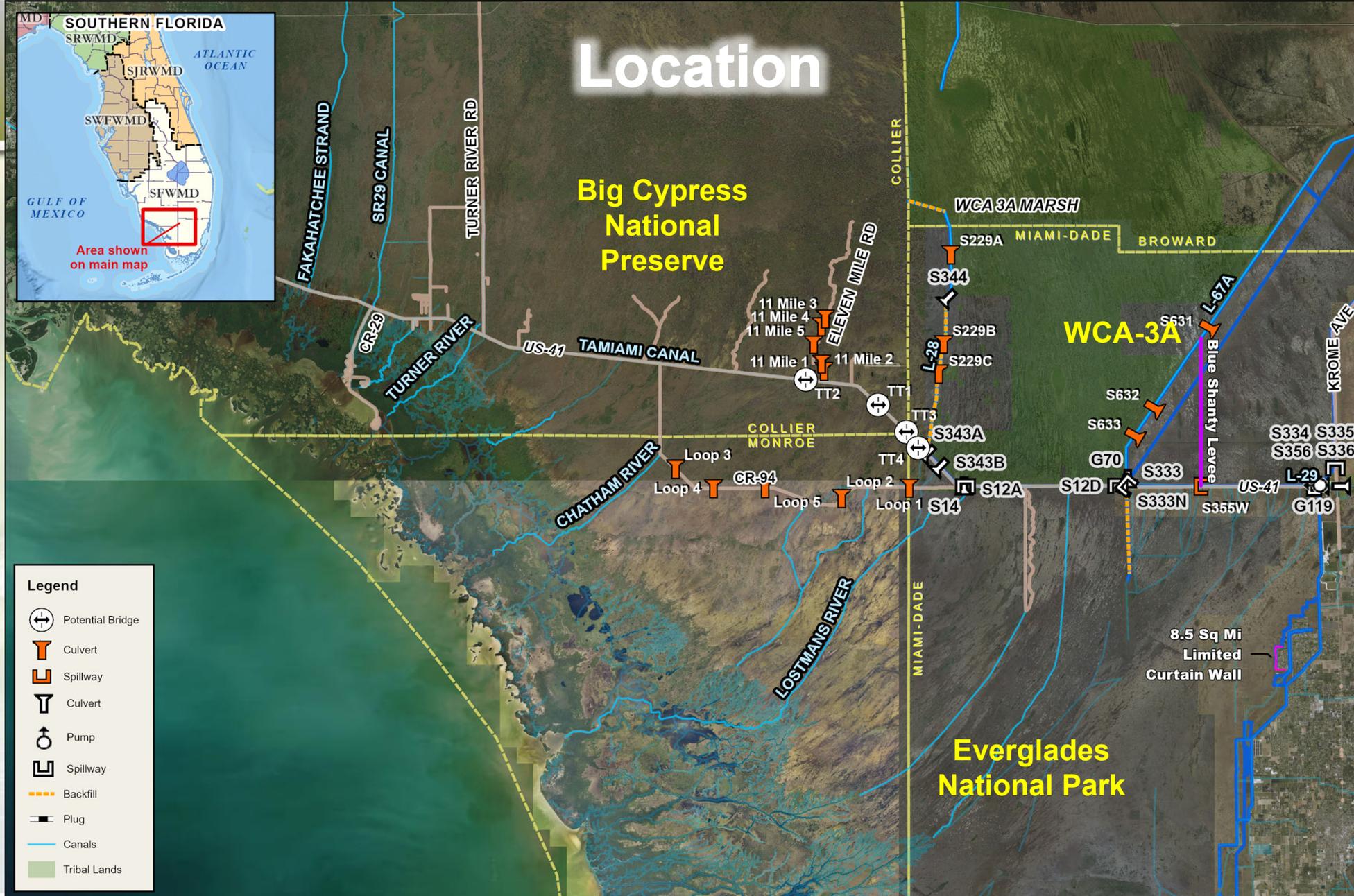


- Design is Complete
 - Advertisement Target: FY25*
 - Award Target: FY25*
 - Construction Complete FY29*
- S-355W Spillway (1230 cfs) is a 2-bay gated divide structure in the L-29 Canal at the southern extent of the proposed L-67D levee.
- Public access (vehicle and pedestrian) will be via the service bridge from US 41 on the south side to the L-29 Levee on the north side.

Tigertail Camp



Location



Legend

- Potential Bridge
- Culvert
- Spillway
- Culvert
- Pump
- Spillway
- Backfill
- Plug
- Canals
- Tribal Lands

L-28 South Culverts

- Construction of 3 remotely operable gated concrete box culverts
- Start Construction: April 2024
- Complete Construction: April 2027
- Status:
 - S229A Construction - Bypass road completed, mobilizing to start Cofferdam construction
 - S229B Construction - Not begun
 - S229C Construction - Cofferdam wall completed, starting excavation of cofferdam
 - 14.1 miles of Power Conduit construction and power pulled from tower to US41 - completed by Hypower and FPL
 - Connection to power at US41 - ongoing with P&J and FPL



L-28 South Culverts



S-229C Cofferdam

L-28 South Culverts

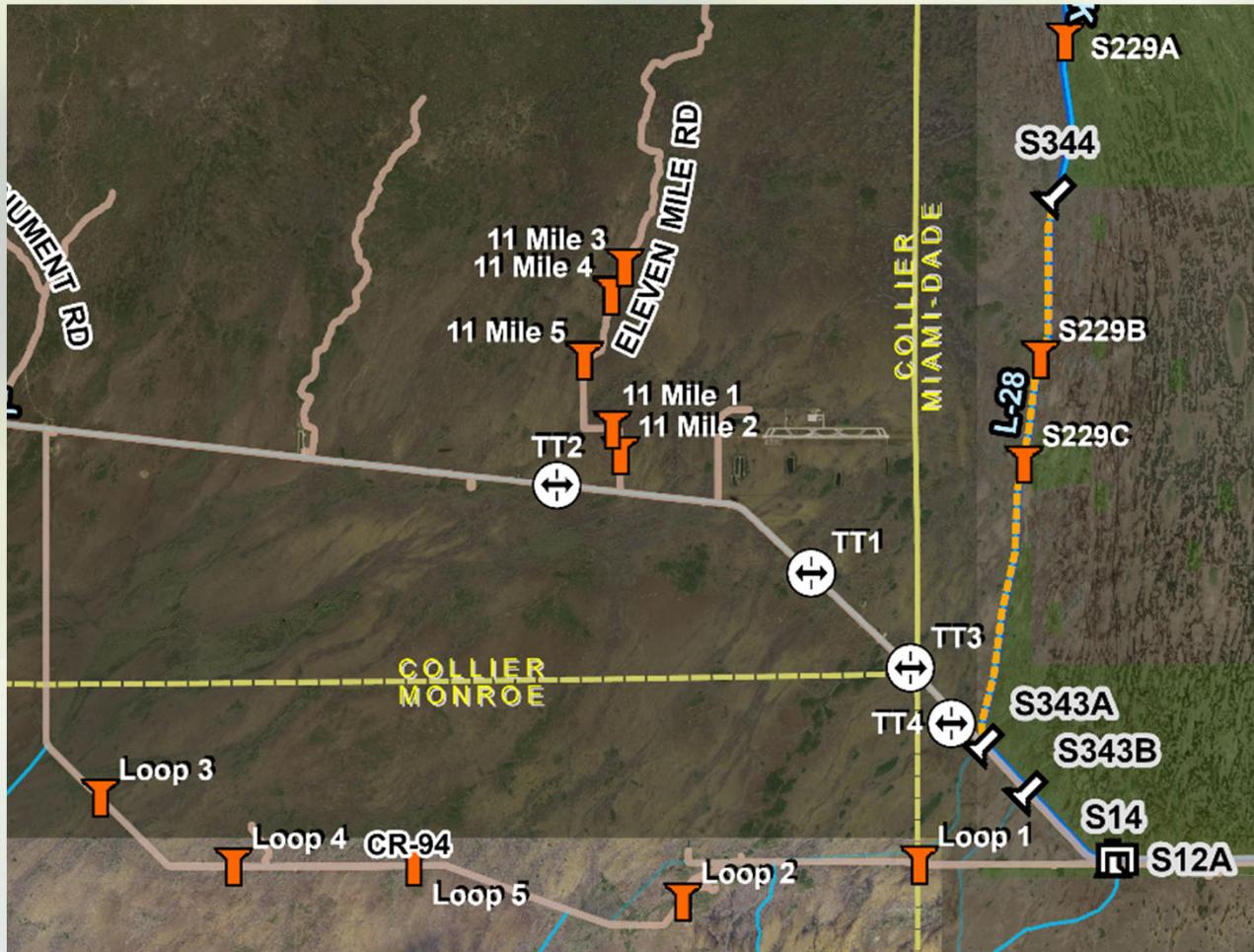


Temporary Power Conduit & Pull Box for the Bypass Road



Power Pole Pad adjacent to US41

L-28 Culverts & Conveyance



- US41 - 4 additional conveyance features
- 11-Mile Rd - 5 additional culverts
- Loop Rd - 5 additional culverts

- Status:
 - Modeling - complete
 - Survey - complete
 - Draft Geotechnical Engineering Report - complete
 - Preliminary Design - April 2025
 - Governing Board Award - September 2026
 - Construction Duration US41 - 3 Years
 - Construction 11-Mile/Loop Rd - 15 Months

Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow

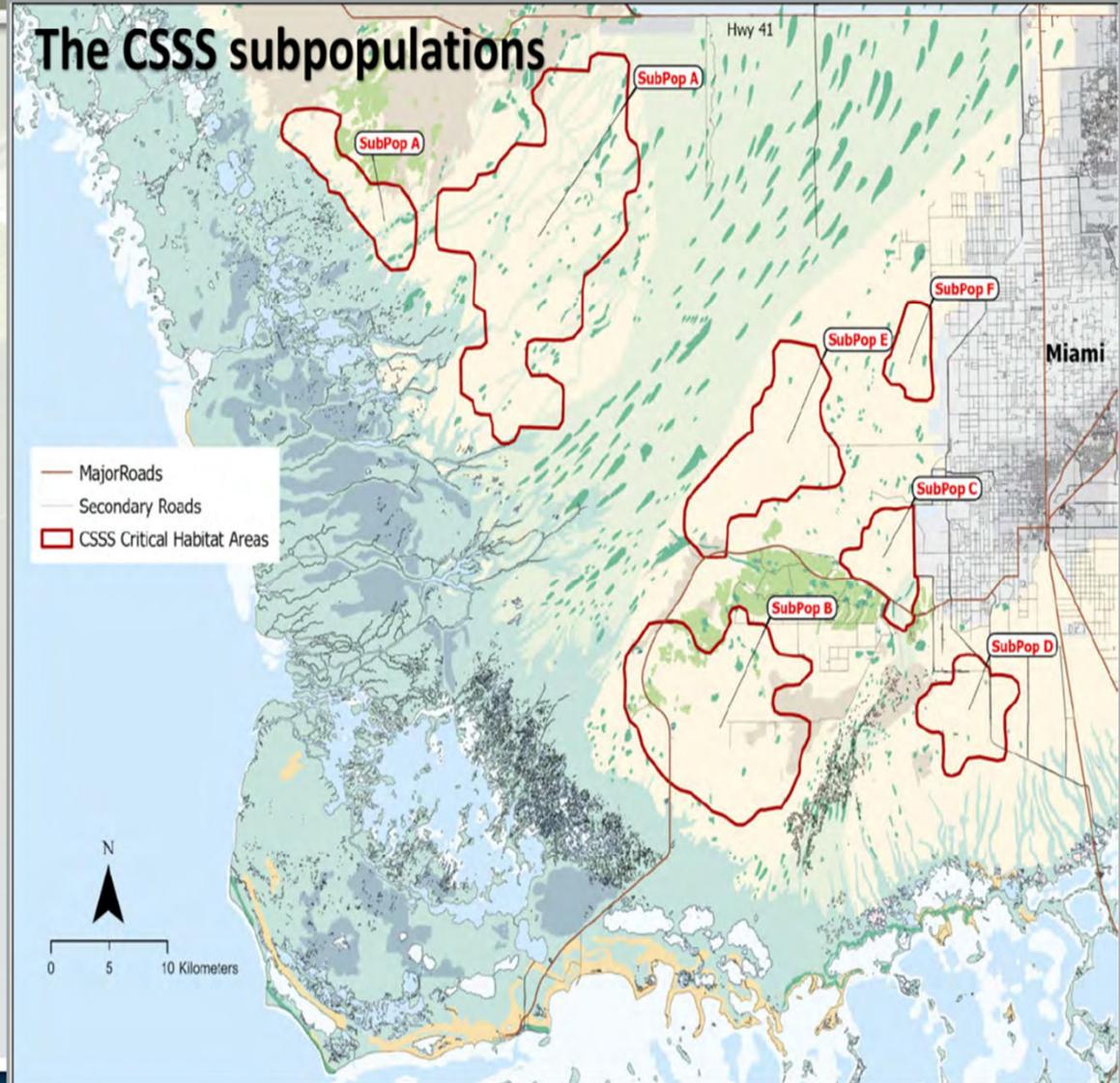
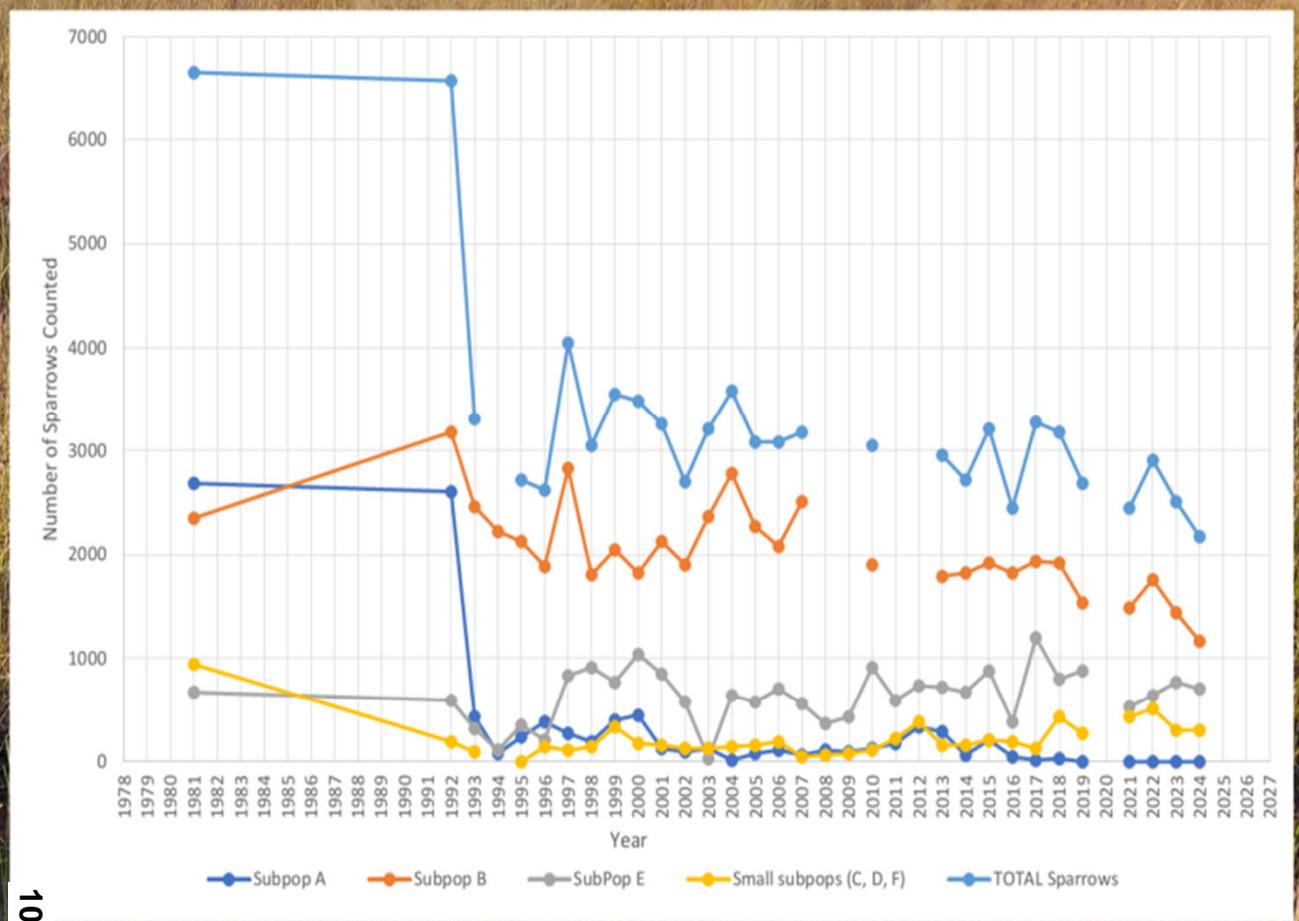
- Current operational planning efforts
 - CEPP Operational Plan 1.0
 - COP Multi-Year Deviation
 - A2 STA Interim Ops Plan
- Ongoing construction to remove barriers to flow
- Marl prairie conservation and restoration activities
- CSSS Conservation Breeding



NPS / Lori Oberhofer

CSSS Population

2024: 357 sites visited, 136 sparrows counted
 Apply the 16x multiplier and the population estimate is **2,176**

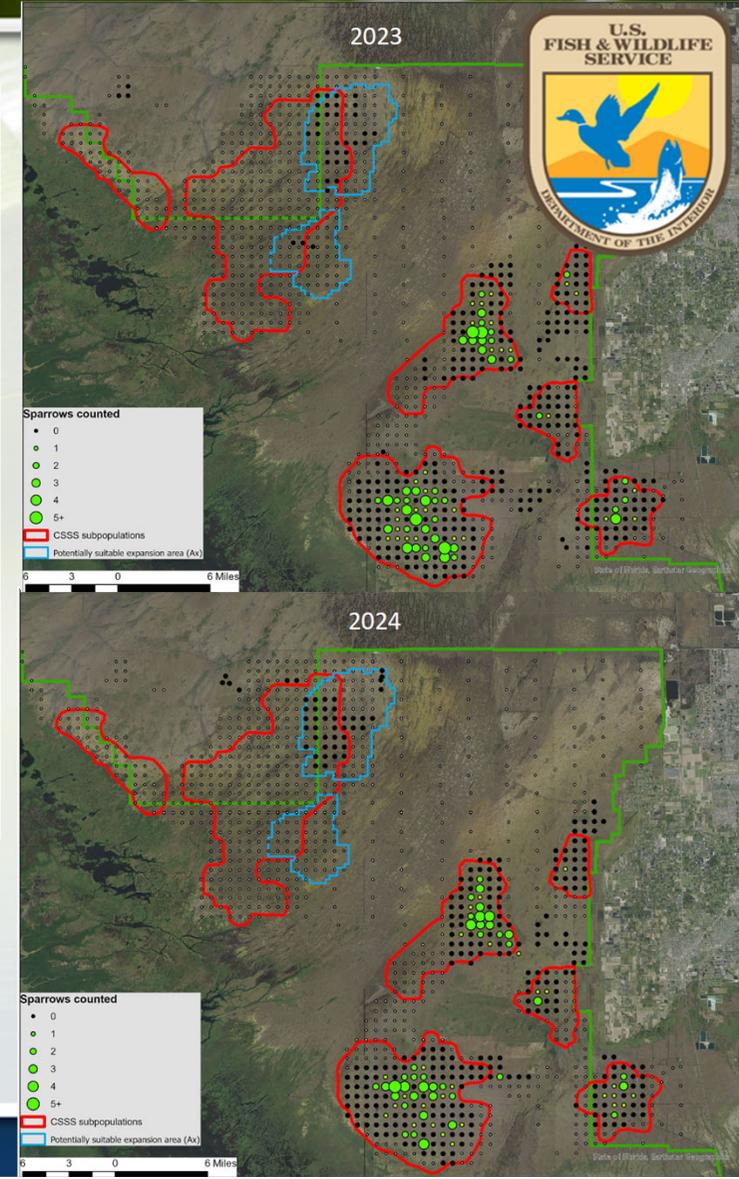


Lowest Population Survey on Record

2024 season compared to 2023

2024 CSSS Survey Results	Points surveyed	compared to 2023	CSSS counted	compared to 2023	Population estimate	compared to 2023
Subpopulation A	46	+10	0	0	0	0
Subpopulation B	137	-5	73	-17	1168	-272
Subpopulation C	32	-10	5	+2	80	+32
Subpopulation D	40	-12	13	0	208	0
Subpopulation E	71	-4	44	-4	704	-64
Subpopulation F	31	-7	1	-3	16	-48
TOTAL	357	-28	136	-22	2,176	-352

Estimated population of 2,176 is the lowest survey on record. Only 136 males were observed in 2024 surveys. 14% decline in estimated population since 2023.



Marl Prairie and CSSS Working Group



Marl Prairie Subcommittee

Led by NPS and Co-Chair TBD

- Members within the subcommittees will consist of individuals representing the USFWS, Miccosukee Tribe, NPS, USACE, SFWMD, Audubon Florida, White Oak Conservation, USGS, and others.
- Meeting Schedule: Each subcommittee will determine the independent meeting schedule, and we anticipate that there will be an annual or biannual meeting where both groups will meet.

CSSS Subcommittee

Led by Shawn Christopherson (USFWS) and Marcel Bozas (Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida)

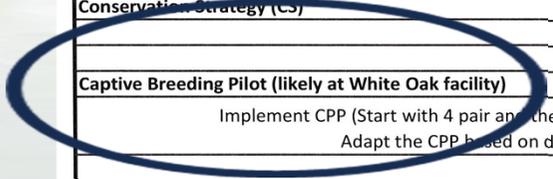


Interagency Conservation Efforts

Marl Prairie Conservation and Restoration Cape Sable seaside sparrow Actions

Marl Prairie Habitat Conservation and Restoration Efforts													
Agency	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	
Modeling and Analysis													
Landscape Modeling - Viable Marl Prairie Habitat Restoration and Climate Change	NPS/USGS												
ECB and SPCU Modeling - Viable Marl Prairie Habitat Restoration and Sea Level Rise	RECOVER/USGS												
Assessment of Existing Habitat Locations and Conditions (GIS desktop analysis)	NPS												
Monitoring - Field Survey													
Vegetation and Habitat Assessment - Ground Truthing													
Annual Vegetation Monitoring at Each Sub-Population													
Management - Dependent on Modeling and Monitoring													
Fire Management - On Rotation													
Vegetation Management - On Rotation													

CSSS Conservation Efforts													
Agency	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	
Captive Propagation Plan (CPP)													
Development and Review	FWS												
Demographic Surveys - Before and After Captive Breeding													
Identify Donor(s) and Recipient(s) Populations:													
Plan population and sex ratio surveys													
Issue permits													
Conduct field work													
Technical/Scientific Working Group													
Identify Membership, Key Questions, and Uncertainties													
Conservation Strategy (CS)													
Follow the Progress of CPP Implementation													
Update the CPP Every 5 Years													
Captive Breeding Pilot (likely at White Oak facility)													
Implement CPP (Start with 4 pair and then supplement the import based on results):													
Adapt the CPP based on demographic surveys, Working Group and CS:													
Monitor Following CS:													
Demographics, banding, tracking													
Captive Breeding and Potential Translocation Effort (If applicable after captive breeding pilot)													
Identify Donor and Recipient Population													
Implement and Monitor													



General Budget Needs for 5-year Program

Y1 (Year 1) - Pilot year with N = 4 pairs		
Expense Group	Sub-group	2026 Pilot Expense Forecast
Program Start-up Costs		
	All enclosure unit materials plus labor, installation, & permitting	\$356,500
	Habitat needs (substrate, vegetation)	\$1,760
	Other misc start-up costs (husbandry, tools, management etc)	\$4,460
	Staff hiring (2 full-time)	\$75,600
	Contingency (10%)	\$43,832
	Inflation (2.3%)	\$11,089
Start-up Total:		\$493,241
*Annual Program Operational Costs		
	Dietary needs (food, supplements)	\$4,309
	Security (site off public river)	\$810.00
	Support staff time and labor (maintenance, intern selection, admin etc)	\$10,000
	Intern stipend and housing	\$15,420
	Current supervisor labor/time (training, on-boarding, time on program etc)	\$20,250
	Veterinary labor	\$30,000
	Veterinary supplies	\$150
	Contingency (10%)	\$8,094
	Inflation (2.3%)	\$2,048
Operational Total:		\$91,081
Total Program Cost Y1:		\$584,322

CSSS Captive Breeding Program Y1 - Y5 Budget Forecast				
Calculated based on increasing number of pairs by N = 4 pairs each year to Y3, capped at 12 pairs, with additional HY space in Y3				
Y1 (4 pairs)	^*Y2 (8 pairs)	^*Y3 (12 pairs)	*Y4 (12 pairs)	*Y5 (12 pairs)
2026 Pilot Program Expense Forecast	2027 12-month Expense Forecast	2028 12-month Expense Forecast	2029 12-month Expense Forecast	2030 12-month Expense Forecast
\$584,322	\$445,352	\$695,727	\$329,519	\$336,459
Years 1 - 5 Estimated Total:				\$2,391,379
Key:				
* Annual costs for Y2 & Y3 in all tables are based on nestling production rates described in <i>A.m. peninsulae</i> by Post & Antonio (1981)				
Production rate was low (~4 chicks/pair on average). This would likely improve with time, but production rate with improvement is unknown.				
^ Figure includes building new enclosures to accommodate growth with new pairs and additional HY space to be added in Y3.				



Resolution 2024-1211

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to authorize a second amendment to the Project Partnership Agreement between the Department of the Army and the District for the Central Everglades Planning Project South Phase (CEPP-South) expediting a component necessary for balancing the flow of water south through the Everglades; providing an effective date.

Resolution 2024-1212

A Resolution of the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida for the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Captive Breeding and Release Pilot Program at the White Oak Conservation Center, for an amount not to exceed \$584,322, for which Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025; providing an effective date.

From: Cara Capp <ccapp@npca.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 4:26 PM
To: Goss, Chauncey <cgoss@sfwmd.gov>; Wagner, Scott <swagner@sfwmd.gov>; Bergeron, Ron <rbergeron@sfwmd.gov>; Meads, Cheryl <cmeads@sfwmd.gov>; Martinez, Charlie <cmartinez@sfwmd.gov>; Butler, Ben <bbutler@sfwmd.gov>; Steinle, Jay <jsteinle@sfwmd.gov>; Roman, Charlette <croman@sfwmd.gov>
Cc: Marisa Carrozzo <mcarrozzo@npca.org>; Bartlett, Drew <drew.bartlett@sfwmd.gov>; Reynolds, Jennifer <jreynolds@sfwmd.gov>
Subject: NPCA Support for Discussion Agenda 23 - Sending Water South

[Please remember, this is an external email]

Good afternoon, Chairman Goss and Governing Board:

Ahead of tomorrow's meeting, I wanted to reach out and share NPCA's support and gratitude to the District for once again stepping up to lead efforts that will allow more clean water to flow south into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay – specifically regarding the action items outlined in discussion agenda item 23. While we know that full implementation of CERP is the best way to protect the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow, we support the recent movement toward establishment of a conservation breeding program that would allow the species to survive for now, with the hopes of seeing them thrive in a restored ecosystem in the future. At the same time, carrying out demographic survey monitoring is key. Funding from the District will not only facilitate critical conservation science for this endangered species, but also provide tangible steps toward resolving a longstanding conflict that has been at the heart of efforts to send water south for decades. Advancing this program shows leadership, stewardship, and a commitment to moving forward by finding creative solutions together. NPCA urges the Governing Board to vote yes on item 23 tomorrow.

Thank you for continued leadership and support,
Cara



Cara Capp ([she/her](#))
Greater Everglades Associate Director
National Parks Conservation Association
Call/text: 305-546-6689 | ccapp@npca.org

From: [Steffanie Munguía](#)
To: [Brown, Molly](#)
Subject: Support for Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Conservation Funding Item #23
Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 4:59:07 PM

You don't often get email from steffaniemariam@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[Please remember, this is an external email]

Hello Ms. Brown,

I am submitting comments on agenda item #23 and would like my comments read into the record.

My name is Steffanie Munguía and I am a bird researcher and long-time volunteer and supporter of Audubon and NPCA. I'm writing to express my support for the South Florida Water Management District taking action to fund Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow conservation breeding and urge the Governing Board to vote yes on item 23 on today's agenda. Growing up in Florida, the Everglades and the unique species it protects have been near and dear to my heart, and the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow is one of those emblematic species. I hope to one day be able to see one in the wild, but for that dream to manifest, the sparrow needs to be given a fighting chance. I will continue to advocate for full implementation of Everglades restoration so this bird may once again thrive in the wild. In the meantime, I strongly support conservation breeding as a tool to ensure the species survives while we work to restore its habitat and make it more resilient in the face of climate change.

Thank you for reading my comments into the record.

Steffanie Munguia

--

Steffanie Munguía, PhD

(*She/her/hers - [why is this important?](#)*)

PhD Earth Systems Science

MA International Environmental Policy

BS Integrative Animal Biology

BS Environmental Science and Policy

steffaniemariam@gmail.com | +1 863 - 797 - 7187

I may be sending this e-mail outside of normal business hours but I do not expect you to respond outside of yours

From: [Valeriia Tolk](#)
To: [Brown, Molly](#)
Subject: Support for Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow Conservation Funding Item # 23
Date: Friday, December 13, 2024 8:55:42 AM

You don't often get email from valeriia.tolk@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[Please remember, this is an external email]

Dear Ms. Brown,

My name is Valeriia Tolkacheva and I'm a landscape architect based in Broward County.

I'm writing to urge the Governing Board to vote yes on item 23 on tomorrow's agenda to fund the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow conservation breeding program.

With rising human-induced (and climate change) pressures on Florida's native habitats, we can't afford to lose any more endangered species, and a program to help the sparrow will be money well spent as part of Everglades restoration, which the SFWMD has always been a leader on. This is a very important issue for the future of our state and our communities.

Thank you for reading my comments into the record.

Sincerely,
Valeriia Tolkacheva

December 12, 2024

Attn: Executive Director
South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

RE: Expediting Progress to Send Water South

We, the undersigned organizations, support two key actions announced at the South Florida Water Management District's December Governing Board meeting: funding for conservation breeding of the endangered Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow and the 355W Gated Spillway project to address water flow and quantity concerns.

For years, high water levels in the Miccosukee Conservation Area 3A, near the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow's (CSSS) habitat, have posed significant challenges. As an endemic and endangered species since 1967, the CSSS faces pressures from hydrologic changes in South Florida and the rising threat of sea-level impacts on its habitat. Despite these challenges, there is renewed hope with SFWMD's commitment to seed funding for a conservation breeding program, a vital step toward building the species' long-term resilience. This action, combined with translocation efforts and demographic surveys offers an exciting opportunity to secure a brighter future for the CSSS.

The Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir will mark a transformative milestone in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), enabling large volumes of water to flow south. Ensuring clean water reaches Everglades National Park and Florida Bay requires robust conveyance infrastructure, making the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South essential to success. We applaud SFWMD's leadership in taking on the 355W Gated Spillway project, which will accelerate construction by several years. This advancement will activate the Blue Shanty Flowway and restore continuous sheet flow in the southern Everglades, bringing us closer to a healthier ecosystem.

We greatly appreciate your leadership on these two pivotal pieces of Everglades restoration. These actions—funding for CSSS conservation breeding and spearheading the 355W Gated Spillway project—are critical steps toward overcoming current barriers to success. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with you and developing innovative solutions to meet any challenges that arise in the ongoing restoration of the Everglades.

Sincerely,



2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan Update



Mark Elsner, P.E.
Water Supply Bureau

Governing Board Meeting
December 12, 2024



Regional Water Supply Plan

What It Does

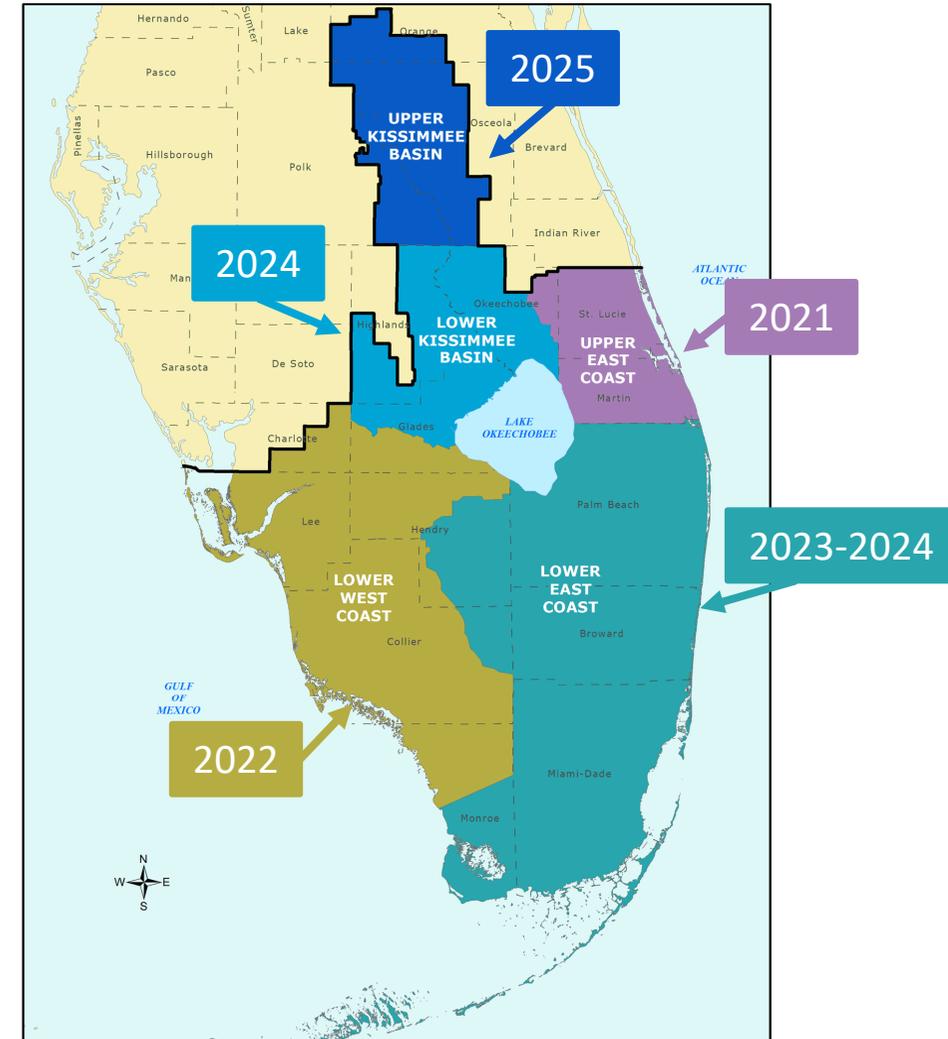
- Provides a road map to meet future water needs for 6 categories
- Conducts a planning-level approach
- Projects future water demands at 5-year increments
- Identifies and evaluates water source options
- Triggers requirement for local governments to update their Water Facilities Workplans

What It Does NOT Do

- Does not authorize consumptive use permits
- Does not establish minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs)
- Does not adopt rules
- Does not address water quality issues

Water Supply Plan Requirements

- 20-year planning period
- Demand estimates and projections
- Resource analyses
- Issue identification
- Evaluation of water source options
- Water resource development
 - Responsibility of water management district
- Water supply development
 - Responsibility of water users
- Environmental protective and restoration strategies
 - Review/update prevention and recovery strategies for minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs)



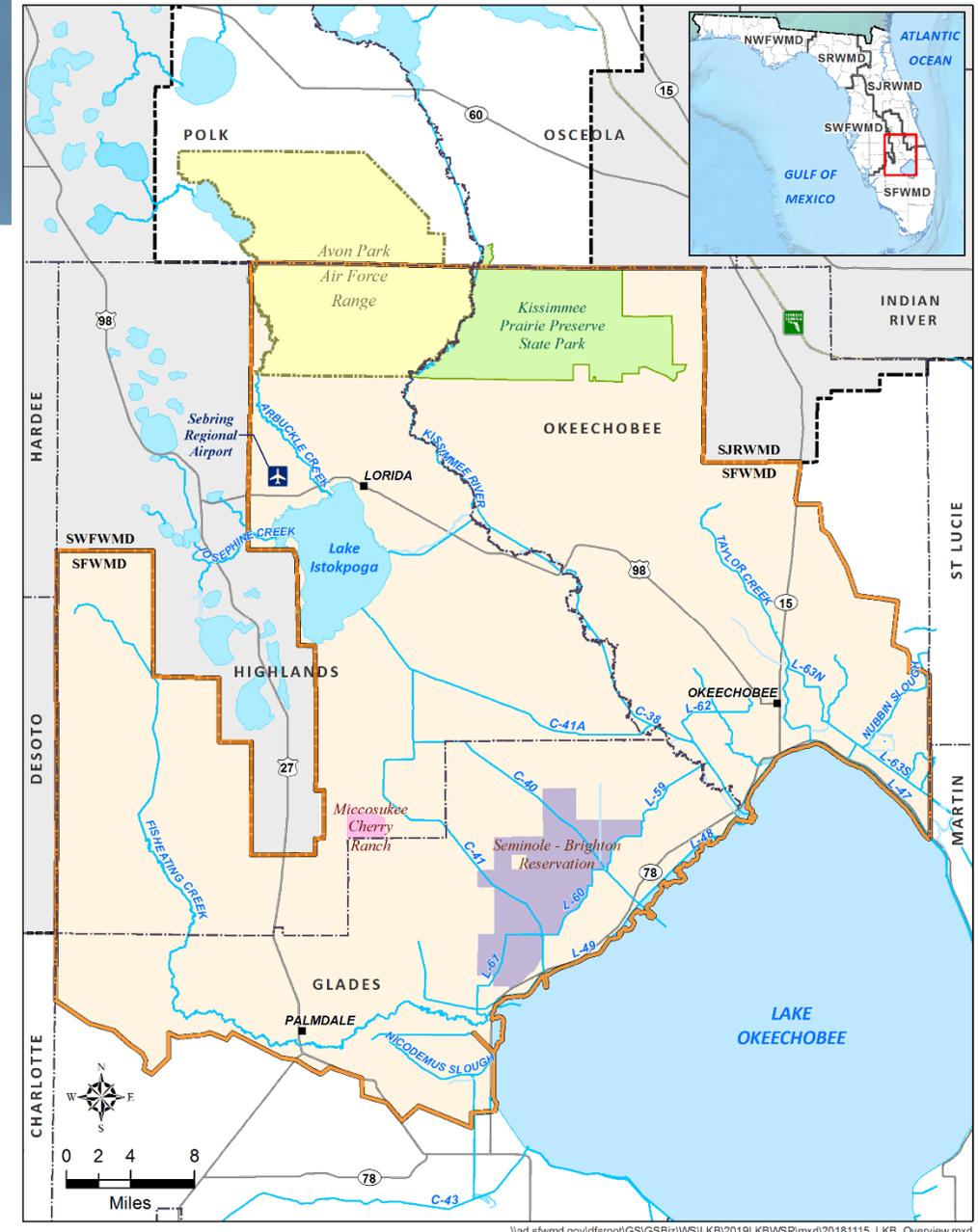
Public Participation



- Governing Board updates
- Two stakeholder workshops
- Discussions with local government, tribal, agricultural, and utility representatives
- Posted draft chapters and an appendix for early review (Ch 1, 2, 3, and App A)
- Full draft LKB document posted online October 14
- Written comments were due November 13

LKB Planning Area

- Portions of Okeechobee, Highlands, and Glades counties and tribal lands
- Major agricultural industry
- Stable population
- Significant environmental features
 - Lake Istokpoga
 - Kissimmee River
 - Fisheating Creek



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Demand Projections

Population (Permanent)*

2022 52,742 residents
 2045 57,508 residents



Irrigated agricultural acres**

2022 103,667 acres
 2045 109,761 acres



	Public Supply	Domestic Self-Supply	Agriculture	Commercial/ Industrial/ Institutional	Landscape/ Recreational	Power Generation	Total
2022	4.14	1.80	211.04	2.34	6.12	0.00	225.44
2045	5.03	1.84	236.15	2.85	14.68	0.00	260.55

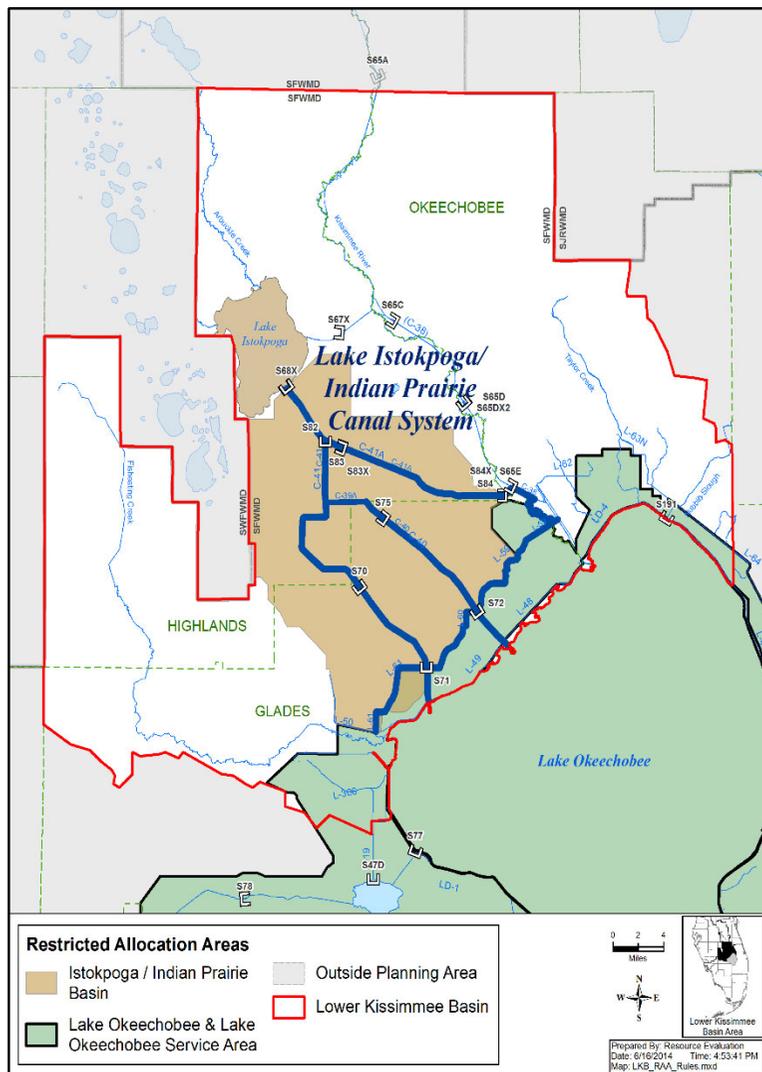
Demands under average rainfall conditions, in million gallons per day

16% increase in total demands

* University of Florida (UF) Bureau of Economic and Business Research estimate (BEBR)

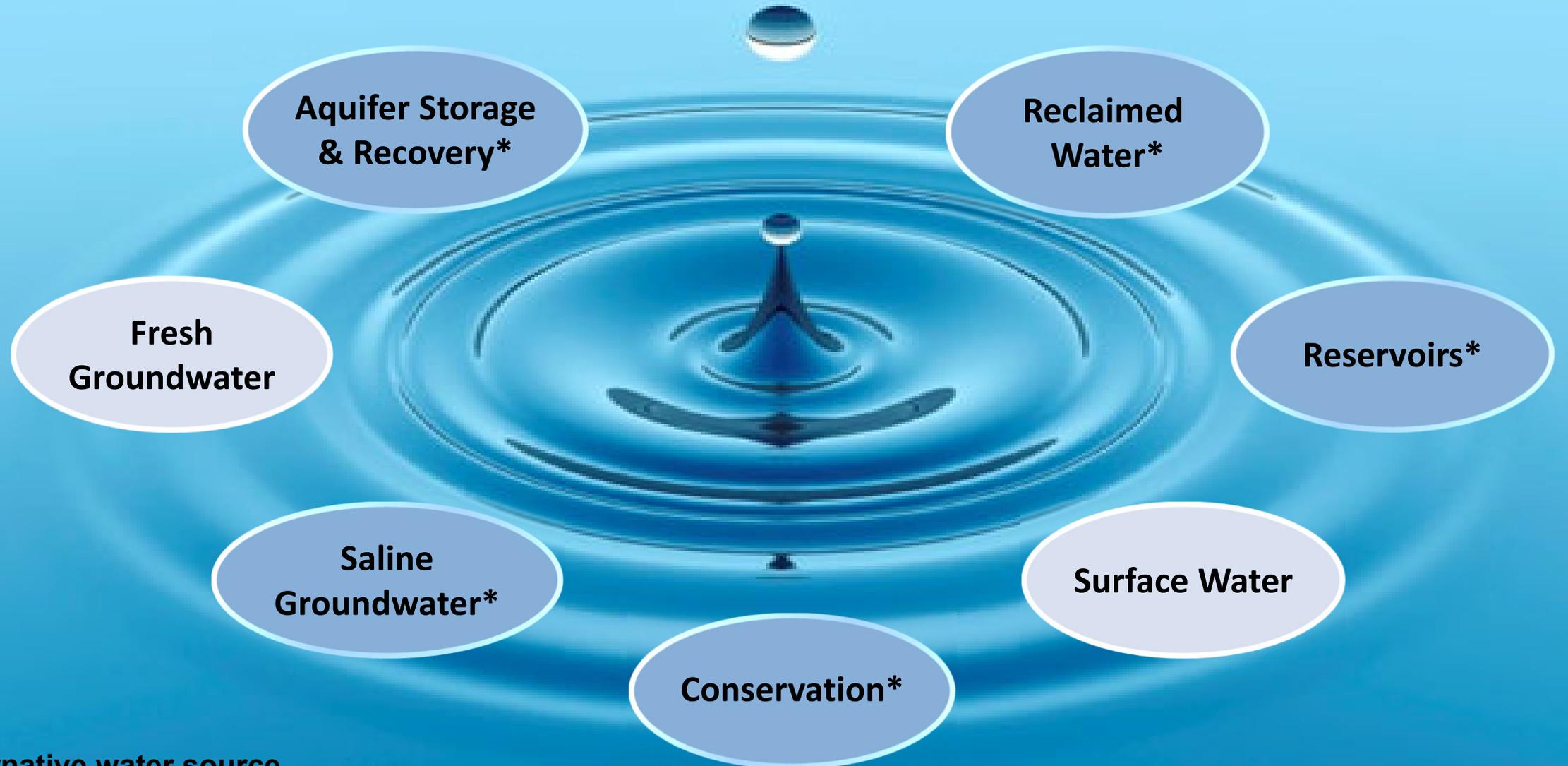
**Florida Statewide Agricultural Irrigation Demand Geodatabase (FSAID) adjusted to reflect projected land use changes in the Third Amendment to the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s 33rd Annual Work Plan.

Water Resource Considerations

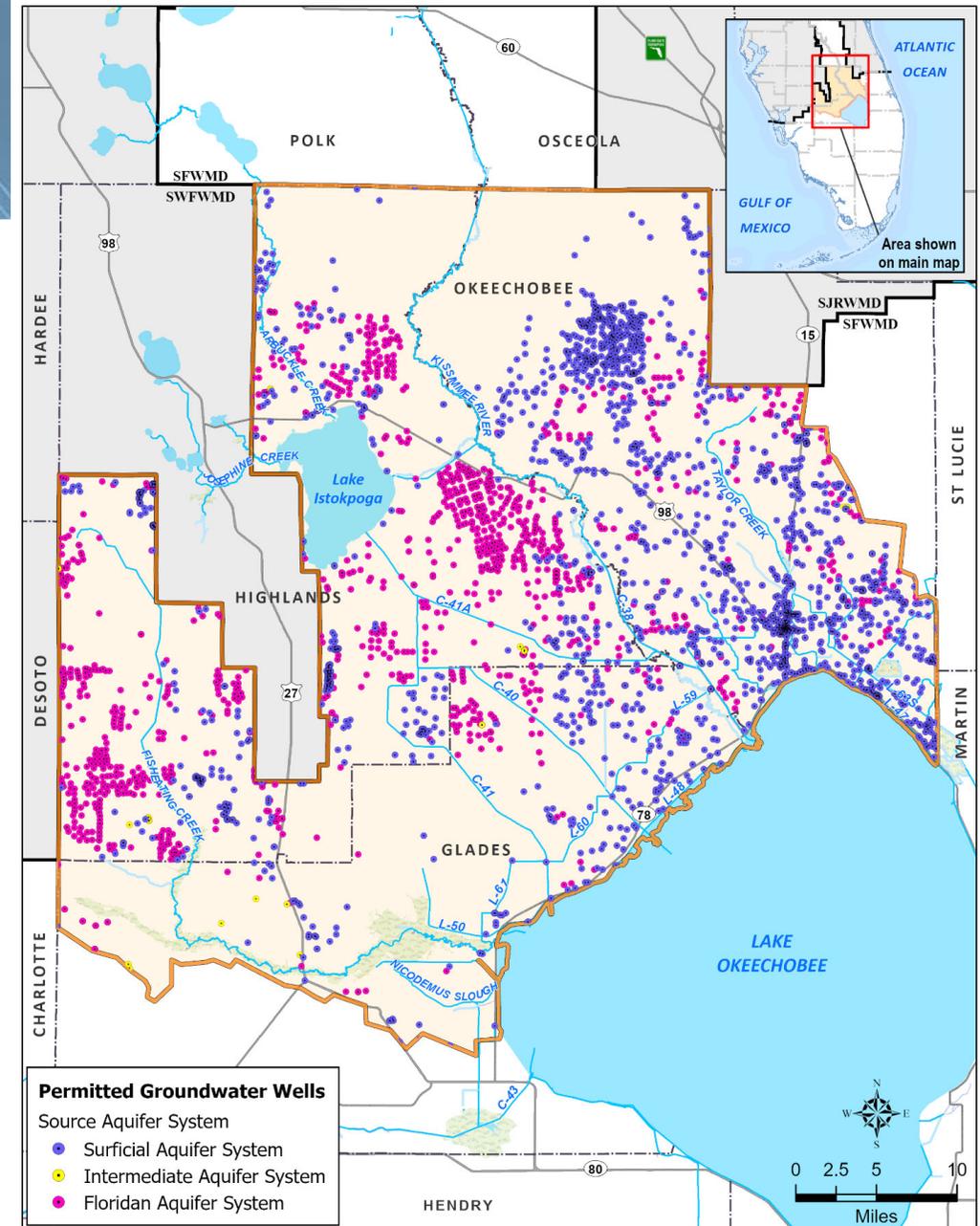
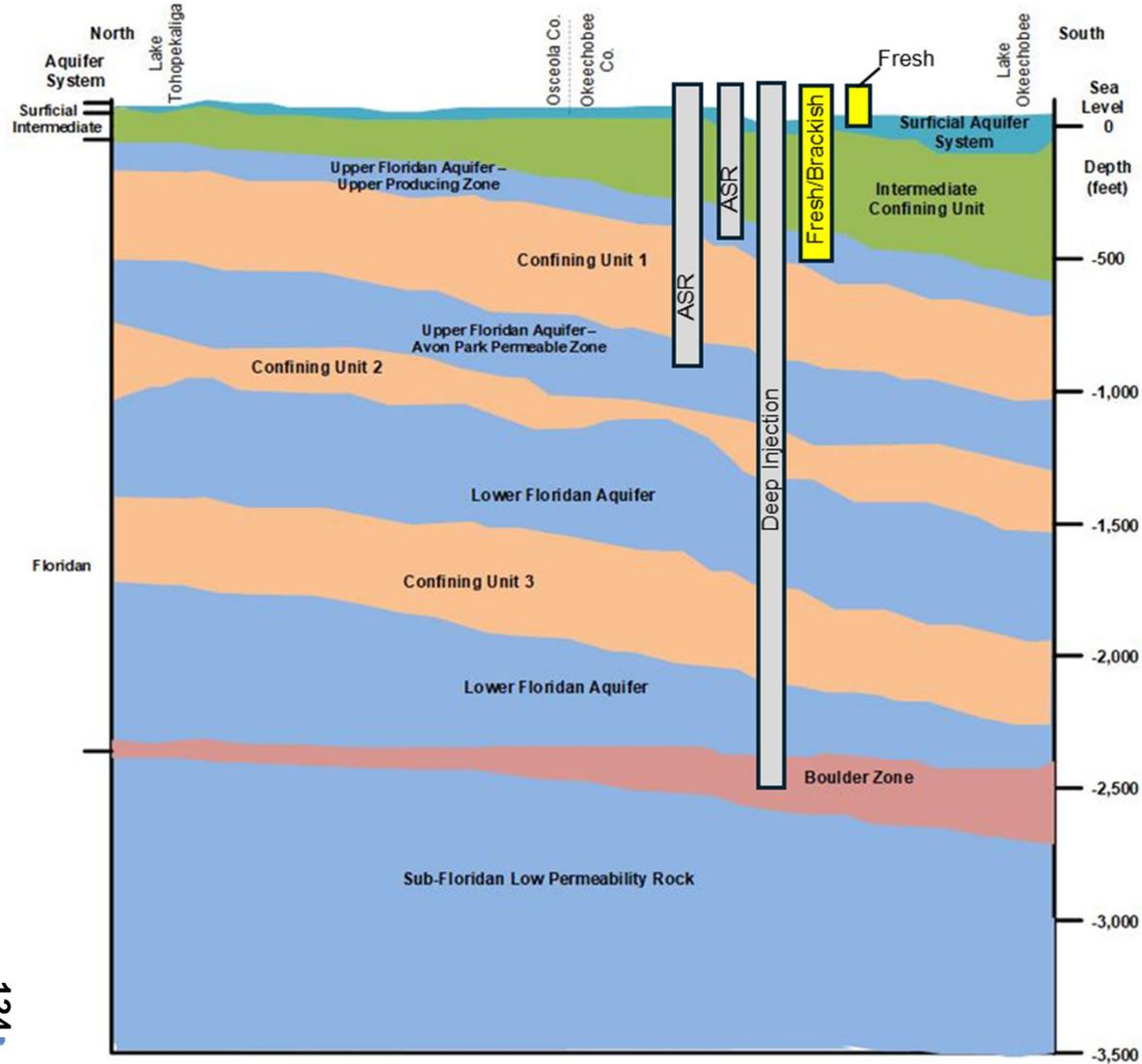


- Limited surface water availability
 - Lake Istokpoga/Indian Prairie Basin
 - Lake Okeechobee and LOSA
 - Kissimmee River and Upper Chain of Lakes water reservations
- Seminole Tribe of Florida Brighton Reservation water rights
- Effects of groundwater withdrawals on Lake Wales Ridge MFL water bodies in SWFWMD
- Impacts of potential changes in weather patterns on agricultural water demands

Water Source Options

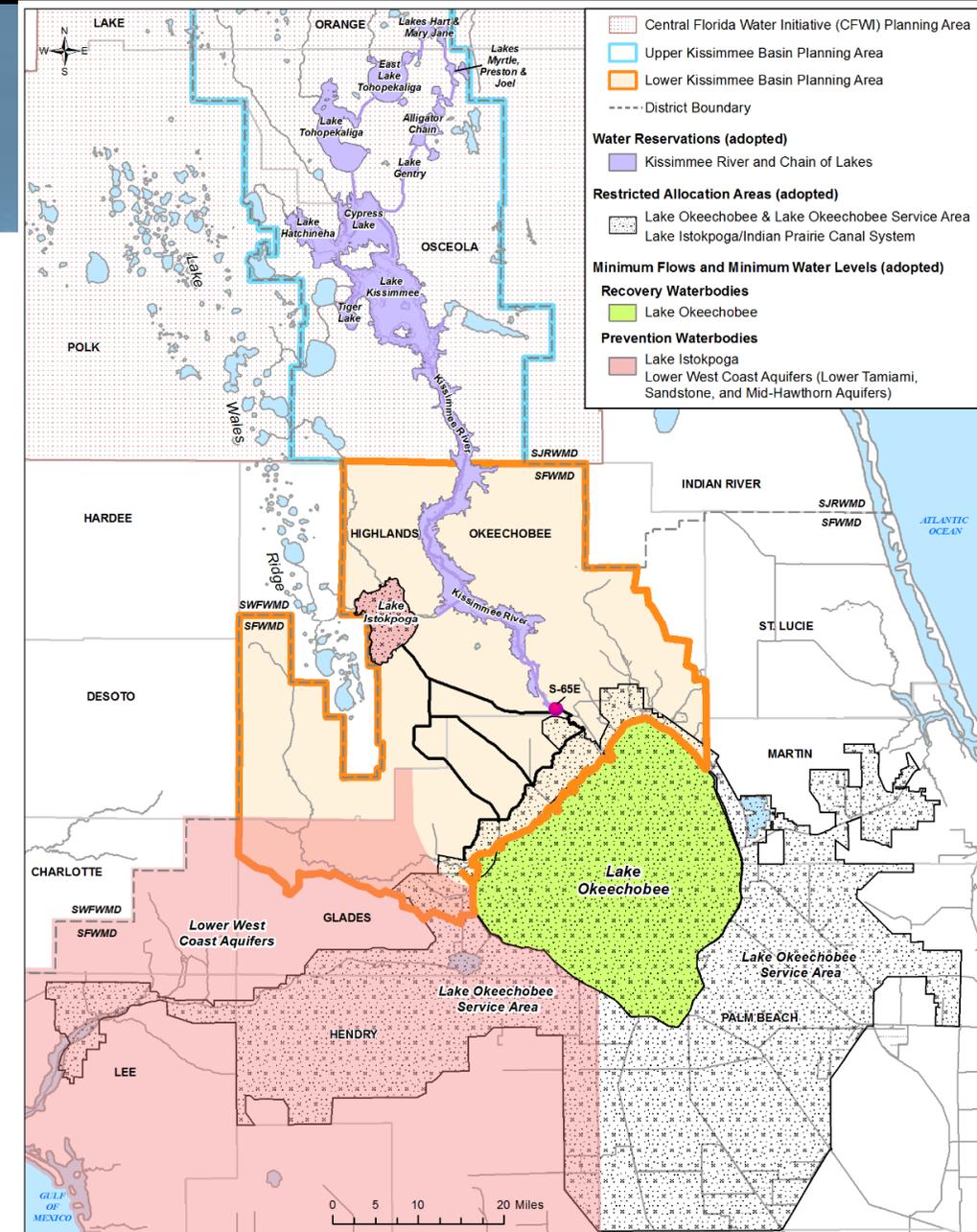


Groundwater Sources



Water Resource Protection

- Water Use Permitting Criteria
- Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels
 - Lake Istokpoga (2006)
 - Lower West Coast Aquifers (2001)
 - Lake Okeechobee (2006)
- Water Reservations
 - Kissimmee River and Chain of Lakes (2021)
- Restricted Allocation Areas
 - Lake Okeechobee Service Area (2008)
 - Lake Istokpoga/Indian Prairie Canal System (1981)



Water Resource Development Projects

- Kissimmee River Restoration Project
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project
- Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir
- Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program
- Dispersed Water Management Program



Kissimmee River Restoration Project (KRRP): Looking north from the south end of the Phase I restoration area.
Source: SFWMD

Written Comments Received on Draft 2024 LKBWSP Update

Stakeholder

- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Seminole Tribe of Florida

Topics

- Recommend rulemaking to align revised Lake Okeechobee regulation schedule [Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)] and the Applicant's Handbook
- Update reasons for Restricted Allocation Area to add "to protect legally existing water users"
- Recognize Seminole Tribe of Florida's water demands are expected to increase through 2045 above 2030 demands contained in the Third Amendment to the Seminole Tribe of Florida's 33rd Annual Work Plan

Plan Conclusion

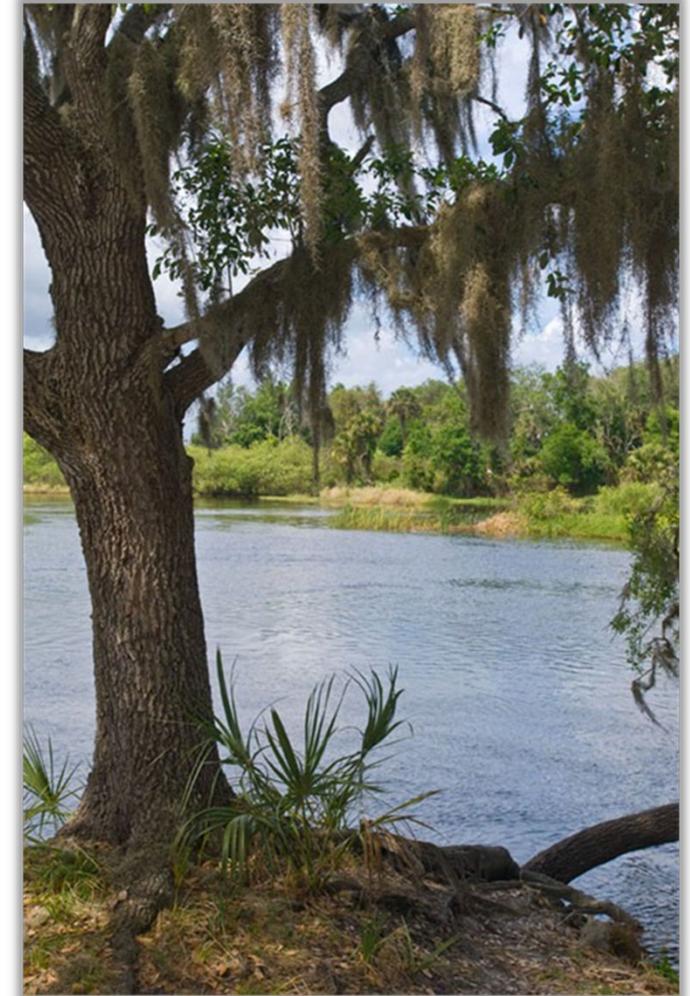
Future water needs of the region can be met through the 2045 planning horizon with appropriate management and conservation.



Regional and Local Planning Linkage

After the District Governing Board approves the water supply plan update:

- All local governments must amend their Comprehensive Plan to update their Water Supply Facilities Work Plan within 18 months of the plan update's approval
- Utilities identify the projects to be developed



Staff Recommendation



Enter a Final Order approving the
2024 Lower Kissimmee Basin Water
Supply Plan Update

Water and Ecological Conditions Summary

South Florida Water Management District Governing Board Meeting December 12, 2024

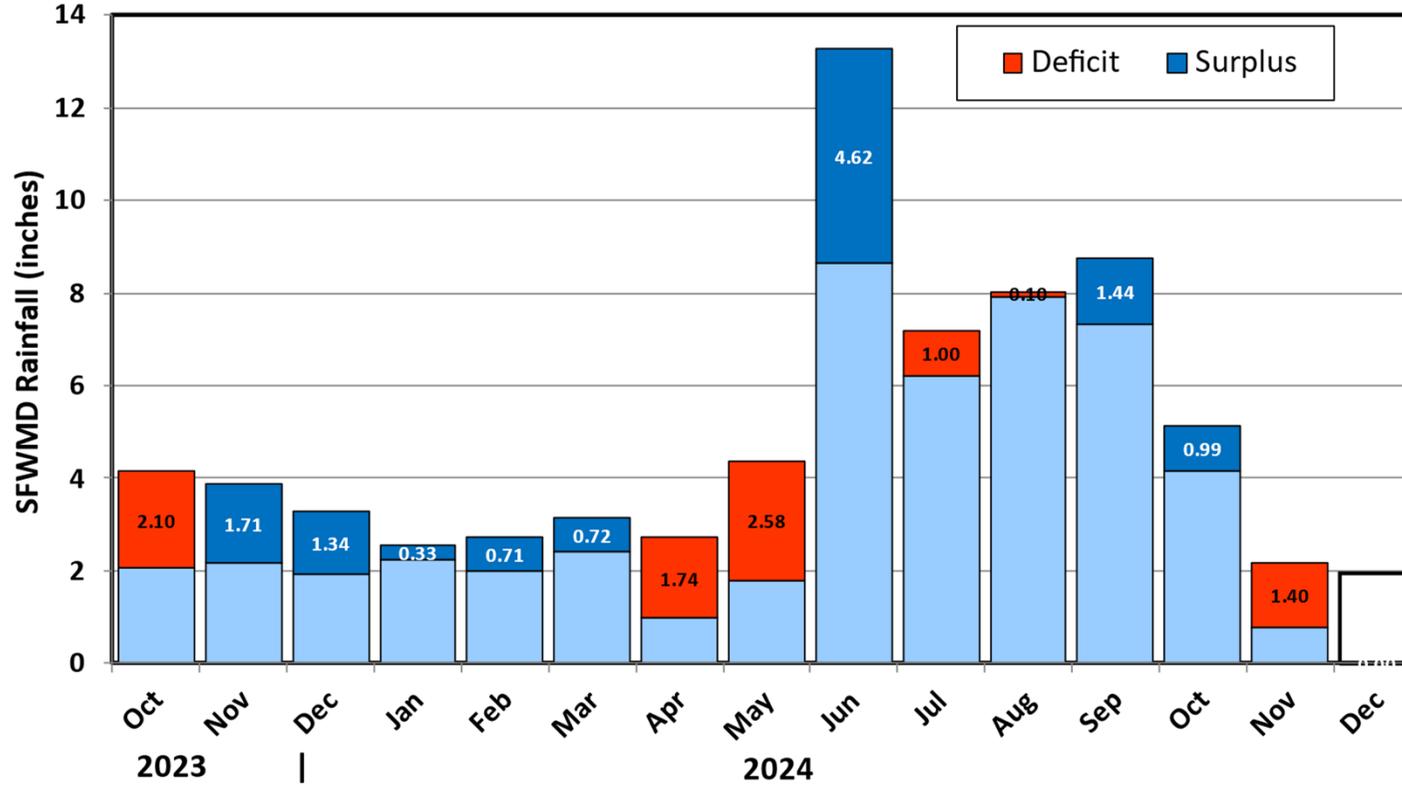


John P. Mitnik, PE
Chief District Engineer
Assistant Executive Director



Lawrence Glenn
Division Director
Water Resources

SFWMD Rainfall Distribution Comparison (October 2023 - December 2024)



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

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

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

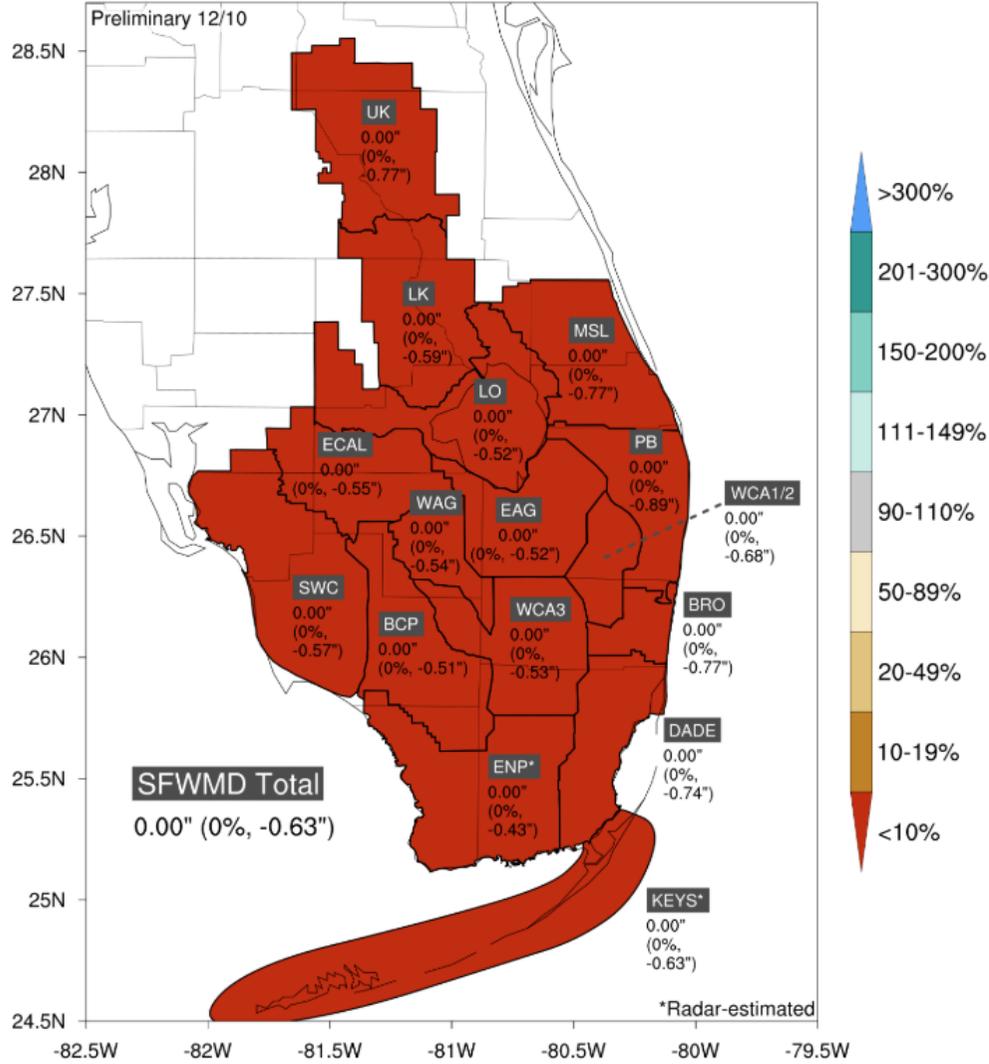
2024 WET SEASON

- 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

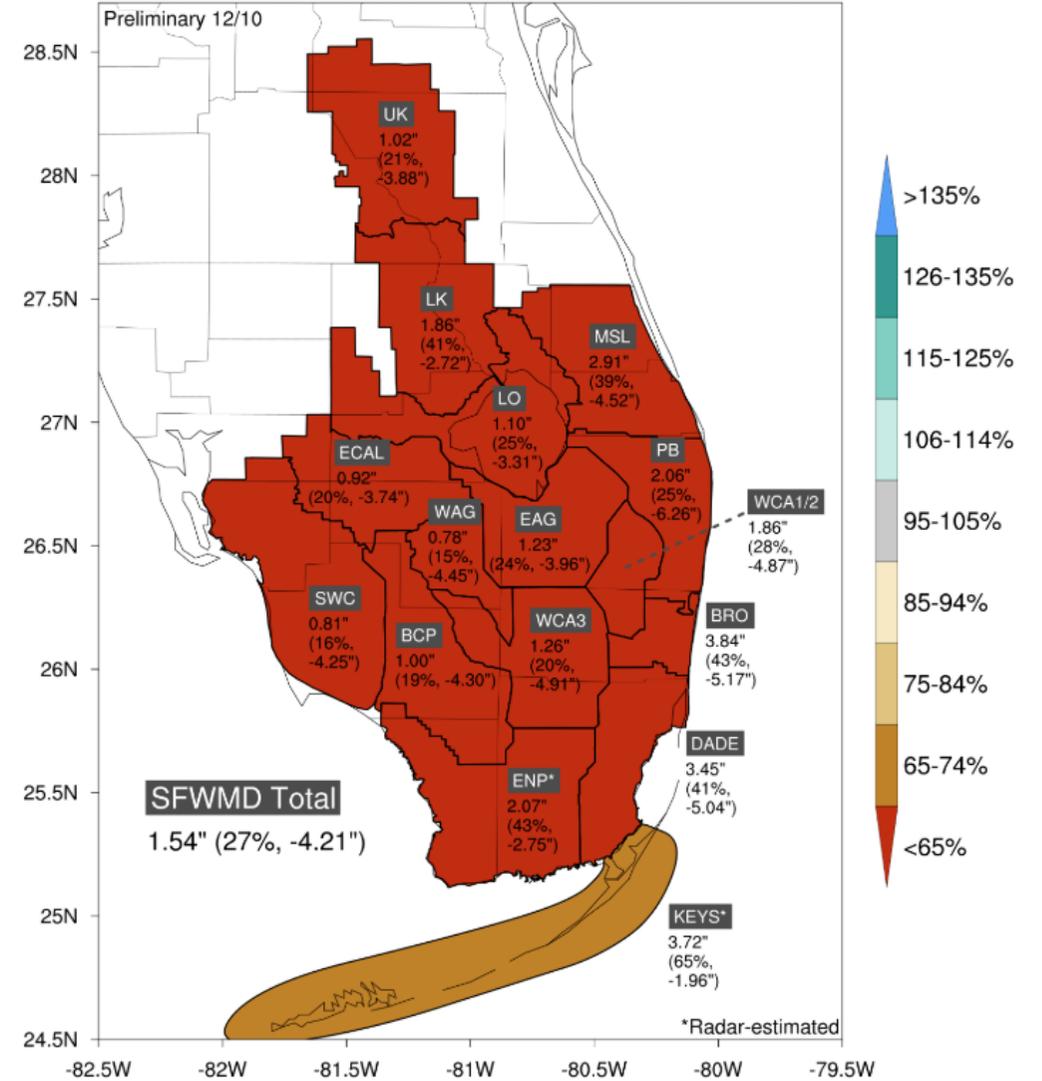
2024-2025 DRY SEASON

- Total rainfall 27% of normal (10 Oct – Present)
- October is 120% of Normal
- November was extremely dry
- La Niña favored to develop during October-December

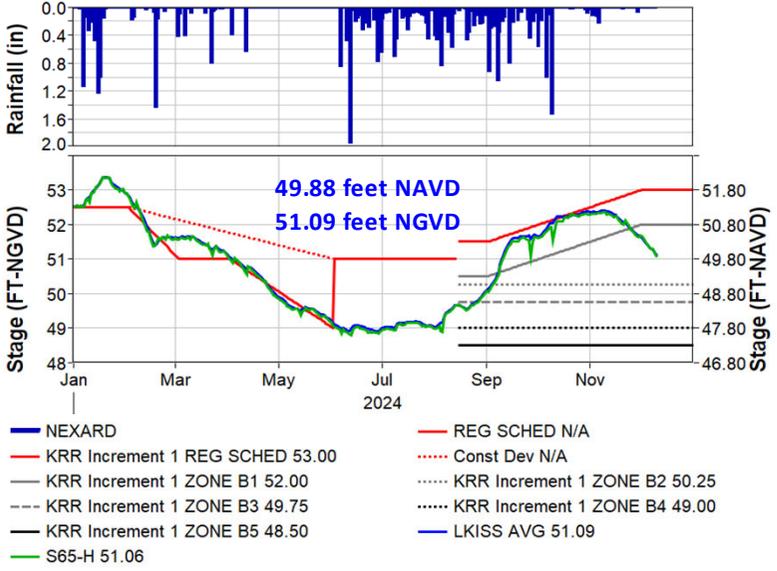
December 2024 (12/1/24 to 12/10/24)
 Rainfall, Percent of Normal, and Departures



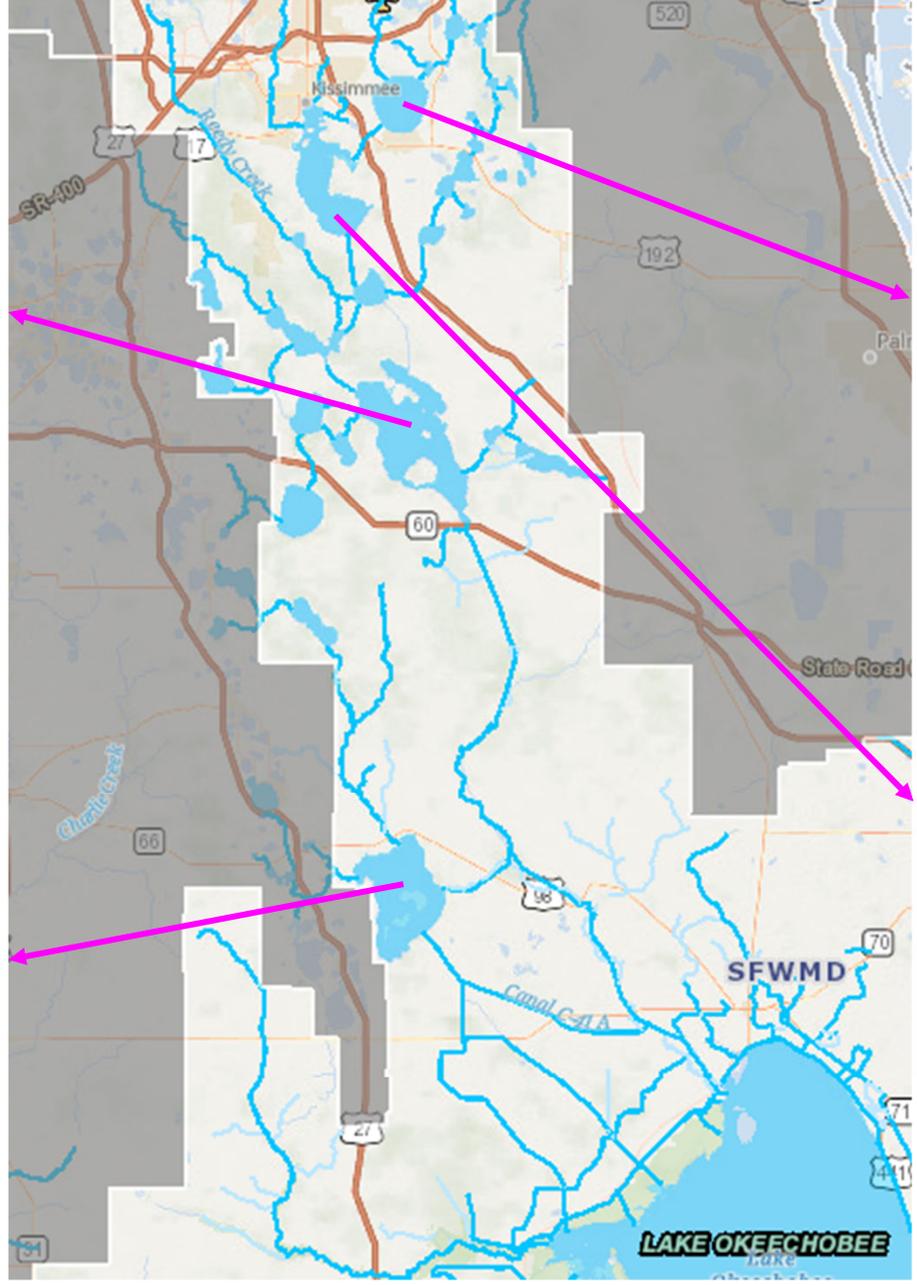
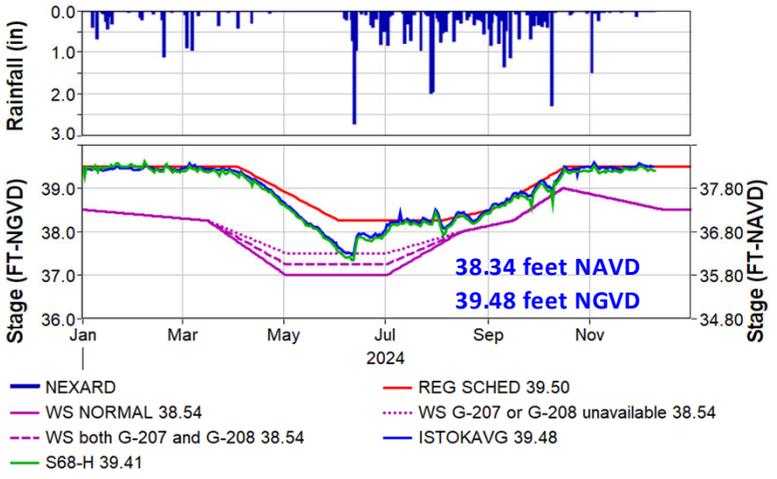
2024-2025 Dynamic Dry Season (10/10/24 to 12/10/24)
 Rainfall, Percent of Normal, and Departures



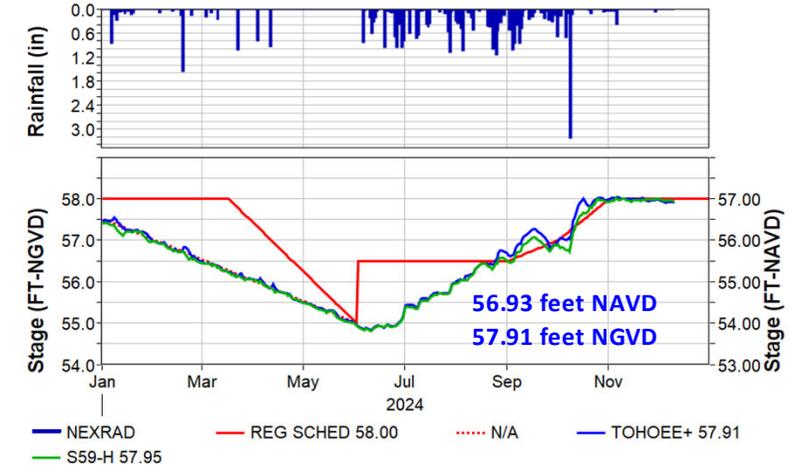
Lake Kissimmee (10 December 2024)



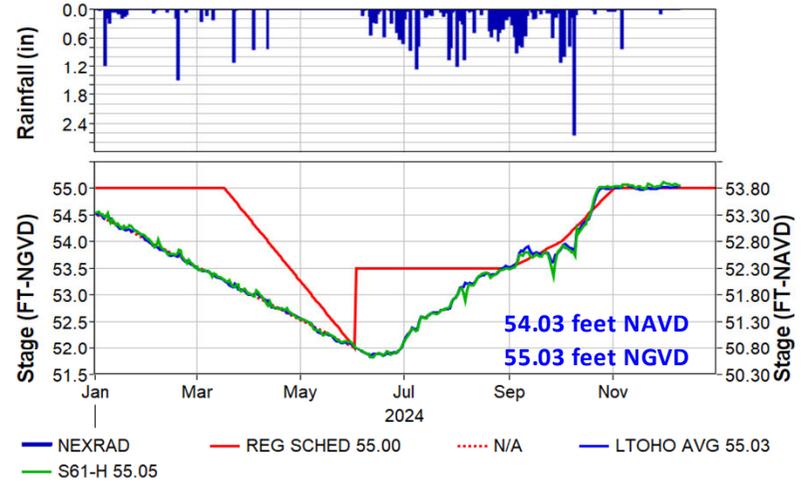
Lake Istokpoga (10 December 2024)



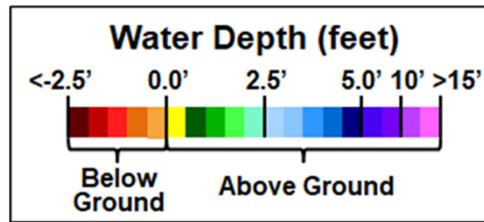
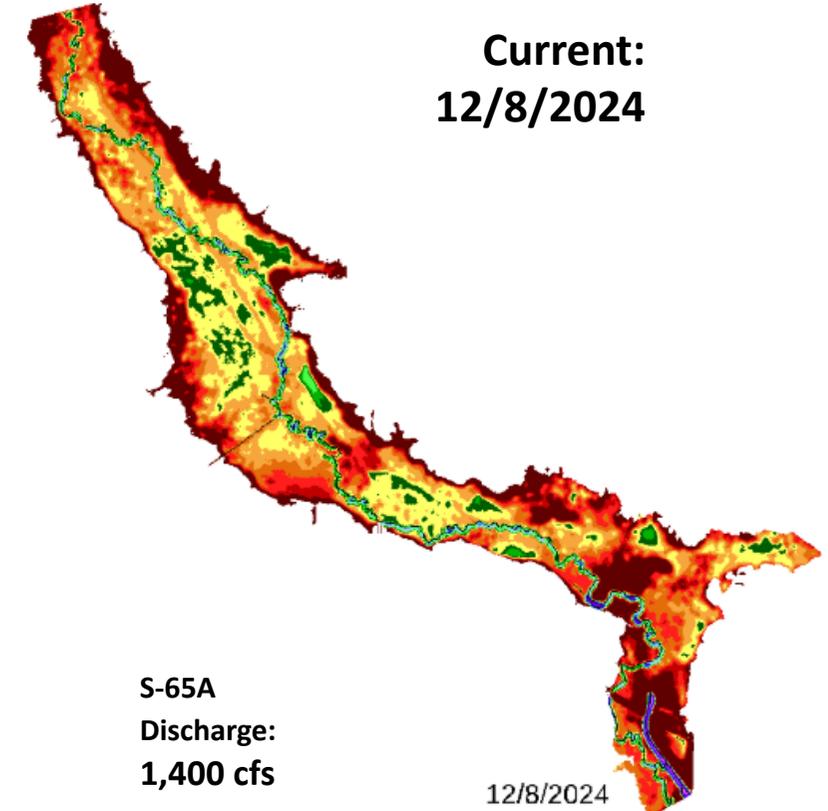
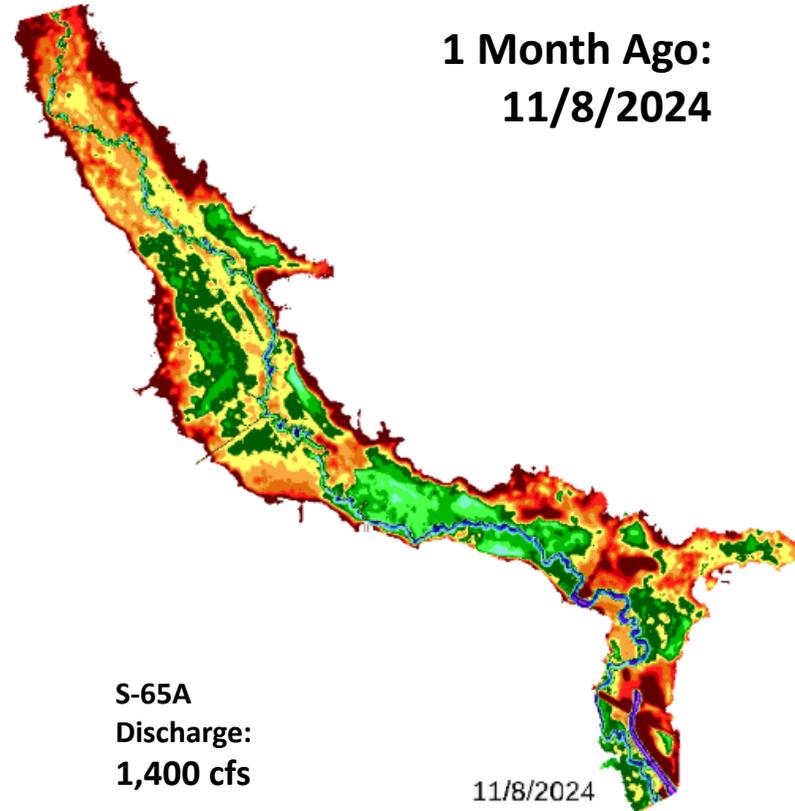
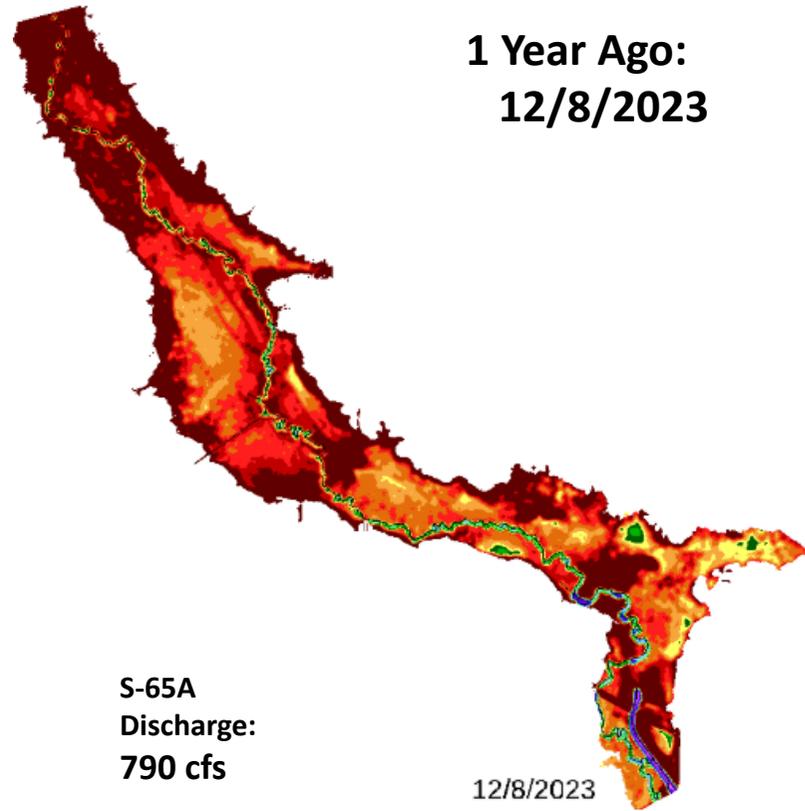
Lake East Tohopekaliga (10 December 2024)



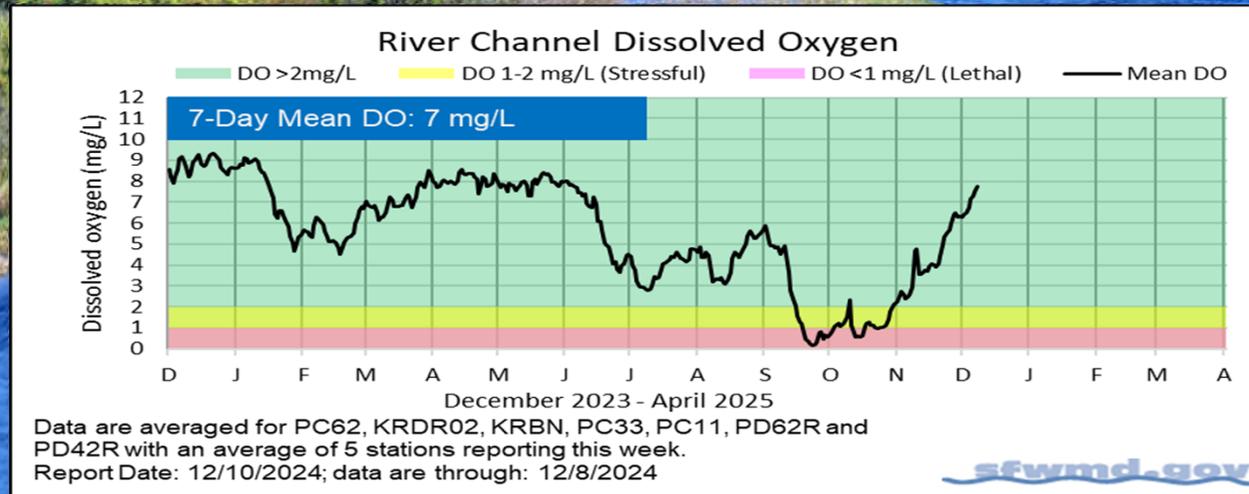
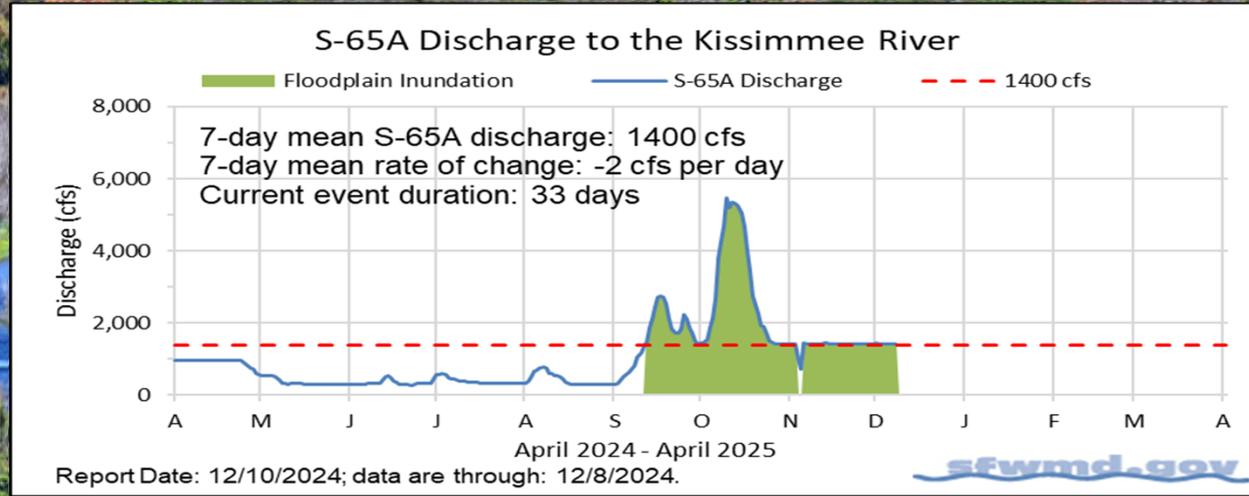
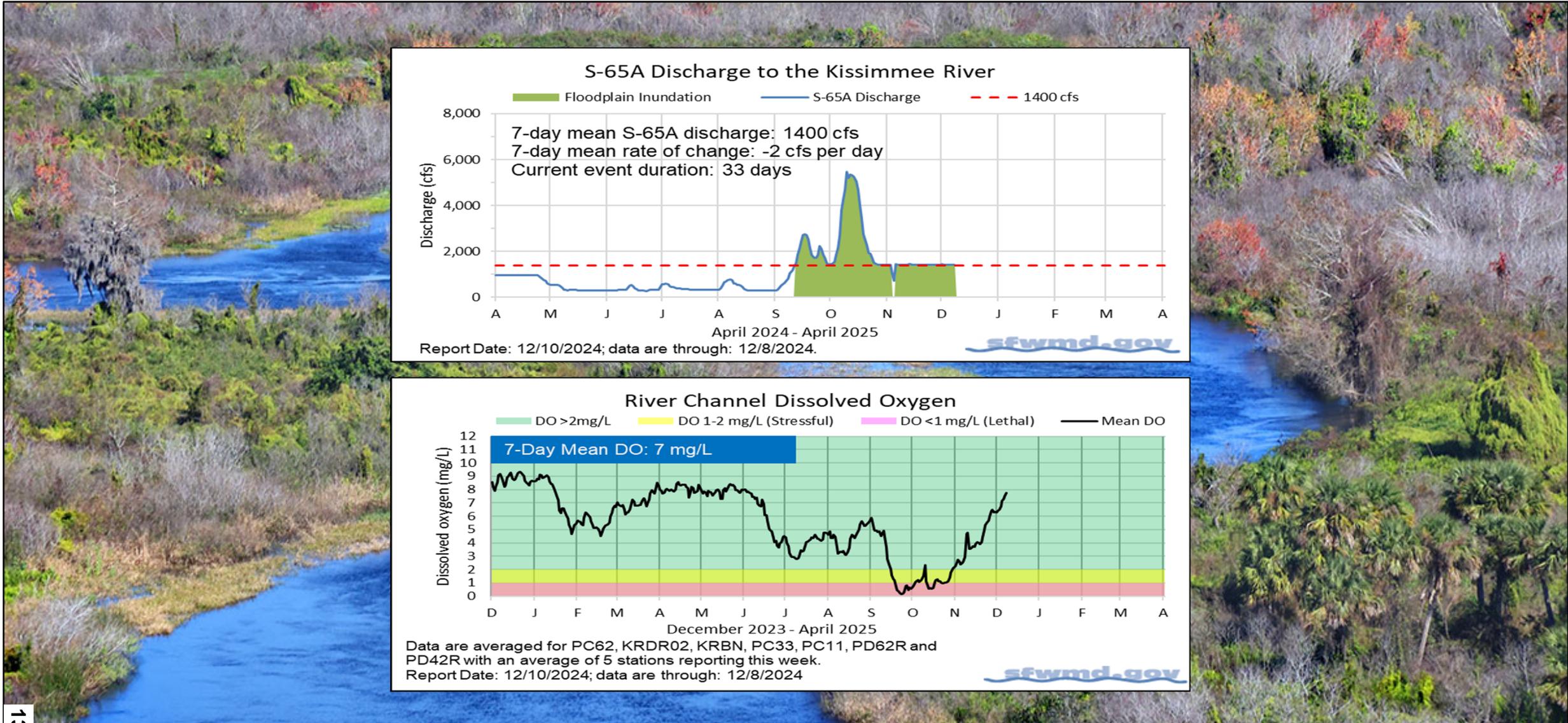
Lake Tohopekaliga (10 December 2024)

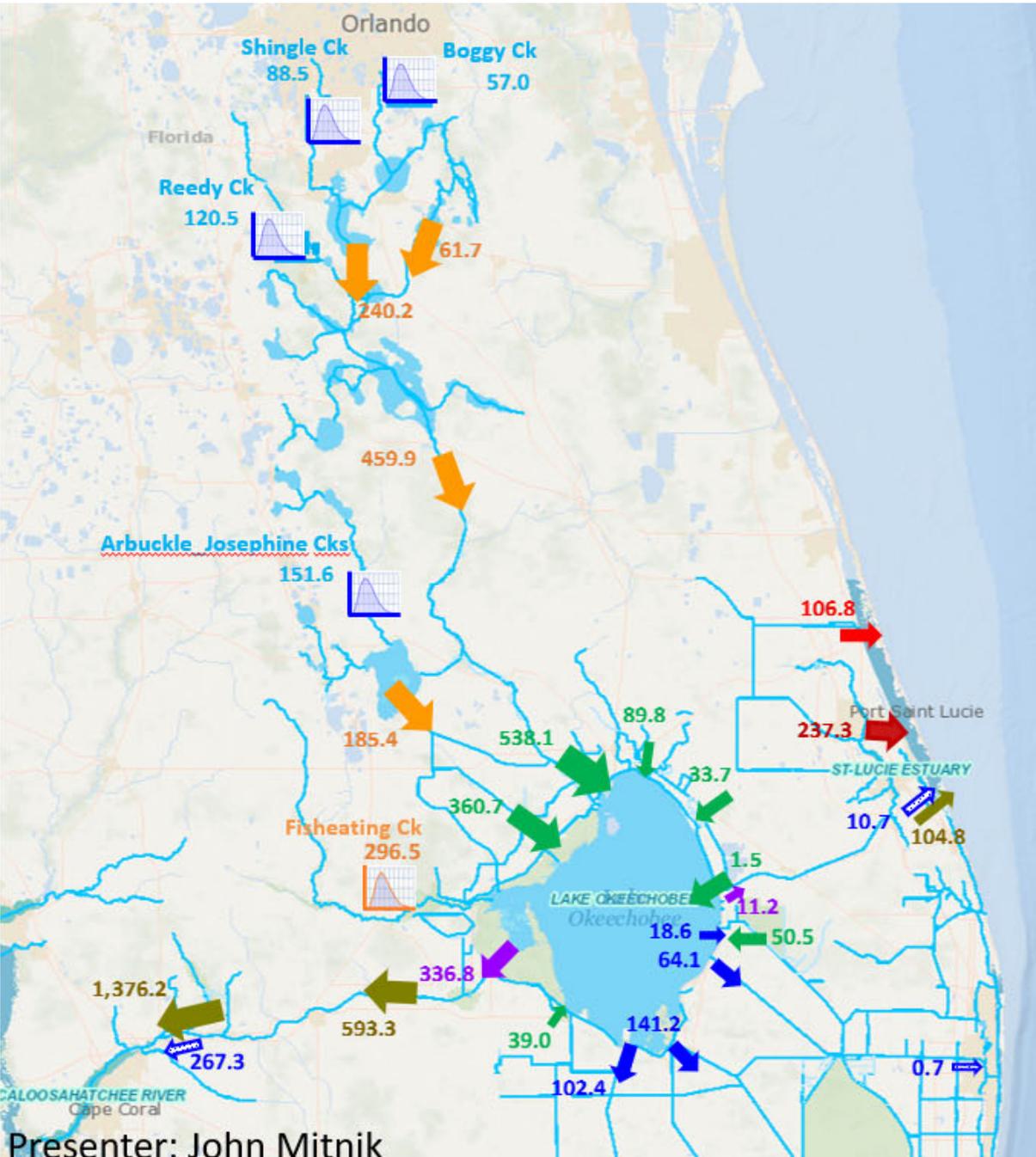


Kissimmee River Floodplain Inundation



Kissimmee River Discharge and Dissolved Oxygen



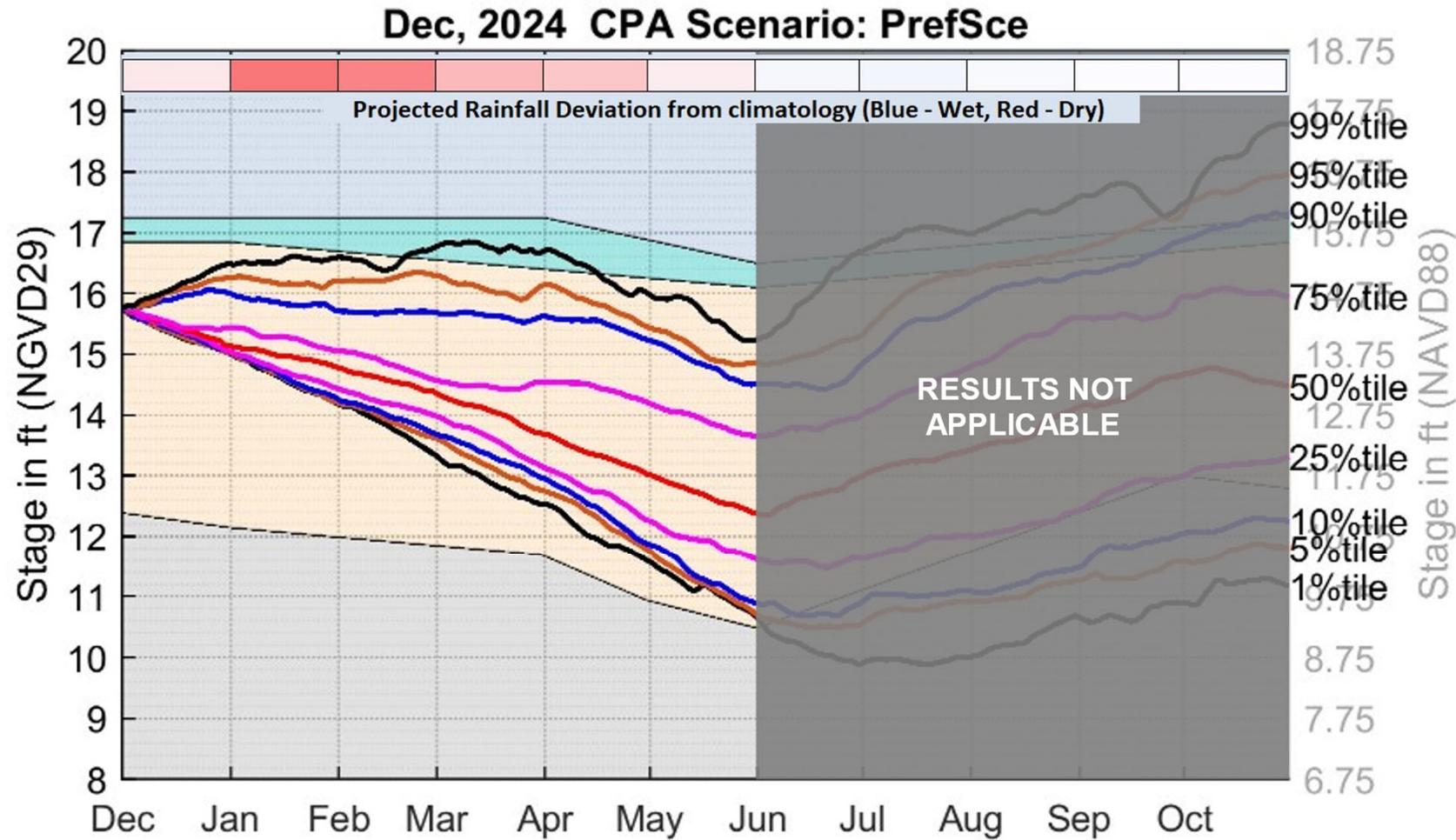


SFWMD – Selected Release Volumes for the Period May 1, 2024 to December 10, 2024
(volumes in 1,000 acre-feet)

Symbol	Description	Volume (1,000 acre- feet)	
		WYR 2025	Last Month
	Upper Kissimmee to Lower Kissimmee	459.9	81.7
	Inflows to Lake Okeechobee (including Fisheating Creek)	1,409.7	97.0
	Lake Releases and Basin Runoff	1,481.0	136.1
	Lake Releases East and West	348.0	109.0
	Lake Flood Control to Estuaries	278.0	95.8
	Total Lake Releases South	326.3	85.4
	Releases to Indian River Lagoon	106.8	3.2
	Upper East Coast discharges to St. Lucie Estuary	237.3	4.9
	Uncontrolled flows - Creeks (does not include Fisheating Creek)	417.6	33.4

1,000 acre-feet = 325.9 Million Gallons

Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) LOK under LOSOM RO

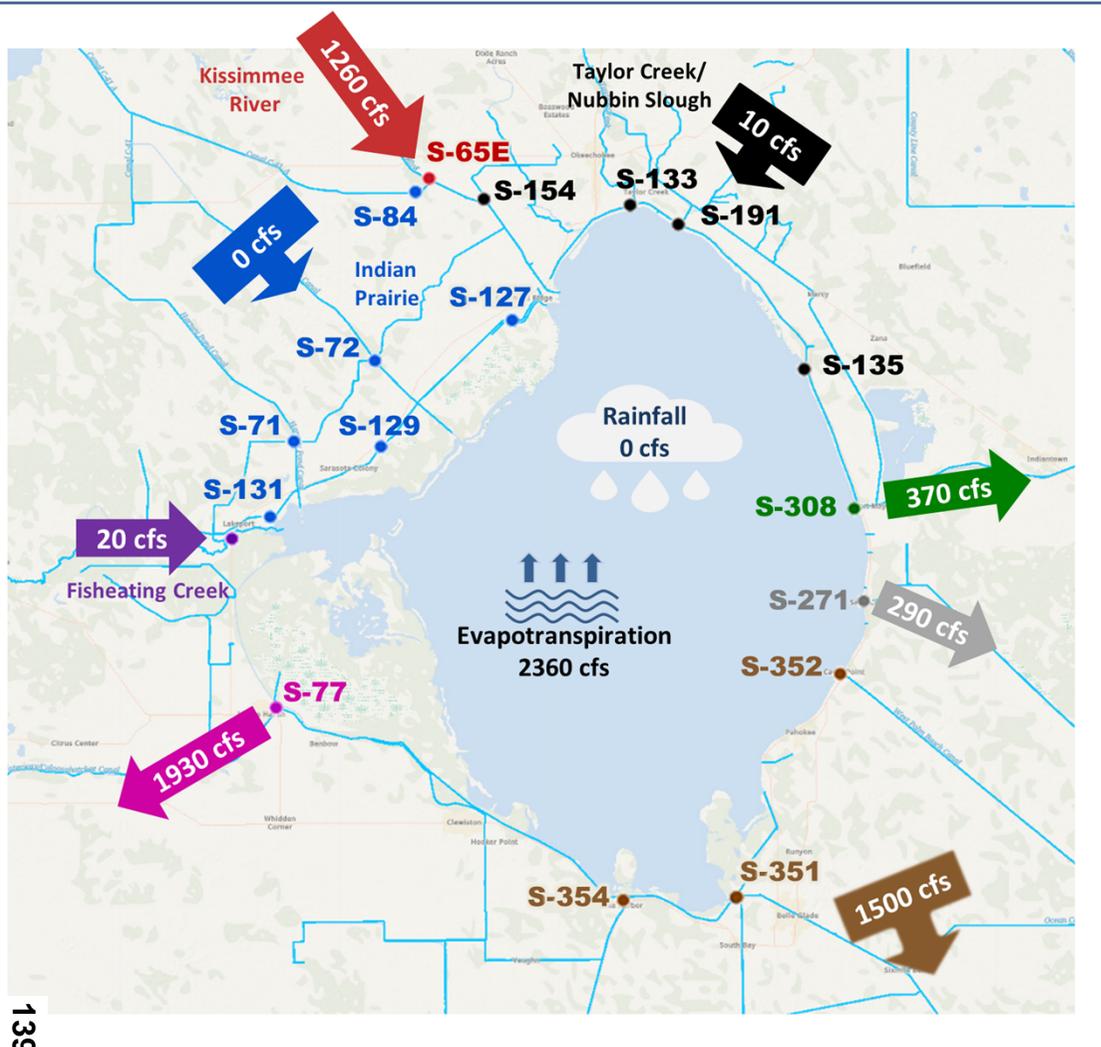


- Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) improves DPA predicted stages by taking into account the anticipated rainfall conditions.
- Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) is a stochastic technique that utilizes robust and well-established approaches, such as Monte Carlo simulation and NonLinear Programming,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

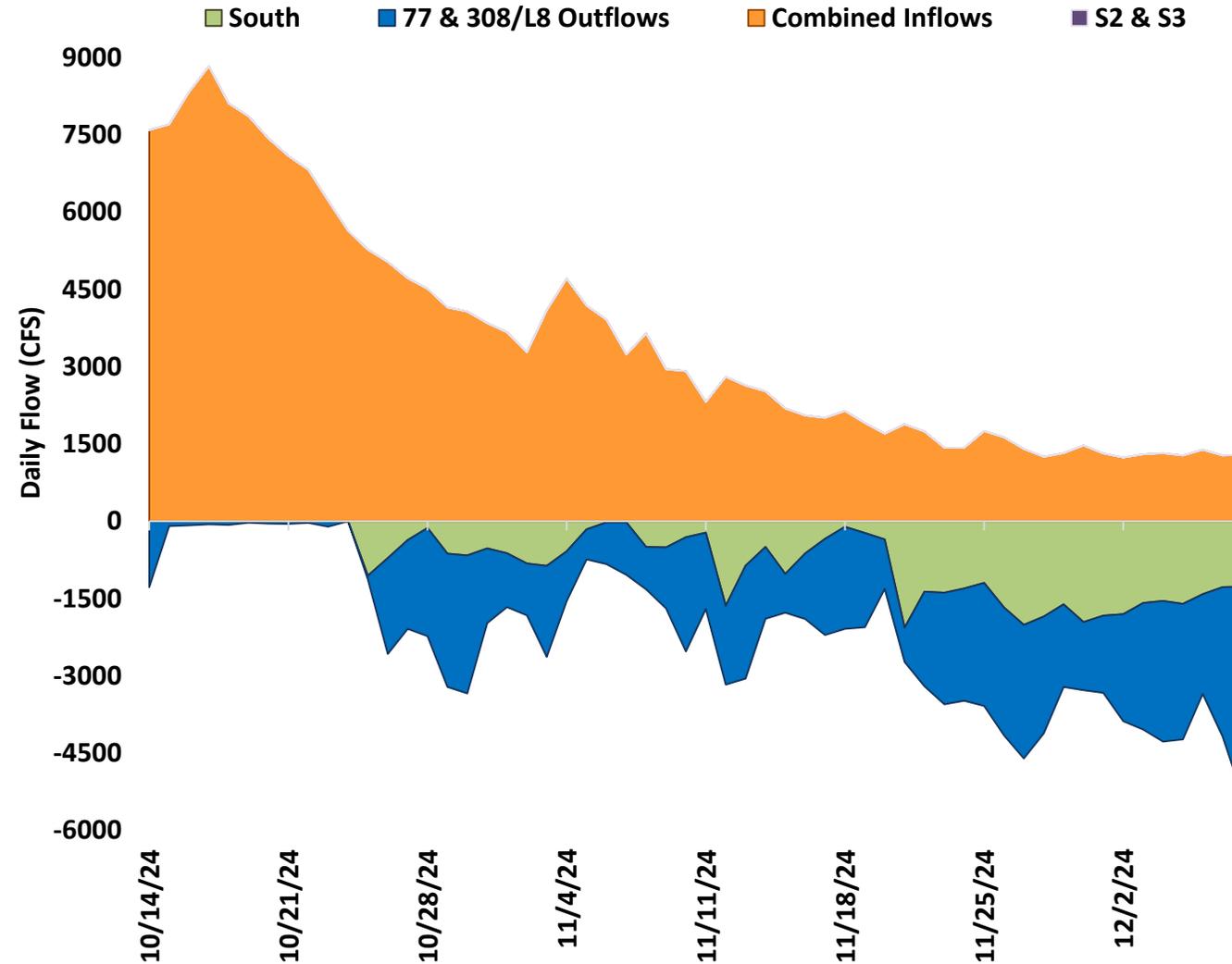
Lake Okeechobee Hydrology

(*Provisional Data)

Dec 02 - 08, 2024 Inflows and Outflows

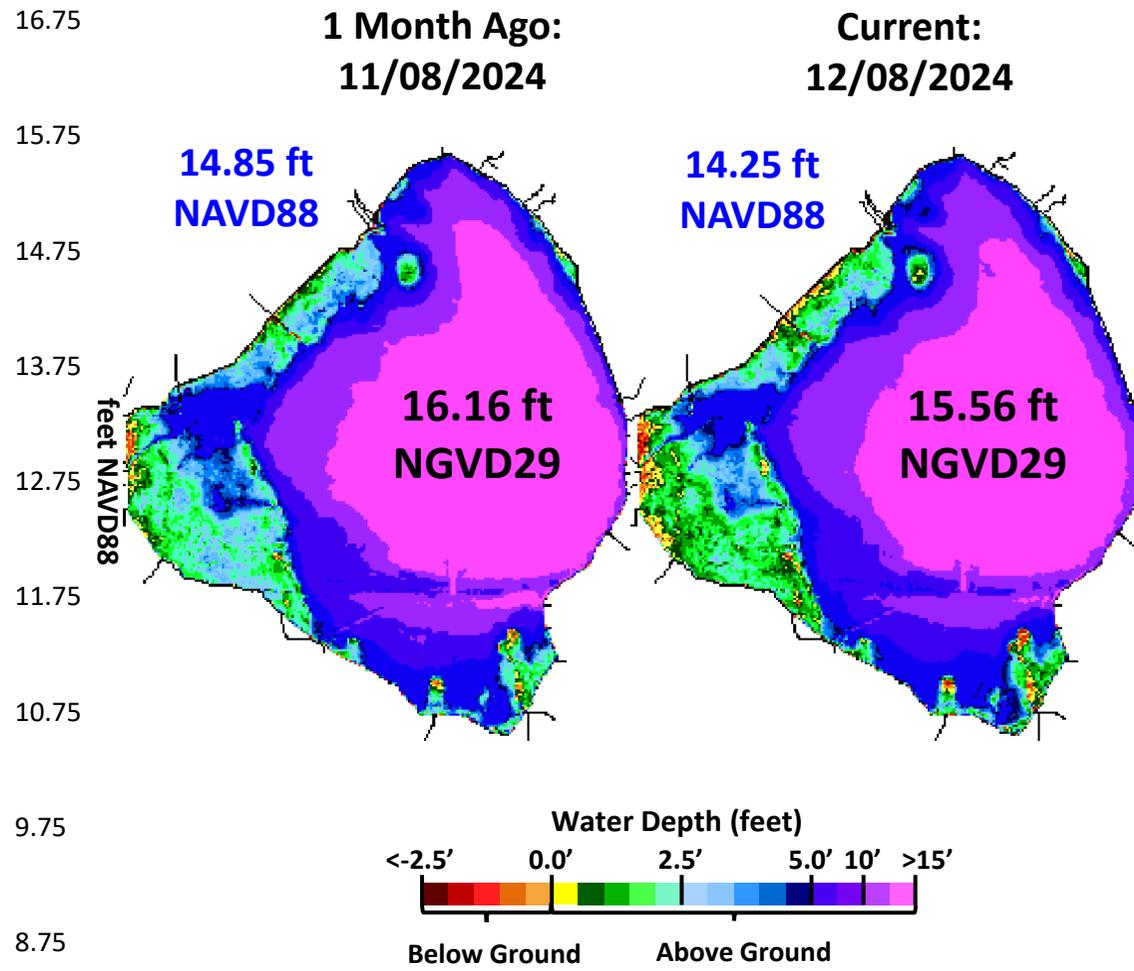
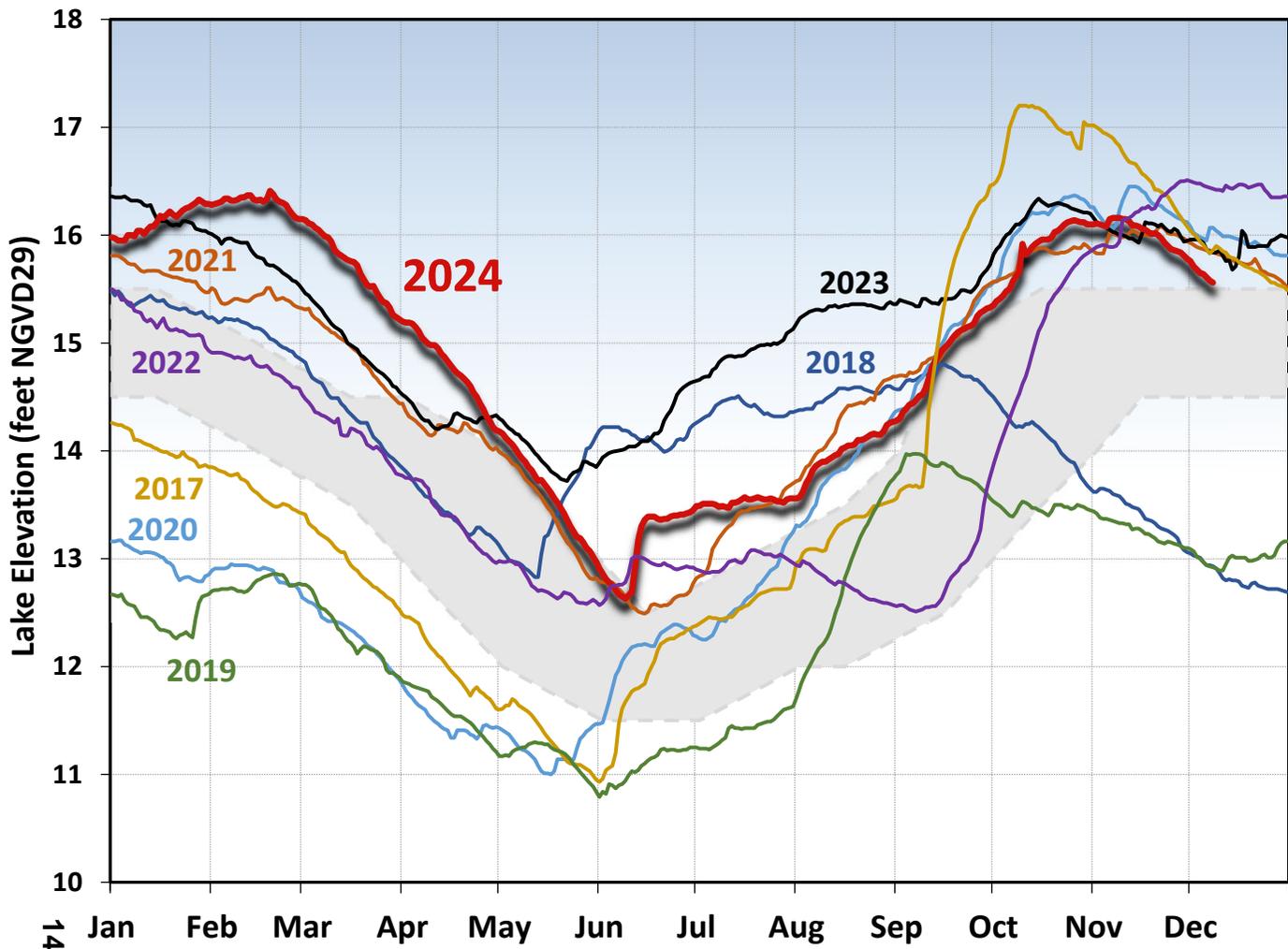


Prior 8 Weeks Inflows and Outflows



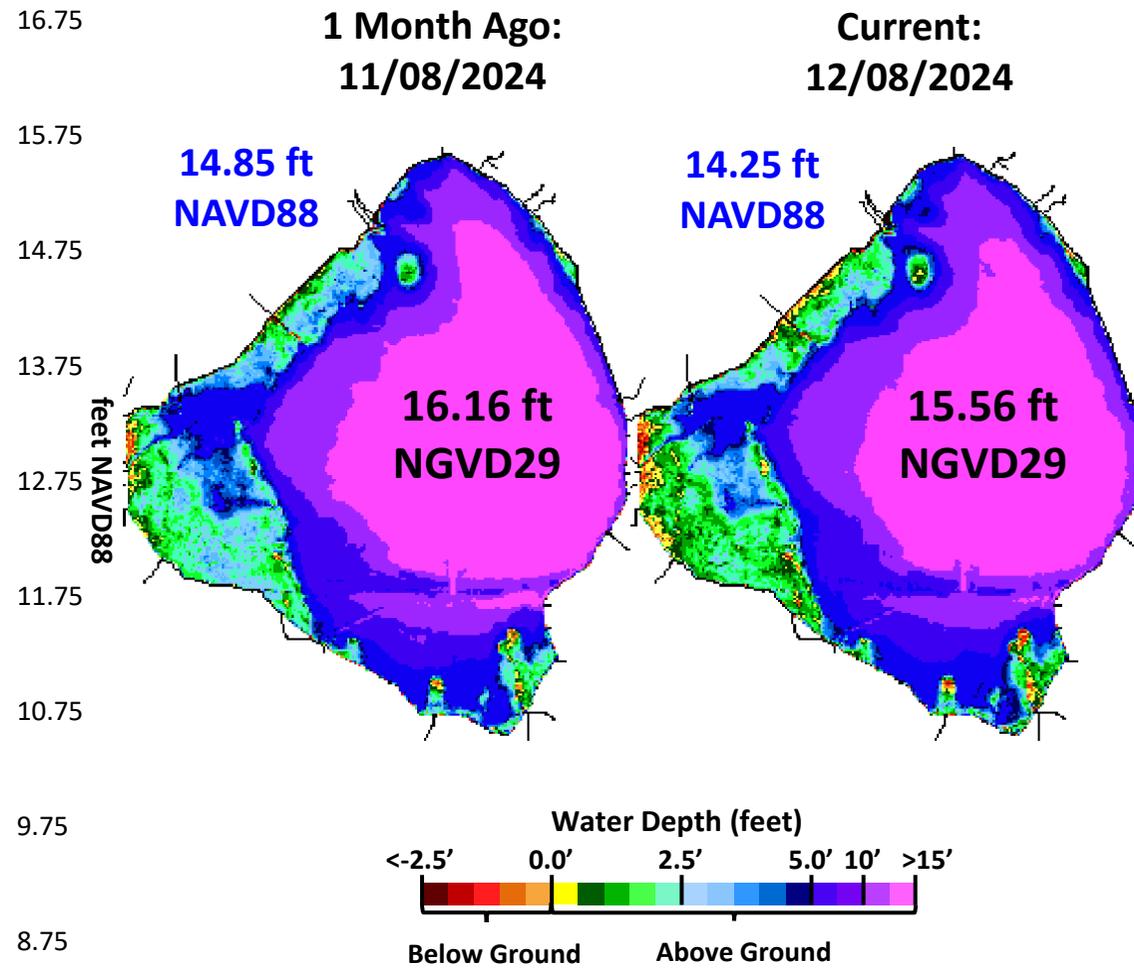
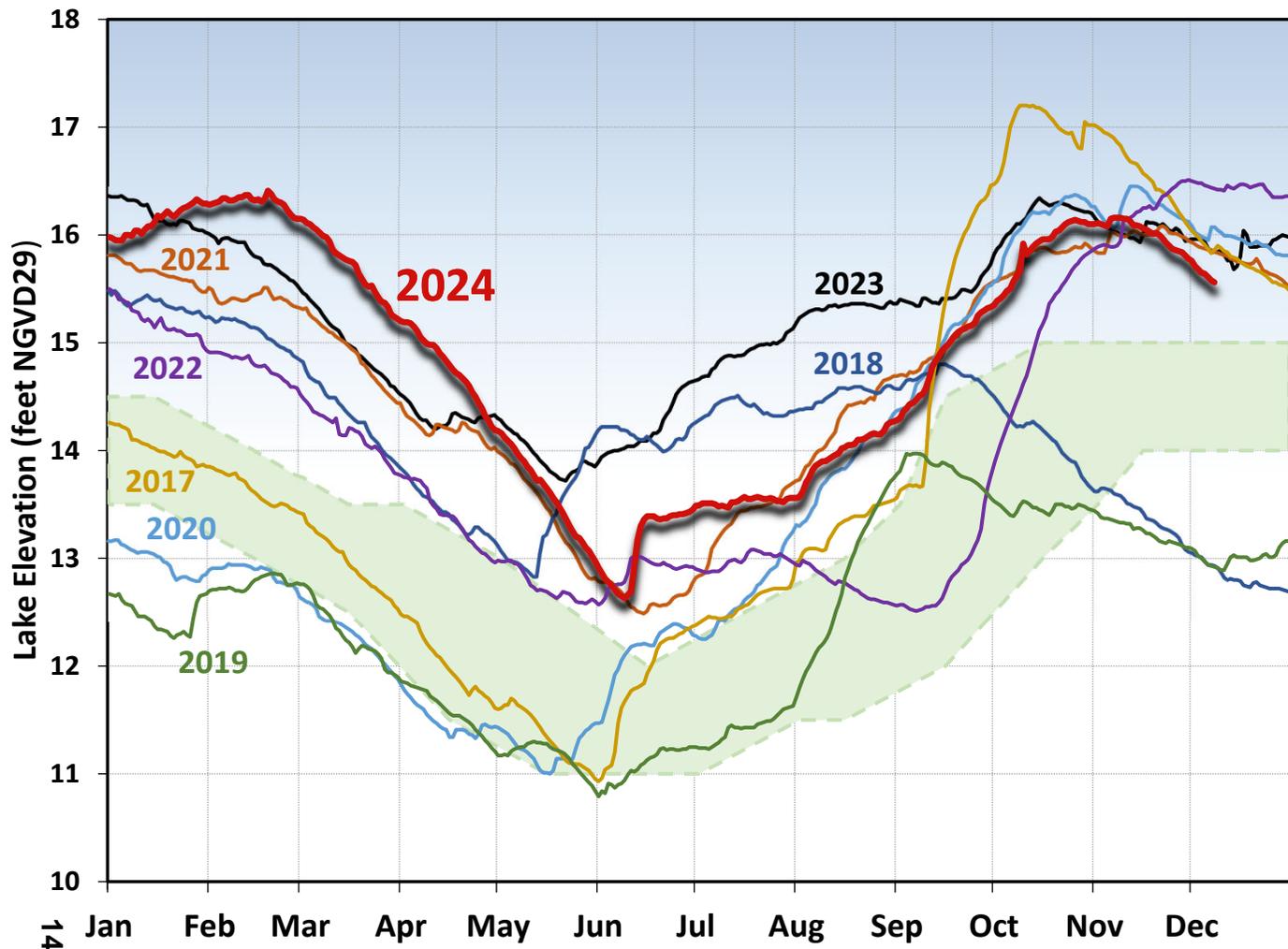
Ecological Envelope and Water Depths

Lake Okeechobee Stage vs Ecological Envelope



Ecological Envelope and Water Depths

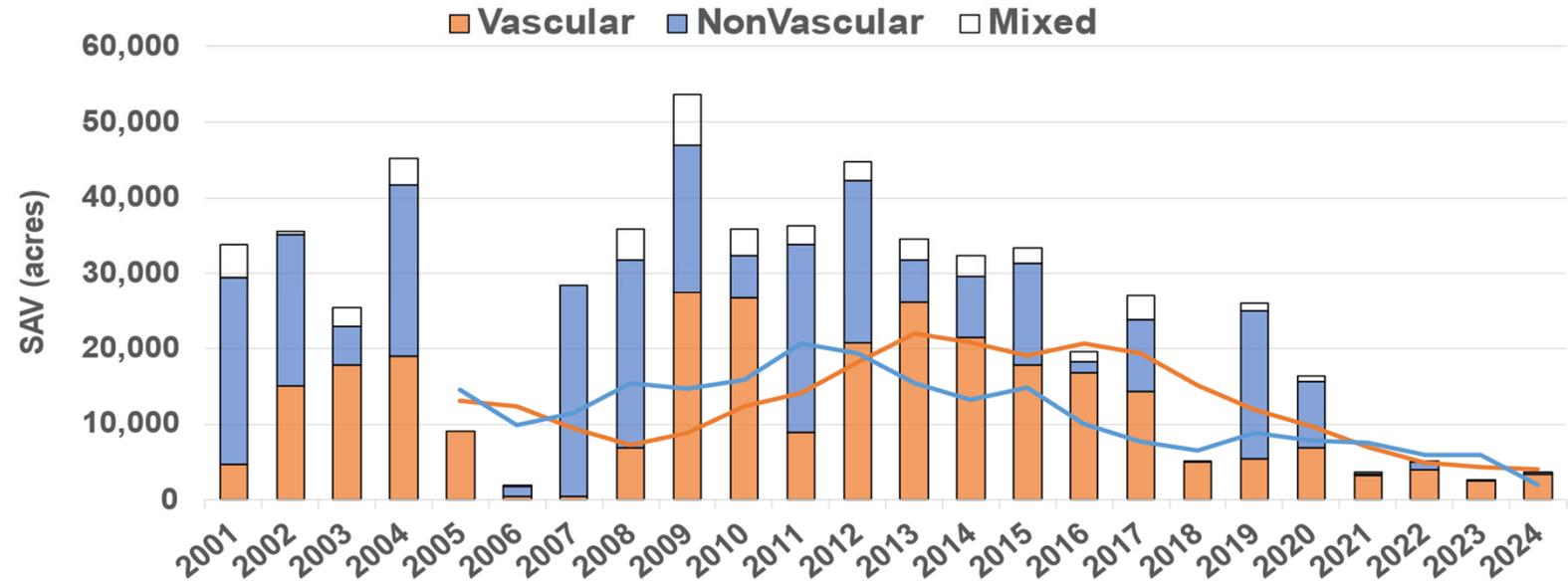
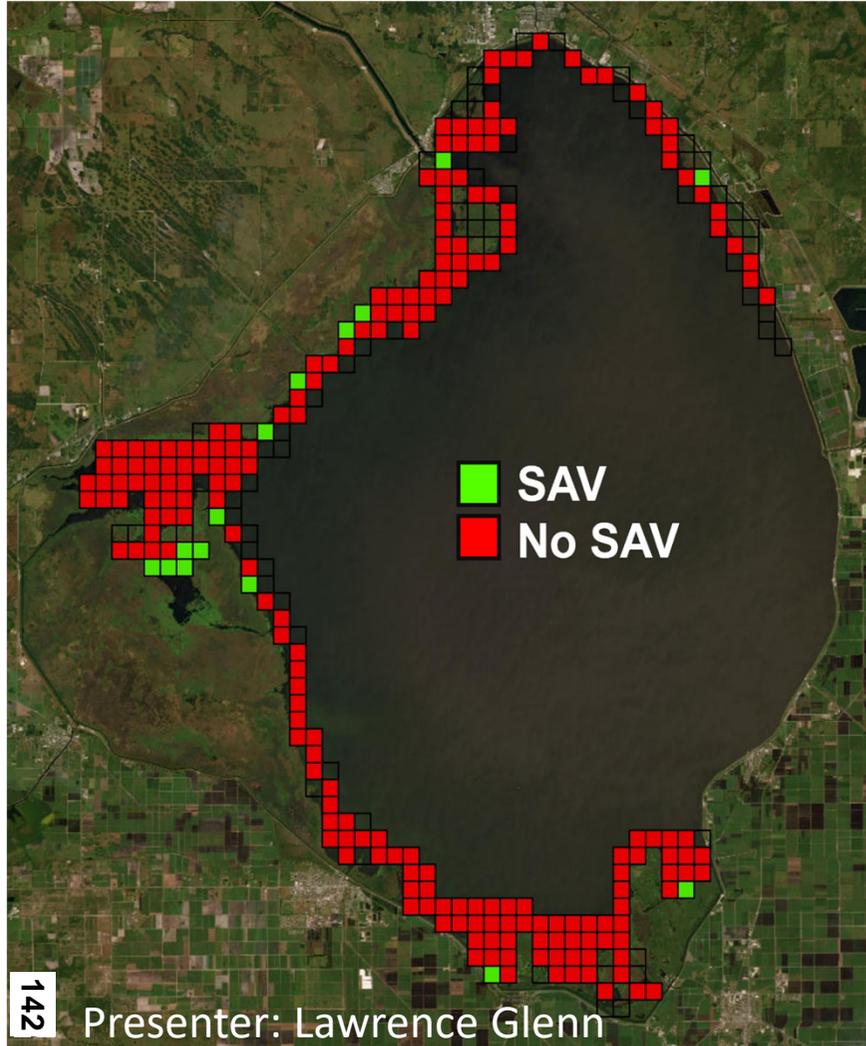
Lake Okeechobee Stage vs Recovery Ecological Envelope



Lake Okeechobee

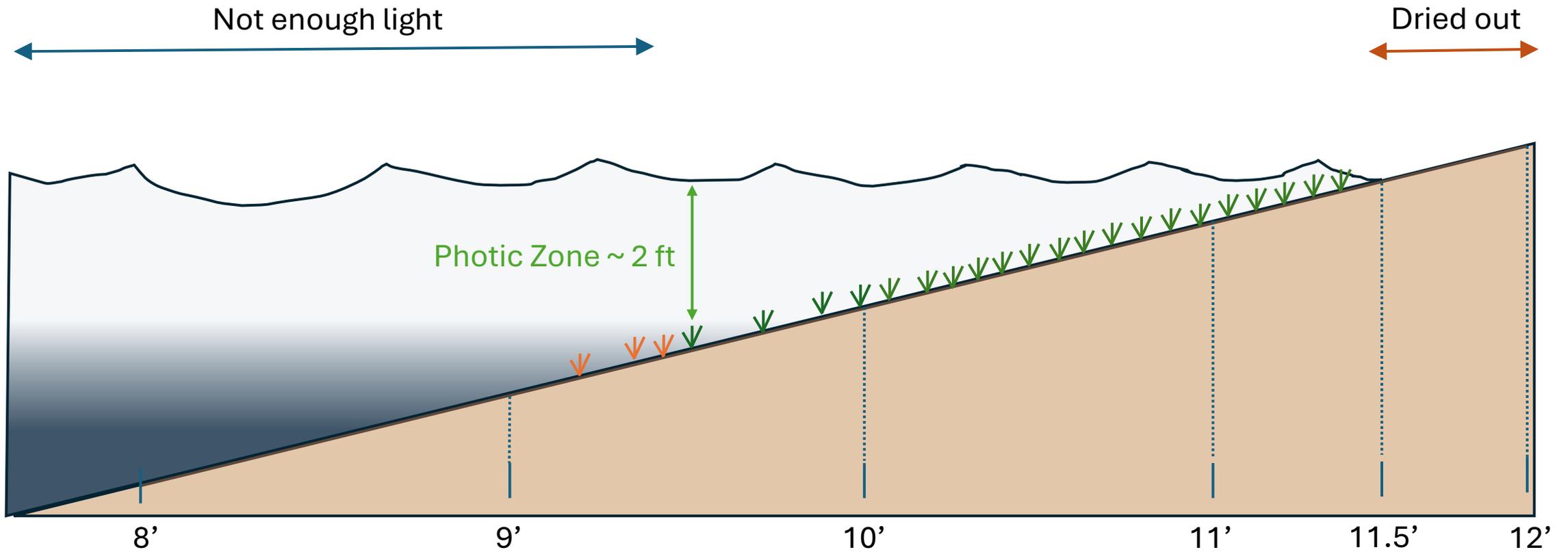
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

SAV Coverage 2024

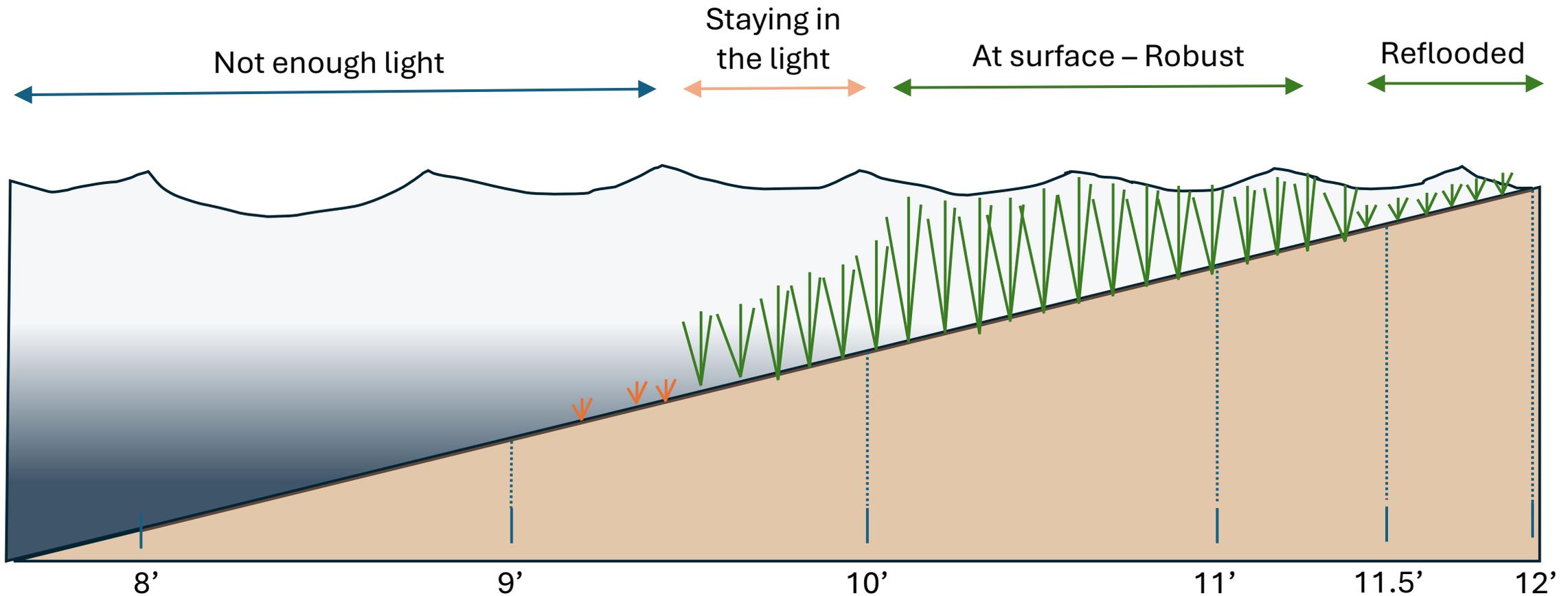


Lake Stage and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Growth

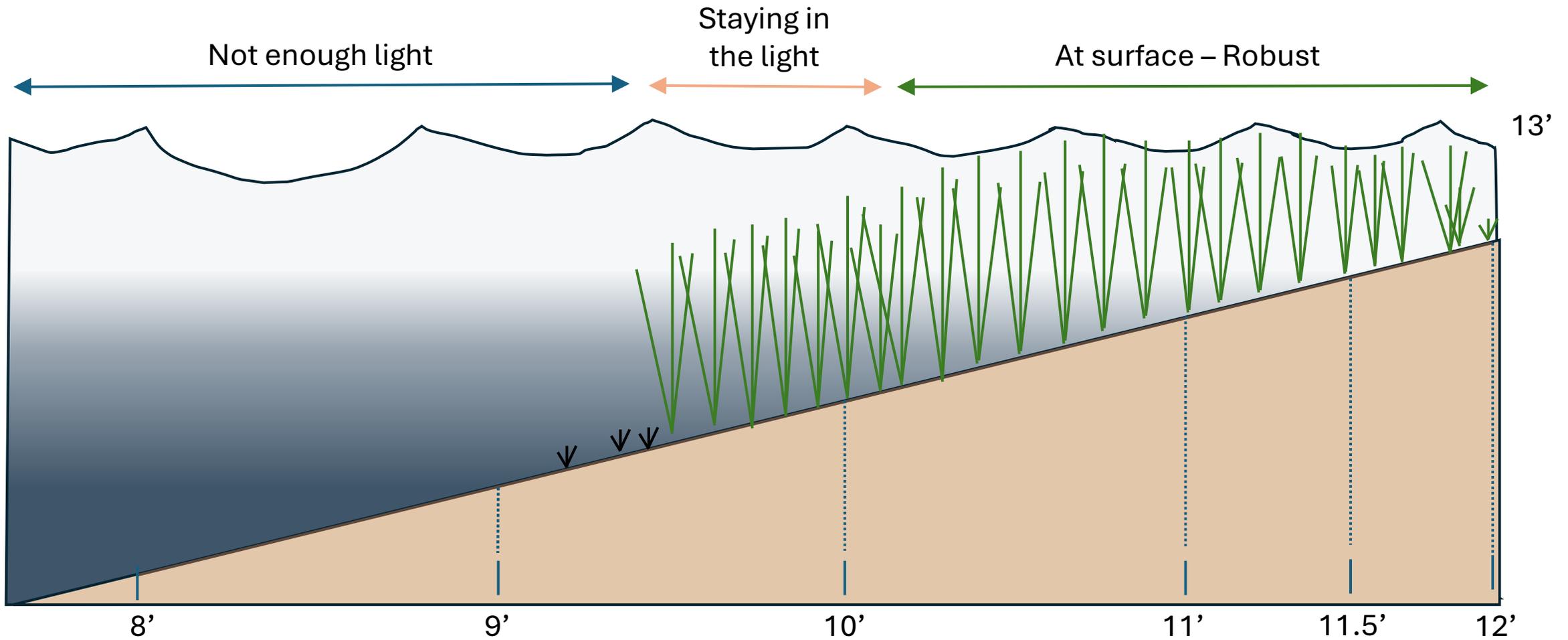
Start at 11.5 ft



Lake Stage and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Growth Time 2

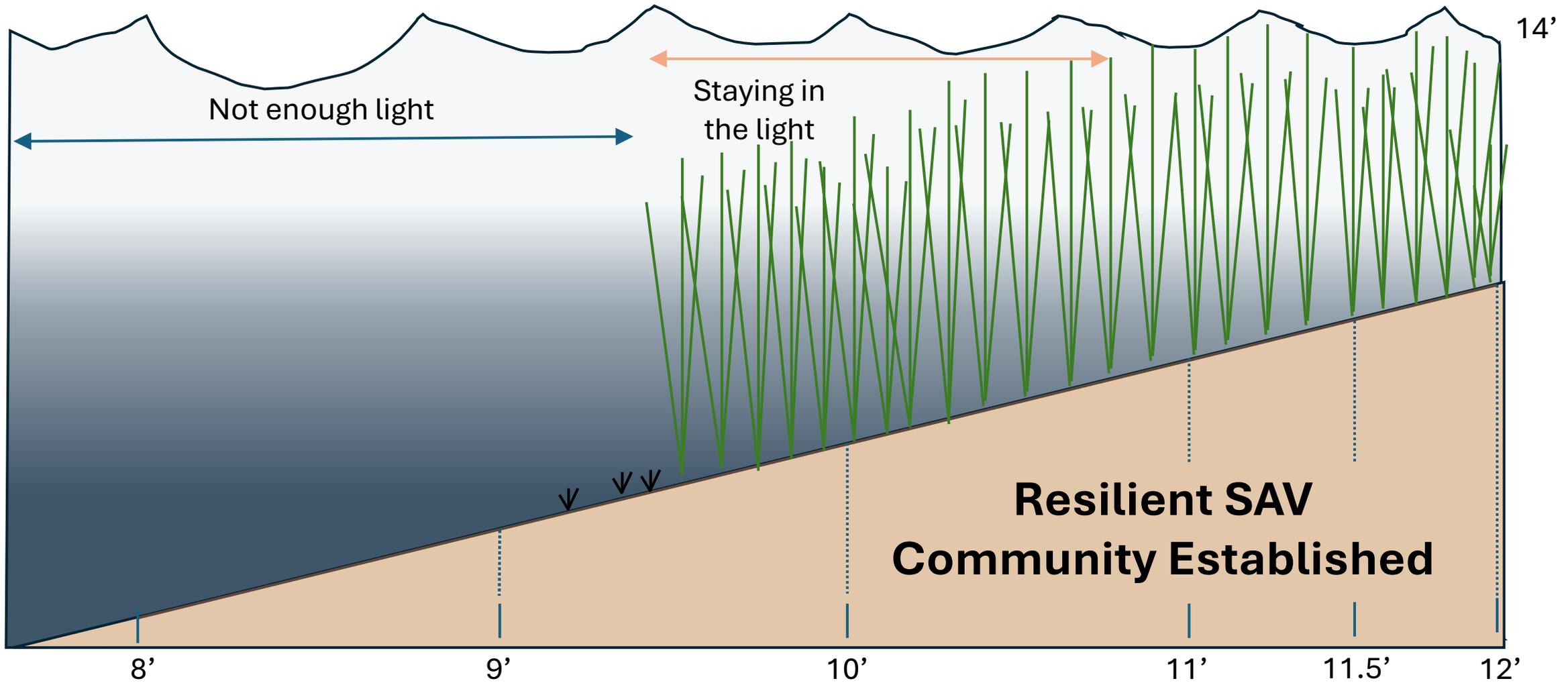


Lake Stage and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Growth Time 3



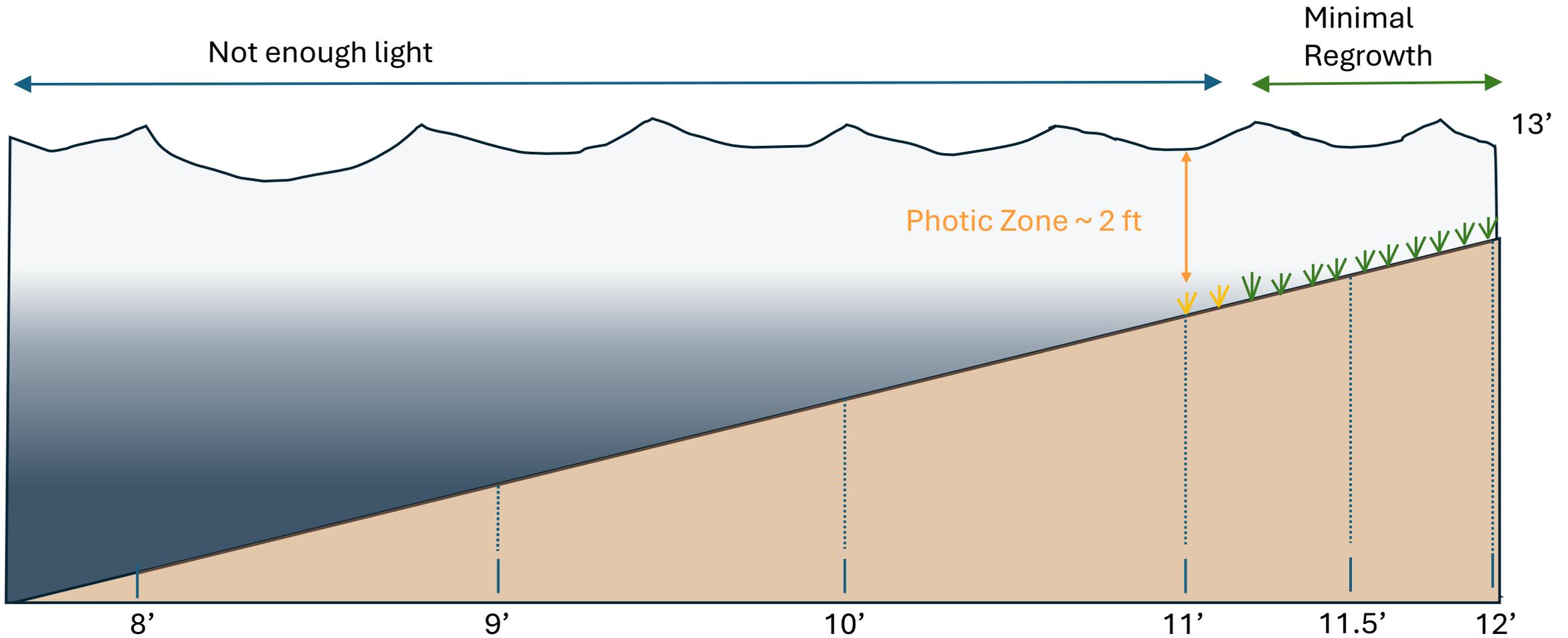
Lake Stage and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Growth

Time 4



Lake Stage and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Growth

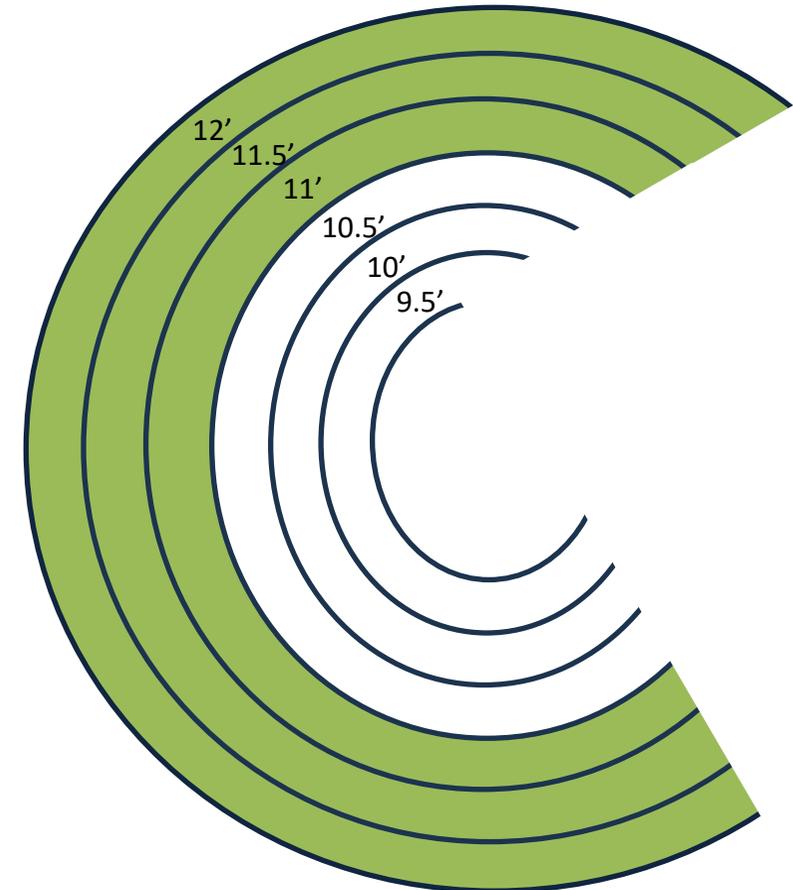
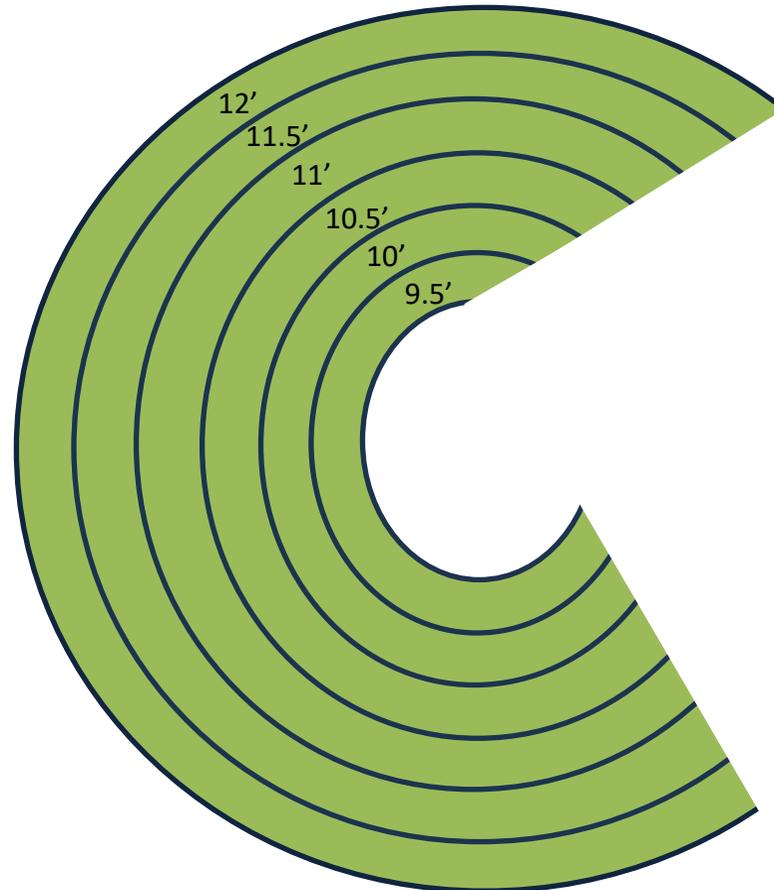
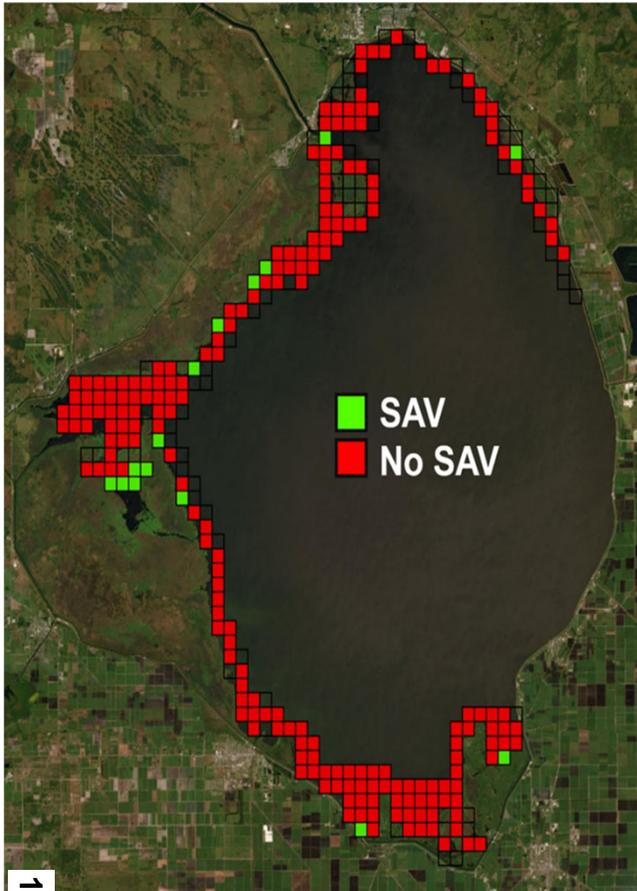
Start at 13 ft



SAV Coverage and Stage at Onset of Growing Season

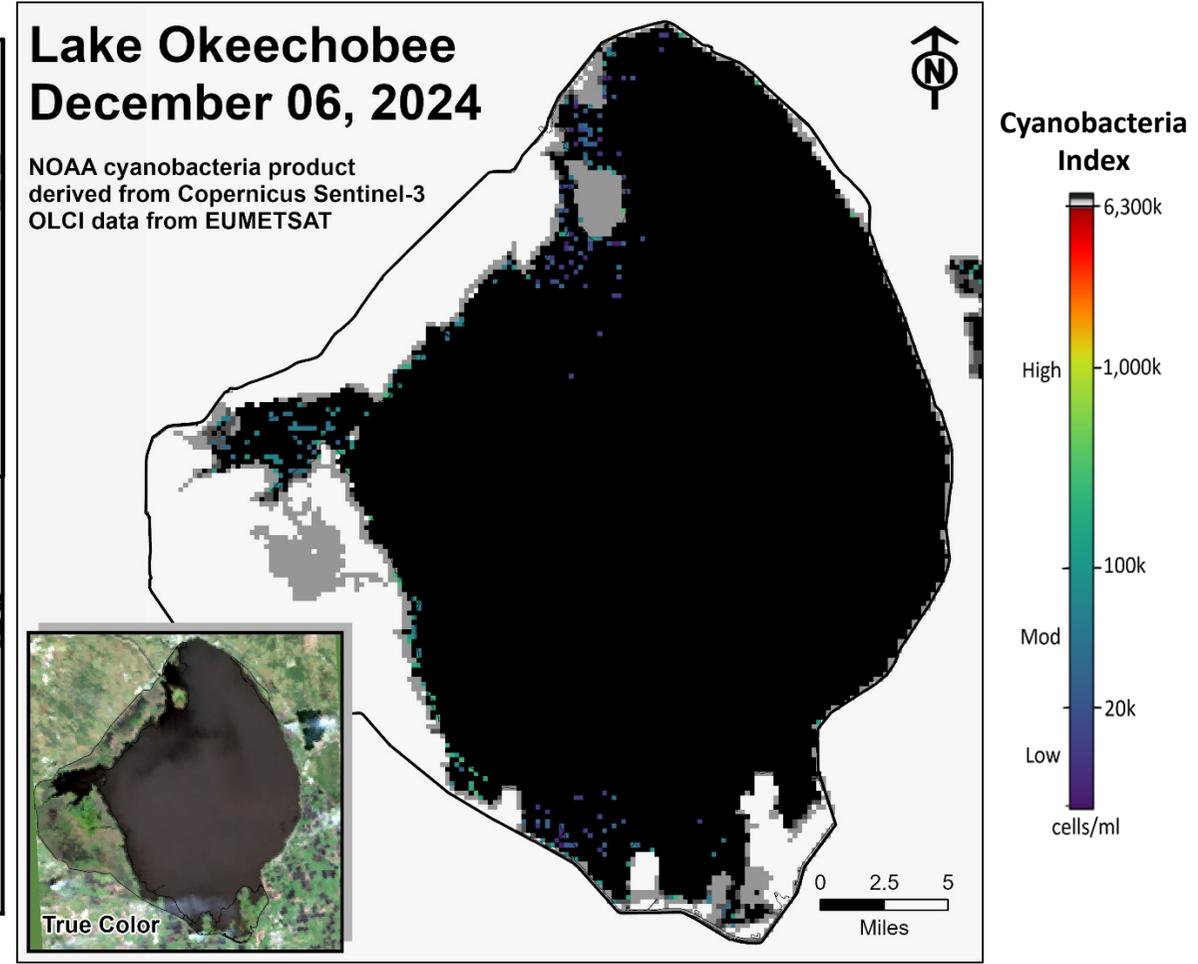
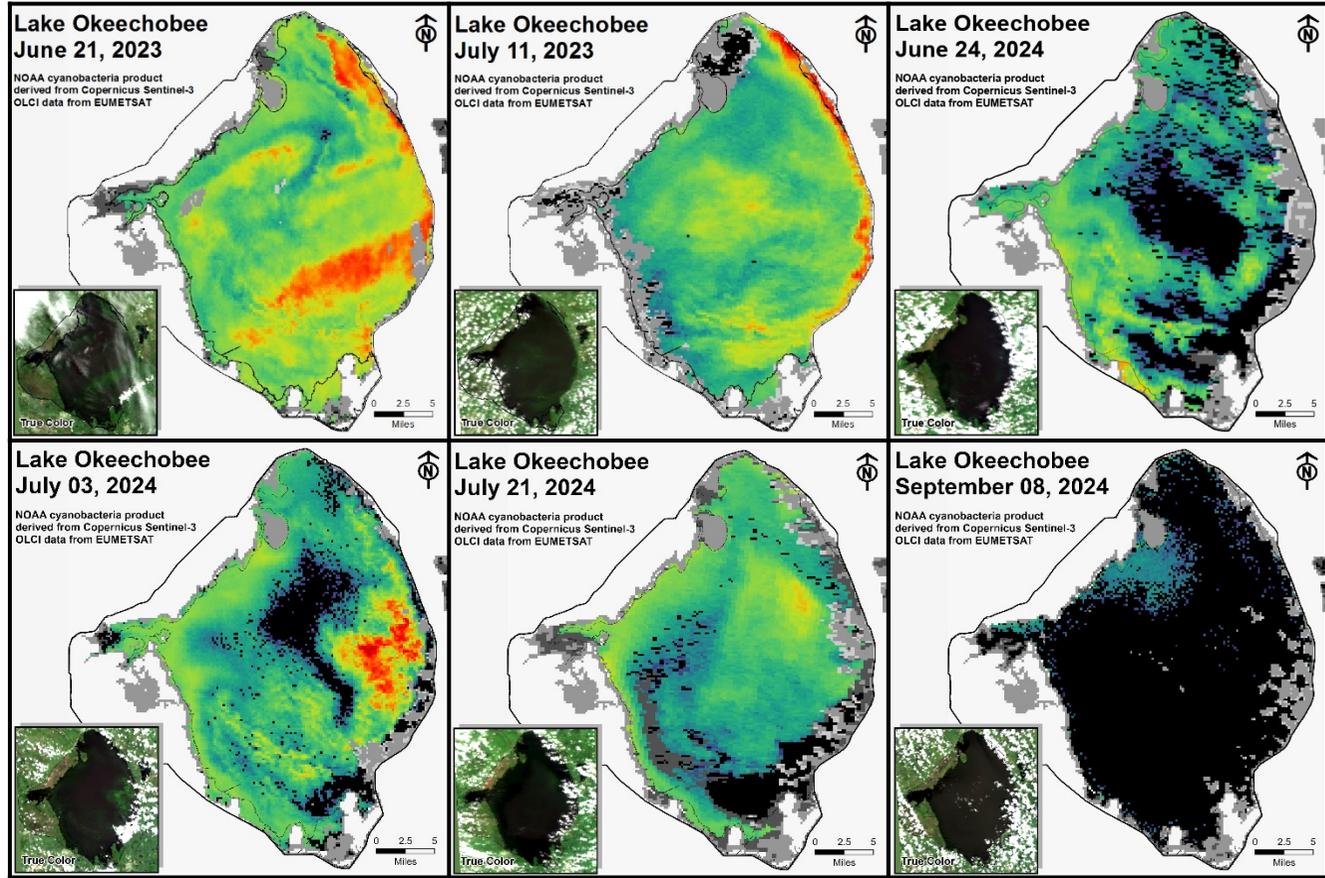
11.5 to 12 feet

13 feet



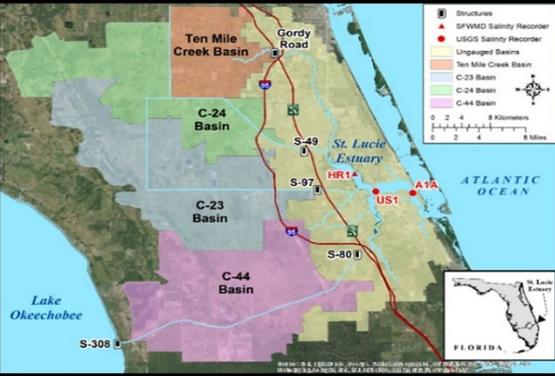
Lake Okeechobee

Cyanobacteria Bloom Distribution and Intensity



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

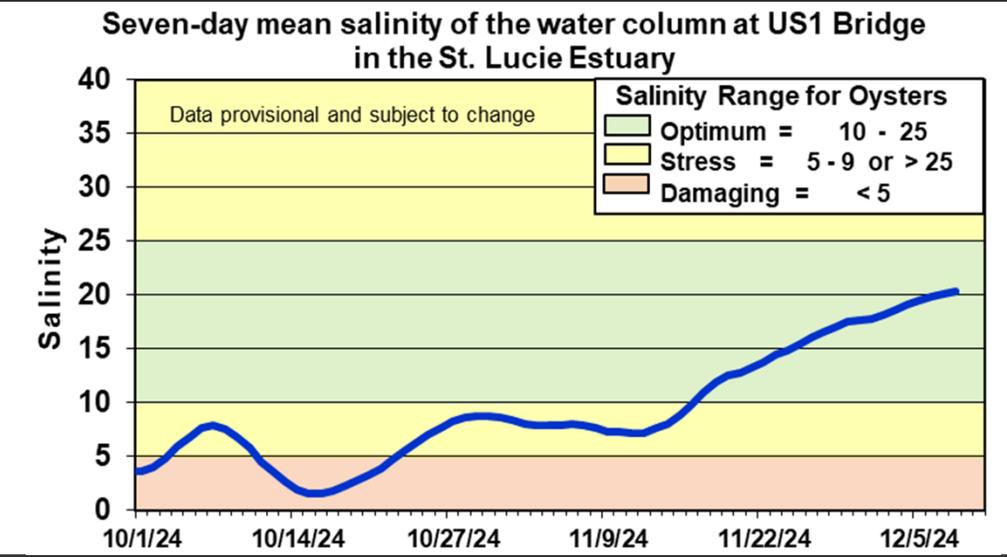
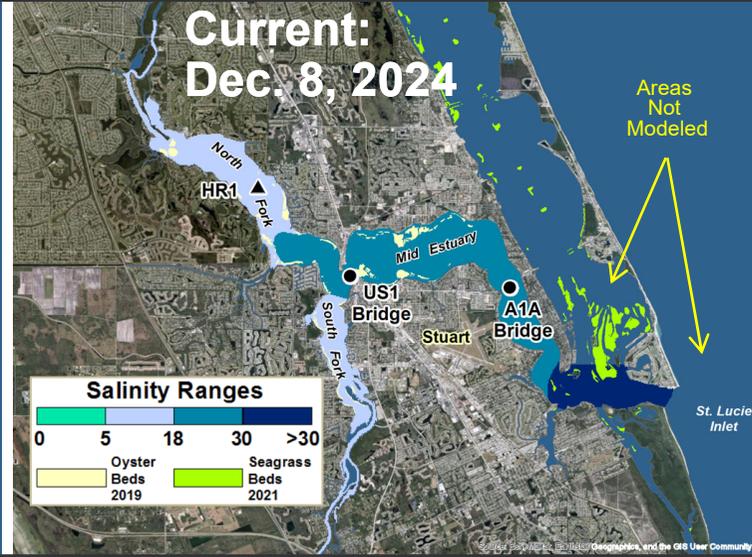
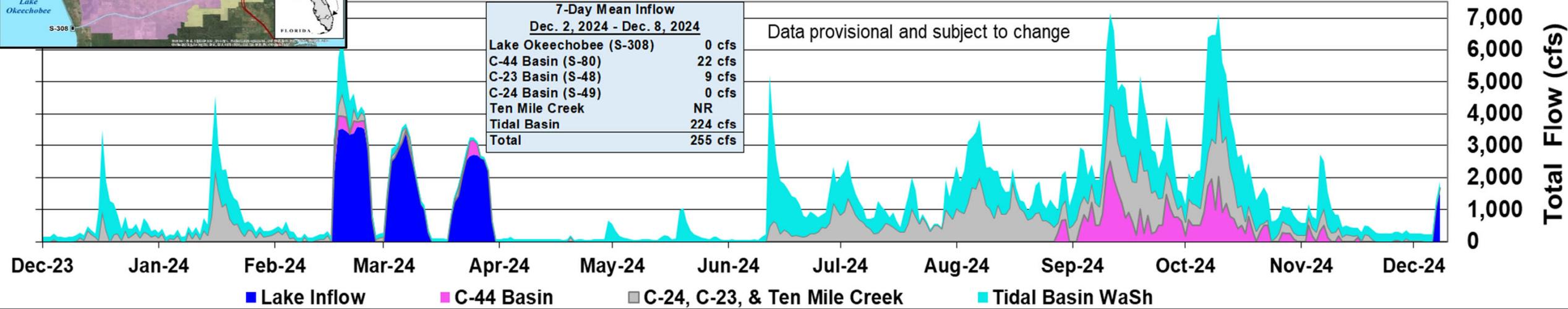
St. Lucie Inflows and Salinity Conditions



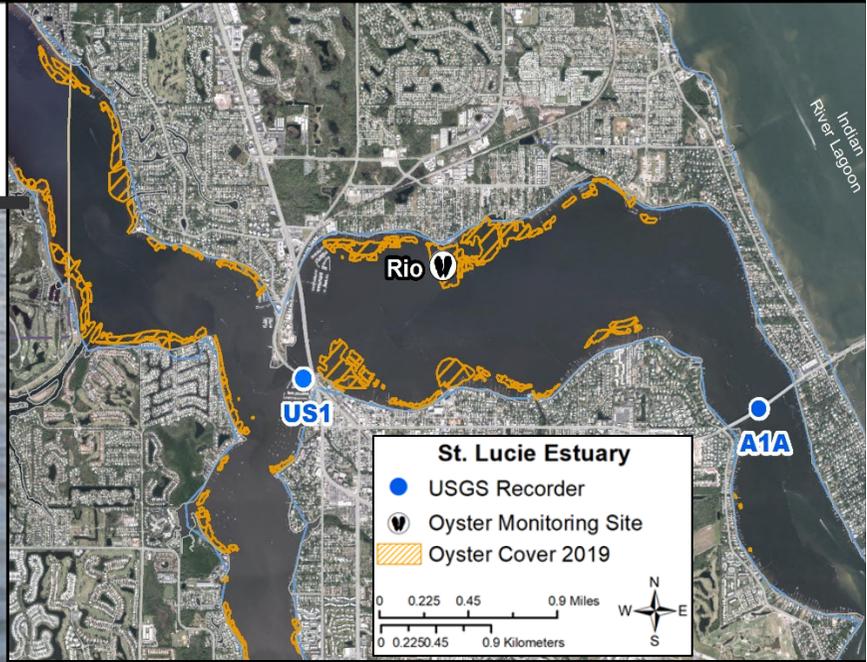
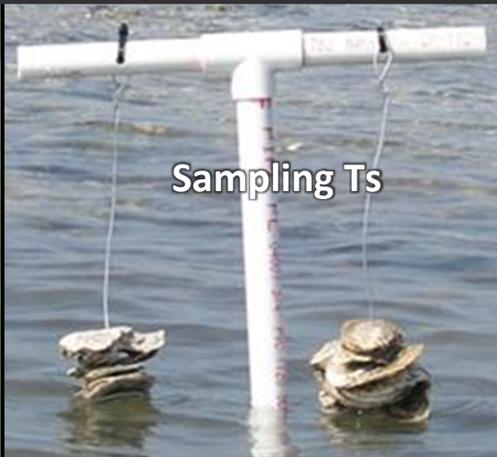
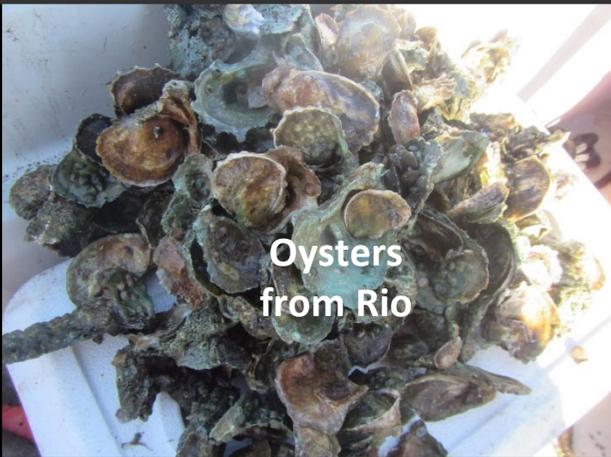
Total Daily Inflow into the St. Lucie Estuary

7-Day Mean Inflow Dec. 2, 2024 - Dec. 8, 2024	
Lake Okeechobee (S-308)	0 cfs
C-44 Basin (S-80)	22 cfs
C-23 Basin (S-48)	9 cfs
C-24 Basin (S-49)	0 cfs
Ten Mile Creek	NR
Tidal Basin	224 cfs
Total	255 cfs

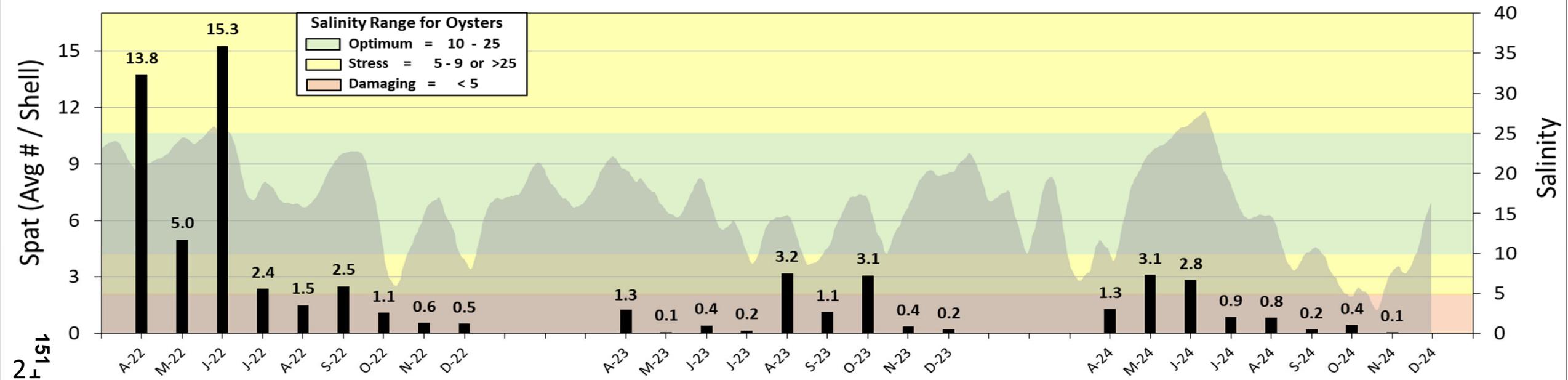
Data provisional and subject to change



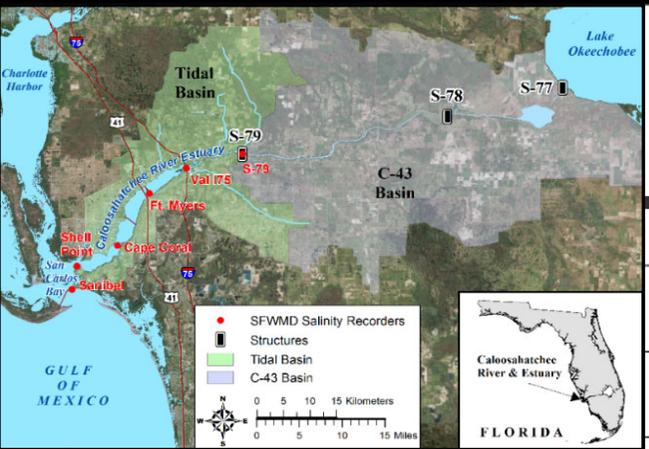
St. Lucie Estuary – Oyster Recruitment



2022 - 2024 Rio Oyster Recruitment and 14-Day Mean Salinity at US1 Bridge



Caloosahatchee Inflows and Salinity Conditions

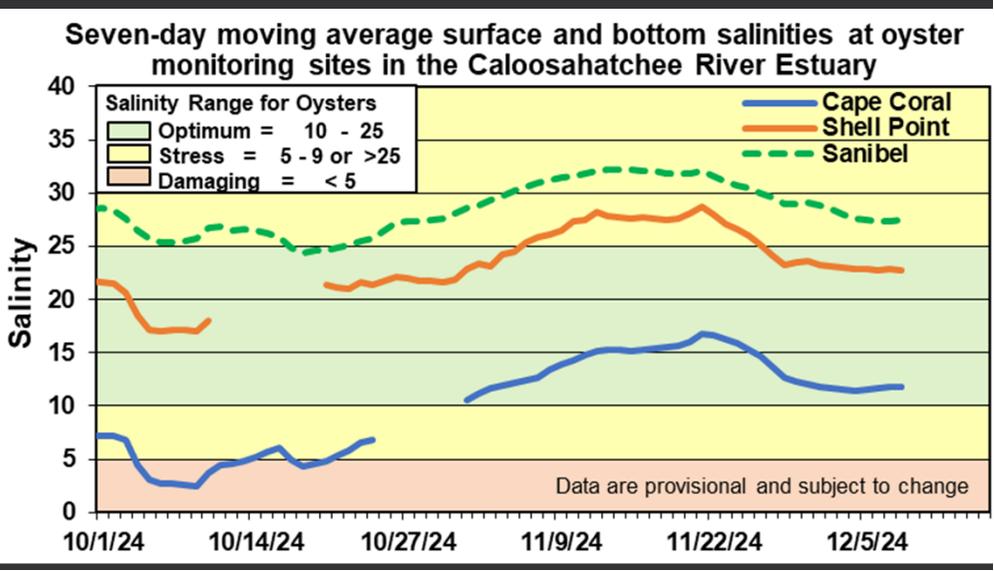
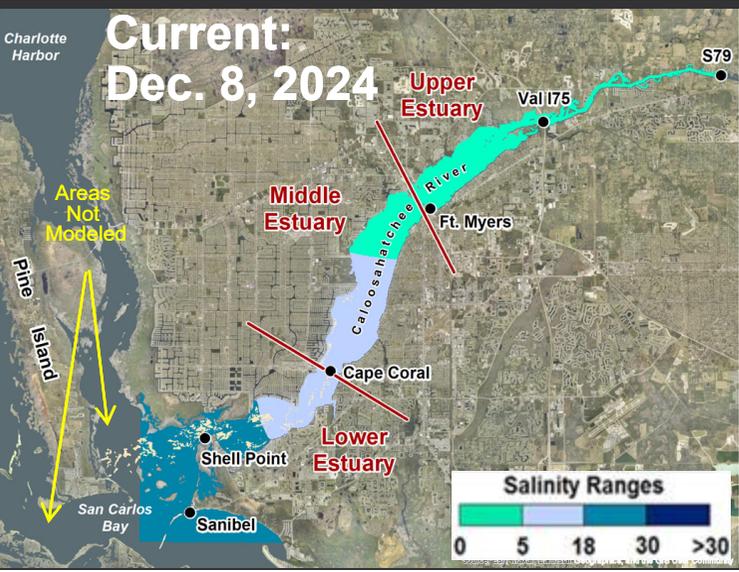
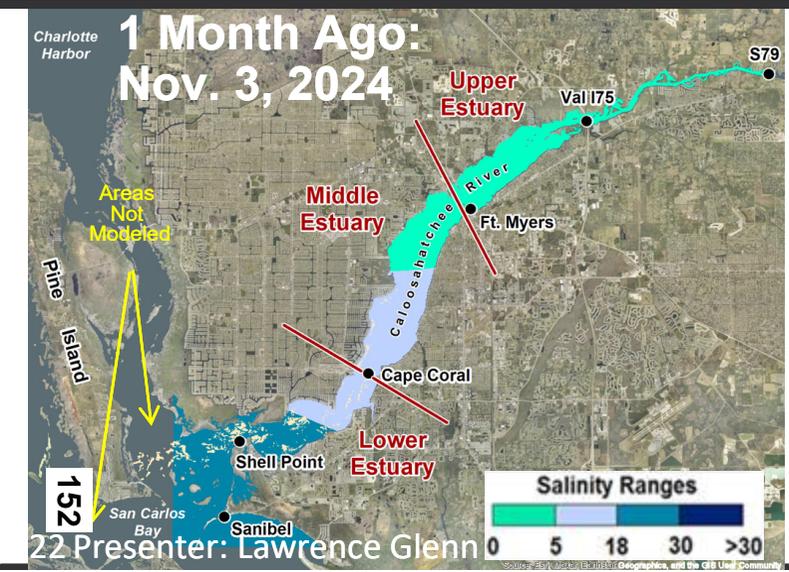
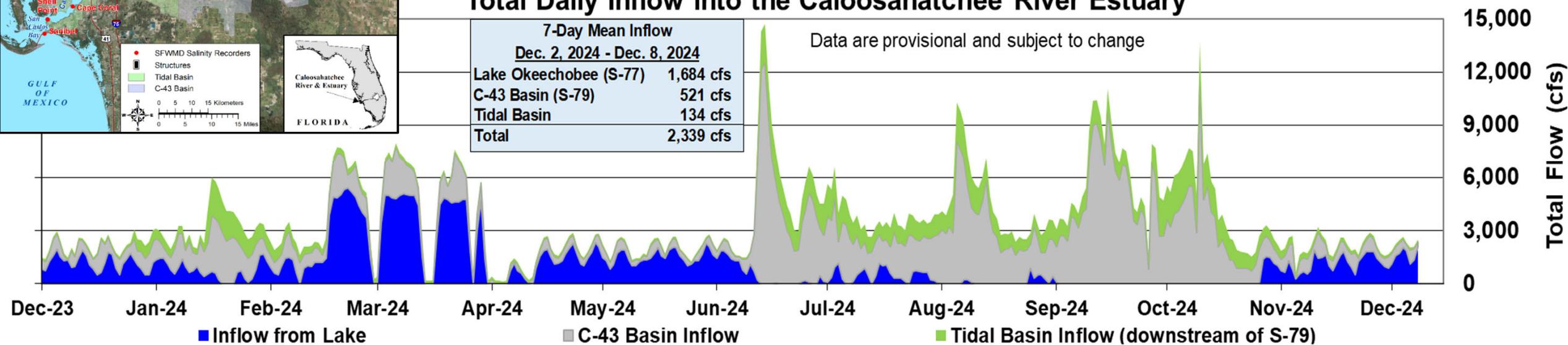


Total Daily Inflow into the Caloosahatchee River Estuary

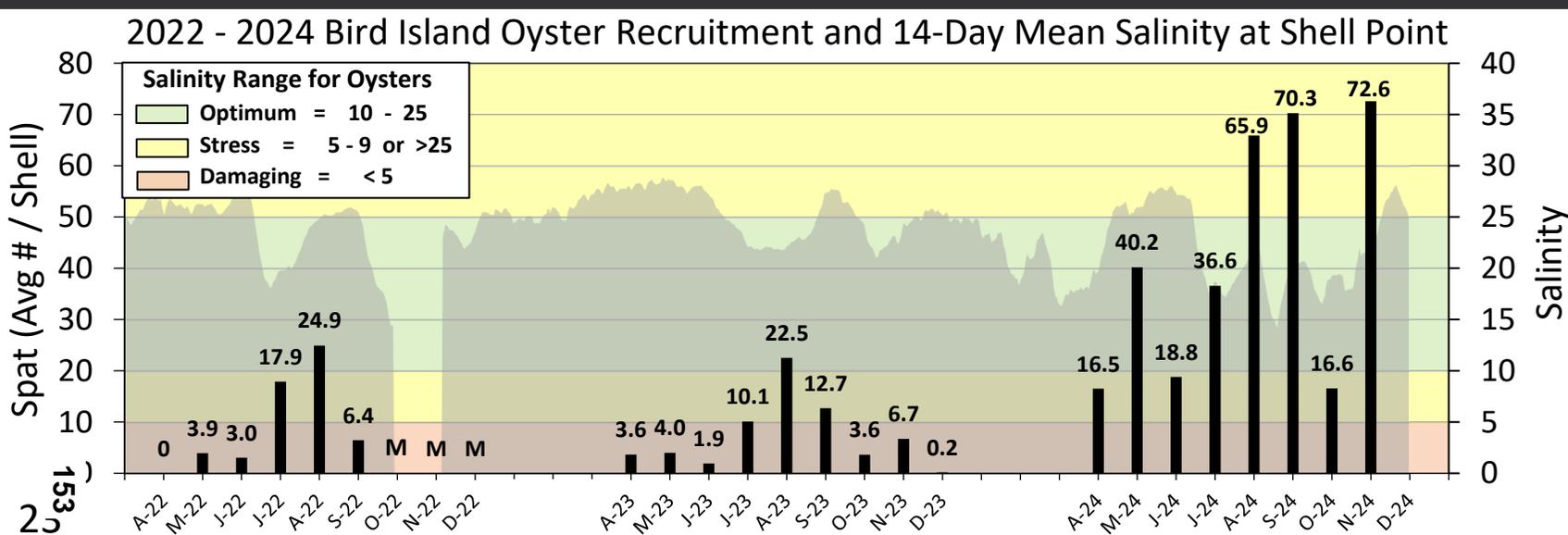
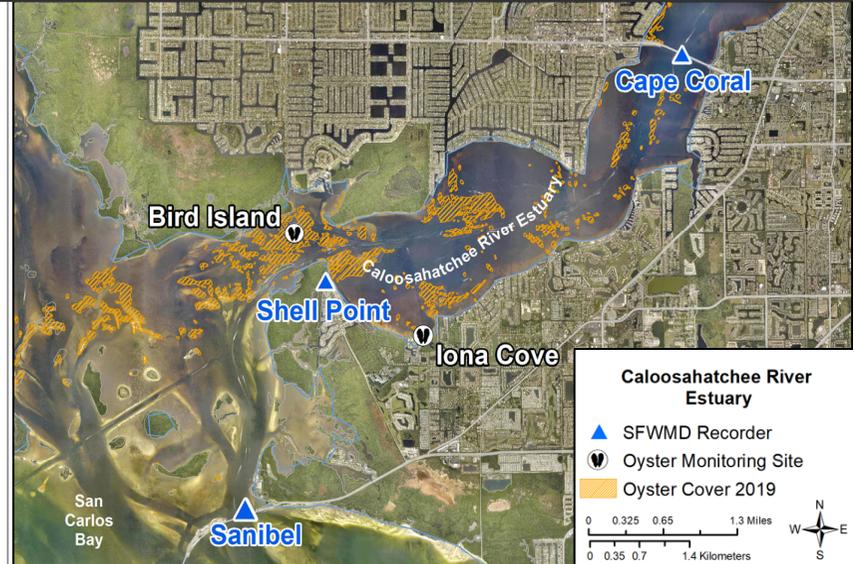
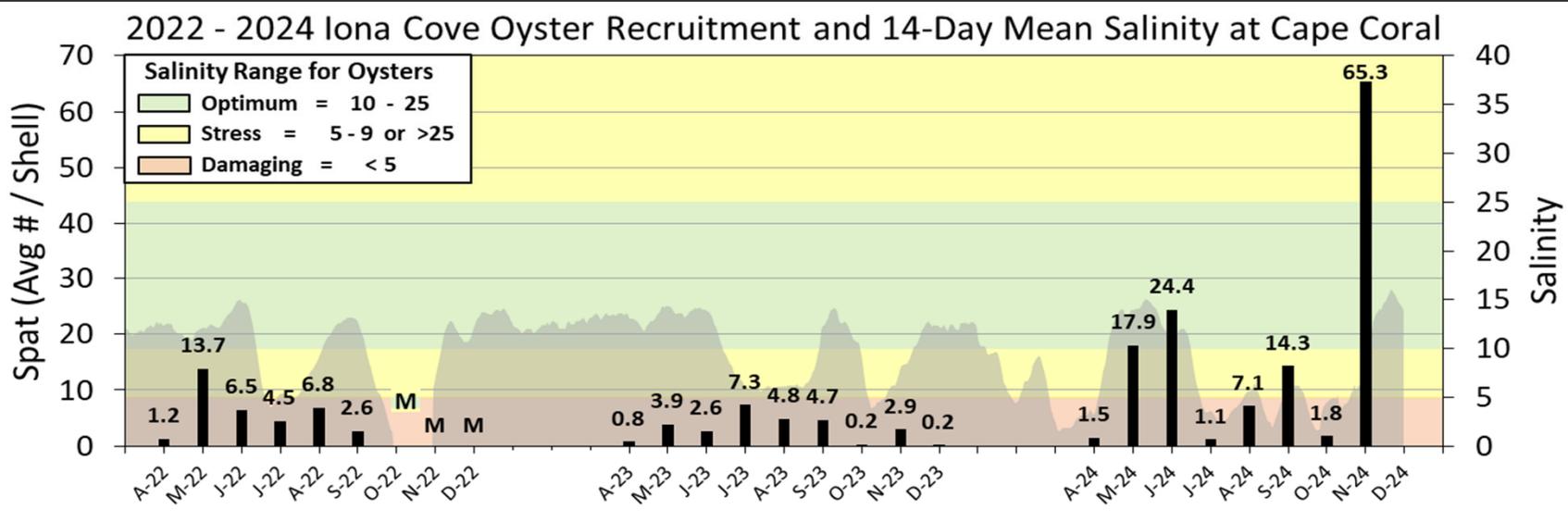
7-Day Mean Inflow
Dec. 2, 2024 - Dec. 8, 2024

Lake Okeechobee (S-77)	1,684 cfs
C-43 Basin (S-79)	521 cfs
Tidal Basin	134 cfs
Total	2,339 cfs

Data are provisional and subject to change



Caloosahatchee River Estuary – Oyster Recruitment

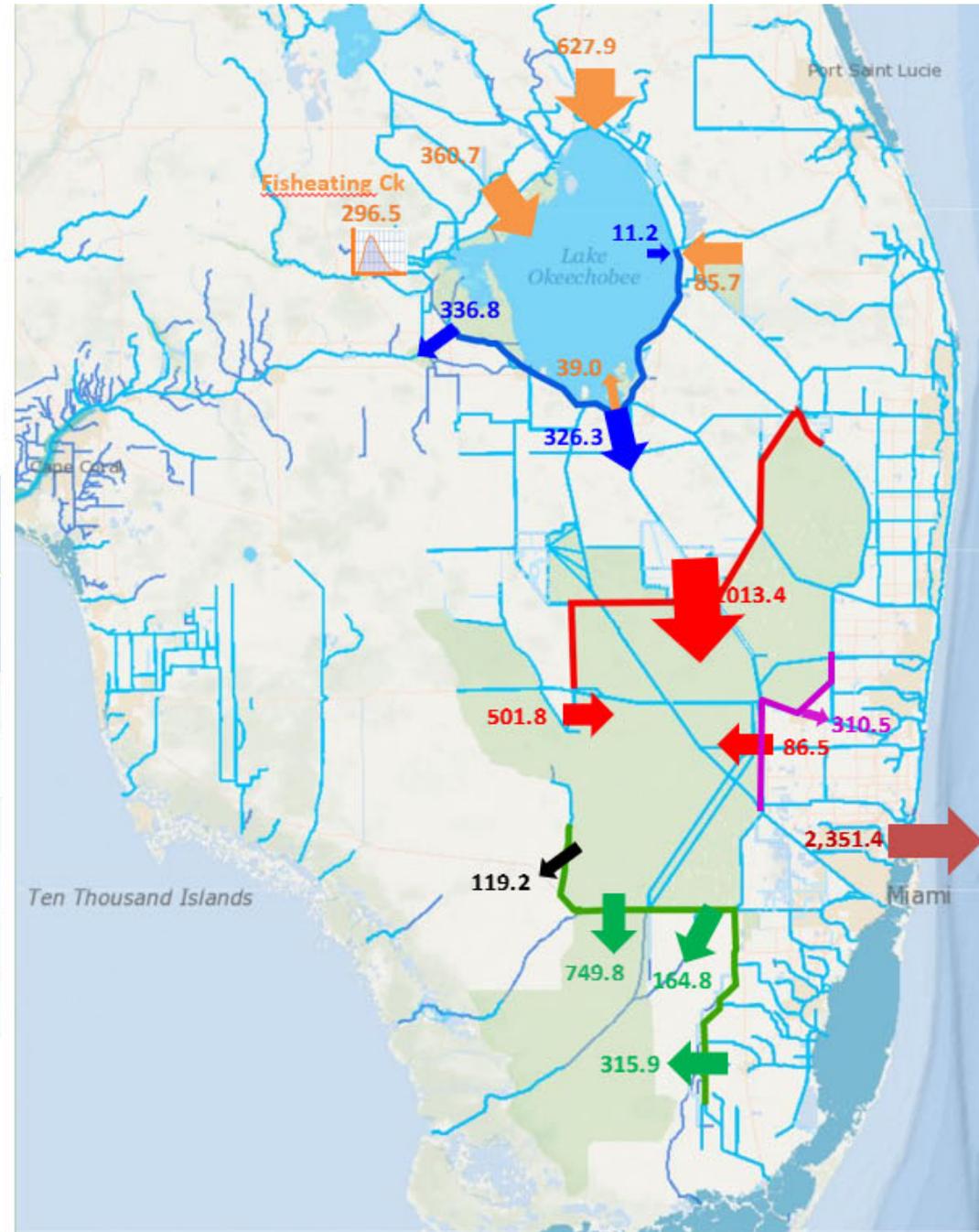


WS

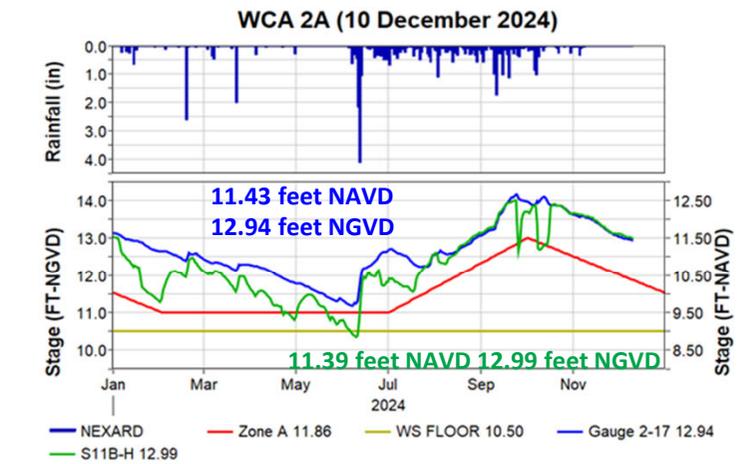
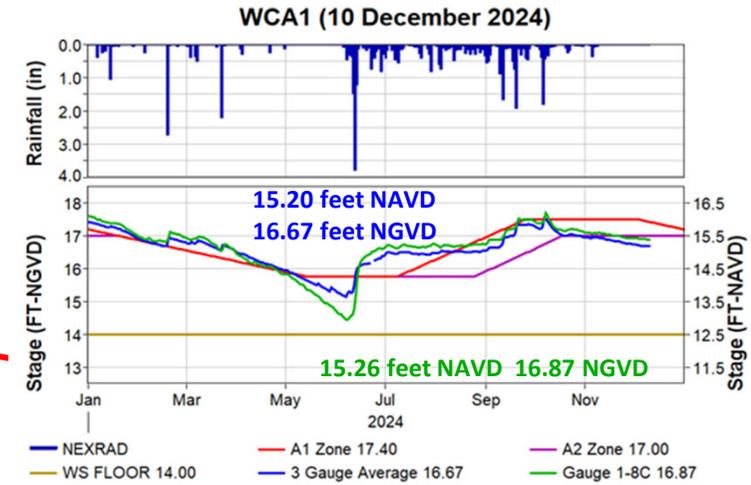
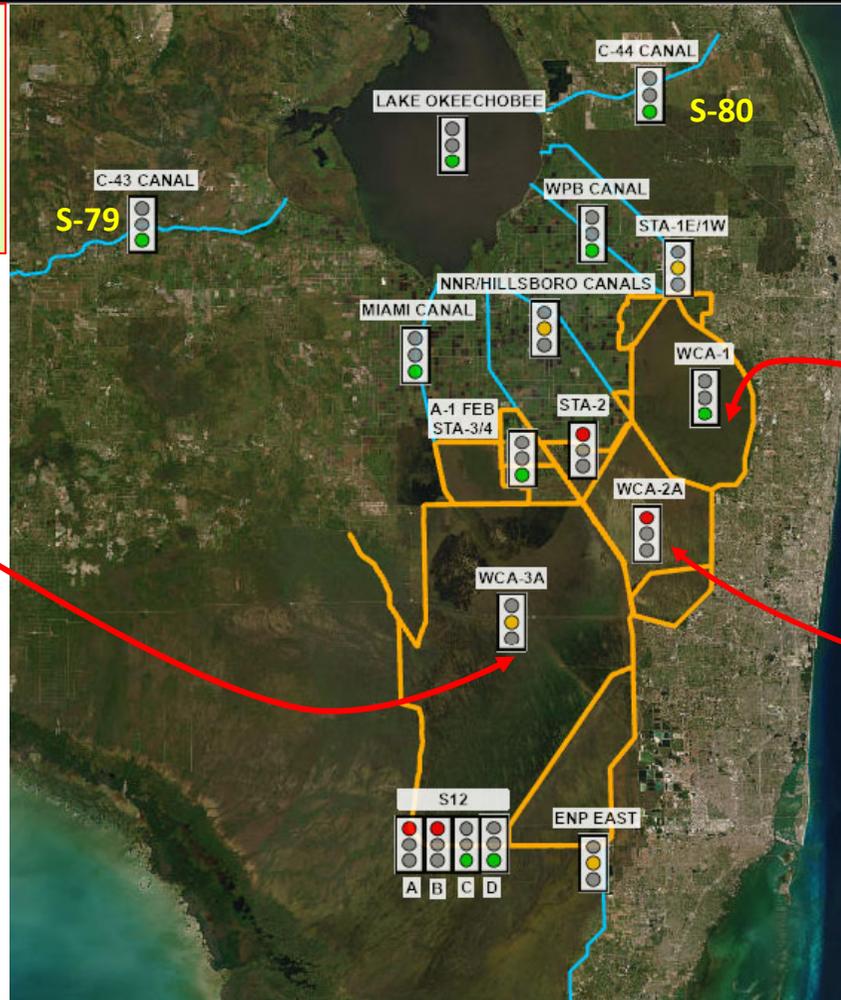
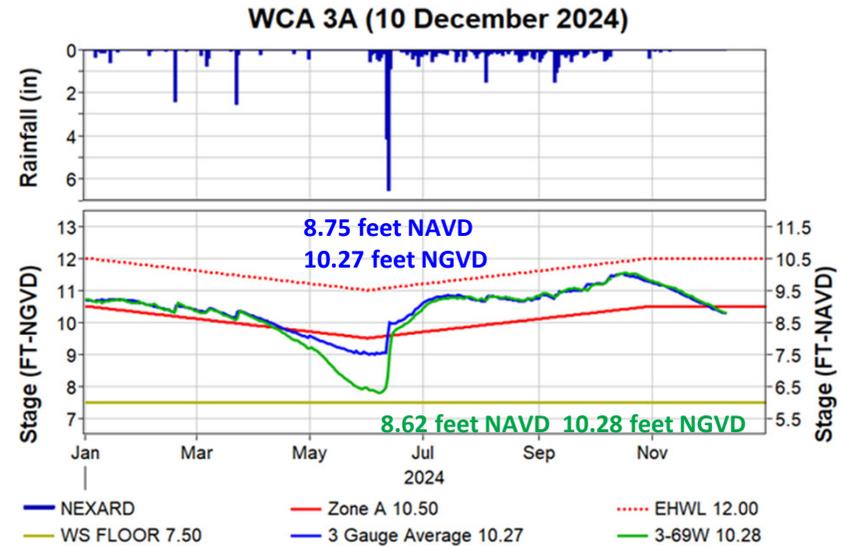
**SFWMD –Volumes Flowing
Down the System for the
Period May 1, 2024 to December 10, 2024**
(volumes in 1,000 acre-feet)

Symbol	Description	Volume (1,000 acre- feet)	
		WYR 2025	Last Month
	Lake Okeechobee Inflows	1409.7	97.0
	Lake Okeechobee Outflows	674.3	194.4
	WCAs Inflows	1601.6	35.5
	ENP / Detention Cell Inflows	1230.5	155.3
	WCAs to East	310.5	45.0
	Flows to Intracoastal	2351.4	92.9

1,000 acre-feet = 325.9 Million Gallons



Lake Okeechobee stage is in the upper third of Zone D (Zone D1 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.



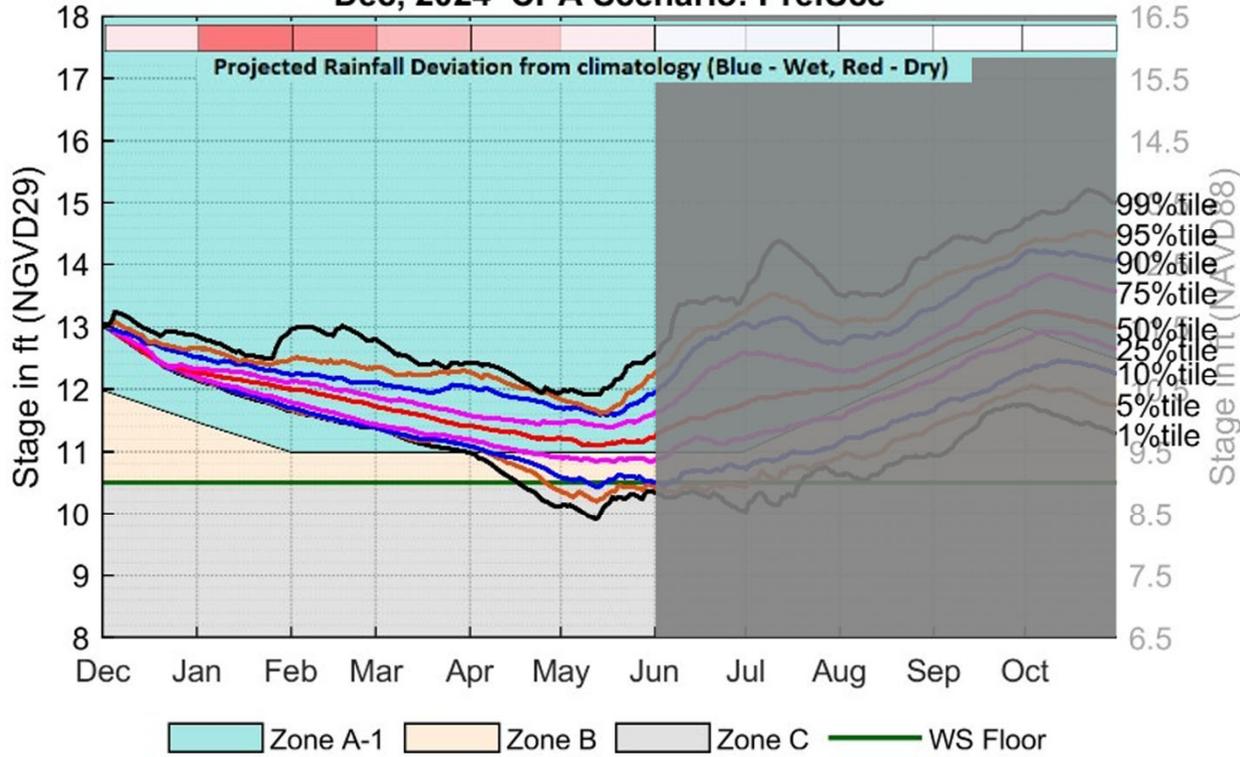
For this week, the Tamiami Trail Flow Formula calls 1,774 cfs releases from WCA-3A to NESRS. Current L-29 stage constraint is at 8.3 feet NGVD. South Dade Conveyance System is stable. S-335 and S-338 are open. G-211 is open. S-332B and D are pumping as needed. S-176 and S177 are closed. S-18C is open 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. S12A/B are closed. S12C/D are open to ~1,200 cfs. S-333 and S-333N are passing ~290 cfs. S-343 A and B are closed. S344 is open passing ~150 cfs. Interior structures to WCA-3A S-339 and S-340 are closed.

Conditional Position Analysis (CPA) LOSOM RO

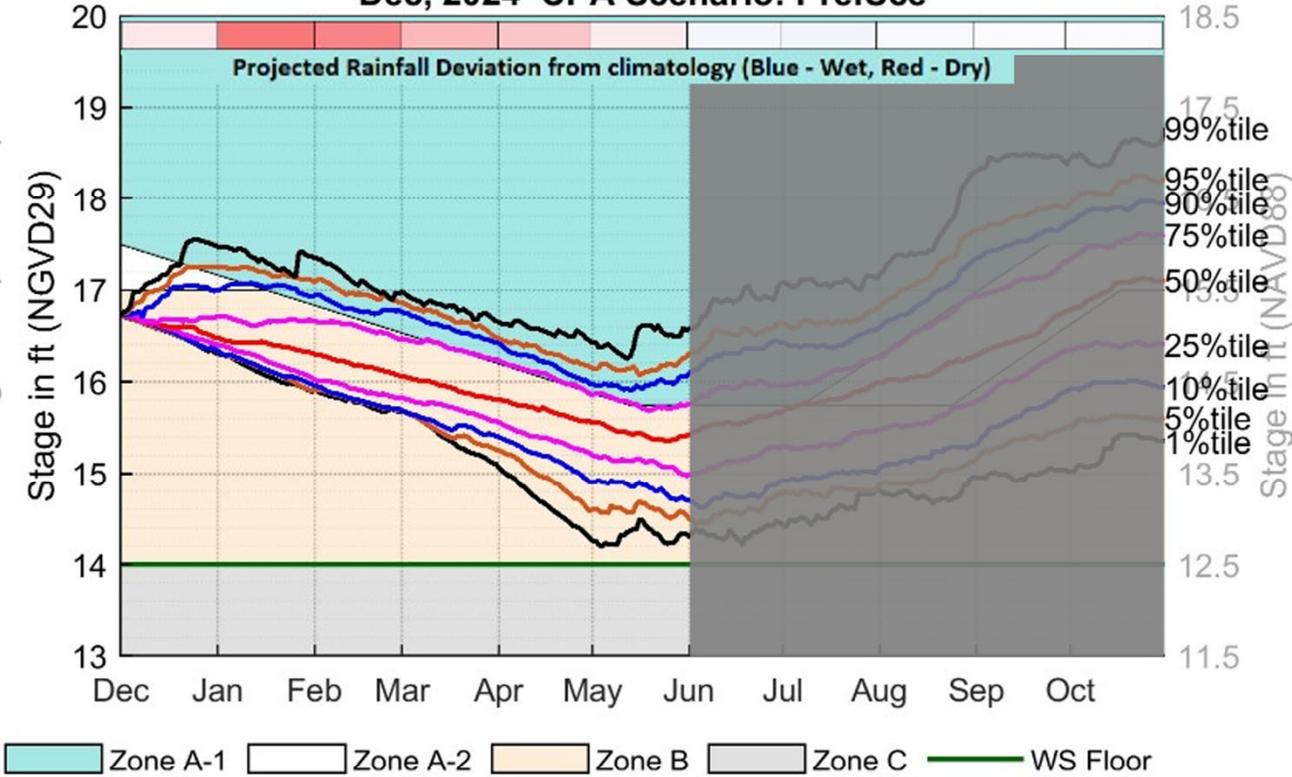
SITE_17

Dec, 2024 CPA Scenario: PrefSce



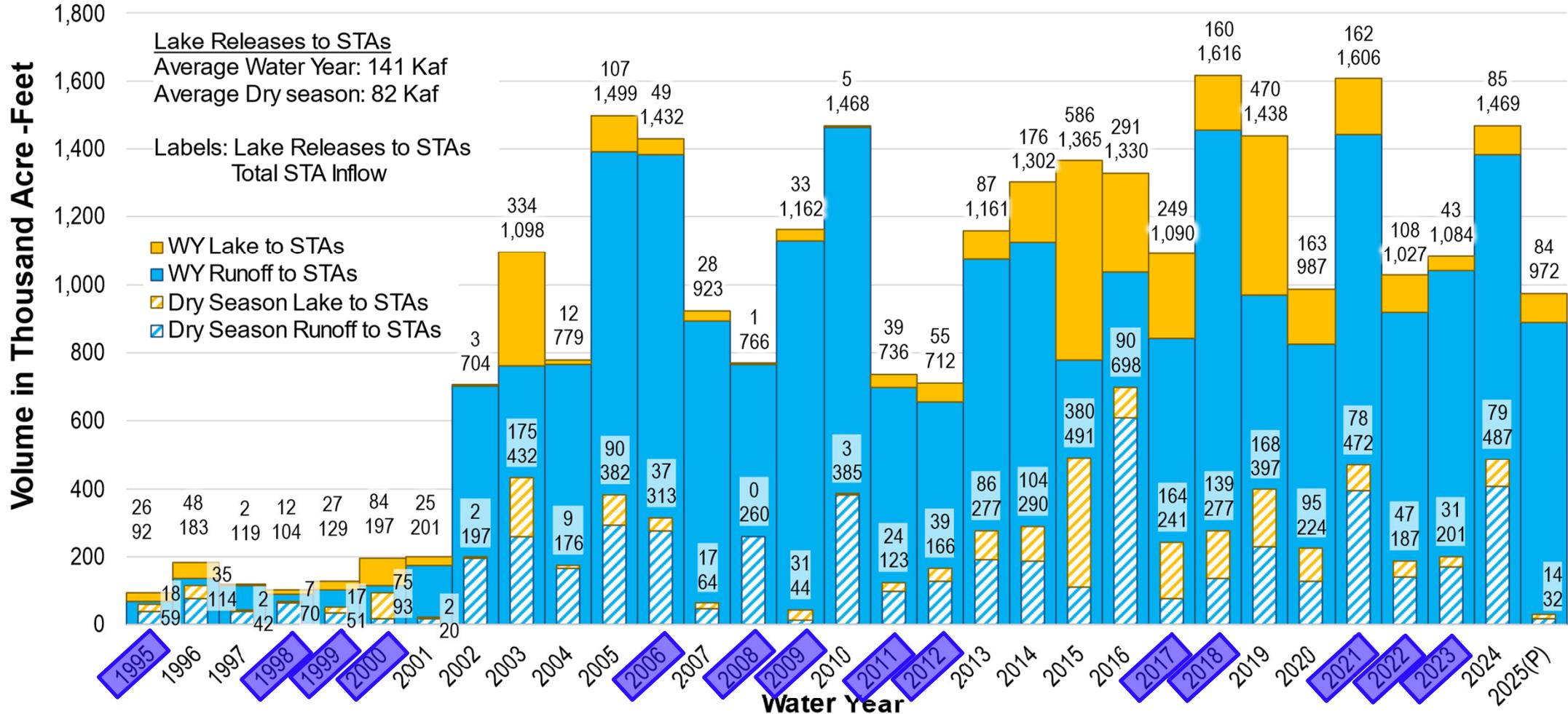
WCA1Avg

Dec, 2024 CPA Scenario: PrefSce



Secondary vertical axis shows stages in NAVD88. These stages are based on Agreed Upon Regulation Schedule Conversion Offsets between NGVD29 and NAVD88 (1.5 ft for WCA2&3).

Total STA Inflow and Lake Releases to STAs

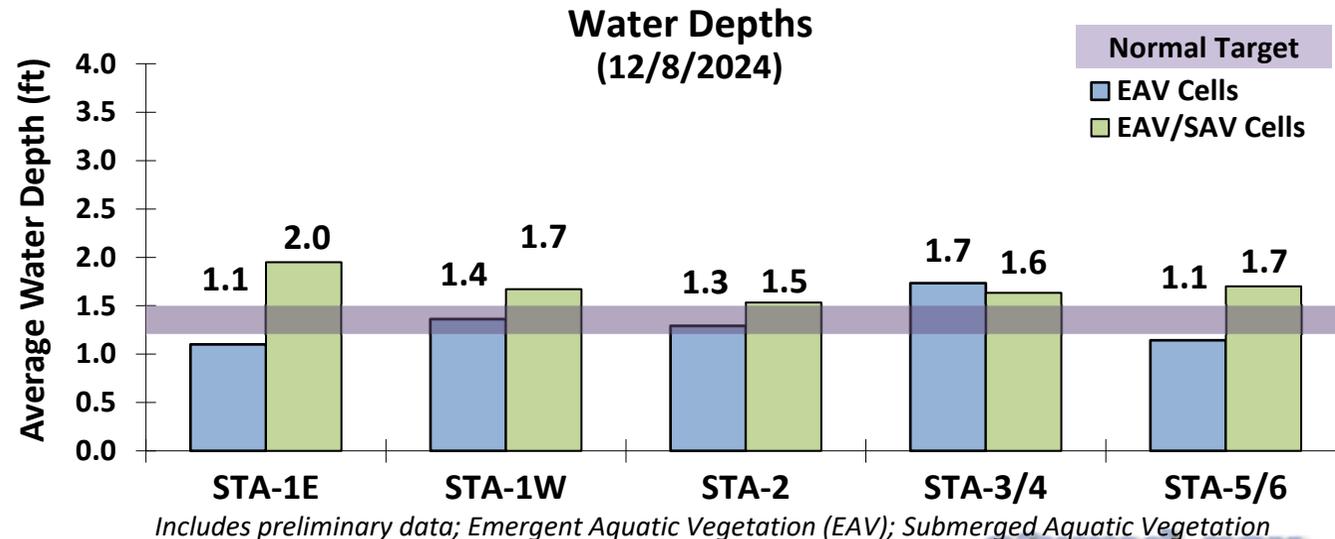
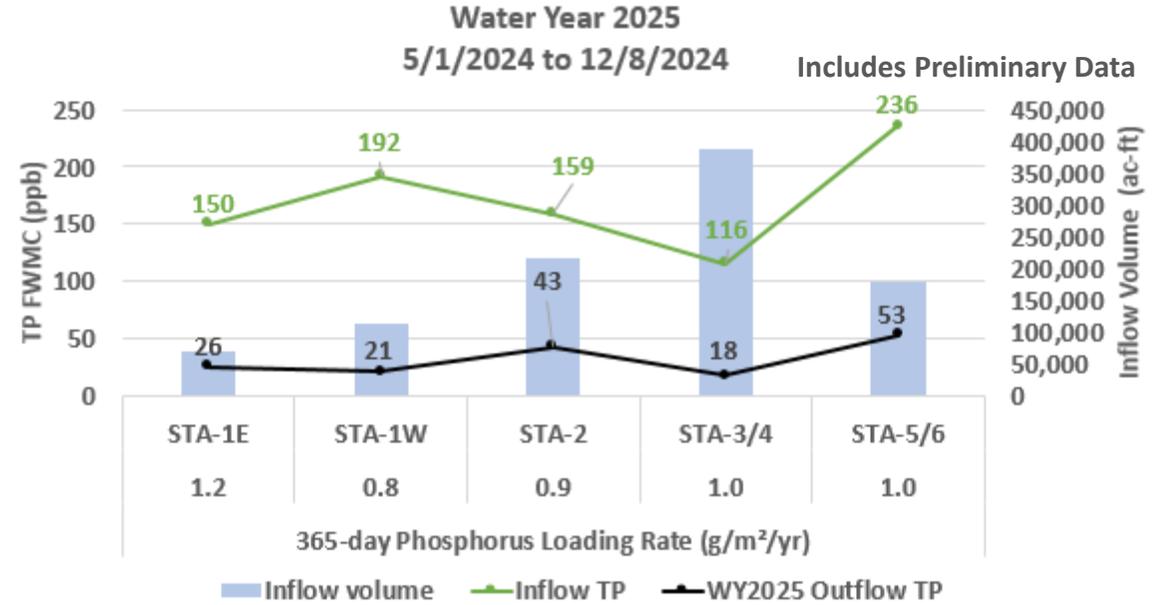


2025(p): Data from May 1, 2024 to December 8, 2024. Total STA Inflow includes inflows to STA -1E, STA-1W, STA-2, STA-3/4, and STA-5/6.

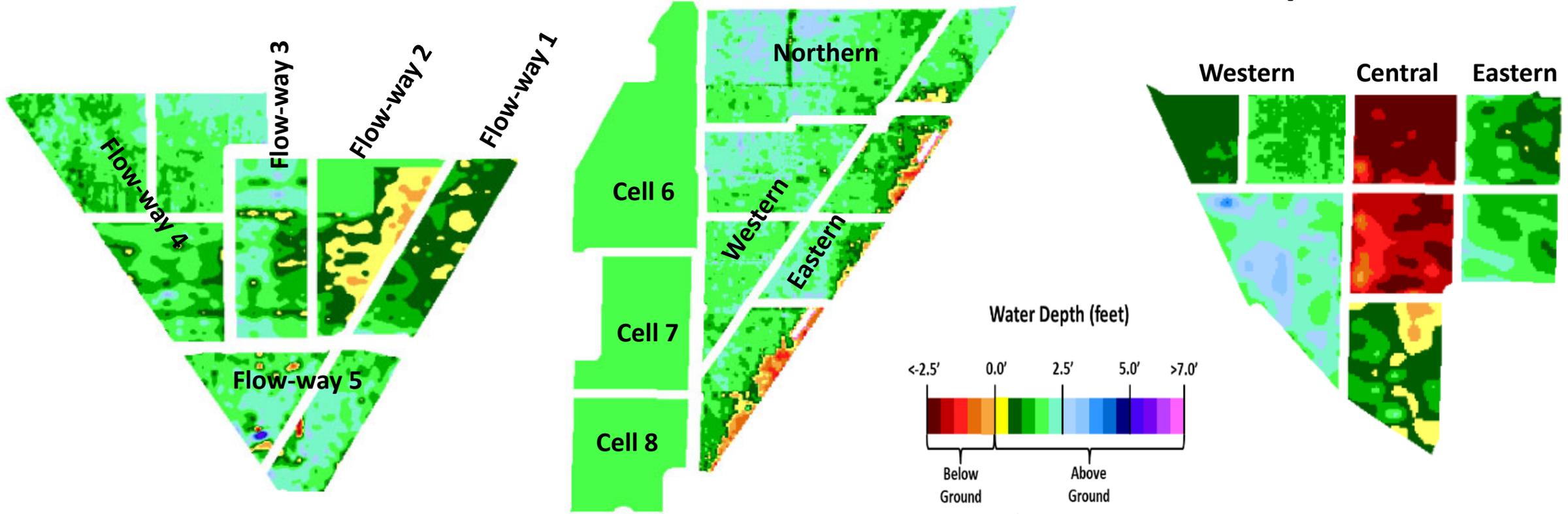
La Niña Water Years

Everglades Stormwater Treatment Areas - STAs

- STAs treated basin runoff and Lake Okeechobee releases in November
 - Total WY2025 inflows to STAs (5/1/2024 to 12/8/2024): ~972,000 ac-ft
 - Lake Okeechobee releases to FEBs/STAs in WY2025: ~83,800 ac-ft
- Extensive vegetation management activities underway to address stressed and highly stressed vegetation in EAV cells
- Treatment cells are near target water depth



Stormwater Treatment Areas Water Depths



Flow-Way	Restrictions
1	On-line; upstream FAV control
2	On-line; vegetation management; upstream FAV control
3	On-line; upstream FAV control
4	On-line; vegetation management; upstream FAV control
5	On-line

STA-2

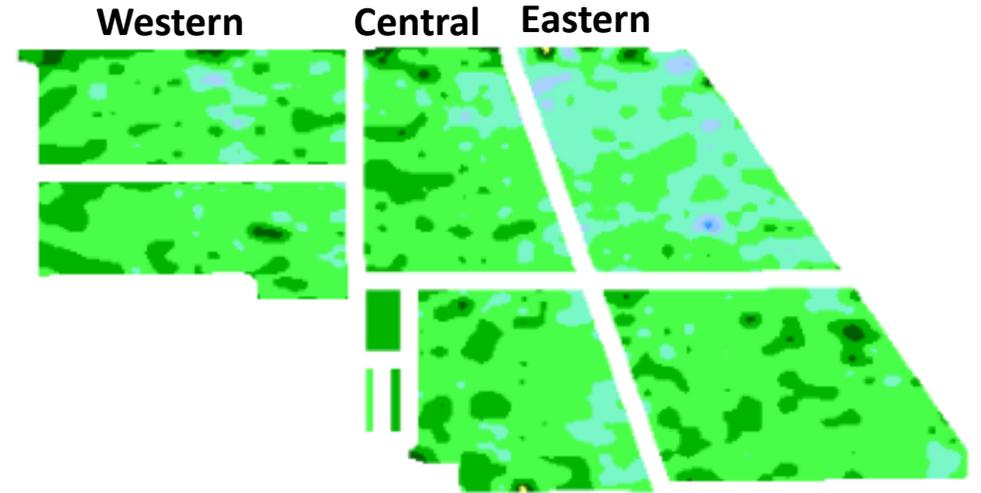
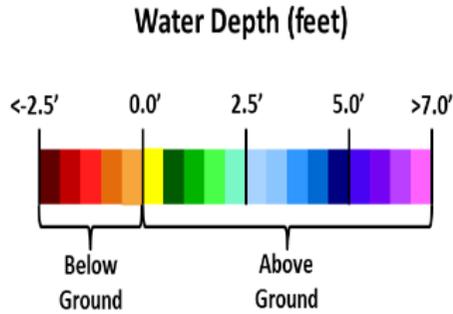
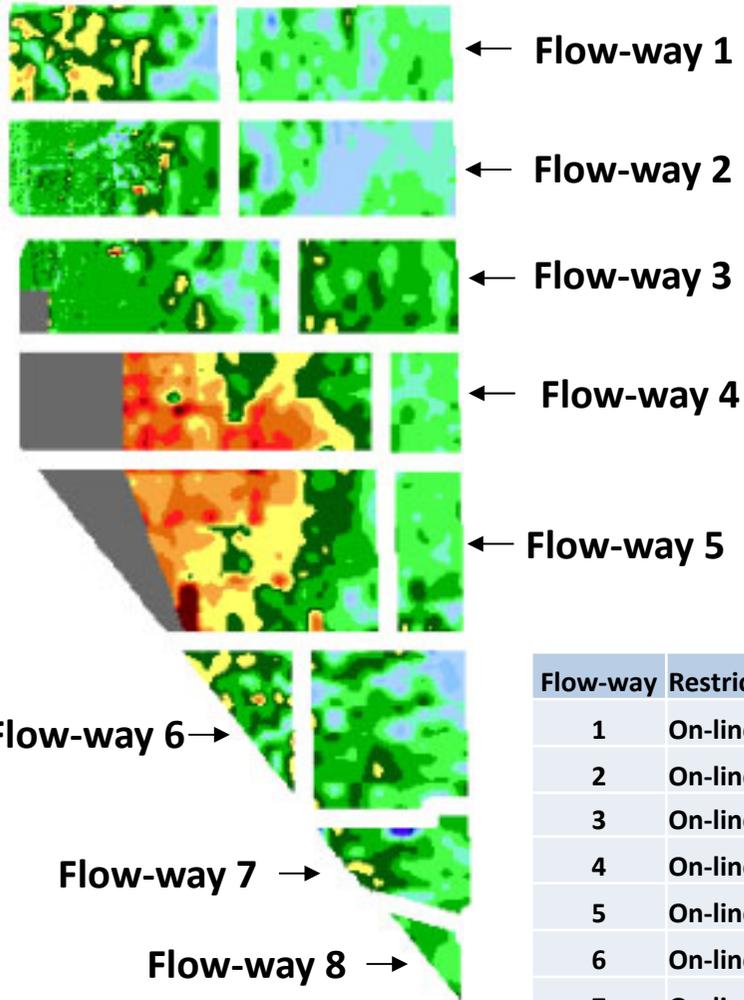
Flow-way	Restrictions
Northern	On-line; vegetation management
Eastern	On-line
Western	On-line
Cell 6	On-line
Cell 7	On-line
Cell 8	On-line

STA-1W

Flow-way	Restrictions	Back on-line
Western	On-line; post-construction grow in	
Central	Off-line ; construction activities	TBD
Eastern	On-line	

STA-1E

Stormwater Treatment Areas Water Depths



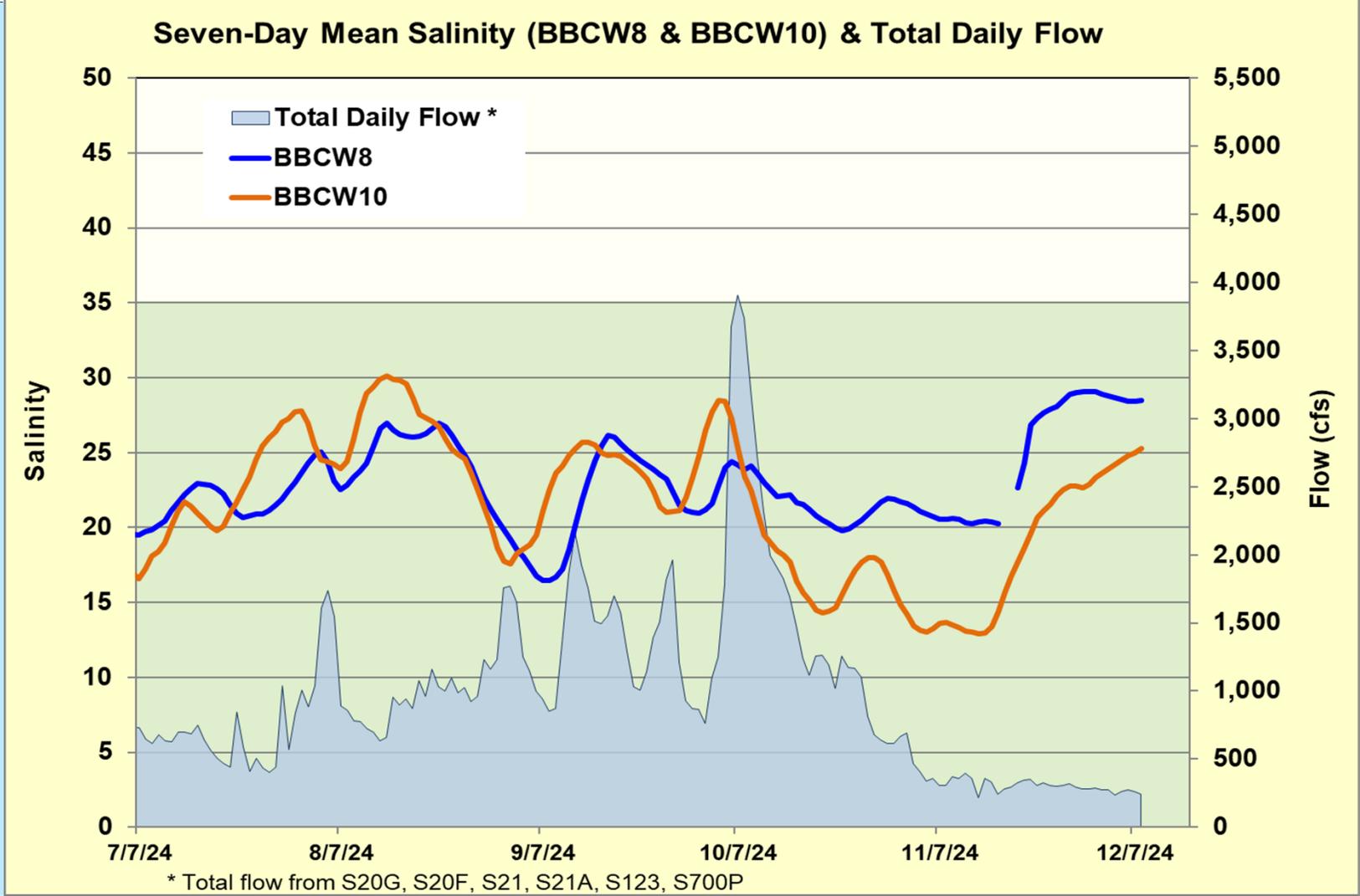
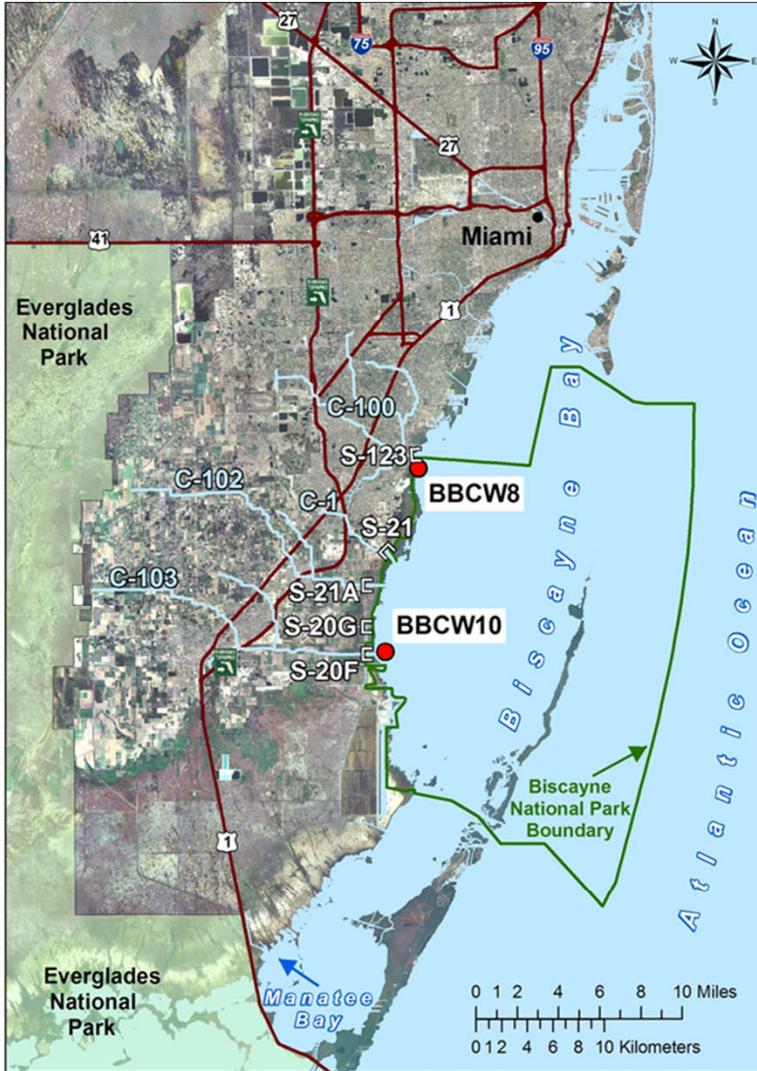
Flow-way	Restrictions
1	On-line
2	On-line
3	On-line
4	On-line
5	On-line
6	On-line
7	On-line
8	On-line

Flow-way	Restrictions
Western	On-line
Central	On-line
Eastern	On-line; post-drawdown vegetation grow-in

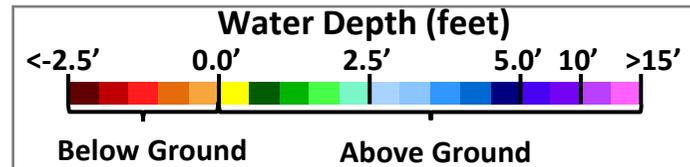
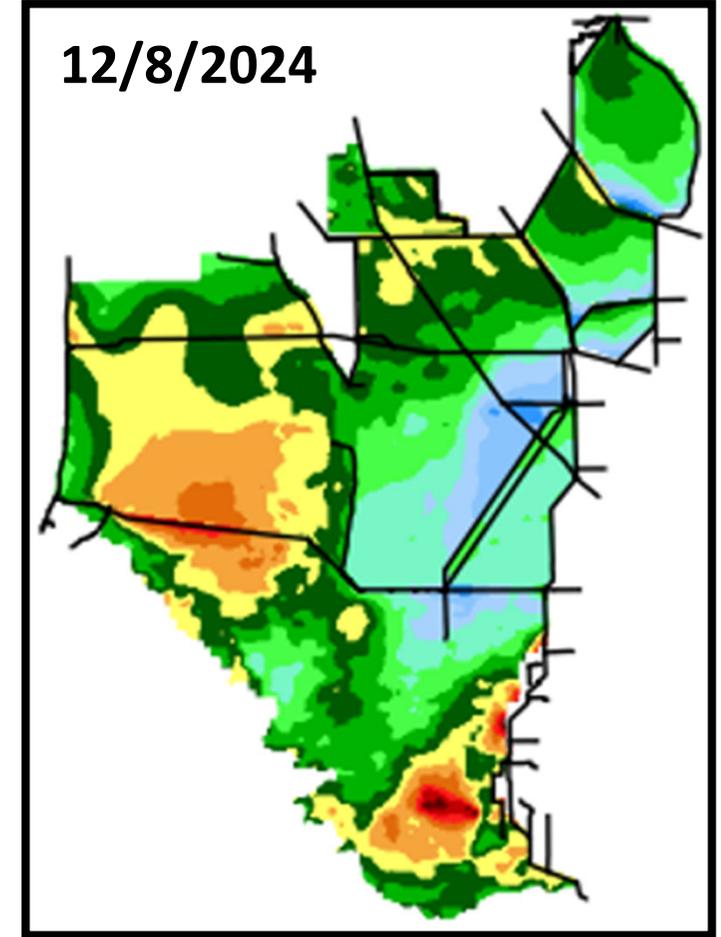
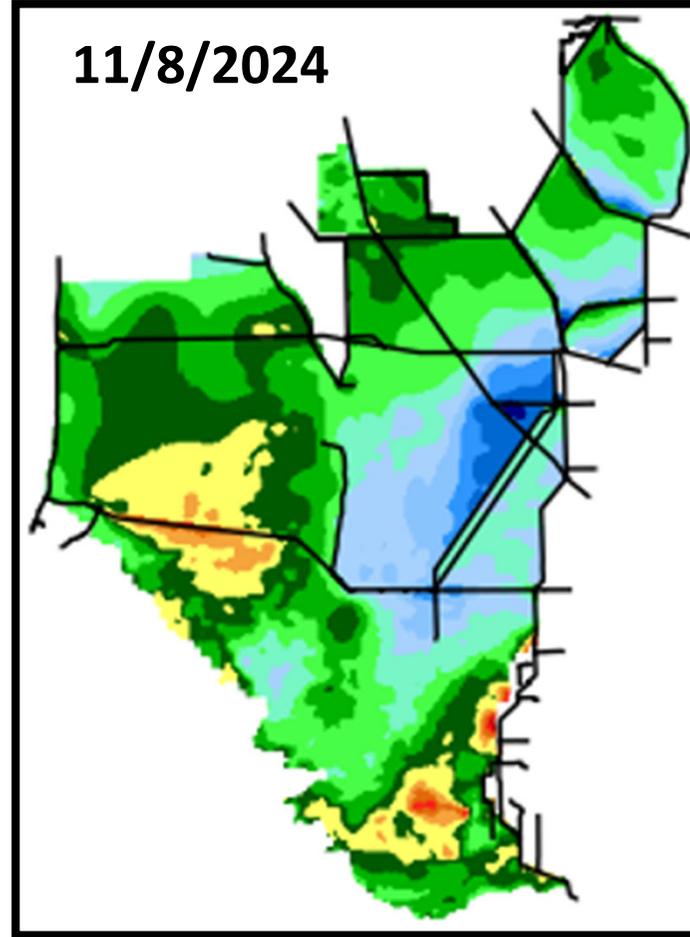
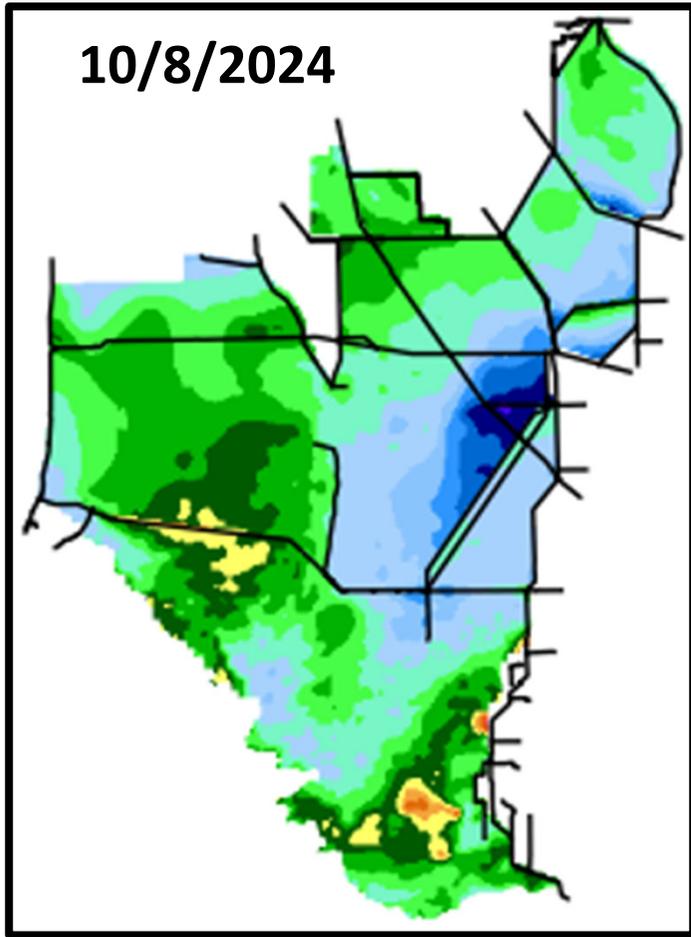
STA-3/4

STA-5/6

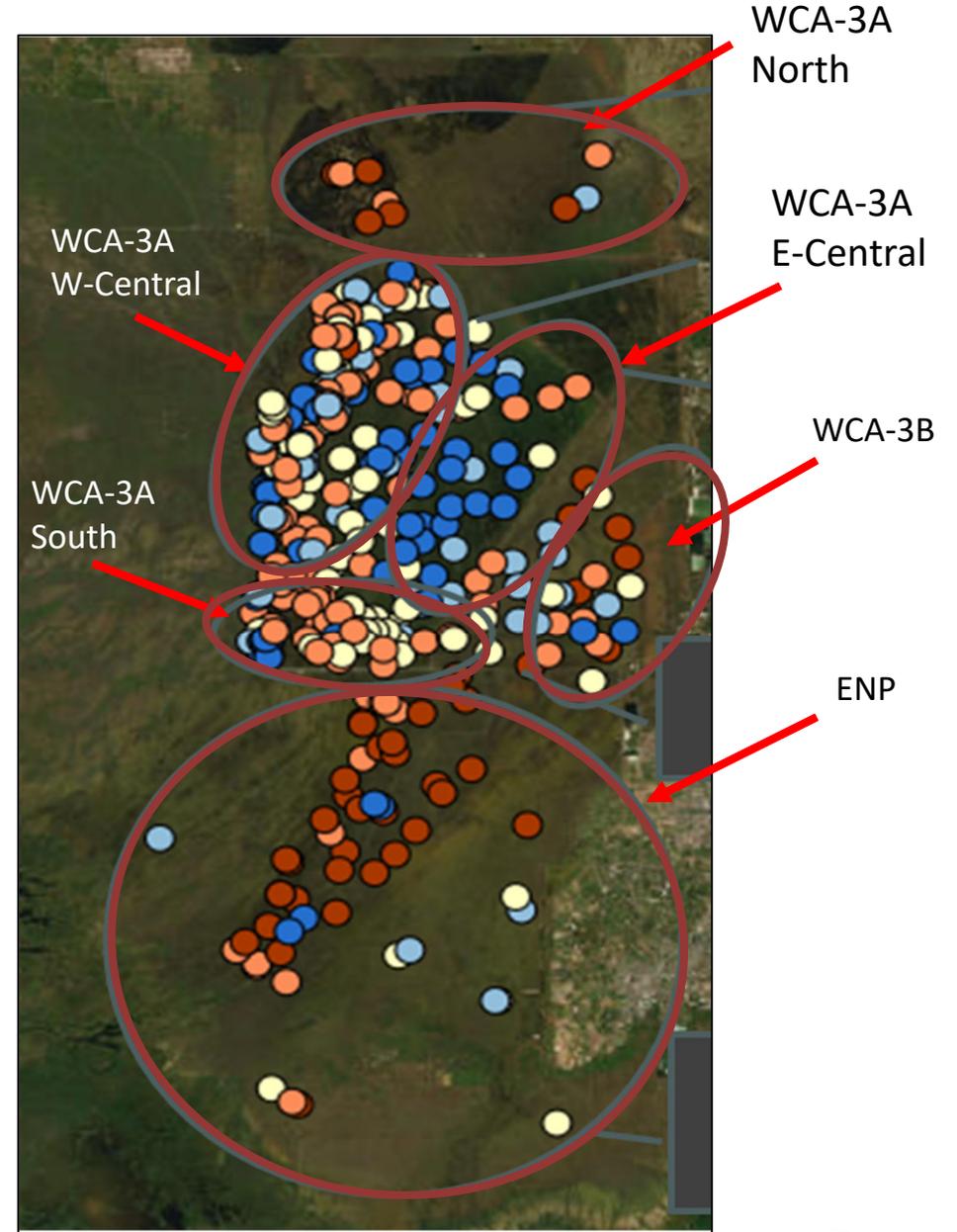
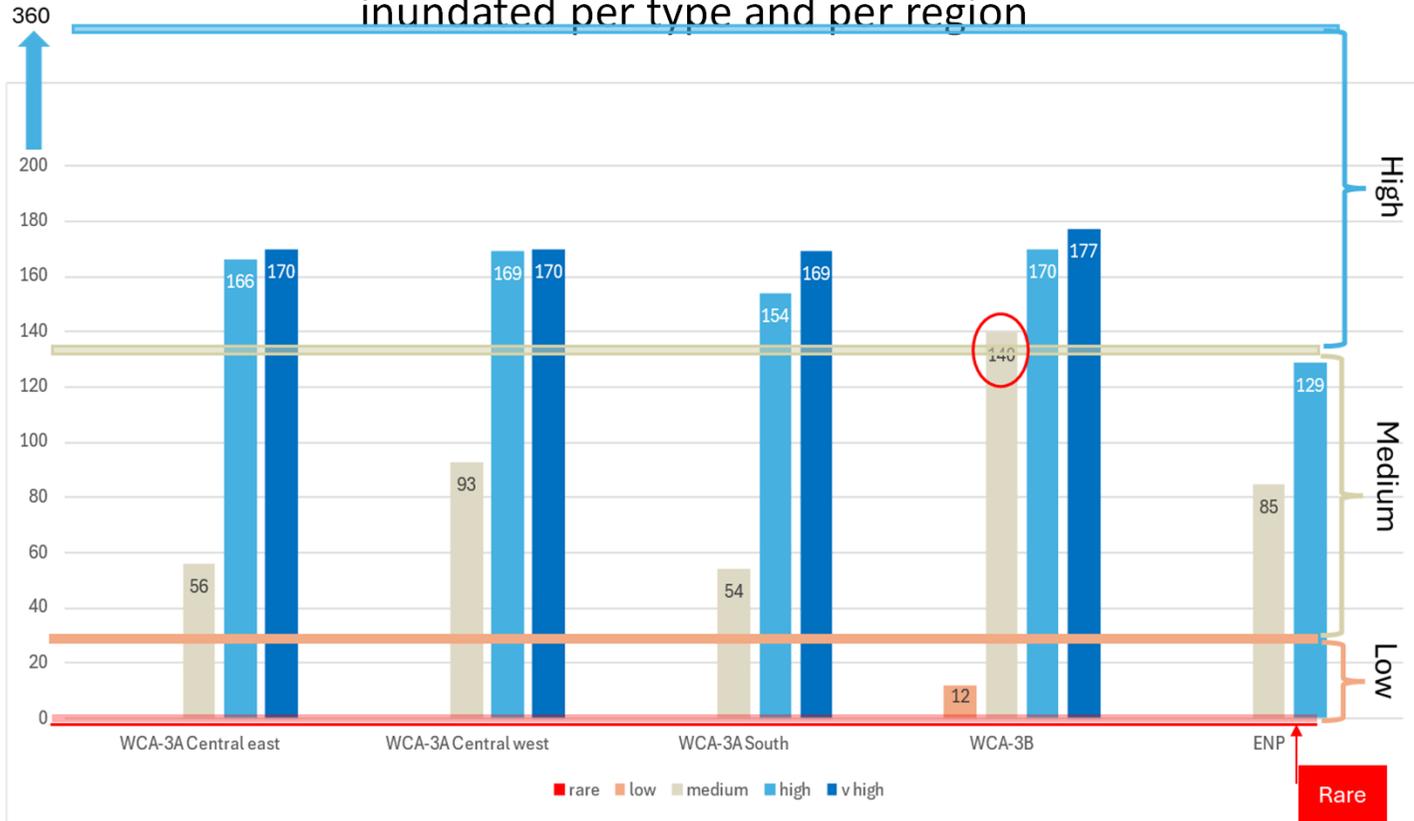
Biscayne Bay Salinity Conditions



Everglades Water Depths



Average # of days that tree islands have been continuously inundated per type and per region



USGS ETree data 11/28/24

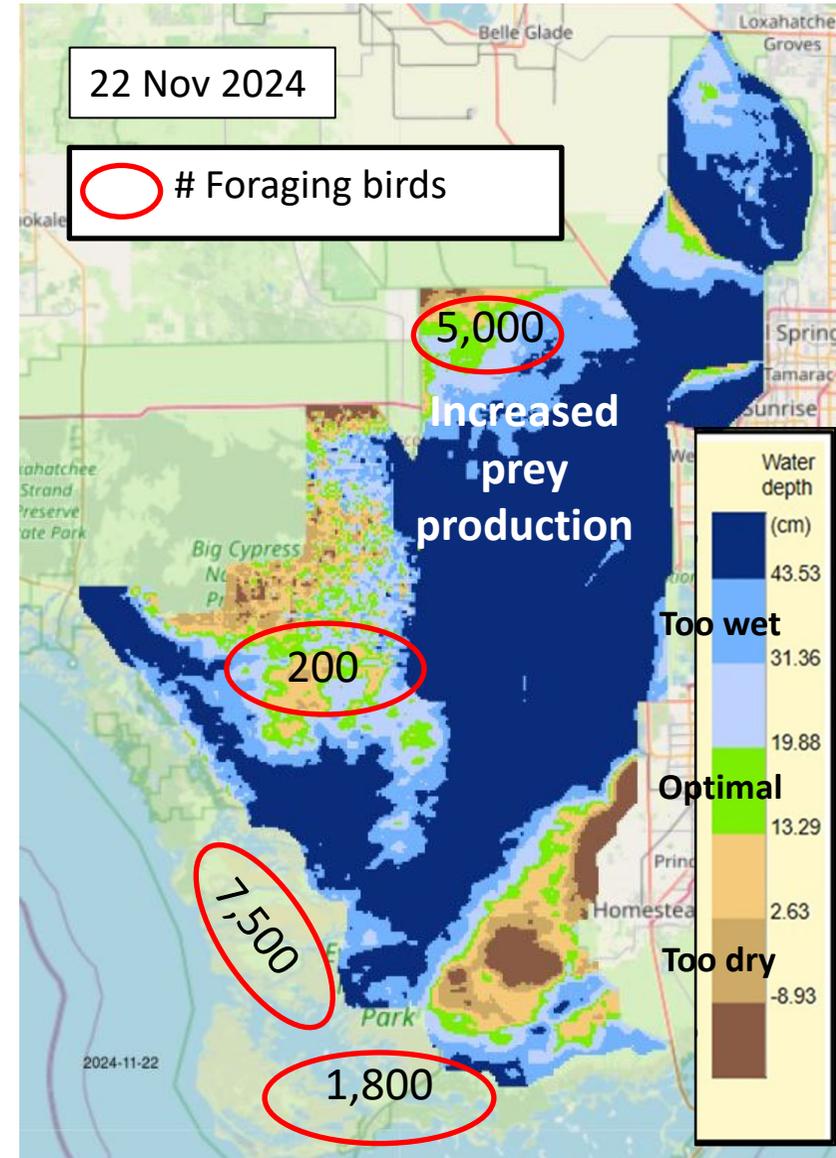
- None of the rarely inundated islands experienced flooding this year. WCA-3B "medium" islands have been flooded longer than average
- Current duration of tree island inundation is what would be expected based on climate and island types

Historical Inundation

- Very High -- > 365 Days
- High -- 136-365 Days
- Medium -- 32-135 Days
- Low -- 1-31 Days
- Rare -- Zero Days

Water Depths are Currently Favorable for a Successful 2025 Wading Bird Nesting Season

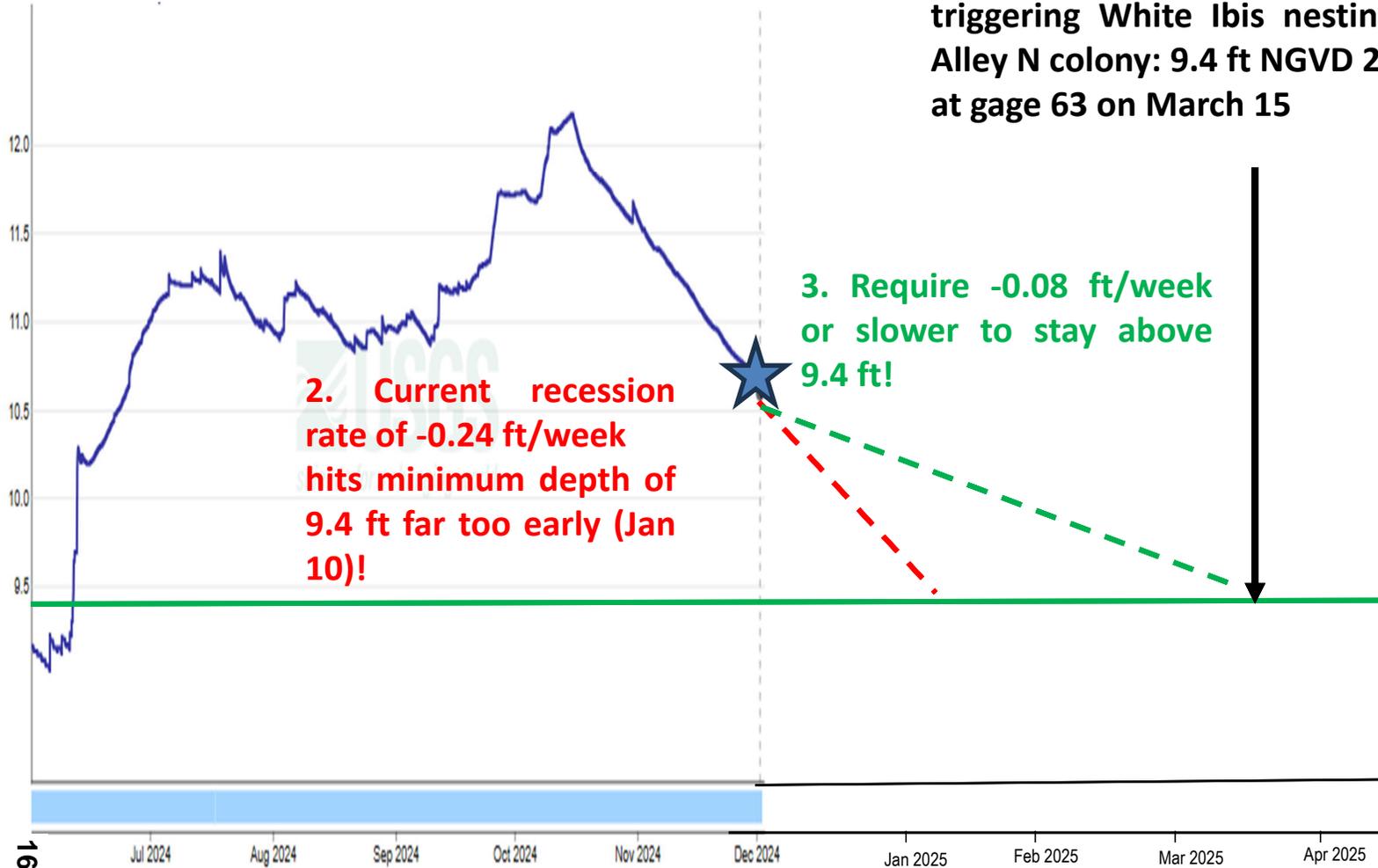
- Long hydroperiods across the landscape have been conducive to prey production setting up the Everglades for a potential bumper nesting season.
- In response, large flocks of birds continue to foraging along the coast allowing for early stork nesting and coastal colony formation (see map).
- But...recession rates in WCA-3AN and Big Cypress are currently far too fast to sustain critical foraging habitat through the nesting season.
- Consistent above-average recession rates in WCA-3AS are also a concern for this region for foraging later in the spring.
- Because of reduced water levels, large numbers of White Ibis are now feeding in WCA-3AN. However, the timing is wrong; this is 2-3 months earlier than during successful nesting seasons and is not sustainable for nesting.



Wading Bird Habitat Suitability
34 Presenter: Lawrence Glenn

Recession Rates are too Rapid in WCA-3AN to Trigger Nesting at Alley North & Support Foraging

Hydrograph for Gage 63



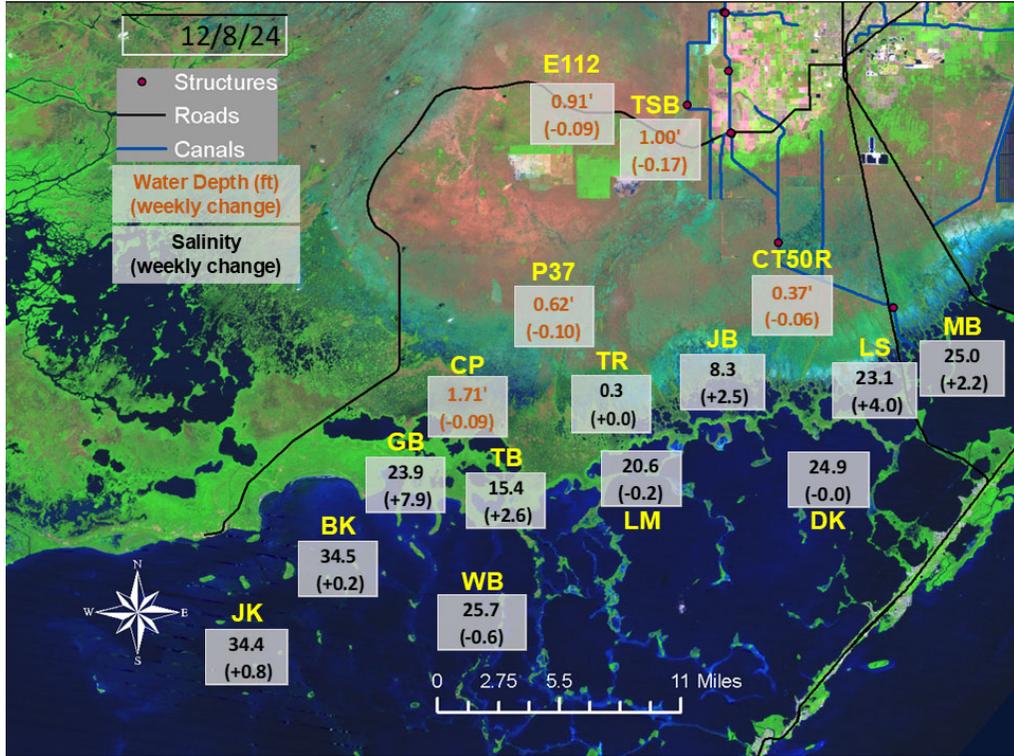
Wading bird recession rate ecological characterization criteria: WY25 dry season (feet/week)

Poor:	any ascension
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



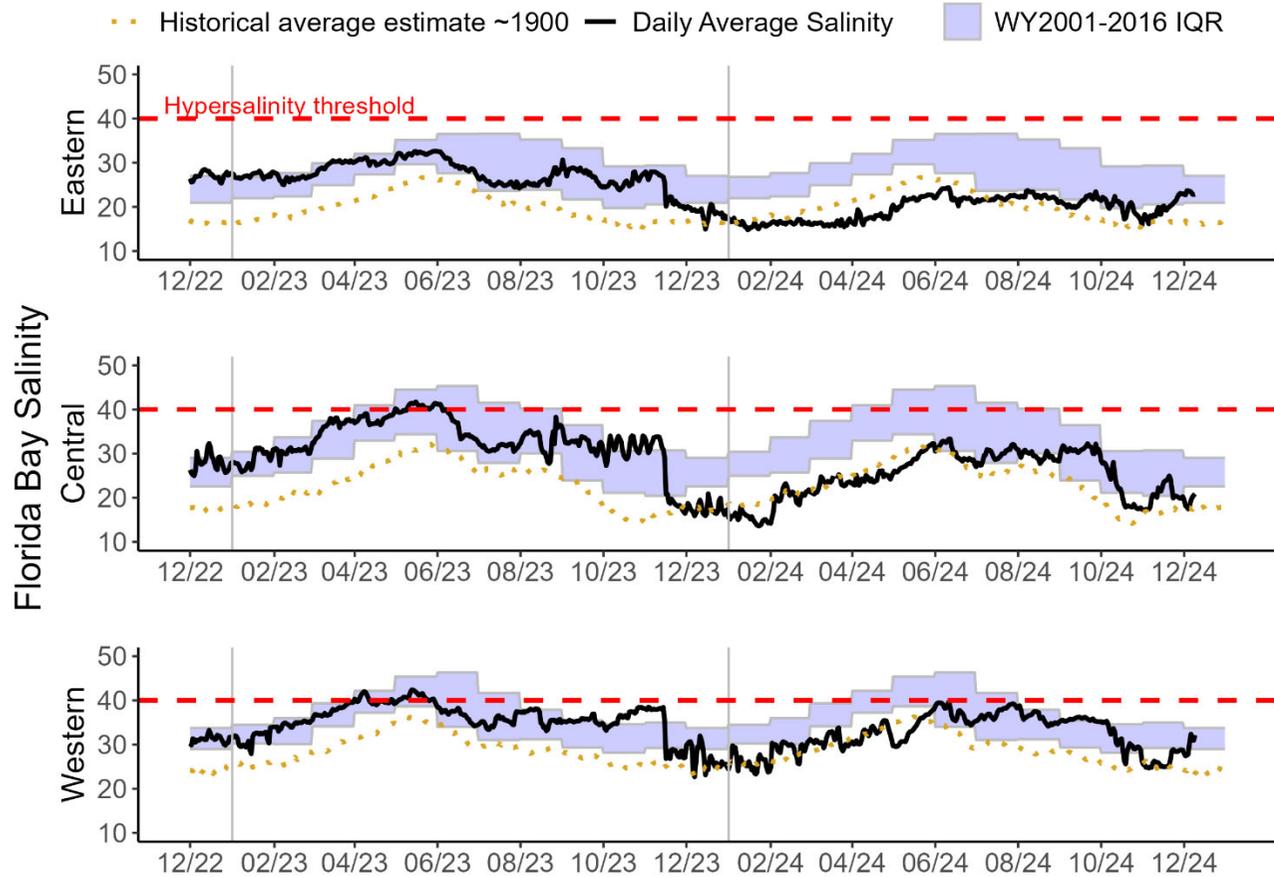
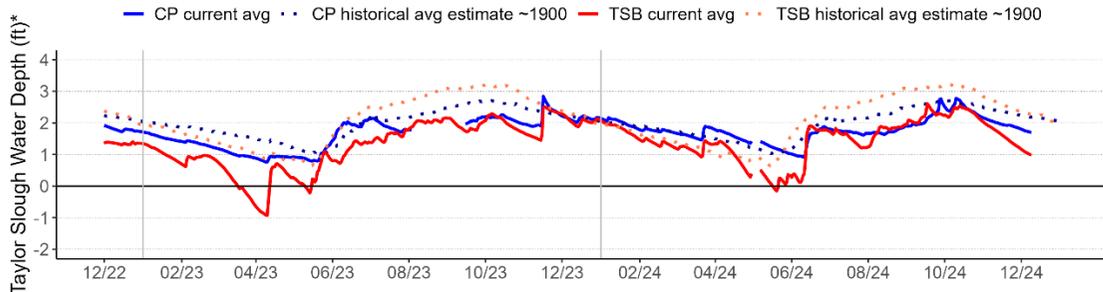
Rapid recession rates strand aquatic prey & over-drain the landscape reducing foraging habitat quality & quantity.

Florida Bay Salinity



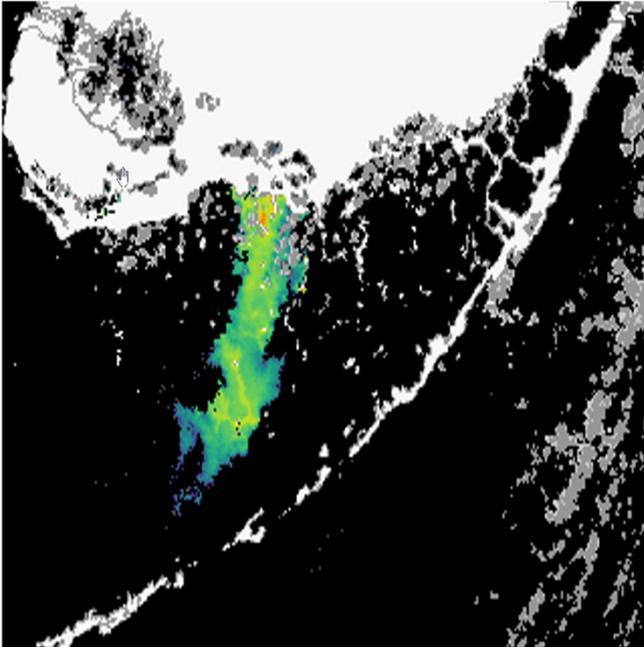
Taylor Slough Water Depths

*note: calculated using ground surface elevations values (NAVD88) from EDEN

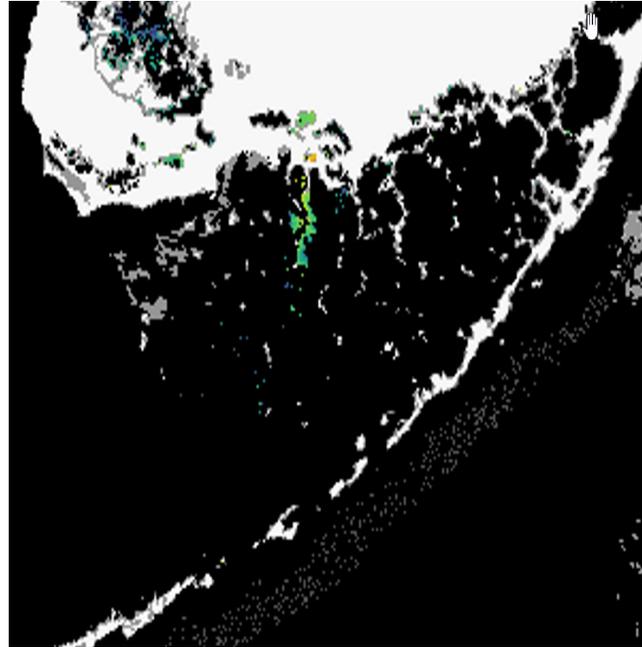


Blue green algal bloom in Central Florida Bay

10/23/24

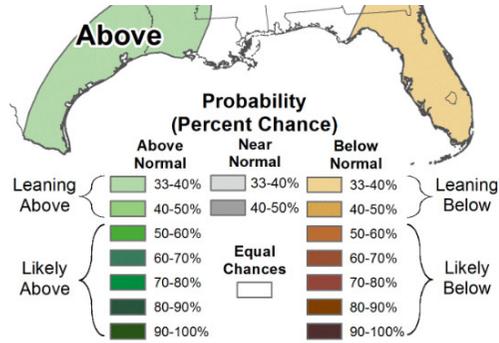


12/04/24

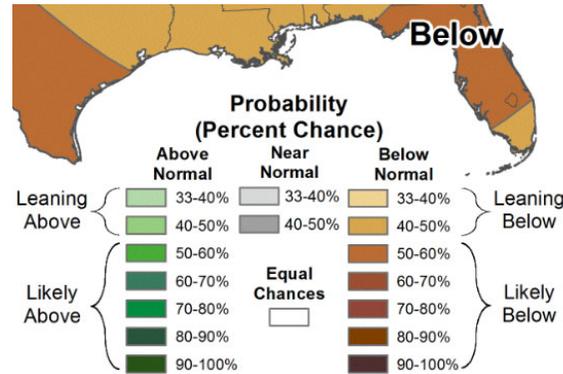


- An algal bloom formed in Jan. 2024
- Initially small and localized nearshore, it expanded following the passage of Helene and Milton
- Likely a response to rains and storm surge pushing dead organic material off wetlands into the bay
- Species are non-toxic and the bloom is dissipating

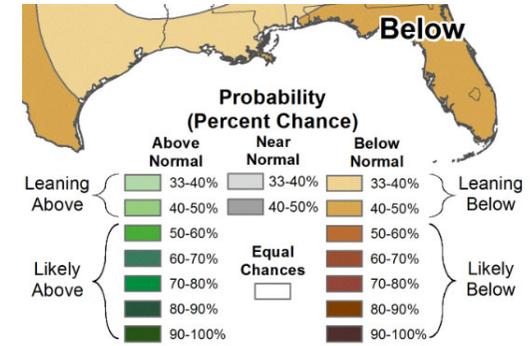
CPC Precipitation Outlook for South Florida



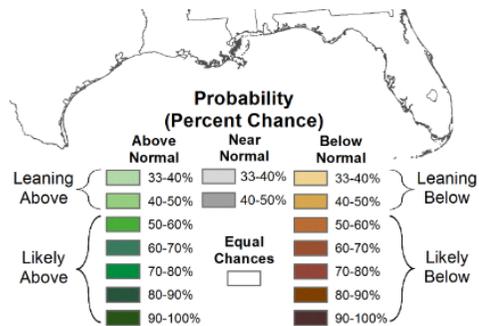
Dec 2024



Dec 2024 – Feb 2025



Feb 2025 – Apr 2025



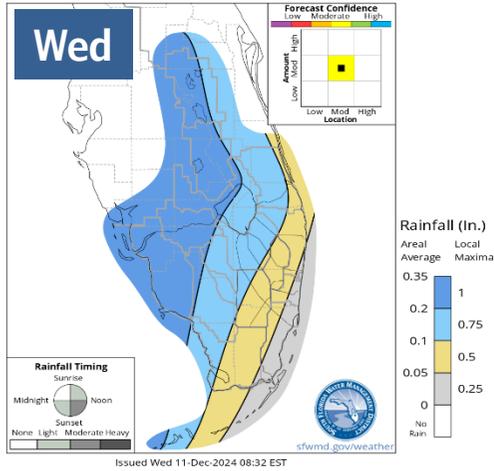
Apr 2025 – Jun 2025

Updated Nov 21, 2024

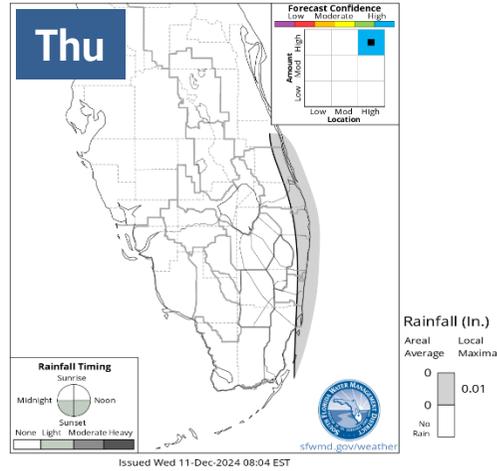
- The most recent CPC precipitation outlook for Dec 2024 is slightly increased chances (33-40%) of below Normal rainfall for south Florida.
- The 3-month window of Dec 2024 – Feb 2025 shows shows substantial increased chances (50-60%) of below normal rainfall for areas north of the EAA, and increased chances (40-50%) of below normal for the respective remainder areas of the District.
- The 3-month window of Jan 2025 – Mar 2025 shows outlooks for substantial increased chances (50-60%) of below normal rainfall for the entire District.
- The 3-month windows of Feb 2025 – Apr 2025 and Mar 2025 – May 2025 indicate increased chances (40-50%) of below normal rainfall for the entire District.
- All the 3-month windows from Apr 2024 – Jun 2024 into the transition to the 2024-2025 Dry Season show equal chances of below, normal and above normal rainfall.

Short-, Medium-, & Extended-Range Outlooks

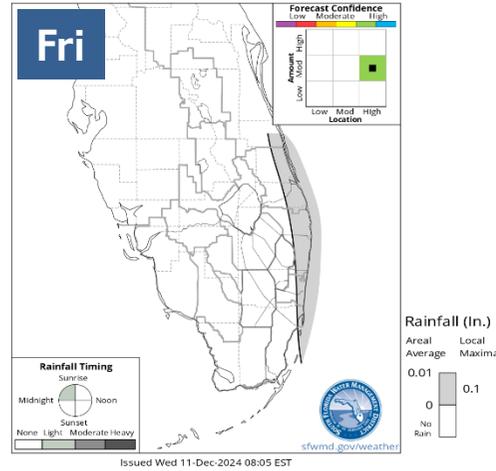
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 1 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Wednesday



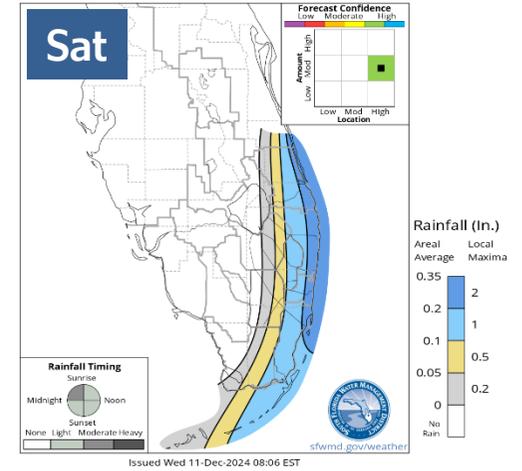
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 2 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Thursday



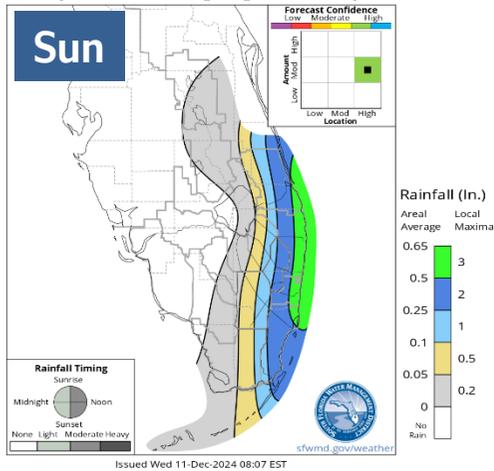
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 3 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Friday



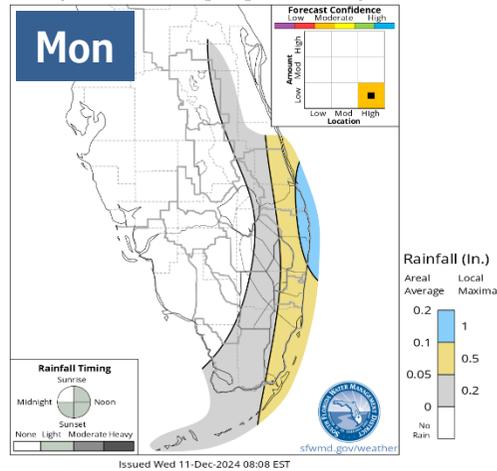
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 4 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Saturday



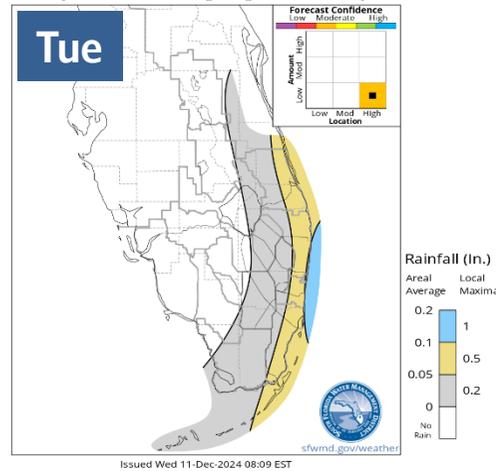
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 5 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Sunday



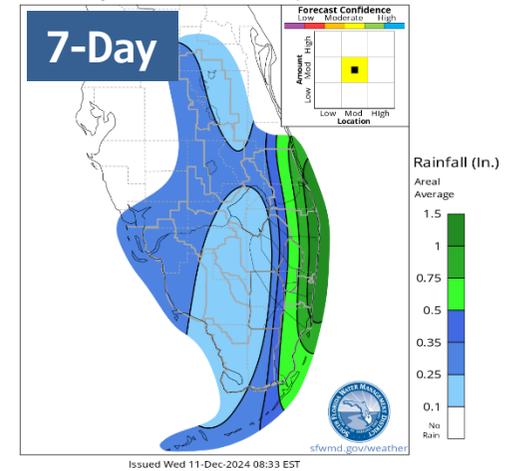
SFWMD Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Day 6 24-Hour Period Beginning 7am EST Monday



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



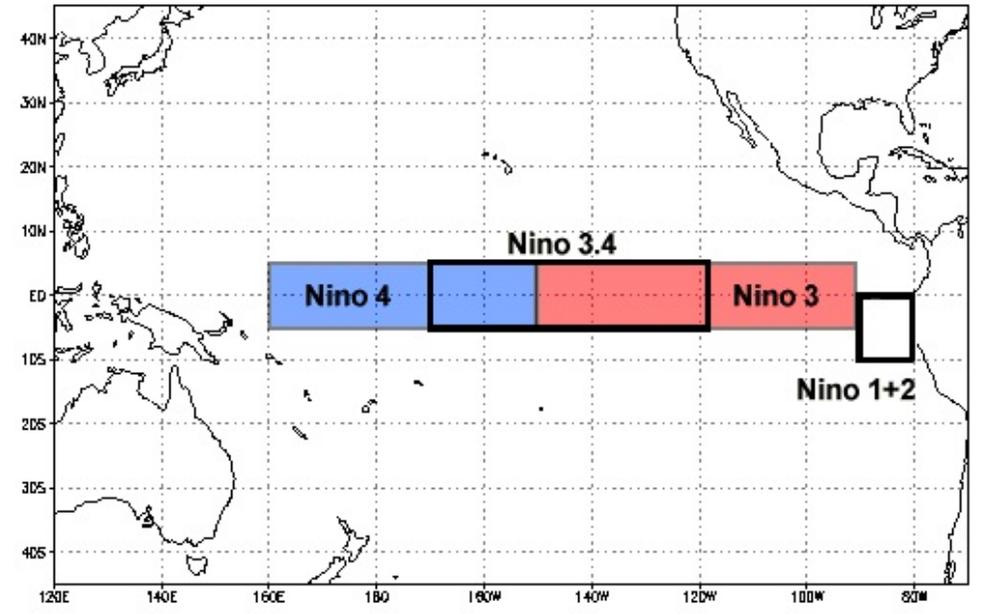
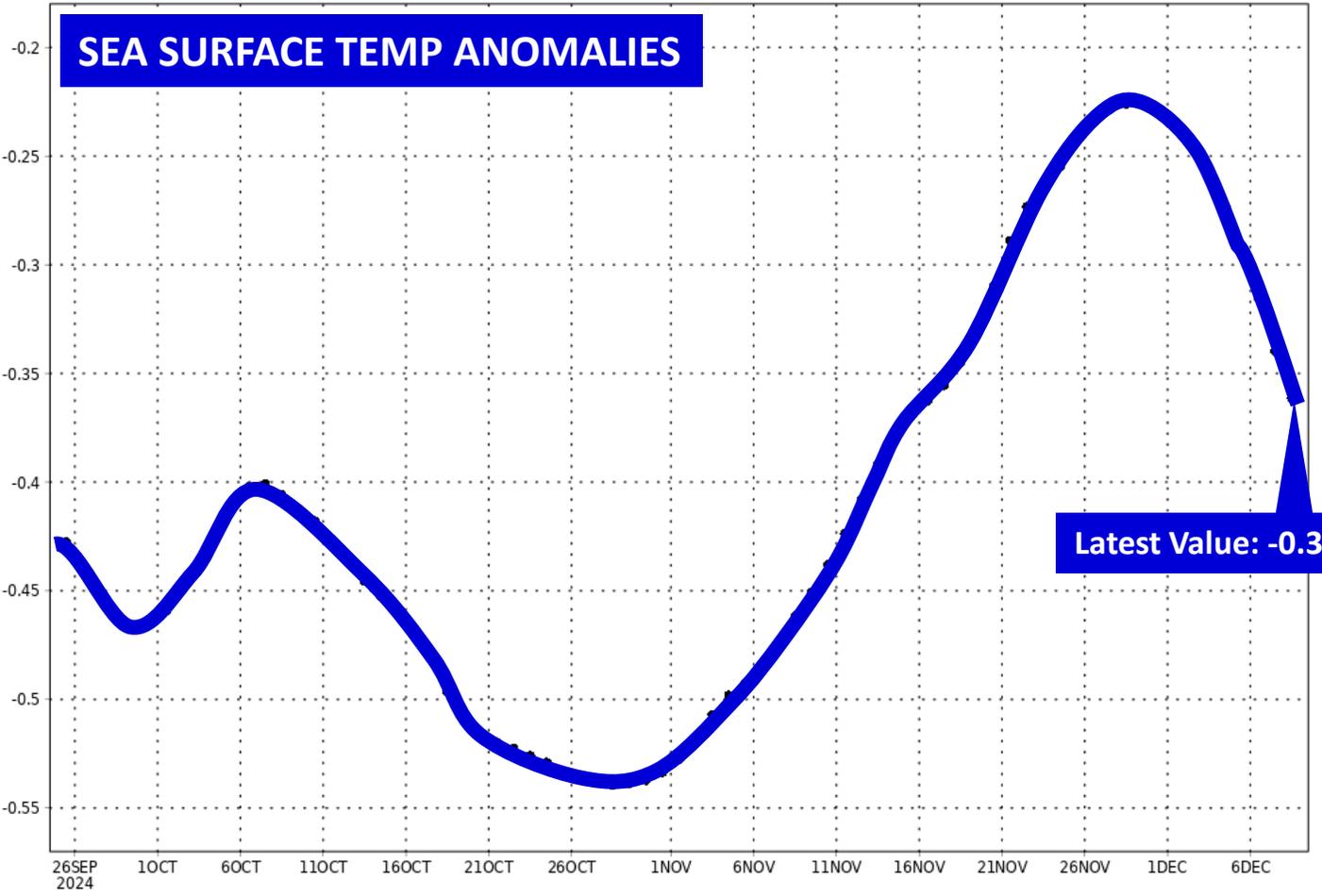
Weekly Summary

Week 1 (Historical Avg: 0.46"): Below normal [near-normal, at best]
Week 2 (Historical Avg: 0.42"): Below normal

Water Temperatures in the Equatorial Pacific Ocean

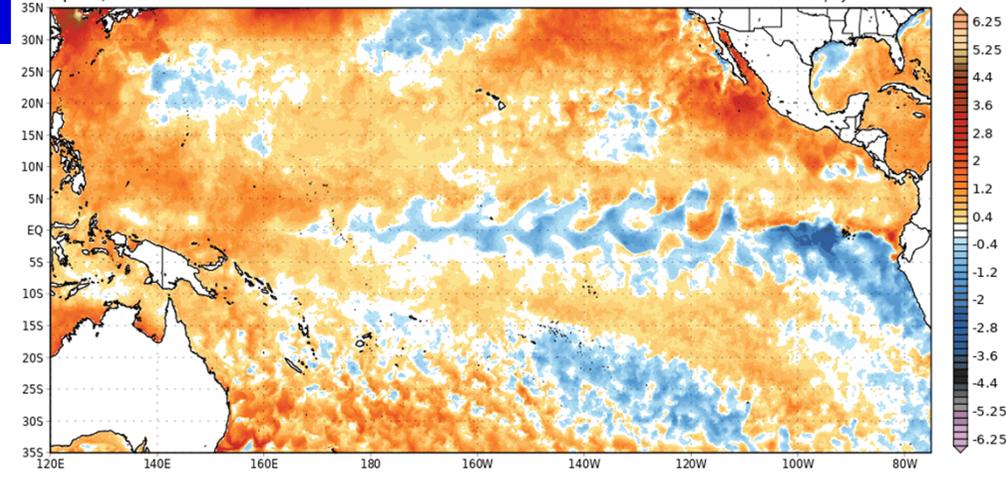
NOAA Coral Reef Watch Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly [°C]
15 Day Running Mean Ending Dec 08, 2024 • Nino 3.4

Latest Value: -0.361°C | 1991-2020 Climatology
Alex Boreham | cyclonicwx.com



NOAA Coral Reef Watch Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly [°C]
Sep 11, 2024

1991-2020 Climatology
Alex Boreham | cyclonicwx.com



Bottom Line

- ENSO-neutral conditions present over the equatorial central and eastern Pacific could evolve into a weak to moderate La Niña event this winter.
- A La Niña-atmospheric response is evident this fall, which most likely will continue through the winter.
- The Western Pacific Warm Pool has replenished itself, though far below the levels seen prior to the 2023 El Niño event.
- Seasonal models forecast a general warming from spring through summer next year.
- A weak El Niño or neutral (warm) conditions possible for 2025 Atlantic hurricane season.



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. The Cutler Wetlands Component 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

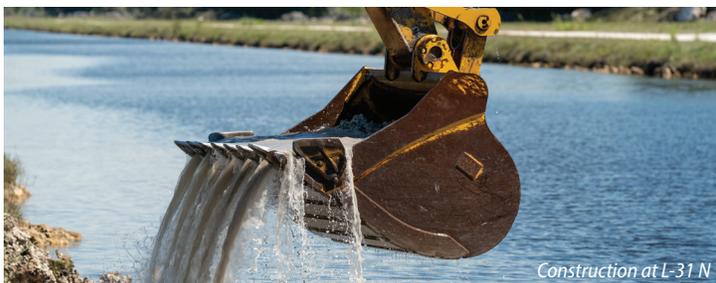
Lead Agency: USACE

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; Operational Testing and Monitoring Period.

- 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 and is being coordinated for S-711 to begin in January 2025.



Construction at L-31 N

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: 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 to include a seepage wall throughout and revised levee toe. The updated final design is forecasted to be complete in December 2024, completing the biddability, constructability, operability, environmental and sustainability milestone in March 2025, advertising the contract in May 2025 and awarding the contract in 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 FY26.
- 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 6 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) 20.5 of 21 miles completed, soil cement (slope) 19.5 of 21 miles completed, perimeter canal and intake canal works are 99.95% complete, 42,000 feet of wave wall installed. Sand column relief manifold (north reach) is 20% complete and the southern 3 reaches continue excavation and dewatering. S-470 discharge piping installation is complete except for one minor component. I will remove the words top elbow piece. Monitoring platform installation is working on their 14th platform. Phase II soil bentonite wall complete except cell 2 access gap east of S-473. S-475 gate installation commenced and three sill plates to be poured in mid-December, gate rails are progressing inside the structure. S-475 gate hoist mechanism completed. S-475 gate hoist and S-471 gates are in transit to the Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir site. Sod has now been completed on 2/3 of the north down stream slope (south and east slopes completed previously). Piezometer installation is presently 25% complete.

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: Design; Construction.

- Contract 10A – Seepage Inflow/Outflow Canal: De-mucking, clearing, and grubbing activities are about 93% complete. Excavation of the canal footprint continues and is 56% complete. Seepage canal and inflow/outflow canal blasting is about 70% complete. Embankment construction began and is about 20% complete. Forecasting completion date of July 2025.
- Contract 11A – Foundation Preparation & Cutoff Wall: Contractor has nearly completed Demonstration Section 1 and 3 are nearly complete. The next steps are to complete Demonstration Section 4 to meet all inspection needs. Clearing, grubbing and de-mucking of borrow pit areas 2 and 3 are complete and borrow area 5 is 65% complete. Drilling and blasting of borrow area 3 is 42% complete. Construction of the east side batch plant slab (near borrow area 3) is nearly complete.

- 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 is pending performance and payment bonds. 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.
- Contract 11C – S-636 Seepage Pump Station: Design began in March 2023, and the construction award is expected in September 2026.
- Contract 12 – S-623 Reservoir Inflow Pump Station: In design and will be awarded for construction by SFWMD in Q2 FY25.

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: Design.

- Contract 9A – EAA North New River Canal Improvements: Construction Notice to Proceed issued on June 20, 2024. Dredge Material Management Area is under construction, mechanical excavation in progress, and hydraulic dredge pipes are assembled.
- Contract 9A – EAA Miami River Canal Improvements Phase 1: Design is complete and construction award by Q2 FY25.
- Contract 9A – EAA Miami River Canal Improvements Phase 2: Design is ongoing and construction award in FY25.

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. S-622 is in design and contract award is planned in Q3 FY25.
- 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 Q1 FY25.
- Contract 8A – L-5 Canal Improvements are in design. They will be constructed in two packages and the contract award for Package 1 is planned in Q2 FY25.
- 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: At S-631 the sheetpile installation is being completed with quality assurance being done to confirm correct grade. At S-632 dewatering continues alongside prep for sheetpile installation. At S-633 the contractor has begun processing materials for stockpiling. There are anticipated delays with the contractor as they manage mechanical and equipment issues. Progress and quality assurance meetings are being held to address delays.
- Contract 2A – Pump Station S-356E and S-334E Gated Spillway: Final design is complete, but the construction contract advertisement is delayed due to ongoing coordination with respect to the FDOT construction agreement. Contract award forecasted for May 2025 but may shift with this agreement issue.
- Contract 3B – S-355W Gated Spillway in L-29 Canal: Final design is complete. To expedite the CEPP-S implementation schedule, the District is proposing to accept the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers request to take on construction of the S-355W gated spillway structure (Contract 3B). This structure is a critical component in construction sequencing for CEPP-S.
- Contract 5 – Blue Shanty Flowway: Final design is scheduled to be complete in FY26, and the contract award is scheduled for FY26. USACE and SFWMD are coordinating how best to incorporate design refinements based on science recommendations from the Decomp Physical Model into this contract.
- Contract 6 – L-29 Levee Removal: Design is scheduled to begin in FY25, and the contract award is scheduled for FY28.

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 80% and Segment 3 is 95% complete, Segment 2 canal excavation 80%, and box culvert concrete construction is complete and backfilling to start 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 IRL 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: Final design has been completed. Contract awarded on September 30, 2024, with Notice to Proceed issued on October 29, 2024. The contractor is currently working on pre-construction submittals and there is a pre-construction meeting scheduled for December 12-13, 2024.
- 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 IRL 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 FY25.

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 Q3 FY25.

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 IRL-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 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.

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 FY25.
- 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 Levee: Five of six lifts for the full seven miles are complete and the sixth lift is in progress. The project is progressing with placing embankment material.
- Conveyance Features (Design/Build Contract): U.S. 41 culverts construction completed January 2024. CR-92 construction underway and completion is expected in December 2024. The Operational, Testing, and Monitoring Period is expected to begin by February 2025 when the stoplogs are removed.
- Canal Plugging: The Faka Union Canal plugging was completed in May 2024. The Miller Canal plugging is scheduled to begin January 2025.

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 targeting a kick-off 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 is currently awaiting authorization in the upcoming 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 – December 2024

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PROGRESS UPDATE

In the Caloosahatchee River Watershed, construction is substantially complete at the C-43 Water Quality Treatment and Testing Facility – Phase II, Test Cells, which include new plantings for this innovative study. Based on the findings of the Phase I mesocosms, Phase II will further evaluate the effectiveness of treatment wetlands in reducing nitrogen at a test-cell scale.

The 80-acre facility on District lands is aligned within the footprint of the Boma Flow Equalization Basin to maximize both water quality and storage benefits at the property. Following grow-in of the newly established wetland plants over the next several months, multiyear research will follow.

As test cell study results become available, these findings will be used to help inform future water quality projects in support of the state’s Basin Management Action Plan for the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary.



Aerial view of the C-43 Test Cells Facility (November 2024)

INTERAGENCY SPOTLIGHT

On November 18, 2024, the Coordinating Agencies held their second annual joint *NEEPP Public Workshop* at SFWMD Headquarters to collectively summarize NEEPP key accomplishments and progress made over the past year.

Along with presentations by the agencies, open poster and Q&A sessions were held to engage with the public and stakeholders on key NEEPP topics of interest including SFWMD-led Watershed Construction Projects and Research and Water Quality Monitoring Programs, DEP Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs), and FDACS Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs).

In addition to providing transparency and accountability, this workshop was a great opportunity to receive public input on the planning process and future reporting. All the workshop presentations and posters can be viewed at [SFWMD.gov/WPPs](https://www.sfwmd.gov/WPPs).



2024 NEEPP Public Workshop

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRESS UPDATE

DEP held Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) update technical meetings for the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary/Everglades West Coast, St. Lucie River and Estuary, and Lake Okeechobee. The meetings for Lake Okeechobee also showcased the water quality analyses performed as part of the next 5-Year Review for the BMAP, which was released for stakeholder comment and will be finalized in December 2024.

DEP held Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) update technical meetings for the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary/Everglades West Coast, St. Lucie River and Estuary, and Lake Okeechobee. The meetings for Lake Okeechobee also showcased the water quality analyses performed as part of the next 5-Year Review for the BMAP, which was released for stakeholder comment and will be finalized in December 2024 (see meeting materials for [Lake Okeechobee](#), [St. Lucie](#), and [Caloosahatchee/EWC](#)).

Staff from the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) also participated in these meetings to share information on the upcoming 5-Year WPP updates and agricultural BMP program updates.

The BMAP Project Collection Portal is open for stakeholders to submit updates to existing and new projects for 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)*. The portal will remain open through January 13, 2025, and the final STAR will be published by July 1, 2025, in fulfillment of Section 403.0675(1), F.S. (floridadep.gov/STAR).

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES PROGRESS UPDATE

As of October 1, 2024, FDACS has completed 92% of required implementation verifications (IVs) for agricultural operations within the NEEPP boundary (in accordance with IV deferrals). FDACS continues to collect and retain required nutrient application records as IVs are conducted.

Agricultural Commissioner Wilton Simpson signed Emergency Orders providing IV site visit deferrals for the counties impacted by Hurricane Debby (EO 2024-013, 37 counties through November 24, 2024), Hurricane Helene (EO 2024-014, 61 counties through November 22, 2024), and Hurricane Milton (EO 2024-017, 51 counties through December 4, 2024).

The Rural and Family Lands Protection Program (RFLPP) has been working to secure thousands of acres of agricultural land in their land preservation program, including closing on a 491-acre cow/calf operation in St. Lucie County; a 1,802-acre cattle, citrus, and wildlife management operation in northwestern Okeechobee County; and a cow/calf and quarter-horse breeding operation covering 755 acres in Hendry County.

FDACS continues with rulemaking to revise the existing Florida agricultural BMP manuals and rules. Rule Chapters 5M-1, 5M-9 (Sod), and 5M-11 (Cattle) have been adopted. The notice of proposed rule for 5M-8 (Florida Vegetable and Agronomic Crop), 5M-13 (Specialty Fruit & Nut), 5M-16 (Citrus), 5M-17 (Dairy), 5M-19 (Poultry), and 5M-21 (Small Farms and Specialty Livestock) were published in the Florida Administrative Register.

For a complete list of all rule development activity, visit fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy/Rule-Development-Activities.



A LOOK AHEAD

November 12 through December 17, 2024

Draft 2025 SFER Public & Peer Review

The public and peer review comment period for the *Draft 2025 South Florida Environmental Report (SFER) – Volume 1* is currently in progress.

This review includes comments 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) and 11 associated appendices (including the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Plan Regional Simulation Model Update, Appendix 8A-1), posted on the [SFER WebBoard](#). The complete three-volume, final report will be published on March 1, 2025 (SFWMD.gov/SFER).

December 16 and 17, 2024

FGCU Public Workshops on the Lake Okeechobee Ecological Study

The South Florida Water Management District is collaborating with the Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) to study the health and ecosystem of Lake Okeechobee.

In support of this study, FGCU is holding a second round of public workshops to offer the opportunity to review and comment on the drafted recommendations of the study (LakeOStudy.com).

A report on the study findings and recommendations will be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2025.