SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

#### Sam Jones – Abiaki Prairie Restoration



LBMC Meeting March 16, 2023

**Presenter** 

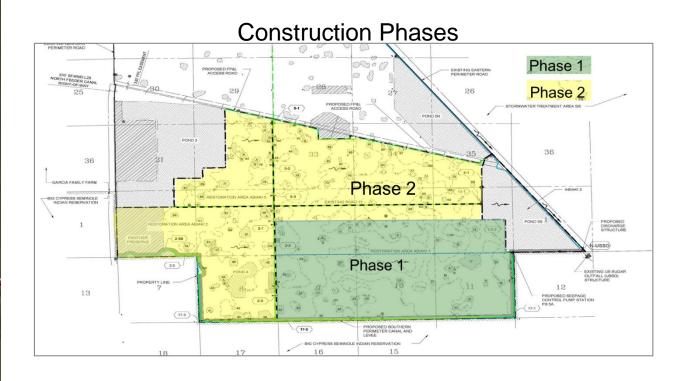
**Karyn Allman, Lead Scientist, Land Stewardship** 



### **Project Overview**







# Sam Jones — Abiaki Prairie Project







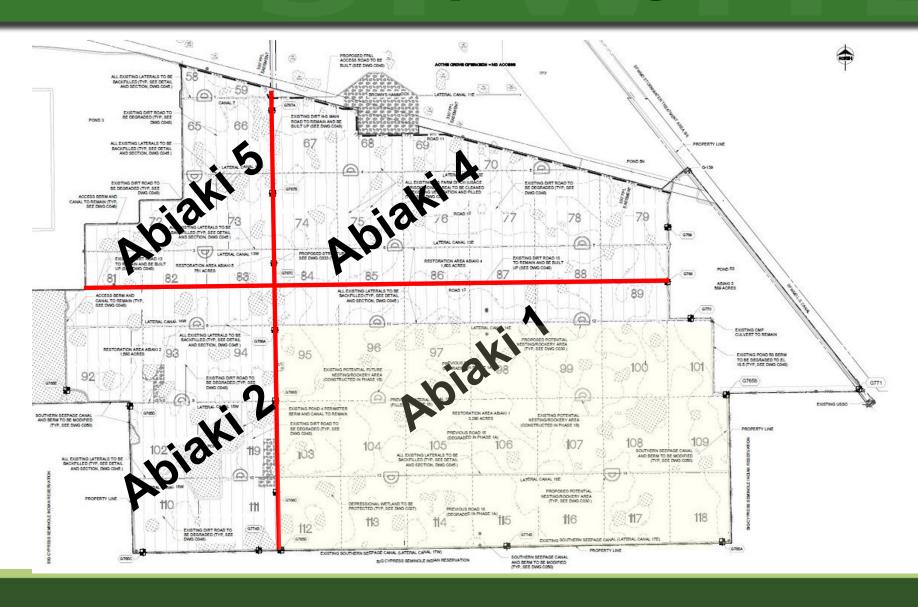


#### **Construction Update**

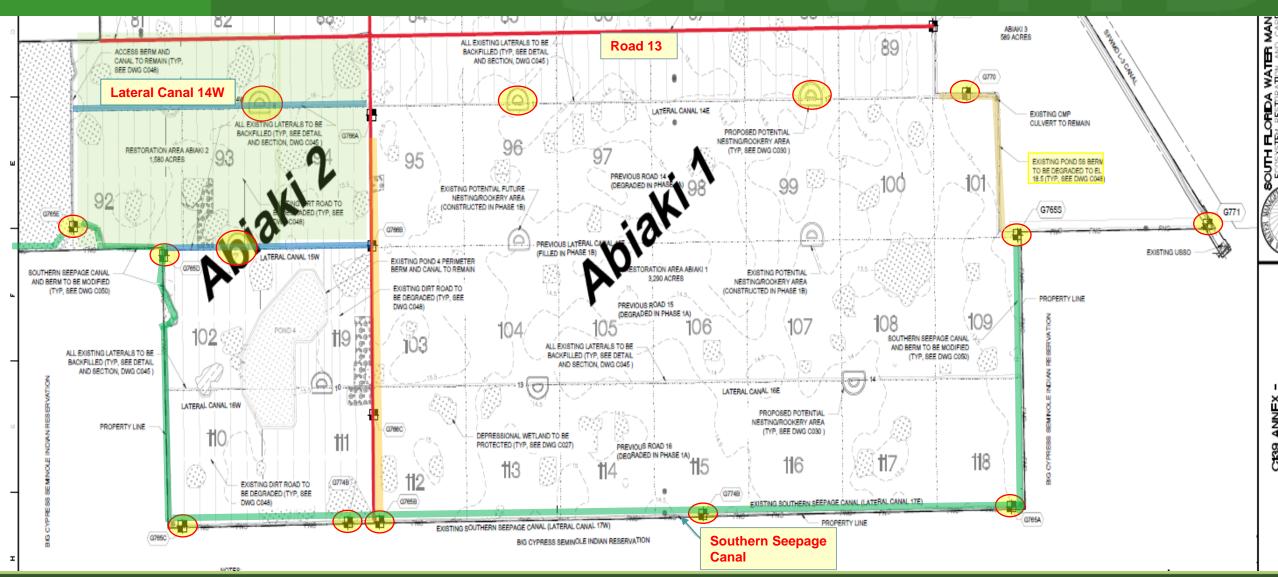


### **Construction Sequencing**



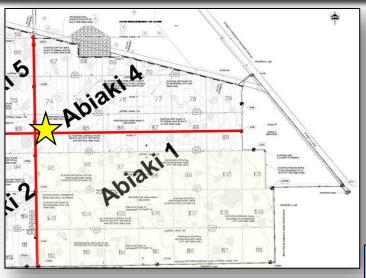


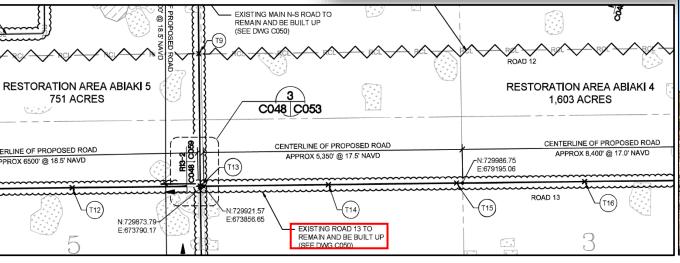
#### **Construction Status**





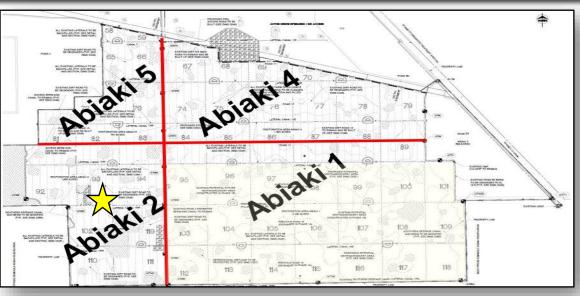
Elevating Road 13

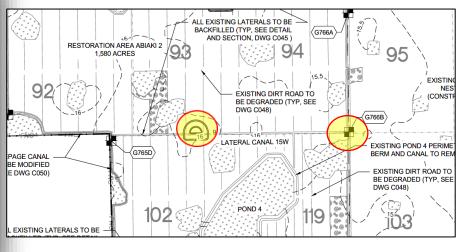


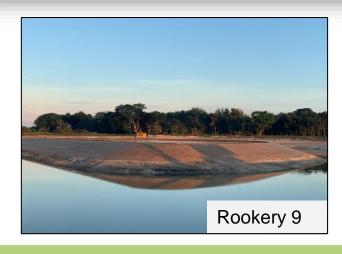














G766B – east side of N/S Rd



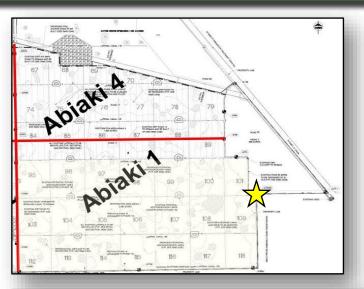
#### **Southern Seepage Berm**

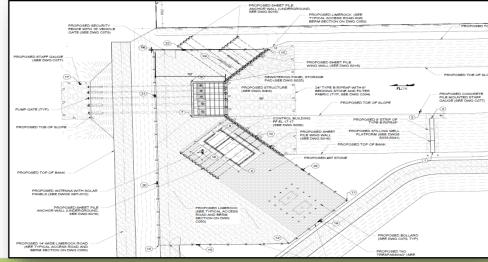




Construction of 5 structures to manage water levels continue









# **Land Management Update**

#### **Native Vegetation**



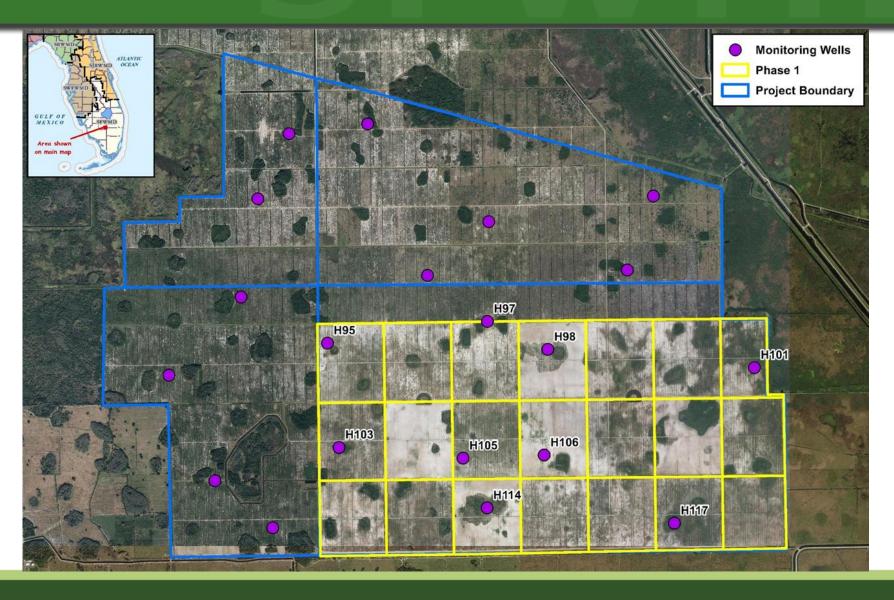
- Abiaki 1 vegetation transect monitoring completed
- Maidencane plantings in Abiaki 2 approx. 350 acres planned this winter
- Approx. 40-50 acres in Abiaki 2 planted with native seeds
- Invasive vegetation treatments Abiaki 1, 2, and 4 to continue this spring



Tractor pulling a grasslander

# Hydrology



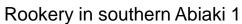


# Hydrology



- Hurricane Ian
  - Drone photos from Sept 30<sup>th</sup> two days post storm





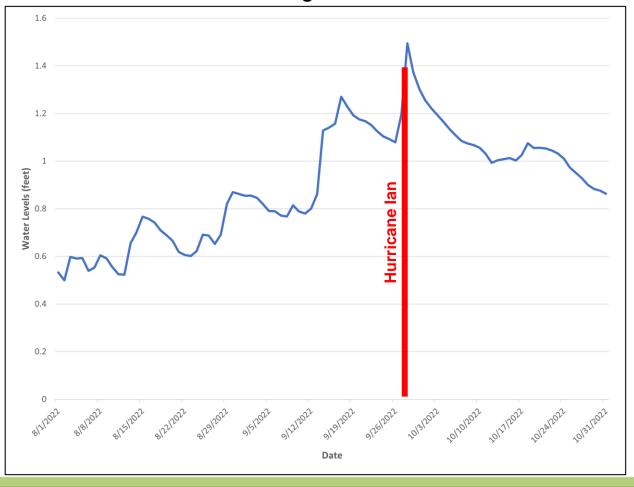


SW corner - Abiaki 2

# Hydrology



#### Monitoring Well H114



### Wildlife Usage



Three new species of birds documented using the site during 2022 monitoring:

American avocet, American coot, and American widgeon

- An abundance of Wilson's snipe observed this year
- Each of these species are wetland dependent



Avocets foraging in Abiaki 2



Large group of greater yellow legs in Abiaki 1



# **Functional Unit Releases**

#### **Functional Unit Disbursement Criteria**



<b>Restoration Activity</b>	Benchmark/Percent of Units Released	
Administrative/Legal	Record Permit	5%
Construction: Level 1	Clear Citrus Groves	10%
Construction: Level 2	Level Beds	15%
Construction: Level 3	Backbone Infrastructure	25%
Biological: Level 1	Restoration Planting	20%
Biological: Level 2	Ongoing Restoration Activities	15%
Biological: Level 3	Final Permit Compliance	10%
	TOTAL	100%

#### **Functional Unit Release**

MDLPA Needed Project Functional Units: ~4,000 Abiaki Prairie Project Anticipated Functional Units: ~4303.4

879.24

22%

CREDITS RELEASED AS OF 2021*				
Date	Activity Description	Units Released	% of FUs	
7/28/2020	Permit Recorded (5%)	215.17	5%	
4/1/2021	Partial Phase I - Construction (Level 1)	147.57	4%	
4/1/2021	Partial Phase I - Construction (Level 2)	221.36	6%	
4/1/2021	Partial Phase I - Biological (Level 1)	295.14	7%	

Pending / Anticipated Functional Unit Release 2023 (Will Be Based on 2022 Monitoring Report)				
Year	Pending units	% of FUs		
2023	161.46	4%		

**TOTAL** 

<sup>\*</sup>No credit release requested in 2022

#### Functional Unit Release — Abiaki 1





#### **Functional Unit Release**



- > 161.46 is based on:
  - --Cells 95, 96, 97, and 103 Construction Level 1 & 2
  - -- Abiaki 2 Construction Level 1
- > Anticipate 105.08 credits requested for release in 2024
- 105.08 is based on:
  - -- Abiaki 2 Construction Level 2
- >73.13 for Cells 95, 96, 97, and 103 Biological Level 1 may also be requested

## DISCUSSION



