



Curtain Wall as Part of Flood Protection Strategy in South Dade

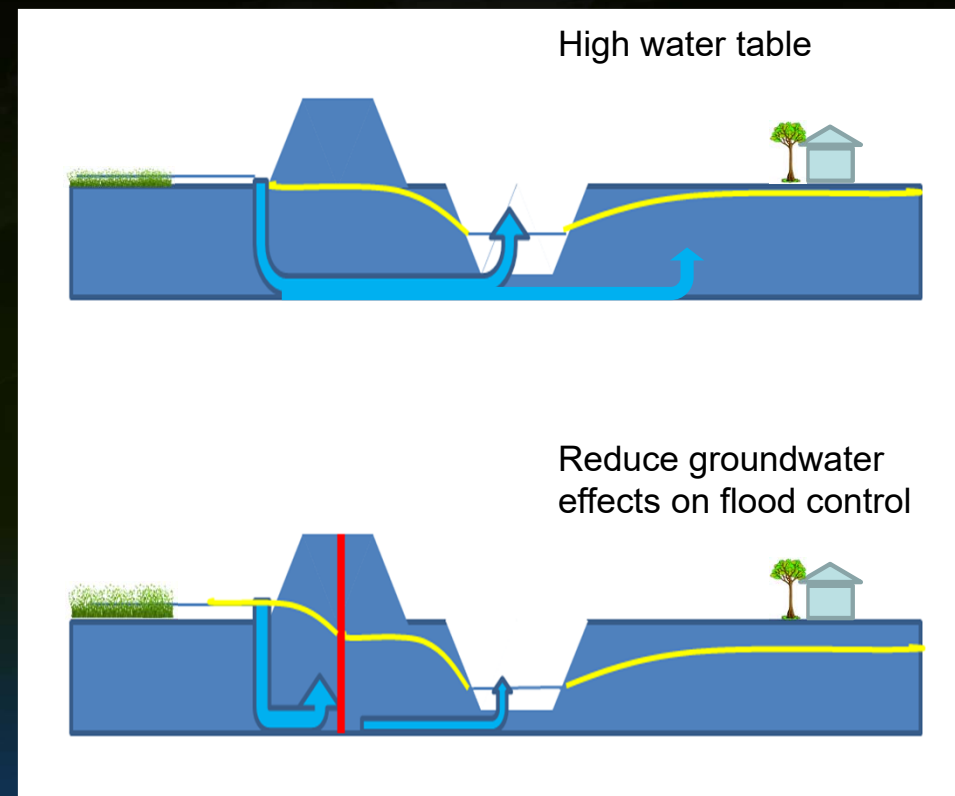
**South Florida Water Management District
Governing Board Meeting
November 8, 2018**

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Bureau Chief
Hydrology and Hydraulics

11/08/18

Characteristics of Curtain Walls

- In South Dade the goal is to improve flood control in areas impacted by elevated water tables.
- The use of a less permeable material, placed in the flow path to help manage groundwater.



Characteristics of Curtain walls

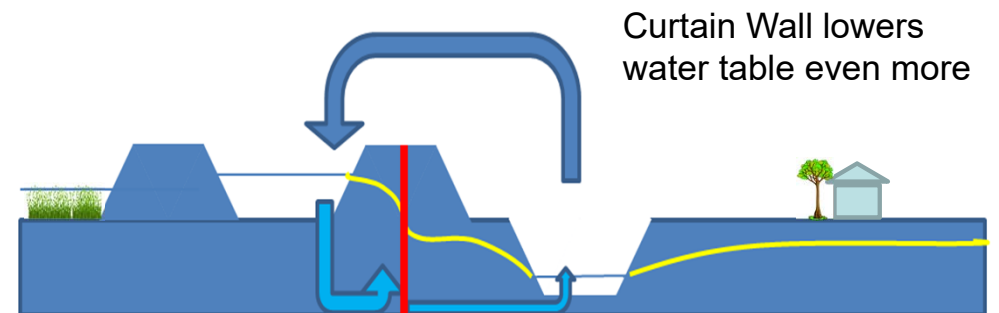
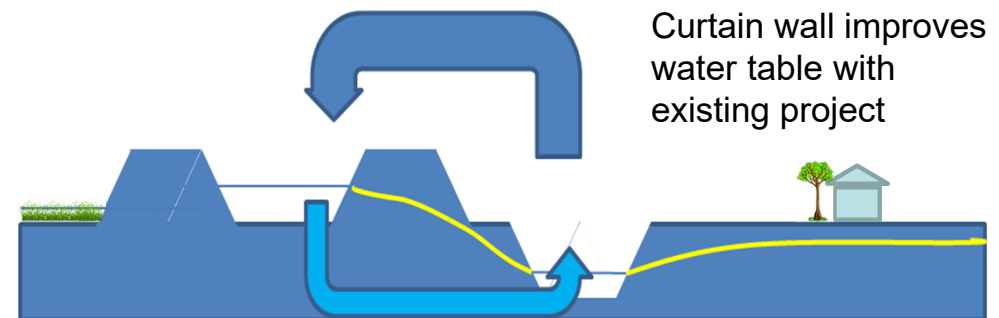
- Passive groundwater management solution that is not operated (switched on and off)
- Non-selective in function in that it blocks flows in both directions including potentially recharge to water supply sources
- Effective solution to provide flood protection, in conjunction with pumping and by extension operational costs
- Little to no maintenance cost post construction

Need for Curtain Walls

- Functions in combination with operations and other features
- Increasing need for this option to preserve flood protection as restoration progresses
- Long history of analysis and some recent experience of functionality with the rock miners 5-mile segment
- Of interest to all parties in the region, private and public, local, state and federal



Photos from Bill Baker's Presentation on the MDPLA Seepage Project



Slide 4

MB6 may water to put tip of arrow below canal surface
Mills, Brenda, 10/2/2018

Curtain Wall Concept is not New

Dates back to the 1990's

Evaluated as
part of the 2015-
2016 SFWMD's
South Dade
Study

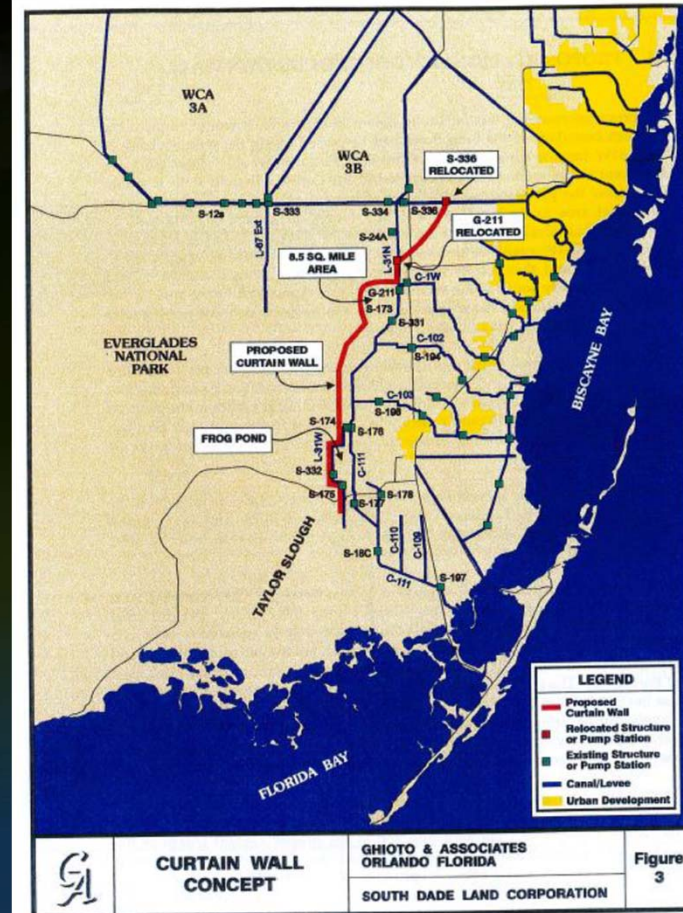
sfwmd.gov

GENERAL
FEASIBILITY AND COST EVALUATION ANALYSIS
FOR
THE CURTAIN WALL CONCEPT
IN SOUTH DADE COUNTY

May 26, 1994

Prepared for
SOUTH DADE LAND CORPORATION

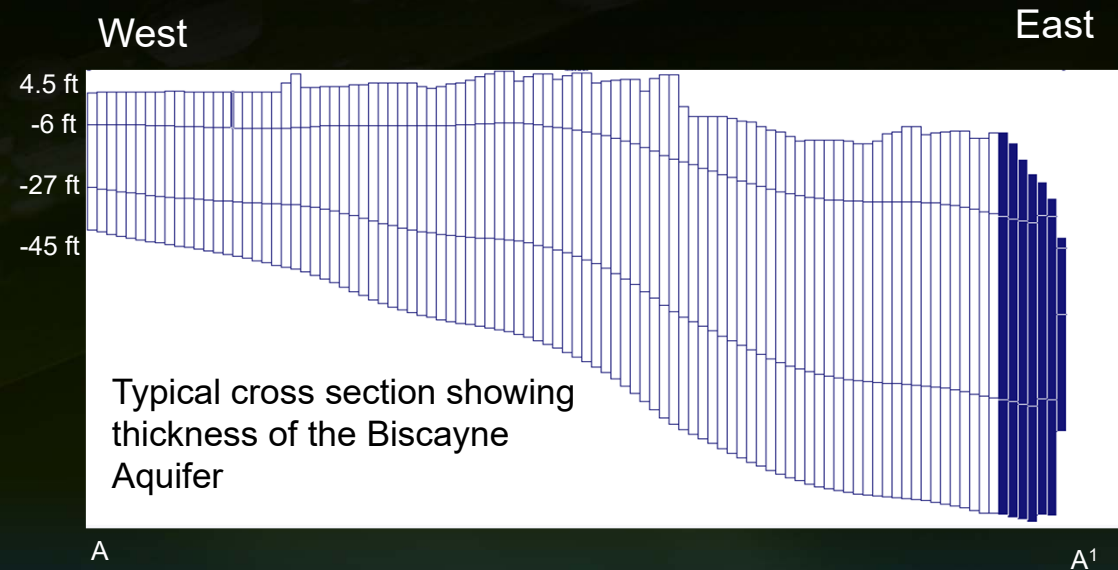
by
GHIOTO & ASSOCIATES
 Water Resources and Civil Engineering
 Orlando Florida



Opportunity to Study and Construct a Flood Protection Solution

- Multiple requests from stakeholders, legislators and other interested parties to implement a comprehensive flood protection strategy for South Dade
- Request to consider a flood control focused study
- Protect property, mitigate flooding concerns of South Dade farmers with a view to sustain broad support for restoration initiatives in the region

Scope and Project Conceptualization

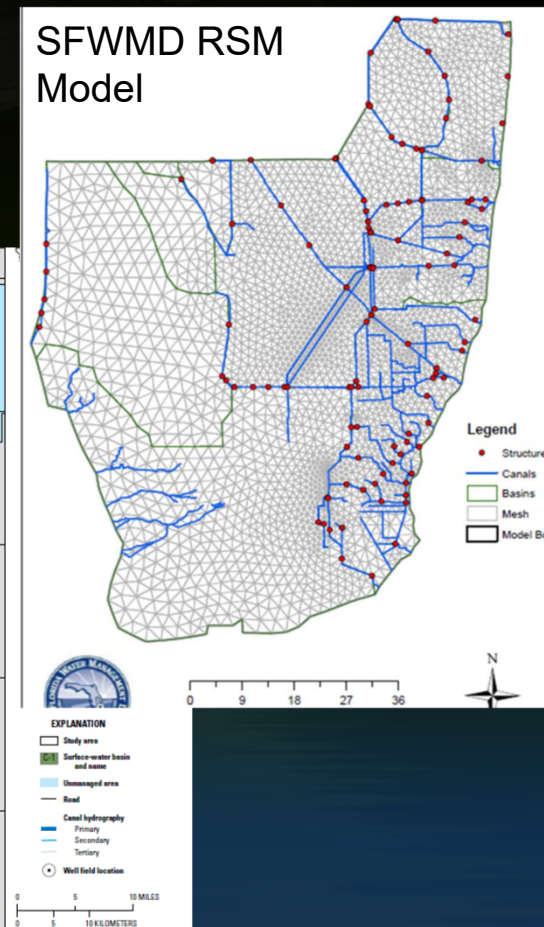
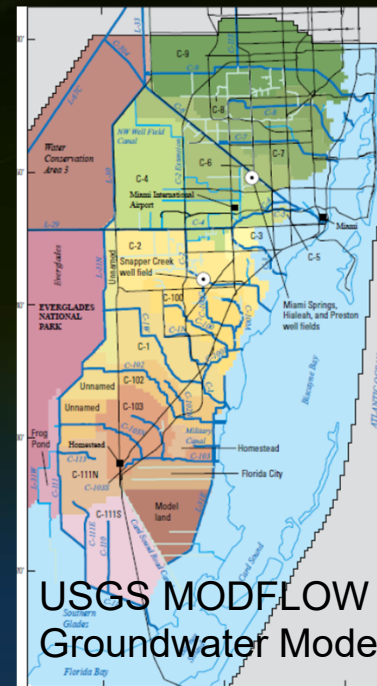


(Not to scale)

Assessment Methodology

Companion models used for evaluation:

- SFWMD's Regional Simulation Model Glades-LECSA for curtain wall alignment, regional impacts, operations, surface water and shallow groundwater effects
- USGS MODFLOW model for curtain wall depth, water supply at wells and other groundwater related effects
- Several Curtain Wall alignments simulated with different operations of the South Dade system representing current and future conditions

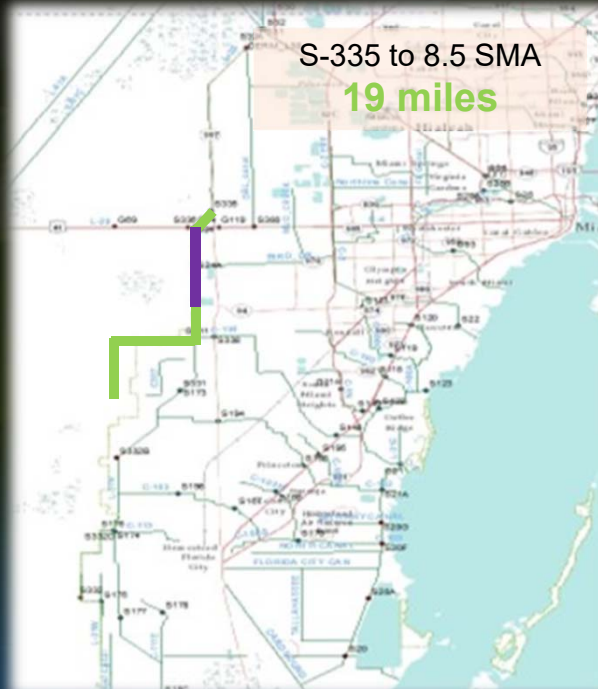
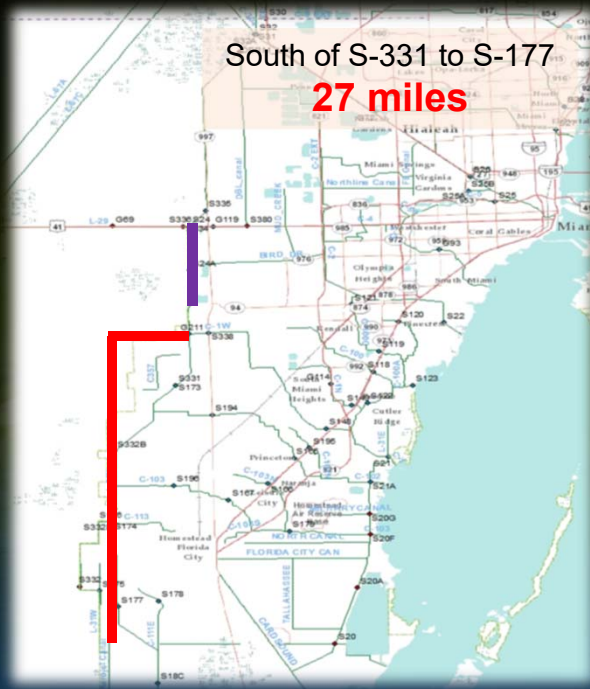


Curtain Wall Configurations

South: including portion of 8.5 SMA

North: Stops after 8.5 SMA

Full: Full extent



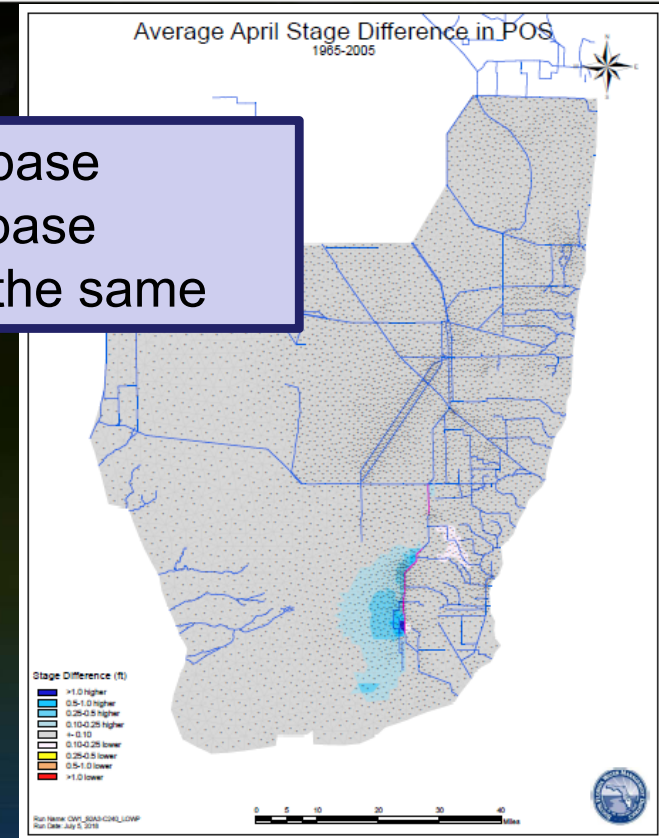
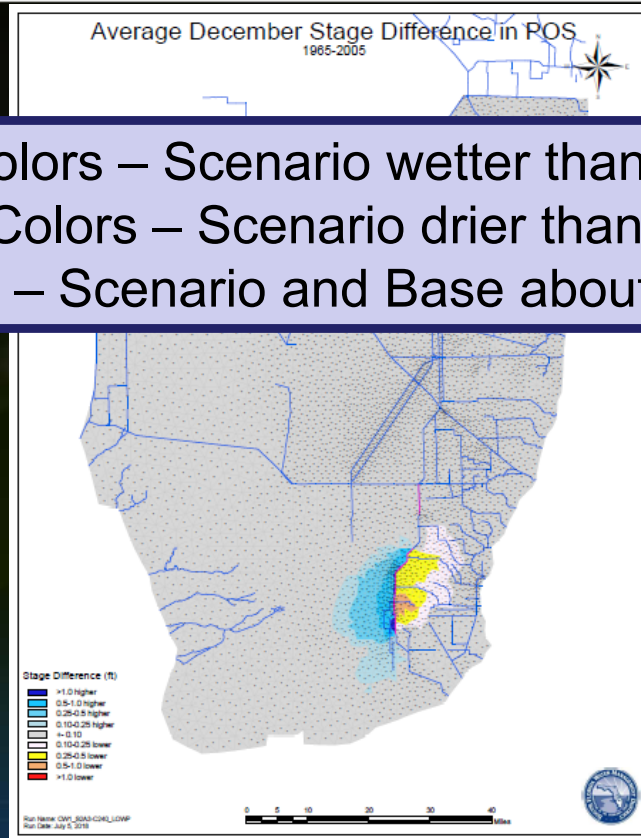
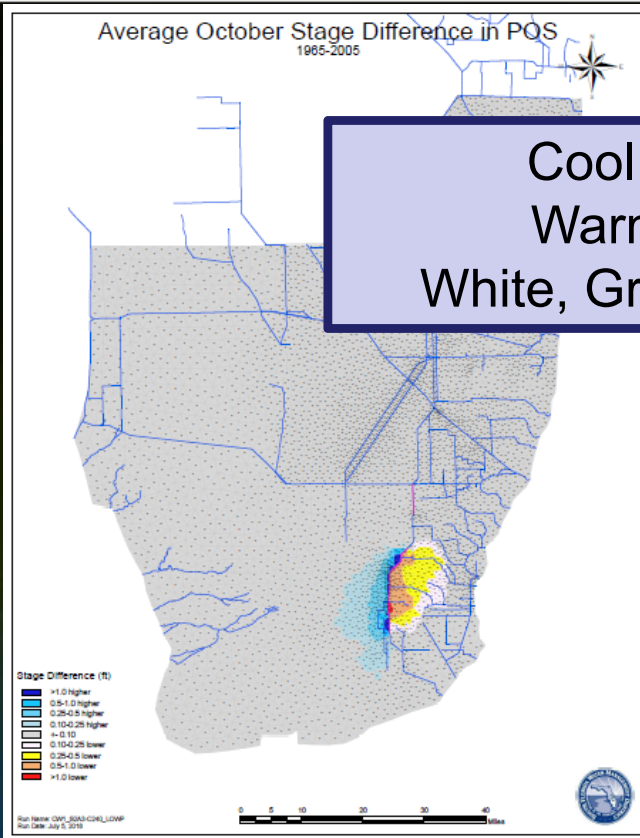
Metrics Evaluated

Evaluated typical suite of performance metrics:

- Seasonal water table reduction in developed areas
- Seasonal and annual depths and overland flow improvements
- Water supply risk
- Far-field effects
 - Flows to Taylor Slough (eastern Florida Bay)
 - Flows to Biscayne Bay

Key to Difference Maps

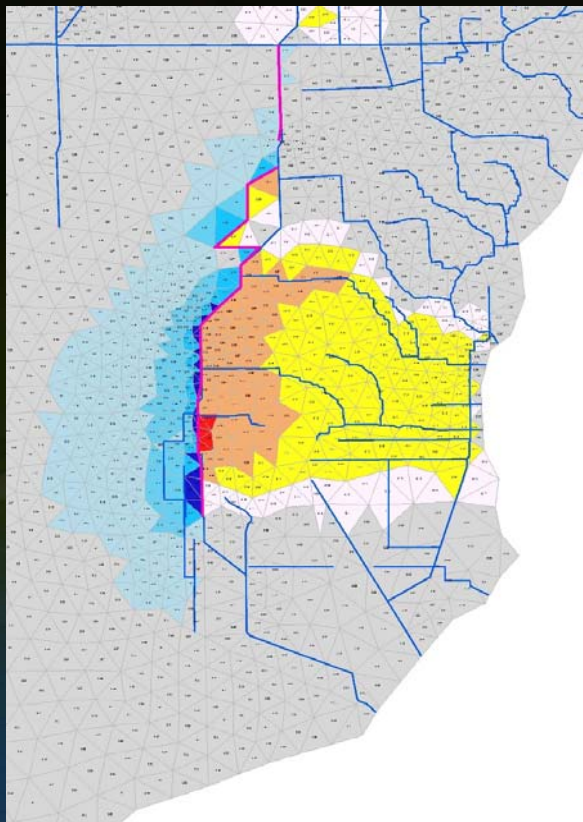
Cool Colors – Scenario wetter than base
Warm Colors – Scenario drier than base
White, Gray – Scenario and Base about the same



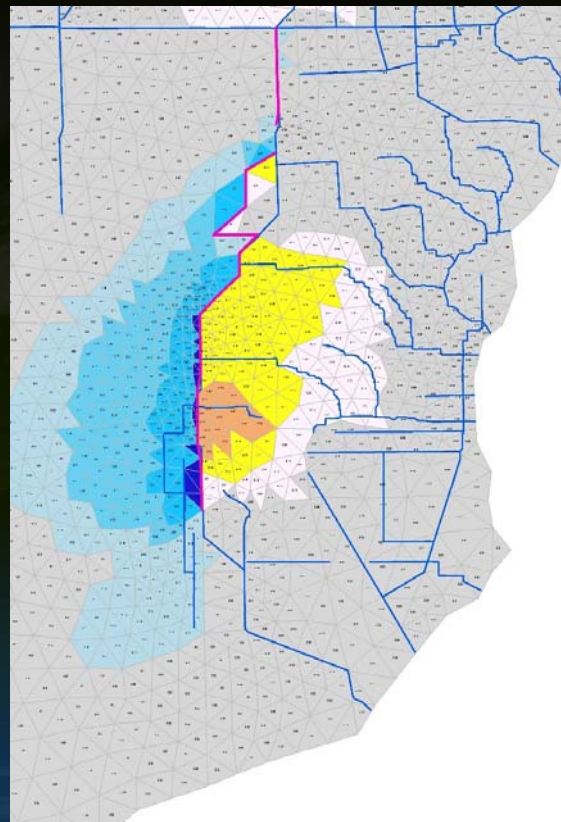
South Wall Scenario

Difference maps – with and without curtain wall

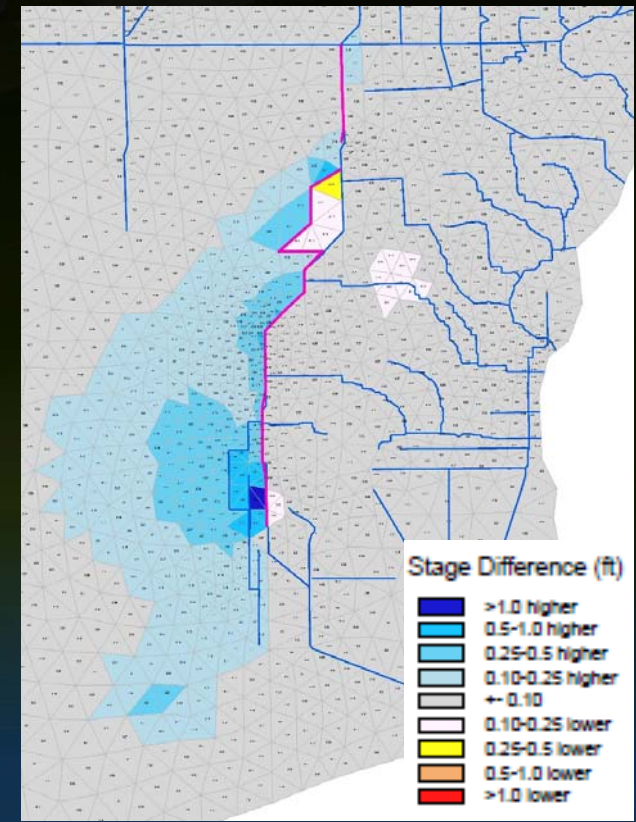
Avg OCTOBER Stage Difference
1965-2005



Avg DECEMBER Stage Difference
1965-2005



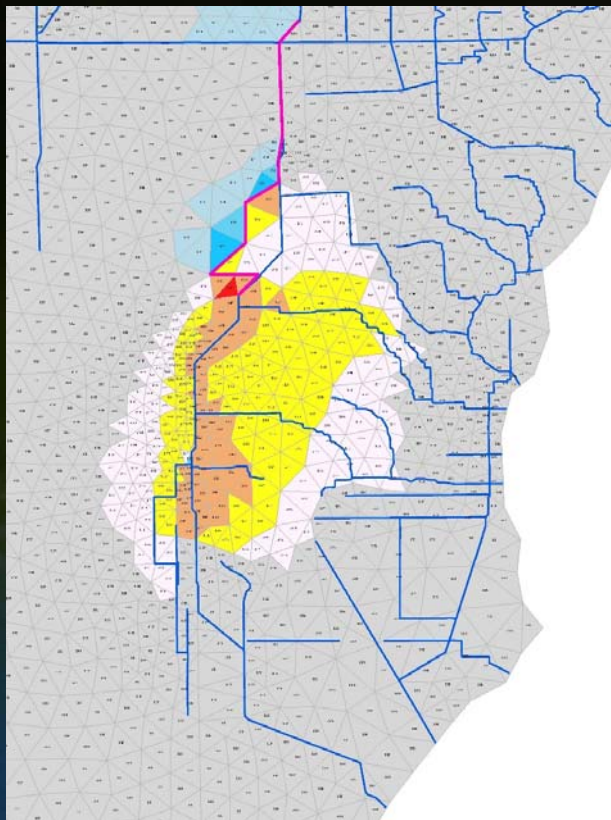
Avg APRIL Stage Difference
1965-2005



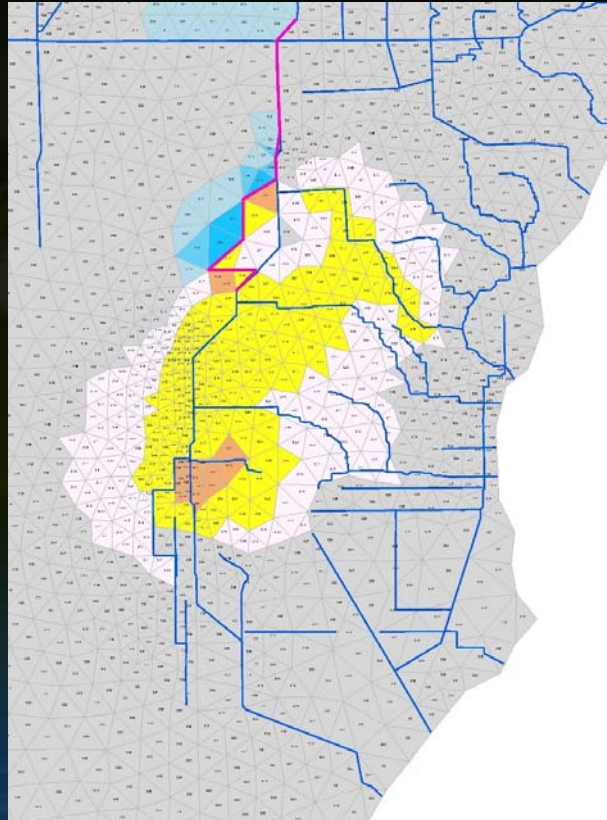
North Wall Scenario

Difference maps – with and without curtain wall

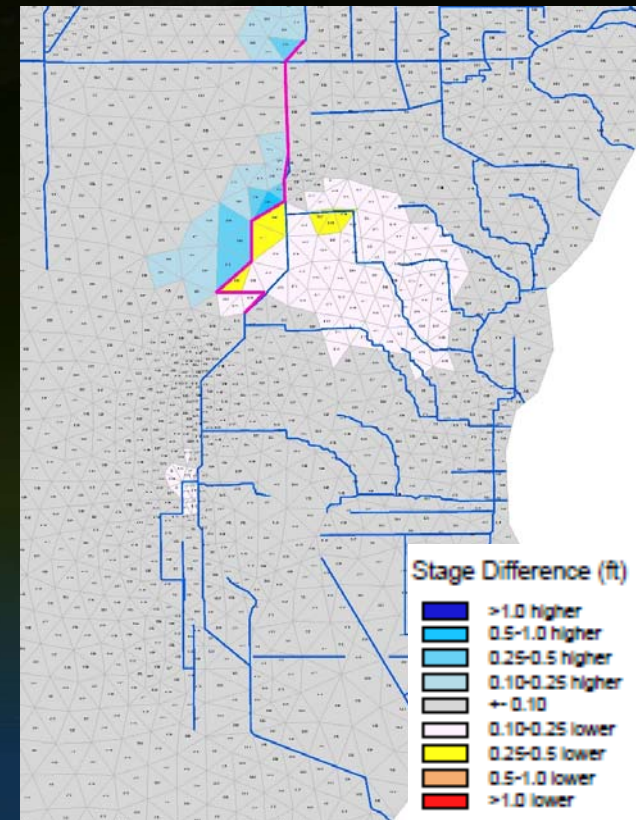
Avg OCTOBER Stage Difference
1965-2005



Avg DECEMBER Stage Difference
1965-2005



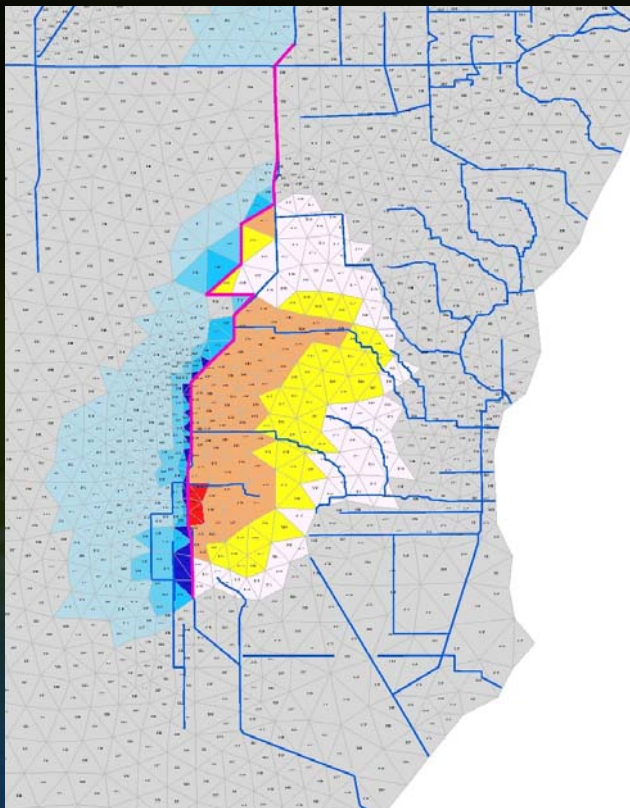
Avg APRIL Stage Difference
1965-2005



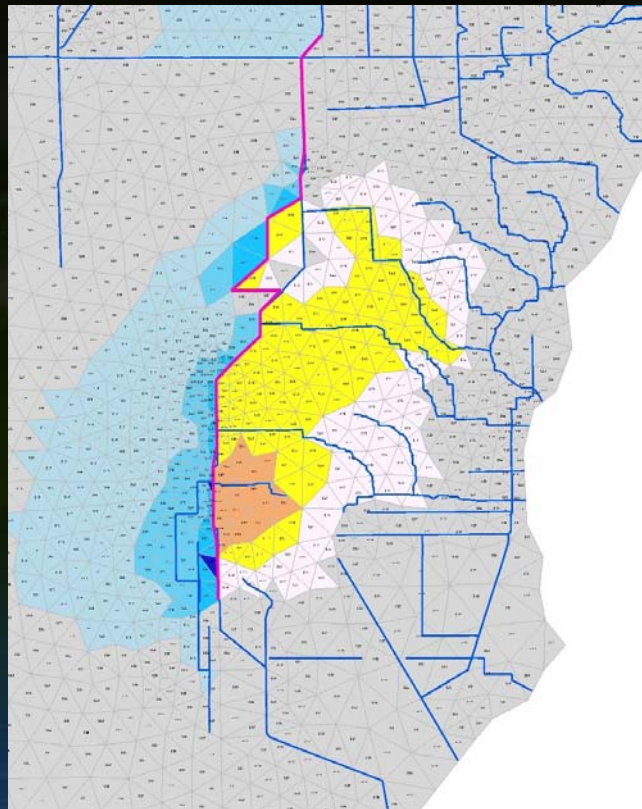
Full Wall scenario

Difference maps – with and without curtain wall

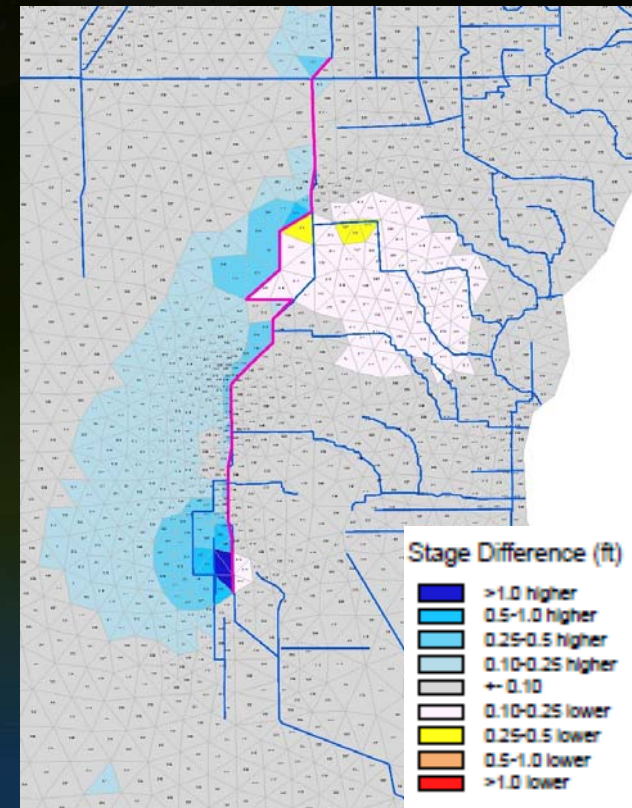
Avg OCTOBER Stage Difference
1965-2005



Avg DECEMBER Stage Difference
1965-2005



Avg APRIL Stage Difference
1965-2005



Summary of Average Annual Simulated Overland Flow (k ac-ft)

	No Wall	South Wall	North Wall	Full Wall
Shark River Slough	833	890	873	884
Wet Season (Jun-Oct)	466	501	486	491
Dry Season (Nov-May)	367	389	387	393
Taylor Slough	85	109	82	99
Wet Season (Jun-Oct)	61	74	59	69
Dry Season (Nov-May)	24	35	23	30
Biscayne Bay	927	874	897	889
North Bay	561	534	571	570
Central Bay	120	114	121	121
South Bay	246	226	205	198

Key Findings

- South Wall configuration shows the potential of a well designed curtain wall to improve flood protection to the residential and agricultural lands in South Dade without adversely impacting conditions in Everglades National Park.
- Assessment of flows to Biscayne Bay highlight the importance of ongoing efforts to send more flows to the Bay now and as restoration projects continue
- Flood control with passive curtain walls must be paired with operations to ensure desirable flows continue to Biscayne Bay and for Water Supply
- Design of curtain wall and operations that allow some flows through S-331 South will improve flows through Taylor Slough to eastern Florida Bay.

Multi Agency Coordination

Outstanding Important topics for multi-agency coordination

- Refine site specific detail
- Distribution and balance of benefits between Everglades National Park and Biscayne Bay
- Engineering details such as curtain wall depth
- Funding and best strategy to ensure expeditious implementation

WRAC Comments

- The response from WRAC was positive
- Specific comments include
 - Not a new concept and the technology has been demonstrated in the region
 - Should be part of the larger seepage management strategy in the region, north of South Dade
 - Relatively inexpensive in comparison to restoration projects
 - Would provide both flood protection and restoration benefits
- Concerns of WRAC members were addressed in the assessment and include
 - Impact to flows to Biscayne Bay and Taylor Slough
 - Impacts to water supply
 - Concern for impact on Saltwater Intrusion

Next steps and timing

- Seeking Governing Board direction to initiate and complete the outstanding tasks in the current fiscal year.
 - Develop SFWMD project alternative with preferred wall placement
 - Coordinate with and secure feedback from USACE, other organizations and stakeholders on the alternative
 - Explore funding opportunities including federal funding and state appropriation
 - Bring back for Governing Board update or action within one fiscal year