FACT SHEET

COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN

Central Everglades Planning Project

Construction General (C)

Congressional Districts: 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27

1. DESCRIPTION

The Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) was selected to be formulated as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) National Pilot Program for Feasibility Studies. The pilot initiative for the project provided an opportunity to test principles that have been outlined in the USACE *Recommendations for Transforming the Current Pre-Authorization Study Process (January 2011)* and associated presentation materials. The Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) of 2000 provided authority for the project study in Section 601(b)(1)(A). The Final Project Implementation Report / Environmental Impact Statement (PIR/EIS) was completed and the Chief of Engineers Report was signed in December 2014. The Record of Decicion (ROD) and letters transmitting the report to Congress for authorization were signed in August 2015. The project was authorized under P.L. 114-322 Water Infrastructure Improvements (WIIN) Act, Title 1 – Water Resources Development, Subtitle D – Water Resources Infrastructure, SEC. 1401. Project Authorizations.

The project area for the CEPP encompasses the Northern Estuaries (St. Lucie River and Indian River Lagoon and the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary), Lake Okeechobee, a portion of the Everglades Agricultural Area, the Water Conservation Areas; Everglades National Park, the Southern Estuaries (Florida Bay and Biscayne Bay), and the Lower East Coast. The purpose of CEPP is to improve the quantity, quality, timing, and distribution of water flows to the central Everglades (WCA 3 and ENP). Utilizing the Incremental Adaptive Restoration approach recommended by the National Research Council and new information gained to date, the project is composed of increments of project components that were identified in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) Comprehensive Review Study (Yellow Book), reducing the risks and uncertainties associated with project planning and implementation.

2. FUNDING

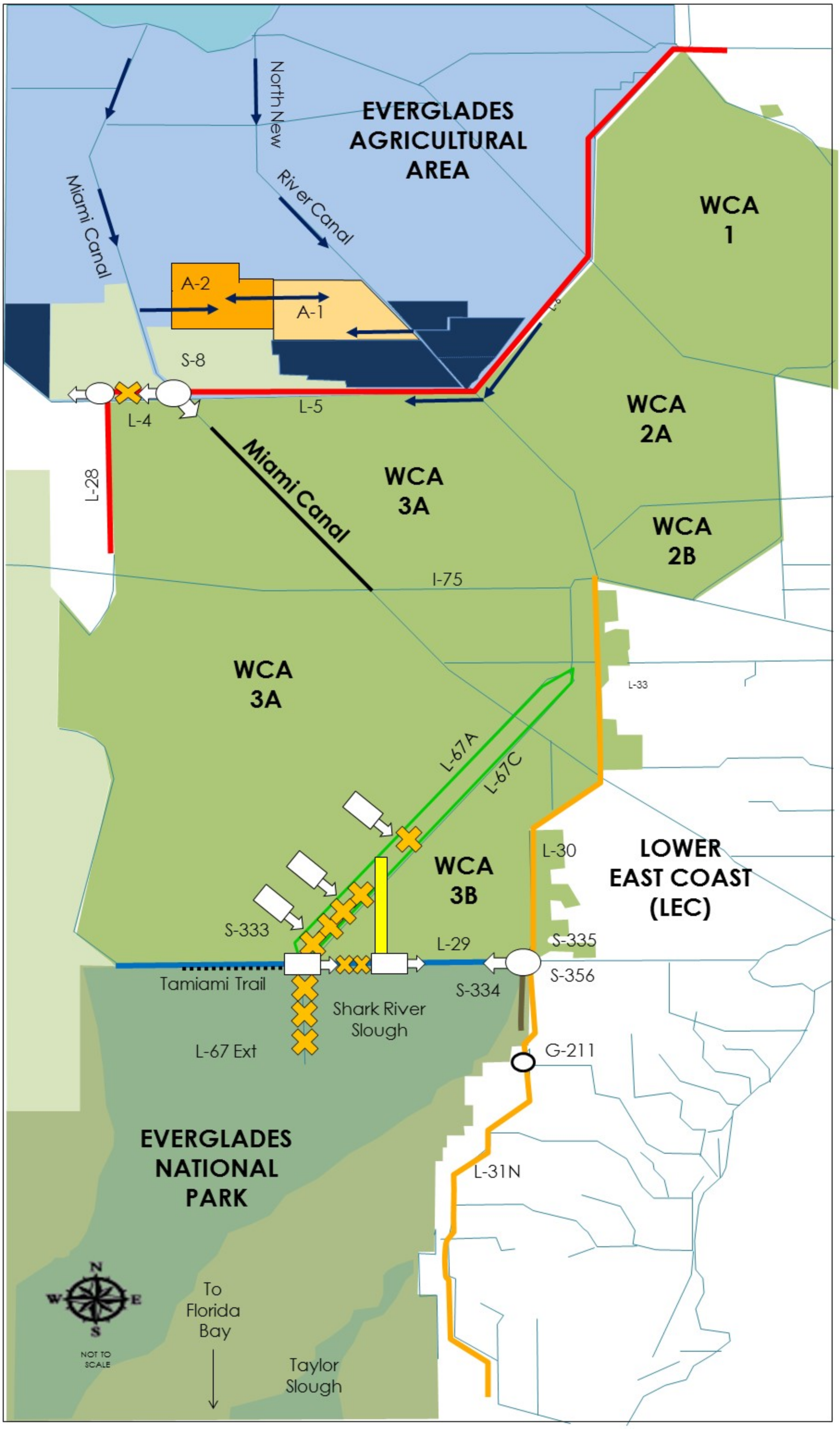
Estimated Total Cost	$ 2,275,281.00
Estimated Federal Cost	10,018,000
Allocation thru FY16	9,784,000
Carry In to FY17	0
Allocation for FY17	0
President's Budget FY18	TBD

3. SPONSOR

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

4. STATUS

The USACE completed the study within the 3 years specified by the USACE SMART planning guidance. The authorized project consists of increments of six CERP components at a total project costs of $1.98 billion. The project beneficially affects more than 1.5 million acres in the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries, Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3, Everglades National Park (ENP) and Florida Bay. In addition to re-distributing existing treated water in a more natural sheetflow pattern within the central Everglades ecosystem, the project provides an average of approximately 210,000 ac-ft per year of additional clean freshwater flowing into the central portion of the Everglades. This increase in freshwater flow to the Everglades is approximately two-thirds of the additional water flow estimated to be provided by CERP. The project also reduces the number and severity of high volume discharges from Lake Okeechobee, improving salinity in the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries. The additional water flowing into northern WCA 3 and ENP will help restore pre-drainage vegetative communities and habitat for fish and wildlife while providing improvement in natural processes critical for the development of peat soils and tree islands, which are essential features of the Everglades sawgrass ridge and slough landscape. Increased water flow to Florida Bay will improve salinities, resulting in greater abundance and diversity of sea grasses and other estuarine plant and animal species. The project boosts resiliency to potential climate change effects by increasing freshwater in the Everglades and buffering natural system areas and the underlying acquifer against possible sea level rise and minor decreases in rainfall. The project also increases the amount of water available for agricultural, municipal, and industrial use by 12 million gallons per day in Broward county and 5 million gallons per day in Miami-Dade counties.


EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA
North New River Canal
Miami Canal
A-2
A-1
S-8
L-4
L-5
L-6
WCA 1
WCA 2A
WCA 2B
WCA 3A
WCA 3B
L-28
Miami Canal
I-75
L-33
L-67A
L-67C
L-30
LOWER EAST COAST (LEC)
S-333
L-29
S-335
S-356
S-334
Tamiami Trail
Shark River Slough
L-67 Ext
G-211
L-31N
EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
N
W
E
S
NOT TO SCALE
To Florida Bay
Taylor Slough