

New data demonstrates the success of restoration and resilience 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. We have celebrated over 70 ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and major milestones on Everglades projects since 2019.

Together with our partners at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Jacksonville District, the State of Florida will continue our significant efforts implementing Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution 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.

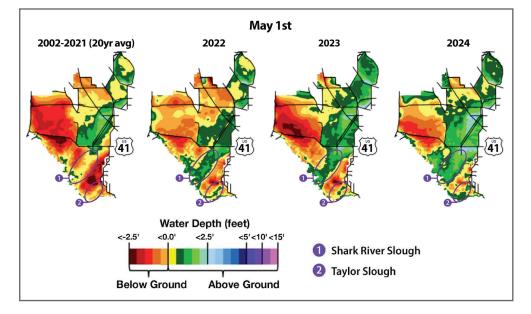
### **RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SUCCESSES**

#### 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.

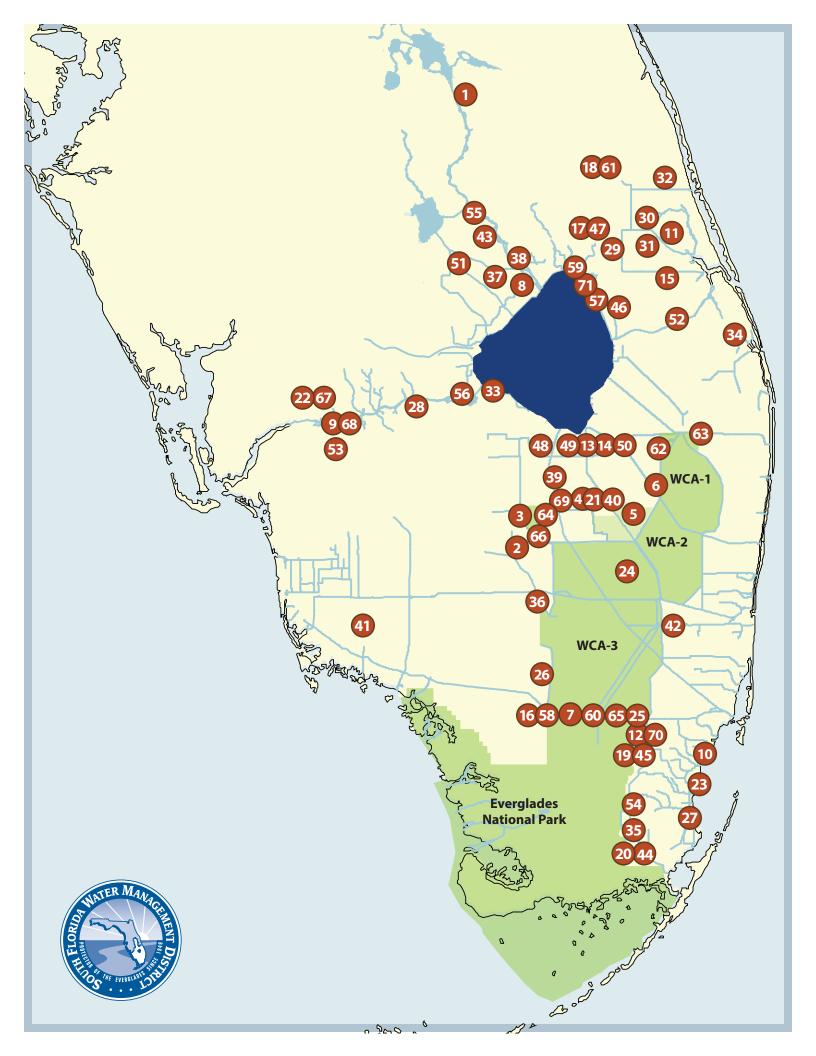
#### Wading Birds, Key Indicator for Restoration Success, Have Banner Nesting Year

Water in the right places led to a historic nesting year for wading birds in 2021. Wading birds serve as a key indicator species for restoration success. This proof point demonstrates that the efforts to send water south will work, and the ecosystem responds positively to the right water levels.



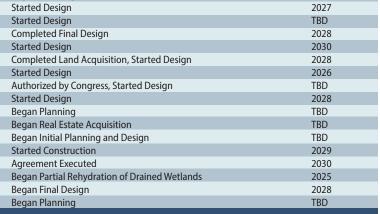
#### **Record Hydration in the Everglades**

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.



GF	OUND BREAKING SINCE 2019			<ul> <li>Indicates these projects have been completed.</li> </ul>
#	PROJECT	GROUND BREAKING	COMPLETION DATE (EST.)	
1	El Maximo Dispersed Water Management	2022	2024	
2	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase II	2021	2027	
3	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2021	2024	
4	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2020	2024	
5	STA 2 Refurbishments	2020	2023	
6	STA 1W – Expansion No. 2	2020	2024	
7	Raising Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2021	2024	
8	Lake O Watershed – Aquifer Storage & Recovery Wells	2021	2030	
9	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir – Final Phase of Construction	2019	2025	
10	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - L-31E Flow-way	2020	2026	and the state of t
11	C-23/C-24 Treatment Wetland	2022	2025	
12	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2022	V	Gov. DeSantis at the Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal Groundbreaking
13	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2019	V	
14	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2022	$\checkmark$	
15	C-23/C-44 Canal to Divert Harmful Discharges to St. Lucie River	2022	2025	
16	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2020	V	BULL WEITER STATE
17	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2020	V	And the second second second
18	Scott Water Storage Farm	2020	V	
19	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2021	V	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
20	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023	V	
21	EAA Reservoir	2023	2030	
22	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023	V	
23	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands	2023	2025	
24	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) North	2023	2029	
25	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South	2020	2031	and the second se
26	Western Everglades Restoration-South Features	2024	2028	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland
MA	JOR MILESTONE SINCE 2019			
#	PROJECT		RECENT ACCON	APLISHMENT COMPLETION DATE
27	Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem (BBSEER)		<b>Began Planning</b>	Efforts TBD

<ul> <li>Boma Water Storage Basin (FEB)</li> <li>C-23/C-24 Interim Water Storage</li> <li>C-23/C-24 North Reservoir</li> <li>C-23/C-24 South Reservoir</li> <li>C-23/C-24 South Reservoir</li> <li>C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland</li> <li>Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II</li> <li>Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration</li> </ul>	27	Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem (BBSEER)			
<ul> <li>30 C-23/C-24 North Reservoir</li> <li>31 C-23/C-24 South Reservoir</li> <li>32 C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland</li> <li>33 Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II</li> <li>34 Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration</li> </ul>	28	Boma Water Storage Basin (FEB)			
<ol> <li>C-23/C-24 South Reservoir</li> <li>C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland</li> <li>Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II</li> <li>Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration</li> </ol>	29	C-23/C-24 Interim Water Storage			
<ul> <li>32 C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland</li> <li>33 Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II</li> <li>34 Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration</li> </ul>	30	C-23/C-24 North Reservoir			
<ul> <li>Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II</li> <li>Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration</li> </ul>	31	C-23/C-24 South Reservoir			
34 Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration	32	C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland			
	33	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II			
	34	Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration			
35 S-332B Pump Station Replacement	35	S-332B Pump Station Replacement			
36 Western Everglades Restoration-Remaining Features	36				
37 Lake O Watershed – Wetland Restoration	37 Lake O Watershed – Wetland Restoration				
38 Lower Kissimmee Treatment Wetland	38	Lower Kissimmee Treatment Wetland			
39 EAA Reservoir Project Conveyance Improvements	39	EAA Reservoir Project Conveyance Improvements			
40 EAA Reservoir Project Partnership Agreement Signed	40	EAA Reservoir Project Partnership Agreement Signed			
41 Faka Union Pump Station/Canal Plugging – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration	41	Faka Union Pump Station/Canal Plugging – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration			
42 C-11 Water Storage Impoundment	42	C-11 Water Storage Impoundment			
43 Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir (LOCAR)	43	Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir (LOCAR)			
COMPLETED SINCE 2019					



#	PROJECT	YEAR
44	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023
45	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2022
46	Allapattah Flats Wetland Restoration	2021
47	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2021
48	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 3	2020
49	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2022
50	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2023
51	Brighton Valley Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2020
52	C-44 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	2021
53	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir Water Quality Improvements Study	2021
54	Improved Water Deliveries for ENP (COP) and C-111 South Dade Project	2020
55	Kissimmee River Restoration	2021
56	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase I	2020
57	Lakeside Ranch Treatment Wetland	2019
58	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2021
59	S-191A Pump Station	2021
60	S-333N Structure for Everglades Nat'l Park Water Deliveries	2020
61	Scott Water Storage Farm	2021
62	STA 1W – Expansion No. 1	2020
63	STA 1E Improvements	2022
64	STA 5/6 Improvements	2020
65	Bridging Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2019
66	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase I	2019
67	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023
68	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir S-470 Pump Station	2023
69	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2024
70	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2024
71	S-191 Basin Surface Runoff Phosphorus Removal Project	2024





ALJO Four Corners Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

## **ON THE HORIZON**

#### 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 will 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, will send 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 aguifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells will assist in storing water north of Lake Okeechobee to manage Lake levels.



#### **Three Reservoirs with Wetland Treatment Systems** to Protect the Indian River Lagoon

Construction of three large reservoirs in St. Lucie County to intercept canal water and prevent it from harmfully discharging to the 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 will restore the natural flow of water. FDOT will complete raising portions of Tamiami Trail (Next Steps Phase II), and SFWMD will complete several seepage containment walls 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 will provide significant land

and bay restoration benefits to southern Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County.

# Ron DeSantis, Governor

#### **SFWMD Executive Management**

**SFWMD Governing Board** Chauncey Goss, Chairman Scott Wagner, Vice Chairman Ron Bergeron Sr. **Ben Butler Charlie E. Martinez Jay Steinle** 

Shawn Hamilton, Secretary,

Drew Bartlett, Executive Director John Mitnik, Asst. Executive Director & Chief Engineer Jennifer Smith, Chief of Staff Jill Creech, Regulation Director Lucine Dadrian, Engineering, Construction & Modeling Director Lawrence Glenn, Water Resources Director Candida Heater, Administrative Services Director Lisa Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator Akin Owosina, Chief Information Officer Jennifer Reynolds, Ecosystem Restoration Director

#### Get the latest information from SFWMD

Learn more by signing up for the District's emails. Visit SFWMD.gov and click on "Subscribe for Email Updates."

LinkedIn and YouTube





3301 Gun Club Road West Palm Beach, FL 33406 SFWMD.gov

July 2024