



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

GET THE FACTS

July 7, 2016

Recent claims have been made that the State of Florida and the South Florida Water Management District have not contributed their fair share to Everglades restoration through the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

Florida and the District have outspent the federal government on CERP projects that will improve water storage and quality throughout South Florida. Congress needs to match Florida's commitment to Everglades restoration to fully realize the benefits of these projects.

Here are the Facts:

- CERP is a framework for restoring, protecting and preserving the water resources of central and southern Florida. The plan is a 50-50 cost-sharing agreement between Florida and the federal government.
- Under CERP, the District's role as local sponsor is, among other things, to acquire land needed for project construction and operation and to perform design and construction to meet its 50 percent share of the total project. The federal government is responsible for project design and construction.
- To date, the federal government has spent approximately \$1.1 billion on design and construction of CERP projects. In comparison, Florida has outspent the federal government by investing approximately \$2 billion in land acquisition, project design and construction.
- As federal funding for CERP projects has lagged, the District has repeatedly stepped in to expedite construction of key projects, including components of: the C-44 and C-43 reservoirs, the C-111 Spreader Canal and Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands.
- Despite the imbalance in spending, the federal government only recognizes about half of the substantial investment made so far by Florida

and the District. Inexplicably, the federal government only credits spending on CERP projects that have a project agreement in place.

- Congress could expedite completion of congressionally authorized CERP projects by appropriating enough money to erase the difference between state and federal funding.

#

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to protect South Florida's water resources by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems.

STAY CONNECTED

Follow us on  **twitter**

 **Forward to a Friend**

SFWMD Newsroom

South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by waternews@sfwmd.gov in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today