

Appendix 8-2: Northern Everglades Annual Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2013

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This Northern Everglades Annual Work Plan was prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 373.026(8)(b), Florida Statutes (F.S.), which states that prior to the release of state funds for implementation of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Protection Plan or the River Watershed Protection Plans, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD or District) must prepare an annual work plan, as part of the annual consolidated report, that is consistent with the goals and objectives of Section 373.4595, F.S. Upon a determination by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) secretary of the annual work plan's consistency with the goals and objectives of Section 373.4595, F.S., the secretary may approve the release of state funds.

The Northern Everglades coordinating agencies—SFWMD, FDEP, and Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)—have requested to spend Save Our Everglades Trust Funds (SOETF) dollars for implementation of the projects identified in the Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, and St. Lucie River Watershed Protection Plans (Protection Plans) delivered to the Florida legislature. The projects collectively identified by the coordinating agencies that will be implemented in Fiscal Year 2013 using SOETF funding are listed below with an asterisk (*) and are an integral part of the Lake Okeechobee and River Watershed Protection Plans. To provide a more comprehensive picture, projects that will be implemented in Fiscal Year 2013 to further the goals and objectives of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program but will be funded by other funding sources are also included in the list. Please note that this work plan is subject to change throughout the fiscal year as deemed appropriate by the coordinating agencies.

Lake Okeechobee Watershed

I. Construction Project and Other Related Activities

- Lakeside Ranch – Phase I North (O&M)¹
- Dispersed Water Management Program
 - Florida Ranchlands Environmental Services Project^{1,2,3}
 - Nicodemus Slough Water Management Project*¹
 - Northern Everglades Payment for Environmental Services Program¹
 - Northern Everglades Cost-Share Projects¹

¹ South Florida Water Management District is the lead agency.

² Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is the lead agency.

³ Florida Department of Environmental Protection is the lead agency.

- Interim Lands Projects¹
- Rolling Meadows Wetland Restoration¹
- Feasibility and Conceptual Planning Studies
 - Taylor Creek Site Feasibility Study¹
 - Lake Okeechobee Watershed Pre-Drainage Characterization Modeling^{1,2,3}
- Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule¹
- In-lake Navigation/Recreation Enhancements¹

II. Pollutant Control Program

- Agricultural² and Urban³ BMPs
- Regulatory Programs
 - SFWMD Regulatory Nutrient Source Control Program¹
 - Statewide ERP Legislation³
- Innovative Treatment Technologies (Watershed Phosphorus Reduction Projects)^{1,2,3}
 - Hybrid Wetland Treatment Technology²
 - New Alternative Technology Assessment Initiative¹
 - Permeable Reactive Barriers¹

III. Research and Water Quality Monitoring Program (as described in the Research and Water Quality Monitoring Plan)

- Regional Phosphorus Control Project Monitoring (Taylor Creek STA, Nubbin Slough STA, Lakeside Ranch STA)¹
- Water Quality Assessment and Reporting (Lake Okeechobee Operating Permit)¹
- Sub-basin Monitoring Flow Network (USGS)² and Sub-basin Water Quality Monitoring¹
- Lake Okeechobee In-Lake Assessment Projects¹
- Exotics and Nuisance Species Control¹
- In-lake and Watershed Modeling¹
 - Nutrient Budget Tool Upgrade and Calibration
 - Lake Okeechobee Water Quality Model

Caloosahatchee River Watershed

I. Construction Project and Other Related Activities

- C-43 Boma – Water Quality Treatment and Testing*¹
- Caloosahatchee Basin Storage/Treatment Project¹
 - Lake Hicpochee (survey, geotechnical and design)*¹
 - Mirror Lakes (Halfway Pond) Rehydration⁴
- Four Corners/Spanish Creek Initiative

⁴ East County Water Control District is the lead agency.

- Spanish Creek Restoration (Bob Jane's Preserve)*^{1,5}
- Jack's Branch^{1,6}
- Dispersed Water Management Program
 - Northern Everglades Payment for Environmental Services Program¹
 - Northern Everglades Cost-Share Projects¹
 - Interim Lands Projects¹
 - Water Farming Pilot Project¹
- II. Pollutant Control Program
 - Agricultural² and Urban³ BMPs
 - Regulatory Programs
 - SFWMD Regulatory Nutrient Source Control Program¹
 - Statewide ERP Legislation³
- III. Research and Water Quality Monitoring Program (as described in the Research and Water Quality Monitoring Plan)
 - Caloosahatchee Monitoring Stations Maintenance¹
 - Applied Research, Model Development and Application¹

St. Lucie Watershed

- I. Construction Project
 - C-44 Project⁷ (Construction)*
 - Local Cost-Share Stormwater Projects^{1,3,8}
 - St. Lucie Rive Issues Team Projects
 - Dispersed Water Management Program
 - Northern Everglades Payment for Environmental Services Program¹
 - Northern Everglades Cost-Share Projects¹
 - Interim Lands Projects¹
 - Water Farming Pilot Project¹
 - Dispersed Water Management Wetland Reserve Projects^{1,9}
 - § Allapattah Conservation & Recreation Area (ACRA)
 - § Turnpike Dairy
 - § Williamson Ranch
 - Agricultural² and Urban³ BMPs
 - Regulatory Programs

⁵ Lee County is the lead agency.

⁶ Hendry County is the lead agency.

⁷ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the lead agency.

⁸ Martin County is the lead agency.

⁹ Natural Resources Conservation Service is a co-lead agency.

Best Management Practices (BMPs); Stormwater Treatment Area (STA); U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- SFWMD Regulatory Nutrient Source Control Program¹
 - Statewide ERP Legislation³
 - Innovative Treatment Technologies^{1,2,3}
 - Hybrid Wetland Treatment Technology²
- II. Research and Water Quality Monitoring Program (as described in the Research and Water Quality Monitoring Plan)
- St. Lucie Nutrient Study¹
 - USGS St. Lucie Estuary Monitoring¹
 - Applied Research, Model Development and Application
 - St. Lucie Tributary Monitoring