

# SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (SFER) PROGRAM

Florida's Coral Reef Coordination Team Meeting

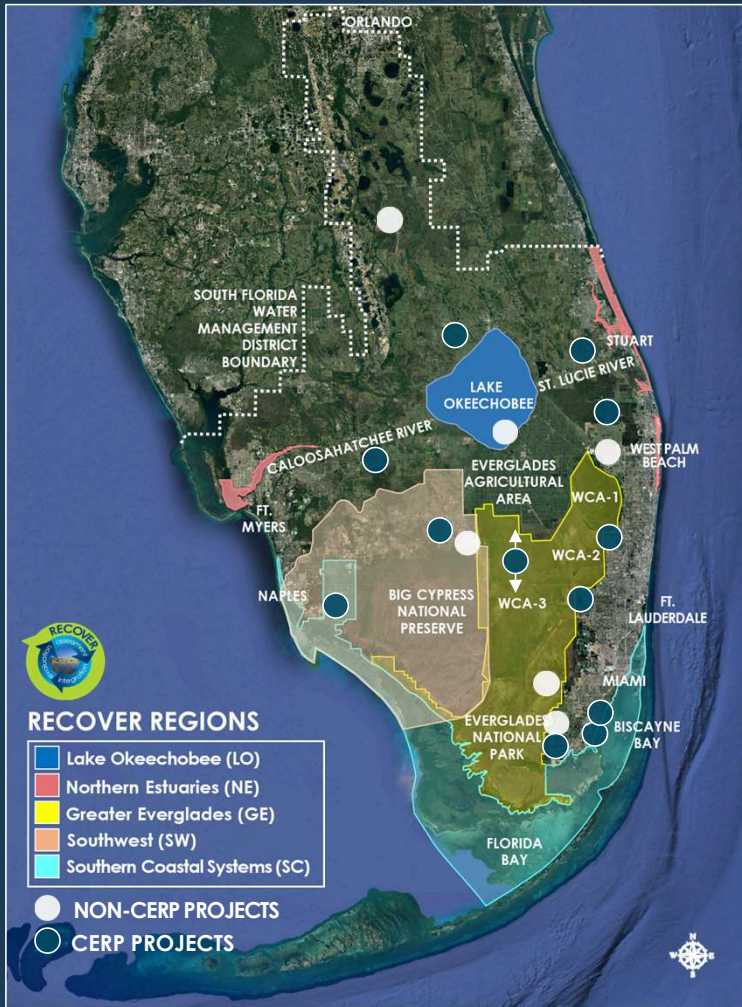
Presented by:  
Eva B. Vélez, P.E.  
Chief, Ecosystem Branch  
Programs and Project Management Division  
Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

June 28, 2023



U.S. ARMY  
US Army Corps  
of Engineers

# SFER PROGRAM AND PROJECTS



### SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND GETTING THE RESTORATION FRAMEWORK

**OPERATIONS IN SYNC WITH PROJECT DELIVERY**

**COMPONENTS AND PROJECTS**

**SOME VOLUMES BY REGION**

**EXPANDING THE RECOVER FOOTPRINT**

**SOil CONTAMINATION/AVIATION/SCIENCE/PLANNING/CRITERIA (SCAPAL/POA/WCA/WWA/AVIATION)**

**SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION**

### INTEGRATED DELIVERY SCHEDULE 2022 UPDATE - WORKING DRAFT

**SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION - CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN**

**RECOVER REGIONS**

Region	Volume	Start	End	Phase
LO	1	2022	2023	Phase 1
NE	2	2023	2024	Phase 2
GE	3	2024	2025	Phase 3
SW	4	2025	2026	Phase 4
SC	5	2026	2027	Phase 5

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Project Name	Start	End	Phase
Project 1	2022	2023	Phase 1
Project 2	2023	2024	Phase 2
Project 3	2024	2025	Phase 3
Project 4	2025	2026	Phase 4
Project 5	2026	2027	Phase 5



Agenda Item #5, Eva Velez

# INTEGRATION INITIATIVES

- RECOVER
- Regional Sediment Management (RSM) Center of Expertise
- Interagency Modeling Center (IMC)
- USACE Resilience and Integration Initiatives
- USACE Engineering with Nature Initiative



# INITIATIVES IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY



NPS image by Matt Johnson

# RESILIENCY MULTIPLE LINES OF DEFENSE

Comprehensive Everglades  
Restoration Plan (CERP)

Back Bay CSRM Studies

Beach CSRM  
Reauthorizations

CS&F (216) Flood Resiliency Study (FRM)



PARKS &  
CONSERVATION  
LANDS



AGRICULTURE



WESTERN &  
SOUTHERN SUBURBS



SLOUGHS



THE RIDGE



MAINLAND  
BAYFRONT



ISLAND  
BAYFRONT



ISLAND  
OCEANFRONT



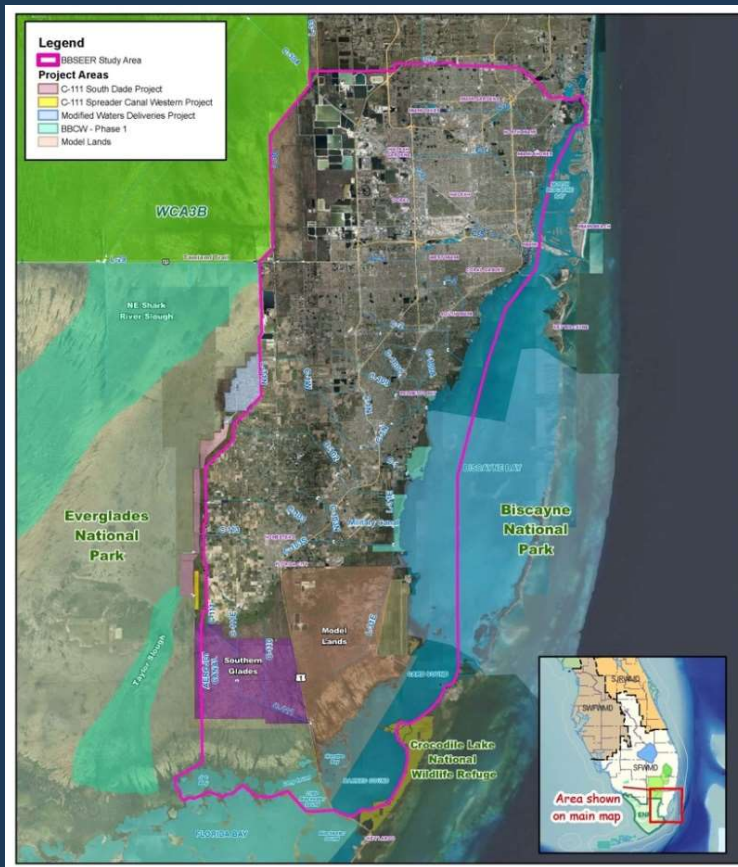
WATER



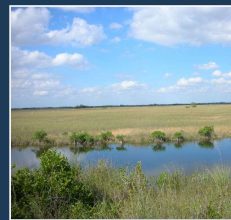
Mainland

Islands

# BISCAYNE BAY SOUTHEASTERN EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (BBSEER) FEASIBILITY STUDY



The BBSEER Study is focused on formulating plans to restore parts of the south Florida ecosystem in:



Freshwater wetlands (terrestrial) of Southern Glades and Model Lands



Coastal wetlands and nearshore (subtidal areas) including mangrove and seagrass areas, of Biscayne Bay, Biscayne National Park, Manatee Bay, Card Sound, Barnes Sound and Eastern Panhandle



# BISCAYNE BAY SOUTHEASTERN EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (BBSEER) FEASIBILITY STUDY

## NEARSHORE OBJECTIVE

Progress towards restoration of a 500-meter oligo-mesohaline (0.5-18 practical salinity units) strip year-round along Biscayne Bay, Biscayne National Park, Card Sound, and Manatee Bay coasts, and to reduce unnatural pulse releases.

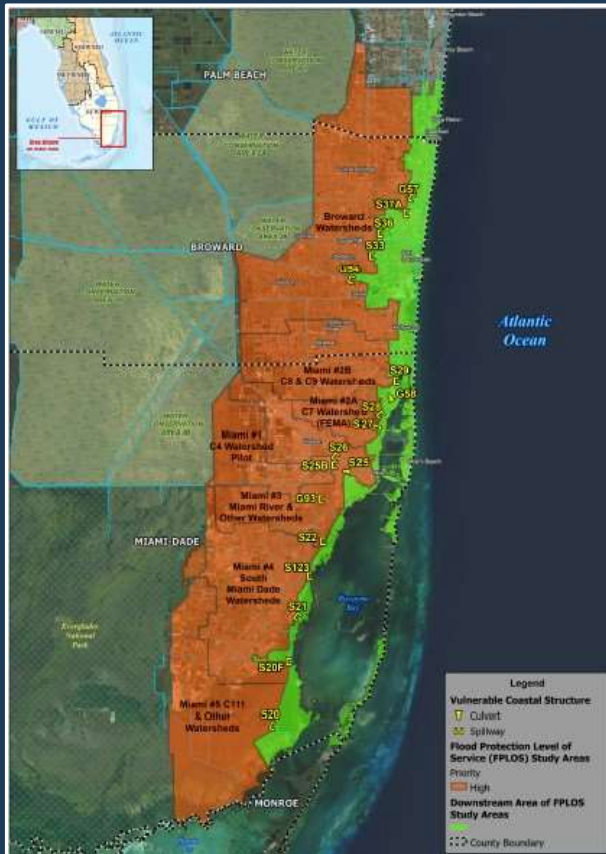


CREATE MORE OF THIS



VENICE SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION OF WATER BODIES BY SALINITY

# CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA (C&SF) SYSTEM SECTION 216 FLOOD RESILIENCY STUDY



## PURPOSE

Identify and evaluate alternatives for the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project to provide continued and improved flood risk management to reduce the most immediate risk due to changing conditions, including climate change, sea level change, land development, and population growth in the lower east coast of Florida in the tri-county area of Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties.



# FOR MORE INFORMATION



**JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT, USACE CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS AND STUDIES**  
[www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/)



**RECOVER**  
[www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental)



**SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION, USACE, REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT CENTER OF EXPERTISE**  
[www.sad.usace.army.mil/RSM-RCX/](http://www.sad.usace.army.mil/RSM-RCX/)

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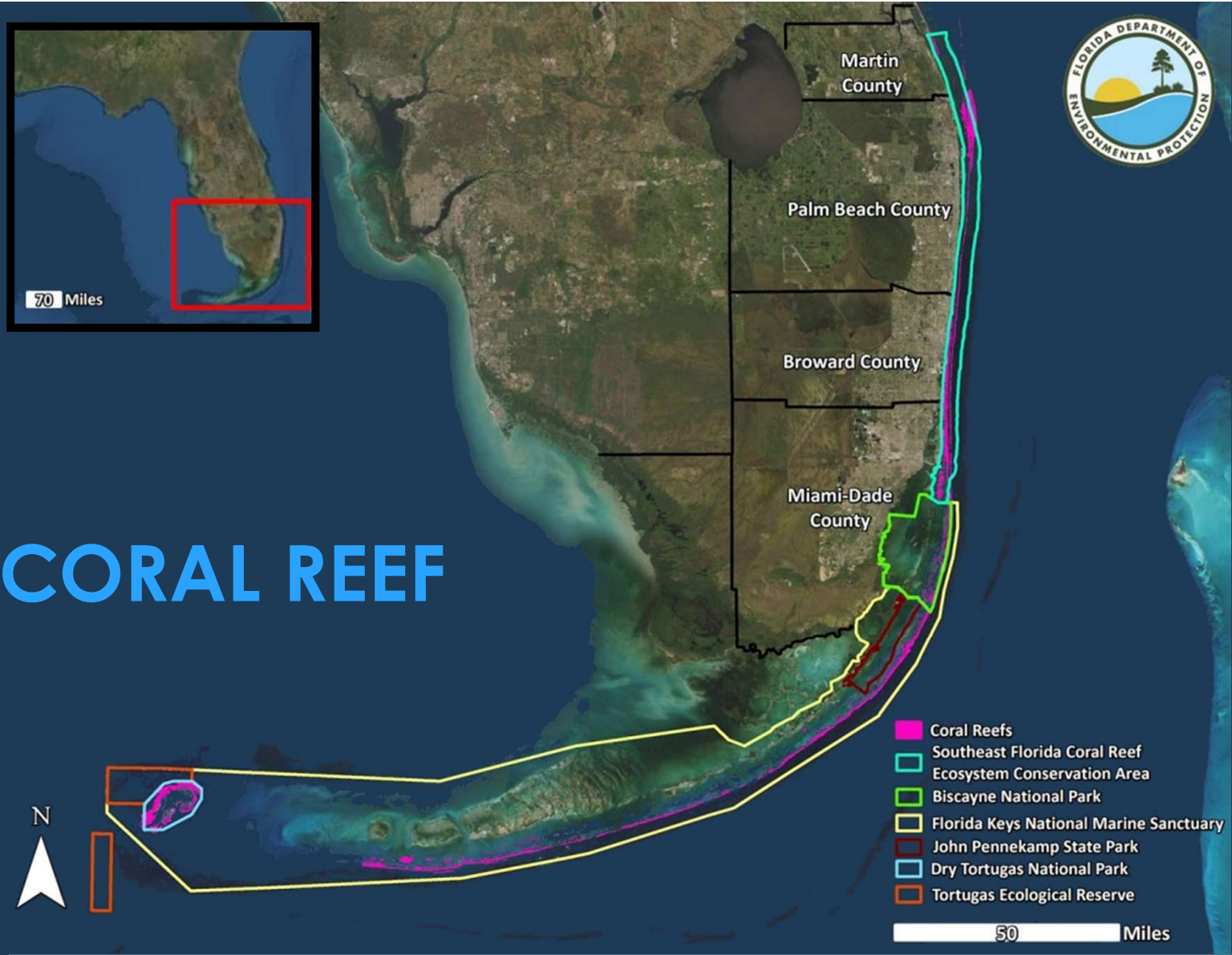




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# SUPPLEMENTAL SLIDES

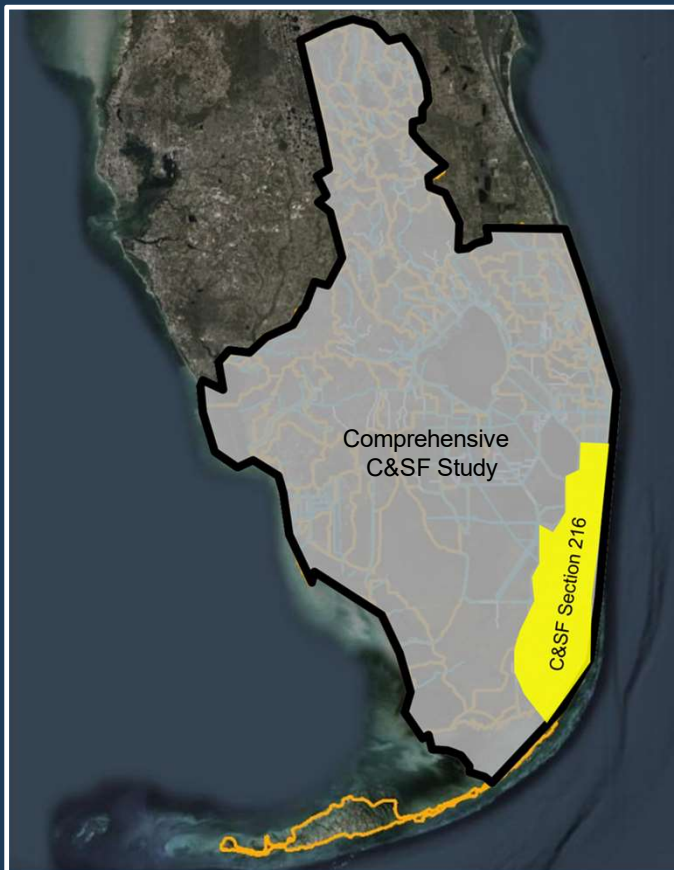


# FLORIDA'S CORAL REEF

[floridascoralreef.org](http://floridascoralreef.org)

Agenda Item #5, Eva Velez

# COMPREHENSIVE CENTRAL & SOUTHERN FLORIDA STUDY OVERVIEW



## Authority

- Division H Section 8214 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023.

## Scope

- Feasibility study for resiliency and comprehensive improvements or modifications to existing water resources development projects in the central and southern Florida area
- Purposes of flood risk management, water supply, ecosystem restoration (including preventing saltwater intrusion), recreation, and related purposes.



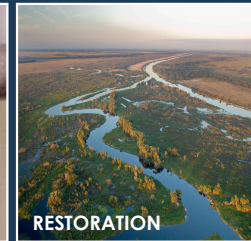
INLAND FLOOD RISK



COASTAL FLOOD RISK



WATER SUPPLY



RESTORATION



RECREATION

- Recommend cost-effective structural and nonstructural projects for implementation that provide a systemwide approach to solutions.

## Key themes

- Increase system-wide community resiliency.
- Strategic long-term planning through collaboration with Federal, state, and local entities.
- Focus on comprehensive benefits.
- Address effects from compound flooding, climate variability, and land use changes.
- Incorporate natural and nature-based features to enhance benefits.

# C&SF FLOOD RESILIENCY (SECTION 216) STUDY OVERVIEW



## Study Objectives

- **Reduce flood risks and damages** in Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties resulting from the combination of rainfall runoff, storm surge, high tide and/or high-water table to residences, businesses, and critical infrastructure.
- **Reduce potential life safety risk** in Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties due to flooding as a result of the combination of rainfall runoff, storm surge, high tides and/or water table.

## Status

- Four (4) planning focus areas were identified for the study: Reach A: Broward and Hillsboro Basins, Reach B: Little River and Nearby Basins, Reach C: Miami River and Nearby Basins, Reach D: South Miami Basins.
- Initial Array of Alternatives and Alternatives Milestone Meeting in MAR 2023.
- Updating Project Management Plan, scope, schedule and funding.
- Ongoing engagement with stakeholders.



## Sponsor and USACE Business Line

- South Florida Water Management District
- Flood Risk Management (FRM) business line

# MIAMI DADE BACK BAY COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

**Miami-Dade Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study Re-Initiation**

The Miami-Dade Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study was re-initiated on August 3, 2022.

During Part 1, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District and Miami-Dade County will coordinate with stakeholders, agencies, and the public to adapt the recommended Plan (2021) from the original feasibility study into a new alternative. Part 1 culminates with a Decision Point, the Go/No Go Meeting, where USACE and Miami-Dade will present the new alternative to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works for approval to continue forward with the study.

**What is different this time around?**

- Enhanced Coordination and Stakeholder Involvement**
  - The team has expanded to include USACE leading experts from the Engineer, Research, and Development Center and Landscape Architecture
  - Continued USACE Collaboration with numerous USACE Planning Studies and Projects in the Miami-Dade County area
  - Extensive public engagement
- Further Evaluation of Natural and Nature-Based Features**
  - The team will identify, develop, and evaluate more Natural and Nature Based Features (NNBFs) that provide coastal storm surge risk benefits and incorporate Engineering With Nature principles
- Inclusion of Comprehensive Benefits**
  - The team will further evaluate comprehensive benefits including:
    - Other Social Benefits: social vulnerability, and resiliency, social connectedness and community cohesion, leisure and recreational benefits
    - Environmental Quality Benefits: water quality, habitat enhancements and/or improvements, ecosystem services

**We want to hear from you!**  
Our goal is to maximize public participation and community engagement in the alternative formulation process.

**How can I submit comments?**

- Public Crowdsourcing Reporter Tool: <https://ecp.usace.us/uboc/>
- In-person Public Meetings
- Standard Mail: Environmental Analysis Section, USACE Norfolk District, 803 Frons Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510
- Email: [MDBB\\_CSRMStudy@usace.army.mil](mailto:MDBB_CSRMStudy@usace.army.mil)

Joint USACE/ Miami-Dade County planned public meetings:

- Virtual Public Meeting February 2023
- Virtual Public Meeting Spring 2023
- Virtual Public Meeting June 2023
- Virtual Public Meeting August 2023

Project website: <https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/MiamiDadeBackBayCSRMFfeasibilityStudy/>

