

Chapter 1: Introduction to the *2011 South Florida Environmental Report – Volume II*

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This chapter provides the background and outline of Volume II of the *2011 South Florida Environmental Report* (SFER). Whereas Volumes I and III of the 2011 SFER focus on the reports unique to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD or District), Volume II includes state-mandated reports that Florida's five water management districts are required to prepare annually. Specifically, Volume II consolidates the following eight reports:

- Annual Work Plan Report
- Priority Water Bodies List and Schedule
- Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan
- Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program
- Alternative Water Supply Annual Report
- Florida Forever Work Plan, Annual Update
- Land Stewardship Annual Report
- Mitigation Donation Annual Report

LEGAL AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Volume II is prepared pursuant to Chapter 2005-36, Laws of Florida, and Subsection 373.036(7), Florida Statutes (F.S.). This legislation calls for all five water management districts in Florida to consolidate their annual reports submitted to the Florida legislature or executive office of the governor. It is intended to encourage better, more efficient, and unified statewide reporting of water management district activities, and to allow easier access to such information by policy makers, stakeholders, and the public.

Within the 2011 SFER, the SFWMD exercises the option of completing an Annual Work Plan Report (as an addendum to its Strategic Plan), available on the District's web site at www.sfwmd.gov/budget, in lieu of the District Water Management Plan Annual Report.

VOLUME II OBJECTIVES

The objectives in developing Volume II are to provide, in consolidated form, the District's set of annual reports that are required of each of Florida's five water management districts. These reports document the SFWMD's progress in implementing plans developed to address areas of responsibility on a regional or District-wide basis.

While the reports are integral to project management reporting and central to the District's functions, reporting requirements historically caused significant overlaps across several of the reports. These overlaps were largely due to implementation of projects intentionally designed to serve more than one function. As part of the 2011 SFER, a comprehensive database of project

descriptions is included to streamline the agency's process and project-related reporting. This database allows projects to be described once comprehensively, and provides efficiencies in project description, information gathering, compilation, review, printing, and distribution. The *2011 SFER Project Database* link is available on the District's website at www.sfwmd.gov/SFER under SFER Reports.

VOLUME II CONTENT

In the 2011 SFER, Volume II unifies eight reports organized into the following chapters.

- **Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Work Plan Report:** Chapter 2 is an implementation status report for the Strategic Plan and resulting Annual Work Plan, including activity summaries and success indicators for the District's programs and projects during Fiscal Year 2010 (FY2010) (October 1, 2009–September 30, 2010).
- **Priority Water Bodies List and Schedule:** Chapter 3 is an annual status report describing the District's priorities and schedule for developing Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs), Water Reservations, and Restricted Allocation Area Rules.
- **Five-Year Capital Improvements Plan:** Chapter 4 is an annual report of the District's capital projects, covering all the agency's programs. This chapter includes project-level detail and shows projected expenditures and corresponding funding sources for the next five-year period, FY2011–FY2015.
- **Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program:** Chapter 5A provides projected five-year (FY2011–FY2015) financial costs and water supply benefits for implementing the District's regional water supply plans, as well as a status report of the water resource development efforts for FY2010.
- **Alternative Water Supply Annual Report:** Chapter 5B is an annual report summarizing the Alternative Water Supply projects funded by the SFWMD, including the quantity of water made available, agency funding, and total cost.
- **Florida Forever Work Plan, 2011 Annual Update:** Chapter 6A provides an update of the projects eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act (Chapter 259.105, F.S.) for land acquisition, water resource development, stormwater management, water body restoration, recreational facility construction, public access improvements, and invasive plant control.
- **Land Stewardship Annual Report:** Chapter 6B is an annual report on the District's FY2010 management of District lands managed for conservation and restoration. This is done primarily through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund established under Chapter 373.59, F.S., and, through lease agreements, for project lands acquired for massive ecosystem-scale restoration initiatives.
- **Mitigation Donation Annual Report:** Chapter 7 is an annual report on the status of mitigation funds for two mitigation projects, the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed and Pennsuco Regional Mitigation Area. This includes any funds received as mitigation for wetland impacts as well as monies received by the District as a result of other agencies' permit requirements. The report also summarizes mitigation fund expenditures for FY2010 and projected expenditures for FY2011.

CONSOLIDATED PROJECT REPORT DATABASE

District projects and processes are often designed to serve multiple functions. Prior to the SFER, these projects and processes had to be re-described in every annual report they served. Now in its seventh year, the Consolidated Project Report Database is designed to facilitate single SFWMD project or process descriptions that make up implementation strategies referenced in the 2011 SFER. Descriptive project and process data are stored in the database that can be accessed, queried, and sorted using routines. Drop-down menu options are available for added data entry efficiency.

The fields contained in the Consolidated Project Report Database include the following project or process attributes.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title • Type • Lead Agency • Lead SFWMD Organization Unit • Lead Program • Related Program • Partners • Manager • State Reporting Category • Last Updated • Description • Area(s) of Responsibility • Location (street address, county, planning region) • Legislative Reference • Square Footage/Physical Description • Land Requirement • Objective • Historical Background/Need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End Products
(scheduled products for processes) • Major Water Bodies Impacted • Expected Completion Month/Year • Associated Projects/Project Linkage • Major Milestones Completed in Last Fiscal Year • Milestones in Next Fiscal Year • Expenditures in Last Fiscal Year • Total Project Cost • Resource Performance Measures • Project Performance Measures • Alternative(s) • Major Uncertainties • District Financial Summary
(all for five-year period) • Funding Source • Chapter References (including Florida Forever Goal, if applicable) |
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The sorting capability is also an advantage of using the database to communicate project-related information. For example, if the reader wants to review all the Capital Improvement Flood Protection projects in Collier County (and all the information associated with those projects), then those projects can be easily identified along with their associated information. In this way, the database offers added flexibility and utility with regard to needed information and project management. The Consolidated Project Report Database, including navigation instructions, is available on the District's website at www.sfwmd.gov/SFER under SFER Reports.