## Program & Project Update

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration
Task Force
Working Group/ Science Coordination Group

**January 16, 2024** 

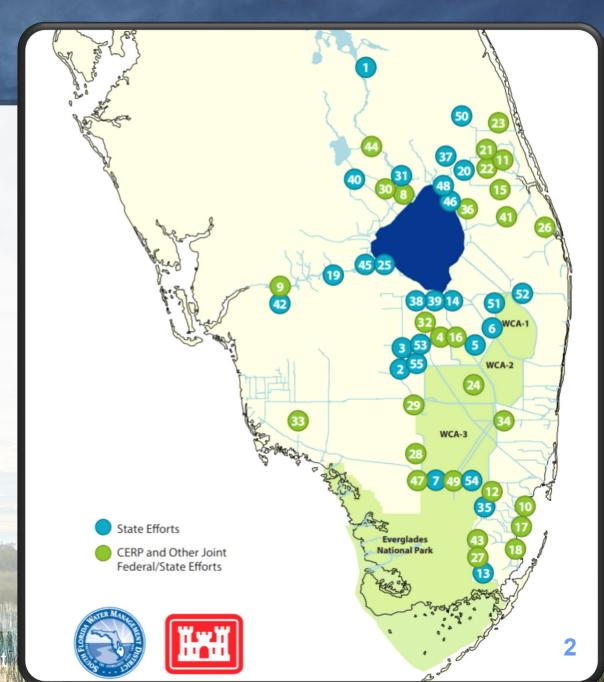
Mindy Parrott
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Ecosystem Restoration Division

sfwmd.gov

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

# Ecosystem Restoration Programs

- Federal Projects
  - CERP & Foundation Projects
- State & Local Projects
  - Restoration Strategies
  - Northern Everglades and Estuaries Program
  - Dispersed Water Management
  - Other Local Projects





## 2023 Highlights

- Broke ground on the EAA Reservoir with USACE!
- Caloosahatchee C-43 Reservoir is back on track & Pump Station is complete
- Began construction of CEPP North and BBCW Cutler
   Wetland Restoration
- New seepage barriers enhanced delivery of water to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay
- Three new Dispersed Water Management Projects
- Taylor Slough Flow Improvement Project completed
- Advanced below ground (ASR) and above ground storage north of Lake Okeechobee (LOCAR)
- Acquired 11,000 acres of critical Panther habitat in Green Heart of the Everglades







#### What's in Store for 2024?

- Complete construction:
  - Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) STA
  - CEPP New Water Seepage Barrier (5 miles)
  - CEPP North S-620
- > Start construction:
  - Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) A-2 Reservoir Pump Station and Canal Conveyance Improvements
  - Indian River Lagoon- South (IRL-S) C-23/24 South Reservoir and C-25 Reservoir & STA
  - Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (BBCW) Contract 6B
  - Western Everglades Restoration Project (WERP) L-28 South Gated Culverts
  - CEPP North S-8 Pump Station Modifications Phase 1
- > Planning Studies Ready for the Water Resources Development Act of 2024: LOCAR, WERP, LOWRP

FY 24: Over \$668M for SFER and NEEP

#### **Expediting Northern Storage - LOCAR**

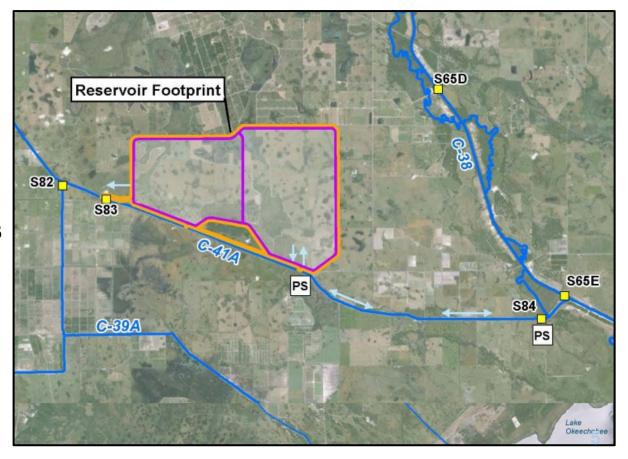
- SFWMD is preparing a Feasibility Study under Section 203 of the Water Resources Development Act
- Evaluate Component A of CERP- 200,000 ac-ft above ground storage reservoir
- Purpose is to retain water during wet periods for later use during dry periods to benefit Lake Okeechobee

#### **LOCAR Planning Schedule:**

- ✓ Project Scoping April 2023
- ✓ Identify Alternatives/Recommended Plan- May 2023
- ✓ Draft Feasibility Study & Draft EIS Released- October 23, 2023
- Final Feasibility Study and Final EIS to ASA(CW)- February
   2024

Information on the LOCAR project can be found at: <a href="www.sfwmd.gov/LOCAR">www.sfwmd.gov/LOCAR</a>

#### Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir (LOCAR) Recommended Plan



5 FWM dov

Presenter: Mindy Parrott

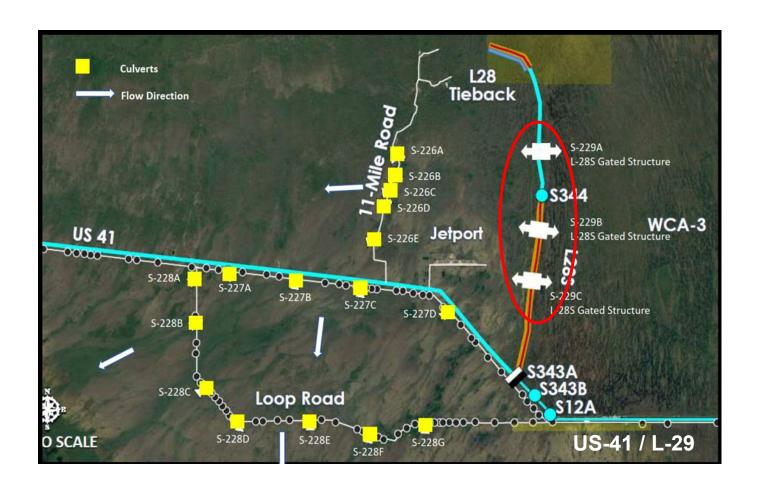
# Aquifer Storage & Recovery for Lake Okeechobee- LOWRP





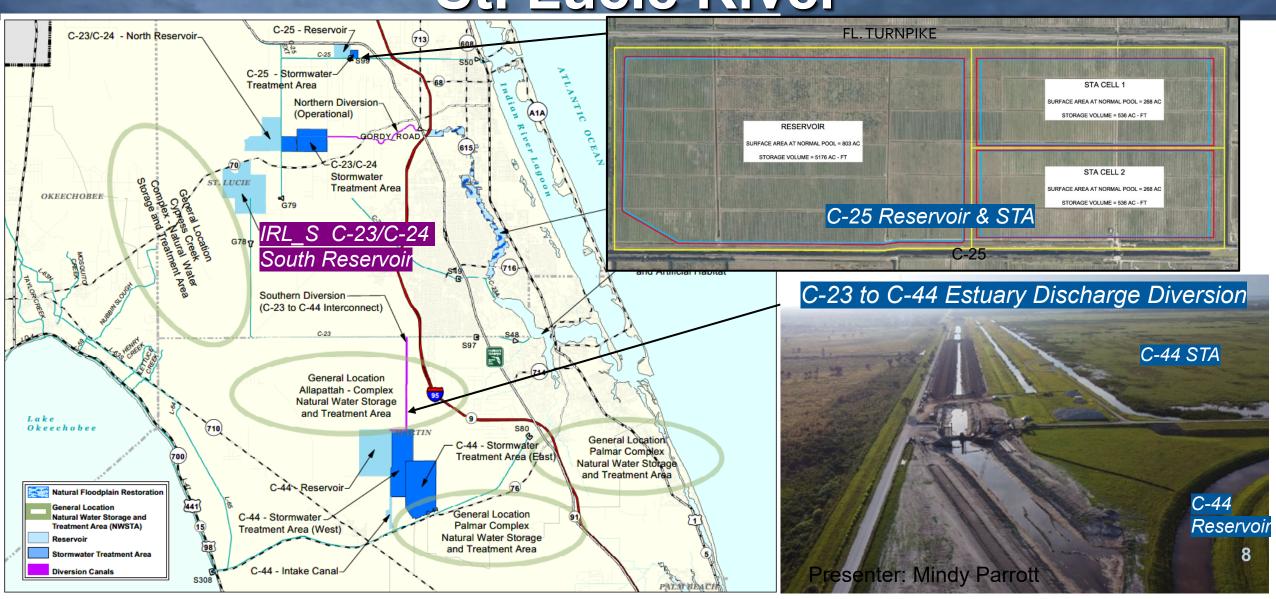
#### Western Everglades Restoration Project- Region 4

- Pre- Partnership Credit Agreement (PPCA) for Region 4
- In December, Governing Board authorized signing of contract to build 3 culverts in the L-28S levee
- SFWMD will begin design for additional culverts under Tamiami Trail, Loop Road and 11 Mile Road
- Additional modeling and data collection to support design





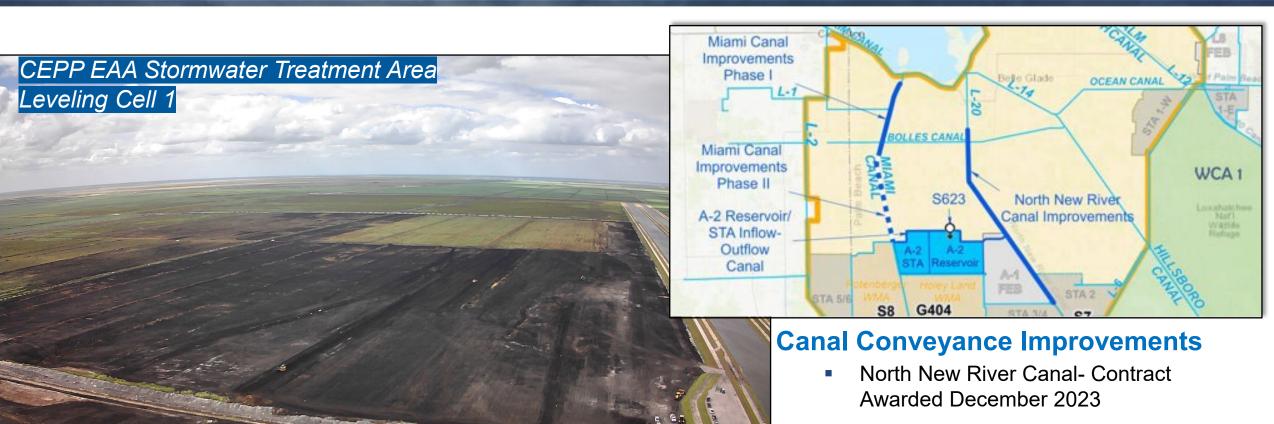
# Restoring the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie River



#### Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir



#### Central Everglades - EAA Reservoir and STA



- Miami Canal Phase 1- Final Design, award mid 2024
- Miami Canal Phase 2- Intermediate
   Design, award FY25



Presenter: Mindy Parrott

#### CEPP North



Presenter: Mindy Parrott





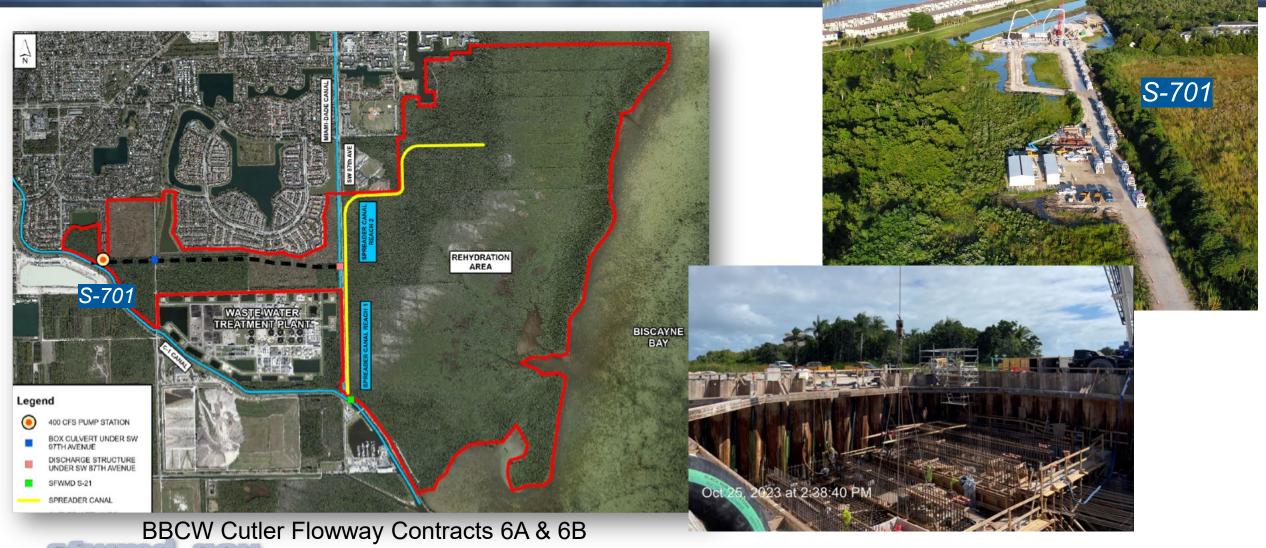
### CEPP New Water Seepage Barrier Wall







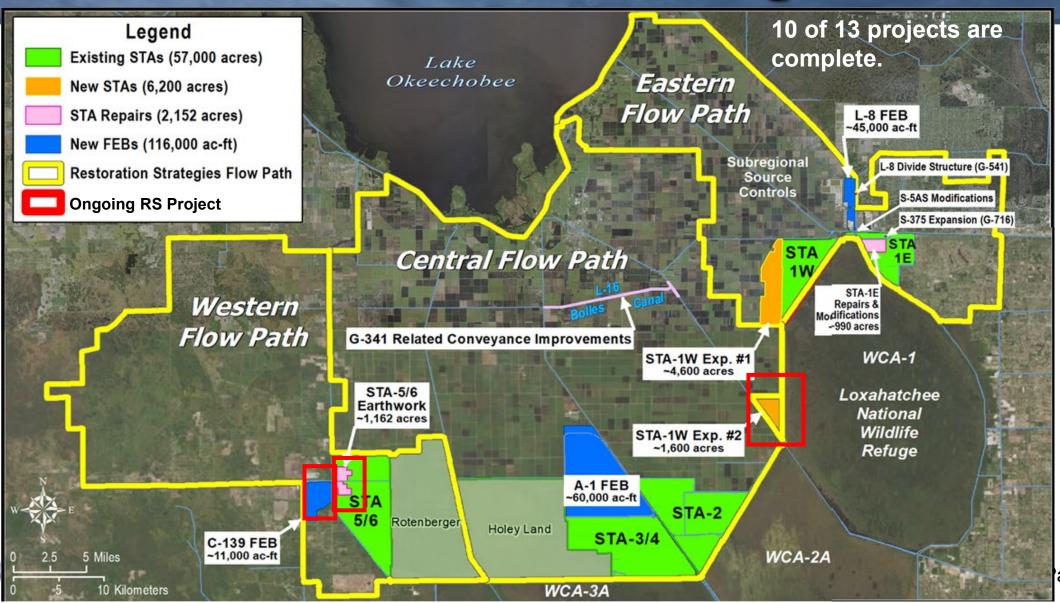
Restoring Water Flow to Biscayne Bay



#### Restoring the Loxahatchee River Watershed



#### Restoration Strategies



### Restoration Strategies Construction



G-550

#### SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

State and Local Projects to Restore Water Resources



Scott Water Farm



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