

March 2012 Kissimmee Basin Environmental and Restoration Features



Photography by Brent Anderson
Branders@SFWMD.gov



March 15, 2012

A diverse multi-species foraging flock of over 2,500 wading birds and waterfowl was observed in the Oak Creek floodplain of the Phase I restoration area.



March 15, 2012

Ibis and egrets take flight in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

A diversity of wading birds coming in for a landing in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Ibis, herons and egrets take flight in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Ibis and egrets flying in to forage in the Oak Creek floodplain of the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

White pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) feed in the Oak Creek Floodplain



March 15, 2012

White pelicans (*P. erythrorhynchos*) feed in the Oak Creek Floodplain



March 15, 2012

White pelicans (*P. erythrorhynchos*) feed in the Oak Creek Floodplain



March 15, 2012

Ibis and egrets take flight in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

White pelicans (*P. erythrorhynchos*) form tight groups as they feed in the Oak Creek Floodplain



March 15, 2012

Ibis and egrets foraging in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

White pelicans feed amongst other wading birds and shorebirds in the Oak Creek Floodplain



March 15, 2012

American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

A diversity of wading birds take flight in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Can you find the spoonbill?



March 15, 2012

Ibis and egrets take flight in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Smaller foraging flock in Oak Creek Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Now in the heart of the dry season with dropping stages and decreased flows sandbars become evident in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Sandbars in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Phase 4B restoration area backfill and restoration area floodplain



March 15, 2012

Belted kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

Bright green vegetation survives in the last remaining wet areas of this northern section of the Phase I restoration area floodplain



March 15, 2012

Abandoned channels in the north end on the Phase I restoration area floodplain



March 10, 2012

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) in the Phase II/III restoration area upland pasture



March 15, 2012

Peninsula cooters (*Pseudemys peninsularis*) take in some sun in the Phase I restoration area river channel



March 10, 2012

Woodstorks (*Mycteria americana*) and gallinules (*Gallinula chloropus*) passing by in the Phase I restoration area floodplain



Woodstorks (*M. americana*) and Great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*) take to flight in the Phase I restoration area



March 10, 2012

Double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) silhouette in the Phase I restoration area



March 15, 2012

White pelicans (*P. erythrorhynchos*) fly overhead in the Phase I restoration area



This peninsula cooter (*P. peninsularis*) waits patiently for his date with bouquet in hand



March 15, 2012

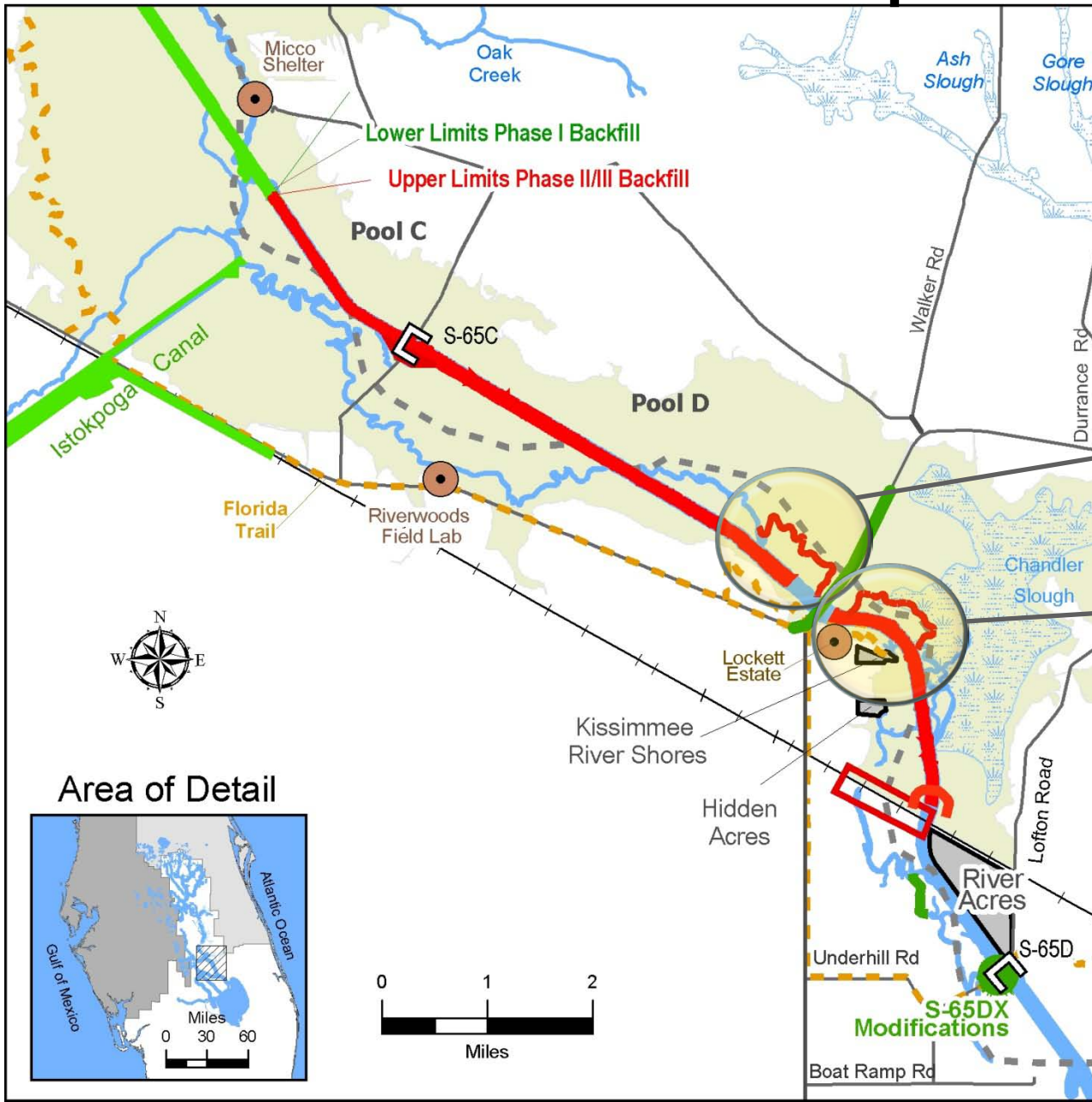
The scar is probably the result of a close call with a boat prop...



March 15, 2012

Giant water bug (*Lethocerus* sp.) found in Lake Okeechobee

Construction Update

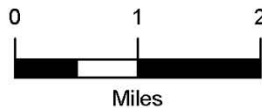
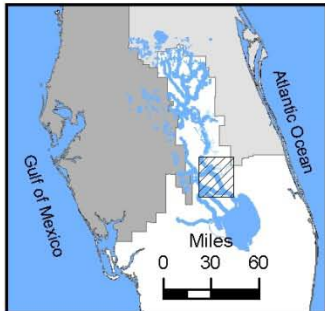


Contract 10A –
Reach 2
river channel recarve

Contract 10A –
Reach 3 north
river channel recarve



Area of Detail





Remnant channel of the original Kissimmee River (Caracara Run)

Hwy 98

To Okeechobee →

C-38 canal in Pool D

Temporary roads for construction access

PHASE II/III CONSTRUCTION AREA

Partially re-carved river channel

Flow

NORTH

December 19, 2011

Contract 10A (Reach 3 north) river channel re carve construction. Image from December 2011



January 17, 2012

Contract 10A (Reach 3 north) - river channel recarve construction. Image from January 2012



Contract 10A (Reach 3 north) – image from February 2012.



March 13, 2012

Contractors pull the plug at the south end of reach 3 north



March 13, 2012

Contractors pull the plug at the south end of reach 3 north



March 15, 2012

Contract 10A (Reach 3 north) – river channel recarve is complete



March 15, 2012

Contract 10A - Reach 3 north river channel re-carve is complete (foreground). Reach 2 is well underway!
(background)



March 15, 2012

Looking north - Contract 10A Reach 3 north river channel re-carve is complete (foreground). Reach 2 is well underway! (background)



March 15, 2012

Contract 10A Reach 3 north – river channel recarve is complete



March 15, 2012

Contract 10A Reach 3 north looking southeast – river channel recarve is complete



March 15, 2012

Contract 10A Reach 2 river channel recarve is well underway!



Contract 10A Reach 2 river channel recarve is well underway!



Contract 10A Reach 2 river channel recarve is well underway!



March 15, 2012

Looking south - Contract 10A Reach 3 north river channel recarve is complete (background). Contract 10A north is well underway! (foreground)



March 15, 2012

Contract 10A reach 3 north river channel recarve is complete (left). Reach 2 is well underway! (right)

