

September 11, 2014



just the FACTs

This fact sheet is provided as a reference to encourage a greater understanding of the various issues related to managing water in South Florida.



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SFWMD Tentative FY2015 Budget

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board approved tentative millage rates and a tentative budget of \$720.4 million for Fiscal Year 2015 (Oct. 1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015) at a public hearing held September 11. The agency's budget is developed annually through an open and public process, including review and approval by the Governor and the Joint Legislative Budget Commission. A second public hearing will be held September 23 at 5:15 p.m. to adopt the final FY2015 millage rates and budget.

Tentative Budget Highlights

With nearly 80 percent of the tentative \$720.4 million budget dedicated to restoration and operations and maintenance, highlights include:

- **\$71.4 million** to implement the next phases of the Governor's Restoration Strategies for improving the quality of water flowing into America's Everglades
 - \$13.4 million to increase capacity at STA-1 West.
 - \$21.4 million to complete construction on the A-1 Flow Equalization Basin.
 - \$1.4 million to complete construction on the L-8 Flow Equalization Basin.
 - \$11.4 million to continue implementation of the Science Plan, which will help improve treatment performance of the Stormwater Treatment Areas.
 - \$13.0 million to construct additional conveyance features.
 - \$10.3 million for conceptual planning and site prep of the Mecca Shallow Impoundment and design and construction of the Loxahatchee River's Lainhart and Masten Conveyance Improvements.
 - \$500,000 for Restoration Strategies source control activities.
- **\$67.2 million** for continued construction of the C-44 Reservoir / Stormwater Treatment Area project.
- **\$20.6 million** for C-111 South Dade project cost-sharing construction of the north detention area with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- **\$16.0 million** for Picayune Strand Restoration manatee mitigation construction, acquisition and operational testing/monitoring of the Merritt and Faka Union pump stations.
- **\$17.7 million** for Kissimmee River Restoration and Headwaters revitalization.
- **\$52.4 million** for continued refurbishment of the primary network of canals, levees, structures and pump stations.
- **\$23.9 million** toward the District's Dispersed Water Management program.
- **\$12.0 million** to implement water quality treatment and storage projects in the Caloosahatchee watershed.

Tentative Millage Rates & Revenue Sources

- For the fourth year in a row, SFWMD millage rates have been reduced.
- The rolled-back combined tentative millage rates represent \$38.42 per \$100,000 of taxable value in 15 of the District's 16 counties (*the Okeechobee Basin*). For Collier County and mainland Monroe County (*the Big Cypress Basin*), the rolled-back combined tentative rate represents \$30.97 per \$100,000 of taxable value.
- In addition to ad valorem taxes, other revenue sources include state appropriations, federal and local sources, balances, fees, investment earnings and agricultural privilege taxes.