



CERP FRAMEWORK

Implementing the agreement between the Department of the Army,
Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and
South Florida Water Management District regarding
The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)

On July 18th, 2025, the State of Florida and the U.S. Department of the Army executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that empowers the State of Florida to seek responsibility for constructing key components of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) on behalf of the federal Government utilizing federal funds.

As part of the MOU, the CERP Oversight Group, a non-voting body, was established to monitor and expedite the commitments of the MOA while retaining respective decision-making authority with the parties. This document serves to accomplish an early action of the MOU/MOA which is to "develop a framework for future state and federal implementation and identify capability for projects or separable elements selected for implementation in accordance with Section 1043(b) of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of (WRRDA) 2014 or Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 1986."

Expediting Construction of the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir

A primary goal of the CERP Oversight Group is to evaluate and identify authorities and resources for the purpose of accelerating any remaining components of the CEPP EAA Reservoir, and other CEPP components, with the goal of construction completion of the EAA Reservoir in 2029. To expedite the remaining construction efforts the parties have agreed to the following:

The Department of the Army will:

- Subject to the availability of funds, complete construction of the remaining EAA A-2 Reservoir components, with a goal of completing in 2029, to include project features associated with planned Contracts 10A, 11A and 11B to completion.
- Identify capabilities to fully support construction of Contracts 11A and 11B by 2029, including needs that necessitate support from the Oversight Group.
- Turn over design responsibilities for the Seepage Pump Station S-636 to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) for construction contract solicitation (completed); and
- Execute a Section 1043(b) agreement with the SFWMD to support the construction of Seepage Pump Station S-636 if determined to be a separable element under the law or determined to complete the remaining construction of a project.
- Expedite permits and approvals, including any 404 permit approval, necessary for completion of all projects referenced in the MOU/MOA constructed by the State of Florida.

The State of Florida will:

- Provide U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) with an inventory of available resources, services, permits for offsite discharges that support construction completion in 2029, and public works infrastructure that could be quickly procured and/or deployed to expedite construction of the foundation and embankment.
- Assist with providing enhanced site access to support expedited construction.
- Provide all the information necessary to support pursuing implementation under Section 1043(b) agreement with the USACE to support construction of the S-636 Seepage Pump Station.
- Begin construction of the EAA Reservoir Inflow Pump Station S-623 as expeditiously as possible, in order to complete construction of the feature in 2029.
- Begin construction of the Seepage Pump Station S-636 as expeditiously as possible, in order to complete construction of the feature in 2029.

Non-Federal Implementation of Federal CERP Studies and Projects

The CERP Oversight Group will identify additional authorized and funded Federal CERP studies and projects that may be appropriate for non-Federal implementation.

The July 18th, 2025, Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Florida and the Department of the Army identified the S-636 Seepage Pump Station (a component of the CEPP EAA Phase, implementation of which is discussed in the previous section) and the Blue Shanty Flow way (Construction of L67D Levee, Degrade of L67C Levee, Construction of the Northern Gap in L-67C, Degrade of L29 Levee Western Segment, Degrade L-67ext Levee, Backfill of L-67ext Canal and Construction of Recreation Sites G and J) as the initial projects to pursue. The Blue Shanty Flow-way will be implemented as follows:

The Department of the Army will:

- Turn over design responsibilities, including providing available designs to the SFWMD (completed).
- Pursue proceeding with implementation under Section 1043(b) with the SFWMD to support a construction solicitation that utilizes federal funds in the 2027 federal fiscal year, if such funding is made available for such purposes.

The State of Florida will:

- Provide all the information necessary to support pursuing implementation under Section 1043(b) with USACE to support construction of the Blue Shanty Flow-way features.
- Bring the design of the features to full maturity, ready for solicitation to support contract execution and construction start in the first quarter of the 2027 federal fiscal year, with the goal of completing required construction in 2029 consistent with the completion of the EAA A-2 Reservoir.

The CERP Oversight Group will identify additional authorized and funded Federal CERP studies and projects that may be appropriate for non-Federal implementation beyond the initial projects referenced over time.

Federal Funding Model

Pursuant to the July 18, 2025, Memorandum of Understanding, the CERP Oversight Group will jointly pursue a funding model to deliver identified Federal CERP projects for non-Federal implementation. This involves proactively seeking funding to support State of Florida construction activities.

The Department of the Army will:

- Develop a policy approach to request funding for the Section 1043(b) pilot program in a manner that supports expedited construction. Details of the policy approach will be outlined in the agreement entered pursuant to Section 1043(b).
- Identify capabilities to fully support construction of the S-636 Seepage Pump Station in 2029 and expedite the construction of the Blue Shanty Flow-way subject to the availability of funds.

The State of Florida will:

- Provide all the necessary details underpinning its cost estimate and funding stream to assist with appropriation requests.
- Complete the design of project features for the S-636 Seepage Pump Station and the Blue Shanty Flow-way, ready for solicitation to support contract execution and construction start in the first quarter of the 2027 federal fiscal year.

Other Authorized CERP Projects

Recognizing that CEPP is the priority mission to restore America’s Everglades, additional project components and separable elements within CERP will be considered over time.

Once the above tasks are completed and the funding strategy is understood by the CERP Oversight Group, consideration of the construction pathway for the following authorized CERP Projects targeted for federal construction will be discussed:

Authorization	Component	Remaining Contracts
CEPP South (Not Blue Shanty)	S-356E Pump Station	Entire Project
Western Everglades Restoration Project	Components requiring Federal Funding	To Be Determined
Indian River Lagoon	C-23/24 North Reservoir	Embankment, Structures, etc.
Broward County Water Preserve Areas	C-11 Impoundment	All Remaining Contracts
	C-9 Impoundment	All Remaining Contracts
	Water Conservation Areas 3A/3B Seepage Management	All Remaining Contracts

This FRAMEWORK lays out the preliminary path forward to implementing the Memorandum of Understanding.

As the CERP Oversight Group makes progress, adjustments are expected to be made to improve execution and achieve the ultimate goal of Everglades Restoration for the betterment of the South Florida Ecosystem.