## **Program & Project Update**

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

March 20, 2024

Mindy Parrott Principal Federal Policy Analyst Ecosystem Restoration Division

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## Ecosystem Restoration Programs

- Federal Projects
  - CERP & Foundation Projects

### State & Local Projects

- Restoration Strategies
- Northern Everglades and Estuaries Program
- Dispersed Water Management
- Local Project Grants

### 2024 SFER:

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https://www.sfwmd.gov/sciencedata/scientific-publications-sfer



DISTRICT

## 2024

- FY24: \$668M for Everglades Restoration, \$574M for CERP
- FY25: \$740M for Everglades Restoration, \$664M for CERP
- Complete CEPP construction:
  - Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) STA cells

TRADING MARKE

- New Water Seepage Barrier (5 miles)
- CEPP North S-620

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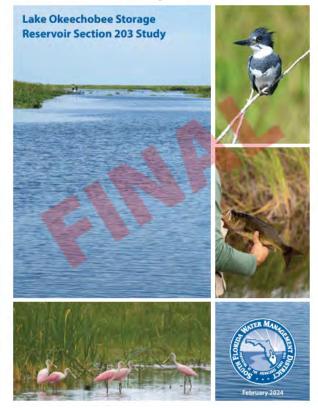
- Begin construction on 5 CERP project features
- Complete LOCAR and WERP planning studies for inclusion in the Water Resources Development Act of 2024

# Expediting Northern Storage - LOCAR

- SFWMD prepared a Feasibility Study under Section 203 of the Water Resources Development Act. USACE prepared an EIS concurrent with the Feasibility Study.
- LOCAR is a 200,000 acre-feet above ground storage reservoir, Component A from the CERP 'Yellow Book"
- Both were delivered to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works on February 28, 2024, to be available for consideration by Congress in the Water Resources Development Act of 2024.



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



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## Aquifer Storage & Recovery for Lake Okeechobee- LOWRP



- ASR Construction Progress:
  - Completed Continuous Cores at C38S, L63N and L63S
  - Completed Test Wells 1 & 2 at C38S and C38N
  - Completed Aquifer Pump Tests for Test Wells at C38S and C38N
  - Design is underway for Demonstration Facility





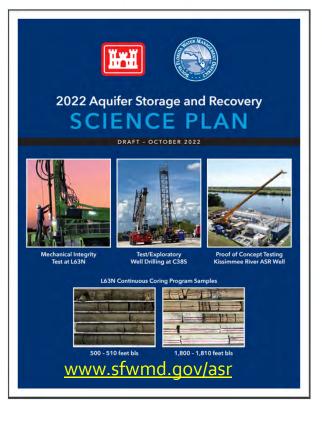
## Aquifer Storage & Recovery for Lake Okeechobee- LOWRP

### >ASR Science Plan Update 2 (Fall 2024):

- Seismic Study/Report Received September 2023
- FGCU and USGS Studies for Core Analyses Received October/November 2023
- ERDC SOW Studies for WO Amendment February 2024
- Aquifer Pump Test Reports March 2024

EPW/MACLE (P)

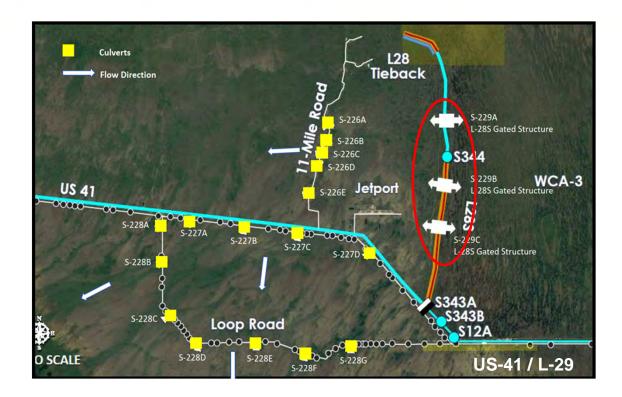
 Ecological Studies for the 1<sup>st</sup> year of monitoring – April 2024



#### SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT Lake Okeechobee Watershed ATLANTIC **Partin Family** Ranch 13 GULF OF MEXICO Area s ng Meado on main mat Ranc Kissimmee Riv Restoration leadwaters La LAKE OKEECHOBEE WATERSHED PROJECTS WY2023 Status El Max Construction \*LOWRP anth DWM Eagle Haven Ranch Design Aquifer Storage and Recovery M&O (ASR) Well Clusters O&M FDACS Abington Preserv Planning 27 Rafter T Rand Planning - LOCAR & S-191 Innovative Technology LOWRP W/ Lake Okeechobee Willaway Cattle & Sod Watershed live 0 2.5 Aguaculture -Lake Istokpoga **El Maximo Ranch** nd HWT1 asinger Grassy Island Taylor Creek STA Dairy FEB and ASR - TCNS 214 Storage and Treatment **Partin Family Ranch** emkin Creek HWTT osquito Creek HWTT Jubbin Slough HWT1 Brighton Valley DWM Nubbin Slough STA S-191 Basin Phosphorus Removal Lakeside Ranch STA Brady Liano Ranches Ranch FEB and ASR Lake Okeechobee (0) D'ALBELT

# Western Everglades Restoration Project- Region 4

- Pre- Partnership Credit Agreement (PPCA) for Region 4
- In December, Governing Board authorized contract to build 3 culverts in the L-28S levee
- SFWMD is also designing additional culverts under Tamiami Trail, Loop Road and 11 Mile Road
  - Additional modeling and data collection to support design
  - Coordination with FDOT<sub>RIO</sub>



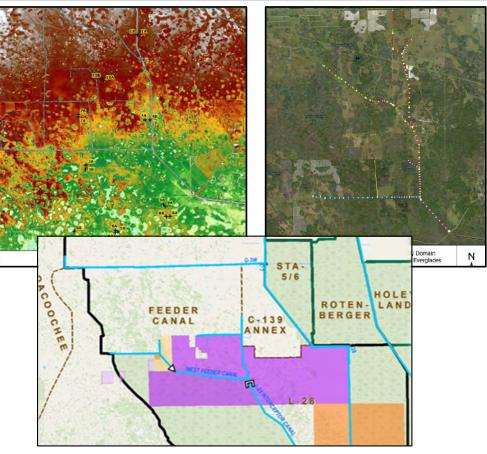
### Western Everglades Restoration Project- Region 2

#### WERP Pre- Design Engineering

- Survey data collection and ground truthing
- Refined model development
- Engage stakeholders on project effects as additional data is available

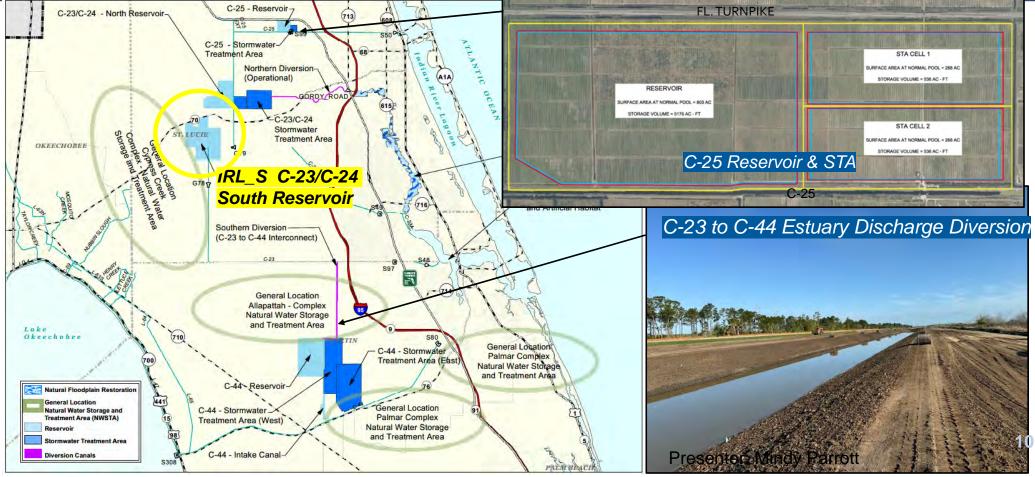
#### Feeder Basin Water Quality Program

- Precursor for WERP
- Collaborate with landowners
- Initiate WQ data collection
- Conceptual project planning





## Restoring the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie River



### St. Lucie River Watershed

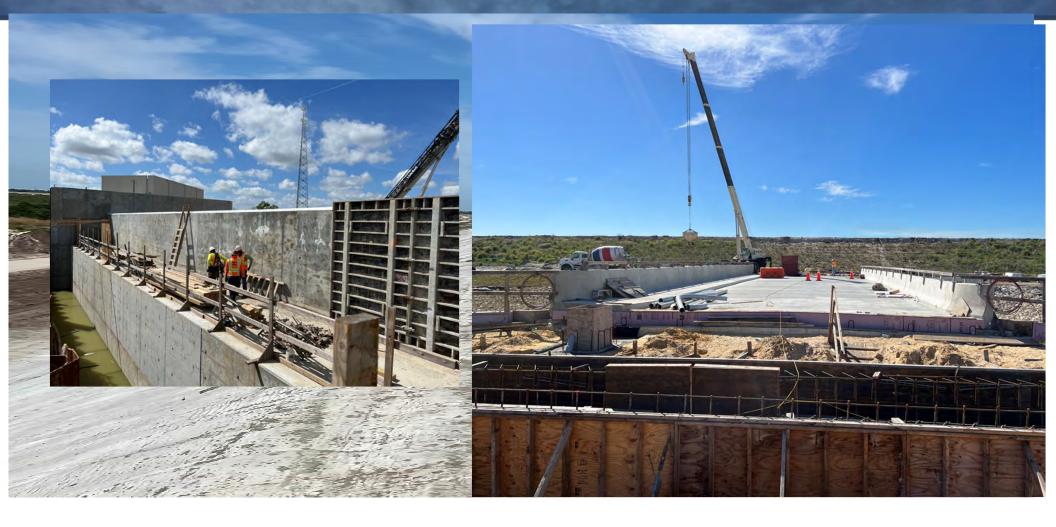
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City of Fort Pierce – Georgia Ave. Basin Water Quality Improvements

**NSLWCD Gordy Structures Retrofit** 



## Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir

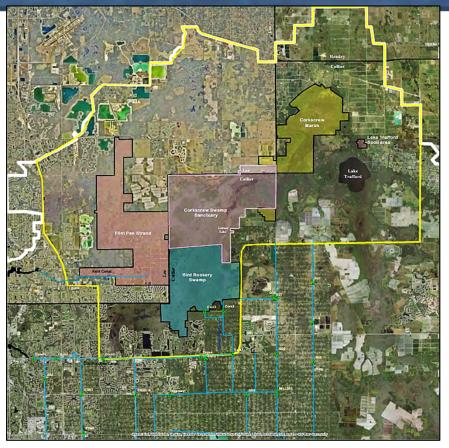


## **Caloosahatchee River Watershed**



### **Big Cypress Basin- Corkscrew Watershed Initiative**

- In the last 20 years, data shows reduced hydroperiods and increased recession rates in the Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary
- The CWI is a 3-year public planning study to develop a comprehensive strategy for ecological restoration of the Corkscrew system while reducing flood risk downstream, without adversely affecting water supply.
- The study will identify, evaluate and select a series of projects and develop conceptual plans for future implementation by the partner agencies.





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# Central Everglades - EAA Reservoir and STA



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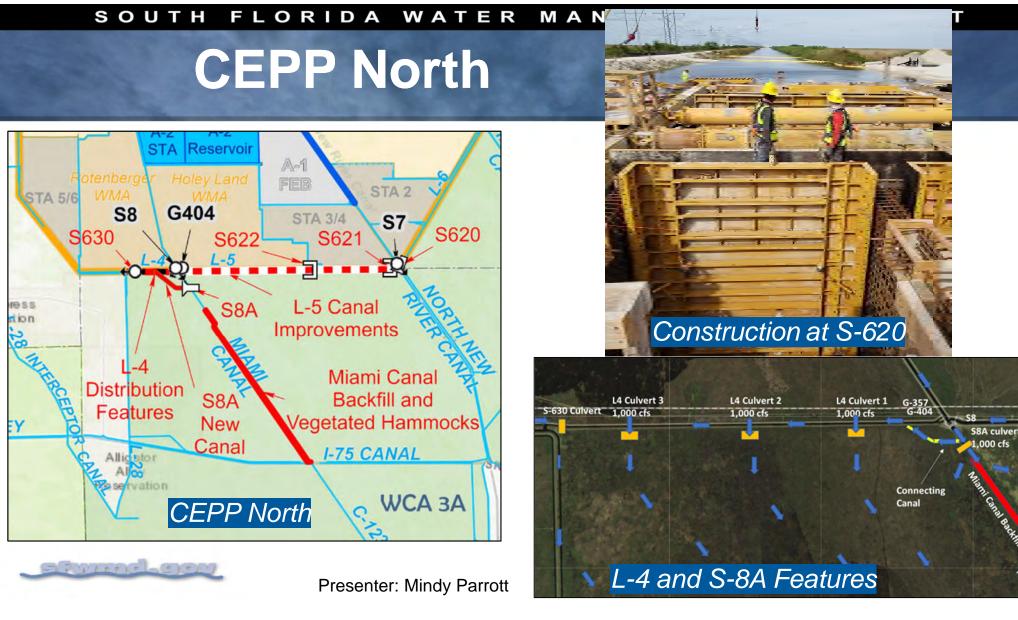
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#### **Canal Conveyance Improvements**

- North New River Canal- Contract Awarded December 2023
- Miami Canal Phase 1- Final Design, award summer 2024
- Miami Canal Phase 2- Intermediate Design, award early 2025

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# CEPP New Water Seepage Barrier Wall





Work is complete, look for a ribbon cutting event in April!



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# Restoring Water Flow to Biscayne Bay

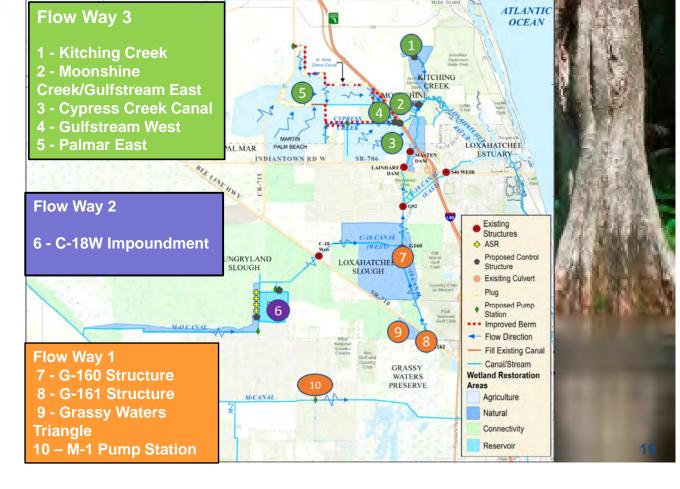


## **Restoring the Loxahatchee River Watershed**

Components 1, 2 and 6 are in design:

- Vegetation Management including biocontrol
- Survey & Geotech
- Modeling underway





# Restoration Strategies



- 10 of 13 projects completed
  - STA-1W Expansion #2 and C-139 FEB projects are in final stages of construction
  - STA-5/6 Internal Improvements is in final stages of optimization
- Due date for all RS projects is December 31, 2025
- 13 of 21 RS Science Plan studies are completed, 8 studies to be completed in 2024

## **Questions?**

mparrott@sfwmd.gov

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