

Project Name: **Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps**
(F/k/a “Tamiami Trail 2” or “Enabling Northeast Shark River Slough Restoration – support for Others (SFO) “

Project ID: 1309

Lead Agency: DOI/USACE

Authority: H.R. 1105: Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 ((P.L. 111-008, dated March 11, 2009)

Funding Source: DOI

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: Other

Measurable Output(s): Study with recommendations

Project Synopsis: The Tamiami Trail, a highway built in the 1920s to connect the east and west coasts of Florida, sliced through the heart of the Everglades and cut off the natural flow. Since that time, the Tamiami has acted like a dam; depriving the Everglades National Park (ENP) when it's parched in the dry season, and backing up water that drowns the water conservation areas to the north in the wet season.

The 2009 Omnibus directed the Secretary of the Interior, acting thorough the National Park Service (NPS) “to immediately evaluate the feasibility of additional bridge length, beyond that to be constructed pursuant to the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Project (16 U.S.C. § 410r-S), including a continuous bridge, or additional bridges or some combination thereof, for the Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) to restore more natural water flow to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay and for the purpose of restoring habitat within the Park and the ecological connectivity between the Park and the Water Conservation Areas.” The National Park Service requested support from the USACE to assist with the study to determine the next step of modification to Tamiami Trail for restoration. The special report will provide a holistic recommendation, drawn from information and analyses contained in prior 2005 and 2008 reports. This information and analysis will expedite the effort.

Current Status: The PMP was executed in May 2009 and a public scoping was held in June and technical analysis continued. ENP developed modeling for one hydrologic performance measure and USACE/SAJ calculated values for a second hydrologic performance measure. The Engineering Design and Cost for initial alternatives was completed October 2009 followed by Real estate appraisal and cost estimates completed in early December 2009.

DOI proposed a new alternative in mid-December 2009 and another in early January 2010. The DOI alternatives, not previously analyzed, required additional design, construction cost, and ecosystem benefit analyses. Their addition into the study temporarily delayed the TSP and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (by ENP). The release of the Draft EIS is expected to be released to the public in early June 2010. DOI will continue coordination with Congress and finalize the EIS towards fall 2010.

Est. Cost: \$ 1,373,000

Project Schedule:

2009	Start/PMP
2010	Report completed and ROD

Detailed Project Budget Information (rounded):

DOI Modifications to Tamiami Trail	Expenditures Thru FY 2009
Federal	\$216,631
Non-Federal	\$0
Total	\$216,631

Hyperlink: <http://www.nps.gov/ever/naturescience/nessrestoration.htm>

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Source: Project description and authority are taken from the PMP document. Current status information, cost estimate and expenditures were provided by the project manager.