



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 4970  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

Planning and Policy Division  
Environmental Branch

JUN 3 0 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is beginning preparation of a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for an operations field test that will include relaxation of the Gage-3273 (G-3273) constraint and operation of water control structures S-356 and S-357 N (Figure 1). The field test is the first in a series of sequential efforts that are intended to incorporate constructed features of the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park (MWD to ENP) and Canal 111 (C-111) South Dade projects into system-wide Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project operations.


The purpose of this field test is to evaluate raising or removing the existing G-3273 stage constraint to enable increased water deliveries from Water Conservation Area 3A to ENP through Northeast Shark River Slough (NESRS) for the benefit of natural resources. The field test will also provide data to support operating permit applications for S-356 and S-357 N and to develop future water management operating criteria. The water management operations contained in this proposed field test will be implemented in 2015. If weather or other system-wide conditions during this period do not provide sufficient data for a conclusive field test, the field test may be extended for a maximum of two years.

The multiple purposes of the C&SF Project to provide flood control, water supply for municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses, prevention of saltwater intrusion, water supply for ENP and protection of fish and wildlife will be maintained during the field test.

We invite the participation of Federal and State agencies, Native American tribes, local agencies, and interested parties and individuals in providing comments and identifying any issues. Please share this notice with any interested party not included on the address list, and send any comments you may have to the attention of Mrs. Melissa Nasuti at the letter head address or email [melissa.a.nasuti@usace.army.mil](mailto:melissa.a.nasuti@usace.army.mil) no later than 14 days from the date of this letter.

All individuals who respond with comments will be included in future mailings. Others may be included by making a written request in writing (postcard) to the same address or by email.

Sincerely,

  
Eric P. Summa  
Chief, Environmental Branch

Enclosure



Figure 1. Location map showing the approximate location of G-3273.