

FACT SHEET
COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN
Picayune Strand Restoration
 Construction General (C)
 Congressional District: 19, 25, 26

1. **DESCRIPTION**

Picayune Strand Restoration Project was authorized under the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2007. The purpose of this project is to restore and enhance the wetlands back to pre development hydrology in a failed housing development, formerly called Southern Golden Gates Estates, of Picayune Strand. The Project is located in Collier County, south of I-75 and north of U.S. Highway 41 between the Belle Meade Area and the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve. Implementation of the Project will improve the water quality of coastal estuaries by moderating the large salinity fluctuations caused by freshwater point discharge of the Faka Union Canal. The plan would aid in protecting the City of Naples eastern Golden Gate wellfield by improving groundwater recharge and help replenish the the aquifer system. The project includes a combination of pump stations, spreader basins, canal plugs, and road removal.

2. **FUNDING**

Estimated Total Cost	\$621,983,000
Estimated Federal Cost	366,564,000
Allocation thru FY15	322,057,000
Carry In to FY16	350
Allocation for FY16	4,799,650
President's Budget FY17	4,657,000

3. **SPONSOR**

South Florida Water Management District
 3301 Gun Club Road
 West Palm Beach, Florida 33406

4. **STATUS**

A Final Project Implementation Report (PIR) was submitted to Congress in September 2004. Construction on this project was initiated with the plugging of the Praire Canal under the South Florida Water Management District's (SFWMD) Acceler8 Program which also included the design for Merritt, Faka Union and Miller Pump Stations. The Project Partnership Agreement was executed in August 2009. The Merritt Pump Station and Road Removal Construction Contract was awarded in October 2009 and completed

in September 2014. The Faka Union Pump Station and Road Removal Construction Contract was awarded in November 2010 and was completed in January 2016. The Miller Pump Station Contract was awarded in September 2013 and will be completed in fall of 2017. Analysis of the affects to the water levels of the adjacent private lands is currently under way and levees required to maintain current levels of flood protection will be constructed in 2017. A project to mitigate for the affect to a warm water manatee refugium in the Faka Union Canal is under construction by the South Florida Water Management District and will be completed in April 2016. Recent cost estimates have projected that the project will exceed the Section 902 limit. The project team developed a Limited Reevaluation Report to request authorization of a post authorization cost increase. The Report is scheduled to be submitted to congress in Spring 2016.

