

Chapter 6A: Florida Forever Work Plan, 2015 Annual Update

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SECTION 6A-1: INTRODUCTION

As required by Section 373.199, Florida Statutes (F.S.), this chapter has been prepared by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD or District) as an annual update of the Florida Forever Work Plan (FFWP). This 2015 update presents projects eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act (Section 259.105, F.S.) as well as projects eligible for state acquisition monies from the appropriate account or trust fund under Section 373.139(3)(c), F.S., and reports associated changes since the March 1, 2014, submission of the *2014 South Florida Environmental Report* (SFER) – Volume II, Chapter 6A.

The 2015 FFWP update summarizes acquisitions that occurred in Fiscal Year 2014 (FY2014) (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014), along with the status of land acquisition for eligible projects, noting for each the number of acres acquired and acres still to be acquired, as of September 30, 2014. This update is intended to be used in conjunction with portions of the 2015 SFER – Volume I that have additional information on systemwide and regional projects. Detailed project descriptions and supporting information are provided in the Consolidated Project Report Database, available on the District's website at www.sfwmd.gov/sfer. The Land Stewardship Annual Report, Chapter 6B of this volume, presents the status of land management activities on land acquired by the SFWMD. The Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), Chapter 4 of this volume, includes projected five-year capital expenditures for eligible FFWP projects. The CIP includes projected expenditures for (1) basic construction costs including design, engineering, permits, inspections, and site development; (2) other project costs including land acquisition and associated costs, surveys, and facility acquisition; and (3) estimated changes in operation and maintenance costs for those projects that will be owned and capitalized as fixed assets by the District.

The 2015 FFWP update is organized as follows:

- *Section 6A-1* provides the introduction and summary of changes to the eligible list of projects.
- *Section 6A-2* highlights land acquisition activity for the reporting cycle.
- *Section 6A-3* provides a brief overview of FFWP regions and presents the status of land acquisitions for eligible projects within each region. **Table 6A-2** applies to Kissimmee River Restoration Project (KRRP); **Tables 6A-3** to **6A-10** apply to Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects, unless otherwise noted; and **Table 6A-11** applies to Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP) projects. The land acquisition status of Florida Forever/Save Our Rivers (FF/SOR) projects is presented in Chapter 6B, Table 6B-1, of this volume.

- *Sections 6A-4* provides major plan/program highlights of CERP, FF/SOR, and NEEPP, respectively.
- *Section 6A-5* provides an update on surplus land activities for the reporting cycle.
- *Section 6A-6* lists eligible Florida Forever Program projects.
- *Section 6A-7* lists Florida Forever Program goals and performance measures.

The 2015 FFWP update identifies a total of 46 eligible projects, which include CERP, FF/SOR, NEEPP, and other related projects.

Four projects were added for implementation of Restoration Strategies:

- Stormwater Treatment Area - 1W Expansion
- Lainhart & Masten Dam Conveyance
- Bolles Canal (G-341)
- G-716 Structure Expansion (S-375)

Several modifications were made:

- The C-111 South Dade Project boundary was modified to incorporate approximately 6,020 acres associated the Southern Glades, FF/SOR project and approximately 5,274 acres associated within the Frog Pond, FF/SOR project for the purpose of Everglades restoration and flood protection.
- The Sam Jones/Abiake Prairie has been established as a FF/SOR project, using approximately 15,000 acres of previously acquired District-owned lands, to provide hydrologic benefits to groundwater, surface water and water supply, once the lands are restored as part of the C-139 Annex Restoration Project.

The Indian River Lagoon – South, Palmar Complex – Natural Storage and Treatment Area feature was updated in accordance with the December 11, 2014 adopted amendment to 2014 Florida Forever Work Plan modifying the project boundary.

SECTION 6A-2: LAND ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

LAND ACQUISITION ACTIVITY REPORT

In FY2014, the SFWMD obtained 3,441 acres of land interests through donations, mitigation and expenditures totaling \$5,213,365. Acquisitions were made using District, state, and local government funds.

FISCAL YEAR 2014 LAND ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 287.96 acres of land were acquired for CERP projects at a cost of \$2,929,682 that includes 74.57 acres acquired by Miami-Dade County at a cost of \$250,400. An additional 185 acres were obtained for CERP projects through mitigation and donation.
- A total of 667.52 acres of land were acquired for the Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement, NEEPP project at a cost of \$1,898,683.
- Miami-Dade County, as an external partner, acquired 13.52 acres of land for \$375,000 within the Southern Glades, FF/SOR project.
- A total of 2,283.32 acres of land within the 8.5 Square Mile Area project were conveyed by the USACE to the District.
- The District accepted donations of 1.26 acres of fee interest in land within Pool A of the Kissimmee River; and 2.60 acres of easement interest within District canals and rights-of-way.
- A release of liability and permanent access easement interest was obtained by the District at a cost of \$10,000 for a boat ramp located in Collier County and used by the Big Cypress Field Station.

Table 6A-1 provides additional details regarding the lands acquired by project and funding source.

Table 6A-1. Fiscal Year 2014 (FY2014) (October 1, 2013–September 30, 2014)
acquisition activity report by funding source.

Project Names	Parcel	Acres	Price	DISTRICT	FEDERAL	STATE
8.5 Square Mile Area ^{2,3}	2	2,283.32	\$0			
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (CERP) ^{1,2}	9	74.57	\$250,400			
C-111 Spreader Canal (CERP) ²	2	25.00	\$0			
Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW)						
Herbert Hoover Dike						
Kissimmee River Restoration (KRRP)						
Kissimmee River (KR) ²	1	1.26	\$0			
Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (KCOL)						
Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement (NEEPP) ^{2,3}	4	667.52	\$1,898,683	\$630,863		
Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration (CERP)	1	150.14	\$2,058,382			
Picayune Strand - including Belle Meade & Fakahatchee Strand (CERP) ^{1,2}	2	223.25	\$620,900			
Southern Glades ¹	1	13.52	\$375,000			
Canals/Rights-of-Way (Works of the District)						
Big Cypress Basin ³	1	0.07	\$10,000	\$10,000		
C-4 ^{2,3}	1	0.19	\$0			
Hillsboro Canal ^{2,3}	1	1.38	\$0			
L-2W ^{2,3}	1	1.03	\$0			
Totals	26	3,441.25	\$5,213,365	\$640,863	\$0	\$0

¹External partner acquired acres

²All or portion of acres acquired through donation or mitigation

³Easement acres are included in all or a portion of acres acquired

Table 6A-1. Continued.

Project Names	Local Gov't	MITIGATION	P- 2000	WMLTF/LATF	Florida Forever	SOETF	TOTALS
8.5 Square Mile Area^{2,3}							\$0
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (CERP)^{1,2}	\$250,400						\$250,400
C-111 Spreader Canal (CERP)²		\$0					\$0
Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW)							\$0
Herbert Hoover Dike							\$0
Kissimmee River Restoration (KRRP)							
Kissimmee River (KR) ²							\$0
Kissimmee Chain of Lakes (KCOL)							\$0
Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement (NEEPP)^{2,3}						\$1,267,820	\$1,898,683
Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration (CERP)						\$2,058,382	\$2,058,382
Picayune Strand - including Belle Meade & Fakahatchee Strand (CERP)^{1,2}						\$620,900	\$620,900
Southern Glades¹	\$375,000						\$375,000
Canals/Rights-of-Way (Works of the District)							
Big Cypress Basin ³							\$10,000
C-4 ^{2,3}							\$0
Hillsboro Canal ^{2,3}							\$0
L-2W ^{2,3}							\$0
Totals	\$625,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,947,102	\$5,213,365

¹External partner acquired acres

²All or portion of acres acquired through donation or mitigation

³Easement acres are included in all or a portion of acres acquired

SECTION 6A-3: LAND ACQUISITION STATUS BY REGION

This section presents a brief overview of the status of land acquisitions for eligible projects within each FFWP region--acres acquired, acres that remain to be acquired, and percent of acquisitions completed. It should be noted that for multiple reasons, summary numbers may change from one year to another, minimizing the ability to make simple comparisons among the annual updates of acquisition tables contained in this section. These differences may be due to such factors as the refinement of reporting techniques or changes in the number or size of projects, rather than the acquisition or disposition of land. The nine regions used as the framework for the plan update are shown in **Figure 6A-1**.

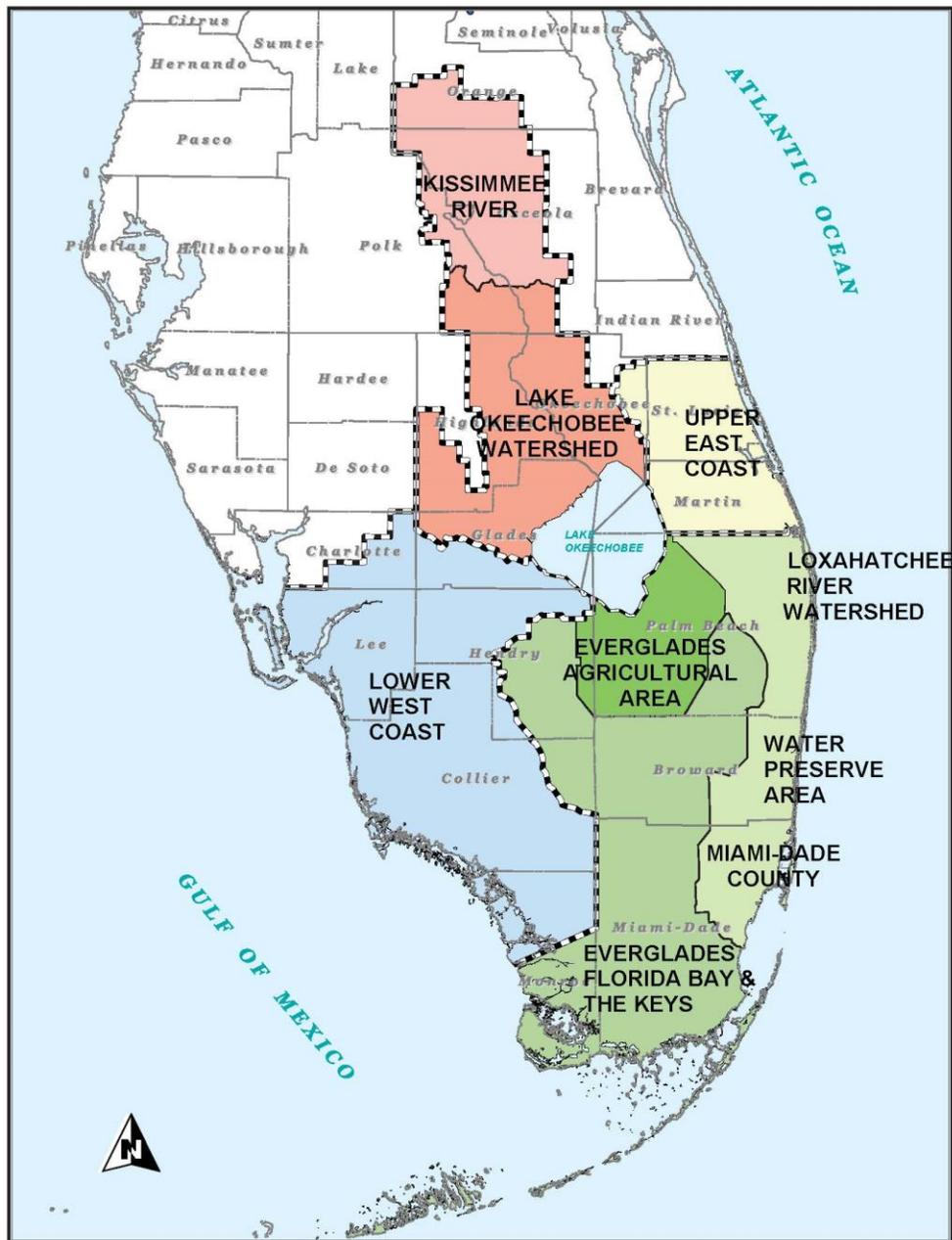


Figure 6A-1. Florida Forever Work Plan regions.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE KISSIMMEE RIVER

Land acquisition is almost complete for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project (KRRP). Over 100,000 acres have been acquired, with approximately 1,905 acres in the process of complex settlement negotiations or condemnation to complete acquisition of remaining land needed for the backfilling KRRP Upper Basin and Lower Basin components.

In summary, the KRRP land acquisition processes are nearing completion. Project certification and credit requests are expected to be processed throughout FY2015 and into future years.

Table 6A-2 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Kissimmee River region under the real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-2. Kissimmee River region real estate plan acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired	Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
Upper Basin ¹	36,464	35,523	941	97%
Lower Basin ¹	65,037	64,238	799	99%
Chandler Slough ²	3,188	877	2,311	28%
Total	104,688	100,637	4,051	96%
Lower Basin ³	165	0	165	0%
Total, plus additional interest	104,853	100,637	4,216	96%

¹The Upper and Lower Basin components are required for the backfilling component of the KRRP. According to project records, as of September 30, 2014, approximately 98 percent of the land has been acquired; 1,905 acres remain outstanding, of which 421 acres are public-owned lands. As negotiations with respect to the acquisition of remaining lands will be very complicated, the District will use its condemnation authority as necessary.

²Chandler Slough acres are within the authorized KRRP boundary; however, the land is not required for backfilling.

³Additional fee interest to be acquired over 165 acres of easement interest previously acquired.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE LAKE OKEECHOBEE WATERSHED

Table 6A-3 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Lake Okeechobee Watershed region under the current real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014. Lands noted as potential surplus have been earmarked for use under NEEPP.

Table 6A-3. Lake Okeechobee Watershed region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired		Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
		Estimated Boundary Acres Acquired	Potential Surplus Acres Acquired		
North Lake Okeechobee Storage Reservoir	10,273	0	0	10,273	0%
Taylor Creek/Nubbin Slough Storage and Treatment Area	6,557	6,557	0	0	100%
Lake Okeechobee Watershed Quality Treatment Facilities	16,610	4,963	0	11,647	30%
Lake Okeechobee Tributary Sediment Dredging	320	0	0	320	0%
Lake Okeechobee Watershed – Potential Surplus ¹			7,463		
Total	33,760	11,520	7,463	22,240	34%

Note: Potential surplus acres reflect potential surplus lands or pending project boundary adjustments.

¹The Gagbee, Inc., Grassy Island Ranch, and Pomcor acquisitions are reported as potential surplus acres for the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Region CERP projects and are proposed for use as NEEPP projects (see **Table 6A-11**).

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE LOWER WEST COAST

Table 6A-4 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Lower West Coast region under the current real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-4. Lower West Coast region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired		Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
		Estimated Boundary Acres Acquired	Potential Surplus Acres Acquired		
Caloosahatchee Basin Storage Reservoir	9,493	1,921	0	7,572	20%
Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir	10,507	10,507	0	0	100%
Big Cypress/ L-28 Interceptor Modifications	1,900	0	0	1,900	0%
Picayune Strand Restoration (Southern Golden Gate Estates)	55,051	55,051	0	0	100%
Picayune Strand Restoration – Fakahatchee Strand	1,839	1,816	0	23	99%
Picayune Strand Restoration – Belle Meade	10,153	9,208	0	945	91%
Picayune Strand Restoration – Potential Surplus			13		
Total	88,943	78,503	13	10,440	88%

Note: Potential surplus acres reflect potential surplus lands or pending project boundary adjustments.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE UPPER EAST COAST

Table 6A-5 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Upper East Coast region under the current real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-5. Upper East Coast region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired		Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
		Estimated Boundary Acres Acquired	Potential Surplus Acres Acquired		
C-44 Reservoir	4,461	4,461	0	0	100%
C-44 East STA	3,225	3,225	0	0	100%
C-44 West STA	4,518	4,518	0	0	100%
Pal-Mar Complex NWSTA - C-44 Basin	11,954	0	0	11,954	0%
C-23/24 North Reservoir	2,438	2,438	0	0	100%
C- 23/24 South Reservoir	6,271	4,865	0	1,406	78%
C-23/C-24 STA	2,562	2,456	0	106	96%
C-25 Reservoir and STA	904	0	0	904	0%
Allapattah Complex	42,348	21,865	0	20,483	52%
Pal-Mar Complex NWSTA–Southfork Basin	4,842	4,842	0	0	100%
Pal-Mar Complex NWSTA – Halpatiokee Park	347	347	0	0	100%
Cypress Creek Complex	28,704	1,233	0	27,471	4%
Cypress Creek Complex (Public Owned Lands) ¹	3,935	3,935	0	0	100%
Muck Remediation and Artificial Habitat	640	0	0	640	0%
North Fork Floodplain Restoration	1,995	474	0	1,521	24%
North Fork Floodplain Restoration (Public-Owned Lands) ¹	1,094	4	0	1,090	0.41%
Upper East Coast – Potential Surplus			1,685		
Total	120,238	54,663	1,685	65,575	45%
(less) Other public-owned lands, including utilities¹	(5,029)	(3,939)	0	(1,090)	78%
Acquisition Total²	115,209	50,724	1,685	64,485	44%

Note: Potential surplus acres reflect potential surplus lands or pending project boundary adjustments.

¹Public-owned land within the project. St. Lucie County has acquired 3,935 acres within the Cypress Creek Complex.

A letter of agreement will be required to use public-owned lands for the project.

²Total excluding other public-owned lands, including utilities.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA

Table 6A-6 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Everglades Agricultural Area region under the current real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-6. Everglades Agricultural Area region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired	Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
A-1 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB) ¹	16,692	16,692	0	100%
CEPP, EAA A-2 FEB ²	20,548	16,495	4,053	80%
Bolles/Cross Canals	203	203	0	100%
Total	37,443	33,390	4,053	89%

¹The lands associated with Compartment A-1 are primarily designated for use as part of the Restoration Strategies central flow path. The CEPP proposes to integrate the use of Compartment A-1 and Compartment A-2 as a combined Flow Equalization Basin (FEB) storage feature in the Everglades Agricultural Area.

²EAA A-2 FEB, Compartment A-2, is designated for use as part of the CERP Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP).

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE EVERGLADES, FLORIDA BAY AND FLORIDA KEYS

Table 6A-7 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Everglades, Florida Bay, and the Florida Keys region under the real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-7. Everglades, Florida Bay, and Florida Keys region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired	Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
CEPP, CEPP, Eastern Tamiami Trail	27	0	27	0%
CEPP, Part 1, North New River Improvements (S-34 to C-6)	918	0	918	0%
CEPP, WCA-3 Decomp & Sheetflow Enhancement – Phase 2	28	0	28	0%
CEPP, L-31N (L-30) Seepage Management	391	391	0	100%
CEPP, S-356 Structure	3,556	0	3,556	0%
Everglades National Park, Bird Drive	3,996	1,399	2,597	35%
Everglades National Park, Dade-Broward Levee & Canal	990	651	339	66%
C-111 Spreader Canal Eastern – Phase 2 (Miami-Dade External Partner) ¹	3,853	3,853	0	100%
C-111 Spreader Canal Eastern – Phase 2 (Public Owned Lands) ²	4,220	1	4,219	0.02%
C-111 Spreader Canal Eastern – Phase 2 Remaining	20,612	16,281	4,331	79%
C-111 Spreader Canal Western – Frog Pond & Aerojet	3,431	3,431	0	100%
C-111 Spreader Canal Western (Miami-Dade External Partner) ¹	129	129	0	100%
C-111 Spreader Canal Western (Public Owned Lands) ²	5,687	0	5,687	0%
C-111 Spreader Canal Western - Operations	12,403	11,881	522	96%
C-111 South Dade Project	41,289	40,762	527	99%
L-31N (L-30) Seepage Management Pilot	91	91	0	100%
Total	101,621	78,870	22,751	78%
(less) Other public-owned lands, including utilities	(9,907)	(1)	(9,906)	.01%
Acquisition Total³	91,714	78,869	12,845	86%

¹ Miami-Dade County, as an external partner, has acquired 3,982 acres.

² Public-owned lands that include land owned by Florida Power & Light; a letter of agreement will be required to use public-owned lands for the project.

³Total excluding other public-owned lands, including utilities.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Table 6A-8 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Miami-Dade County region under the current real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-8. Miami-Dade County region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired		Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
		Estimated Boundary Acres Acquired	Potential Surplus Acres Acquired		
BBCW - Cutler South	859	826		33	96%
BBCW - Cutler South (Public Owned Lands) ²	843	505		338	60%
BBCW - Cutler South/Flow-way	30	30		0	100%
BBCW - L-31E Culverts-Homestead North	254	0		254	0%
BBCW - L-31E Culverts-Homestead North (Public Owned Lands) ²	643	550		93	86%
BBCW - L-31E Culverts-Homestead South	342	199		143	58%
BBCW - L-31E Culverts-Homestead South (Public Owned Lands) ²	633	409		224	65%
BBCW - Deering Estates/Shoal Point	197	83		114	42%
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Phase 2, Operations	1,291	1,291		0	100%
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Phase 2, Operations, (Miami-Dade External Partner Acquired) ¹	7,656	7,656		0	100%
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands – Phase 2, Operations (Public Owned Lands) ²	1,204	1,025		179	85%
Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - Potential Surplus			2,147		
Total	13,951	12,574	2,147	1,377	90%
(less) Other public-owned lands, including utilities	(3,323)	(2,489)	0	(834)	75%
Acquisition Total³	10,628	10,085	2,147	543	95%

Note: Potential surplus acres reflect potential surplus land or pending project boundary adjustments.

¹Miami-Dade County, as an external partner, has acquired 7,656 acres.

² Public-owned lands that include land owned by Florida Power & Light; a letter of agreement will be required to use public-owned lands for the project.

³Total excluding other public-owned lands, including utilities.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE LOXAHATCHEE RIVER WATERSHED

Table 6A-9 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Loxahatchee River Watershed region under the real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-9. Loxahatchee River Watershed region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired	Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
Pal-Mar and J.W. Corbett, LRWRP Natural Storage	7,577	7,577	0	100%
LRWRP Flow-way 1 Storage ¹	2,700	592	2,108	22%
L-8 Basin, LRWRP Flow-way 2 Storage ¹	1,896	1,896	0	100%
C-51 Reservoir and L-8 Flow Equalization Basin ²	1,800	1,270	530	70%
C-51 Regional Groundwater ASR	34	0	34	0%
Total	14,007	11,335	2,672	81%

¹Estimates of acres required represent the conceptual boundary acres and are subject to change.

²Land acquired for this feature have been designated for use by Restoration Strategies.

LAND ACQUISITIONS FOR THE WATER PRESERVE AREAS

Table 6A-10 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained within the Water Preserve Areas region under the current real estate acquisition plan as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-10. Water Preserve Areas region real estate acquisitions.

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired	Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
Broward County Secondary Canal System	245	0	245	0%
Fran Reich Preserve (Site 1 Impoundment)	1,642	1,642	0	100%
BCWPA, WCA-3A/3B Seepage Management ¹	2,859	2,859	0	100%
BCWPA, WCA-3A/3B Seepage Management (Other Public Lands) ^{1,2}	1,494	0	1,494	0%
BCWPA, C-9 Impoundment ¹	1,807	1,807	0	100%
BCWPA, C-9 Impoundment - Optional Mitigation Area ^{1,4}		384	(384)	
BCWPA, C-9 Impoundment (Other Public Lands) ^{1,2}	69	0	69	0%
BCWPA, C-11 Impoundment ¹	1,530	1,530	0	100%
BCWPA, C-11 Impoundment (Other Public Lands) ^{1,2}	301	210	91	70%
Total	9,947	8,432	1,515	85%
(less) Other public-owned lands, including utilities²	(1,864)	(210)	(1,654)	11%
Acquisition Total³	8,083	8,222	(139)	102%

¹Components of the Broward County Water Preserve Areas (BCWPA) Project.

²Public-owned lands include land owned by Florida Power & Light; a letter of agreement will be required to use these public-owned lands for the project.

³Total excluding other public-owned lands, including utilities.

⁴The acres for the optional component of BCWPA Project were included in the PIR/EIS as a possible addition to the project boundary; and are currently off-set by other acres and estimated dollars designated for other projects within the WPA region.

SECTION 6A-4: MAJOR PLAN/PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN

As of September 30, 2014, a total of 256,011 acres (63 percent) of land needed to implement CERP were acquired. A total of 287.96 acres of land were acquired in FY2014 for CERP projects at a cost of \$2,929,682 that includes 74.57 acres acquired by Miami-Dade County at a cost of \$250,400. An additional 185 acres were acquired through mitigation and donation.

Additional information on the progress of CERP implementation is available in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Annual Report – 470 Report in Volume I, Appendix 1-4.

FLORIDA FOREVER/SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECTS

The Florida Forever/Save Our Rivers (FF/SOR) land acquisition project maps and land acquisition summary are included in Chapter 6B of this volume. Table 6B-1 reflects acres of natural lands required versus acquired for FF/SOR projects and the natural lands managed under the District's land stewardship program. As of September 30, 2014, there are 35 projects totaling nearly 1.5 million required acres of land, of which 1.2 million acres of real estate interests have been acquired, approximately 46 percent in fee and 54 percent in easement.

A total of 6,020 acres associated the Southern Glades, FF/SOR project and approximately 5,274 acres associated within the Frog Pond, FF/SOR project lands have been designated for use by the C-111 South Dade Project to restore the Everglades and provide flood protection.

The Sam Jones/Abiake Prairie has been added as a FF/SOR project using approximately 15,000 acres of previously acquired District-owned lands to provide hydrologic benefits to groundwater, surface water and water supply, once the lands are restored as part of the C-139 Annex Restoration Project.

Miami-Dade County, as an external partner, acquired 13.52 acres of land for \$375,000 within the Southern Glades, FF/SOR project.

NORTHERN EVERGLADES AND ESTUARIES PROTECTION PROGRAM

In 2007, the Florida legislature expanded the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act (LOPA) to include protection of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers estuaries, known as the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP) (Section 373.4595, F.S.). Funding for land acquisition and construction for NEEPP was provided for under Florida Forever.

In FY2014, a total of 667.52 acres of land were acquired for the Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement, NEEPP project at a cost of \$1,898,683.

Additional information on the progress of NEEPP implementation is available in the 2015 SFER – Volume I. Refer to Cross-reference for Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program reporting Volume I, Appendix 1-6.

Table 6A-11 quantifies the acreage needed versus obtained for NEEPP projects as of September 30, 2014.

Table 6A-11. Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP).

Component	Acres Required	Acres Acquired	Remaining Acres	Percent Acquired
Caloosahatchee River Basin Water Quality Treatment and Testing Facility	1,773	1,773	0	100%
Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement	668	668	0	100%
Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan	174	174	0	100%
Lemkin Creek Water Storage and Treatment Facility – Phase 1 ¹	151	151	0	100%
Total	2,766	2,766	0	100%

Note: Gagbee, Inc., Lakeside Ranch, Brandy Ranch, and Taylor Creek/Grassy Island acquisitions are reported as part potential CERP project surplus land within the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Region (see **Table 6A-3**) and are being designated for use by NEEPP projects.

¹Lemkin Creek Storage and Treatment Facility – Phase 1 Project has been incorporated into NEEPP.

SECTION 6A-5: SURPLUS LAND

SURPLUS LANDS REPORT

The District acquires land for flood protection, water supply, water management, ecosystem restoration, and the conservation and protection of water resources. The District may sell or exchange surplus lands, including easements and other legal interests in real property, not required for present or future use. Surplus transactions are processed in accordance with Chapters 373.056, 373.089, and 373.096, F.S., and District rules, policies, and procedures.

Lands used by the District in an exchange or surplus transaction were determined, by a formal District routing and approval process, not necessary for any identified project. As further justification, some of these lands were acquired as remainder parcels, that is, portion of lands acquired outside approved project boundaries. The District uses exchange of surplus lands in lieu of cash to avoid costly condemnation proceedings and as further incentive for landowners.

During FY2014, the District conveyed a total of 5,997.80 acres of real estate interests, 5,914.51 acres in fee and 83.29 acres in non-fee interest. The District entered into multiple fee/easement exchange transactions totaling 5,940.62. The most notable exchanged was completed by conveying 5,862.89 acres of fee/easements to obtain lands needed for the STA1-W Expansion. An additional 57.18 acres were conveyed in disposal transactions.

Table 6A-12 summarizes the real estate interests conveyed in FY2014 as part of exchange or disposal transactions.

Table 6A-12. Surplus lands conveyed in FY2014.

EXCHANGES						
Project	County	Acres	Estate	Tract No. / Encmb. No.	Closing Date	Transaction Description
Cypress Creek/ Loxahatchee	Palm Beach	10.84	Access Esmt	HB100-037	10/17/13	Exchanged existing access easement with Palm Beach County for improved access easement (HB100-036)
Compartment B	Palm Beach	44.78	Fee	D7100-112	12/23/13	Conveyed fee title and granted non-exclusive access easements to FP&L in exchange for flowage easements (D7100-155), canal easement (D7100-156), and release of all FP&L cross-easements within project footprint
		16.02	Access Esmt	D710E-005		
		0.13		CE10E-001		
River of Grass	Palm Beach	5,811.19	Fee	SC200-030	4/25/14	Exchange with Florida Crystals for tracts needed in STA 1-W project (49102-249, 49102-250 and 49102-251)
		9.60		SC200-029		
L-8	Palm Beach	41.00	Fee	C4200-010	4/25/14	Conveyed fee title and retained canal easements; part of Florida Crystals exchange
		1.10		C4200-011		
C-4	Miami-Dade	0.96	Canal Esmt	31100-108	7/18/14	Released portion of canal easement in exchange for new canal easement (31100-104) and developer constructing flood wall project improvements within the new easement property
Critical CREW Deferred	Lee	5.00	Fee	09005-406	8/29/14	Exchanged surplus tract for needed tract inside Critical CREW boundary (09005-049)
Total Exchanged Acres:		5,940.62	Total Exchanged Parcels:			10

Table 6A-12. Continued.

DISPOSALS (Sale or Donation)						
Project	County	Acres	Estate	Tract No. / Encmb. No.	Closing Date	Transaction Description
L-63N	Okeechobee	0.74	Fee	41100-005	10/15/13	Conveyed fee title to FDOT for S.R. 70 road widening project at no cost and retained canal easements (41100-010 and 41100-011)
		0.10		41100-006		
C-43 (Spoil Lands)	Lee	8.28	Drainage Esmt	3410E-003	3/24/14	Granted drainage easement to Lee County at no cost for their Daniels Preserve Project
C-42	Broward	0.96	Canal Esmt	AK200-005	5/8/14	Released canal easement to Broward County for Hiatus Road widening project at no cost
North New River Canal	Broward	23.19	Canal Esmt	30001-107	7/3/14	Released a portion of canal right of way for approximately 9 miles to FDOT for I-595 road widening project at no cost; FDOT will be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the southerly right of way overbank
A-1 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB)	Palm Beach	22.62	Utility Esmt	D710E-007	8/26/14	Conveyed utility easements to FP&L to provide power to District project features
		0.29		D710E-006		
North Loop Telemetry	Martin	1.00	Fee	R0104-006	9/3/14	Conveyed Allapattah Microwave Tower to Martin County at no cost
Total Disposed Acres:		57.18	Total Disposed Parcels:			8

LAND ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Over six decades, the South Florida Water Management District has acquired nearly 1.5 million acres of land within its 16-county jurisdiction to support flood control infrastructure, protect water resources, and restore impaired ecosystems.

As part of a broad effort to maximize its resources to meet mission-critical responsibilities, the District is conducting a comprehensive land assessment to ensure that each parcel is being put to its most effective use. A similar assessment process was conducted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the state's four other water management districts.

In September 2014, the first phase of the SFWMD land assessment was completed—a review of approximately 750,000 acres of fee-owned lands in which the District has full or shared ownership rights. A total of 21,357 acres of land were recommended and approved for further evaluation as potential surplus or exchange.

The next phase of the assessment process is now in progress. It involves conducting a complete due diligence process on each property identified for further evaluation. During this phase some of the lands will be recommended for alternative uses by the District while others will be recommended for surplus or exchange.

SECTION 6A-6: FLORIDA FOREVER LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Projects eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act (Section 259.105, F.S.) as well as projects eligible for state acquisition monies from the appropriate account or trust fund under Section 373.139(3)(c), F.S., during the FY2015 – FY2019 period are listed in this section. Detailed project descriptions and supporting information are provided in the Consolidated Project Report Database, available on the District’s website at www.sfwmd.gov/sfer.

CERP PROJECTS

Information on CERP projects is included in each of the planning documents. The approved planning documents, as well as in-progress reports, are available on the CERP website at www.evergladesrestoration.gov. The following two sub-categories summarize all eligible CERP projects:

Full-Scale CERP Projects

- Big Cypress/L-28 Modifications
- Bird Drive Recharge Area, as part of the Everglades National Park (ENP) Seepage Management Project
- Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands
- Broward County WPAs
- Broward County Secondary Canal System
- C-43 Basin Storage Reservoir and ASR – Part 1
- C-44 Reservoir and STA adjacent land
- C-111 Spreader Canal
- Central Everglades Planning Project (considers Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Storage Reservoir, Phases 1 and 2; Flow to Northwest and Central Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3A; WCA-3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement; and ENP Seepage Management)
- Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Storage Reservoir, Phases 1 and 2
- ENP Seepage Management
- Fran Reich Preserve/Site 1 Impoundment
- Flow to Northwest and Central Water Conservation Area (WCA) 3A
- Indian River Lagoon – South (IRL-S)
- Lake Okeechobee Watershed
- Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration¹
- Picayune Strand Restoration - (f/k/a Southern Golden Gates Estates)
- Picayune Strand Restoration - Fakahatchee Strand and Belle Meade adjacent land
- WCA-3 Decompartmentalization and Sheetflow Enhancement (Decomp) – Part 1

¹ Formerly known as North Palm Beach County – Part 1

Pilot Projects

- Hillsboro ASR Pilot
- L-30 (formerly L-31N) Seepage Management Pilot
- Lake Okeechobee Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Pilot
- Wastewater Reuse Technology Pilot

KISSIMMEE RIVER PROJECTS

- Kissimmee River Restoration and Evaluation
- Kissimmee River Restoration Project

FF/SOR PROJECTS

- C-111/L-31N (also known as C-111 Canal Project)
- CREW - includes Critical Restoration Project (CRP) component
- Kissimmee River (Lower Basin)
- Kissimmee River (Upper Basin, includes Kissimmee Chain of Lakes)
- Lake Marion Creek and Reedy Creek Management Area
- Pal -Mar (West Jupiter Wetlands)

NEEPP PROJECTS

- Brady Ranch STA
- Caloosahatchee Basin Storage and Treatment
- Caloosahatchee River Basin Water Quality Treatment and Testing Facility
- Dispersed Water Management
- Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement
- Lakeside Ranch STA (Phases 1 and 2)
- Lemkin Creek
- Local and Sub-Regional Water Quality²
- Rio St. Lucie Stormwater Quality - Sediment Nutrients
- Spanish Creek/Four Corners

OTHER WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS

- Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project
- Stormwater Treatment Area - 1W Expansion
- Lainhart & Masten Dam Conveyance
- Bolles Canal (G-341)
- G716 Structure Expansion (S-375)

²Formerly known as Source Control and Sub-Regional Water Quality: Local projects include source control projects, local stormwater projects and other type of local water quality and storage projects that will benefit the Northern Everglades; therefore, "source control" has been replaced by "local" in the project name.

SECTION 6A-7: FLORIDA FOREVER GOALS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

This section presents the Florida Forever goals and performance measures that apply to all Florida water management districts and to the FDEP. When the goals and performance measures for the Florida Forever Program were developed in collaboration with the Florida Forever Advisory Council, it was envisioned that these criteria would serve as a guide to land acquisition using Florida Forever funds.

While the District's funds are expected to be used to acquire land, the final footprints of projects may not be known when land is acquired. This is especially true for many CERP projects, for which exact locations are not yet available. Given this uncertainty, the Florida Forever goals and performance measures provide guidelines for acquisition managers as purchases are made. As land managers identify tracts for individual projects, the specific goals and performance measures the tracts satisfy must be identified.

To aid in this process, **Table 6A-13** summarizes how each of the projects satisfies one or more Florida Forever goals and performance measures. As land managers acquire land for specific projects, this supporting information will aid in ensuring that future lands satisfy the requirements of the Florida Forever Program. The Florida Forever goals and performance measures specified in Section 259.105(5) a-h, F.S., are outlined below and cross-referenced in **Table 6A-13**.

(5) It is the intent of the Legislature that projects or acquisitions funded pursuant to paragraphs (3) (a) and (b) contribute to the achievement of the following goals, which shall be evaluated in accordance with specific criteria and numeric performance measures developed pursuant s. 259.035(4):

- (a) Enhance the coordination and completion of land acquisition projects, as measured by:
 - 1. The number of acres acquired through the state's land acquisition programs that contribute to the enhancement of essential natural resources, ecosystem service parcels, and connecting linkage corridors as identified and developed by the best available scientific analysis;
 - 2. The number of acres protected through the use of alternatives to fee simple acquisition; or
 - 3. The number of shared acquisition projects among Florida Forever funding partners and partners with other funding sources, including local governments and the federal government.

- (b) Increase the protection of Florida's biodiversity at the species, natural community, and landscape levels, as measured by:
 - 1. The number of acres acquired of significant strategic habitat conservation areas;
 - 2. The number of acres acquired of highest priority conservation areas for Florida's rarest species;
 - 3. The number of acres acquired of significant landscapes, landscape linkages, and conservation corridors, giving priority to completing linkages;
 - 4. The number of acres acquired of under-represented native ecosystems;
 - 5. The number of landscape-sized protection areas of at least 50,000 acres that exhibit a mosaic of predominantly intact or restorable natural communities established through new acquisition projects, or augmentations to previous projects; or

6. The percentage increase in the number of occurrences of imperiled species on publicly managed conservation areas.
- (c) Protect, restore, and maintain the quality and natural functions of land, water, and wetland systems of the state, as measured by:
1. The number of acres of publicly owned land identified as needing restoration, acres undergoing restoration, enhancement, and management, acres with restoration activities completed, and acres managed to maintain such restored or enhanced conditions; the number of acres which represent actual or potential imperiled species habitat; the number of acres which are available pursuant to a management plan to restore, enhance, repopulate, and manage imperiled species habitat; and the number of acres of imperiled species habitat managed, restored, enhance, repopulated, or acquired;
 2. The percentage of water segments that fully meet, partially meet, or do not meet their designated uses as reported in the Department of Environmental Protection's State Water Quality Assessment 305(b) Report;
 3. The percentage completion of targeted capital improvements in surface water improvement and management plans created under Section 373.453(2), F.S., regional or master stormwater management system plans, or other adopted restoration plans;
 4. The number of acres acquired that protect natural floodplain functions;
 5. The number of acres acquired that protect surface waters of the state;
 6. The number of acres identified for acquisition to minimize damage from flooding and the percentage of those acres acquired;
 7. The number of acres acquired that protect fragile coastal resources;
 8. The number of acres of functional wetland systems protected;
 9. The percentage of miles of critically eroding beaches contiguous with public lands that are restored or protected from further erosion;
 10. The percentage of public lakes and rivers in which invasive, non-native aquatic plants are under maintenance control; or
 11. The number of acres of public conservation lands in which upland invasive, exotic plants are under maintenance control.
- (d) Ensure that sufficient quantities of water are available to meet the current and future needs of natural systems and the citizens of the state, as measured by:
1. The number of acres acquired which provide retention and storage of surface water in naturally occurring storage areas, such as lakes and wetlands, consistent with the maintenance of water resources or water supplies and consistent with district water supply plans;
 2. The quantity of water made available through the water resource development component of a district water supply plan for which a water management district is responsible; or
 3. The number of acres acquired of groundwater recharge areas critical to springs, sinks, aquifers, other natural systems or water supply.

- (e) Increase natural resource-based public recreational and educational opportunities, as measured by:
 - 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for natural resource-based public recreation or education;
 - 2. The miles of trails that are available for public recreation, giving priority to those that provide significant connections including those that will assist in completing the Florida National Scenic Trail; or
 - 3. The number of new resource-based recreation facilities, by type, made available on public land.

- (f) Preserve significant archaeological or historic sites, as measured by:
 - 1. The increase in the number of and percentage of historic and archaeological properties listed in the Florida Master Site File or National Register of Historic Places which are protected or preserved for public use; or
 - 2. The increase in the number and percentage of historic and archaeological properties that are in state ownership.

- (g) Increase the amount of forestland available for sustainable management of natural resources, as measured by:
 - 1. The number of acres acquired that are available for sustainable forest management;
 - 2. The number of acres of state owned forestland managed for economic return in accordance with current best management practices;
 - 3. The number of acres of forestland acquired that will serve to maintain natural groundwater recharge functions; or
 - 4. The percentage and number of acres identified for restoration actually restored by reforestation.

- (h) Increase the amount of open space available in urban areas, as measured by:
 - 1. The percentage of local governments that participate in land acquisition programs and acquire open space in urban cores; or
 - 2. The percentage and number of acres of purchases of open space within urban service areas.

Table 6A-13. Florida Forever goals, performance measures, and projects.

Goals									Project Name ¹
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	ID	
3			2	1,2,3				10	Big Cypress/L-28 Interceptor Modifications (CCC)
3			2	1,2,3				43	Bird Drive Recharge Area (U), as part of ENP Seepage Mgmt.
3		7,2	1	1,2,3				28	Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (FFF/OPE)
3		5,11	1	1,3					Brady Ranch STA, NEEPP
3		2	1	3				45	Broward County WPA (C-9 and C-11 Impoundments and WCA-3A/3B Levee Seepage Management) (O,Q)
3			1	1,2,3				24	Broward County Secondary Canal System (CC) (P1)
		3							Bolles Canal (G-341), RS
3			2	1,2,3					C-111/L-31N (C-111 Canal Project or C-111 Project Implementation)
3	3	2	1	1,2,3				29	C-111 Spreader Canal (WW) (WW)
3			2,3	1,2,3				4	C-43 Basin Storage Reservoir and ASR – Part 1 (DP1)
3			2	1,2,3				5	Caloosahatchee River (C-43) Basin West Storage Reservoir
3		2,3,5							Caloosahatchee River Basin Water Quality Treatment and Testing Facility, NEEPP
1		1,5	1	1,3					Caloosahatchee Basin Storage and Treatment, NEEPP
3			2	1,2,3				7	IRL–S, C-44 Reservoir and STA
3			2	1,2,3				7	IRL–S, C-44 Reservoir and STA adjacent lands
1,3	1,2,3,5	1,2,3,4,5,6,8,10,11	1,3	1,2,3					Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed(CREW), including Southern CREW
		2	2	1,2,3					Central Everglades Planning Project
2			1						Dispersed Water Management, NEEPP
3		2	2,3	1,2,3				8	EAA Storage Reservoir (includes Bolles and Cross Canals Improvement) (GP1 and 2)
3			2	1,2,3				27	ENP Seepage Management (V,FF,BB)
3	3			1,2,3				11	Flow to Northwest and Central WCA-3A (II)(RR)
		3							G-716 Structure Expansion (S-375), RS
2,3									Herbert Hoover Dike Rehabilitation Project

¹Project Name column includes parenthetic references that correspond to Central and Southern Florida Comprehensive Review Study components of CERP.

Table 6A-13. Continued.

Goals									Project Name ¹
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	ID	
3		1,2,4,5	1,2	1,2,3				7	IRL-S, C-23/C-24/C-25/North Fork Reservoirs and STAs (UU); C-44 Basin Storage Reservoir (B) including adjacent land; and natural storage areas (Allapattah, Cypress Creek, and South Fork)
1,2		1,4	2						Kissimmee River (Lower Basin)
1,2		1,4	2						Kissimmee River (Upper Basin), includes Kissimmee Chain of Lakes
1,2		1,4							Kissimmee River Restoration and Evaluation
1,2		1,4							Kissimmee River Restoration Project
3			2	1,2,3				36	L-30 (formerly L-31N) Seepage Management Pilot Project (Pilot)
1		1,8	1						Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement
1		8, 11		1					Lake Marion Creek and Reedy Creek Management Area
3			1,2	1,2,3				32	Lake Okeechobee ASR Pilot Project (Pilot)
		5	2	2					Lake Okeechobee Watershed (A,LOTTSD,LOWQTF,W)
3		5,11	1	1,3	1,2				Lakeside Ranch STA (Phases I and 2), NEEPP
		5							Lemkin Creek, NEEPP
									Lainhart & Masten Dam Conveyance, RS
1,3		1	1					17	Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration (OPE)(PAL-Mar) (KP1,GGG) OPE (LWL)
1,3	3	1	1						Pal-Mar (West Jupiter Wetlands)
3		1,4,6	2	1,2,3				30	Picayune Strand Restoration (OPE)
3		1,4,6	2	1,2,3				30	Picayune Strand Restoration – Fakahatchee Strand adjacent land
		2,3							Rio St. Lucie Stormwater Quality - Sediment Nutrients
				1,2,3				34	Site 1 (Hillsboro) Impoundment and ASR (Pilot)
		2,3							Local and Sub-Regional Water Quality
		3,8							Spanish Creek/Four Corners
3		2	2,3	1,2,3				40	Fran Reich Preserve/Site 1 Impoundment (MP1)
		3							Stormwater Treatment Area - 1W Expansion, RS
3	3			1,2,3				12,13	WCA-3 Decomp (QQP1, SSP2, SSP1,AA) (QQP 2) WCA Conveyance

¹Project Name column includes parenthetic references that correspond to Central and Southern Florida Comprehensive Review Study components of CERP.