



OPERATIONS UPDATE

September 29, 2016

Operations Update: SFWMD Receives Florida Bay Plan Permit

Department of Environmental Protection approves permit for several features of plan to deliver freshwater to Taylor Slough and Florida Bay

The Florida Bay Plan:

- Degrading a weir and adding plugs along the L-31 West Canal to allow more water to flow into Taylor Slough, and keeping more water in Everglades National Park.
- Sending additional water through the S-328 water control structure in the L-31 West Canal reaching Taylor Slough.
- Connecting the Frog Pond detention system to the L-31 West Canal sending more water towards Taylor Slough.
- Rebuilding a L-31 West Levee and Weir to keep more water in Everglades National Park.

These actions will be the first steps to help save the bay.

The South Florida Water Management District's expedited plan to restore Florida Bay will send billions more gallons of freshwater per year into Taylor Slough.

Click on the image to see a larger version and see the proposed plan to help Florida Bay by delivering more clean freshwater to Taylor Slough.

Homestead, FL - The Florida Department of Environmental (DEP) on Sept. 23 approved the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) permit to implement several features of its revised plan to deliver more fresh, clean water to the ailing Florida Bay.

The plan will send billions more gallons of freshwater each year into Taylor Slough, which connects to Florida Bay. This means more freshwater will reach the bay to help restore seagrass that succumbed to the drought of summer 2015.

The DEP-approved permit allows the SFWMD to:

- Rebuild a section of the L-31 West Levee and Weir.
- Install 10 plugs in the L-31 West Canal.
- Seal the discharge basin at the S-332 D Pump Station to reduce seepage.
- Passively operate the S-327 Weir to allow more water into an adjacent detention area.

All of these improvements, coupled with a proposed connection of the C-111 Spreader Canal and L-31 West canals, will increase the amount of clean, freshwater that can be delivered to Taylor Slough and flow south to Florida Bay. This will help reduce elevated salinity levels and allow sea grasses to recover from localized droughts. The DEP is still reviewing the separate permit application from the SFWMD to connect the C-111 Spreader Canal to the L-31 West Canal.

The remaining permit applications needed to fully implement the plan and help Florida Bay are currently being reviewed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

For More Information:

- [SFWMD Florida Bay Plan Webpage](#)

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The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to protect South Florida's water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems.

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