CESAJ-PM (Cong) February 2017

FACT SHEET KISSIMMEE RIVER FLORIDA

Construction General (C)
Congressional Districts: 5, 7, 9, 10, 17

1. DESCRIPTION

Congress authorized the Kissimmee River, Florida project in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992. The Kissimmee Basin includes 3,000 square miles stretching from Orlando to Lake Okeechobee in central Florida. The project involves the ecosystem restoration of the historic floodplain to re-establish wetland conditions by implementing the following: modifications to the operation of the upper chain of lakes; modification of various structures; enlargement of canals 36 and 37; backfilling 22 miles of C-38; excavation of about nine miles of new river channel; removal of two water control structures and locks, flood proofing of developments around the lakes and land acquisition of over 100,000 acres.

2. FUNDING

Estimated Total Cost	\$755,124,000
Estimated Federal Cost	\$352,846,000
Allocation thru FY15	\$316,207,976
Carry In to FY16	\$0
Allocation for FY16	\$15,778,000
President's Budget FY17	\$TBD

3. SPONSOR

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

4. STATUS

The State of Florida has completed most land acquisition and much of the flood proofing work required for project implementation. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed the modification of several structures necessary to support backfilling of the C-38 Canal. Backfilling of Reach 1, the first seven miles of the C-38 Canal, was completed in 2001. Backfilling of Reach 4 of the C-38 was completed in two phases with Reach 4A completed in 2007 and Reach 4B completed in 2010. The response of the natural system has greatly exceeded expectations. Specifically, numerous species of ducks and wading birds, to include the Ring-necked Duck, American Avocet, and Black-necked Stilt, are now present. These species were not present during preconstruction surveys. Currently over 15 of 22 miles of canal have been backfilled, 18 of

43 miles of historic river channel have been restored, and 6,500 acres of floodplain wetlands have been restored.

Fiscal Year 2017 funds will be used to provide supervision and administration for the backfilling of Reach 2 in the lower basin of the Kissimmee River (Canal 38) and design of the Structure 69 Weir with a construction contract award schedule for August 2017.

The USACE will complete a Post Authorization Change Report (PACR) in 2017 to address activities the non-Federal sponsor performed in lieu of real estate acquisition that may have resulted in a cost savings to the project. The completed PACR will seek Congressional authorization to provide the non-Federal sponsor with in-kind credit for the work performed.

