



The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is a regional governmental agency that oversees the water resources in 16 counties – from Orlando to the Florida Keys.

With a population of 8.7 million, this region covers 17,930 square miles (31 percent of the entire state) and includes vast areas of agricultural lands, water conservation areas and urban development.

OUR MISSION

To **SAFEGUARD** and **RESTORE** South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, **PROTECT** our communities from flooding, and **MEET** the region's water needs while **CONNECTING** with the public and stakeholders

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C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area



Gov. Ron DeSantis identified the C-44 Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) as a priority Everglades restoration project to help improve regional water quality. Located on approximately 12,000 acres on the north side of the St. Lucie Canal in western Martin County, the C-44 Reservoir and STA project will capture Lake Okeechobee releases and local basin runoff and provide water quality treatment to reduce harmful nutrients. This project is a major component of the Indian River Lagoon-South (IRL-S) Restoration Project to improve the health of the Indian River Lagoon ecosystem, which includes the St. Lucie Estuary. The project is a partnership between SFWMD and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Benefits of the C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area

- Reduces the harmful nutrients reaching the St. Lucie Estuary. The treatment area alone can treat 46 billion gallons of water each year, even before the reservoir is completed.
- Stores 50,600 acre-feet, or 16 billion gallons at an average depth of about 15 feet.
- Captures 65 percent of the average annual C-44 basin stormwater runoff.

Status of project

- The intake canal, pump station and discharge structure are complete.
- Five of the six STA cells are complete and flow-ready and are being hydrated with water from the C44 Canal.
- The reservoir is planned to be completed in 2021.