quick facts on...

Barron River (SR29) Canal Corridor Aerial Mapping and Survey Project

BACKGROUND
The Barron River Canal was originally constructed in the 1920's as a borrow canal to provide fill for construction of the railroad grade between Immokalee and Everglades City in Collier County, Florida.

Construction of the railroad grade, including modifications to accommodate the commercial logging industry of the 1940's, significantly altered the historic surfacewater sheetflow by channeling water into the Barron River (SR29) Canal.

While the population of the area grew, few improvements were made to the original railroad grade, other than its transformation into the State Road 29 (SR29) highway.

ISSUE
While the project area has changed little over the past 60 years, current land uses within and adjacent to the project area are converting from agriculture to residential and commercial developments and some industrial uses.

Additionally, the existing water control structures are 60 years old and in need of immediate repair.

PROJECT AREA
Approximately 296-square mile watershed feeds the Barron River Canal Corridor, extending from southwestern Hendry County to Chokoloskee Bay and Everglades National Park in Collier County.

OBJECTIVES
The project objectives include:
- developing topographic contour maps (<1 ft. contours)
- assimilating data (location, hydrologic, etc) for upgrading drainage infrastructure
- using data from this project to model, assess, plan, design and implement future restoration and enhancement projects
- incorporating data from this project into local and regional studies

Several natural areas will benefit from this project, including Okaloacoochee Slough, Twelve-Mile Slough, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve, Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park.
**PROJECT PHASES:**
The original project area extended from Immokalee to Tamiami Trail. However, the project was expanded at the suggestion of Governing Board member, Mr. Collins and has now been divided into two phases:

**PHASE I**  -  70 square miles - 4 miles southeast of Immokalee, south to Tamiami Trail (US41)

**PHASE II**  -  15 square miles - Tamiami Trail, south to Chokoloskee Island

**PROJECT COST:**

PHASE I  -  $1,282,542

PHASE II  -  $178,601

TOTAL  -  $1,461,143