



Ecosystem Restoration



Flood Protection



Water Needs



Public Engagement

Highlights from the FY 2020/21 Budget

Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment

Drew Bartlett

Executive Director

September 2020 Governing Board Meeting

Mission

“To safeguard and restore South Florida’s water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region’s water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders.”



Florida Bay

Gov. Ron DeSantis and Achieving More Now for Florida's Environment



Governor DeSantis announcing the Acquisition of Nearly 20,000 Acres of Critical Everglades Wetlands in the Central Everglades in January 2020



Blasting at the EAA Reservoir Project Site

Continued Record State Funding \$422.7 Million

➤ \$420.4M Continued Improvements for Water Quality, Quantity and Supply

- \$368.6M Everglades and Northern Everglades Restoration
 - \$284M Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)
 - \$32.7M Restoration Strategies
 - \$47M Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection
 - \$5M Dispersed Water Storage/"Water Farms"
- \$22.8M Water Quality Projects (Potential DEP Grant Funding)
- \$15M Alternative Water Supply (Potential DEP Grant Funding)
- \$12.5M Indian River Lagoon (Potential Funding with SJRWMD)
- \$1.5M Expanded Monitoring (Potential DEP Grant Funding)

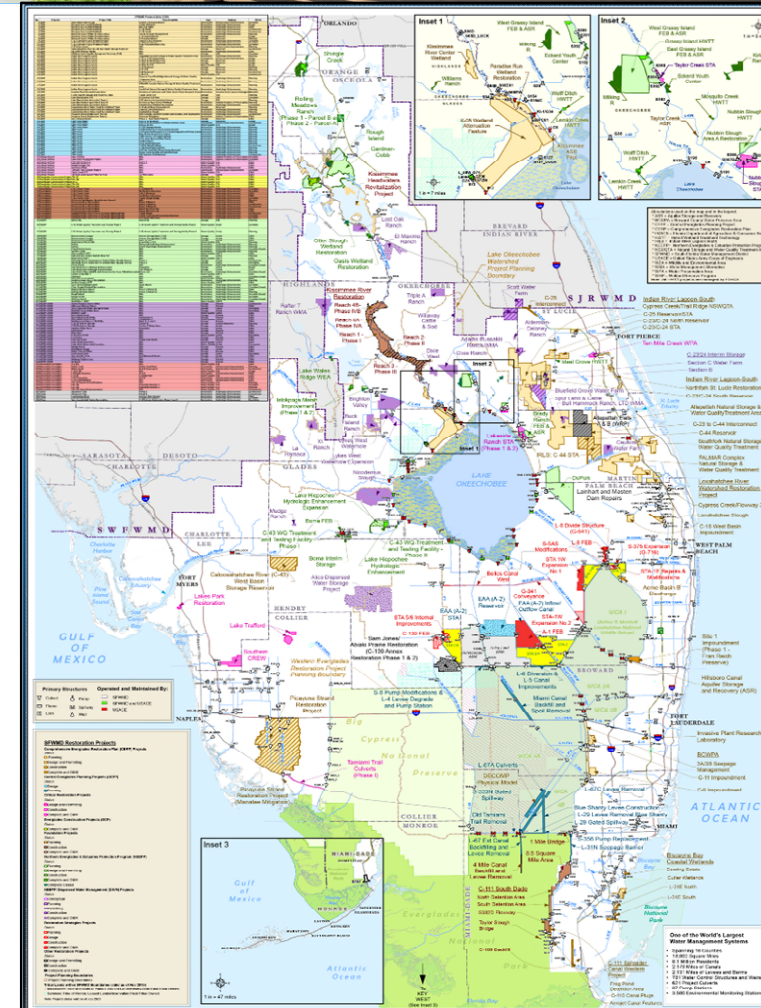


Bald Eagle Flying Over the Central Everglades

➤ \$2.3M Land Management

Budget Highlights

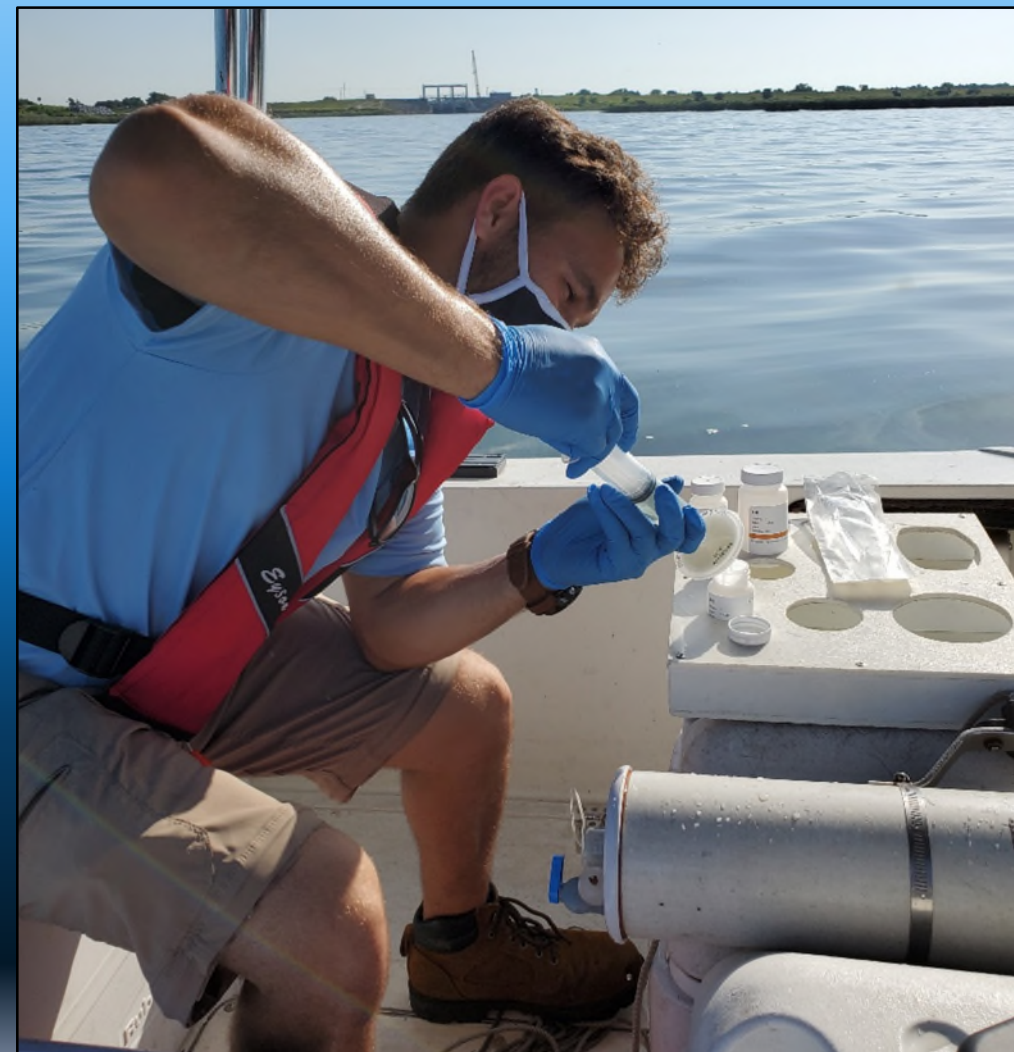
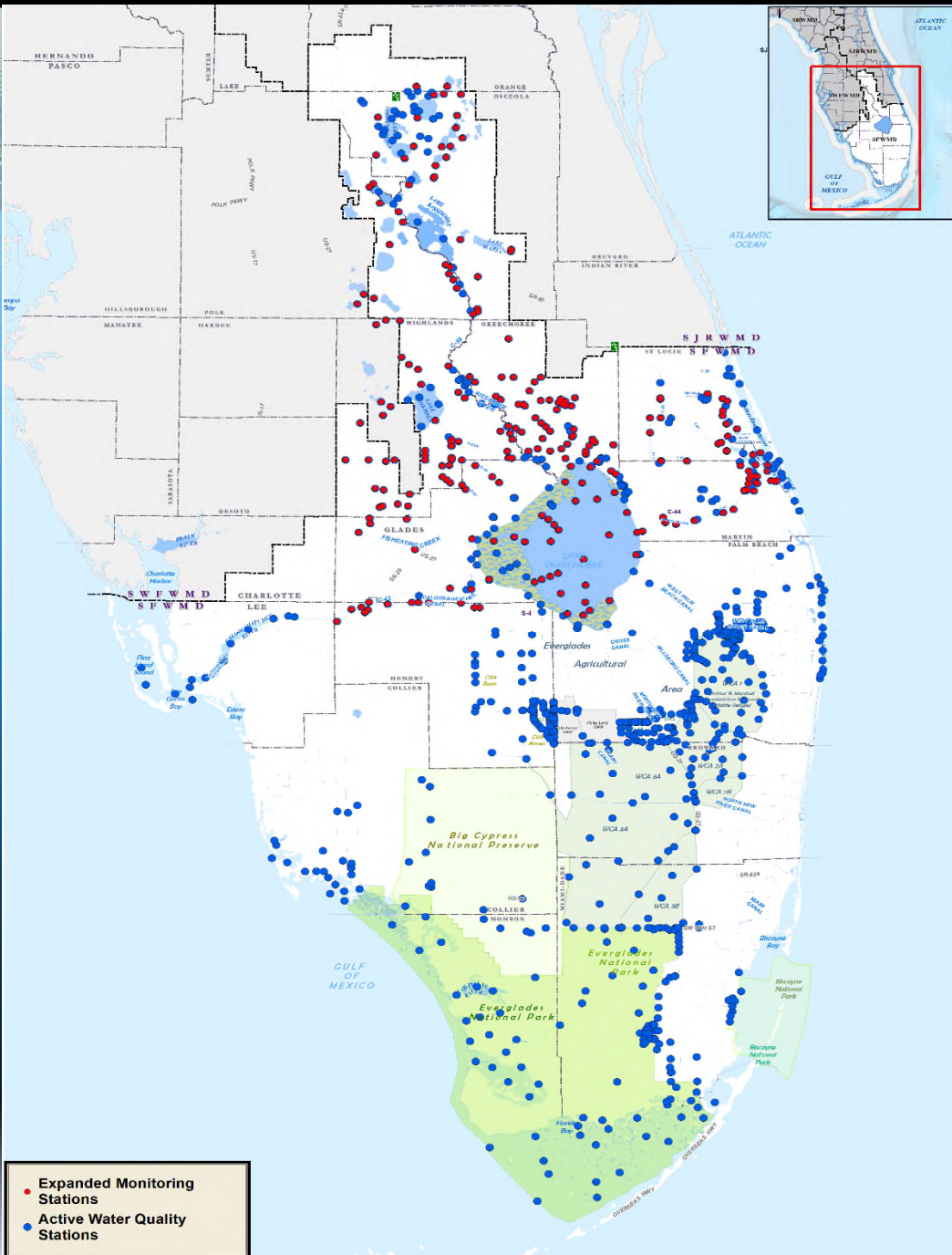
- Implementing Gov. DeSantis' Executive Order 19-12
- Advancing and expediting 130+ critical projects that improve water quality, reduce discharges, and send more water south
- Increasing Opportunities for Restoration and Resiliency Projects through Grants
- Continuing increased monitoring efforts and pollution control programs and projects to address Harmful Algal Blooms
- Supporting the doubled python removal program, which has removed 3,500+ pythons from the Everglades
- Keeping benefit costs low and providing cost of living adjustments to hard-working staff
- Improving our outreach, transparency and public engagement efforts
- Investing in addressing sea level rise and coastal resiliency
- Adding more reoccurring funds for flood protection infrastructure



130+ Active Projects

Presenter: Drew Bartlett 6

Science, Monitoring, Water Supply \$70.2 Million



Water Quality Sampling on Lake Okechobee

Science and Monitoring

\$32.7 Million Research, Data Collection, Analysis & Monitoring

- Expanded Northern Everglades Monitoring
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed Protection plan including in-lake assessment projects & expanded monitoring
- Biscayne and Florida Bay Assessments
- Lake Worth Lagoon Monitoring
- On-going C&SF project monitoring and assessment
- Regional modeling and analysis
- Regional Water Quality monitoring and assessment
- CERP Recover and Adaptive Assessment and Monitoring
- STA operations monitoring
- Everglades research and evaluation



Biscayne Bay

Water Management Planning and Supply

\$37.5 Million Water Management Planning & Water Supply Development Assistance

- Alternative Water Supply Projects
- Regional and Sub-Regional Water supply plan development
- Hydrogeologic data collection
- Estuary Research and Monitoring Watershed Protection plan implementation
- Central Florida Watershed Initiative (CFWI)



Reclaimed Water is often recognized by the use of purple pipes



Sunset in South Florida

Everglades Restoration Projects: \$739 Million



Recent Blasting at the EAA Reservoir Project Site



Governing Board Member Charlette Roman Visiting the Caloosahatchee Reservoir with Major General Graham

Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)

\$519.4 million for CERP Projects:

- EAA Reservoir Project
- Central Everglades Project
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Plan
- Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetland
- Caloosahatchee Reservoir



Alley North Colony in the Central Everglades

Northern Everglades & Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP)

\$122 million for Northern Everglades & Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP) Projects:

- 9 Proposed New Water Quality Grant Projects
- Indian River Lagoon WQ Projects
- 25 Dispersed Water Management Projects
- Lakeside Ranch Phase II
- Brady Ranch
- Grassy Island
- Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough/S191 Basin ASR
- Lake Hicpochee Restoration
- C-43 Boma



Black-bellied Whistling Ducks at the Lykes West Waterhole Project

Restoration Strategies

\$98 million for Delivering Clean Water to America's Everglades

- STA-1 West Expansion 2
- Bolles Canal Hydrologic Conveyance Improvements Construction
- C-139 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB)
- STA-1 East Enhancements



Stormwater Treatment Areas provide both water quality benefits and excellent habitat for wildlife (STA-1W)

Flood Protection Infrastructure, Conservation Lands, and Harmful Plants and Animals: \$305.4 million



SFWMD Control Room



Water Control Structure



Removing Harmful Vegetation



Natural Biocontrols Help Manage Invasive Plants

Operating and Maintaining Flood Protection Infrastructure

- **\$237.3 million for the management of 4,310 miles of canals and levees, 785 water control structures & weirs, 621 smaller project culverts, 87 pump stations**
 - \$60 million for maintenance of South Florida's flood protection system
 - \$100 million for ongoing operations and maintenance of the Central and Southern Florida Project (C&SF), Basin and STAs
 - \$6.6 million to address Coastal Resiliency and Sea Level Rise
 - \$61 million Hurricane/Emergency Reserves



SFWMD Pump Stations provide important flood protection to many South Florida communities.

Stewarding Conservation Lands and Managing Harmful Plants and Animals

➤ \$33.7M Invasive and Harmful Exotic Plant and Species Control

- Implement herbicide reduction goals
- Continuation of Python Program as directed by Gov. DeSantis
- Exotic/harmful plant and animal management
- Bio-controls

➤ \$34.4M Land Management

- Protection and management of 400,000+ acres
- Land stewardship of conservation lands
- Restoration and monitoring, prescribed burns, public use and security, vegetation management
- C-139 Annex Restoration Project



New SFWMD Python Removal Agent Amy Siewe recently captured this massive 17-foot python

Regulation and Enforcement Public Engagement: \$25.4 Million



Ensuring Water Resources are Protected through Permitting



Irrigation Ordinances with Local Governments Help Save Water

Regulation and Enforcement Outreach, Public Engagement, and Transparency

➤ \$22.3 million Regulation

- Monitoring to meet source control requirements
- Enforcement and Compliance Activities
- Regulation & Consumptive Use Permitting
- Environmental Resource Permitting

➤ \$3.1 million Outreach, Public Engagement, and Transparency

- Provide critical emergency communications and coordination during storms
- Provide clear, concise, and consistent information to support the District's mission.
- Increase awareness of flood protection, restoration work, and water management resource issues.
- Engage and educate the public and stakeholders.



Emergency Communications



Control Room

Attracting and Keeping the Best and Brightest Staff \$51 Million

➤ \$51 Million for Making SFWMD an Employer of Choice

- Providing cost of living adjustments to hard-working staff
- Absorbing Cost of Rising Healthcare Premiums
 - No Increase in Premiums for Employees
- Keeping Benefit Costs Low
- Education/Tuition Reimbursement
- Professional Development
- Uniform Stipends
- Competitive Vacation/Leave Time



August Employee of the Month

Kevin Pagan
Sr. Purchasing Specialist



SFWMD's Dedicated Staff



Ecosystem Restoration



Flood Protection



Water Needs



Public Engagement

Learn More
[SFWMD.gov/Budget](https://www.sfwmd.gov/Budget)