WESTERN EVERGLADES RESTORATION PROJECT (WERP)

Water Resources Accountability and Collaboration: Public Forum Prepared by Zulamet Vega-Liriano
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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

I. WERP Overview

- Background
- Project area
- Objectives





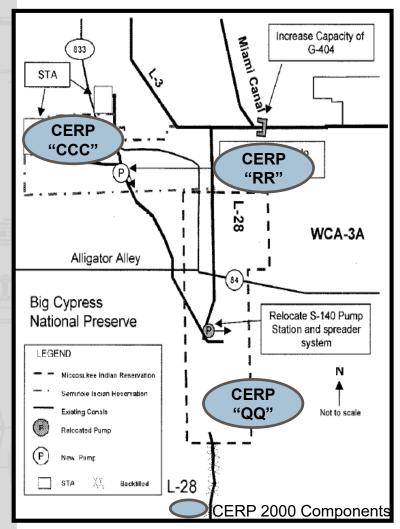
III. How the WERP Alternative Hr relates to WCA-3A?

Project Features that could impact water levels along WCA-3A





WERP OVERVIEW Background, Project Area & Objectives

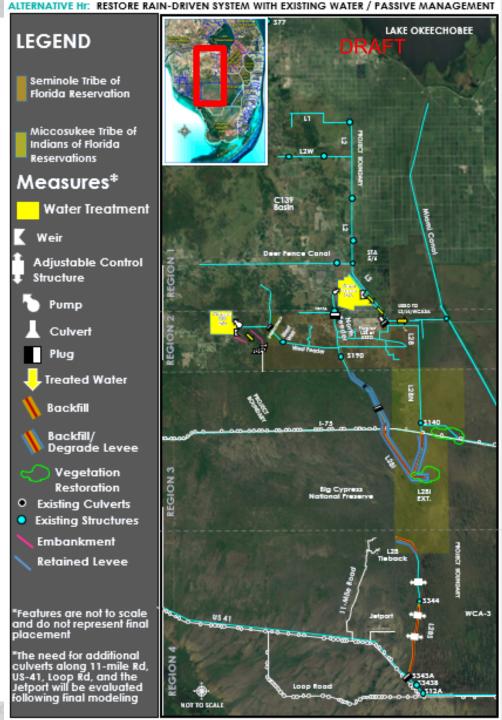


1999, Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), Big Cypress/L-28 Interceptor, Appendix A4, page A4-67

<u>Study Authority:</u> Section 601 Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (WRDA, 2000).

Study Objectives:

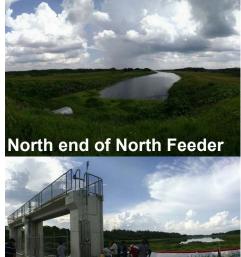
- Restoring freshwater flow paths, flow volumes & timing, seasonal hydroperiods, & historic distributions of sheetflow, to re-establish ecological connectivity and ecological resilience of the historic wetland/upland mosaic.
- Restoring water levels to reduce wildfires associated with altered hydrology, which damage the underlying geomorphology and associated ecological conditions of the western Everglades.
- Restoring aquatic low nutrient (oligotrophic) conditions to reestablish and sustain native flora & fauna.

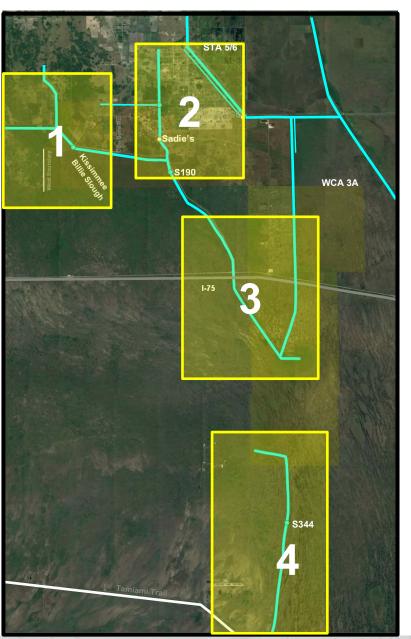


WERP ALTERNATIVE Hr









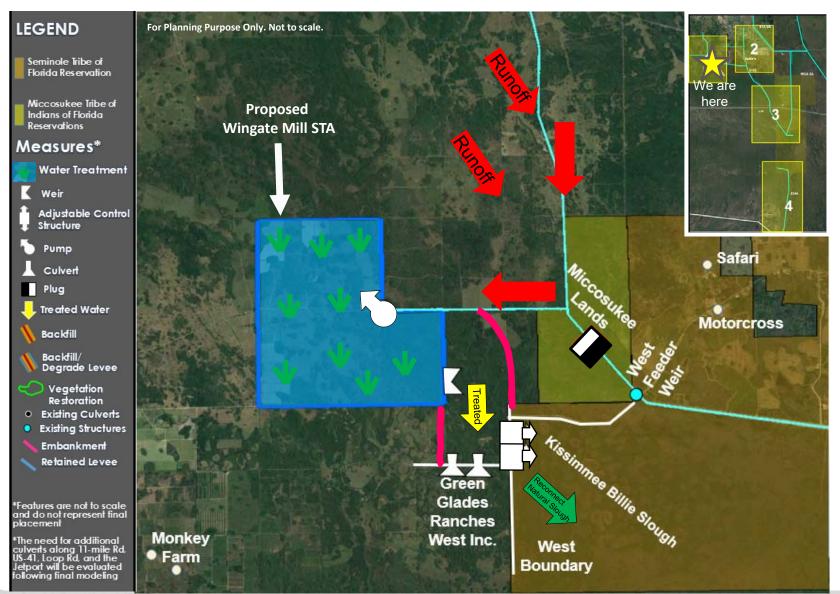
WERP FOCUS AREAS:

- 1. WESTERN AREA
- 2. EASTERN AREA
- 3. CENTRAL AREA
- 4. SOUTHERN AREA





ALTERNATIVE HR - WESTERN AREA (1) New Features Proposed by WERP



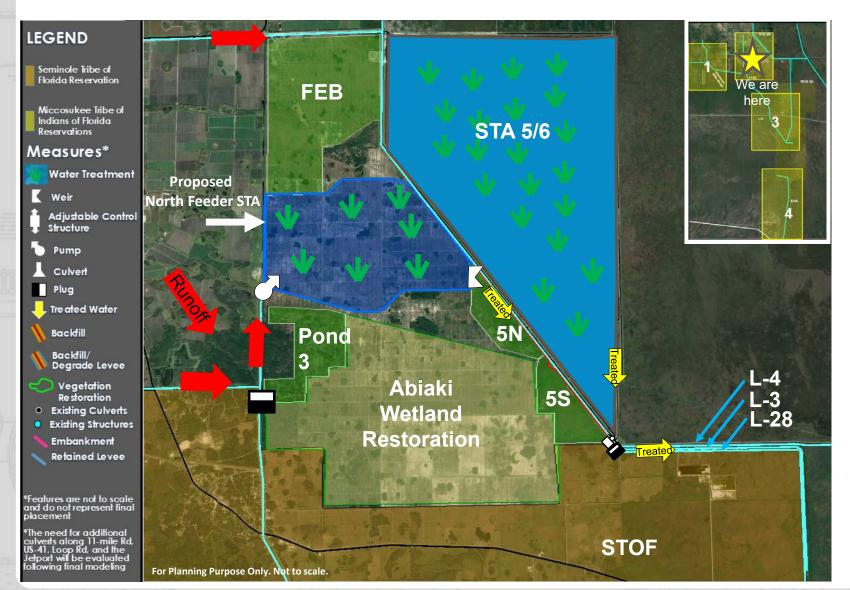
- 4,050-acre acre of Storm Treatment Area (STA)
- Inflow pump station
- Inflow distribution canal
- Outflow collection canal
- Embankment to keep water in slough
- Culverts along existing roads
- Plug or gated structure on Wingate Mill Canal





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ALTERNATIVE HR - Eastern Area (2) New Features Proposed by WERP



- 3,420 acre of Storm Treatment Area (STA)
- Intake canal
- Inflow pump station
- Inflow distribution canal
- Outflow collection canal
- Gated culvert outlet
- 2 Plugs





ALTERNATIVE HR – Central Area (3)

New Features Proposed by WERP



- Inline Weir on L-28i, to prevent water level drawdowns on Big Cypress Reservation
- Plug and backfill of L-28i extending approximately 1.5 miles north of I-75 (no flow out of L-28i)
- Levee degrade and backfill of L-28i, L-28i ext., and L-28N south of I-75 ("Triangle")
- Tree Island Restoration along L-28i
- Vegetation restoration near L-28 ext. and S-140.

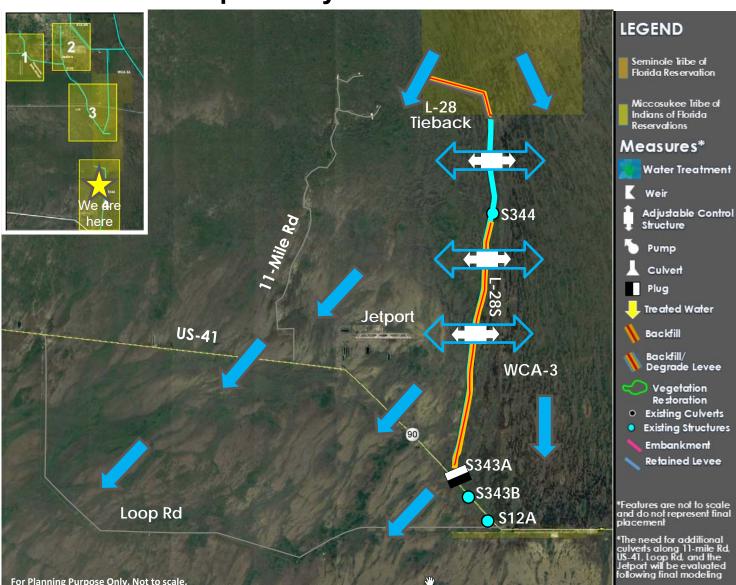




For Planning Purpose Only. Not to scale.

ALTERNATIVE HR - Southern Area (4)

New Features Proposed by WERP



- Degrade of L-28 Tieback levee and canal backfill
- Backfill of approximately 9
 miles of L-28S canal south of
 S344
- 3 gated control structures to allow flow from east to west
- Need for additional culverts on US-41, Loop Rd, 11 mile Rd, and Jetport will be evaluated following modeling
- Evaluate need for plug on US-41 canal





HOW THE WERP ALTERNATIVE Hr RELATES TO WCA-3A?

- Three out of four areas in WERP will have an effect on WCA-3A. These areas are:
 - Eastern
 - Central
 - □ Southern
- WERP ALTHR is currently evaluating the system wide response to the environmental, water supply, flood protection, real estate and economic effects within the project area and surrounding areas.





QUESTIONS?



Projected Project Timeline



^{*} Pending 2nd Waiver Approval



