Program & Project Update

SFER Working Group / Science Coordination Group (WG/SCG)

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23 June 2020





Program Items

- ▶ 2020 Report to Congress
- CISRERP Contract Renewal
- ► Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS)

Project Items

- ► Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir
- Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP)
- WRDA 2020 projects:
 - Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project
 - Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project (LOWRP)
 - C-111 South Dade
 - C-43 West Basin Storage Reservoir,
- Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration (BBSEER) Project
- Modified Water Deliveries, Combined Operational Plan (COP)
- Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)

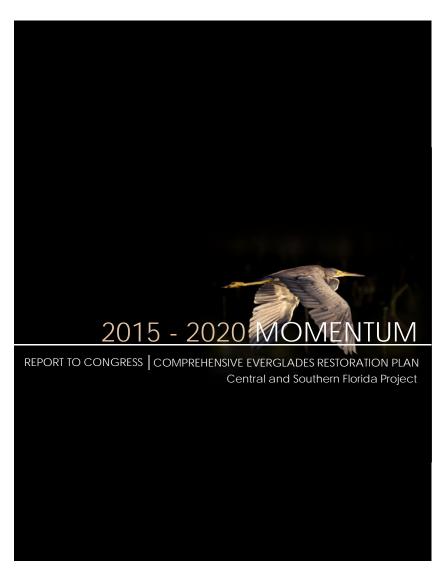




SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM 2020 Report to Congress

- Section 601(I) of WRDA 2000 requires that the Secretaries of the Army and the Interior jointly submit a report to congress not less than every five years on the implementation of the plan.
- "...the determination of each Secretary, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, concerning the benefits to the natural system and the human environment achieved as of the date of the report and whether the completed projects of the plan are being operated in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of subsection (h)..."
- CERP was authorized in December of 2000.
- This report covers progress made between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2020

2020 Report to Congress



2015 - 2020 REPORT TO CONGRESS

Details the momentum that has sprung from previous years of Everglades restoration efforts – that will in turn, set the initial pace for further restoration progress in 2020 and beyond. The report is structured to mirror the multi-faceted aspects of the restoration program, and to highlight the collaboration of the many partners, team members, and stakeholders so vital to restoration success and its current and future momentum.

Cover Images:

Front: Tricolored Heron

Back: Record Bird Colonies at the Broad River Photo Credits: Mark Cook, South Florida Water

Management District





2020 Report to Congress

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#	Activity	Due Date	Notes
1	USACE SAJ Brief and Request for Support at WG/SCG	12/4/2019	Follow up written request goes to multiple entities including but not limited to SAJ, SFWMD, FDEP, NPS, FWS, DOI for authors/writers. (COMPLETE)
2	USACE SAJ receives contact information for 2020 RTC team members (Writers/PDT) and Review Team members (Quality Check Reviewers, direct supervisors or their designee, and OC)	1/27/2020	(COMPLETE)
3	PDT discusses revision(s) to RTC outline, section assignments, and schedule	1/27/2020	(COMPLETE)
4	PDT members <u>update</u> assigneed section(s), <u>writeup new section(s)</u> , and provide to Editor	3/28/2020	(COMPLETE)
5	PDT and Agency Reviews and Backchecks Complete. USACE SAJ submits draft 2020 RTC to USACE SAD and HQ	6/18/2020	
6	USACE SAJ Release draft 2020 RTC for public reviews	8/10/2020	30 day review
7	USACE SAJ briefs Task Force WG/SCG	9/17/2020	Tentative date from OERI
8	Agency Letters of Support	10/4/2020	
10	ASA-CW deliver Final Report to Congress	11/17/2020	
	SAJ sends FINAL 2020 RTC to Agencies	11/22/2020	
	2020 RTC Due Every 5 years from Original Authorization Date	12/12/2020	

Next milestone





SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM CISRERP Contract Renewal

CISRERP 2015-2020

- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
 - Implementing Parties Department of Interior (DOI), USACE and State of Florida
 - Executed in 2015 and goes through April 2021
- Cooperative Agreement (CA)
 - National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and USACE
 - Approved Budget = \$1,925,000
 - Executed in 2015 and goes through August 2020

CISRERP 2020-2025 Path Forward

- DRAFT Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
 - Implementing Parties Department of Interior (DOI), USACE and State of Florida
 - Update to cover time period of 2020 2024
- DRAFT Cooperative Agreement (CA)
 - National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and USACE
 - Budget = \$1,691,000
 - Scope includes the 2022 and 2024 report cycles





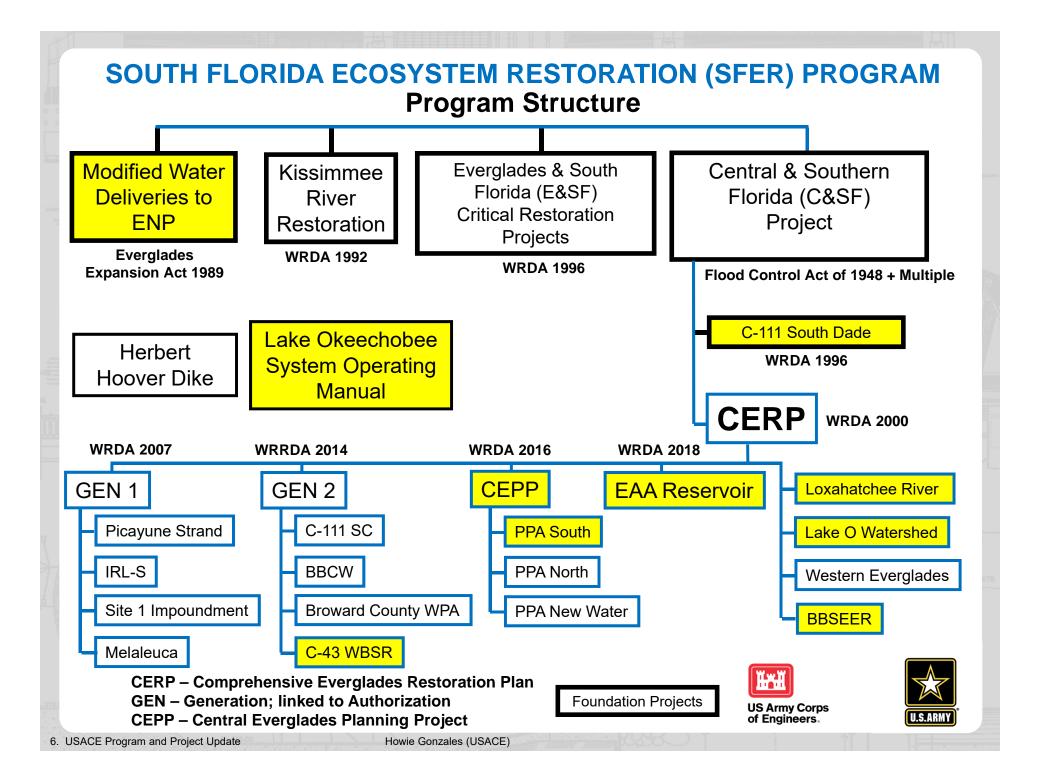
Integrated Delivery Schedule (IDS)

Schedule	Proposed Updates
July – September 2020 – updates by USACE and SFWMD	President's Budget FY21 and Justification Sheet - \$250M
 September 17, 2020 – Proposed Task Force Sponsored Workshop with Working Draft** 	State of Florida and SFWMD Budget FY21; SFWMD's 2020 CIP - \$264M
 Final 2020 IDS Update – October Task Force meeting 	America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020- possibilities/assumptions
	 Studies – the white part of the IDS on front page BBSEER – revise rows previously shown as BBCW2 and C111SCE Southern Everglades – revise row previously shown as Decomp Phase 2/ASR

**Request for WG/SCG Support







Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir



Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Features:

- A-2 Reservoir: 10,500 acres with 240,000 acre-foot storage at ~23 feet deep
- A-2 Stormwater Treatment Area (STA): 6,500 acres
- Adds 160,000 to CEPP's 210,000 for a total of 370,000 average annual acre-feet of new water flowing through to the central Everglades

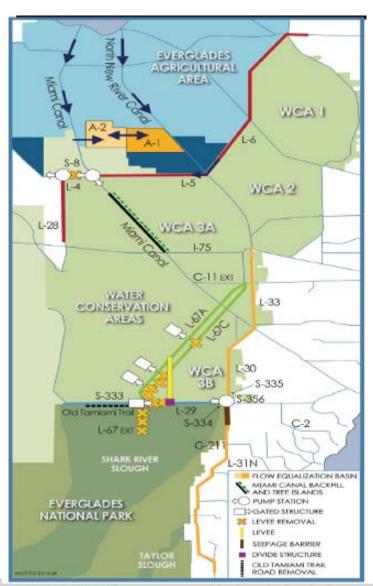
The purpose of Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) is to improve the quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of water flows to the central Everglades (Water Conservation Area 3 (WCA-3) and Everglades National Park (ENP)).

- Authorized in WRDA 2018 (Section 1308)
- SFWMD design efforts ongoing; construction efforts initiated 20 April 2020
- USACE design efforts ongoing; awaiting construction funding and approval to execute Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) and award construction contract





Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP)



CEPP focuses restoration on more natural flows into and through the central and southern Everglades by increasing storage, treatment and conveyance of water south of Lake Okeechobee; removing canals and levees within the central Everglades, and retaining water within Everglades National Park

Status:

- New Start confirmed for FY20
- PPA execution in July 2020
- CEPP South
 - SFWMD engaging design and construction of features
 - SAJ construction contract award in September 2020
- SAJ scheduled to award construction contracts in 2020, 2021, and 2022

US Army Corps of Engineers.

WRDA 2020: Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project

Recommended Plan - Alternative 5R



Restore and sustain the overall quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of fresh waters to the federally designated "National Wild and Scenic" Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River. This project also seeks to restore, sustain, and reconnect the wetlands and watersheds that form the historic headwaters for the river and its tributaries.

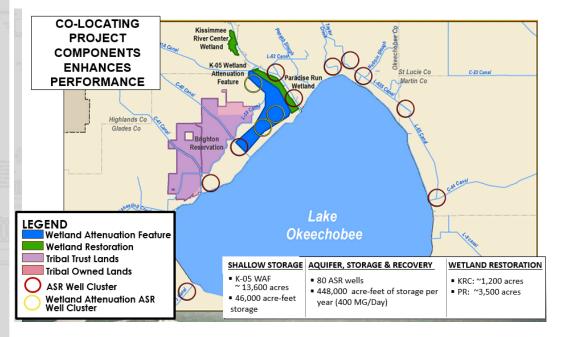
- Project Implementation Report (PIR) in final stages of development.
- State & Agency Review February 2020
- Chief's Report May 2020
- WRDA 2020 Consideration





WRDA 2020: Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project

Recommended Plan – Alternative 1BWR



Improve water levels in Lake
Okeechobee; improve the quantity
and timing of discharges to the St.
Lucie and Caloosahatchee
estuaries; restore degraded habitat
for fish and wildlife throughout the
study area; and increase the spatial
extent and functionality of wetlands.

- Project Implementation Report (PIR) in final stages of development
- State & Agency Review July 2020
- Chief's Report September 2020
- WRDA 2020/2022 Consideration





WRDA 2020: Canal 111 (C-111) South Dade



Reduces water losses from Everglades
National Park and improves freshwater flow to
Taylor Slough and Florida Bay. Provides for
9,500 acre-feet of storage & seepage that
reduces damaging canal discharges to
Barnes Sound, reduces seepage losses from
ENP, and maintains flood protection for
commercial, residential, and agricultural
properties to the east

- Construction complete!
- Post authorization change report (PACR) to address temporary pump stations and O&M Cost Share in final stages of development
- State & Agency Review July 2020
- Chief's Report September 2020
- WRDA 2020/2022 Consideration





WRDA 2020: Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir



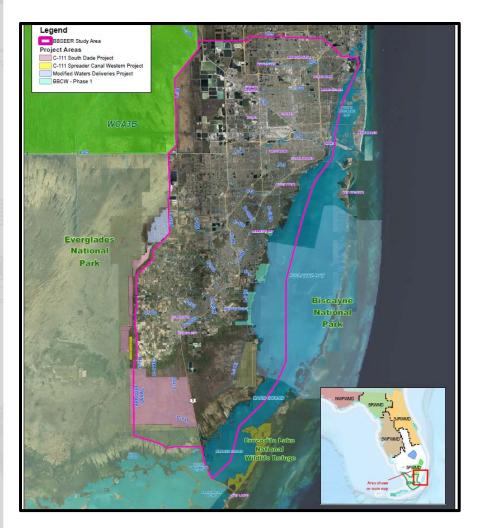
The project will help restore the natural flow of water to the Caloosahatchee River. A 170,000 acre-feet of storage that will capture & store basin stormwater runoff, along with a portion of water discharged from Lake Okeechobee, for release into the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary, as needed

- SFWMD is designing and constructing project
- Construction completion in 2023
- Post authorization change report (PACR) to update Total Project Cost in final stages of development
- WRDA 2020 consideration





Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem Restoration (BBSEER)



The purpose of the project is to improve the quantity, potential quality, timing and distribution of freshwater to Biscayne Bay, including Card Sound and Barnes Sound and Biscayne National Park, improve natural coastal glades habitat in the Model Lands and Southern Glades, and to improve resiliency of these coastal habitats in light of seal level change.

- Finalizing development of Project Management Plan (PMP)
- Study initiation in late July 2020





Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park



Restores water deliveries to Northeast Shark River Slough in Everglades National Park. Storage, conveyance and seepage management improve natural water flows to Everglades National Park, provide flood mitigation for residential areas, re-connect freshwater flows, and reduce seepage losses

- Combined Operational Plan (COP)
 - Scheduled for completion in August
 - Final EIS scheduled for completion in June
 - Progress and completion required to support CEPP implementation





Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal: Incorporate flexibility in Lake Okeechobee operations while balancing congressionally authorized project purposes.



Flood Control



Water Supply



Navigation



Recreation



Preservation of Fish & Wildlife

- Objective 1. Manage risk to public health and safety, life and property
- **Objective 2.** Continue to meet authorized purposes for navigation, recreation and flood control
- Objective 3. Improve water supply performance
- **Objective 4.** Enhance ecology in Lake Okeechobee, northern estuaries and across the south Florida ecosystem.





Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)

LOSOM PLAN FORMULATION PROCESS

Identify water management tools to combine to form conceptual lake

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY Provide water management tools



here

are

We

Conceptual plan evaluation using Pareto.



Review and compare initial array, provide a schedule for analysis

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY

Review and compare balanced array

Iteration 1 Initial Array (9+ Schedules)



Iteration 2 Balanced Array (3 Schedules)



TENTATIVELY SELECTED LAKE **SCHEDULE**





PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY

Feedback on optimizations

LAKE **OKEECHOBEE REGULATION**



Iteration 3 Optimize Recommended **Schedule** (1 schedule)





Lake Okeechobee System Operating Manual (LOSOM)

SCHEDULE

PMP SCOPING FORMULATION ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION & DOCUMENTATION & DECISION

MAY 2020

JUN 2020

JUL 2020

OCT 2018

WE ARE HERE

90 DAY LOOK AHEAD

MILESTONE	DATE
Scoping Meetings (complete)	February - March 2019
Plan Formulation & Performance Evaluation Finalized	June 2020
Evaluation of Alternative Lake Schedules	June 2020 – July 2021
Draft Report Release	January 2022
Final Report Release	July 2022
Record of Decision (ROD)	October 2022

•PDT Meeting (none scheduled)

DMSTA Evaluations

Conceptual Plan Components

•Complete PM documentation

•PDT Meeting (June 25 WebEx)

Conceptual Plan Development

•PM documentation review

Performance Evaluation Plan

PDT Meeting (TBD)

Conceptual Plan Modeling

Performance Metric Review

Documentation Planning Conditions





OCT

2022

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