

Restoration Strategies Program Update

February 2018

The South Florida Water Management District's \$880 million Restoration Strategies Program includes the design and construction of a suite of regional water storage, treatment and conveyance improvement projects that will further improve water quality in America's Everglades. The program also includes a robust Science Plan consisting of research activities focused on investigating the critical factors that influence phosphorus (P) reduction and better understanding the sustainability of P removal performance at low P concentrations. The strategies also feature implementation of additional sub-regional source controls – where pollution is reduced at the source – in areas where P levels in stormwater runoff have been historically higher. Through January 2018, total program expenditures are approximately \$281 million and all projects are scheduled to be complete by December 2025.

Eastern Flowpath

L-8 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB)

Construction was completed June 21, 2017; Operations ongoing

Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West (STA-1W) Expansion #1

Construction is 71 percent complete; Completion expected December 2018

Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West (STA-1W) Expansion #2

A land exchange agreement to acquire 1,327 acres from USFWS was conditionally approved by the Governing Board in November 2017; Design is expected to start in 2018 once USFWS completes the exchange

G-341 Related Conveyance Improvements

Bolles East Canal Segment 3 (~3.2 miles) construction is 35 percent complete and expected to be complete by February 2019; Design of Segment 4 is ongoing and construction is expected to start by February 2019; Discussions with owners of the remaining Bolles East Canal bridges have been productive and have resulted in preliminary agreements regarding their replacement

Central Flowpath

A-1 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB)

Operational Testing and Monitoring Phase (OTMP) is ongoing and will be complete by July 2018

Western Flowpath

Design activities to begin by October 2018

Additional Components

Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) Science Plan

Nine studies are ongoing; Preliminary planning for the 2nd Five Year Work Plan (FY2019-2023) is ongoing;

Preliminary results to date are as follows:

- STA soil amendments could potentially reduce P, however costs are high and impacts to downstream systems are uncertain
- STA canals do not appear to significantly affect inflow or outflow P concentrations
- Periphyton-based STA performance appears resilient despite higher flow pulses and extended periods of high flow
- increases in P were detected in STA outflow regions, however the source of increase continues to be studied
- deficiencies and biases were determined for existing P sampling methods; other validation activities will continue

Sub-Regional Source Controls

A canal cleaning demonstration project identified particulate P as being lower after canal cleaning, however more information is necessary to understand long-term benefits; A water quality data and historical documentation summary was completed in April 2017; The development of sub-regional source control concepts began and coordination with stakeholders was initiated

Mecca Impoundment

Currently being evaluated as part of CERP's Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project

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Consent Order¹ Milestones
(with deadlines or completion dates ranging from March 2017 through February 2019)

Project: Activity	Deadline	Date Completed	Days +/- ²
Eastern Flowpath			
L-8 FEB: Complete Construction	12/31/2016	6/21/2017	-172
STA-1W Expansion #1: Construction Status Report	3/1/2017	2/21/2017	+8
STA-1W Expansion #1: Construction Status Report	3/1/2018		
STA-1W Expansion #1: Complete Construction	12/31/2018		
STA-1W Expansion #2: Complete Land Acquisition	3/31/2018		
STA-1W Expansion #2: Initiate Design	10/1/2018		
L-8 Divide Structure: Complete Construction	9/30/2018	7/7/2016	+815
S-375 Expansion: Complete Construction	12/31/2018	4/3/2017	+637
Central Flowpath			
A-1 FEB: Operational Monitoring and Testing Period Complete	7/29/2018		
Western Flowpath			
C-139 FEB: Initiate Design	10/31/2018		

1: FDEP Consent Order 12-1148 (associated with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. FL0778451-001-FL7A/RA) and FDEP Consent Order 12-1149 (associated with Everglades Forever Act Permit No. 0311207)

2: + = days ahead; - = days behind

Photo of the Month



STA-1W Expansion #1 Cell 8 outflow structure G734 (looking north) – December 2017

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