

Stephen Collins

Real Estate

Stephen Collins joined the South Florida Water Management District in November 2016. He brings more than 25 years of practical experience and insights in South Florida's corporate real estate industry to the agency. Most recently, Collins served as CEO of The Wetlandsbank Group, a wetlands mitigation bank company, and prior to that as Asset Manager of Florida Power & Light Co.'s multibillion real estate portfolio.

Collins' work in the wetland mitigation industry has been recognized both nationally and internationally. He was a 2001 recipient of the Edison Electric Institute National Land Management Award for his work at FPL's Everglades Mitigation Bank. In 2010, The Wetlandsbank Group's Panther Island Mitigation Bank was designated as a Ramsar wetlands of international importance by the Ramsar Convention. In both instances, it was the first time a mitigation bank had been recognized.

Born in Schenectady, N.Y., Collins is a 30-year resident of Palm Beach County. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Collins is responsible for the District's extensive property interests, which include more than 1.4 million acres of land with a combined value of more than \$2.5 billion. He and his staff handle all real estate acquisitions, exchanges, sales, leasing and asset management for the agency.