



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Jacksonville District

NEWS RELEASE

Release No.: 0882
For Release: Oct. 7, 2008
P.O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Contact: Sonya Goines
Phone: (904) 232-1004 FAX: (904) 232-2237
Email: Sonya.B.Goines@usace.army.mil

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Construction on Kissimmee River interrupts navigation

Historic restoration project continues to moves forward

Jacksonville, Fla. – As the historic Kissimmee River restoration project continues to move forward, construction activities on the current phase of work will create an interruption to navigation for the next twenty four months starting October 10, 2008. To navigate the C-38 canal south of the construction area, water crafts will need to be launched from the S-65C boat ramp located off of Highway 98 in Highlands County. To navigate the C-38 canal north of the construction area, water crafts will need to be launched from the S-65 boat ramp located off of Highway 60 on the border of Polk and Osceola Counties.

In September, preliminary work began on this phase of the project to restore the Kissimmee River, with the construction of 14 culverts across the C-38 Canal, which is the channelized portion of the river. After the culverts are constructed, Corps of Engineers contractors will backfill about four miles of the C-38, reconnect historic oxbows and recarve sections of the river that were lost during the 1960s channelization project to prevent flooding.

This phase of work begins at the Avon Park Bombing Range boat ramp and extends south for four miles. Active construction in this area will cause a section of the Kissimmee River beginning at the northern end of the restored river and extending northward for about four miles to be closed to boaters. This phase of the project is expected to be completed in January 2011.

Ten miles of the C-38 have been restored to date. The Kissimmee River restoration project is scheduled for completion in early 2013. The project will return flow to about 40 miles of the river's historic channel. The restoration project is a partnership between the Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District.

For more information on the project, visit www.saj.usace.army.mil/dp/krr/index.htm.

###