

Cross-Cut Budget

Task Force Working Document

Fiscal Year 2013
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Program

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Section 1.0

Overview

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Section 1.0: Introduction

Section 1.1: Overview

The information in this document is reported annually by the members of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (Task Force) and Working Group. It consists of three sections. Section 1.0 provides an overview and includes summary tables for the federal and state budget requests.

Section 2.0 provides detailed information concerning the federal Everglades Ecosystem restoration projects and funding. Section 2.1 addresses the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects and funding and Section 2.2 addresses non-CERP projects and funding. The base program and operational funding requests for some federal agencies are not included in the document.

Section 3.0 provides the detailed information concerning state Everglades Ecosystem restoration projects and funding. Section 3.1 addresses CERP projects and funding, and Section 3.2 addresses non-CERP projects and funding. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2012/13 totals shown represent estimates for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). When finalized the FY 2012/13 actual budget totals for SFWMD will be posted on the Task Force website: www.sfrestore.org.

Section 1.2: Federal and State of Florida Funding Summary Tables

The following tables provide a summary of the detailed funding information found in Sections 2.0 and 3.0 of this document. Table 1 includes budget information provided by federal members and Table 2 includes budget information provided by the State of Florida members.

The funding for the federal agencies and the SFWMD reflects a fiscal year that begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of each year. The funding for other state agencies reflects a fiscal year that starts on July 1 and ends on June 30 of each year.

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TABLE 1: FEDERAL FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Requested
COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PROGRAM (CERP)												
USACE - CERP (Part of Central and Southern Florida) ^{1,3,4}	27,961,000	37,062,000	39,063,000	64,446,000	62,610,000 ²	64,000,000	64,000,000	83,640,000	119,966,000	117,525,000	57,886,000	91,349,000
USACE - CERP (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009)								1,100,000	86,796,000			
USACE - CERP O&M ¹											330,000	2,440,000
USDOJ - NPS CERP ⁹	5,544,000	5,513,000	5,463,000	5,213,000	5,174,000	5,212,000	5,132,000	5,108,000	5,198,000	5,150,000	5,101,000	5,146,000
USDOJ - FWS CERP	3,351,000	3,329,000	3,309,000	3,304,000	3,269,000	3,269,000	3,251,000	3,251,000	3,251,000	3,251,000	3,246,000	3,246,000
NON-COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PROGRAM (CERP)												
USACE - Central and Southern Florida (excluding CERP) ^{1,3,4}	64,949,000	49,983,000	64,906,000	8,029,000	9,126,000	6,447,000	14,505,000	9,075,000	10,600,000	34,805,000	35,986,000	32,500,000
USACE - Non-CERP O&M							590,000	731,000	1,278,000	1,075,000	4,842,000	5,343,000
USACE - Non-CERP American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009									7,516,000			
USACE - Critical Projects ^{3,4}	19,876,000	19,526,000	14,760,000	25,813,000	11,880,000	8,289,000	8,156,000	3,472,000	2,725,000	5,170,000	3,000,000	1,975,000
USACE - Kissimmee River Restoration ^{3,4}	25,846,000	23,727,000	17,616,000	17,871,000	13,042,000	50,264,000	30,968,000	28,361,000	44,673,000	6,986,000	45,614,000	27,500,000
USACE - Biscayne Bay ³	240,000	200,000	0	74,000	0	0	0	239,000	0	0	0	
USACE - Modified Water Deliveries ⁴					34,650,000	35,000,000	9,840,000	0	0	0	0	
USDA - ARS	4,846,900	5,216,800	5,415,100	6,101,000	4,908,600	4,941,000	4,754,500	4,764,700	4,865,000	4,797,600	4,660,300	4,332,700
USDA - NRCS	37,752,000	21,376,000	23,580,000	62,539,337 ⁵	61,505,271 ⁵	5,143,335	13,240,175	61,017,879	154,409,000	111,522,600	69,574,473 ¹⁰	53,000,000
US Department of Commerce - NOAA	4,065,000	4,065,000	4,359,000	4,389,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	1,910,000	1,648,778	724,716	TBD
USDOJ - NPS Park Management	23,635,000	23,874,000	23,991,000	25,266,000	25,832,000	26,377,000	28,481,000	29,852,000	31,400,000	30,441,000	29,611,000	29,883,000
USDOJ - South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force	1,325,000	1,320,000	1,308,000	1,290,000	1,286,000	1,307,000	1,303,000	1,303,000	1,320,000	1,317,000	1,303,000	1,308,000
USDOJ - NPS Everglades Research (Critical Ecosystem Studies Initiative)	4,000,000	3,974,000	3,937,000	3,882,000	3,840,000	3,864,000	3,849,000	3,849,000	3,873,000	3,865,000	3,822,000	3,832,000
USDOJ - NPS Modified Water Deliveries	35,199,000 ⁶	9,935,000	12,830,000	7,965,000	24,962,000 ⁷	13,330,000	14,299,000	60,000,000	8,400,000	8,000,000	7,987,000	8,000,000

EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Requested
USDOJ - NPS Big Cypress Sustainable Trail System										3,552,000	2,669,000	0
USDOJ - NPS American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009								15,873,000	0	0	0	
USDOJ - NPS Federal Land Acquisition Projects											30,511,000	
USDOJ - NPS Land Acquisition (management)	2,800,000	2,782,000	1,800,000	1,500,000	690,000	500,000	750,000	730,000	775,000	775,000	1,023,000	775,000
USDOJ - NPS Land Acquisition Grants to Florida	15,000,000	15,421,000	(5,000,000) ⁸	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USDOJ - FWS Ecological Services	2,554,000	2,537,000	2,523,000	2,518,000	2,516,000	2,521,000	2,475,000	2,475,000	2,475,000	2,475,000	2,471,000	2,471,000
USDOJ - FWS Refuges and Wildlife	3,706,000	3,682,000	9,784,000	4,787,000	4,086,000	4,086,000	4,022,000	4,022,000	4,022,000	4,022,000	4,016,000	4,016,000
USDOJ - FWS Migratory Birds					101,000	101,000	99,000	99,000	99,000	99,000	99,000	99,000
USDOJ - FWS Law Enforcement	636,000	632,000	628,000	627,000	619,000	619,000	609,000	609,000	609,000	609,000	608,000	608,000
USDOJ - FWS Fisheries	100,000	99,000	98,000	99,000	95,000	95,000	92,000	92,000	92,000	92,000	92,000	92,000
USDOJ - FWS American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009								2,173,000	0	0	0	0
USDOJ - FWS Land Acquisition	8,500,000	2,484,000	0	740,000	0	0	1,028,000	0	0	0	0	3,000,000
USDOJ - USGS - Integrated Research, Planning and Interagency Coordination	8,636,000	7,847,000	7,847,000	7,738,000	7,771,000	7,042,062	6,800,000	6,907,000	6,907,000	6,893,000	6,882,000	7,882,000
USDOJ - BIA	396,000	393,000	539,000	536,000	382,000	382,000	390,000	390,000	390,000	390,000	390,000	390,000
US EPA	4,666,800	3,352,100	3,139,600	2,882,300	3,439,400	3,683,000	2,009,000	2,161,000	2,168,000	1,653,000	2,058,000	1,712,000

TABLE 2: FEDERAL FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Enacted	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Enacted	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Enacted	FY 2012 Enacted	FY 2013 Requested
CERP Total (USACE and USDOJ)	36,856,000	45,904,000	47,835,000	72,963,000	71,053,000	72,481,000	72,383,000	93,099,000	215,211,000	125,926,000	66,563,000	102,181,000
Non-CERP Subtotal (USACE and USDOJ)	217,398,000	168,416,000	157,567,000	108,735,000	140,878,000	160,224,062	128,256,000	170,252,000	127,154,000	110,566,000	180,926,000	129,674,000
Non-CERP Subtotal (Other Federal Agencies)	51,330,700	34,009,900	36,493,700	75,911,637	72,853,271	16,767,335	23,003,675	70,943,579	163,352,000	119,621,978	77,017,489	59,044,700
Non-CERP Total (All Federal Agencies)	268,728,700	202,425,900	194,060,700	184,646,637	213,731,271	176,991,397	151,259,675	241,195,579	290,506,000	230,187,978	257,943,489	188,718,700
TOTAL CERP AND NON-CERP (USACE AND USDOJ)	254,254,000	214,320,000	205,402,000	181,698,000	211,931,000	232,705,062	200,639,000	263,351,000	342,365,000	236,492,000	247,489,000	231,855,000
TOTAL CERP AND NON-CERP (ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES)	305,584,700	248,329,900	241,895,700	257,609,637	284,784,271	249,472,397	223,642,675	334,294,579	505,717,000	356,113,978	324,506,489	290,899,700

Note: Base program and operational funding requests for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are not included in the information provided within this Cross-Cut Budget Working Document.

Footnotes:

¹ USACE CERP activities are part of the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF), but are presented separately from other C&SF activities.

² USACE FY 2006 Enacted reflects reductions for rescission and congressionally directed funding for the C&SF Upper St. Johns River project.

³ Enacted numbers for USACE reflect reductions for any rescissions, but do not account for reductions due to savings and slippage.

⁴ Beginning with the FY 2006 Budget Request these projects are now included as part of one Corps of Engineers line item referred to as the "South Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration" Program.

⁵ Enacted numbers for FY 2005 and FY 2006 reflect additional Emergency Watershed Protection Program funding due to hurricanes.

⁶ Reflects \$19,199,000 for construction and \$16,000,000 for land acquisition.

⁷ Includes the transfer of \$17 million in unobligated balances from the NPS Federal Land Acquisition Account to NPS Construction to further the Modified Water Deliveries project.

⁸ Reflects the transfer of \$5,000,000 in prior year balances from the USDOJ - NPS Land Acquisition Account to the USDOJ-FWS Resource Management Account.

⁹ NPS CERP funding includes GSA space rental costs in the following amounts: FY 2004 - \$741,000; FY 2005 - \$556,000; FY 2006 - \$554,000; FY 2007 - \$554,000; FY 2008 - \$475,000; FY 2009 - \$409,000; FY 2010 - \$409,000; FY 2011 - \$409,000. This report updates rental costs for 2008 and 2009, and provides estimates for 2010, 2011, and 2012.

¹⁰ All Wetlands Reserve Program funding amounts for FY 2012 are not available at this time. The table will be updated as appropriate when data is available.

TABLE 3: STATE OF FLORIDA FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE (ACTUAL \$)

EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2001-02 Enacted	FY 2002-03 Enacted	FY 2003-04 Enacted	FY 2004-05 Enacted	FY 2005-06 Enacted	FY 2006-07 Enacted	2007-08 Enacted	2008-09 Enacted	2009-10 Enacted	2010-11 Enacted	2011-12 Enacted	FY 2012-13 Requested
COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PROGRAM (CERP)												
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	90,380,949	150,279,126	105,586,702	128,972,634	128,637,628	136,615,473	102,093,964	57,205,964	48,590,234	51,808,839	27,000,000	30,000,000
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	411,000	409,000	419,000	336,359	336,359	0	0	4,465,301	2,722,651	1,496,946	1,640,302	1,732,761
South Florida Water Management District	91,708,816 ¹	133,284,645 ¹	107,887,469 ¹	101,119,569 ¹	253,715,473 ¹	507,980,226 ¹	411,690,864 ¹	114,260,439 ¹	106,295,718 ¹	227,062,828 ²	52,664,417 ²	43,317,165
NON- COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PROGRAM (CERP)												
Florida Department of Agriculture/Consumer Services	7,608,917	15,523,202	16,215,100	8,531,378	5,132,269	6,928,051 ³	6,000,000 ³	3,000,000 ³	3,000,000 ³	3,000,000 ³	3,000,000 ³	5,000,000 ³
Florida Department of Community Affairs	15,314,720	51,580,680	29,781,074	31,349,633	23,340,316	24,252,571	24,499,270	31,616,692	TBD ⁴	TBD ⁴	0 ⁴	0 ⁴
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	72,654,344	109,393,692	92,364,834	102,222,540	176,467,770	408,365,782	203,236,072	78,118,780	47,179,935	21,058,307	24,901,512	29,210,012
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	19,681,000	21,306,000	25,729,000	27,466,653	27,579,153	27,579,153	28,682,319	4,714,329	54,582,358	43,409,812	55,075,189	57,355,349
Florida Department of Transportation	4,931,000	10,528,832	1,940,300	7,905,314	5,400,000	14,375,043	9,453,057	9,766,285	18,004,018	5,812,246	20,173,349	14,527,701
South Florida Water Management District	395,314,127 ¹	372,701,387 ¹	381,868,047 ¹	299,820,508 ¹	316,312,557 ¹	478,050,397 ¹	420,993,975 ¹	675,800,502 ¹	1,113,120,018 ¹	604,593,751 ²	400,383,460	361,285,950
CERP SUBTOTAL:	182,500,765	283,972,771	213,893,171	230,428,562	382,689,460	644,595,699	513,784,828	175,931,704	157,608,603	280,368,613	81,304,719	75,049,926
NON-CERP SUBTOTAL:	515,504,108	581,033,793	547,898,355	477,296,026	554,232,065	959,550,997	692,864,693	803,016,588	1,235,886,329	677,874,116	503,533,510	467,379,012
STATE OF FLORIDA FUNDING TOTAL:	698,004,873	865,006,564	761,791,526	707,724,588	936,921,525	1,604,146,696	1,206,649,521	978,948,292	1,393,494,932	958,242,729	584,838,229	542,428,938

Footnotes:

¹ Reflects SFWMD adopted budget appropriations less any state and federal funds.

² Reflects SFWMD adopted budget appropriations less any River of Grass project funds which are accounted for in the Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects category.

³ The number reflected does not include Forestry's contribution for FY 2006-07, FY 2007-08, FY 2008-09, FY 2009-10, and FY 2010-11.

⁴ Senate Bill 2156 (Chapter 2011-142, Laws of Florida) downsized Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA). As a result, we will no longer be reporting DCA's budget information.

Section 2.0

Federal Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding

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Section 2.1: Federal Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects and Funding (\$102,181,000)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction (\$91,349,000)

Congress authorized the CERP in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000. The objective of the program is to restore, protect, and preserve the South Florida Ecosystem, while providing for other water related needs of the region. The CERP includes numerous projects that work together to achieve the plan's restoration goals. WRDA 2000 requires the completion of Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) for these projects. The PIRs provide further information on plan formulation and evaluation, engineering and design, estimated benefits and costs, and environmental effects of planned restoration activities. The PIRs serve to bridge the gap between the conceptual level of detail contained in the CERP and the detailed design plans and specifications required to proceed with construction. Additionally, Congress authorized three projects in WRDA 2007. Authorized projects included the Indian River Lagoon South, Picayune Strand Restoration, and the Site 1 Impoundment projects.

From a project perspective, the major focus of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE or Corps) FY 2013 activities includes continuing construction on the Picayune Strand Project and the Site 1 Impoundment Phase 1 project; continuing construction on the Indian River Lagoon South project features at C-44; completion of detailed design on pilot projects, including the testing and monitoring of aquifer storage and recovery; completion of one PIR, the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP); continuation of other ongoing PIRs; and continuation of project adaptive assessment and monitoring activities used to monitor the effects of projects as they are implemented.

From a program perspective, FY 2013 CERP activities include continuation of Restoration Coordination and Verification (RECOVER), an inter-agency scientific group charged with system-wide assessments of planned and completed projects as well as with programmatic level activities. RECOVER's science-based activities include evaluation and assessment on the performance of the CERP, review of the effects that other restoration projects may have on CERP, and provision of a system-wide perspective throughout the restoration process. Other program level activities include continued reassessment of project sequencing to optimize delivery of benefits as contained in the Integrated Delivery Schedule.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers CERP Operations & Maintenance (\$2,440,000)

The WRDA 2000 authorized the cost of operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation (OMRR&R) of CERP projects be cost shared 50/50 between the USACE and the non-federal sponsor. The FY 2013 Operation and Maintenance (O&M) activities includes reimbursement to the non-federal sponsor (subject to availability of federal funds) for Picayune Strand Merritt pump station and the Melaleuca Eradication Facility costs related to OMRR&R.

The Picayune Strand pump stations, in conjunction with the spreader canals, will be used to restore the former wetlands to the south while maintaining the level of flood protection to the north. The O&M activities for the Melaleuca Eradication and Other Exotic Plants project includes the purposeful introduction of natural enemies (biocontrols) to weaken and suppress invading plants in the south Florida ecosystem and Everglades. The rearing, releasing, and monitoring of exotic plant biocontrols during the O&M phase will facilitate the restoration, preservation, and protection of the South Florida Ecosystem. By managing invasive exotic plant species and strengthening the ability of native plant species to survive, improvements will be provided to the degraded natural habitat.

U.S. Department of the Interior - National Park Service (\$5,146,000)

The CERP is a framework and guide to restore, protect, and preserve the water resources of central and southern Florida. Projects affecting National Park Service (NPS) lands and waters occur in phases through the end of CERP implementation. The NPS works with the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to support CERP projects through the development of restoration performance measures and quantitative evaluations of the environmental benefits of proposed actions.

CERP projects will have significant effects on Big Cypress National Preserve (BCNP), Biscayne National Park (BNP), and Everglades National Park (ENP). The NPS continues to concentrate on projects that are essential to the restoration of Federal lands in south Florida. The NPS actively participates in the project teams for such projects including seepage management in the L-30/L-31N Canals, early features in the Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement, the C-111 Spreader Canal project, Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands and the CEPP. The NPS also supports work on important, large-scale projects that are critical precursors to CERP. The implementation of these foundation projects is required for the CERP plan to achieve significant restoration benefits.

To support these project-level activities, the NPS, in cooperation with other federal, state, and local partners, is implementing a Monitoring and Assessment Plan for CERP, which will provide the information to determine the ecological effects and overall restoration success of CERP projects. Additionally, the NPS will continue to participate in RECOVER, the interagency group responsible for science input to the CERP.

Finally, the NPS will continue to participate in the U.S. Department of Interior's (DOI) formal requirements on programmatic activities including: updates to the CERP Programmatic Regulations; Guidance Memoranda to formalize how CERP projects will be built, operated, and evaluated; interim goals that will be used to track restoration progress and provide five-year status reports to Congress; and the identification of the appropriate quantity, timing, and distribution of water that will be produced, and pursuant to federal and state law, dedicated and managed for the natural system.

The CERP planned activities for FY 2013 include:

- For federal projects, the program will continue to represent the NPS on technical issues related to CERP programmatic regulations, interim goals, and guidance memoranda. For Florida state projects, the program will continue to represent the NPS on the establishment of initial reservations, minimum flows and levels, and water supply planning.
- The program will focus closely in FY 2013 on technical support to the revised Corps' process for the CEPP.
- The program will participate in the development of the water operations plan for the Modified Water Deliveries (MWD) project, will track implementation of the one-mile bridge component, and will work on remaining issues regarding full implementation of the MWD project, including technical support to such issues as land acquisition. Staff will also engage in the implementation of a modified monitoring program to assess the effects of the constructed MWD project on NPS lands and resources.
- The program will continue to provide technical support and briefings to management concerning the now authorized Tamiami Trail Next Steps Project. This unfunded project is designed to provide for 5.5 miles of additional bridging and for the raising of the remainder of the highway corridor to achieve the restoration goals of Public Law 111-8, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.
- For Everglades water quality, the program would:
 - Continue to track the water quality improvements from completion of STAs that are part of the State's Everglades Construction Project (ECP);
 - Continue to provide technical support to DOI and the Department of Justice processes that pertain to the quality of water entering the Everglades;
 - Participate in the technical processes to design and schedule the construction of new water quality treatment areas that result from the 2010 State of Florida acquisition of lands (the River of Grass acquisition) and the Amended Water Quality determination issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2010. This work is critical to the implementation of the above water flow projects, as the water must be clean as it is delivered to the Everglades via the CERP and bridging projects;
 - For additional large scale projects that affect NPS resources and link with restoration projects (for example, the planned nuclear plant expansion and transmission corridor of the Florida Power and Light Company), staff will participate in planning efforts, tracking the progress of the project and providing environmental analyses of impacts on NPS resources;
 - For implemented projects (portions of the C-111 South Dade project, water operations plans, state-funded portion of the C111 Spreader Canal project), the program will continue to support the technical needs of these projects and will track and begin to report on the effects of these changes on NPS natural resources;

- For ecosystem restoration projects currently being constructed (elements of the C-111 South Dade project, Tamiami Trail 1-mile bridge, Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands project), the program will track and analyze implementation, report on progress, and monitor changes in design or operations that develop during implementation;
- For CEPP and water operations for the MWD project, staff will participate in interagency project design and will provide evaluation reports and other technical and scientific input for these projects.
- NPS staff will participate in weekly consultations with water operations staff at the implementing agencies and provide technical input on park resources for use in managing the short-term operations of the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) system.

U.S. Department of the Interior - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (\$3,246,000)

The FY 2013 request for CERP implementation will support approximately 30 full-time employees that actively serve on planning teams for all CERP and non-CERP restoration projects initiated by the Corps. This will enable the FWS to fulfill its Trust Resource responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and other statutes as well as the CERP Programmatic Regulations as part of the restoration effort. The FWS is an integral planning partner in formulating alternatives, designing, assessing and monitoring, and adaptively managing CERP project components during its implementation. The FWS is responsible for providing environmental expertise to the Corps and the SFWMD. The FWS also is involved in guiding Everglades restoration at a system-wide scale through the following activities: biannual system status reports, participation in RECOVER activities, River of Grass Initiative, and System Operating Manual.

In FY 2013, the FWS will participate in the development and execution of the following projects: WCA-3 Decentralization and Sheetflow Enhancement, the Everglades Restoration Transition Plan, the MWD project and the Combined Operational Plan, Kissimmee River Restoration, Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Lake Okeechobee Watershed, C-43 Reservoir, Indian River Lagoon, Water Preserve Areas, Picayune Strand Restoration Project, North Palm Beach County – Part 1, and other major restoration projects. These activities will include assistance in plan formulation and ecological benefit analysis, ESA Section 7 consultation, recovery plan implementation, monitoring and adaptive management, restoration and management activities on DOI lands, CERP project planning, preparation of Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Reports, system-wide water quality improvement, land acquisition, migratory bird and fisheries conservation, and a myriad of multi-agency planning, science, and outreach efforts. As a recognized leader in the science of ecosystem restoration, the FWS participates as the biological and ecological expert and is an integral planning and implementation partner in the CERP to ensure that ecosystem benefits are maximized consistent with long-term CERP project

goals. The FWS will design features and project components that maximize natural resource benefits through active participation throughout the restoration planning process.

Section 2.2: Federal Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding (\$188,718,700)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction (\$61,975,000)

Central and Southern Florida Project (\$32,500,000)

NOTE: The \$32,500,000 indicated above does not reflect \$91,349,000 in funding requested for CERP projects, which is reported in Section 2.1.

South Dade County, C-111 Project

This project consists of modifications to the C&SF Project to provide more natural hydrologic conditions in Taylor Slough and to minimize damaging flood releases to Barnes Sound/Manatee Bay, while maintaining flood protection for adjacent agricultural lands. The FY 2013 activities include initiating construction of the north detention area and the L-31 West canal backfill, continued engineering and design during construction, water quality monitoring, and levee vegetative removal.

West Palm Beach Canal, Canal-51/Stormwater Treatment Area 1 East Project

This project consists of design and construction of the C-51/STA 1E project to provide flood control for the western C-51 basin, provide water quality enhancement, and restore a portion of the historic Everglades flows. FY 2013 activities include continuation of the STA 1E culvert repairs and trash rake system repair work for S-319.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Non-CERP Operations & Maintenance (\$5,343,000)

Operations and maintenance work performed at most of the facilities listed below is the responsibility of non-federal sponsors, with the Corps providing reimbursement for the federal share of associated costs. The locks and water control structures that have been modified to prevent manatee injuries, however, are all federally operated structures.

Everglades and South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Critical Projects (\$1,975,000)

This program involves the implementation of "critical restoration projects" authorized in Section 528 of WRDA 1996, as modified by WRDA 2007, Section 6006. FY 2013 activities include continuation of construction on the Seminole Big Cypress project, including initiation of Basin 2 construction and completion of Basin 4, and completion of the Lake Trafford project.

Kissimmee River Restoration (\$27,500,000)

This project involves restoring the historic habitat in much of the Kissimmee River floodplain and restoring water-level fluctuations and seasonal discharges from Lakes Kissimmee, Cypress,

and Hatchineha in the upper basin. The FY 2013 activities include initiation of the final construction contract for the Reach 2 canal backfill, continued construction of the U-shaped weir, dredging of the oxbows, the Reach 3 backfill, and the gated spillway at S-65EX1.

Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park (\$ See note below)

NOTE: Funding for FY 2013 activities (\$8,000,000) are budgeted under the NPS construction account and provided to the Corps.

The MWD project involves construction of modifications to the C&SF Project water management system and related operational changes to provide improved water deliveries to ENP. The project consists of structural features with the intended purpose of restoring conveyance between WCAs north of ENP and the Shark River Slough within the park. It will also provide flood mitigation to the 8.5 Square Mile Area, a residential area adjacent to the park expansion boundary in the East Everglades. The FY 2013 activities include completion of construction on the Tamiami Trail (Eastern Segment) to improve the historic flow of Shark River Slough to ENP.

Central and Southern Florida Project

Manatee Pass Gates

The Manatee Pass Gates project is located in southeast Florida at selected Okeechobee Waterway and C&SF Project navigation locks and water control structures. These locks and water control structures are located in areas that are within West Indian Manatee (a federally-listed endangered species) habitat. The Manatee Pass Gates use a set of acoustic transmitters and receivers to prevent the gates from closing and harming these protected animals. FY 2013 funding would be used for maintenance and operation of these structures.

C-111 South Dade

Operations of the C-111 South Dade project will maintain existing flood protection, minimize damaging freshwater discharges, and restore more natural hydrologic conditions to ENP. The USACE provides 60 percent of the O&M funding required for the annual pumping, including fuel, lubricants, proportional depreciation and repairs, and operating labor.

Everglades and South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Critical Projects Seminole Big Cypress

The project includes basins that may include irrigation storage cells, water resource areas (similar in function to an STA), a stormwater cell, pump stations for transferring water, canals for distribution, and inverted siphons to carry effluent under the West Feeder Canal into the Reservation's Native Range. The USACE provides 50 percent of the funding required for the annual OMRR&R requirements associated with the Seminole Big Cypress project.

Modified Waters Delivery

The purpose of the project's structural features is to improve the conveyance of water between WCAs north of ENP and the Shark River Slough within the park and to provide flood mitigation to the 8.5 Square Mile Area. OMRR&R activities for the 8.5 SMA portion of the project will be initiated in FY 2013, along with continuation of ongoing OMRR&R at project pump stations. The USACE provides 75 percent of funding for OMRR&R of project components.

U.S. Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service (\$4,332,700)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) conducts an integrated research program that addresses the needs of agriculture and complements the CERP. The goal of the research is to develop and transfer improved scientific technologies and enhanced management strategies that control invasive exotic species and assure the continued economic integrity of agriculture. Four major areas of research support south Florida restoration and agriculture: hydrology and water quality, improved crop production systems, biological control of invasive species, and decision support systems/model development. Individual projects supporting these priority areas are as follows:

Hydrology and Water Quality

- ***Integrated Horticultural Productions Systems for Water Quality Protection and Water Conservation (\$706,100)***

The Horticultural and Breeding Research Unit at Fort Pierce, Florida, conducts research to develop management practices and production systems that promote water conservation and protect water quality while sustaining or improving crop quality, production, and profitability. Research objectives of the project are: 1) to gain fundamental knowledge of the plant-substrate-water-nutrient system to identify factors that control effects of chemical stressors and develop irrigation strategies for the efficient and effective application of poor-quality water to ornamental crops, and 2) to evaluate the Algal Turf Scrubber system for treating nursery runoff for excess nutrients and continue research on composted algae as an alternative substrate. The expected impact of the research is information to be used in the development of best management practices (BMPs) that will allow producers to maximize profits, minimize the impact of production on water resources, and better define water fate and transport on nursery operations.

Improved Crop Production Systems

- ***Soil Conservation for Sustainable Sugarcane Production (\$396,000)***
The Sugarcane Field Station in Canal Point, Florida, develops high-yielding, disease-resistant sugarcane cultivars. Previous research has identified the effects

on yield, morphology, and physiology of sugarcane grown under high water tables and flood and applied these results to soil management options to reduce loss of the organic soils in the region while still maintaining a productive agriculture. Recent research has also targeted optimization of sugarcane production on sandy soils, as sugarcane in Florida is expanding to these soils. Improved knowledge of the physiologic, morphologic, and agronomic responses of sugarcane genotypes to sand soils and shallow muck, and for resistance to economically limiting diseases will help improve adaptation, yields, and selection for these conditions.

Biological Control of Invasive Species

- ***Development and Evaluation of Biological Control Agents for Invasive Species Threatening the Everglades and other Natural and Managed Systems (\$2,633,100)***
The ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory (IPRL) in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and its satellite lab in Gainesville, Florida, conduct research to identify and collect natural enemies for control of melaleuca, Brazilian pepper, lygodium, Chinese tallow, air potato, water hyacinth and other invasive pest plants; evaluate biological control agents for release against invasive weed and insect species in a risk analysis context; obtain approval for release of host specific natural enemies; and develop biological based integrated weed management strategies that are efficient, economical, and environmentally sound. Many of the biological control agents that are developed by the IPRL were discovered by scientists at the ARS Australian Biological Control Laboratory in Brisbane or the ARS South American Biological Control Laboratory near Buenos Aires. The integration of biological control with other management tactics has been included in a comprehensive management plan called TAME Melaleuca [crafted by scientists and natural resource managers from the ARS, the NPS, the SFWMD, the Corps, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and many south Florida county governments], for managing invasive species problems. Research will continue to develop management strategies and biological control agents that are sustainable, efficient, economical, and environmentally sound.

Decision Support Systems/Model Development

- ***Conservation, Characterization, and Genetic Improvement of Subtropical and Tropical Ornamental Germplasm (\$597,500)***
One of the objectives of the Subtropical Horticultural Research Unit in Miami, Florida, is to evaluate containerized subtropical/tropical ornamental germplasm for its growth responses to different container media components. When feasible, the heritabilities and other patterns of genetic variation will be estimated with respect to adaptation/tolerance to the different container media components. The results of this research will contribute to enhancing containerized ornamental production efficiency,

while mitigating nutrient leaching from the containers and reducing negative impacts on south Florida water quality.

U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (\$53,000,000*)

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical assistance on a voluntary basis to private landowners and operators, tribes, and others for the planning of conservation practices and installation of needed conservation management systems with the goal of achieving natural resource sustainability. This includes the design, layout, and consultation services associated with the conservation practice application or management guidance provided. Technical assistance is targeted towards nutrient management, water quality, and water conservation concerns associated with animal feeding, livestock grazing operations, and fruit and crop production within the South Florida Ecosystem. Financial assistance is provided through a variety of USDA Farm Bill Programs.

The NRCS provides assistance to livestock and dairy producers to apply BMPs, including waste management systems, to reduce off farm nutrient discharges. A special effort in the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) and C-139 basin is in place to assist the land user to meet requirements outlined in the 1994 Everglades Forever Act (EFA) to reduce phosphorus loading into the Everglades Protection Area. Other areas of assistance are provided on private and tribal lands to restore wetlands, improve wildlife habitat, and control invasive exotic plant species. Financial assistance is provided through a variety of USDA Farm Bill Programs.

Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers who face threats to soil, water, air, and related natural resources on their land. Through EQIP, the NRCS develops contracts with agricultural producers to implement conservation practices to address environmental natural resource problems. Payments are made to producers once conservation practices are completed according to NRCS requirements on agricultural lands that will improve or maintain the health of natural resources in the area including water quality.

Wetlands Reserve Program

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance to private landowners and tribes to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands in exchange for retiring eligible land from agriculture.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for developing or improving high quality habitat that supports fish and wildlife populations of national, state, tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, the NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to private and tribal landowners for the development of upland, wetland, aquatic, and other types of wildlife habitat.

Grassland Reserve Program

The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program for landowners and operators to protect grazing uses and related conservation values by conserving grassland, including rangeland, pastureland, shrubland, and certain other lands. The program emphasizes support for working grazing operations; enhancement of plant and animal biodiversity; and protection of grassland and land containing shrubs and forbs under threat of conversion. Eligible land includes privately owned or tribal grasslands; land that contains forbs (including improved rangeland and pastureland or shrubland) for which grazing is the predominant use; or land that is located in an area that historically has been dominated by grassland, forbs, or shrubland that has the potential to serve as wildlife habitat of significant ecological value.

Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program

The Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP) protects working agricultural lands from conversion to non-agricultural uses through the purchase of easements in partnership with local and state governments, tribes, and non-governmental organizations.

* All program funding amounts being provided are estimates at this time. Final funding amounts can be provided around mid-August 2012.

U.S. Department of Commerce - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (\$ TBD)

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) provides science, monitoring, and modeling projects critical to implementing and assessing the CERP and other portions of the South Florida Ecosystem restoration effort. NOAA supports the only portion of the ecosystem restoration effort exclusively devoted to monitoring, restoring, and managing the coastal portions of the South Florida Ecosystem. These projects will provide information critical to the design and implementation of inland restoration projects and to the evaluation of the downstream impacts of restoration activities on coastal resources. This information will allow project managers to efficiently monitor the results of restoration projects on downstream resources and make adjustments, if necessary, through the adaptive management process.

While many NOAA programs support an integrated effort among federal, tribal, state, and nongovernmental partners to halt the degradation of the South Florida Ecosystem, the following NOAA projects directly support CERP implementation.

South Florida Ecosystem Modeling/National Ocean Service

The National Ocean Service/Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research (NOS/CSCOR) and partners have funded over a decade of research to increase understanding of processes in and around Florida Bay and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS). This research has matured to the stage that the aim is now to collate our understanding of the ecological and human systems of south Florida in a manner useful for ecosystem management. In FY 2011, the NOS funded the third and final year of a competitive proposal for Marine and Estuarine Goal Setting in South Florida (MARES). The goal of the MARES project is to reach a science-based consensus about the defining characteristics and fundamental regulating processes of a south Florida coastal marine ecosystem that is both sustainable and capable of providing the diverse ecological services upon which our society depends. MARES will synthesize our scientific understanding of south Florida into a form that is easily and quickly understood to inform management decision-making. In FY 2012 and FY 2013, it is not anticipated that NOS/CSCOR will fund any projects supporting Everglades restoration.

Interdisciplinary Coastal Oceanographic Observations/Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Almost all of the replumbing and inland restoration efforts will ultimately affect the flow of water, nutrients, and other elements to coastal bays and estuaries. Understanding the impacts of replumbing water flow from inland areas to coastal systems, as part of the restoration effort, is critical to determine overall success. In FY 2012, funding continued to support a suite of research and monitoring activities in south Florida coastal waters downstream of major restoration projects, such as the FKNMS, Florida Bay, and Biscayne Bay through shiptime and some principal investigator salaries. In FY 2013, this work may not continue due to budget shortfalls and lack of a funding source for operations. Work is also conducted in the downstream coastal ecosystem of the FKNMS to conduct predictions of coral bleaching that may be affected by freshwater runoff from the Everglades and exchange with Florida Bay.

Restoration Science and Assessment/National Marine Fisheries Service

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) expects to continue scientific activities in FY 2013 that define the impact of upstream restoration efforts and changing freshwater inflow on south Florida coastal systems. This work will help assess the impacts of changing freshwater runoff patterns on inshore and coastal habitats and associated fishery resources. The NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center in collaboration with other agencies and entities conducts several monitoring and assessment projects to support CERP. NOAA participates in various management and science coordination activities in relation to south Florida ecosystem restoration and CERP.

U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service (\$43,798,000)

Park Management (\$29,883,000)

Big Cypress National Preserve (\$6,734,000)

Fiscal Year 2013 funding will support area management activities promoting public use and resource protection through the implementation and interpretation of an extensive back-

country off-road vehicle (ORV) trail system. The NPS will continue to support mandated programs such as the protection, inventory, and monitoring of ten threatened and endangered species (Florida panther, Cape Sable sparrow, Florida manatee, etc.) and a large hydrology program that includes restoration of sheetflow to ENP and the Ten Thousand Islands. Additional mandated programs include special uses such as oil exploration/production, the largest recreational hunting wildlife management area in south Florida, implementation of the largest recreational ORV program in the 48 States, and 22 American Indian (Seminole, Miccosukee, and independent) sites on preserve lands. The preserve also supports the largest prescribed fire program in the NPS; visitor and resources protection of 728,000 acres of predominately backcountry areas; maintenance of 26 employee housing units, two major visitor support facilities, public utility systems, eight primitive campgrounds, three developed campgrounds, and 66 miles of roads; and management of approximately 460 known archeological sites.

The natural resources management program will continue to collect baseline data in formats that are compatible with interagency regional hydrologic and community/species-based models, control non-native plants, protect threatened and endangered species, mitigate visitor impacts, and manage funds to support direct inventory/monitoring of resources and a geographic information system (GIS).

Biscayne National Park (\$4,297,000)

Fiscal Year 2013 funding will support the park's area management activities including: promoting public use and mitigation of public use; interpretation and education programs; protection of resources; and efforts to address impacts and threats associated with urban sprawl, increased urban freshwater use, four solid waste landfills, and a nuclear power facility. All of these threats are located along the park's western boundary and are "upstream" with respect to surface- and ground-water flow into the park.

The park performs other area management activities associated with the protection of the park's natural, cultural, and historic resources as well as maintenance of park facilities. The park protects 173,000 acres of resources that include Biscayne Bay, the largest living coral reef system in the NPS, eight known terrestrial cultural sites, 67 known submerged cultural sites, approximately 20 historic structures, and two national historic districts within a boundary that has unlimited access points. The park maintains three developed islands and two mainland sites that include six harbors/docking facilities, two campgrounds, six picnic areas, approximately ten miles of trails, six residences, an environmental education camp, and a major visitor center.

The park's natural resources management will continue to protect Biscayne Bay estuarine resources, coral reefs, seagrass beds, and hard bottom communities; monitor water quality; document and mitigate impacts due to visitor and commercial uses; control exotic vegetation; and monitor 17 federally threatened and endangered species. Special efforts are applied to

prevent and restore extensive damage to seagrass beds and coral reefs from boat groundings. Extensive efforts are made to work with local, state, and federal government agencies on development and impact issues.

Dry Tortugas National Park (\$1,741,000)

Funding in FY 2013 will support operations of this 65,000-acre marine and historical national park located 70 miles west of Key West. Current funding will continue to support natural and cultural resource management, including a preservation and maintenance program for Fort Jefferson. The NPS will continue to document and recommend management strategies for submerged cultural resources. These efforts are supported by park staff, with overall technical direction provided by the NPS Submerged Cultural Resources Unit. Natural resource activities include continuation of park-funded science and monitoring to analyze the efficacy of the Dry Tortugas Research Natural Area, natural resource damage assessment and restoration, and monitoring of sea turtles. Natural resource activities are performed by park staff, with technical, and supervisory support provided by ENP (South Florida Natural Resources Center).

Everglades National Park (\$17,111,000)

Funding for ENP in FY 2013 will support area management activities including operations, natural and cultural resource management, planning, maintenance, and ecosystem restoration. The park continues to attract significant national and international attention as a symbol of the effort to restore the Everglades and of the balance being sought in striving to secure south Florida's future. With over 1.5 million acres of fragile wilderness immediately adjacent to approximately six million people, and over one million visitors each year, ENP has special challenges. The park has extensive outreach programs to the local community and sustains a large backcountry/wilderness operation.

The park operates major visitor use areas at Flamingo, Shark Valley, Everglades City, and Chekika, and oversees three concessions operations. Infrastructure requires extensive short-term maintenance, as well as long-term upgrades. The park has 82 miles of surfaced roads, 160 miles of trails, two campgrounds, 48 backcountry campsites, and two fee collection stations. The park is unique in that it has an unprecedented three international treaty designations. It is home to over 1,000 species of plants, 400 species of birds, and two rare orchids, and is a refuge for 14 threatened and endangered species.

The park remains one of the most ecologically complex parks in the nation. Florida Bay is continuing to experience dramatic changes, including striking alterations between hypo- and hyper-salinity, increased turbidity, seagrass die-offs, and persistent and increasing spreads of algae blooms. Exotic plants have and are continuing to replace native plant communities in ENP and adjacent natural areas.

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (\$1,308,000)

Funding in FY 2013 will sustain the operations of the Department's Office of Everglades Restoration Initiatives (OERI). One of the most important responsibilities of the OERI is the administration of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (Task Force). The Task Force is responsible for coordinating and integrating the activities of the participating federal, state, local, and tribal agencies involved in the Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program and for reporting to Congress on restoration programs and funding requirements. The Water Resources Development Act of 1996 directs the Task Force to implement procedures to facilitate public participation in the restoration process; to maintain records and make the proceedings of meetings available for public inspection; and to submit biennial reports to Congress, summarizing the activities of the Task Force, the policies, strategies, projects, and priorities developed or implemented, and the progress made toward restoration. In subsequent Congressional guidance, House Conference Report 106-479, the Task Force was also directed to develop, implement, and maintain an outcome-oriented strategic plan; and a comprehensive strategy for Federal land acquisition projects.

OERI staff also administers the coordination role and reporting activities of the Task Force's Working Group and Science Coordination Group . OERI administration includes coordinating, tracking, and monitoring CERP implementation; producing the biennial update of the strategic plan as required by the Congress; reporting progress and accomplishments on Goals 1, 2, and 3 of the strategic plan; maintaining a tracking system and compiling and preparing the annual updates of the land acquisition strategy; engaging, as necessary, in the established dispute resolution process; implementing activities associated with the Task Force plan to coordinate science; and compiling and preparing the annual updates of the Cross Cut Budget and the restoration project sheet information (Integrated Financial Plan) that includes a synopsis, start and end date, and cost estimate for each Everglades restoration project.

In October 2011, the Task Force endorsed a state-federal initiative to speed up planning for key CERP projects in the heart of the Everglades. The Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) is now well underway. The goal of CEPP is to deliver a finalized plan within two years. This finalized plan will be captured in a CERP Project Implementation Report and will include features to deliver clean water from Lake Okeechobee to the central Everglades as well as features to allow that water to flow into the southern Everglades. Under the authorities granted to it by Congress, the Task Force directed the Working Group to establish an enhanced public participation opportunities during the CEPP planning process. As of May 2012, the Working Group and the Science Coordination Group have sponsored 8 public workshops to receive input from the public and have transmitted the proceedings of those workshops to the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Everglades Research (\$3,832,000)

Since its inception in 1997, the Critical Ecosystem Studies Initiative (CESI) has been the primary investment by Interior to provide scientific information to advise restoration decision-making and to guide its own land management responsibilities for South Florida Ecosystem restoration.

The CESI planned activities for FY 2013 include:

- An emphasis on critical long-term hydrologic and biological monitoring projects that support assessments of the effect of restoration projects on NPS resources. Ongoing projects on fish and macro-invertebrates, marsh water level and flow monitoring, threatened and endangered species, and vegetation communities most likely impacted by implementation of the ecosystem restoration projects would continue.
- Enhanced contributions to assessment of restoration project effects by funding several projects that are required to assess the effects of the MWD project on ENP resources.
- Significant support to water quality science, including water quality monitoring and water quality analyses in ENP and Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge.
- Continued support to the Task Force and DOI's oversight of the Everglades Restoration Initiative.
- Continued work on biological and hydrologic databases, including analysis of existing long-term hydrologic and biological data sets that will allow resource managers, decision-makers and the public to understand the trends in ENP resources as they relate to water management changes and climate variation.
- Continuation of scientific and technical analyses of the impact of the planned nuclear plant expansion and transmission corridor of the Florida Power and Light Company. The activities planned by Florida Power and Light are expected to directly affect both Everglades and Biscayne National Parks, as well as Everglades Restoration projects currently being implemented and those being planned (bridging of the Tamiami Trail; Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands).
- Support of hydrologic and ecological modeling and synthesis of ecological information and ecosystem services that Interior would use during the revised Corps planning process for the CEPP.

Construction (\$8,000,000)

Modified Water Deliveries Project (MWD) (\$8,000,000)

The MWD project is authorized by Section 104 of the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989. This project involves construction of modifications to the C&SF Project water management system and related operational changes. Construction of the project features will allow the timing, distribution, and volumes of water delivered to the park to be more consistent with historic conditions.

The current status and plans for FY 2013 are described below:

- Construction of the 8.5 Square Mile Area component is complete.

- The purpose of the Conveyance and Seepage Control component is to convey water through reservoirs upstream of ENP into the Shark Slough drainage basin of ENP more consistent with historic hydrologic conditions. In addition, these project features will also return project-induced increased seepage from the project area to ENP in order to maintain flood protection to adjacent areas. The purpose of the Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41) component is to modify the existing highway in a manner consistent with the design specified in the 2008 Limited Reevaluation Report, authorized for implementation by Congress in 2009. This component is currently being constructed and is scheduled to be completed in 2013.
- FY 2012 and 2013 funding will complete the one mile Tamiami Trail bridging component. Funding is required in 2013 as an unexpected need to relocate utilities and other minor contract modifications depleted the original contingency funds. Additionally, the original Tamiami Trail was constructed in 1928, with little or no improvements to the subgrade of the highway since, except for routine maintenance. When the NPS contractor initiated the improvements to the un-bridged portion of the roadway as specified in the contract, much of this portion was found to have unsuitable material preventing the contractor from constructing safe roadway improvements. Additional work was required to remove the unsuitable material within the 8.7 mile roadway corridor and add more stable materials to ensure the subgrade will be safe for the projected traffic and associated loads. The Corps has estimated the costs based on the prevalence of unsuitable material found to date and used these data to estimate the final costs of the contract modification for the remainder of the highway corridor. This removal of the unsuitable material and its replacement to stabilize the subgrade has resulted in the need for the additional funding requested and changes to the original contract schedule.
- Project Implementation Support provides funding for conducting environmental monitoring, developing improved operational plans, and supporting the requisite ENP and Corps personnel. FY 2013 activities will include the continuation of personnel support, environmental monitoring, and developing an operational plan for the project, including testing of current operational constraints.
- The completion of the MWD project is required prior to the construction of certain components of the CERP.

Land Acquisition Management (\$775,000)

Funding in FY 2013 will administer the federal land acquisition program in south Florida to enable completion of land acquisition and to meet the schedule established by DOI.

U.S. Department of the Interior: Fish and Wildlife Service (\$10,286,000)

Resource Management - (\$7,286,000)

Ecological Services (\$2,471,000)

These funds will allow the FWS to continue coordination, technical assistance, and partnering efforts with the NPS, the USGS, tribal governments, state agencies, and private organizations

involved in the restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem. The funds for FY 2013 will also enable the FWS to continue implementing the Multi-Species Recovery Plan, which provides a blueprint for protecting, conserving, and managing the threatened and endangered fish and wildlife resources. The FWS is undertaking comprehensive habitat based strategies for restoration and recovery of species. Examples of this include the establishment of panther conservation banks and multi-species management plans.

The FWS will continue consulting with and providing technical assistance to the Corps, the NPS, and other federal agencies relative to those agency activities that potentially affect federally listed species. The FWS continues its historically active role in reviewing applications for impacts on wetlands under the Corps' regulatory program. In addition to the analysis of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, the FWS ensures that private development proposals are compatible with the CERP. The planning and building of several CERP components requires careful review of applications by the local sponsor (mainly the SFWMD) through the Corps' regulatory process. In FY 2013, the FWS will continue consultation with the Corps on the CERP, as well as other ongoing or new federal projects. Further, the FWS will evaluate the potential need to list additional species pursuant to the ESA, and develop cooperative agreements with landowners for the protection and conservation of listed species through Candidate Conservation Agreements, Safe Harbor Agreements, and Habitat Conservation Plans.

Also included in this program category, the South Florida Coastal Habitat Restoration Program actively forms partnerships with other federal and state agencies, local governments, non-governmental entities, and private property owners to implement on-the-ground restoration projects as well as to conduct research, monitoring, and public outreach activities. The Coastal Program complements the larger, more comprehensive South Florida Ecosystem restoration initiative by implementing immediate on-the-ground actions designed to protect, conserve, and restore coastal living resources. For the past several years, the importance of on-the-ground restorative actions has been reflected by the distribution of half of the Coastal Program's budget toward actual habitat restoration.

In FY 2013, the FWS will address new Corps project starts and continue to be actively involved in threatened and endangered species consultation and recovery, private land partnerships, environmental contaminant reviews, coastal restoration projects, preparation of Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Reports, system-wide water quality improvement, and myriad multi-agency planning, science, and outreach efforts. The FWS will ensure that ecosystem benefits are maximized consistent with Everglades restoration goals. The role of the FWS will support and advance adaptive management and the principal goals of Everglades restoration.

Refuges and Wildlife (\$4,016,000)

The FWS administers 16 national wildlife refuge units in south Florida, as well as the new Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area in south-central

Florida. The Service manages all actions under the ESA, provides comments on comprehensive wetland programs (including permitting), carries out authorities of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and enforces federal wildlife laws. As a member of the Working Group, the FWS will continue to undertake important on-the-ground restoration activities.

Migratory Birds (\$99,000)

While coordinating with the Service's South Florida Ecological Services Field Office and the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, the Division of Migratory Birds works cooperatively with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and the SFWMD to provide technical expertise relative to MBTA implications on the various CERP projects, especially for avian protection plans and management of invasive exotics species such as the purple swamp hen. Effective implementation of the CERP with the above partners, the Corps, the NPS, and others is critical to restoring water quantity, quality, timing, and distribution for the benefit of people, migratory birds, and other wildlife and their habitats.

Law Enforcement (\$608,000)

Funding will be used to enhance law enforcement's ability to handle the quickly escalating regional workload. There has been a marked increase in the illegal trafficking of exotic protected species and the unlawful "taking" of endemic species protected by the ESA and the MBTA throughout south Florida. Southwest Florida is one of the most ecologically sensitive and rapidly growing areas of the State, requiring the highest priority for establishing an increased law enforcement presence. Funding will allow the purchase of vehicles, boats, and marine equipment needed by law enforcement personnel to conduct investigations in remote areas. Additional personnel will be detailed to "task force" enforcement operations within the ecosystem as needed. Increased efforts to educate the public regarding the law and illegal activities will be emphasized.

Fisheries (\$92,000)

Efforts will be directed toward restoration of anadromous and coastal fish species in south Florida. Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that non-indigenous fish species are adequately evaluated for potential effects on restoration activities.

Land Acquisition (\$3,000,000)

Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area (\$3,000,000)

The FWS plans to acquire 750 acres at the Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area to protect, restore, and conserve habitat for 278 federal and state listed species, including Florida panther, Florida black bear, Audubon's crested caracara, Florida scrub jay, Florida grasshopper sparrow, red-cockaded woodpecker, whooping crane, and Everglades snail kite. These acquisitions would protect, restore, and conserve the headwaters, groundwater recharge and watershed of the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Kissimmee River, and Lake Okeechobee region, and would also directly improve water quantity and quality in the

Everglades watershed, complementing the CERP goals and protecting the water supply for millions of people.

U.S. Department of the Interior - U.S. Geological Survey (\$7,882,000)
Everglades Restoration - Integrating Research, Planning, and Interagency Coordination (\$7,882,000)

Funding in FY 2013 will support Everglades research to provide planning, research, and interagency coordination efforts needed for Everglades restoration in accordance with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding among the USGS, the FWS, and the NPS. This coordinated science effort allows the Interior bureaus to leverage resources, maximize the value of federal research funds, and ensure that the best available research products and monitoring and assessment tools are developed to meet the priority needs in the Everglades. DOI's Everglades science plan continues to serve as the template upon which to define and prioritize studies to address critical decision-related information needs. DOI's Greater Everglades Science Team used the science plan coupled with near-term plans for the CERP, the MWD project, and other restoration activities as well as other emerging issues (e.g., sea level rise and climate change) to generate a priority list of research, monitoring, and modeling studies needed to address immediate and near-term decision-related information needs. The USGS, in partnership with the FWS, the NPS, and other restoration partners, is continuing to prioritize its research to support and conduct timely and relevant decision-critical science.

The USGS activities provide a fundamental understanding of ecosystem process, structure, and function. A significant part of USGS activities is to integrate the ecosystem science through continued development of decision support tools. This is accomplished through continued development and improvement of integrative models, including hydrologic models, ecological models, chemical models, and geographic and landscape models. These ecosystem models are being integrated into decision support tools to aid in restoration-related planning decisions by the FWS, the NPS, the Corps, the FDEP, the EPA, and the SFWMD to predict the consequences of varied management alternatives, set ecological goals by providing yardsticks to measure the success of the restoration, and manage the natural resources of the system. In support of the revised science plan and the updated list of critical/priority research, monitoring, and modeling needs, the USGS will continue high priority work that includes long-term hydrologic monitoring, coastal salinity monitoring, continued development and enhancement of ecological models including models for adaptive assessment, and development of simulation-based decision support tools. These tools will continue to be used in planning and implementing the CERP, the MWD, and other Everglades restoration projects. A continuing challenge is to make all ecological models an integral part of the decision support tools available to restoration practitioners. USGS scientists work with the Interagency Modeling Center (IMC) to incorporate USGS process-based hydrologic models into the IMC's modeling 'tool box.' This collaboration puts ecological models into the IMC 'tool box,' and provides a mechanism for improving the models by providing feedback between model application, model research and development, and model improvement via integration with monitoring.

Since paleoecological data also include a record of sea-level fluctuations, the USGS will continue to evaluating sea-level rise data within the context of projected future freshwater flows and accelerated sea-level rise. This information will better refine the target(s) for freshwater flows to coastal systems, and better understand the dynamics of the interaction of restoration with coastal change. Also, an ongoing USGS study on the paleoecology of freshwater marshes, specifically marl prairie marshes, is providing the FWS with information useful in their reevaluation of the current distribution of species within the context of both the historical and the projected future Everglades having more water than today's current Everglades.

The FY 2013 funding total for USGS reflects a \$1.0 million increase to support high priority research needs identified by the interagency invasive species working group of the Task Force. This includes quantifying ecosystem effects of invasive species to assist partnering agencies in deciding where best to allocate management and control efforts; filling key biological and ecological information gaps of invasive species to better inform early detection efforts of partnering agencies; and improving methods to better detect and control species such as Burmese pythons for which ecosystem effects have been documented.

U.S. Department of the Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs (\$390,000)

In FY 2013, funds will be used for continuing efforts to restore the South Florida Ecosystem for the Seminole and Miccosukee Tribes. This funding (\$195,000 each) is included within each Tribe's base funding and is provided to support research, studies, and planning on water quality and distribution systems, ecosystem development and management, and planning for compliance with the ESA in stormwater areas on the Seminole and Big Cypress reservations.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (\$1,712,000)

The EPA priorities for restoring and protecting the South Florida Ecosystem in FY 2013 include continuing to work with the Corps and the State of Florida to implement the CERP via the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA) program areas; work with the State of Florida and federal agencies to implement appropriate phosphorus control programs that will attain water quality standards within the South Florida Ecosystem; supporting development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Lake Okeechobee watershed; assisting the State of Florida and the SFWMD in evaluating the appropriateness of aquifer storage and recovery technology as a key element of the restoration strategy for south Florida; updating and implementing the South Florida Wetlands Conservation Strategy to include protecting and restoring critical wetland habitats in the face of tremendous growth and development pressures; continuing to implement the comprehensive monitoring program (water quality, coral reef, and seagrass), special studies, data management, and public education components of the FKNMS Water Quality Protection Program as required by the National Marine Sanctuaries Program Amendments Act of 1992; and protecting coral reef ecosystems of southeast Florida by reducing land-based sources of pollution on a watershed scale, including controlling discharges from point sources.

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Section 3.0

State of Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding

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Section 3.1: State of Florida Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects and Funding (\$75,049,926)

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (\$30,000,000)

The implementation of the CERP, in partnership with the SFWMD, tribes, other state, federal, and local agencies, and environmental groups, is a high priority for the FDEP.

Restoring America's Everglades: The Florida Legislature appropriated \$30,000,000 in FY 2012/13 to continue the state-federal partnership, established in 2000, to restore America's Everglades and establish a more natural flow of water across the 2.4 million-acre marsh. These funds are provided for the design, engineering, and construction of the CERP, the Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan, the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie River Watershed Protection Plan components, water quality studies necessary for the implementation of the CERP, and water quality enhancement projects identified in the state's Long-Term Plan for Achieving Water Quality Goals in the Everglades Protection Area (Long-Term Plan).

The FDEP administers the Save Our Everglades and the Florida Forever Trust Funds. The State has bonding authority, if needed, to fund Florida's commitment to Everglades restoration.

The FY 2012/13 Save Our Everglades funds will be divided as follows:

- \$22.2 million will be distributed through the FDEP to the SFWMD for various Everglades restoration activities,
- \$4.8 million will be used by the FDEP for distribution to various entities to implement water quality studies envisioned under CERP, and
- \$3 million to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) for on farm implementation of BMPs intended to improve water quality.

Approximately \$20 million from the Florida Forever Trust Fund will be used to complete land acquisition in Picayune Strand. FDEP fund appropriations and projected expenditures reflect the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund and the Florida Forever Trust Fund; funding used for implementation of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP) is also included.

The FDEP is authorized by the Florida Legislature to implement the Comprehensive Integrated Water Quality Feasibility Study (CIWQFS) described in the Restudy. Science studies related to agro-chemicals and toxicants of concern are being funded by the FDEP to guide decision making in CERP activities. Multiple projects are proposed for FY 2012/13 including:

- Evaluate mercury dynamics and factors influencing mercury methylation in south Florida (\$75,000)
- Characterize bioaccumulation of copper in apple snails (\$363,000)
- Mercury in Everglades fish monitoring (\$38,000)

The FDEP costs for FY 2012/13 include:

- Office of the Secretary; Office of Ecosystem Projects and the Division of Environmental Assessment & Restoration (\$1,500,828)
 - Tasks include policy, regulatory, planning, program coordination, research, and implementation (contracts) for CERP projects
- South Florida District in Fort Myers (\$13,000)
 - Tasks include planning and project management, water chemistry, and biological technical support for CERP projects
- Southeast District office in West Palm Beach (\$14,000)
 - Tasks include technical support for conversion of agricultural lands to wetlands for CERP projects

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (\$1,732,761)

The FWC contributes to CERP projects by providing technical assistance to the sponsoring agencies in order to ensure that CERP activities address the needs of fish and wildlife and their associated habitats. In FY 2011/12, the agency organized an inter-divisional team to prioritize and coordinate the agency's contributions to all inter-agency ecosystem restoration activities in south Florida including the CERP. The Office of Conservation Planning Services facilitates official consultations for the CERP through various processes including inter-agency planning teams, the Coastal Zone Management Program, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and NEPA.

South Florida Water Management District (\$43,317,165)

The SFWMD is the local sponsor for the majority of the over 50 projects included in the CERP. Planning, design, and construction are currently underway on many of these projects. As part of the CERP, the CEPP is a state-federal initiative for key restoration projects in the heart of the Everglades and the SFWMD is the local sponsor. The goal of this endeavor is to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water in the Northern Estuaries, WCA 3, and ENP in order to restore the hydrology, habitat, and functions of the natural system while considering land already purchased and water quality standards.

In addition to these project efforts, the SFWMD is partnering with the Corps on several programmatic efforts that are necessary for implementation of the CERP, such as RECOVER.

Section 3.2: State of Florida Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding (\$467,379,012)

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (\$5,000,000)

The FDACS, through its Office of Agriculture Water Policy, addresses water issues relating to agriculture and ecosystem restoration. The FDACS is responsible for addressing agriculture non-point source water pollution and for implementing TMDLs in water bodies and segments statewide. Lake Okeechobee is the first recipient of a TMDL in Florida and the FDACS has implemented a program in the Lake's basin to deal with agriculture non-point sources. The FDACS also plays an important role in the management of public lands through its Division of Forestry. The Division is the lead managing agency on the Picayune State Forest (Southern Golden Gate Estates and Belle Meade) and is the state agency responsible for wildfire suppression and prevention and forest protection in south Florida.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (\$ 29,210,012)

The FDEP's non-CERP South Florida Ecosystem restoration priorities include implementation of the EFA and the NEEPP. In addition, the FDEP supports water quality improvement programs for the CWA Section 303d listed water bodies; ecosystem restoration project management; regulatory, watershed planning, and coordination activities; and research and monitoring. The FDEP's budget for FY 2012/13 is approximately \$ 29,210,012 for the following activities in south Florida:

- State Park Operations and Management (\$15,568,000)
- Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (\$2,141,512)
- Greenways and Trails (\$11,500,500)
- South Florida Canal Study (year one of three) (\$540,000)

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (\$57,355,349)

The FWC embodies the state's executive responsibility for managing Florida's freshwater, marine, and terrestrial fish and wildlife. In order to meet its mission, the agency contributes to South Florida Ecosystem restoration and conservation both operationally and through partnerships.

Operations: Four of the agency's divisions manage fish and wildlife resources (Divisions of Freshwater Fisheries Management, Habitat and Species Conservation, Hunting and Game Management, and Marine Fisheries Management), while the Division of Law Enforcement ensures that laws protecting fish, wildlife, and their habitats are enforced. The Fish and Wildlife Research Institute administers the research and monitoring programs that support the FWC's mission. A significant contribution in this regard are the GIS-based species habitat models that are used to identify those lands that need to be conserved in support of imperiled species

management plans. FWC programs support non-native species research and management, invasive plant management, Florida panther restoration research, and alligator management throughout the Everglades Ecosystem.

The FWC is either sole manager or a partnering manager on over one million acres of public lands throughout the region. Further, the FWC contributes to state land acquisition programs through its Inholdings and Additions program, targeting lands within or contiguous to areas currently managed by the FWC. Lastly, the FWC administers an on-going lake enhancement and restoration program.

Partnerships and Outreach: The FWC partners with the FWS, NRCS, and FDACS to provide both technical assistance and grant support to those private landowners wishing to sustain fish and wildlife habitat on their properties in addition to other outreach activities.

The FWC's planned funding for South Florida Ecosystem restoration during FY 2012/13 includes:

- Law Enforcement (\$16,940,952)
- Division of Freshwater Fisheries (\$468,899)
- Florida Wildlife Research Institute (\$16,155,634)
- Division of Habitat and Species Conservation (\$25,522,625)

Florida Department of Transportation (\$14,527,701)

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is a leader among transportation agencies in the nation for protecting wildlife and redesigning roadways to restore natural water flow to over-drained areas. The FDOT is also a leader in providing funding and technical assistance to plan and implement greenways and trails. Many of these programs have been implemented in south Florida, particularly the Big Cypress Swamp (Interstate 75/Alligator Alley), Tamiami Trail, and U.S. 1 to the Florida Keys. The FDOT also funds wildlife and habitat mitigation efforts ranging from seagrass restoration in the Indian River Lagoon and sea turtle lighting along the southeast coast to the purchase of Florida panther habitat in southwest Florida.

The FDOT's expenditures for South Florida Ecosystem restoration during FY 2011/12 was \$20,173,349 and includes:

- Exotic and endangered/threatened plant survey (\$6,200)
- Research to determine the effectiveness of wildlife crossings (\$65,998)
- Mitigation maintenance and monitoring (\$78,185)
- Removal of exotic vegetation (\$2,748,189)
- Wildlife and wetland mitigation (\$15,789,223)
- Seagrass and mangrove mitigation (\$1,485,554)

The FDOT's planned funding for South Florida Ecosystem restoration during FY 2012/13 is \$14,527,701 and includes:

- Exotic and endangered/threatened plant survey (\$8,000)
- Research to determine the effectiveness of wildlife crossings (\$1,100,000)
- Mitigation maintenance and monitoring (\$80,300)
- Removal of exotic vegetation (\$2,418,355)
- Wildlife and wetland mitigation (\$5,683,046)
- Seagrass and mangrove mitigation (\$5,238,000)

South Florida Water Management District (\$361,285,950)

The SFWMD is implementing Long-Term Plan including the structural and vegetation enhancements to the existing STAs, BMPs, and integration with CERP projects. Critical initiatives underway include construction of over 11,500 acres of additional STAs (the build-out phase of the 18,000 acre total ECP expansion) as part of an initiative for removing phosphorus from inflows to the Everglades. Through April 2011, BMPs and STAs have retained more than 3,800 metric tons of phosphorus that would have otherwise entered the Everglades. The Compartments B and C STA expansions were deemed flow-capable in December 2010 and the pump stations will be fully commissioned for operation by June 2012. Additionally, the SFWMD works closely with the FDEP and other state, federal, and tribal governments on other non-CERP programs to restore and protect the South Florida Ecosystem.

Underscoring the state's commitment to greater Everglades ecosystem restoration, the Florida Legislature in 2007 expanded the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act to include protection and restoration of the interconnected Kissimmee, Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee, and St. Lucie watersheds. The NEEPP interagency initiative (Section 373.4595, F.S., 2007) is focusing on the water storage and water treatment needed to help improve and restore the northern Everglades and coastal estuaries. As part of the Northern Everglades Initiative, the SFWMD and the State will expand water storage areas, construct treatment marshes, and expedite environmental management initiatives to enhance the ecological health of the lake and downstream coastal estuaries. The NEEPP specifically called for the development of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Construction Project Phase II Technical Plan (LOWCP P2TP; completed in 2008), along with separate river watershed protection plans for both the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie (completed in 2009) developed by the coordinating agencies (SFWMD, FDEP, and FDACS) in cooperation with local governments. The coordinating agencies updated the Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan incorporating LOWCP P2TP elements and additional program components designed to benefit the lake ecosystem. The original River Watershed Protection plans were completed in 2009 and the first updates were submitted to the Florida Legislature in 2012. While Northern Everglades projects have been conceptually identified in these plans, specific projects and activities will be included in an annual work plan for each fiscal year and published in the South Florida Environmental Report.

Restoration of the Northern and Southern Everglades is integral to the core mission of the SFWMD and several initiatives and construction projects are now underway to revitalize and

protect the South Florida Ecosystem. The SFWMD's priority non-CERP South Florida Ecosystem restoration and protection projects for FY 2012/13 include:

- Restoring the Kissimmee River and floodplain (in cooperation with the Corps) through construction, backfilling 22 miles of canal, recarving 9 miles of remnant river channel, rehydrating 25,000 acres of river floodplain, and a comprehensive ecological evaluation program.
- Continuing implementation of the NEEPP and associated protection plans for the three northern watersheds (Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie, and Caloosahatchee).
- Completing construction of Phase 1 of the Lakeside Ranch STA.
- Implementing of the Dispersed Water Management Program.
- Completing construction of Compartments B and C Buildouts.
- Continuing implementation of provisions in the EFA and Long-Term Plan including STA operation and optimization, regulation, managing invasive exotic and nuisance vegetation on SFWMD lands, and implementing cost-effective solutions to improve water quality treatment, reduce nutrient loads, and achieve water quality standards.
- Updating and implementing regional water supply plans.
- Continuing implementation of the Loxahatchee River Watershed Project to improve water levels in the Loxahatchee Slough and increase freshwater deliveries to the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River to meet restoration flow targets.
- Implementing the design and construction of Caloosahatchee Basin Storage/Treatment facilities that will provide near-term storage and/or treatment within the Caloosahatchee Basin
- Planning of regional projects to meet state water quality standards through the Restoration Strategies Regional Plan.
- Operating and maintaining one of the largest flood control systems in the world that includes over 500 structures, 700 culverts, 60 pump stations, 1,600 miles of canals and 1,000 miles of levees, moving more than 20 million acre-feet (5.5 trillion gallons) of water through the system annually.

The Florida Legislature also requires the SFWMD to: manage water and related land resources; promote conservation, development, and use of surface and groundwater for reasonable beneficial uses; manage dams, impoundments, and other "Works of the District" to provide water storage; prevent flood and soil erosion damage; maintain navigable rivers and harbors; and promote outdoor recreation on publicly owned lands.

In addition to ecosystem restoration projects, the SFWMD expends a significant amount of staff time and contract dollars toward implementation of restoration program support activities such as land management, control of invasive exotic plants and animals, environmental resource permitting, and intergovernmental coordination.

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Section 4.0

Agency Contacts

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