SOUTHLAND

WATER RESOURCE PROJECT

Supporting Everglades Restoration through Water Storage South of Lake Okeechobee

Project Description

- Developed in early 2023 and presented to the SFWMD Governing Board in October 2023, the Southland Water Resource Project is located on over 8,600 acres. It will provide key stakeholders such as the South Florida Water Management District and FDEP with water storage capacity to complement current and future projects within the Everglades region.

- The project, consisting of 13 individual cells, will deliver 120,000 acre-feet of **low-hazard** storage in a phased approach, with the first 20,000 Ac-Ft operational in approximately 5 years.

- Stormwater Treatment Area 5/6 continues to experience periods of dry out, and additional storage, delivered in an accelerated timeline, for these other STA's.

- A consistent and continuous steady flow of water is critical to vegetative water treatment systems. No water, no plant life, no nutrient removal.

- Southland Water Resource Project is strategically located with a direct connection to the Miami canal, allowing for various flow paths to support multiple downstream treatment sites.

A Proven Solution

- Phillips & Jordan has a long and successful history with the South Florida Water Management District, delivering projects such as the A2 Stormwater Treatment Area, C-51 Reservoir, L-8 Reservoir, the C43 BOMA test facility, and most recently, stepping in to assist in completing the C43 reservoir project.

- P&J is currently the design-builder/contractor of over 15,000 acres of storage and vegetative water treatment facilities in the State of Florida.

- Phillips and Jordan has worked, or is currently working with, both SFWMD and ACOE constructing first two components of the EAA reservoir, the A-2 Stormwater Treatment Area and the 10A intake canal for nearly 5 years.

- Specific to the Southland Water Resource project, our engineering team, scientists, modelers, hydrologists, and ecologists were all involved in or directed the adjacent projects, such as the A2 Stormwater Treatment Area and EAA Reservoir design and engineering.

- The engineering team was purposely assembled to ensure that our project would complement the current and future projects, function within the completed system without harm, and provide critical benefit.

Community Economic Impact

Economic

- The project creates approximately 100-140 full-time, high-paying employment positions in the Tri-Cities region in addition to the already employed members of the community.
- These positions include training, growth and education opportunities, health insurance benefits, retirement benefits, and various other quality of life benefits.
- Phillips and Jordans continued commitment to local staffing means earned income will stay within the surrounding communities.
- Southland provides Palm Beach County with an average annual revenue of approximately $300,000.00 in environmental resource fees.
- Statewide benefit due to critical aggregate shortage

SFWMD Letter of Identification

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

December 31, 2024

Mr. Matt Eidson
Phillips & Jordan
30115 State Road 52, Suite 301
San Antonio, FL 33576

Subject: Southland Regional Water Resource Project

Dear Mr. Eidson:

The South Florida Water Management District (District) received your updated project proposal for the Southland Regional Water Resource Project (Project) on December 24, 2024.

We understand that the project proposal was submitted to the District for review in accordance with Palm Beach County comprehensive planning requirements. As submitted, the project includes the potential addition of over 120,000 acre/ft of water storage between Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades, with the proposed uses of water storage, pumping, and conveyance—providing the potential for more operational opportunities to manage and treat water to benefit both Lake Okeechobee and the Everglades. As proposed, the project would repurpose land adjacent to the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir complex currently utilized for agricultural purposes into water storage and potential treatment facilities to benefit water management. As is well known, the State of Florida has prioritized Everglades restoration, and this effort requires increased capacity for water management and treatment, which this project is expected to provide.

In the past six years alone, an additional 63.6 billion gallons of water storage capacity have been created, with an additional 55.4 billion gallons of storage capacity in the coming year. These water storage projects are vital to Everglades restoration, helping to improve the quantity, timing, and distribution of flows into Everglades National Park and Florida Bay. Additionally, they play a crucial role in reducing harmful discharges to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries. Through the state's investment in these priorities, over 727,000 pounds per year of nitrogen and 488,300 pounds per year of phosphorus will be removed within the Everglades ecosystem.

Based on an initial review of the project and subsequent discussions, the District believes that, at this time, on the identified site, connected to a District canal with the right configuration, the project will likely provide viable alternative technologies for both water management and water treatment for ecosystem restoration complimentary to the

EAA Reservoir complex and surrounding infrastructure. With a completed connection to STA 5/6, the project would provide more capacity to maintain those constructed wetlands during the dry season and complement several other concurrent water management projects currently underway.

Additionally, as noted in the project description, it is understood that facility construction, including the removal of aggregate from the site, will be conducted with care to protect neighboring projects—like other projects included or underway in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

Naturally, as the project development process continues, further engagement and additional technical questions will be addressed through coordination with the District and through subsequent applications to Palm Beach County and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. These include assurances that the project compliments and does not delay or in any way negatively impact the EAA Reservoir Project. To that end, we also acknowledge that you have submitted and continue to undertake additional analyses to provide sufficient buffer zones to understand and control seepage to surrounding projects and have expressed your prior commitment to including a water quality treatment element in the project.

District staff will be prepared to work with you to further evaluate and develop this project to assure protection of our current investments. At the appropriate time, a Comprehensive Agreement would be necessary to outline roles, responsibilities, and expectations for design, construction, transfer, and operation of the proposal.

By way of this letter, the District concludes the first step in the unsolicited proposal process. While you pursue permits, the District will continue to work with you through the next steps in the project evaluation process which includes estimating an evaluation fee, formulating evaluation criteria, and fulfilling public engagement requirements.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Drew Bartlett
Executive Director

FDEP- Letter of No Apparent Concern

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
Environmental Protection

Southeast District
3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 7210-1
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
561-681-6600

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Alexis A. Lambert
Secretary

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

February 7, 2025

Phillips & Jordan
c/o Matt Eidson
30115 State Rd. 52, Suite 301
San Antonio, FL 33576
meidson@pandj.com

Re: Third Request for Additional Information (RAI)
Palm Beach County – Environmental Resource Permitting Program
Site Name: Southland's Water Storage
Site ID: 444988
DEP Application No.: 50-0444988-001-EC

Dear Mr. Eidson:

Thank you for the additional information submitted on January 11, 2025, for an Environmental Resource Permit. The additional information has been reviewed and while there are no apparent concerns for the overall application, the specific items in the attached document remain incomplete. Please provide the remaining information and refer to this RAI in your response.

To continue the processing of your application, the Department must receive a response within 90 days of this letter, unless a written request for additional time to provide the requested information is submitted and approved. It is the Department's desire to provide prompt turnaround times on permit applications, and a quicker response to this RAI shortens the timeframe for which a final decision on the application can be made. Pursuant to Chapter 62-330, F.A.C. and Section 120.60, F.S., failure of an applicant to provide a timely and complete response by the deadline listed above may result in denial of the application. To ensure the response will complete your application, the Department requests that a meeting be scheduled prior to submitting a response to discuss the draft submittal. Once you have a draft submittal, contact Danielle Sattelberger to schedule a meeting time and date. If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Sattelberger by telephone at (561) 681-6783 or by e-mail at .

Please submit your response to this RAI by email to SED_Permitting@dep.state.fl.us. If the submittal is very large, you may post it to a folder on this office's ftp site at: ftp://ftp.dep.state.fl.us/pub/incoming/Southeast-District/ERP/. After posting the submittal, send an e-mail to SED_Permitting@dep.state.fl.us, alerting us that it has been posted.

February 7, 2025

Sincerely,

Sirena Davila
District Director
Southeast District

v. 2.0

cc:
FDEP- Sirena Davila, Norva Blandin, Danielle Sattelberger, Geneva Alpert, David Maldonado, Jason Andreotta, John Coates, Borja Crane-Amores, Tim Rach, Cindy Mulkey, Hanieh Soleimanifar, Koren Taylor, Tracy Woods
Palm Beach County, Matt Mitchell, MMitchell@pbcgov.org
US Sugar Corporation, Kenneth McDuffie, kmcduffie@ussugar.com
Okeelanta Corporation, Armando Tabernilla, aat@fcsugar.com
Palm Beach Aggregates, LLC., Albert Moragues, albertm@palmbeachag.com
Brown and Caldwell, Ann Redmond, aredmond@brwncald.com
Brown and Caldwell, Craig Irwin, cirwin@brwncald.com

Attached: List of Requested Information

Zoning – Recommendation of Approval

PALM BEACH COUNTY
ZONING APPLICATION STAFF REPORT

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, MAY 22, 2025

A. Application Summary

I. General

Application Name:	Southland Water Resource, CA-2023-01791
Control Name:	Southland Water Resource (2023-00122)
Applicant:	Phillips and Jordan - Matt Edison
Owner:	Okeelanta Corporation US Sugar Corporation
Agent:	Carlton Fields, P.A. - Joseph Verdone
Project Manager:	Wendy N. Hernández, Deputy Zoning Director

Title/Request: Title: a Class A Conditional Use **Request:** to allow a Type 3B Excavation on 8,6 acres

Application Summary: The application proposes a Class A use for a Type 3B Excavatic Agricultural Production (AP) Zoning District. The proposed excavation operation will generate storage capacity and extracted materials consisting of sand and limestone that will be processe hauled via rail.

The proposed method of extraction will include blasting and dragline equipment to excavate a se lakes/cells covering approximately 6,072 acres. The excavation is proposed with a duration of 1 phases with each sub-phase/cell ranging from 148 acres to 592 acres to create and constru proposed regional water resource project. The excavation is proposed to proceed at an annual 276 acres a year over a period of 34 years commencing in 2025 with an estimated completion of The Applicant is also seeking a 10-year completion buffer to account for market conditions maximum completion date of 2069. The operation will excavate and process all aggregates on si hauling of material will be by rail system.

The subject site is currently used for cultivation of crops by the US Sugar Corporation and Oke Corporation and will shift to the water storage project as the excavation progresses. Access to t will be from US Highway 27 on Okeelanta Road, an existing access easement road in the north site.

II. Site Data

Acres:	8,611.52 acres
Location:	South side of an access easement that is approximately one mile so Okeelanta Road, approx.. 1.3 miles east of Miami Canal Road and 4.2 west of US-27
Parcel Control:	Multiple PCNs
Future Land Use:	Agricultural Production (AP)
Zoning District:	Agricultural Production (AP)
Tier:	Glades
Utility Service:	PBC Water Utilities
Overlay/Study:	N/A
Neighborhood Plan:	N/A
CCRT Area:	N/A
Comm. District:	6, Commissioner Sara Baxter

III. Staff Assessment & Recommendation

ASSESSMENT: Staff has evaluated the standards listed under Article 2.B and Article 4.B.10., and determined that the requests meet the standards of the ULDC subject to Conditions of Approval as indicated in Exhibit C.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the request, subject to the Conditions of Approval as indicated in Exhibit C.

PUBLIC COMMENT SUMMARY: At the time of publication, Staff had received no contacts from the public regarding this application.

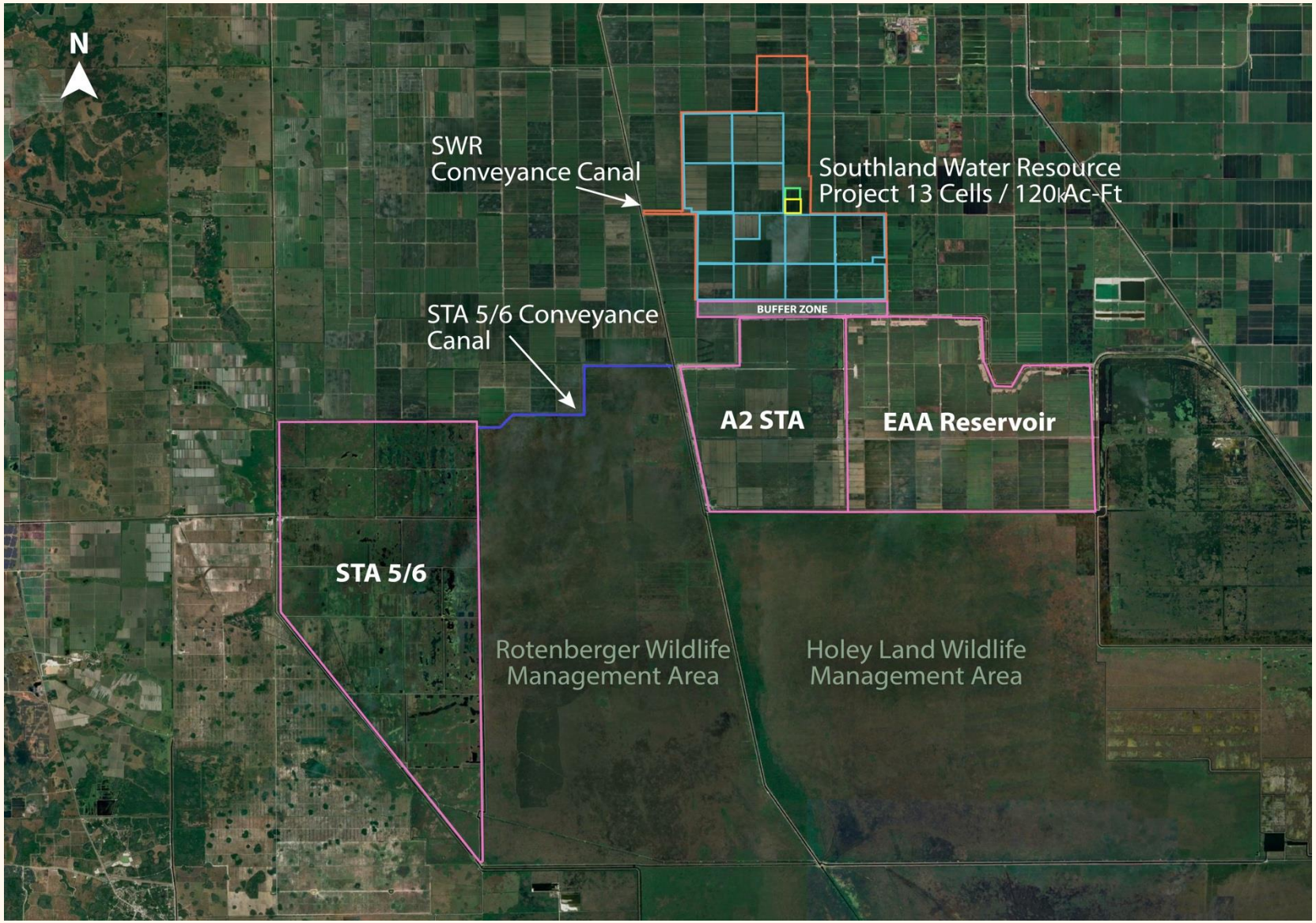
IV. Hearing History

ZONING COMMISSION: At the April 3, 2025, Zoning Commission Hearing, this item was on the Regular Agenda. The Agent and Staff made presentations. Ten cards were submitted for public comment. There were three people who spoke in support, Mayor Joe Lyles of South Bay, Mayor Steve Wilson of Belle Glade, and Michael Zeff, CEO Chamber of Commerce. There were seven people who submitted cards, including representatives Lisa Interlandi, Everglades Law Center, Gil Smart, Friends of the Everglades, Valentina Miele of Florida Oceanographic Society, and Captain Chris Wittman of Captains for clean water. The Board asked questions and deliberated. Commissioner Vinikoor made a motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioner Pavlik. The motion passed 5-3-0 with Commissioners Reicherter, Kammerer, and Kennedy dissenting.

BCC HEARING: *Scheduled May 22, 2025*

Project Location

Project Location



Proximity Map Related To EAA Reservoir

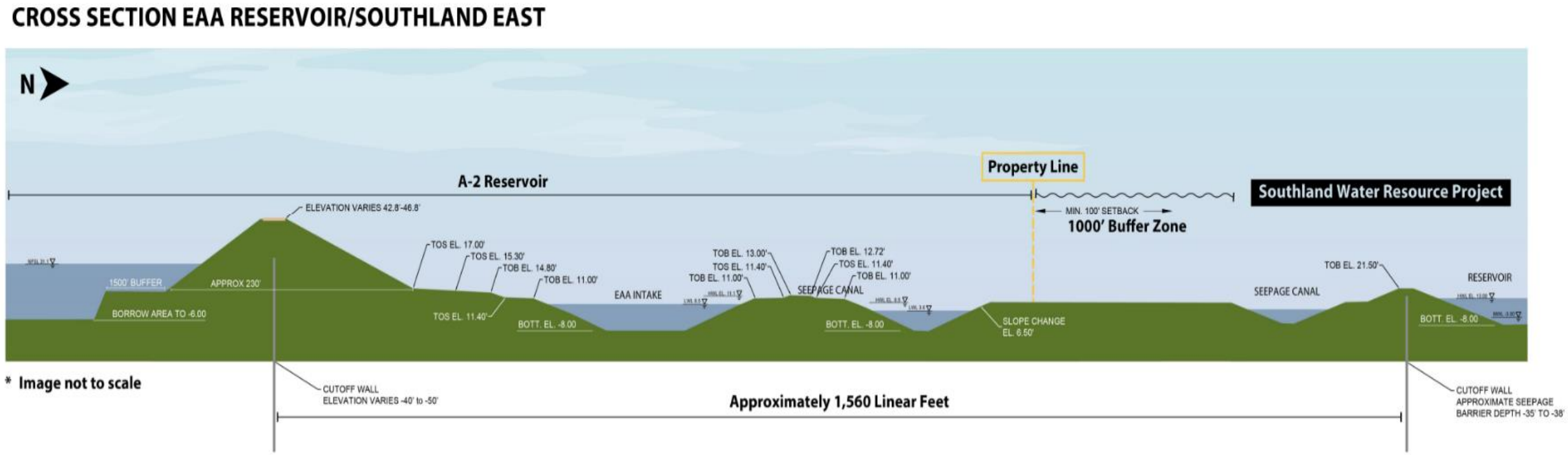
Project Engineering Timeline

FIRM	ACTIVITY GROUP	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	START DATE	END DATE
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Develop Preliminary Seepage Estimates	Jul-23	Oct-23
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Modeling Plan TM	Feb-24	Apr-24
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Data Gathering	Apr-24	Jul-24
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Model Build	May-24	Aug-24
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Model Short- and Long-term Verification	Aug-24	Dec-24
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Model Short- and Long-term Verification Report	Nov-24	Jan-25
Collective	3D GW Modeling	Options Analysis	Jan-25	Feb-25
Quest	Environmental Assessment	Environmental Assessment Report (Species/WOTUS)	Jun-23	Oct-23
Quest	Environmental Assessment	WOTUS Determination	Aug-23	Sep-23
Quest	Environmental Assessment	Burrowing Owl Survey	Mar-24	Jun-24
Quest	Environmental Assessment	Revised Environmental Assessment Report (Species/WOTUS)	Mar-24	Jun-24
Quest	Environmental Assessment	Wetland Determination Data Sheets (WDDS)	Oct-24	Nov-24
ACI	Cultural Resources	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRASS) Report	Jul-23	Oct-24
ACI	Cultural Resources	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey (CRASS) Report Revision to include stockpile area	Jul-23	Oct-24
Pickett	Survey	Boundary Survey/O&E Reports	Jul-23	Mar-24
Pickett	Survey	LiDAR Survey	Apr-24	Jun-24
Pickett	Survey	Culvert and Water Control Structure Survey	Mar-24	May-24
Pickett	Survey	Conservation Easement Preparation	Aug-24	Sep-24
MacVicar	Water Availbility	Water Availability Analysis	Feb-24	Apr-24
MacVicar	Water Availability	Water Availability Analysis Report	Apr-24	Jun-24

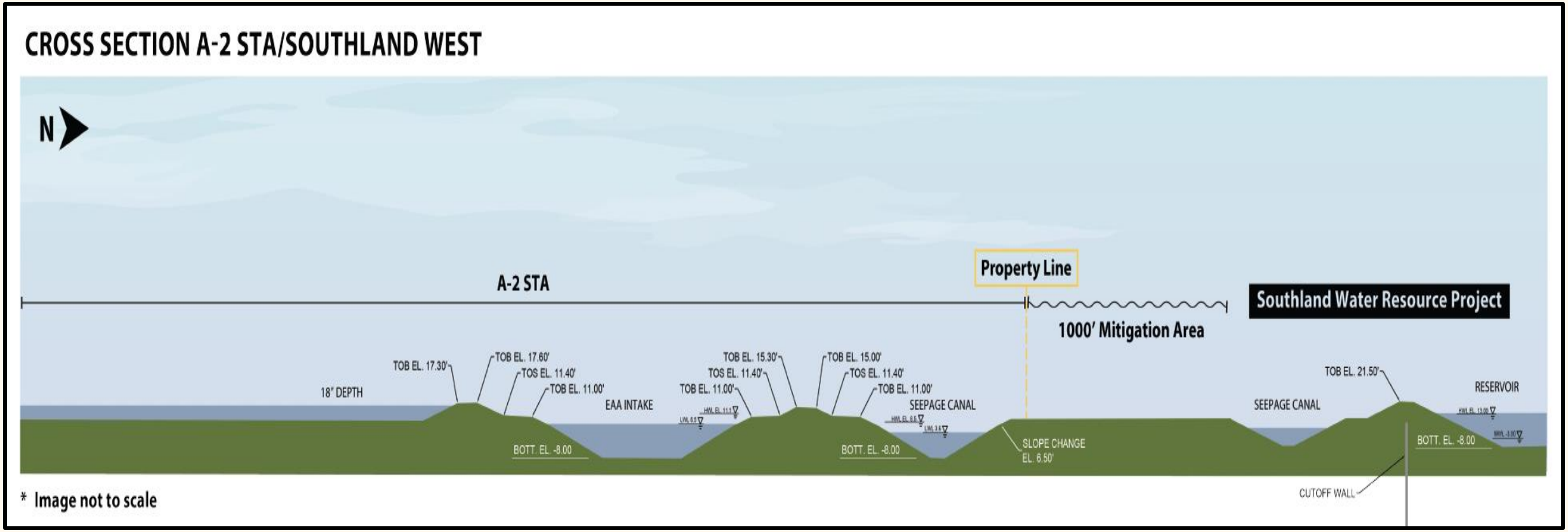
Project Engineering Timeline

FIRM	ACTIVITY GROUP	ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	START DATE	END DATE
BC	Project Management	Project Management	May-23	Ongoing
BC	ERP	Permit Support	May-23	Ongoing
BC	ERP	Phase 1 Site Assessment	Jul-23	Sep-24
BC	ERP	Mitigation Management Plan		
BC	ERP	ERP Application	Jun-23	Feb-24
BC	ERP	Respond to RAI No. 1	Mar-24	Sep-24
BC	ERP	Repond to RAI No. 2	Oct-24	Jan-25
BC	ERP	Respond to RAI No. 3	Feb-25	Mar-24
BC	Concept Design	Conceptual Water Resources Project Development	Jun-23	Jan-24
BC	Concept Design	Conceptual Facility Layout Development	Jun-23	Jan-24
BC	Concept Design	Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) Preliminary Analysis	May-25	Jan-25
BC	Concept Design	H&H Modeling Plan	Feb-25	Mar-24
BC	Concept Design	Concept design hydraulic features (canals and water control structures)	Mar-24	Sep-24
BC	Concept Design	Alternatives Development	Jun-23	Jul-24
BC	Concept Design	Develop Concept Design for Phase 1 (Cells 1, 2 and 3 plus Rail Yard/Processing Areas)	Jun-23	Jan-24
BC	Design	Develop Intermediate Design for Phase 1 (Cells 1, 2 and 3 plus Rail Yard/Processing Areas)	Mar-24	Sep-24
BC	Concept Design	Wind Wave Runup Analysis and Technical Memorandum	May-24	Mar-25
WIRX	Geotechnical	Geotechnical Site Investigations (perform muck probes/soil borings)	May-23	Aug-23
WIRX	Geotechnical	Geotechnical Data Report	Sep-23	Sep-23
WIRX	Geotechnical	Perform supplemental soil borings for rail spur	Jun-24	Oct-24
WIRX	Geotechnical	Water Testing	Jul-23	Sep-23
WIRX	ERP	Construction of three nested piezometers (groundwater monitoring)	Jul-24	Nov-24
WIRX	ERP	Continuous ground water level monitoring and monthly reporting	Nov-24	Present
WIRX	ERP	Develop surface and groundwater monitoring plan	Nov-24	Jan-25

Proximity Map – EAA Reservoir-4500lf

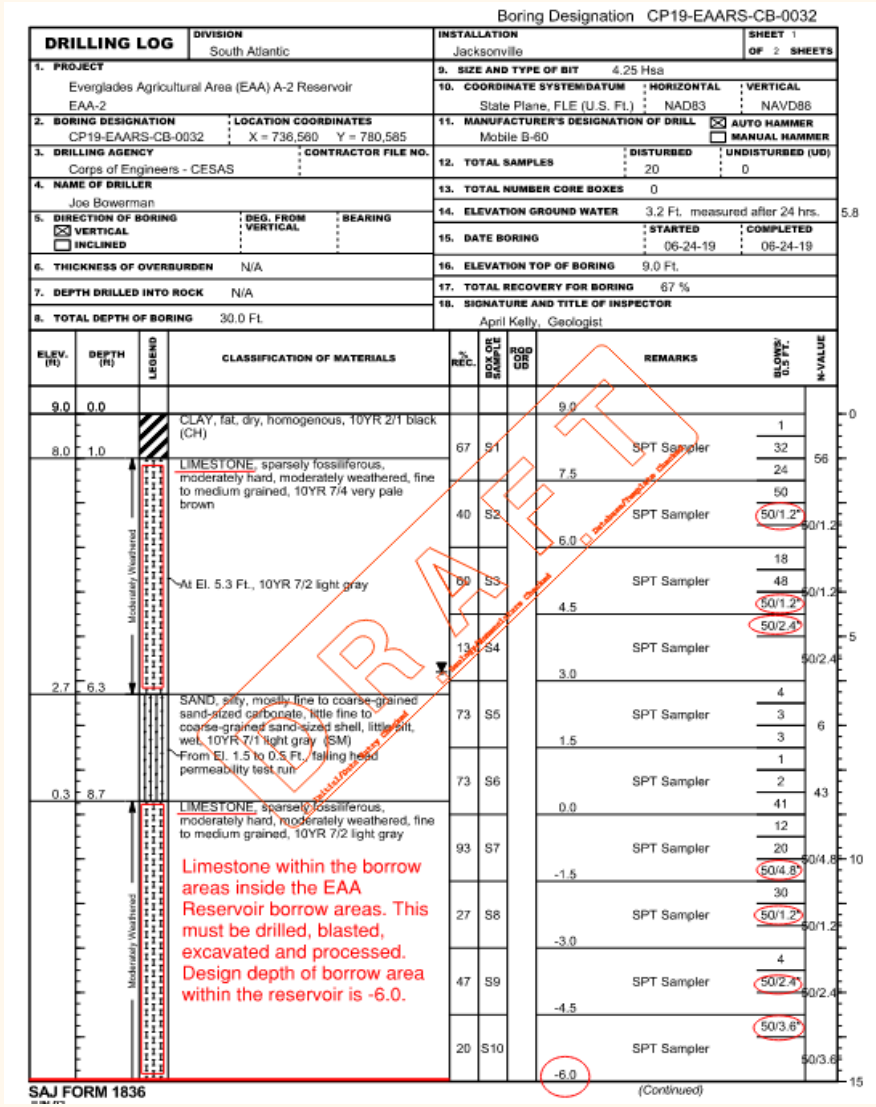


Project Comparison A-2 STA / Southland West



Construction – A Means and Methods Comparison

- Similar to the adjacent projects in this region the Southland Water Resource Project will require blasting and excavation to construct the storage cells.
- As shown in the test boring data form from the EAA Reservoir borrow area, Southland has nearly identical geological features and it also will require blasting and excavation.
- In the state of Florda all blasting is highly regulated by the state fire marshal with guidelines that must be adhered to at all times.
- Data collection for blasting that include seismic data, particulate monitoring, and air quality monitoring are just examples of the level of detail that must be reported to regulatory agencies on a regular basis to maintain compliance.
- Any construction blasting is required to be performed by a licensed, state registered, professional.



Boring Designation CP19-EAARS-CB-0032

DRILLING LOG

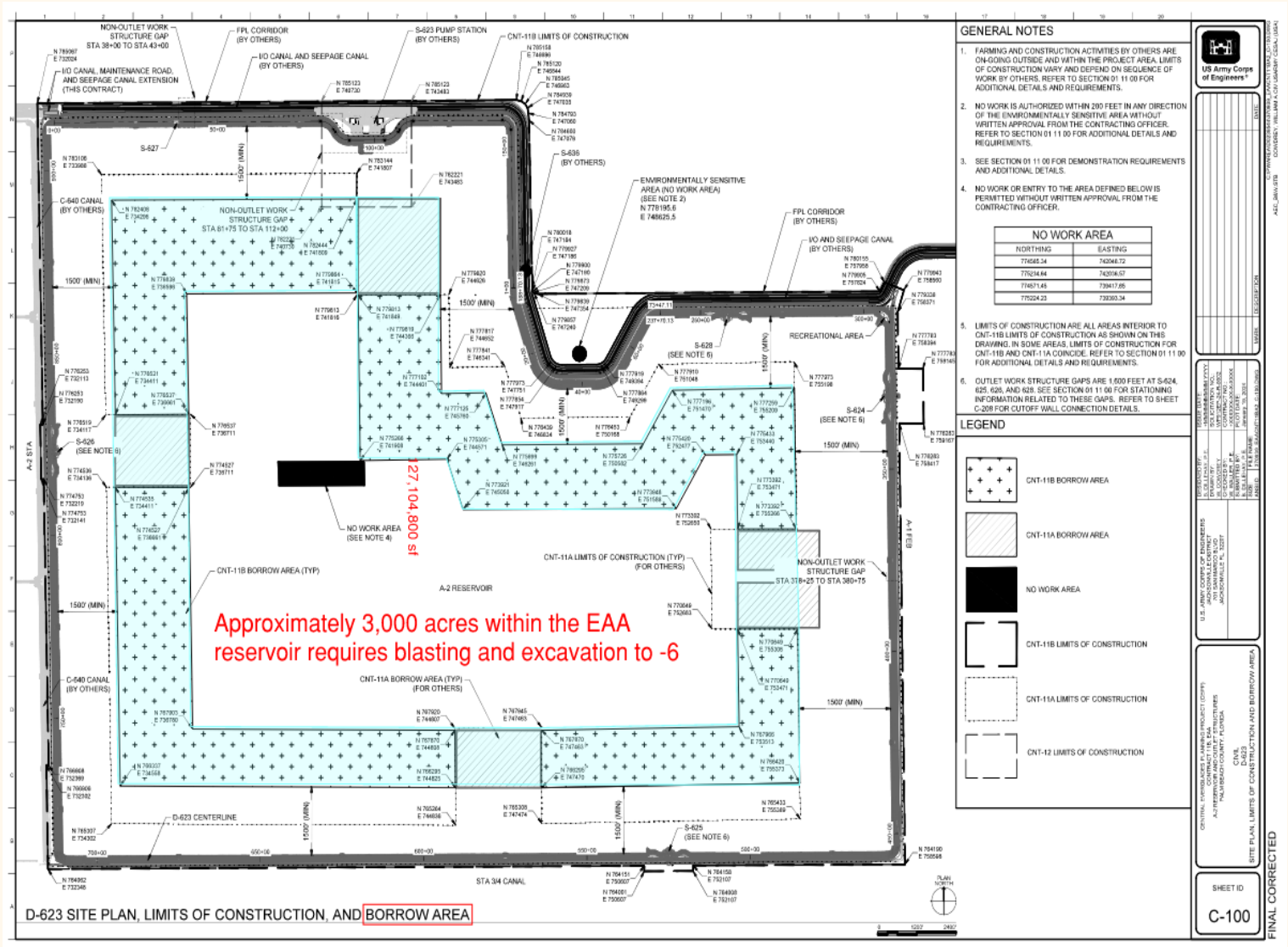
DIVISION	South Atlantic
INSTALLATION	Jacksonville
SHEET / OF SHEETS	1 / 2
1. PROJECT	Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) A-2 Reservoir EAA-2
2. BORING DESIGNATION	CP19-EAARS-CB-0032
LOCATION COORDINATES	X = 736,560 Y = 780,585
3. DRILLING AGENCY	Corps of Engineers - CESAS
CONTRACTOR FILE NO.	
4. NAME OF DRILLER	Joe Bowerman
5. DIRECTION OF BORING	☒ VERTICAL ☐ INCLINED
DEG. FROM VERTICAL / BEARING	
6. THICKNESS OF OVERBURDEN	N/A
7. DEPTH DRILLED INTO ROCK	N/A
8. TOTAL DEPTH OF BORING	30.0 Ft.
9. SIZE AND TYPE OF BIT	4.25 Hsa
10. COORDINATE SYSTEM/DATUM	State Plane, FLE (U.S. Ft.) / HORIZONTAL NAD83 / VERTICAL NAVD88
11. MANUFACTURER'S DESIGNATION OF DRILL	Mobile B-60 ☒ AUTO HAMMER ☐ MANUAL HAMMER
12. TOTAL SAMPLES	DISTURBED 20 / UNDISTURBED (UD) 0
13. TOTAL NUMBER CORE BOXES	0
14. ELEVATION GROUND WATER	3.2 Ft. measured after 24 hrs.
15. DATE BORING	STARTED 06-24-19 / COMPLETED 06-24-19
16. ELEVATION TOP OF BORING	9.0 Ft.
17. TOTAL RECOVERY FOR BORING	67 %
18. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF INSPECTOR	April Kelly, Geologist

ELEV. (ft)	DEPTH (ft)	CLASSIFICATION OF MATERIALS	% REC.	BOX OR SAMPLE NO.	REMARKS	BLOWS/0.5 FT.	N-VALUE
9.0	0.0				9.0		
8.0	1.0	CLAY, fat, dry, homogenous, 10YR 2/1 black (CH)	67	S1	SPT Sampler	1, 32, 24	56
		LIMESTONE, sparsely fossiliferous, moderately hard, moderately weathered, fine to medium grained, 10YR 7/4 very pale brown	40	S2	7.5 SPT Sampler	50, 50/1.2"	50/1.2
		At El. 5.3 Ft., 10YR 7/2 light gray	60	S3	6.0 SPT Sampler	18, 48, 50/1.2"	50/1.2
2.7	6.3		13	S4	4.5 SPT Sampler	50/2.4"	50/2.4
		SAND, silty, mostly fine to coarse-grained sand-sized carbonate, little fine to coarse-grained sand-sized shell, little silt, wet, 10YR 7/1 light gray (SM)	73	S5	3.0 SPT Sampler	4, 3, 3	6
		From El. 1.5 to 0.5 Ft., falling head permeability test run	73	S6	1.5 SPT Sampler	1, 2, 41	43
0.3	8.7				0.0		
		LIMESTONE, sparsely fossiliferous, moderately hard, moderately weathered, fine to medium grained, 10YR 7/2 light gray	93	S7	SPT Sampler	12, 20, 50/4.8"	50/4.8
		Limestone within the borrow areas inside the EAA Reservoir borrow areas. This must be drilled, blasted, excavated and processed. Design depth of borrow area within the reservoir is -6.0.	27	S8	-1.5 SPT Sampler	30, 50/1.2"	50/1.2
			47	S9	-3.0 SPT Sampler	4, 50/2.4"	50/2.4
			20	S10	-4.5 SPT Sampler	50/3.6"	50/3.6
					-6.0		

DRAFT

SAJ FORM 1836 (Continued)

Construction – Means and Methods Comparison Cont.

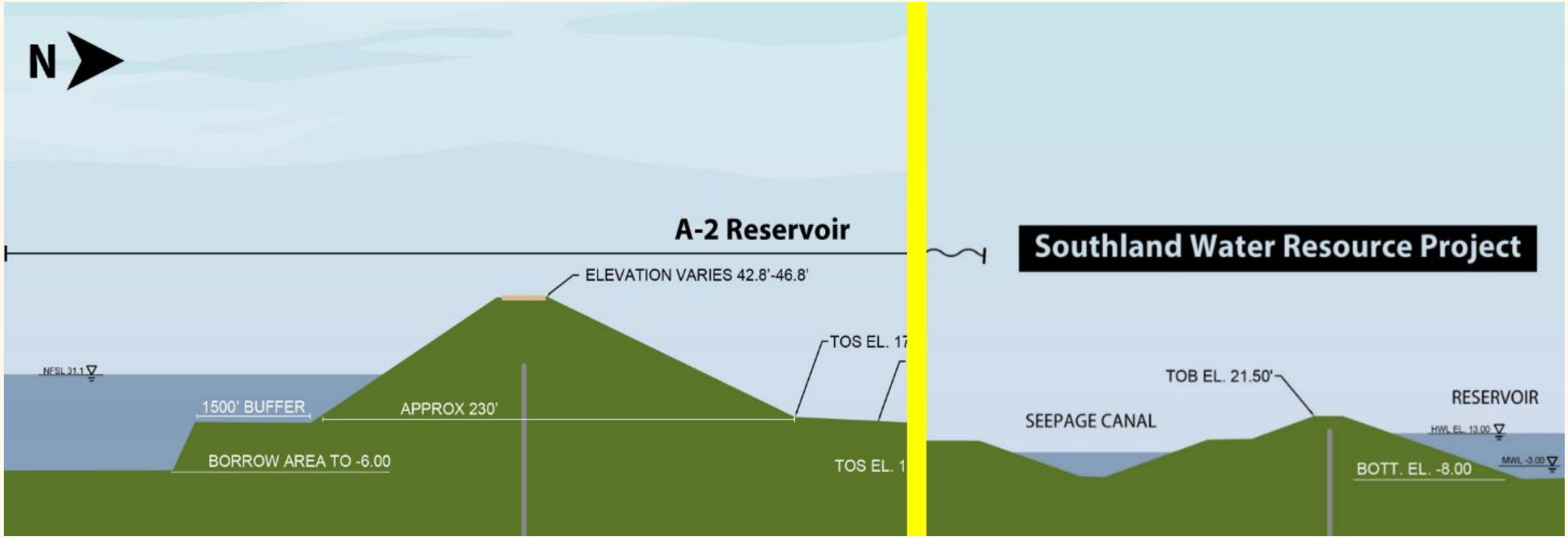


- USACE Plan Sheet C-100 for Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir, Limits of Construction and Borrow Area layout.
- Approximately 3,000 acres of blasting and excavation are going to be utilized, up to a -6 elevation, to generate the nearly 20,000,000 cubic yards of material necessary to construct the EAA Reservoir.
- Same methods used by P&J to construct the EAA intake canal.
- Blasting is currently taking place on the EAA foundation project on a regular basis.

Above and Below Ground Storage- A Comparison

High-Hazard

Low-Hazard

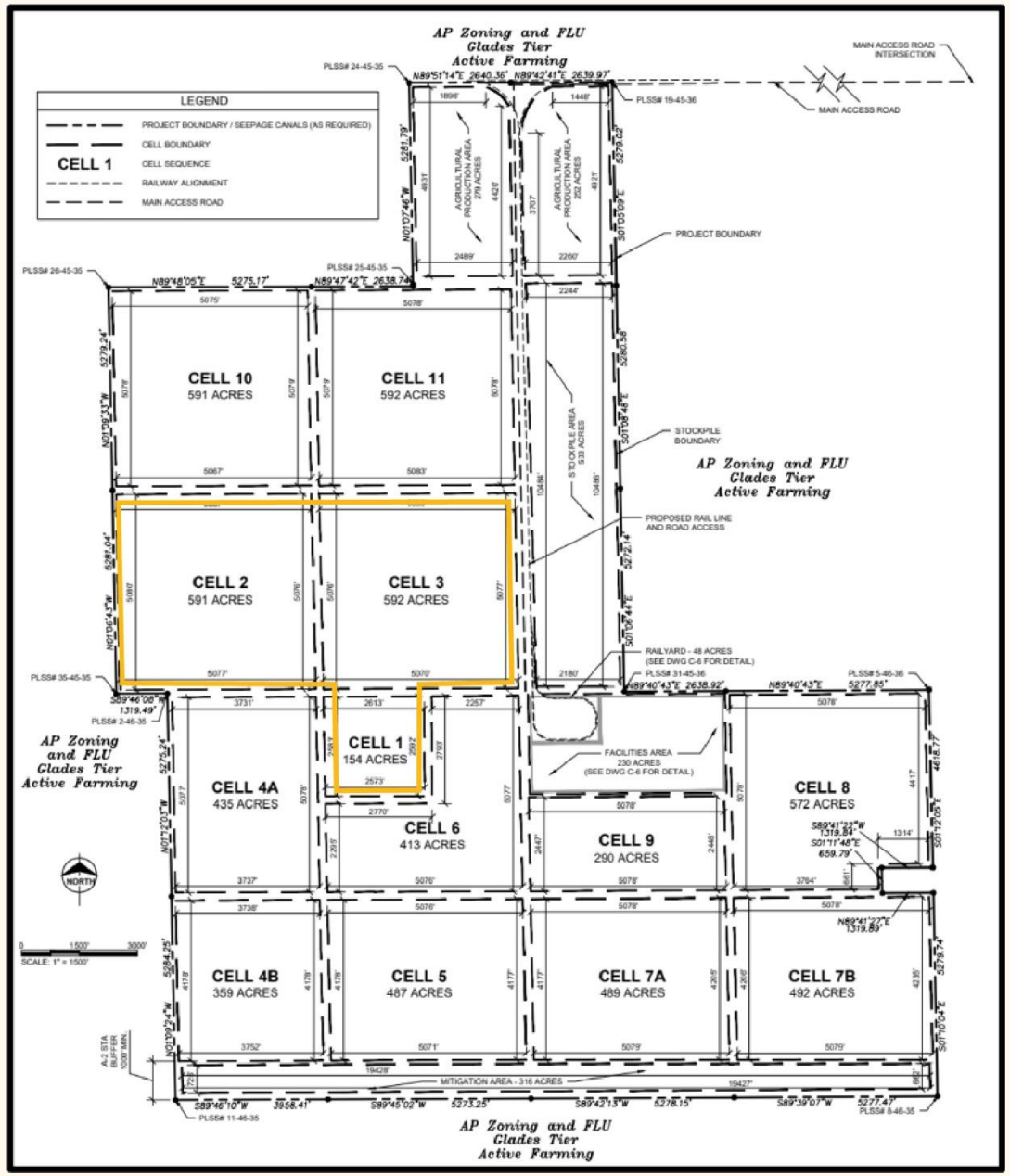


Water Quality and Monitoring Data

- Water quality monitoring began on this site in 2023 by 4 separate electronically monitored wells installed by the project team.
- These wells are critical to identify any potential presence of elevated chlorides within the subaqueous system.
- The data that was produced returned results that placed the chloride levels well below drinking water standards in the state of Florida. Current standards are <250mg/l.
- To begin construction of the project the team must install 1 well per 50 acres within the project boundary to provide continuous motoring capability and maintain compliance.
- No water that would be utilized for processing material will be stored in the reservoir. The processing facility is a closed system that is required, per FDEP, to maintain all stormwater on site.
- As proven during extensive modeling efforts the Southland project has no subaqueous hydraulic connection to the surrounding projects.

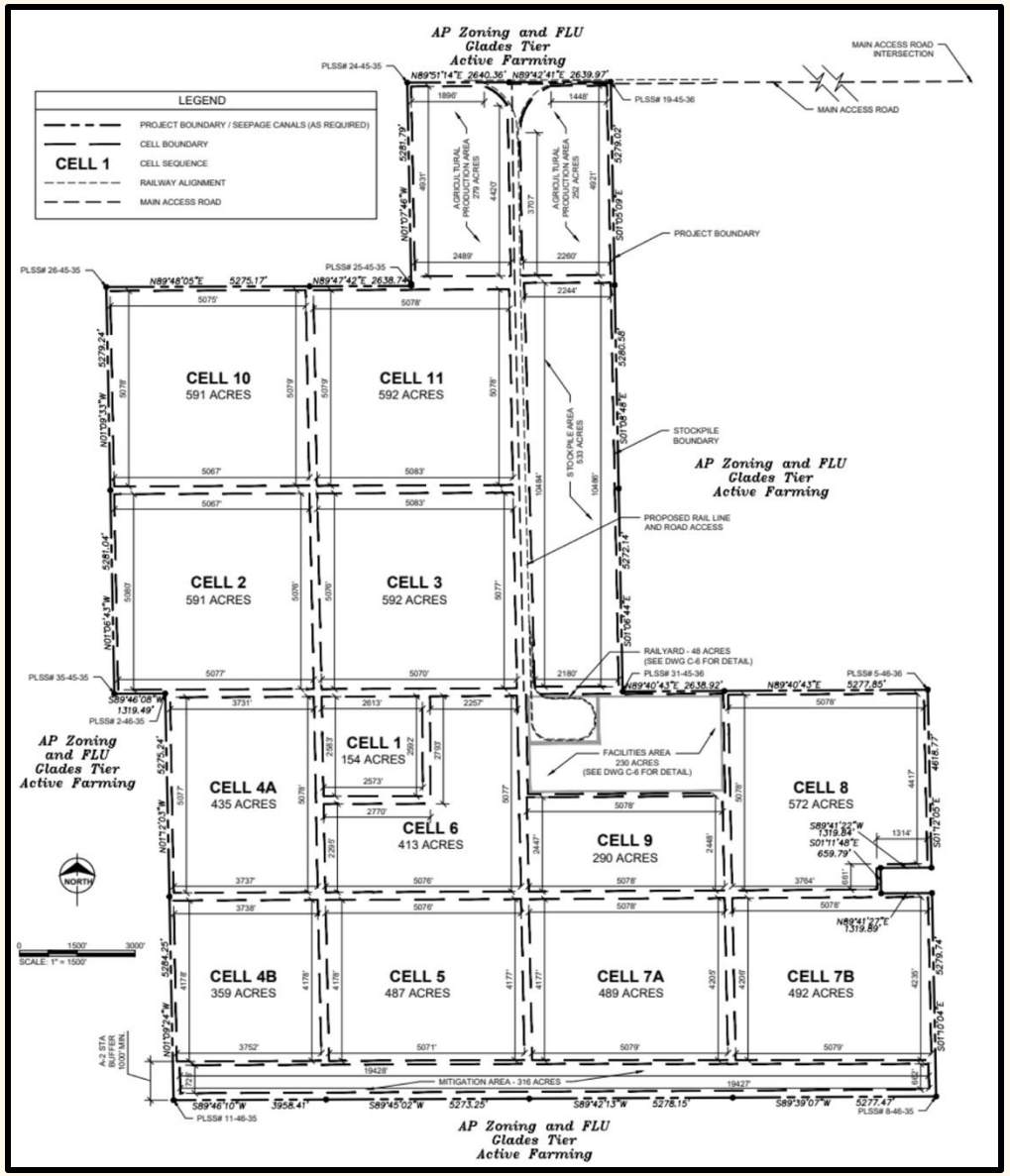
The Phased Approach

- Southland will be delivered in a phased approach, with cells 1, 2, and 3 completed in the first 5 years.
- Phased delivery allows for early beneficial use, unlike the EAA Reservoir, which must be fully constructed and tested prior to utilization.
- Southland Reservoir is a low-hazard, shallow, in-ground design with minimal above-ground impoundment proposed above the Ordinary Water Level.
- The Southland project is not requesting a depth waiver to excavate beyond -15 below the OWL.
- This design not only delivers early benefit but also allows for a low maintenance operation.



Permitting

- The water storage facility is the reclamation, per permit requirements, for this type 3B excavation issued by Palm Beach County.
- Per the FDEP ERP permit the water storage facilities are also required to be constructed as reclamation for the excavation.
- Both State and Local agencies permit conditions align.
- No subsequent phases can begin if the requirements are not met on previous phases.
- This permitting approach ensures that the storage facility must be constructed as designed to maintain state and local compliance and was requested on behalf of the permittee.



Next Steps

- Southland Water Resource Project team must continue to work to comply with all permit conditions associated with both Palm Beach County and Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

- Over the course of the coming years our team must continue to work with ACOE through the permitting process for features under the jurisdiction of ACOE.

- Southland engineering teams will continue to work with South Florida Water Management District to adhere to all construction standards and specifications through construction.

- Upon the start of construction activates our team is required to begin construction of our project mitigation area and begin monitoring the growth of habitat.

- As requested, and agreed upon with the Seminole tribe, our team is advancing an additional cultural resource survey.

Enhancing Everglades Restoration

- We need more storage - North, South, East and West of Lake Okeechobee
- Southland is 120,000 acre-feet of storage in the EAA, delivered in phases
- First Phase of 20,000 acre-feet of storage will be done in less than 5 years
- Future Phases every 3-5 years after first phase (cells 1-3)
- Stored water will support existing stormwater treatment areas, enhancing their performance, and preventing harmful dry-out events – this is an immediate priority
- Our commitment to evaluate treatment options as well for future phases within the footprint of the Southland project.

Enhancing Everglades Restoration

- Complements A-2 Stormwater Treatment Area, A-1 Flow Equalization Basin, STA 5/6, Miami Canal Expansion, other EAA Projects.

- Complements storage provided by the EAA Reservoir.

- Will help provide consistent water flow to be treated and move SOUTH to the Everglades and on to Florida Bay.

- In combination with the EAA Reservoir's 240,000 acre-feet of water storage, Southland's 120,000 acre-feet of storage will fulfill the original intent of Senate Bill 10 from 2017 and the UF Study, which called for 360,000 acre-feet of water storage "located in the EAA."

Next Major Steps

- FDEP Environmental Resource Permit (currently in final review and processing, all necessary technical documents have been provided, thoroughly reviewed, and deemed satisfactory)
- USACE Coordination and 408 Permit when needed
- Detailed final construction plan review and approval
- County off board submittals, Notice of Intent process, site plan, compliance with all conditions and provide annual monitoring report
- SFWMD Continue Process – Public Meeting Scheduled for May 29, 2025

Conclusion

- The Southland Project provides a crucial solution for expediting Everglades restoration without straining public resources, providing essential water storage for South Florida in a faster timeframe.

- Collaboration among state agencies, private initiatives, and nonprofit partners will be crucial for sustaining and enhancing the progress achieved over the past 30 years.

- We must work together to develop solutions to restore the health and sustainability of the Everglades and our estuaries, and the Lake Worth Lagoon.

Thank You!