
South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Program

Cross-Cut Budget

Fiscal Year 2006

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Forward

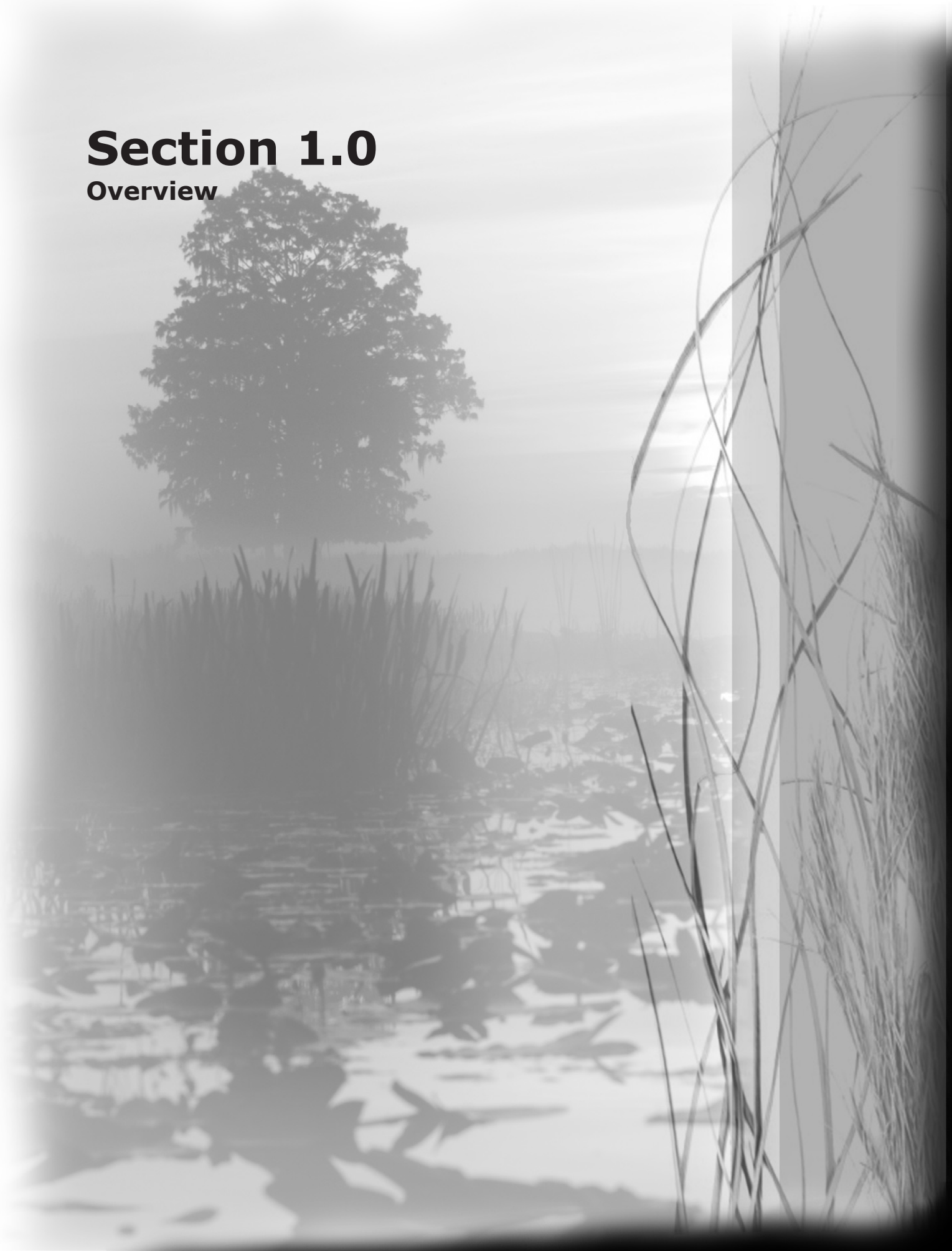
The FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget document is comprised of three sections. Section 1.0 provides an introduction, an overview of the Federal and State Funding Requests and a summary cost table, which includes budget information for Federal and State agencies/entities.

The Federal Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program information is found in section 2.0 of the Cross-Cut Budget and has two sub-sections: Section 2.1 addresses Federal Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects and funding and Section 2.2 addresses Federal Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding. Please note that base program and operational funding requests for some Federal agencies are not included in the figures provided within the FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget.

The State of Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program information is found in section 3.0 of the Cross-Cut Budget and has two sub-sections: Section 3.1 addresses State CERP projects and funding and Section 3.2 addresses State Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding. Since the publication date of each year's Cross-Cut Budget precedes the budget cycle for the SFWMD, the FY 2005-06 totals shown represent estimates. When FY 2005-06 budget totals are available, they will be posted on the website link to the FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget at www.sfrestore.org.

Section 1.0

Overview



Section 1.0: Overview

Section 1.1: Introduction

The restoration of America's Everglades continues to be a top Federal and State of Florida priority in the proposed Fiscal Year 2006 Budgets. The Administration continues its commitment to restore the fragile Florida Everglades ecosystem in partnership with the State of Florida. The FY 2006 President's Budget and the FY 2005-06 State of Florida Budget both propose funding to build upon previous years of investment in the environmental and resource stewardship programs, associated with the comprehensive program to restore the South Florida and Everglades ecosystem. This collaborative funding partnership between the Federal and State government over the next 30 years will ensure that our children and future generations experience the wonder and beauty of America's Everglades, which are recognized both domestically and internationally as like no other place on earth.

Section 1.2: FY 2006 Federal Funding Request Overview

In FY 2006, Federal funding for Everglades Restoration of about \$221 million is proposed for both the U.S. Department of the Interior (\$84 million), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (\$137 million). This funding provides an overall \$38 million or 21% increase as compared to FY 2005. Additional funding of over \$30 million, in support of Everglades Restoration efforts has been requested for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This funding will sustain successful partnerships and ongoing restoration projects towards completion.

Under CERP, the Corps will support the State's decision to use its own funds to accelerate certain work on the restoration project. The emphasis in FY 2006 is to proceed with the Everglades Modified Water Delivery project, a critical precursor for Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The Budget requests \$60 million for the Everglades Modified Water Delivery project - \$25 million for the Department of the Interior and \$35 million for the Army Corps of Engineers - a 650% increase over the \$8 million funded in FY 2005. The Corps will share funding responsibilities with the Department of the Interior while continuing to manage construction efforts.

The FY 2006 budget continues to build upon the earlier successes of both this Administration and the State of Florida in laying an important foundation and sustaining the implementation of a program to guide Everglades restoration through the next four decades and beyond. To complement the signed (January 9, 2002) President-Governor Agreement which ensures that water produced by the Comprehensive Plan will be allocated appropriately under state law to

restore the Everglades natural system, the Army Corps completed work with Interior staff and other federal, state, tribal and non-governmental partners on the programmatic regulations, which became effective on December 12, 2003. The programmatic regulations provide implementing guidance on the WRDA 2000 provisions to be utilized among all the parties to ensure that the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan are achieved. Further clarification of technical processes to be used to guide CERP implementation will be provided through the promulgation of six Guidance Memoranda required by the Programmatic Regulations that are being finalized in FY 2005.

In addition to continued implementation of CERP, the Administration's efforts in FY 2006 will continue to focus on managing and protecting marine and coastal resources; acquiring additional lands in support of restoration, sustaining efforts to better coordinate science and research programs and above all, continuing to support the critically important role of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force in collaboration, coordination, strategic planning, tracking of progress and the resolution of interagency and intergovernmental conflicts among all partners, interested parties and stakeholders.

1.3. Measuring the Performance of CERP

In February 2005, the RECOVER interagency team provided its final set of recommendations for Interim Goals and Interim Targets to the USACE, the DOI, and the SFWMD in *"The RECOVER Team's Recommendations for Interim Goals and Interim Targets for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan"*. The interim goals will provide a means by which the restoration successes of the CERP may be evaluated throughout the implementation process. The interim targets will serve as a means by which the success of the CERP in providing for other water-related needs of the region including water supply and flood protection may be evaluated throughout the implementation process.

An Interim Goals Agreement between the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Governor of Florida is presently under development and is expected to be completed late in 2005. The Secretary of the Army and the Governor of Florida will also establish the Interim Targets in 2005.

Current information on the overall progress of CERP can be found at: www.evergladesplan.org.

Section 1.4: FY 2005-06 State Funding Request Overview

Restoring and protecting the South Florida ecosystem is and will continue to remain a top environmental priority of the State of Florida, its resource agencies and South Florida regional and local governments. Florida and its citizens have repeatedly demonstrated a strong commitment to this goal, and in 2000, the Florida Legislature with the leadership and support of Governor Jeb Bush, took historic action by passing the Everglades Restoration and Investment Act, committing \$200 million per year for ten years, to help finance the implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The State has also undertaken an early start on the first CERP project to restore the hydrology in Southern Golden Gate Estates.

In 2002, Governor Jeb Bush and the Florida Legislature passed into law the Everglades Bonding Act to provide a secure, long-term finance plan to ensure that the state's share of the plan costs would continue to be met through the year 2010.

The State of Florida continues to support the integration of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan with other ongoing projects that are vital to restoration of the South Florida ecosystem and has aggressively acted to complete the restoration projects embodied in the Florida Everglades Forever Act. Five of the six Stormwater Treatment Areas (STAs) authorized by the Everglades Forever Act are operational and are removing phosphorous from the waters flowing into the STAs; water that otherwise would flow into the protected areas of the Everglades. STA-1E is complete and will begin startup operation upon permit issuance. In addition, enhancements to all six STAs are currently being implemented as recommended in the Long-Term Plan for Achieving Water Quality Goals for the Everglades Protection Area (Long-Term Plan).

The State stepped up Everglades restoration in October 2004 with a \$1.5 billion infusion to accelerate eight projects (Acceler8) crucial to the restoration. Years ahead of schedule, Acceler8 will add 8,000 acres of treatment marsh, restore 100,000 acres of wetlands, provide 418,000 acre-feet of water storage and supply 50% of the surface water storage and delivery needed for the entire restoration plan.

State land acquisition and management agencies have continued to acquire land for ecosystem restoration, water resource and habitat protection, and recreation. Significant state and South Florida Water Management District land purchases have been made in the Fisheating Creek, Southern Golden Gate Estates, Allapattah Ranch, East Coast Buffers and Cypress Creek projects. In addition, to

protect the quality of water in the Everglades ecosystem, the State adopted a rule establishing a criterion for phosphorous in the Everglades Protection Area.

Section 1.5: Federal and State Funding Summary Tables:

The following four tables provide a summary of the more detailed funding information provided in Sections 2.0 and 3.0 of this document. The tables include budget information provided by Federal and State agencies/entities for their Everglades Ecosystem Restoration (CERP and Non-CERP) projects, programs and restoration support activities.

The funding information provided in the summary tables is reflective of two different fiscal year periods. The funding for all Federal agencies and the South Florida Water Management District reflect a fiscal year that begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of each year. The funding for State of Florida agencies reflect a fiscal year that starts on July 1 and ends on June 30 of each year. Pertinent footnotes are provided at the bottom of each summary table.

TABLE 1: FEDERAL FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Request
USACE-CERP (Part of Central and Southern Florida) ⁽¹⁾	21,747,000	27,961,000	37,062,000	39,063,000	64,446,000	67,700,000
USDOI-NPS CERP	2,497,000	5,544,000	5,513,000	5,463,000	5,213,000	5,245,000
USDOI-FWS CERP	651,000	3,351,000	3,329,000	3,309,000	3,304,000	3,351,000
NON-CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS						
USACE-Central and Southern Florida (excluding CERP) ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	56,182,000	64,949,000	49,983,000	64,906,000	8,029,000	9,126,000
USACE -Critical Projects ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	20,485,000	19,876,000	19,526,000	14,760,000	25,813,000	12,000,000
USACE- Kissimmee River Restoration ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	19,961,000	25,846,000	23,727,000	17,616,000	17,871,000	13,174,000
USACE-Biscayne Bay ⁽⁴⁾	543,000	240,000	200,000	0	74,000	0
USACE- Modified Water Deliveries ⁽⁵⁾						35,000,000
USDA - ARS	4,193,000	4,846,900	5,216,800	5,415,100	6,101,000	4,638,600
USDA-NRCS	5,297,000	37,752,000	21,376,000	23,580,000	62,539,337	19,064,214
US Department of Commerce-NOAA	4,264,000	4,065,000	4,065,000	4,359,000	4,389,000	3,200,000
USDOI-NPS Park Management	23,389,000	23,635,000	23,874,000	23,991,000	25,266,000	25,854,000
USDOI-South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force	1,316,000	1,325,000	1,320,000	1,308,000	1,290,000	1,305,000
USDOI-NPS Modified Water Deliveries	8,980,000	35,199,000 ⁽²⁾	9,935,000	12,830,000	7,965,000	25,000,000
USDOI-NPS Land Acquisition (management)	2,075,000	2,800,000	2,782,000	1,800,000	1,500,000	1,400,000
USDOI-NPS Land Acquisition (Big Cypress)	0	0	0	0	0	0
USDOI-NPS Land Acquisition Grants to Florida	11,974,000	15,000,000	15,421,000	(5,000,000) ⁽³⁾	0	0
USDOI-NPS Critical Ecosystem Studies Initiative	6,194,000	4,000,000	3,974,000	3,937,000	3,882,000	3,898,000
USDOI-FWS Ecological Services	2,554,000	2,554,000	2,537,000	2,523,000	2,518,000	2,554,000
USDOI-FWS Refuges and Wildlife	3,706,000	3,706,000	3,682,000	9,784,000	4,787,000	5,787,000
USDOI- FWS Migratory Birds						103,000
USDOI-FWS Law Enforcement	636,000	636,000	632,000	628,000	627,000	636,000

NON-CERP PROJECTS/PROGRAMS	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Request
USDOJ-FWS Fisheries	100,000	100,000	99,000	98,000	99,000	100,000
USDOJ-FWS Land Acquisition	10,975,000	8,500,000	2,484,000	0	740,000	0
USDOJ- USGS - Integrated Research, Planning and Interagency Coordination	8,553,000	8,636,000	7,847,000	7,847,000	7,738,000	7,888,000
USDOJ- BIA	396,000	396,000	393,000	539,000	536,000	388,000
US Environmental Protection Agency	4,582,000	4,666,800 ⁽⁶⁾	3,352,100 ⁽⁶⁾	3,139,600	2,882,300 ⁽⁷⁾	3,572,800 ⁽⁸⁾

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.

Footnotes:

- ⁽¹⁾ USACE CERP activities were funded under the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF), now part of the South Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program.
- ⁽²⁾ Reflects \$19,199,000 for construction and \$16,000,000 for land acquisition
- ⁽³⁾ Reflects the transfer of \$5,000,000 in prior year balances from the USDOJ - NPS Land Acquisition Account to the USDOJ-FWS Resource Mgmt. Account
- ⁽⁴⁾ Enacted numbers for USACE reflect reductions for any rescissions, but do not account for reductions due to savings and slippage.
- ⁽⁵⁾ Beginning with the FY 2006 Budget Request these projects are now included as part of one Corps of Engineers line item referred to as "South Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration" Program.
- ⁽⁶⁾ FY 2002 and 2003 Enacted funding levels corrected resources supporting Everglades activities
- ⁽⁷⁾ FY 2005 funds are estimates pending approval of the FY 2005 Operating Plan.
- ⁽⁸⁾ FY 2006 funds are estimates based on the FY 2005 estimate.

TABLE 2 FEDERAL FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

FEDERAL FUNDING TOTALS SUMMARY	FY 2001 Enacted	FY 2002 Enacted	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Request
CERP Subtotal (USACE and USDOJ)	24,895,000	36,856,000	45,904,000	47,835,000	72,963,000	76,296,000
Non-CERP Subtotal (USACE and USDOJ)	178,019,000	217,398,000	168,416,000	157,567,000	108,735,000	144,213,000
Non-CERP Subtotal (Other Federal Agencies)	18,336,000	51,330,700	34,009,900	36,493,700	75,911,637	30,475,614
Non-CERP Total (All Federal Agencies)	196,355,000	268,728,700	202,425,900	194,060,700	184,646,637	174,688,614
TOTAL CERP AND NON CERP (USACE AND USDOJ)	202,914,000	254,254,000	214,320,000	205,402,000	181,698,000	220,509,000
TOTAL CERP AND NON CERP (ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES)	221,250,000	305,584,700	248,329,900	241,895,700	257,609,637	250,984,614

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

CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2000-01 Enacted	FY 2001-02 Enacted	FY 2002-03 Enacted	FY 2003-04 Enacted	FY 2004-05 Enacted	FY 2005-06 Requested
Department of Environmental Protection	89,619,051	90,380,949	150,279,126	105,586,702	128,972,634	128,637,628
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	315,000	411,000	409,000	419,000	336,359	336,359
South Florida Water Management District	32,773,071 ⁽¹⁾	91,708,816 ⁽¹⁾	133,284,645 ⁽¹⁾	107,887,469 ⁽¹⁾	101,119,569 ⁽¹⁾	136,000,000 ⁽²⁾
NON-CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS						
Florida Department of Agriculture/ Consumer Services	24,700,000	7,608,917	15,523,202	16,215,100 ⁽³⁾	5,045,629 ⁽⁴⁾	5,132,269
Department of Community Affairs	31,830,000	9,800,000	10,000,000	45,819,724	22,801,002	22,801,002
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	135,422,927	72,654,344	109,393,692	92,364,834	102,222,540	176,467,770
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	17,271,000	19,681,000	21,306,000	25,729,000	27,466,653	27,579,153
Florida Department of Transportation	16,104,000	4,931,000	10,528,832	1,940,300	7,905,314	5,400,000
South Florida Water Management District	268,873,786 ⁽¹⁾	395,314,127 ⁽¹⁾	372,701,387 ⁽¹⁾	381,868,047 ⁽¹⁾	299,820,508 ⁽¹⁾	338,000,000 ⁽²⁾

Footnotes:

⁽¹⁾ Reflects SFWMD adopted budget appropriations less any State and Federal funds.

⁽²⁾ Since the publication date of each year's Cross-Cut Budget precedes the budget cycle for the SFWMD, the FY 2005-06 totals shown represent estimates. When FY 2005-06 budget totals are available, they will be posted on the website link to the FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget at www.sfrestore.org. The same information will also be included in the FY 2007 Cross-Cut Budget document.

⁽³⁾ The amount of \$23,816,653 reflected for OAWP for FY 2003-04 in last year's report has been revised to \$8,816,653; since the \$15,000,000 legislative request was not approved.

⁽⁴⁾ The number reflected does not include Forestry's contribution for FY 2004-05

TABLE 4 STATE OF FLORIDA FUNDING SUMMARY TABLE (ACTUAL \$)

STATE OF FLORIDA FUNDING TOTALS SUMMARY	FY 2000-01 Enacted	FY 2001-02 Enacted	FY 2002-03 Enacted	FY 2003-04 Enacted	FY 2004-05 Enacted	FY 2005-06 Requested
CERP SUBTOTAL:	122,707,122	182,500,765	283,972,771	213,893,171	230,428,562	264,973,987
NON-CERP SUBTOTAL:	494,201,713	509,989,388	539,453,113	563,937,005	465,261,646	575,380,194
STATE OF FLORIDA FUNDING TOTAL:	616,908,835	692,490,153	823,425,884	777,830,176	695,690,208	840,354,181

Section 2.0

Federal Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding Information



Section 2.0: Federal Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program Projects and Funding Information

Section 2.1: Comprehensive Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Plan (CERP) Projects and Funding (\$76,296,000)

This section of the FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget includes descriptions for federal agency projects and funding for CERP restoration projects as follows:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps): (\$67,700,000)

This effort includes implementing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP or Comp Plan) as authorized in the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. An important role in implementation of the Comp Plan is played by the Restoration Coordination and Verification (RECOVER) group, which maintains a linkage between science and the Plan. It has been organized into 3 major teams and a Leadership Group that oversees all team activities. The RECOVER teams are responsible to focus on evaluating and assessing the performance of the Comprehensive Plan, reviewing the effects that other restoration projects may have on the Plan, ensuring a system wide perspective is maintained throughout the restoration process, and assisting the numerous Project Delivery Teams in developing the Project Implementation Reports (PIR) for the various projects.

At the program level, FY 2006 CERP activities include implementation of various actions required by the programmatic regulations, which became effective on December 12, 2003. These activities include the evaluation of progress towards achievement of interim goals and interim targets, the integration of required actions and processes described in the guidance memoranda into current CERP activities, and the continued reevaluation of the Master Implementation Sequencing Plan. Other program level activities include continuing RECOVER, public outreach and involvement, and environmental and economic equity program efforts.

At the project level, the major focus of FY 2006 activities will be on completing 3 PIR's, continuing development of PIR's for three remaining projects initially authorized by WRDA 2000, as well as PIR's for ten other components of the Comprehensive Plan not previously authorized. Design activities will continue on the Indian River Lagoon - South and Picayune Strand Projects, installation of testing of Pilot Projects, and continuation of ongoing Adaptive Assessment Monitoring Program activities. Efforts will also continue on the Southwest Florida, Comprehensive Integrated Water Quality, and Florida Bay/Florida Keys feasibility studies.

Finally, in recognition of the state's announcement that it will advance design and construction work on certain CERP projects, the Corps is working with the state to ensure that work performed meets the requirements of WRDA 2000 and the Programmatic Regulations, as well as federal design and construction standards.

U.S. Department of the Interior: National Park Service (NPS) (\$5,245,000)

In FY 2006, NPS requests \$5,245,000 for CERP implementation. The NPS role in CERP will continue to center on implementation of projects that are essential to the restoration of federal

lands in south Florida. The planned CERP projects having significant effects on Big Cypress National Preserve, Biscayne National Park, and Everglades National Park include feasibility studies, pilot projects for seepage management and in-ground reservoirs, and restoration projects. Funds requested for FY 2006 will pay staff and support costs to ensure full NPS participation in the development of these projects.

The projects supported in FY 2005 and those that we expect to support in FY 2006 are:

- Combined Operational and Structural Plan (including Modified Water Deliveries and C-111 Project)
- WCA 3 Decompartmentalization
- Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Project
- C-111 Spreader Canal Project
- L-31N Levee Seepage Pilot Project
- Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoirs

The NPS role in the planning and design of CERP has focused on projects that are essential to restoration of Federal interest lands in south Florida. The State of Florida has recently initiated the "Acceler8" program that will create a \$1.5 billion bonding program to speed up implementation of several projects critical to NPS lands and waters; the Corps of Engineers is also proposing to move several projects directly affecting NPS lands and waters forward in their construction schedule. The National Park Service is aligning its efforts to support these priorities by actively participating in the associated CERP project development teams. Additionally, 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. Finally, the NPS participates in RECOVER (REstoration COordination and VERification), an inter-agency scientific group charged with system-wide assessments of planned and completed projects as well as with programmatic level activities. DOI has a formal concurrence requirement on these programmatic activities including: guidance Memoranda to formalize how CERP projects will be built, operated, and evaluated; development of Interim Goals that will be used to track our restoration progress and provide five-year status reports to Congress; and 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. Additionally, NPS will participate with the State as it begins to reserve water for environmental use.

U.S. Department of the Interior: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
(\$3,351,000)

The FY 2006 request for CERP Implementation (\$3,351,000) will support approximately 30 FTEs 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, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and other statutes as part of the CERP. The FWS is an integral planning partner in formulating alternatives, designing, assessing and monitoring the separate CERP project components during its implementation. The FWS is also responsible for providing environmental expertise to the Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District to guide Everglades restoration on a system-wide scale.

In FY 2006, the FWS will participate in the development and execution of the following projects: WCA-3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement, the Combined Structural and Operational Plan, EAA Reservoir, Lake Okeechobee Watershed, C-43 Reservoir, Indian River Lagoon, Water Preserve Areas, Southern Golden Gate Estates Hydrologic Restoration, and other major restoration projects. These activities will include assistance in plan formulation and ecological benefit analysis, ESA section 7 consultation, recovery plan implementation, 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 an integral planning partner in 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.

FEDERAL CERP FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS (USACE and DOI)	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Request
USACE-CERP ⁽¹⁾	37,062,000	39,063,000	64,446,000	67,700,000
USDOI-NPS CERP	5,513,000	5,463,000	5,213,000	5,245,000
USDOI-FWS CERP	3,329,000	3,309,000	3,304,000	3,351,000
TOTAL:	45,904,000	47,835,000	72,963,000	76,296,000

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.

Footnotes:

⁽¹⁾ USACE CERP activities are funded under the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF)

Section 2.2: Non- CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding (\$193,476,000)

This section of the Cross-Cut Budget includes descriptions for Federal agency projects and funding for Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects/Programs as follows:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (\$69,300,000)

Central and Southern Florida Project (\$9,126,000)

NOTE: The number shown above does not reflect \$67,700,000 in funding requested for CERP projects, which are reported in Section 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 2006 activities will include continued engineering and design of detention areas, culverts, canal backfilling, water quality monitoring, modifications to S-331, levee vegetative removal, and formulation of the Combined Structural Operation Plan (CSOP).

- ***Manatee Pass Gates Project***

This project consists of alternative structural modifications to 23 existing water control structures and locks in the C&SF Project to reduce or eliminate manatee fatalities associated with their operation. The project is being implemented in two phases; the first phase report was approved in FY 1996 and addresses the addition of pressure sensitive devices at water control structures. These devices will reverse the gate closure if a foreign object is detected. In the second project phase, acoustic sounding and sensing devices will be placed at lock gates. The FY 2006 activities will complete construction of phase one and phase two structures.

- ***West Palm Beach Canal, Canal-51/Stormwater Treatment Area 1-East (C-51/STA 1E) 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 to restore a portion of the historic Everglades flows. It is being implemented in conjunction with SFWMD's Everglades Construction Project. During FY 2005, design on L-40 improvements will be completed and construction on the levee and pump station and C-51 channel improvements are also being completed. Design and construction contract awards to initiate pilot Periphyton Stormwater Treatment Area (PSTA) field scale test in cell 2 of STA-1E will also be completed. FY 2006 activities will include initiation of construction on L-40 improvements, completion of construction of the PSTA test cell and initiation of performance monitoring for the PSTA field scale test, the results of which are expected to clarify the benefits of full implementation of PSTA technology at STA-1E in future years.

Everglades and South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Critical Projects (\$12,000,000)

This project involves the implementation of "critical restoration projects" authorized in Section 528 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. The legislation authorizes the Corps, in consultation with the Task Force and the non-Federal sponsor, to implement projects that produce independent, immediate and substantial restoration, preservation and protection benefits. The Florida Keys Carrying Capacity Study and East Coast Canal Structure (C-4) Project were both completed in FY 2003. FY 2006 activities will include completion of construction on the Lake Okeechobee Water Retention Areas and Ten Mile Creek projects and continuing construction on the Seminole Big Cypress project.

Kissimmee River Restoration (\$13,174,000)

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. Congress authorized the recommended plan in 1992 and design and construction is underway. The Project Modification Report recommending modifications to the upper basin was approved in FY 1996. The FY 2006 activities will include continuing pre-construction, engineering and design; continuing construction of spillway modifications; continue construction on the second backfill contract, headwaters canal enlargement efforts and project mitigation features; and continuing with project monitoring and evaluation.

Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park (\$35,000,000)

This project involves construction of modifications to the C&SF Project water management system and related operational changes to provide improved water deliveries to Everglades National Park. The project consists of structural features with the intended purpose of restoring conveyance between Water Conservation Areas (WCA) north of ENP and the Shark River Slough within the Park. It will also provide flood mitigation to the 8.5 Square Mile Area (SMA), a residential area adjacent to the Park expansion boundary in East Everglades. The FY 2006 activities will include continuing construction of the 8.5 SMA features, continuing design of Tamiami Trail and Seepage and Conveyance features, environmental monitoring, and development of operational plans.

U.S. Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
(\$4,638,600)

The ARS mission is to develop and transfer solutions to agriculture problems of high national priority; to provide information access and dissemination to ensure high-quality, safe food and other agricultural products; assess the nutritional needs of Americans; sustain a competitive agricultural economy; enhance the natural resource base and the environment; and provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society. In 2002 and 2003, ARS and its customers began plans to expand and execute an integrated research program that addresses the needs of agriculture and also complements the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). To facilitate this process, six industry customer and stakeholder meetings were held at different ARS locations. These meetings resulted in a clear goal for developing and transferring improved scientific technologies and enhanced management strategies that control invasive species and assure the continued economic integrity of agriculture for the benefit of the nation. Five major areas of research were identified by the ARS customers and stakeholders in priority order: 1) Hydrology and Water Quality, 2) Economics, 3) Improved Crop/Animal Production Systems, 4) Biological Control of Invasive Species, and 5) Decision Support Systems/ Model Development. ARS will continue to work with its customers, stakeholders, and partners to address these high priority research areas. Currently, ARS does not conduct research in South Florida related to economic issues. Individual projects related to the other four priority areas are as follows:

Hydrology and Water Quality

• ***Nutrient, Pesticide, and Water Management for Horticultural Crops (\$268,700)***

The Horticultural and Breeding Research Unit at Ft. Pierce, FL, recently initiated a new project to improve water conservation and water quality associated with the irrigation of field and container-grown horticultural crops. Research objectives of the project are: (1) determine the fate and transport of nutrients and pesticides used and the potential for contamination of aquatic environments; (2) develop management practices that reduce losses of nutrients and pesticides into water resources; and (3) assess the potential of aquatic plants and algal species to purify horticultural runoff of excess nutrients and pesticides. The researchers at the U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, Horticulture and Breeding Research Unit, have discovered recently that the source of nutrients and pesticides from agricultural fields varies both spatially and temporally to most of the Indian River lagoons. The researchers are also finding that nutrient uptake for container grown citrus and ornamental plants can be managed in ways that improve off-site water quality impacts.

- ***Water Quality Impacts for Sweet Corn Production in Dade County, South Florida (\$164,000)***

This research project is a cooperative effort between the Southeast Watershed Laboratory in Tifton, GA; the South Florida Water Management District; and the University of Florida, Tropical Research and Education Center in Homestead, FL. The objectives of this research project are: (1) to evaluate the fate and transport of indicator nutrients and pesticides, i.e. compounds detected in surface water monitoring studies; (2) to evaluate the potential of summer cover crops in controlling pesticide and fertilizer contamination of surface and ground water; and (3) to evaluate contamination attenuation of nutrients and pesticides during transport processes in the upper Biscayne aquifer. These researchers have recently shown that Sunn Hemp, as a cover crop, can reduce pesticide and nitrate-nitrogen losses in surface and ground waters.

- ***Atmospheric Processes of Agricultural Pollutants that Affect Air and Water in South Florida (\$211,200)***

A new research project was initiated in FY 2002 to determine atmospheric loadings of nutrients and pesticides to sensitive ecosystems. This project is being lead by Environmental Quality Laboratory in Beltsville, MD, and the Southeast Watershed Laboratory in Tifton, GA, in cooperation with the University of Florida, South Florida Water Management District, and National Park Service scientists. Air quality sampling sites have been established in Biscayne National Park near Homestead, FL, and West Palm Beach, FL. These measurements will complement water quality research and toxicity testing by NOAA's National Ocean Service scientists in the St. Lucie Estuary and Florida Bay areas. Rainwater is collected on an event basis and weekly air samples are compared to surface water samples. Preliminary results, to date, show that a number of pesticides and several degradation products have been detected in the rain and air samples at very high levels.

Improved Crop/Animal Production Systems

- ***Beef Cattle Grazing Systems to Protect Water Resources (\$191,800)***

A new research project has recently been initiated at the Beef Cattle Research Unit in Brooksville, FL, to develop better forages and grazing practices that will improve the profitability of beef cattle production as well as protect water quality for the subtropical areas of the United States. Changes in soil nutrients and water quality effects around and beneath the cattle congregation sites will be assessed. Recently, researchers at the Subtropical Agricultural Research Station have shown that moving the mineral feeders, water troughs, and shades around and beneath cattle congregation sites can improve ground water quality.

- ***Development of Improved Sugarcane Varieties and Their Use in Sustainable Agricultural Production Systems (\$765,700)***

The primary mission of the Sugarcane Field Station in Canal Point, FL, is to develop high-yielding, disease-resistant sugarcane cultivars. Research objectives of projects related to Everglades restoration are as follows: (1) quantify and genetically improve sugarcane's tolerance to wetter conditions, (2) identify and develop agronomic practices that sustain or improve profits under changing hydrological conditions resulting from CERP (3) quantify and genetically improve sugarcane's ability to yield well with less phosphorus fertilizer or to yield well and take up more soil phosphorus, and (4) quantify the effects of raised water

tables and intermittent flooding on the microbial activity that causes soil subsidence. The approach is to use laboratory, growth chamber, lysimeter, and field experiments to assess the potential for reducing organic matter oxidation for the soils in the Everglades Agricultural Area.

The researchers at Canal Point have released 40 new sugarcane varieties to the Florida industry over the past 30 years. The researchers have recently shown that current sugarcane cultivars respond differently at the higher water-table depths. For example, the most widely grown cultivar in Florida showed a 25% yield reduction, whereas other cultivars did not result in yield losses under the high water-table conditions. This research has also shown that the ability of various cultivars to form stalk aerenchyma before exposure to flooding is an important characteristic that provides flood tolerance in sugarcane. In terms of soil subsidence research, water-table depths of 16 cm (6 inches) and flooded soil have similar microbial oxidation and soil subsidence rates, and substantially less microbial oxidation and soil subsidence than 50-cm (20 inches) water-table depths

Biological Control of Invasive Species

- *Biological Control and Management of Aquatic Weeds/ Invasive Species in South Florida (\$2,402,800)*

ARS has conducted research in the biological control of weeds in South Florida for more than 50 years. Since 1989, the ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory in Ft. Lauderdale, FL (and its satellite lab in Gainesville, FL) has spearheaded, in collaboration with the ARS Australian Biological Control of Weeds Laboratory, a biological control program directed against melaleuca. Research continues under current funding to develop management strategies and biological control agents that are efficient, economical, and environmentally sound. Current funding related to the Everglades restoration efforts totals \$2,130,800 in Florida and \$272,000 in International Countries, respectively.

The research has been expanded to identify and collect natural enemies for control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* and other invasive pest plants; evaluate biological control agents for control of melaleuca and other exotic plant species and obtain approvals of qualified natural enemies; and develop biological-based integrated pest (weed) management strategies that are efficient, economical, and environmentally sound. The release of approved biological control agents will be integrated with other methods of exotic plant species control (chemical, cultural, and physical), determination of optimum re-vegetation methods, and an evaluation of compliance with economic and environmental impact assessments on control measures.

The Invasive Plant Research Laboratory has released a total of thirteen insects for use against five invasive, non-native plants in South Florida; alligatorweed is now being controlled in the southeastern United States; biological control agents from South American are controlling waterhyacinth populations; two South American insects have been released against waterlettuce; three Asian and Australian insects are impacting hydrilla; and two biological control agents for melaleuca have recently been released within the Everglades National Park. The laboratory receives foreign biological agents from six overseas laboratories. The largest source of biological control agents for control of melaleuca has come from Australia. Three species of aquatic snout beetles, or weevils, from Thailand and three species from China are being evaluated in quarantine as control agents of submerged

aquatic weeds, hydrilla, and Eurasian watermilfoil. Construction of a new quarantine facility at Ft. Lauderdale began in early FY 2002 and was completed in November 2003.

Decision Support Systems/ Model Development

- ***Hydrologic Evaluation and Water Quality Studies Affecting Dade County (\$634,400)***

The long-term plan, to restore the Everglades to a more natural condition, may elevate the water table in parts of South Florida. This could result in flooding during the wet season and have an adverse effect on agricultural crop production. The main objectives of this project being conducted by the Subtropical Horticultural Research Unit in Miami, FL are: (1) to develop and evaluate a comprehensive, agricultural decision-support computer model to improve water quality under high water-table conditions, and (2) to develop guidelines and recommendations for agricultural management practices to improve water quality under high water-table management conditions. The computer model and guidelines for agricultural practices is currently being developed for the C-111 basin. The Everglades Agro-Hydrology Model (EAGHM) has been designed to simulate surface and subsurface hydrology, irrigation, cropping practices, and crop growth as an interactive processes on a farm scale. Plans are to incorporate EAGHM into the larger scale model developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Geological Survey. The combined models will enable improvements in agricultural production, agricultural water management, and environmental protection strategies.

U.S. Department of Agriculture- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)(\$19,064,214)

The NRCS provides technical assistance on a voluntary basis to private landowners and operators, Indian 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 Everglades Ecosystem. Financial assistance is provided through a variety of USDA Farm Bill Programs.

NRCS operates Mobile Irrigation Laboratories in partnership with other governmental agencies to assist urban and agricultural land users in reducing irrigation water use and nutrient loading to receiving waters. Assistance is provided to livestock and dairy producers to apply Best Management Practices, including waste management systems, to reduce off farm nutrient discharges. A special effort in the EAA and C-139 basin is in place to assist the land user to meet requirements outlined in the 1994 Everglades Forever Act 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.

Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002

Mobile Irrigation Laboratories (\$77,700)

Mobile irrigation labs have assisted both urban and agricultural irrigation users conserve water by providing detailed irrigation system evaluations and follow-up assistance. Currently there are mobile irrigation labs operating in Vero, Ft. Pierce, Naples, Martin County, Miami-Dade, West Palm Beach and Broward County which was recently initiated.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) (\$8,867,326)

Provides farmers and ranchers with financial and technical assistance to install or implement structural and management practices on agricultural lands that will improve or maintain the health of natural resources in the area including water quality.

Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) (\$8,486,560)

The WRP provides the opportunity to landowners to receive financial incentives to restore or enhance wetlands and improve wildlife habitat in exchange for retiring marginal land from agriculture production.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) (\$132,628)

WHIP encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations on wetland, riparian, upland and aquatic habitat on agricultural lands.

Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP) (\$1,500,000)

The FPP protects working agricultural land from conversion to non-agricultural uses through the purchase of conservation easements in partnership with local and state governments, Indian Tribes and non-governmental organizations.

Watershed Project (P.L. 566, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program) (\$0)

The PL-566 Small Watershed Program will provide cost share incentives to implement conservation practices to improve surface water quality in the Lower Kissimmee River and Taylor Creek-Nubbin Slough Watersheds north of Lake Okeechobee targeting improved pastures in cow/calf operations, dairy outer pastures and other intensively used pastures.

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) (\$ 0)

After emergencies such as those experienced by the State of Florida following Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne the EWP program provides assistance to sponsors and individuals in implementing emergency measures to relieve imminent hazards to life and property created by a natural disaster. Activities include providing financial and technical assistance to remove debris from streams, protect destabilized streambanks, and establish cover on critically eroding lands and repairing conservation practices.

U.S. Department of Commerce: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (\$3,200,000)

The FY 2006 budget for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) includes \$3,200,000 to provide science, monitoring, and modeling projects critical to implementing and assessing the Comprehensive Ecosystem Restoration Plan (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.

As the CERP projects begin to implement major construction and re-routing of water flow through the South Florida Ecosystem, downstream coastal resources will be affected. NOAA's role is to provide research, monitoring, and management to support successful implementation of the CERP, including restoration of the affected coastal resources. Although 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 (NOS) (\$900,000)

NOS and partners have funded several years of research to gain a sufficient understanding of processes in and around Florida Bay and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary so that a predictive capability could be established to assess the impacts of alternative management strategies for the restoration of the Everglades on these water bodies. In FY 2006 NOS will fund competitive proposals to utilize and build upon this research to support development of quantitative, coupled, management-relevant ecosystem models that will provide specific outcomes (e.g. water quality measures, seagrass distribution, etc.) for water diversion scenarios. This work will be conducted in concert with complementary efforts being overseen by other Federal and Florida state agencies.

Interdisciplinary Coastal Oceanographic Observations/ Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (\$1,000,000)

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 to coastal areas, as part of the restoration effort, is critical to determine the overall success of the effort. This funding supports a suite of research and monitoring activities in those South Florida coastal waters that are downstream of major restoration projects, such as the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay. The objectives are to quantify current conditions and to develop a capability to understand and predict changing conditions in south Florida coastal seas resulting from restoration and other human impacts. Particular emphasis is placed on documenting and predicting changes over time to valuable and sensitive coral reef habitats and communities along the Florida Keys.

Restoration Science and Assessment/National Marine Fisheries Service (\$1,300,000)

The National Marine Fisheries Service will continue research that defines the impact of inland restoration efforts and changing freshwater inflow on Florida Bay and other South Florida ecosystems. Studies will develop quantitative information on coastal habitats, nutrient flows, hydrodynamics, and ultimately measurable ecosystem productivity, diversity, and health. This research is conducted, in part, through a strong partnership with local scientists. Funds are targeted to conduct an integrative spatial study of the pelagic and benthic communities in

relation to habitat, particularly sea grass and salinity, and to build a relationship among abundance, biomass, and the management of freshwater inflow. Funds are also targeted toward understanding the relationship between water circulation patterns and the distribution of key species. Elements of the study will include physical and biological modeling, geographic information systems (GIS), field sampling, and laboratory studies. Community analyses will be incorporated into ecosystem models to help integrate the interagency program of South Florida coastal studies.

U.S. Department of the Interior - National Park Service (\$57,457,000)

Park Management (\$25,854,000)

- ***Big Cypress National Preserve (\$5,418,000)***

Costs associated with current area management activities support mandated programs such as the protection, inventorying 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 sheet water flow to the Everglades National Park and the Ten Thousand Islands. Additional mandated programs include special uses such as oil exploration/production, 3,000 acres of cattle leases, the largest recreation hunting wildlife management area in south Florida, implementation of the largest recreational off-road vehicle program in the 48 states, and 11 Native American (Seminole and Miccosukee) villages on Preserve lands. The Preserve supports the largest prescribed fire program in the Service; visitor and resources protection of 728,000 acres of predominately backcountry areas; maintenance of 47 employee housing units, two major visitor support facilities, public utility systems, seven primitive campgrounds and 66 miles of roads and management of 394 known archeological sites.

The current natural resources management program includes collection of baseline data in formats that are compatible with interagency regional hydrologic and community/species-based models, non-native plant control, threatened and endangered species, mitigation of visitor impacts, and management funds to support direct inventory/monitoring of resources and a geographic information system.

- ***Biscayne National Park (\$3,591,000)***

Costs for area management activities involve operations associated with a marine park that is exposed to intense urban pressures. These include efforts to address impacts to park resources associated with urban sprawl from the metropolitan area of Miami, four solid waste landfills, and a nuclear power facility. All of these threats are located along the park's western boundary, and "upstream" with respect to surface- and ground-water flow into the park.

Other area management activities are associated with the protection of 173,000 acres of marine resources, which include the largest living coral reef system in the National Park Service, eight known terrestrial and 40 known submerged cultural sites, and approximately 20 historic structures and two national historic districts within a boundary that has unlimited access points. Costs also involve the maintenance of three developed islands and one mainland site that include six harbors/docking facilities, two campgrounds, six picnic

areas, approximately ten miles of trail, six residences, an environmental education camp and a major visitor center.

Current natural resources management efforts are directed towards coral reef and seagrass protection, water quality monitoring, documentation and mitigation of impacts due to visitor and commercial uses, controlling exotic vegetation, and monitoring at least eight threatened and endangered species. Special efforts are applied to prevent and restore extensive damage to seagrass beds and coral reefs from boat groundings.

- ***Dry Tortugas National Park (\$1,348,000)***

Costs are for operations of the 65,000-acre marine and historical national park 70 miles west of Key West. The popularity of this park is putting stress on park facilities and is threatening park resources, visitor safety, and the quality of the visitor experience. This raises concerns over visitor impacts on the remote, wilderness qualities of the site. Current funding will continue a preservation and maintenance program for Fort Jefferson.

Efforts will continue this year 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.

- ***Everglades National Park (\$15,497,000)***

Costs for area management reflect continuing demands on operations, natural resources 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 some 6 million people, the park has special challenges. Over one and one-half million visitors come each year. 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 3 concessions operations. Infrastructure requires extensive short-term maintenance, as well as a long-term upgrade. The park has 82 miles of surfaced roads, 160 miles of trails, three campgrounds, 48 backcountry campsites, and three fee collection stations. The park has an unprecedented three international treaty designations and is unique in the world. It is home to over 1,000 species of plants, 400 species of birds, and 2 rare orchids, and is a refuge for 14 threatened and endangered species.

Everglades National 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 Everglades National Park and adjacent natural areas.

Shark Slough and eastern Florida Bay have the most extensive network of monitoring networks (hydrological, meteorological, and biological), however this monitoring system

does not give us an understanding of the relationship between biotic and abiotic factors in restoration. This network is the basis for both understanding the linkages between hydrologic change and ecological response, and for determining the actual effects of projects on the biota. These data collection networks are widely recognized as essential. For example, the South Florida Water Management District funds the National Park for 100% of the actual costs of collecting tides, wind, and salinity information in Florida Bay and the Gulf Coast. All of the hydrologic and primary ecological data collection efforts undertaken by the Park Service in Everglades National Park are included in CERP's Monitoring and Assessment Plan, and the sponsoring agencies make it clear in the document that they are expecting on-going support for these essential elements. Current funds primarily cover megafauna and key restoration areas such as Shark Slough, the C-111 basin, and eastern Florida Bay.

South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force (\$1,305,000)

This activity supports the operations of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force, which 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 is also responsible 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 advisory 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 the restoration. In subsequent Congressional guidance, the Task Force was directed to develop implement and maintain an outcome oriented strategic plan; an improved process for resolving conflicts/disputes; and a comprehensive strategy for Federal land acquisition projects.

In FY 2006, the Task Force office will continue its coordination role and related reporting activities in support of the Task Force and Working Group initiatives, projects, priorities and programs. This work will include coordinating, tracking and monitoring all aspects of CERP implementation, the biannual 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 for annual updating of the land acquisition strategy, engaging as necessary in its dispute resolution process, implementation activities associated with the Task Force plan to coordinate science and the annual updating of the restoration project sheet information (Integrated Financial Plan) including project synopsis, start and end dates and cost estimates for each project.

Everglades Research (\$3,898,000)

NPS also requests \$3,898,000 for CESI. Since its inception in 1997, CESI has been the primary investment by the Department of the Interior to provide scientific information to advise restoration decision-making and to guide its own land management responsibilities for South Florida ecosystem restoration. The accelerated schedule for the CERP has made it more challenging to plan future research. The CESI program is being restructured to meet these challenges and balance continued ecosystem research and model development with the new requirements to support CERP implementation, including the project-specific environmental

assessments and long-term monitoring to track restoration success. The four main science programs are:

- **Baseline Research:** particularly related to hypothesis testing, process studies, and the linkages between hydrologic alterations and ecosystem responses.
- **Simulation Modeling:** to support the development and refinement of physical and biological predictive models that simulate the responses to proposed modifications. One simulation model is expected to be completed late in FY 2005 is a risk assessment model for effects on roseate spoonbills. The model contains a module that incorporates basic linkages between spoonbill foraging and nesting success to hydrologic conditions. The risk assessment model estimates impacts on spoonbills based upon the hydrologic conditions from various project scenarios.
- **Environmental Assessments:** includes the development and application of decision support tools that can automate our assessments of restoration alternatives.
- **Long-Term Monitoring:** this is critical to determining ecosystem responses to our restoration actions.

Modified Water Deliveries Project (MWD) (\$25,000,000)

The FY 2006 request is \$25,000,000 for the MWD project, of which \$8,000,000 is new funding requested in the NPS construction appropriation account and \$17,000,000 is redirected from unobligated balances for Everglades land acquisition that are not currently needed for acquisitions. 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 Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project water management system and related operational changes to provide improved water deliveries to Everglades National Park (EVER). The project consists of constructing additional water control structures and developing new operational plans to restore more natural hydrologic conditions within EVER. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) 1992 General Design Memorandum (GDM) detailed the initial project design for the Modified Water Deliveries (MWD) Project to restore the conveyance of water between water conservation areas north of EVER and the Shark River Slough within the Park. The plan also provided flood mitigation to the 8.5 Square Mile Area (SMA), a residential area adjacent to the Park expansion boundary in the East Everglades. Since the completion of the 1992 GDM, subsequent scientific investigations resulted in the identification of revised ecosystem restoration requirements. Additional scientific and engineering data analyses, in conjunction with improved hydrological and ecological modeling, indicated modifications to the 1992 GDM project features were warranted in order to better meet the original project objectives and improve compatibility with the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan project features, authorized in 2000. Much of the project work activity is now focused on completing the required supplemental National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents describing the needed revisions to the 1992 GDM project features. The project consists of four components: 1) 8.5 SMA, 2) Conveyance and Seepage Control, 3) Tamiami Trail, and 4) Project Implementation Support. Under a new agreement between the Department and the Corps, the cost to complete the project will be

shared equally. In addition to the \$25 million requested in FY 2006 by NPS, the Corps requests \$35 million within its budget for the project. The balance (FY 2006-09) of funding needed to complete the project is \$206 million.

The current status and plans for FY 2006 are:

1) The purpose of the 8.5 SMA component is to provide flood mitigation to an agricultural and urban area adjacent to EVER due to the higher water levels in the area resulting from the construction of the project restoration features. The final design of the project component has been selected and is in the process of being implemented. The component features include the a perimeter levee, an internal canal and levee system, a pump station and storm water treatment area and the acquisition of lands adjacent to the EVER boundary and west of the perimeter levee. Much of the land acquisition activities will be completed in FY 2005. FY 2006 activities will focus on the construction of the structural features. The balance of funding needed to complete this project component is \$47 million, with \$43.7 million required in FY 2006.

2) The purpose of the Conveyance and Seepage Control component is to convey water through reservoirs upstream of EVER into the Shark Slough drainage basin of EVER more consistent with historic hydrologic conditions. In addition, these project features will also return project-induced increased seepage from the project area to EVER in order to maintain flood protection to adjacent areas. Some of the features of this project component have been completed: the S-356 pump station, back-filling of the lower 4 miles of the L-67 extension canal, and construction of the S-355 structures in the L-29 levee. FY 2006 activities will focus on completing the necessary NEPA documents and the detailed design of the selected component conveyance features. The balance of funding needed to complete this project component is \$16 million, with \$2.2 million required in FY 2006.

3) The purpose of the Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41) component is to modify the existing highway in a manner consistent with the increased water flows and levels resulting from the conveyance components of the project. In addition, these modifications must be designed to be consistent with Florida Department of Transportation requirements. Based on the selected plan identified in the FY 2005 Supplemental NEPA document, FY 2006 activities will focus on detailed design of the plan. The balance of funding needed to complete this project component is \$127 million, with \$7.6 million required in FY 2006.

4) The purpose of the Project Implementation Support is to provide funding for needed EVER and Corps personnel, conduct environmental monitoring, develop improved operational plans, and complete the needed modifications to the Osceola Camp flood mitigation features. FY 2006 activities will include the continuation of personnel support and environmental monitoring, completion of the Combined Structural and Operational Plan for the MWD and C-111 Projects, and completion of the detailed design of the Osceola Camp modifications. The balance of funding needed to complete this project component is \$16 million, with \$6.5 million required in FY 2006.

The completion of this project is required prior to the construction of certain components of the CERP.

Land Acquisition Management (\$1,400,000)

This funding will be used to administer the Federal land acquisition program in South Florida to enable completion of land acquisition and to meet the schedule established by the Department of the Interior.

U.S. Department of the Interior: Fish and Wildlife Service (\$9,180,000)

Resource Management -Ecological Services (\$2,554,000)

These funds will allow the FWS to continue coordination and partnering with NPS, USGS, Tribal governments, state agencies and private organizations involved in the restoration of the South Florida Ecosystem. These funds for FY 2006 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 a comprehensive habitat based strategy for restoration and recovery of species.

The FWS will continue its activities consulting with the Corps, 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 of Engineer's Regulatory Program. In addition to the analysis of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, we need to ensure that private development proposals are compatible with the CERP. The acceleration of planning and building several CERP components will require careful review of applications by the local sponsor (mainly the South Florida Water Management District) through the Corps' regulatory process. In FY 2006, 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 2006, the FWS will address new Corps of Engineers 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 a myriad of 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.

Resource Management- Refuges and Wildlife (\$5,787,000)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) administers 16 national wildlife refuge units in South Florida. The Service manages all actions under the Endangered Species Act, 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 South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force Working Group, the FWS will continue to undertake important on-ground restoration activities.

Resource Management - Migratory Birds (\$103,000)

The Migratory Birds program is working with the National Wildlife Refuge System and the State of Florida, conducting biological reviews and inventories. Inventories include the evaluation of food sources, water levels, and population responses to habitat restoration for species like the Snail Kite. Additionally, conservation plans are being developed and implemented to address similar actions for other species.

Resource Management - Law Enforcement (\$636,000)

Funding will be used to enhance law enforcement's ability to handle the 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 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.

Resource Management - Fisheries (\$100,000)

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 (\$0)

There are no land acquisition projects included in the FY 2006 President's budget for Everglades restoration.

U.S. Department of the Interior: U.S. Geological Survey

Everglades Restoration: Integration Research, Planning, and Interagency Coordination (\$7,888,000)

The USGS, through its Priority Ecosystems Science (PES) activities, will continue to provide planning, research, and interagency coordination efforts needed for Everglades restoration, in accordance with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between the USGS, FWS and NPS that clarifies DOI collaboration in this effort. This coordinated science effort will allow the DOI 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 priority needs of NPS and FWS in partnership with DOI's other federal, state and tribal

partners collaborating on restoring South Florida's greater Everglades. These DOI land management bureaus are responsible for the stewardship of one-half of the remaining Everglades ecosystem and for providing technical expertise to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as it implements, with the State of Florida, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program (CERP), one of the largest watershed restoration programs in the world.

A fundamental understanding of the Greater Everglades ecosystem is required for science-based restoration and resource management decisions. The purpose of USGS's Greater Everglades Science initiative is to ensure that, in partnership with our many South Florida restoration partners, this fundamental understanding of ecosystem process, structure, and function is developed. A significant part of USGS's science initiative is to integrate the ecosystem science through continued development of decision support tools, specifically through continued development and improvement of integrative models, including hydrologic models, ecological models, chemical models, and geographic and landscape models. The USGS will continue high-priority work that includes long-term hydrologic monitoring, coastal salinity monitoring, continued development and enhancement of ecological models, adaptive assessment, and development of simulation-based decision support tools for the DOI resource management bureaus (NPS and FWS) in South Florida. These tools will be used in planning and implementing CERP projects.

With its nationally available expertise in biology, geology, mapping, and water resources, USGS conducts integrated research relevant to restoration of South Florida's greater Everglades and adjacent coastal ecosystems. USGS funding supports ecosystem studies that include program planning, coordination, data collection, process studies, and development and implementation of modeling and decision support tools. Initial studies concentrated in areas of Everglades National Park and Florida Bay's coastal systems that were expected to realize the earliest changes resulting from CERP implementation. Many of these projects are contributing information towards development of a whole-system linked ecological/hydrological model of Everglades National Park, Shark River Slough and Florida Bay's coastal system. An important aspect of the research is analyzing and integrating the scientific data to provide decision-making information to DOI resource managers and those within DOI dealing with policy issues (specifically NPS and FWS). Initially, the framework of the CERP was based originally on large regional-scale hydrologic models, developed by South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), and ecological models developed by USGS. However, design, implementation and assessment of specific CERP projects to be constructed over the next two-to-three decades require project-scale predictive models and decision support tools. USGS used the development of process-based hydrologic models to help guide and integrate experimental and monitoring research essential for understanding the complex factors that control hydrologic patterns in the Everglades. USGS's hydrologic models couple freshwater flows (surface and groundwater) from the Everglades' wetlands to the coastal waters of Florida Bay. For the Taylor Slough region in the southeastern Everglades, USGS developed a process-based hydrologic flow model called the Southern Inland and Coastal System (SICS) model. The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the USGS are collaborating to link USGS's SICS model with the District's SFWM model to provide a better understanding of CERP restoration alternatives on flows through Everglades' Taylor Slough region to northeast Florida Bay. In addition, the SICS model zone is being used to assess and improve the coupling of hydrological and ecological models for evaluating alternative scenarios

for design of restoration projects. In addition, the SICS model is currently being scaled up to include all of Everglades National Park in the Tides and Inflows to Mangrove Ecotones (TIME) hydrologic model. The TIME model is being tested and calibrated in FY 2005 with plans for preliminary implementation in FY 2006.

Additional research will also focus on improving and refining the coupling of the hydrology, ecology and nutrients components of the models. For example, in FY 2006, the SICS hydrologic model and the coastal fish model will be linked with Rosette Spoonbill data and crocodile data to develop linked models for each of those species (in a research partnership between Audubon of Florida, University of Florida and USGS). Ecological models of key indicator species and populations of special interest rely on high-resolution topography landscape linked to the output of hydrological models. Continuing USGS work will focus on a GIS-based and web-accessible data viewing system similar to the personal computer-based system called the ATLSS Ecological Models Data Viewing System. These GIS-based data viewing systems and decision support systems will greatly enhance the ability of resource managers and policy makers in assessing and evaluating CERP projects as they are being planned and implemented.

The Interagency Modeling Center (IMC) is being developed to serve the function of producing model runs for CERP. The Department of the Interior has made a commitment to become an integral partner of the IMC. The challenge is to make all ecological models an integral part of the model production runs being conducted for planning CERP projects and for assessing and adaptive management of CERP progress. In FY 2005, the USGS initiated work on integrating the ecological models into the IMC. That work will continue into FY 2006 and beyond. By working with the IMC to apply models, the USGS can improve the relevance and utility of the models to restoration-related planning and decision making.

The high-resolution topographic survey at a 400-meter scale of Everglades National Park, Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge and the Water Conservation Areas is being expanded into Big Cypress National Preserve. In addition, a new project will focus on developing a technique for integrating the 400-meter grid topographic survey with data from the hydrologic stage-level monitoring network to produce a real-time water-depth map for the greater Everglades. Landscape and plant community maps and coastal bathymetry maps, with partial support from SFWMD, are being developed and refined using innovative remote sensing and GIS techniques to map vegetation and link vegetation characteristics to related hydrologic and sediment variables. New research will focus on evaluating the utility of remote sensing to assess the occurrence and distribution of periphyton mats throughout the greater Everglades. These mapping tools are essential for assessing landscape-related changes as the various CERP projects are implemented.

In addition to establishing the proper flows and hydropattern for the Greater Everglades, restoring water quality is also a major goal of Greater Everglades restoration. In FY 2006, USGS will continue its water quality research into Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge specifically to assess the impact of canal waters on water quality trends internal to Loxahatchee and associated ecological impacts. Preliminary results clearly show that the water quality of canal water affects various water quality components of internal marshes. Additional research in FY 2006 will focus on specific response of the biota, especially periphyton and key indicator plants, to altered water quality of the internal marshes. In addition, these data will provide

information relevant to water quality modeling efforts being initiated by the FWS. USGS's research has clearly linked an increase in production of methylmercury (MeHg), the toxic form of mercury, with increased sulfate levels in the water and sediments in the Greater Everglades leading to mercury bioaccumulation in animals. Recent research has shown that the 'hot spot' for methylmercury has apparently migrated out of the Conservation Area (3A) north of Everglades National Park. Additional studies will allow USGS to track the movement of the methylmercury 'hot spot' and better understand the processes linking methylmercury production to sulfur and dissolved organic carbon. In its continuing collaboration with Florida's Department of Environmental Protection and the SFWMD, the USGS is planning additional field and experimental research on methylmercury production and ultimate fate in the system and wildlife. Additional studies include evaluating the significance of the mercury/sulfate/dissolved organic carbon relationship as it relates to options for water storage, treatment and redirected flows.

Full utilization of the information from these studies depends on the extent to which the information can be made available to the managers and decision-makers in a timely manner. For this reason, future efforts will continue to enhance the South Florida Information Access (SOFIA) web site (<http://sofia.usgs.gov/>) as the main Internet portal for accessing data, metadata, monitoring programs, fact sheets and reports on all USGS-generated greater Everglades information.

U.S. Department of the Interior- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) - (\$388,000)

Funds will be used for continuing efforts to restore the South Florida Ecosystem within the lands of the Seminole and Miccosukee Tribes. Each Tribe receives \$194,000 within its tribal base funding allocation to conduct research, studies, and planning on water quality and distribution systems, ecosystem development and management, and planning for compliance with the Endangered Species Act in storm water areas on the Seminole and Big Cypress reservations. The storm water areas will be treated to reduce the concentration of phosphorous and other nutrients in water essential to the protection and restoration of the Everglades ecosystem.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (\$3,572,800)

EPA supports implementation of the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Strategy in concert with the multi-agency South Florida Task Force.

The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (CRTF) was created in 1998, by Executive Order 13089 to help strengthen efforts to conserve coral reef ecosystems and sustain the important services reefs provide. In 2000, the CRTF adopted the National Action Plan to Conserve Coral Reefs, the first national blueprint for U.S. domestic and international action to address the growing coral reef crisis. In addition, resources support the National Coastal Assessment and Global Climate research on coral reefs, the Coral Research effort examining UV and disease interactions.

EPA priorities for restoring and protecting the South Florida ecosystem through 2008 are: Working with the State of Florida to adopt and implement water quality standards for phosphorus for the Everglades ecosystem; support implementation of the EMAP-based monitoring program to assess the health and condition of the Everglades in FY 2005 and FY 2006; support development of TMDLs for the Lake Okeechobee watershed, the primary or secondary source of drinking water for large portions of South Florida; assisting the State of

Florida and South Florida Water Management District in evaluating the appropriateness of aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) 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; continue implementing the comprehensive monitoring program (water quality, coral reef and seagrass), special studies, data management, and public education components of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary 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.

FEDERAL NON-CERP FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

NON-CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2003 Enacted	FY 2004 Enacted	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Requested
USACE-Central and Southern Florida (excluding CERP) ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	49,983,000	64,906,000	8,029,000	9,126,000
USACE -Critical Projects ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	19,526,000	14,760,000	25,813,000	12,000,000
USACE- Kissimmee River Restoration ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	23,727,000	17,616,000	17,871,000	13,174,000
USACE-Biscayne Bay ⁽⁴⁾	200,000	0	74,000	0
USACE - Modified Water Deliveries ⁽⁵⁾				35,000,000
USDA - ARS	5,216,800	5,415,100	6,101,000	4,638,600
USDA-NRCS	21,376,000	23,580,000	62,539,337	19,064,214
US Department of Commerce-NOAA	4,065,000	4,359,000	4,389,000	3,200,000
USDOJ-NPS Park Management	23,874,000	23,991,000	25,266,000	25,854,000
USDOJ-South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force	1,320,000	1,308,000	1,290,000	1,305,000
USDOJ-NPS Modified Water Deliveries	9,935,000	12,830,000	7,965,000	25,000,000
USDOJ-NPS Land Acquisition (Mgmt.)	2,782,000	1,800,000	1,500,000	1,400,000
USDOJ-NPS Land Acquisition (Big Cypress)	0	0	0	0
USDOJ-NPS Land Acquisition Grants to Florida	15,421,000	(5,000,000) ⁽³⁾	0	0
USDOJ-NPS Critical Ecosystem Studies Initiative	3,974,000	3,937,000	3,882,000	3,898,000
USDOJ-FWS Ecological Services	2,537,000	2,523,000	2,518,000	2,554,000
USDOJ-FWS Refuges and Wildlife	3,682,000	9,784,000	4,787,000	5,787,000
USDOJ- FWS Migratory Birds				103,000
USDOJ-FWS Law Enforcement	632,000	628,000	627,000	636,000
USDOJ-FWS Fisheries	99,000	98,000	99,000	100,000
USDOJ-FWS Land Acquisition	2,484,000	0	740,000	0
USDOJ- USGS - Integrated Research, Planning and Interagency Coordination	7,847,000	7,847,000	7,738,000	7,888,000
USDOJ- BIA	393,000	539,000	536,000	388,000
US Environmental Protection Agency	3,352,100 ⁽⁶⁾	3,139,600	2,882,300 ⁽⁷⁾	3,572,800 ⁽⁸⁾
Non-CERP Sub Total (USACE and USDOJ)	168,416,000	157,567,000	108,735,000	144,213,000
Non-CERP Sub Total (Other Federal Agencies)	34,009,900	36,493,700	75,911,637	30,475,614
NON-CERP SUBTOTAL (All Federal Agencies):	202,425,900	194,060,700	184,646,637	174,688,614

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

Footnotes:

⁽¹⁾ USACE CERP activities were funded under the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF), now part of the South Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program.

⁽²⁾ Reflects \$19,199,000 for construction and \$16,000,000 for land acquisition

⁽³⁾ Reflects the transfer of \$5,000,000 in prior year balances from the USDOJ - NPS Land Acq. Account to the USDOJ-FWS Resource Mgmt. Account

⁽⁴⁾ Enacted numbers for USACE reflect reductions for any rescissions, but do not account for reductions due to savings and slippage.

⁽⁵⁾ Beginning with the FY 2006 Budget Request these projects are now included as part of one Corps of Engineers line item referred to as "South Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration" Program.

⁽⁶⁾ FY 2002 and 2003 Enacted funding levels corrected resources supporting Everglades activities

⁽⁷⁾ FY 2005 funds are estimates pending approval of the FY 2005 Operating Plan.

⁽⁸⁾ FY 2006 funds are estimates based on the FY 2005 estimate.

Section 3.0

State of Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding Information



Section 3.0: State of Florida Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Program Projects and Funding Information

Section 3.1: Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Projects and Funding (\$264,973,987)

This section of the Cross-Cut Budget includes descriptions for State agency projects and funding for CERP Restoration Projects as follows:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) (\$128,637,628)

The implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) in partnership with the South Florida Water Management District, Tribes, and other State, Federal, local agencies and environmental groups is a high priority for the Department. The Department is represented on the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force and Working Group, Regional Project Delivery Teams, Design Coordination and RECOVER Teams associated with implementation of the CERP.

The State of Florida is a full partner in CERP implementation having adopted the Everglades Restoration Investment Act in 2000 providing \$100,000,000 per year for 10 years. This amount will be matched with local sponsor funds and credits for a total of \$200,000,000 per year for 10 years.

The Department administers the **Save Our Everglades Trust Fund**. The 2004 Florida Legislature appropriated \$100 million for Everglades restoration. In addition, Florida has bonding authority over the next seven years to fund Florida's commitment to Everglades restoration.

FY 2004-05 disbursements through February 2005 are \$87,886,333 for CERP land acquisition.

The Department expects to disburse an additional \$100,000,000 for the design and construction of CERP projects and to acquire land needed for CERP projects in FY 2005-06.

Southern Golden Gate Estates (SGGE)

The Department anticipates the expenditure of approximately \$27,101,000 in FY 2005-06 to complete the land acquisition totaling 55,247 acres.

Henderson Creek/Belle Meade CERP Project - The Department anticipates expenditures of \$131,250 in the design phase for FY 2005-06. No funds have been expended thus far in FY 2004-05.

The Department's Tallahassee Office of Ecosystem Projects (Office of the Secretary) and Special Projects Section (Division of Water Resource Management) estimate a cost of \$272,715 and \$663,163 respectively to oversee Everglades and CERP implementation in FY 2005-06. The Department's Southeast Florida District office in West Palm Beach and South Florida District in Ft. Myers estimate expenditures of approximately \$430,000 and \$39,500 respectively in support of CERP project implementation in FY 2004-05.

We will also have a request for \$650,000 for the CERP Comprehensive Water Quality Feasibility Study in FY 2005-06.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (\$336,359)

The FWC contributes to CERP projects by participating on interagency planning teams to ensure that CERP activities address the needs of fish and wildlife and associated habitat. The Division of Habitat and Species Conservation coordinates FWC comments under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Division of Habitat and Species Conservation, Division of Freshwater Fisheries, the Florida Marine Research Institute, and the Office of the Executive Director actively participate on RECOVER, various Project Delivery Teams, and other CERP related teams.

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) (\$136,000,000)

Implementation of CERP:

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is the local sponsor for 41 of the 50 CERP projects included in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). Planning and design is currently underway on many of these projects. The focus of the SFWMD's efforts during FY 2005-06 will be on continued work in partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers on planning and design efforts associated with completion of Project Implementation Reports and detailed design for several CERP projects that comprise the Acceler8 Program, including the C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area, the Picayune Strand Restoration, C-43 Storage Reservoir, EAA Storage Reservoir - Phase 1, Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - Phase 1, C-111 Spreader Canal, Site 1 Impoundment, C-9 Impoundment, C-11 Impoundment, WCA-3A/3B Seepage Management and Acme Basin B projects. The SFWMD will also initiate construction on the Hillsboro ASR Pilot project during this period as well as complete work on the Phase 1 portion of the Picayune Strand Restoration (Prairie Canal).

The SFWMD is also engaged in acquisition of lands needed for CERP projects. Current efforts are focused on acquisition of lands needed for the projects included in the Acceler8 Program as well as other CERP projects identified for early implementation.

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. These programmatic activities include implementation of public outreach and environmental and economic equity plans; development of a Master Recreation Plan for the CERP; implementation of the Restoration Coordination and Verification (RECOVER) including a system-wide monitoring plan and an adaptive assessment program; and implementation of the interagency modeling center to support CERP projects. In addition, the SFWMD will be working with the Corps to complete the development and implementation of the guidance memoranda, the master implementation sequencing plan and the interim goals agreement required by the Programmatic Regulations.

STATE OF FLORIDA CERP PROJECTS FUNDING SUMMARY (ACTUAL \$)

CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS	FY 2002-03 Enacted	FY 2003-04 Enacted	FY 2004-05 Enacted	FY 2005-06 Requested
Department of Environmental Protection	150,279,126	105,586,702	128,972,634	128,637,628
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	409,000	419,000	336,359	336,359
South Florida Water Management District	133,284,645 ⁽¹⁾	107,887,469 ⁽¹⁾	101,119,569 ⁽¹⁾	136,000,000 ⁽²⁾
TOTAL:	283,972,771	213,893,171	230,428,562	264,973,987

Footnotes:

⁽¹⁾ Reflects SFWMD adopted budget appropriations less any State and Federal funds

⁽²⁾ Since the publication date of each year's Cross-Cut Budget precedes the budget cycle for the SFWMD, the FY2005-06 totals shown represent estimates. When FY 2005-06 budget totals are available, they will be posted on the website link to the FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget at www.sfwmd.state.fl.us. The same information will also be included in the FY 2007 Cross-Cut Budget document.

Section 3.2: Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects and Funding (\$555,380,194)

This section of the Cross-Cut Budget includes descriptions for all State agency projects and funding for Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Projects as follows:

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) (\$5,132,269)

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

Funding for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services was increased by \$5,000,000 for FY 2004-05 as a result of an additional appropriation for Lake Okeechobee restoration.

Department of Community Affairs (DCA) (\$22,801,002)

The Florida Communities Trust provides grants to local governments to acquire conservation, recreation and green space lands in the 16 counties within the boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District. The DCA also participates on the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Working Group and its committees, providing expertise on comprehensive land use planning, growth management, affordable housing, disaster relief and hazard mitigation.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) (\$176,467,770)

The Department's Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Project priorities includes implementation of the Everglades Forever Act, and the Lake Okeechobee Protection Program

(in cooperation with the South Florida Water Management District), and land acquisition for conservation purposes.

Expenditures of \$310,000 are anticipated for FY 2005-06 for the Southeast District Office on implementation of programs that are related and coordinated with CERP, such as the Everglades Forever Act, Lake Okeechobee Protection Program and other restoration programs, including the Loxahatchee River Restoration. For FY 2005-06 it is anticipated that expenditures of approximately \$5,000,000 for projects designed to achieve phosphorus load reductions in Lake Okeechobee as a part of the Lake Okeechobee Protection Program.

The Department anticipates the expenditure of \$103,000,000 during FY 2005-06 to acquire Non-CERP conservation lands in South Florida.

The Department of Environmental Protection is Florida's principal environmental protection agency. The Department protects and monitors air and water quality, acquires and manages land important to ecosystem protection. It regulates air emissions, dredging and filling activities, mining and oil and gas production, development and exploration, prevents pollution and implements recycling programs, regulates solid and hazardous waste, operates and manages the State Park System; and protects and manages coastal marine and estuarine resources.

In addition, the Department supports water quality improvement programs for Section 303d, Clean Water Act, listed water bodies, ecosystem restoration project management, regulatory, watershed planning and coordination activities, research and monitoring and aquatic plant control. The Department's budget for FY 2004-05 has projected expenditures of approximately \$48,157,770 for these activities in South Florida:

- Aquatic and Upland Exotic/Invasive Plant Control (\$20,580,872)
- State Park Operations and Management (\$17,487,197)
- Office of Ecosystem Projects (\$272,715)
- Mercury Research and Monitoring (\$900,000)
- Central Florida District Office (\$15,000)
- Coastal and Aquatic Managed Areas (\$8,030,430)
- Total Maximum Daily Load Program (\$871,556)

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) (\$27,579,153)

The FWC contributes to Federal and State restoration projects within the South Florida Ecosystem. In addition 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.

The Division of Habitat and Species Conservation contributes to the Federal Non-CERP restoration projects by participating in multi-agency planning teams, and through land acquisition. The Division of Freshwater Fisheries has an on-going lake enhancement and restoration program. . In FY 2003-2004 FWC conducted restoration activities in Lake Tohopekaliga. In addition to lake restoration, FWC programs support non-native fish research and management, aquatic plant

management, panther restoration research, and alligator management throughout the Everglades Ecosystem.

The FWC conducts a number of programs aimed at habitat maintenance, species research, and GIS-based data analyses. The Division of Wildlife manages over 1 million acres of public lands throughout the area. The Division of Freshwater Fisheries supports ecosystem-wide studies of fish populations. The Marine Research Institute conducts a number of regionally-connected studies on a range of species. The Division of Law Enforcement ensures that laws protecting fish, wildlife, and their habitats are enforced in upland, freshwater, and marine areas of the Everglades Ecosystem. Multiple programs of the FWC support outreach and education programs, including the Everglades Youth Camp, Urban Fishing Programs, Wildlife Curriculum support, and general fish and wildlife outreach in the area.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - (\$5,400,000)

The Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) provides a safe transportation system that ensures the mobility of people and goods, enhances economic prosperity and preserves the quality of our environment and communities. The Department assists local and regional government agencies with funding, planning, design, mapping, transportation research and technical assistance. DOT also plans and implements programs for energy efficient transit, public transit, transportation programs for the disadvantaged and handicapped and assists agencies in planning safe bicycle routes.

The DOT is a leader among transportation agencies in the nation for protecting wildlife and redesigning roadways to restore natural water flow to over drained areas. DOT is also a leader in providing funding and technical assistance to plan and implement greenways and trails. Many of these bellwether 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 Department's expenditures for South Florida Ecosystem Restoration during FY 2004-05 was \$5,400,000 and include:

- Design of wildlife crossings to protect the endangered Florida Panther (\$60,000)
- Surveys to determine presence of exotic and protected plant species (\$300,000)
- Coastal vegetation restoration (\$140,000)
- Removal of exotic vegetation (\$1,800,000)
- Hydrological improvements and public access (\$3,100,000)

The Department's planned expenditures for South Florida Ecosystem Restoration during FY 2005-06 is \$10,244,000 and include:

- Mitigation to enhance seagrass beds in Florida Bay (\$140,000)
- Research to determine the effectiveness of wildlife crossings (\$60,000)
- Hydrological improvements and public access (\$2,100,000)
- Mitigation maintenance and monitoring (\$4,000,000)
- Funding support to Biscayne Bay Environmental Enhancement Trust Fund (\$44,000)
- Removal of exotic vegetation (\$1,400,000)
- Construction of wildlife crossings to ensure connectivity of Florida Panther habitat (\$2,500,000)

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) (\$338,000,000)

The SFWMD is constructing and implementing the Everglades Construction Project (ECP) and, additionally, works closely with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and other State, Federal, and tribal governments on other non-CERP programs to restore and protect the South Florida Ecosystem.

The SFWMD's priority Non-CERP Everglades Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Projects include:

- (1) Implementation of provisions in the Everglades Forever Act: water quality restoration in the Everglades Protection Area through land acquisition, construction, and operations and maintenance of stormwater treatment areas (STAs) and development and implementation of advanced technologies; hydropattern restoration projects; and implementation of the Everglades Program control of exotic plants, research and monitoring and regulation;
- (2) Restoration of the Kissimmee River and floodplain (in cooperation with the Corps) through land acquisition, construction (backfilling 22 miles of canal and opening 9 miles of remnant river channel) and a comprehensive ecological evaluation program.
- (3) Implementation of the Lake Okeechobee Protection Program (in cooperation with FDACS, FDEP and the Corps) which is focused on restoration and protection of the lake by reducing nutrient loading; controlling the spread of nuisance and exotic plants; restoring isolated wetlands; and addressing extreme high and low water levels.
- (4) Restoration of the southern Everglades and Florida Bay (in cooperation with the Corps and Everglades National Park (ENP)) through the C-111 South Dade and Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Projects, land acquisition, and operational changes to restore natural water flows to ENP and Florida Bay;
- (5) Development and implementation of regional water supply plans;
- (6) Acquisition, management, and mitigation of lands needed for ongoing and future non-CERP restoration projects and for conservation and protection of critical habitat;
- (7) Implementation of seven Critical Restoration Projects in cooperation with the Corps;
- (8) Restoration of coastal ecosystems through pollutant load reduction and habitat restoration;
- (9) Restoration of wetlands and associated upland buffer habitat in the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, Indian River Lagoon and Loxahatchee River basins (in cooperation with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service); and
- (10) Operation and maintenance of the flood control system including over 200 primary water control structures, 43 pump stations, approximately 1,800 miles of canals and levees, and 2,000 secondary structures which control inflows from secondary sources into the District's primary system.

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, research and monitoring, environmental resource permitting, and intergovernmental coordination.

STATE OF FLORIDA NON-CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS (ACTUAL \$)

NON-CERP EVERGLADES ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS/PROGRAMS	FY 2002-03 Enacted	FY 2003-04 Enacted	FY 2004-05 Enacted	FY 2005-06 Requested
Florida Department of Agriculture/ Consumer Services	15,523,202	16,215,100 ⁽³⁾	5,045,629 ⁽⁴⁾	5,132,269
Department of Community Affairs	10,000,000	45,819,724	22,801,002	22,801,002
Florida Department of Environmental Protection	109,393,692	92,364,834	102,222,540	176,467,770
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	21,306,000	25,729,000	27,466,653	27,579,153
Florida Department of Transportation	10,528,832	1,940,300	7,905,314	5,400,000
South Florida Water Management District	372,701,387 ⁽¹⁾	381,868,047 ⁽¹⁾	299,820,508 ⁽¹⁾	338,000,000 ⁽²⁾
TOTAL:	539,453,113	563,937,005	465,261,646	525,380,194

Footnotes:

⁽¹⁾ Reflects SFWMD adopted budget appropriations less any State and Federal funds

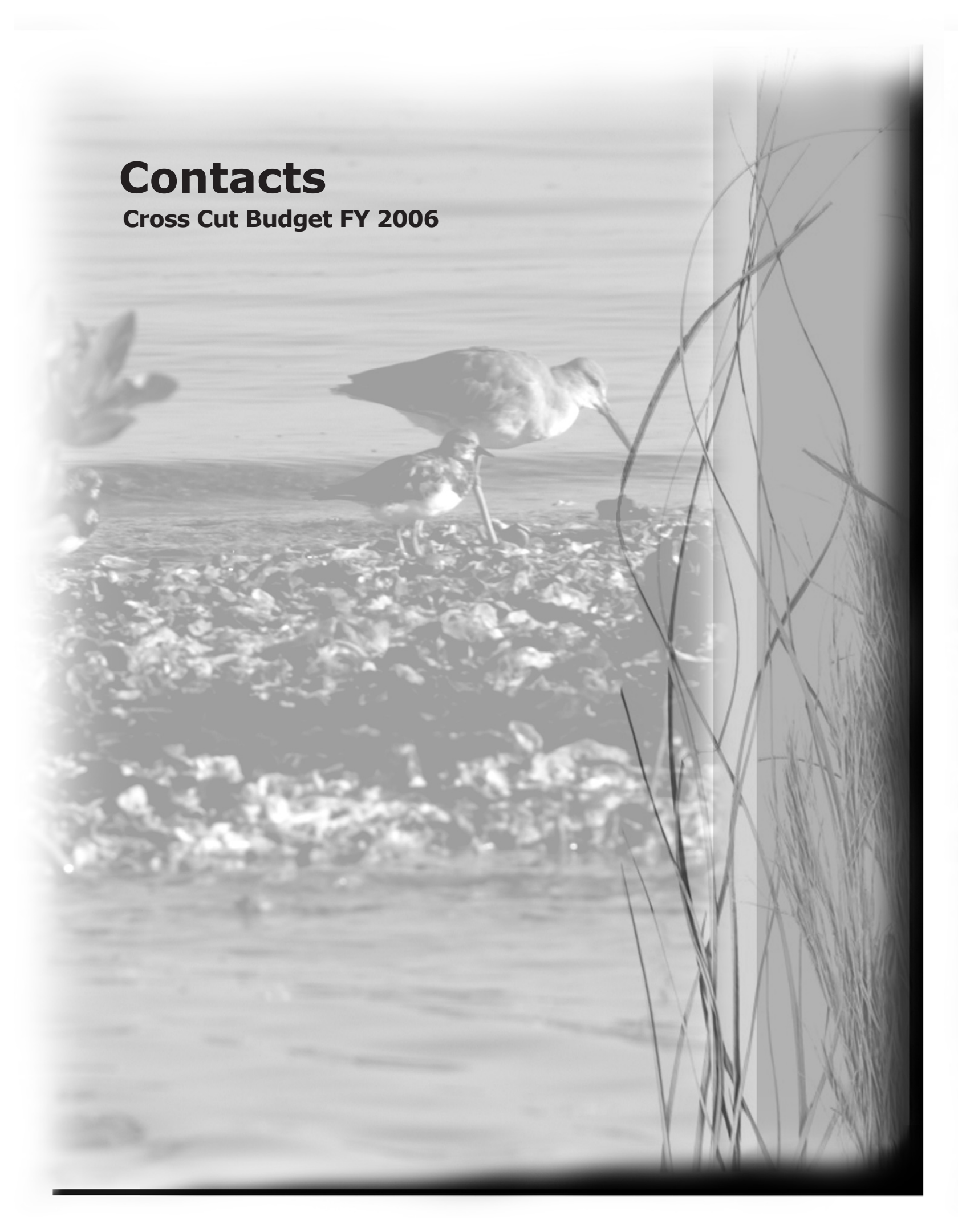
⁽²⁾ Since the publication date of each year's Cross-Cut Budget precedes the budget cycle for the SFWMD, the FY 2005-06 totals shown represent estimates. When FY 2005-06 budget totals are available, they will be posted on the website link to the FY 2006 Cross-Cut Budget at www.sfrestore.org. The same information will also be included in the FY 2007 Cross-Cut Budget document.

⁽³⁾ The amount of \$23,816,653 reflected for OAWP for FY 2003-04 in last year's report has been revised to \$8,816,653; since the \$15,000,000 legislative request was not approved.

⁽⁴⁾ The number reflected does not include Forestry's contribution for FY 2004-05

Contacts

Cross Cut Budget FY 2006



Contacts List Fiscal Year 2006 Cross Cut Budget

	Telephone	Fax	Email
<i>The following individuals are designated as points of contacts concerning their agency information as provided in the FY 2006 Cross Cut Budget.</i>			
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