



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

October 11, 2013

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Big Cypress Basin Flood Control, Water Supply Projects Move Forward *Efforts also help to improve water quality and restore watersheds*

Naples, FL – The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board recently approved the investment of \$3.3 million for five projects located in the Big Cypress Basin that will enhance flood protection, improve water quality and expand alternative water supply. The Big Cypress Basin Board previously reviewed and recommended the projects for approval.

“The District is an ardent supporter of local communities in their efforts to improve flood protection and manage and protect vital water resources for residents,” said Rick Barber, Big Cypress Basin Board chairman. “This latest investment will help this suite of projects move forward to achieve lasting benefits for communities in the Big Cypress Basin.”

The funded projects and their locations include:

- **North Golden Gate Estates Flow-Way Restoration (Collier County)** – The project aims to restore remnant sloughs in the Winchester Head, Horsepen Strand and other wetlands impacted by roads, canals and residential developments. Restoration of these features will help convey surface water to key areas, ease the demand on the basin’s canal system, reduce flows to Naples Bay and provide aquifer recharge for the public water supply.
- **Livingston Road Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Well Phase II (Collier County)** – Continued support of this project will help advance the long-term goal of enhancing alternative water supplies in the region. This ASR well will help conserve water by providing an expected 1 million gallons a day of reclaimed water. This reduces the demand on the potable water supply.
- **Swallow Avenue Drainage Improvements (Marco Island)** – The project will help alleviate severe flooding impacts to the area while also improving water quality. Work will include installation of reinforced concrete pipes and drainage

structures along Swallow Avenue to collect runoff.

- **City of Naples Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well #3 (Naples)** - Support for this project will help the city continue construction of an ASR well field at the Riverside Circle location. The project includes four ASR wells, three monitoring wells and related evaluation work.
- **Reclaimed Water System Distribution Expansion (Naples)** - In another effort to enhance alternative water supply, the city will continue construction of its reclaimed water distribution system, which provides alternative water supply for irrigation instead of utilizing potable water. The work includes installation of approximately 17,000 linear feet of 12-inch and 8-inch reclaimed water main pipes.
- **28th Street Culvert Replacement (North Golden Gate Estates)** - This project will increase capacity to move stormwater under the bridge, which is being rebuilt by Collier County.

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About the South Florida Water Management District

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.