

July 2013



## 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.

### East Coast Protective Levee Refurbishments *Construction start anticipated for late 2013 on Palm Beach County section of major flood protection levee*

*Levees are critical flood control and water supply features in the regional water management system, separating surface water in canals, regional wetlands and water storage areas from adjacent urban and agricultural development. The South Florida Water Management District has actively inspected and maintained these major earthen levees since their construction by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the 1950s and 1960s.*

*In recent years, the District has invested more than \$20 million in improvements to various sections of the East Coast Protective Levee, which stretches more than 100 miles from Homestead to Lake Okeechobee. Work is anticipated to begin in late 2013 on five structures located in the Palm Beach County portion of the major flood protection levee.*

#### L-40 Canal Levee Improvements

- The L-40 Canal section of the East Coast Protective Levee is in Palm Beach County and is the easternmost boundary of the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge/Water Conservation Area 1.
- Five existing structures have been identified for replacement, repair or removal as part of this levee refurbishment project – four culverts and one pump.
- The structure replacements and repairs will be in compliance with current (post-Hurricane Katrina) USACE levee standards. The improvements will be included in the overall evaluation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency levee certification for the Palm Beach County portion of the East Coast Protective Levee.

#### Local Construction Traffic

- Three access routes to the project sites will be used: *(see map next page)*
  - Rainbow Road/140<sup>th</sup> Avenue South via 50<sup>th</sup> Street South/Homeland Boulevard
  - Lee Road *(entrance to Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge)*
  - L-36 ½ Levee Road *(Lake Worth Drainage District road)*
- **Residents and businesses may observe a temporary increase in area construction traffic into and out of the access roads.**

#### For More Information

- Additional questions or concerns may be directed to Laura Corry at (561) 682-6012 or [lcorry@sfwmd.gov](mailto:lcorry@sfwmd.gov)



[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)  
South Florida Water Management District  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406  
561-686-8800 or 1-800-432-2045 in Florida  
[www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov)

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 24680  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

# East Coast Protective Levee Refurbishments

## Replace, Repair or Remove Five Water Control Structures - 0

