



# Everglades Restoration Works!

## Our Progress for the Resiliency and Restoration of the Region's Water Resources



Florida Bay

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

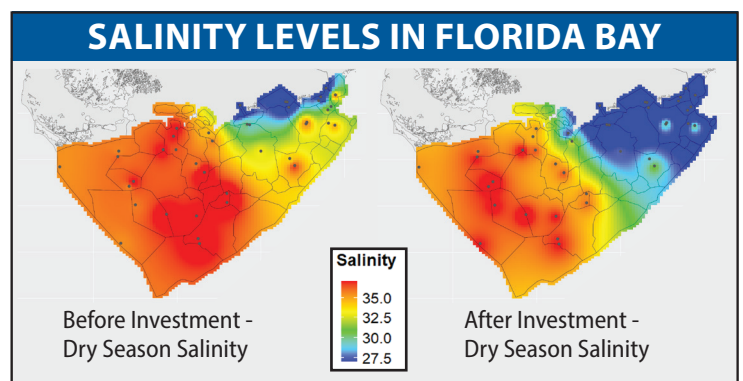
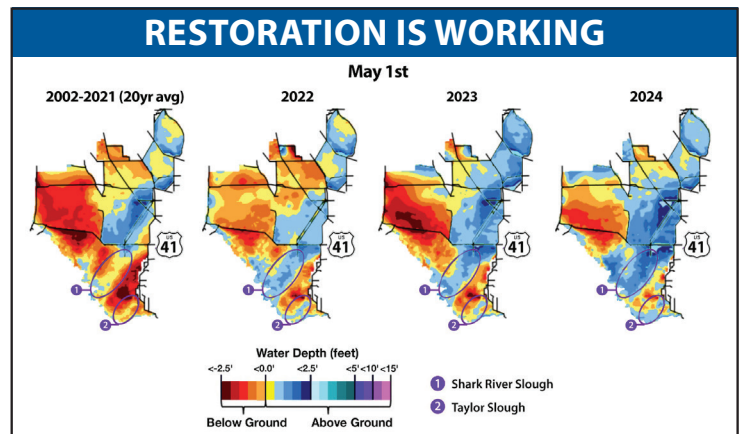
Record water flows and water depths in the Everglades coupled with rainfall demonstrated that restoration can support healthy salinity levels in Florida Bay. Balanced salinity supports sea grass and spawning fish.

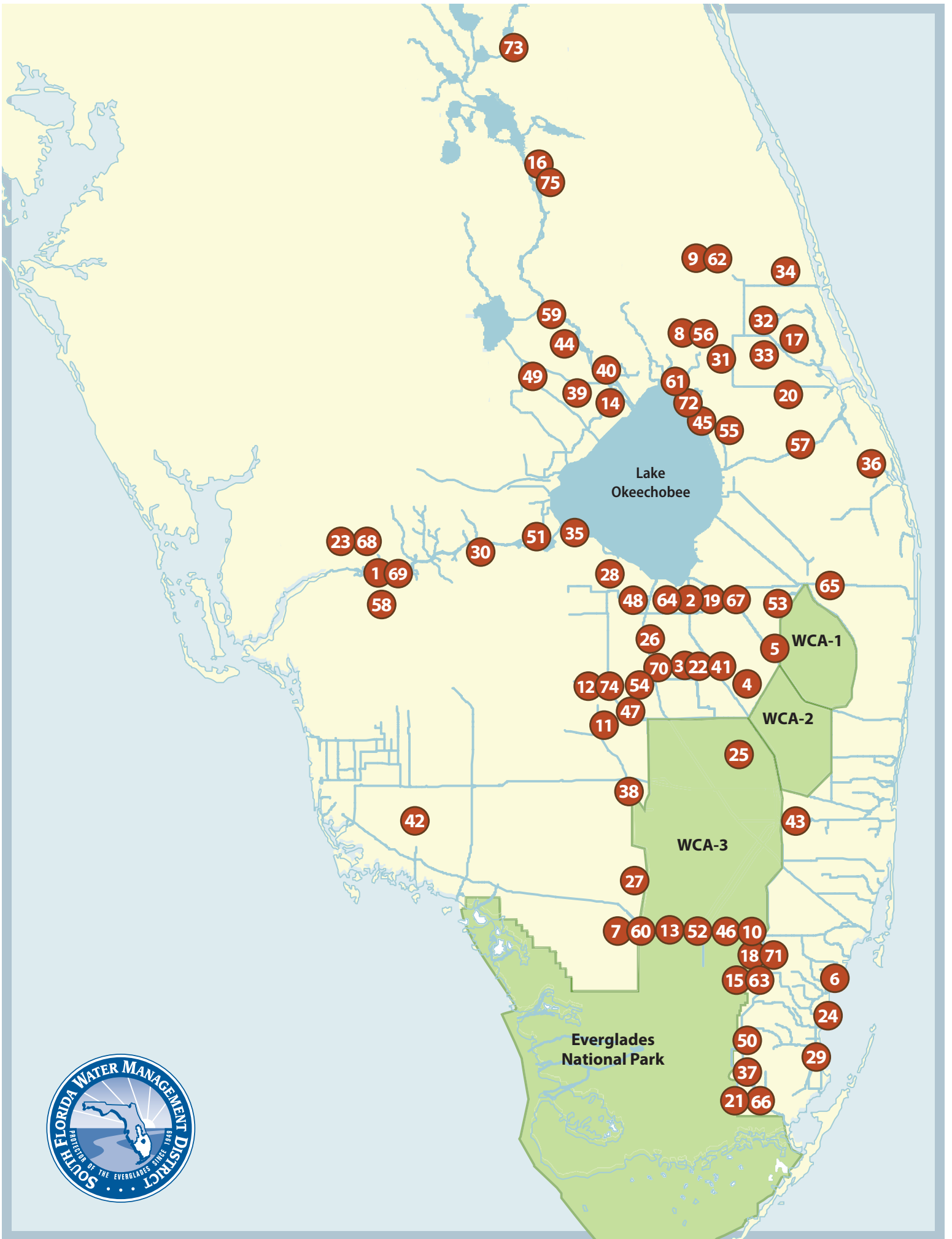
### Wading Birds, Key Indicator for Restoration Success, Have Banner Nesting Year

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.





## GROUND BREAKING SINCE 2019

✓ Indicates these projects have been completed.

#	PROJECT	GROUND BREAKING	COMPLETION YEAR (EST.)
1	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir – Final Phase of Construction	2019	2025
2	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2019	✓
3	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2020	✓
4	STA 2 Refurbishments	2020	✓
5	STA 1W – Expansion No. 2	2020	✓
6	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - L-31E Flow Way	2020	2026
7	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2020	✓
8	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2020	✓
9	Scott Water Storage Farm	2020	✓
10	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) South	2020	2033
11	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase II	2021	2027
12	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2021	✓
13	Raising Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2021	2026
14	Lake O Watershed – Aquifer Storage & Recovery Wells	2021	2030
15	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2021	✓
16	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	2022	✓
17	C-23/C-24 Treatment Wetland	2022	2025
18	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2022	✓
19	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2022	✓
20	C-23/C-44 Canal to Divert Harmful Discharges to St. Lucie River	2022	2026
21	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023	✓
22	EAA Reservoir	2023	2034
23	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023	✓
24	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Cutler Wetlands	2023	2025
25	Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) North	2023	2032
26	EAA Reservoir Project Conveyance Improvements	2024	2027
27	Western Everglades Restoration-South Features	2024	2028
28	Clewiston Field Station	2024	2026



Gov. DeSantis at the Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal Groundbreaking



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland

## MAJOR MILESTONE SINCE 2019

#	PROJECT	RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENT	COMPLETION YEAR (EST.)
29	Biscayne Bay and Southeastern Everglades Ecosystem (BBSEER)	Began Planning Efforts	TBD
30	Boma Water Storage Basin (FEB)	Started Design	2028
31	C-23/C-24 Interim Water Storage	Started Design	2026
32	C-23/C-24 North Reservoir	Completed Final Design	2033
33	C-23/C-24 South Reservoir	Completed Final Design and Began Construction	2030
34	C-25 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	Completed Final Design and Began Construction	2029
35	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase II	Started Design	2028
36	Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration	Authorized by Congress, Started Design	TBD
37	S-332B Pump Station Replacement	Started Design	2028
38	Western Everglades Restoration-Remaining Features	Authorized in WRDA	2024
39	Lake O Watershed – Wetland Restoration	Began Real Estate Acquisition	TBD
40	Lower Kissimmee Basin Treatment Wetland	Began Initial Planning and Design	2029
41	EAA Reservoir Project Partnership Agreement Signed	Agreement Executed	2021
42	Faka Union Pump Station/Canal Plugging – Picayune Strand Wetland Restoration	Began Partial Rehydration of Drained Wetlands	2025
43	C-11 Water Storage Impoundment	Began Final Design	2028
44	Lake Okeechobee Component A Reservoir (LOCAR) Final Feasibility Study and EIS	Authorized in WRDA	2024

## COMPLETED SINCE 2019

#	PROJECT	YEAR
45	Lakeside Ranch Treatment Wetland	2019
46	Bridging Tamiami Trail (FDOT)	2019
47	C-139 Wetland Restoration – Phase I	2019
48	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 3	2020
49	Brighton Valley Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2020
50	Improved Water Deliveries for ENP (COP) and C-111 South Dade Project	2020
51	Lake Hicpochee Restoration – Phase I	2020
52	S-333N Structure for Everglades Nat'l Park Water Deliveries	2020
53	STA 1W – Expansion No. 1	2020
54	STA 5/6 Improvements	2020
55	Allapattah Flats Wetland Restoration	2021
56	Bluefield Grove Water Storage Farm	2021
57	C-44 Reservoir and Treatment Wetland	2021
58	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir Water Quality Improvements Study	2021
59	Kissimmee River Restoration	2021
60	Old Tamiami Trail Roadbed Removal	2021
61	S-191A Pump Station	2021
62	Scott Water Storage Farm	2021
63	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – Phase I (8.5 SMA)	2022
64	Bolles Canal Improvements – Segment 4	2022
65	STA 1E Improvements	2022
66	Taylor Slough Hydrologic Improvements	2023
67	Bolles Canal Improvements – Final Segment	2023
68	ALJO Four Corners Rapid Infiltration Project	2023
69	Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir S-470 Pump Station	2023
70	EAA Reservoir Project's Treatment Wetland	2024
71	Everglades Nat'l Park Seepage Containment Wall – CEPP New Water	2024
72	S-191 Basin Surface Runoff Phosphorus Removal Project	2024
73	Partin Family Ranch Dispersed Water Storage and Management	2024
74	C-139 Water Storage Basin (FEB)	2024
75	El Maximo Ranch Northern Everglades Water Quality Project	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.



Picayune Strand Construction

## 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.



Significant Progress Continues on the C-43 Reservoir

## 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.



Biscayne Bay

## Multiple Major Biscayne Bay Restoration Projects Improve Health of the Bay

The Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands suite of projects will provide significant land and bay restoration benefits to southern Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County.

Ron DeSantis, Governor

### SFWMD Governing Board

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Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection

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Lucine Dadrian, Engineering, Construction & Modeling Director  
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Lisa Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator  
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Dr. Carolina Maran, Chief of District Resiliency  
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