

# Restoration Strategies Program Update

## September 2020

The South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) \$880 million Restoration Strategies Program includes the design and construction of a suite of regional water storage, treatment and conveyance improvement projects that will enhance water quality in America's Everglades. The program also includes a robust Science Plan consisting of research activities focused on investigating the critical factors that influence phosphorus (P) reduction and better understanding the sustainability of P removal performance at low P concentrations. The strategies also feature implementation of additional sub-regional source controls – where pollution is reduced at the source – in areas where P levels in stormwater runoff have been historically higher.

### Restoration Strategies Projects

#### Eastern Flow Path

##### **Stormwater Treatment Area 1 East (STA-1E) Repairs and Modifications (Cells 5 and 7)**

Earthwork to regrade Cell 5 and loading of imported soil in Cell 7 are ongoing. Project is on schedule and expected to be completed by October 2022.

##### **STA-1W Expansion #1**

Initial flooding and optimization underway and expected to be completed by December 2020. Earthwork for plugs to allow flow through the new discharge canal is expected during the final quarter of 2020.

##### **STA-1W Expansion #2**

Final Design for pump stations delivered in July 2020. Received Governing Board approval for civil works construction in August 2020. Underground pipe installation under STA-1W Expansion #1 Discharge Canal to be completed by October 2020.

##### **G-341 Related Conveyance Improvements**

Construction of Segment 3 in Bolles East Canal is complete, including Jett Farm bridge. Construction of Segment 4 is ongoing. Segment 5 design scope is in negotiations. Hydraulic modeling of alternatives for other related conveyance improvements is in progress.

#### Western Flow Path

##### **STA-5/6 Internal Improvements**

Construction Completed in May 2020. Initial flooding and optimization will commence as hydrologic conditions allow.

##### **C-139 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB)**

Draft Biological Opinion received in June 2020. Final Design deliverable expected by August 2020.

RFP expected to be issued in September 2020.

#### Additional Components

##### **Sub-Regional Source Controls**

On-going development of sub-regional source control concepts and coordination with stakeholders.

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<b>Restoration Strategies Science Plan</b>
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Of the fourteen Science Plan studies, six have been completed and eight are in progress.

Operational Guidance for FEB and STA Regional Operation .....	Completed in 2017
Influence of canal Conveyance on P Concentrations.....	Completed in 2017
Evaluation of Sampling Methods for TP.....	Completed in 2017
Periphyton-Based STA Performance, Design and Operational Factors .....	Completed in 2018
Evaluation of Rooted Floating Aquatic Vegetation in STAs .....	Completed in 2018
P Forms, Flux and Transformation Processes .....	Completed in 2019
STA Water and P Budget Improvements for Treatment Performance.....	Completed in 2020
Vegetation Inundation Depth and Duration Sustainability.....	In Progress
Soil Amendments to Control P Flux .....	In Progress
Effects of Faunal Species on P Cycling in STAs .....	In Progress
Factors for Formation of Floating Tussocks in STAs.....	In Progress
Improving Resilience of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation in STAs.....	In Progress
L-8 FEB and STA Operational Guidance .....	In Progress
Periphyton and Phytoplankton P Uptake and Release .....	In Progress

<b>Consent Order<sup>1</sup> Milestones</b>
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Project: Activity	Deadline	Date Completed
<b>Eastern Flow Path</b>		
STA-1W Expansion #1: Complete Construction	12/31/2018	12/27/2018
STA -1W Expansion #1: Initial Flooding and Optimization	12/31/2020	
STA-1W Expansion #2: Complete Design	7/31/2020	7/16/2020
STA-1W Expansion #2: Initiate Construction	11/30/2020	
G-341 Related Conveyance Improvements: Initiate Construction	11/30/2022	8/13/2015
G-341 Related Conveyance Improvements: Complete Construction	12/31/2024	
<b>Central Flow Path</b>		
A-1 FEB: Operational Monitoring and Testing Period Complete	7/29/2018	7/29/2018
<b>Western Flow Path</b>		
C-139 FEB: Submit State and Federal Permit Applications	8/30/2019	8/23/2019
C-139 FEB: Complete Design	10/31/2020	
STA-5/6 Internal Improvements: Complete Construction	12/31/2024	5/4/2020
STA-5/6 Initial Flooding and Optimization Period	12/31/2025	

<sup>1</sup> FDEP Consent Order 12-1148 (associated with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. FL0778451-001-FL7A/RA) and FDEP Consent Order 12-1149 (associated with Everglades Forever Act Permit No. 0311207)

