

New data demonstrates the success of restoration and resilience projects across our region – proving recent investments and momentum are working. On January 10, 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Executive Order 23-06 (Achieving *Even More* Now for Florida's Environment) to enhance ongoing efforts to expedite restoration projects and further advance the protection of Florida's natural resources. Executive Order 23-06 was issued exactly four years to the day after he signed Executive Order 19-12 (Achieving More Now For Florida's Environment) that resulted in record environmental funding, expedited Everglades projects, and water quality improvements. We have celebrated 75 ribbon cuttings, ground breakings and major milestones on Everglades projects since 2019.

The State of Florida will continue our significant efforts implementing Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects to improve the quantity, quality, timing and distribution within the Greater Everglades Ecosystem. Unprecedented State funding and momentum are making a real difference to protect Florida's precious natural resources, support our economy and restore America's Everglades.

### **RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SUCCESSES**

#### Salinity Levels in Florida Bay Hit Goals

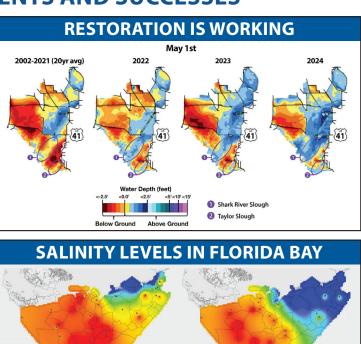
Record water flows and water depths in the Everglades coupled with rainfall demonstrated that restoration can support healthy salinity levels in Florida Bay. Balanced salinity supports sea grass and spawning fish.

#### Wading Birds, Key Indicator for Restoration Success, Have Banner Nesting Year

Water in the right places led to a historic nesting year for wading birds in 2021. Wading birds serve as a key indicator species for restoration success. This proof point demonstrates that the efforts to send water south will work, and the ecosystem responds positively to the right water levels.

#### **Record Hydration in the Everglades**

End of the wet season current water depths (see graphic) in two key locations, Shark River Slough and Taylor Slough, demonstrate that restoration projects and operations work well together to nourish the Everglades and send water south to support the health of Florida Bay.



Salinity

Before Investment -

**Dry Season Salinity** 

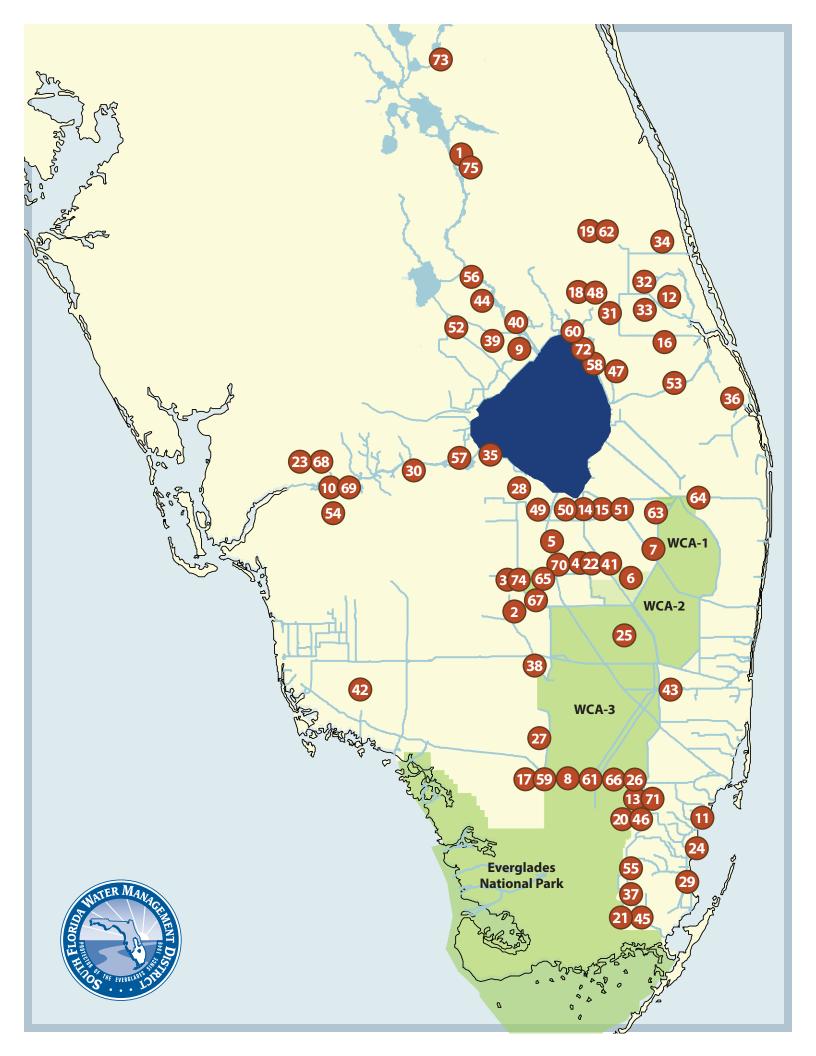
35.0

32.5

30.0

After Investment -

**Dry Season Salinity** 



GF	ROUND BREAKING SINCE 2019			🖌 Indicates these projects have been completed
#	PROJECT	GROUND BREAKING	COMPLETION DATE (EST.)	
1	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	2022	V	
2	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase II	2021	2027	
3	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2021	2024	
4	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2020	2024	
5	EAA Reservoir Project Conveyance Improvements	2024	2027	
6	STA 2 Refurbishments	2020	2023	
7	STA 1W – Expansion No. 2	2020	2024	
8	Raising Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2021	2026	
9	Lake O Watershed – Aquifer Storage & Recovery Wells	2021	2030	
10	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir – Final Phase of Construction	2019	2025	the second of the second
11	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - L-31E Flow-way	2020	2026	the there are a start and a
12	C-23/C-24 Treatment Wetland	2022	2025	The start of the second
13	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2022	V	A to the second second
14	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2019	V	Gov. DeSantis at the Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal Groundbreaking
15	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2022	V	
16	C-23/C-44 Canal to Divert Harmful Discharges to St. Lucie River	2022	2025	
17	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2020	V	and a set the set of the
18	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2020	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	the second se
19	Scott Water Storage Farm	2020	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
20	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2021	V	
21	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
22	EAA Reservoir	2023	2034	
23	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
24	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands	2023	2025	The Could in the second second
25	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) North	2023	2032	The second se
26	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South	2020	2033	a set of the
27	Western Everglades Restoration-South Features	2024	2028	the state of the second state of the second
28	Clewiston Field Station Groundbreaking	2024	2026	Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland
MA	AJOR MILESTONE SINCE 2019			
#	PROJECT		RECENT ACCON	MPLISHMENT COMPLETION DATE
29	Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem (BBSEER)		Began Planning B	Efforts TBD
30	Boma Water Storage Basin (FEB)		Started Design	2027
31	C-23/C-24 Interim Water Storage		Started Design	TBD
32	C-23/C-24 North Reservoir		Completed Final	Design 2028

Started Design

Started Design

Started Design

**Finished Planning** 

Agreement Executed

Began Final Design

Finished Planning

Began Real Estate Acquisition

Began Initial Planning and Design

Completed Land Acquisition, Started Design

Began Partial Rehydration of Drained Wetlands

Authorized by Congress, Started Design



Faka Union Pump Station/Canal Plugging – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration

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42 43 C-23/C-24 South Reservoir

C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland

Lake Hicpochee Restoration - Phase II

S-332B Pump Station Replacement

Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration

Lake O Watershed – Wetland Restoration

Lower Kissimmee Treatment Wetland

C-11 Water Storage Impoundment

Western Everglades Restoration-Remaining Features

EAA Reservoir Project Partnership Agreement Signed



2030

2028

2026

TBD

2028

2024

TBD

TBD

2030

2025

2028

2024

CEPP New Water Seepage Containment Wall Groundbreaking Ceremony



ALJO Four Corners Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

## **MAKING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS**

Water Storage Complete East & West of Lake Okeechobee to Further Curb Harmful Estuary Discharges

The completed Caloosahatchee (C-43) and St. Lucie (C-44) reservoirs will capture harmful discharges of water to the estuaries.

#### Completed Wetland Treatment Systems to Clean and Send Water to the Everglades

The *Restoration Strategies* program, which involved building and improving 60,000 acres of treatment wetlands, will send cleaner water to the Everglades.

#### 100,000 Acres of Restored Natural Lands

The completed restoration of Picayune Strand State Forest and Kissimmee River restores important wetlands and recharges aquifers.



#### Large Reservoir South of Lake Okeechobee to Reduce Estuary Discharges and Send Water to the Everglades

Construct a large 10,000-acre reservoir to capture and store excess water to better hydrate the Everglades and manage high Lake stages.

#### Water Storage North of Lake Okeechobee

A large above ground reservoir and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells will assist in storing water north of Lake Okeechobee to manage Lake levels.



# Three Reservoirs with Wetland Treatment Systems to Protect the Indian River Lagoon

Construction of three large reservoirs in St. Lucie County to intercept canal water and prevent it from harmfully discharging to the Indian River Lagoon.

#### Completed Construction of a Treatment Wetland to Move Lake Water South

Treatment wetlands send clean water to the Everglades, including a 6,500-acre system dedicated to moving Lake Okeechobee water.

#### Uncorking Tamiami Trail (US 41) Will Send More Water South and Reduce Lake Okeechobee Discharges

Additional infrastructure will restore the natural flow of water. FDOT will complete raising portions of Tamiami Trail (Next Steps Phase II), and SFWMD will complete several seepage containment walls to keep water out of communities.



#### Multiple Major Biscayne Bay Restoration Projects Improve Health of the Bay The Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands suite of projects will provide significant land

will provide significant land and bay restoration benefits to southern Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County.

#### Ron DeSantis, Governor

#### SFWMD Executive Management

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