

September 2011



just the FACTS

This fact sheet is provided as a reference to encourage a greater understanding of the various issues related to managing water in South Florida.

FY2012 Budget Focuses on Core Responsibilities

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board approved final millage rates and adopted its budget for Fiscal Year 2012 (Oct. 1, 2011 – Sept. 30, 2012) at a public hearing held September 20. The agency's budget is developed annually through an open and public process, including review and approval by the Governor and the Joint Legislative Budget Commission.

Budget Highlights

- The District's FY2012 total fiscal resources of \$576.1 million are directly focused on achieving the agency's core-mission responsibilities of resource protection and health, safety and welfare. Key highlights of the budget include:
 - \$50 million for refurbishment of the regional flood control network of 2,600 miles of canals and levees.
 - \$10.3 million to complete construction of stormwater treatment areas to further improve the quality of water flowing into the Everglades. Since 2006, the District has invested more than \$270 million to expand the state's 45,000-acre network of treatment wetlands south of Lake Okeechobee by an additional 13,500 acres.
 - \$38 million to initiate pump construction that will deliver water to help restore the Loxahatchee River and enhance water supplies.
 - \$14.3 million to provide water storage in the northern Everglades through public-private partnerships.
 - \$3.7 million to complete construction of the \$35.8 million Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area that will clean water flowing into Lake Okeechobee.
 - \$930,000 to substantially complete construction of the C-111 Spreader Canal and the first phase of the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands project. The District has invested close to \$36.5 million to complete construction of these restoration projects that will benefit Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and the Everglades.
 - \$2 million to begin water quality treatment and storage projects in the Caloosahatchee watershed.

Supports Core Mission

- This budget allows the District to move forward with the agency's mission-critical functions and statutory obligations:
 - Provide flood control and hurricane response
 - Improve water quality and restore the Everglades
 - Meet ongoing water supply and water resource development needs
 - Streamlined regulatory programs
 - Make ongoing debt service payments
- The adopted millage rates represent 43.6 cents per thousand dollars of taxable value in 15 of the District's 16 counties (*the Okeechobee Basin*). For Collier County and mainland Monroe County (*the Big Cypress Basin*), the millage rates represent about 34.2 cents per thousand dollars.
- Other budget revenue sources include prior-year Certificate of Participation proceeds, state appropriations, balances, fees and agricultural privilege taxes.

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