



# Everglades Restoration Works!

## Our Progress for the Restoration of the Region's Water Resources

Florida Bay

A comprehensive effort is underway to protect and restore America's Everglades – now and for future generations. New data demonstrates the success of restoration projects across our region - proving recent investments and momentum are working. On January 10, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Executive Order 23-06 (Achieving *Even More Now* for Florida's Environment) to enhance ongoing efforts to expedite restoration projects and further advance the protection of Florida's natural resources. Executive Order 23-06 was issued exactly four years to the day after he signed Executive Order 19-12 (Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment) that resulted in record environmental funding, expedited Everglades projects, and water quality improvements. In 2025, a new landmark agreement was signed by the State of Florida and the U.S. Department of the Army to accelerate Everglades restoration, including the "crown jewel" of Everglades restoration—the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir. Since 2019, we have celebrated more than 80 ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and major milestones on Everglades projects.

The State of Florida will continue our significant efforts implementing Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of water within the Greater Everglades Ecosystem. Unprecedented State funding and momentum are making a real difference to protect Florida's precious natural resources, support our economy and restore America's Everglades.

## RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SUCCESSES

### Salinity Levels in Florida Bay Hit Goals

Record water flows and water depths in the Everglades coupled with rainfall demonstrated that restoration can support healthy salinity levels in Florida Bay. Balanced salinity supports sea grass and spawning fish.

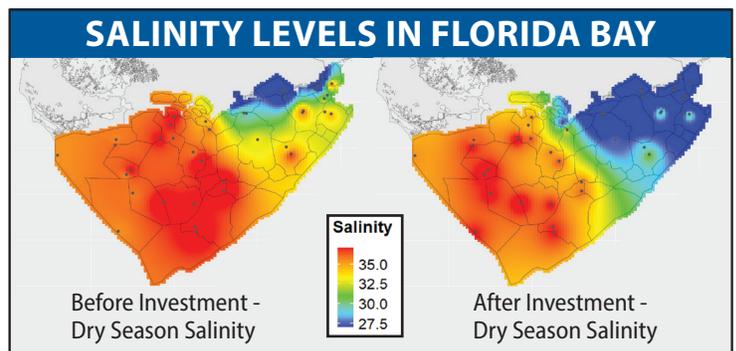
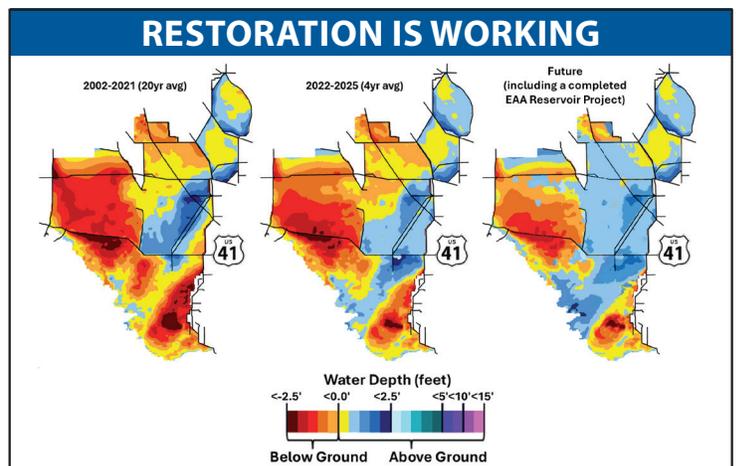
### Flamingos Make a Comeback in Florida

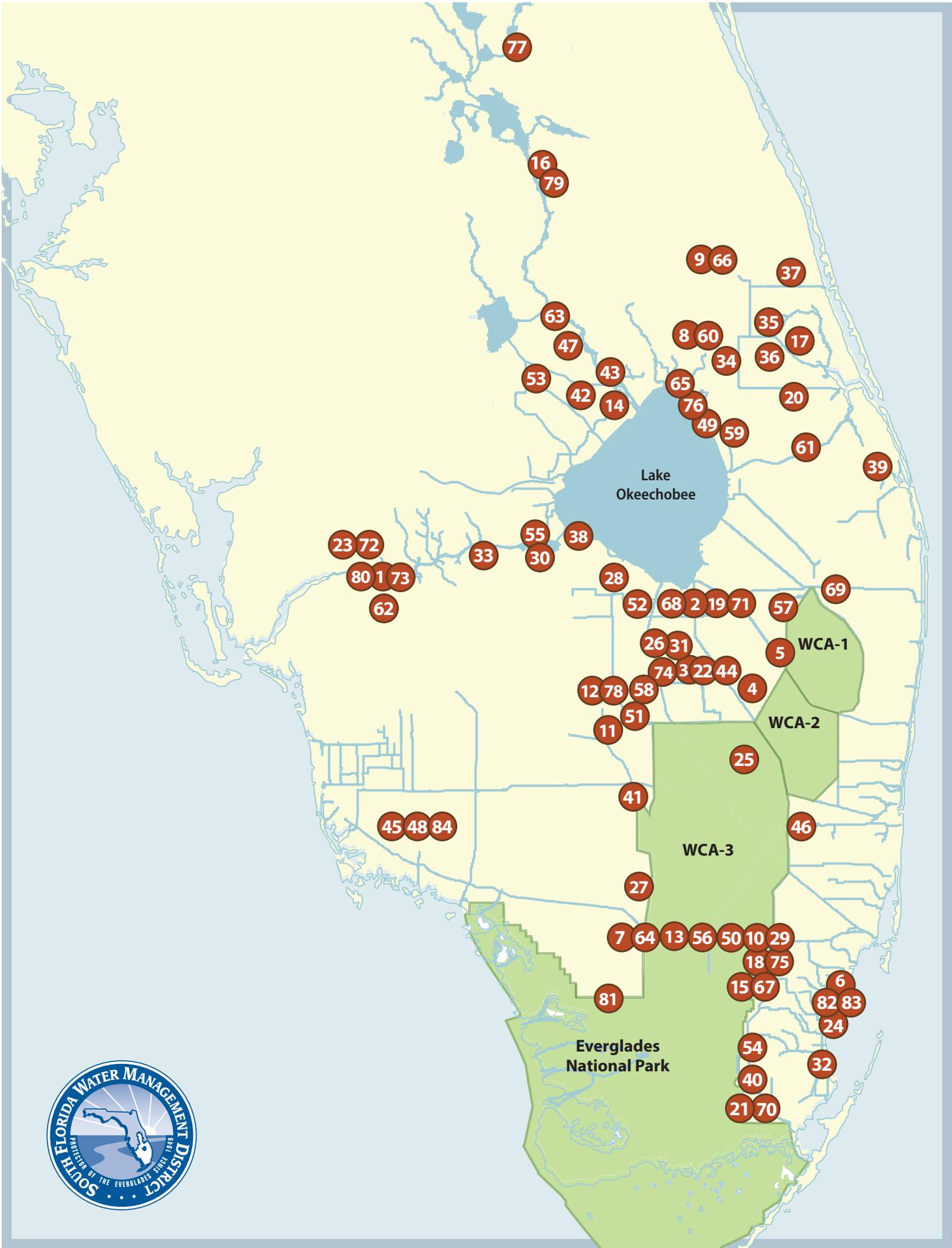
Efforts to restore America's Everglades and our ecosystems are working. We are seeing more and more flocks of flamingos along the coastal Everglades and in the Stormwater Treatment Areas. This proof point demonstrates that the efforts to send water south are working, and the ecosystem responds positively to the right water levels.



### Record Hydration in the Everglades

End of the wet season current water depths (see graphic) in two key locations, Shark River Slough and Taylor Slough, demonstrate that restoration projects and operations work well together to nourish the Everglades and send water south to support the health of Florida Bay.





## GROUND BREAKING SINCE 2019

✓ Indicates these projects have been completed.

#	PROJECT	GROUND BREAKING	COMPLETION YEAR (EST.)
1	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir – Final Phase of Construction	2019	✓
2	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2019	✓
3	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2020	✓
4	STA 2 Refurbishments	2020	✓
5	STA 1W – Expansion No. 2	2020	✓
6	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - L-31E Flow Way	2020	✓
7	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2020	✓
8	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2020	✓
9	Scott Water Storage Farm	2020	✓
10	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South	2020	2033
11	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase II	2021	2027
12	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2021	✓
13	Raising Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2021	2026
14	Lake O Watershed – Aquifer Storage & Recovery Wells	2021	2030
15	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2021	✓
16	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	2022	✓
17	C-23/C-24 Treatment Wetland	2022	2026
18	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2022	✓
19	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2022	✓
20	C-23/C-44 Canal to Divert Harmful Discharges to St. Lucie River	2022	2026
21	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023	✓
22	EAA Reservoir	2023	2029
23	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023	✓
24	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands	2023	✓
25	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) North	2023	2032
26	EAA Reservoir Project Conveyance Improvements	2024	2027
27	Western Everglades Restoration-South Features	2024	2028
28	Clewiston Field Station	2024	2026
29	Blue Shanty Flow Way	2025	2029
30	Lake Hicpochee Phase II Groundbreaking	2025	2028
31	EAA Reservoir Inflow Pump Station	2025	2029



Governor DeSantis at the Removal of the Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed



EAA Inflow Pump Station Groundbreaking

## MAJOR MILESTONE SINCE 2019

#	PROJECT	RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT	COMPLETION YEAR (EST.)
32	Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem (BBSEER)	Began Planning Efforts	TBD
33	Boma Water Storage Basin (FEB)	Started Design	2028
34	C-23/C-24 Interim Water Storage	Started Design	2026
35	C-23/C-24 North Reservoir	Completed Final Design	2033
36	C-23/C-24 South Reservoir	Completed Final Design and Began Construction	2030
37	C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	Completed Final Design and Began Construction	2029
38	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II	Started Design	2028
39	Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration	Authorized by Congress, Started Design	TBD
40	S-332B Pump Station Replacement	Started Design	2028
41	Western Everglades Restoration-Remaining Features	Authorized in WRDA	2024
42	Lake O Watershed – Wetland Restoration	Began Real Estate Acquisition	TBD
43	Lower Kissimmee Basin Treatment Wetland	Began Initial Planning and Design	2029
44	EAA Reservoir Project Partnership Agreement Signed	Agreement Executed	2021
45	Faka Union Pump Station/Canal Plugging – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration	Began Partial Rehydration of Drained Wetlands	2025
46	C-11 Water Storage Impoundment	Began Final Design	2028
47	Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir (LOCAR) Final Feasibility Study and EIS	Authorized in WRDA	2024
48	Startup of Miller Pump Station – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration	Began Using the Pump Station	2025

## COMPLETED SINCE 2019

#	PROJECT	YEAR
49	Lakeside Ranch Treatment Wetland	2019
50	Bridging Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2019
51	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase I	2019
52	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 3	2020
53	Brighton Valley Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2020
54	Improved Water Deliveries for ENP (COP) and C-111 South Dade Project	2020
55	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase I	2020
56	S-333N Structure for Everglades Nat'l Park Water Deliveries	2020
57	STA 1W – Expansion No. 1	2020
58	STA 5/6 Improvements	2020
59	Allapattah Flats Wetland Restoration	2021
60	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2021
61	C-44 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	2021
62	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir Water Quality Improvements Study	2021
63	Kissimmee River Restoration	2021
64	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2021
65	S-191A Pump Station	2021
66	Scott Water Storage Farm	2021
67	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2022
68	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2022
69	STA 1E Improvements	2022
70	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023
71	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2023
72	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023
73	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir S-470 Pump Station	2023
74	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2024
75	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2024
76	S-191 Basin Surface Runoff Phosphorus Removal Project	2024
77	Partin Family Ranch Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2024
78	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2024
79	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	2024
80	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir	2025
81	Governor DeSantis Signs Landmark Agreement to Accelerate Everglades Restoration	2025
82	Biscayne Bay – L-31E Flow Way	2025
83	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands	2025
84	Picayune Strand Restoration Project	2025



Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir Ribbon Cutting



Governor DeSantis Signs Landmark Agreement to Accelerate Everglades Restoration

# MAKING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS

## Water Storage Complete East & West of Lake Okeechobee to Further Curb Harmful Estuary Discharges

The completed Caloosahatchee (C-43) and St. Lucie (C-44) reservoirs capture harmful discharges of water to the estuaries.

## Completed Wetland Treatment Systems to Clean and Send Water to the Everglades

The *Restoration Strategies* program, which involved building and improving 60,000 acres of treatment wetlands, sends cleaner water to the Everglades.

## 100,000 Acres of Restored Natural Lands

The completed restoration of Picayune Strand State Forest and Kissimmee River restores important wetlands and recharges aquifers.



## Large Reservoir South of Lake Okeechobee to Reduce Estuary Discharges and Send Water to the Everglades

Construct a large 10,000-acre reservoir to capture and store excess water to better hydrate the Everglades and manage high Lake stages.

## Water Storage North of Lake Okeechobee

A large above ground reservoir and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells will assist in storing water north of Lake Okeechobee to manage Lake levels.



Blue Shanty Flow Way Groundbreaking

## Protecting the St. Lucie Estuary and Indian River Lagoon

Multiple projects are underway to improve water quality in the St. Lucie Estuary and Indian River Lagoon.

## Completed Construction of a Treatment Wetland to Move Lake Water South

Treatment wetlands send clean water to the Everglades, including a 6,500-acre system dedicated to moving Lake Okeechobee water.

## Uncorking Tamiami Trail (US 41) Will Send More Water South and Reduce Lake Okeechobee Discharges

Additional infrastructure restores the natural flow of water. FDOT will complete raising portions of Tamiami Trail (Next Steps Phase II), and the South Florida Water Management District completed the seepage containment wall to keep water out of communities.

## Multiple Major Biscayne Bay Restoration Projects Improve Health of the Bay

The Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands suite of projects provide significant land and bay restoration benefits to southern Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County.



Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Ribbon Cutting

### Ron DeSantis, Governor

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3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
[SFWMD.gov](http://SFWMD.gov)

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