



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Three Local Partner Agreements to Benefit Big Cypress Basin

SFWMD invests more than \$1.1 million in projects to expand alternative water supplies and improve stormwater management

Naples, FL – The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board recently approved three cooperative agreements with Collier County and the cities of Naples and Marco Island to help fund alternative water supply and stormwater management projects over the next year. The Big Cypress Basin Board previously reviewed the agreements and had recommended them for approval.

“With these agreements, the District is continuing a long and productive history of working with our partner governments to manage and protect the water resources of the Big Cypress Basin,” said SFWMD Governing Board member and Big Cypress Basin Board Chair Charles Dauray. “This particular set of agreements will improve water quality within the Basin and further diversify the area’s water supply.”

The agreements dedicate more than \$1.1 million in local tax dollars from the Big Cypress Basin’s Fiscal Year 2010 budget for projects that will provide long-term environmental and public benefits:

- \$488,000 to Collier County for two alternative water supply projects. The first project involves construction of a booster pump station to increase efficiency and flexibility in managing treated wastewater produced as irrigation quality water for residents and businesses. The other project is the installation of rubberized liner at a pond near the North County Water Reclamation Facility to increase storage of irrigation quality water.
- \$460,000 to the City of Marco Island for Phase III of expansion of the city’s Reclaimed Water Production Facility. The project will increase the plant’s production capacity from 3.5 million gallons per day (MGD) to 5 MGD to accommodate expansion of the island’s central sewer system as a result of the ongoing Septic Tank Replacement Program.
- \$200,000 to the City of Naples for an exploratory Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well. The city is evaluating the feasibility of storing raw surface water

from the Golden Gate Canal in ASR wells as a way to protect potable water supplies while reducing freshwater flows from the canal into the Gordon River.

This funding builds on previous investments of more than \$1 million in these projects, enabling construction to move forward. In November, the District approved a similar set of five agreements, totaling more than \$3 million, for vital stormwater management projects and water quality monitoring efforts.

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About the South Florida Water Management District – [Celebrating 60 Years \(1949-2009\)](#)

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.