

Program Name: Florida Greenways and Trails Program
Project Name: Lake Okeechobee Scenic Trail
Project ID: 3201 (Formerly Project ID 3102)
Lead Agency: Office of Greenways and Trails
Authority: Department of Environmental Protection

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: 3.A.2

Measurable Output(s): Designated miles of trails

Project Synopsis: The LOST will consist of an 11 foot wide paved trail on top of the Herbert Hoover Dike that will have a 3 foot wide grassed shoulder on the lake side. It will accommodate pedestrians, backpackers, bicyclists, equestrians, sightseers, naturalists, skaters, picnickers, campers and fishermen. The trail will be approximately 110 miles long.

Current Status:

62 miles of paved levee-top trail completed by the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT). 2.5 miles of at-grade trail in the Fisheating Creek area were completed by DOT and the Office of Greenways and Trails (OGT). OGT engineering designs for the Taylor Creek pedestrian bridge are underway. OGT funding is in place for an additional 6.5 miles of levee-top trail in Glades County. The levee repairs being conducted by the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) may impact existing levee-top trail in some areas, resulting in multiagency negotiations with ACOE. It will be requested that the ACOE replace any paved trail damaged or removed for levee repairs as part of the levee repair contracts.

Cost:

Total:

\$27,000,000

Project Development:

Land Acquisition:

Implementation:

Operations and maintenance: \$ 100,000 a year when completed

Project Schedule:

Start Date: 7/1/03

DOT Segment One is complete between the Kissimmee River and the St. Lucie Canal (26 miles)

DOT Segment Two is completed between Moore Haven and Pahokee (36 miles)

OGT/DOT SR78 2.5 miles of 3-mile segment in Fisheating Creek area complete.

OGT design of Taylor Creek Pedestrian Bridge, underway. Construction of 7 miles of paved LOST in Glades County entering design phase, to be constructed by DOT using OGT funds. Expect completion in 2012.

Finish Date: Completion date will depend on monies from D.E.P.

Detailed Project Budget Information (1000s)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Balance to complete	Total
Federal	5,600	6,900							12,500
State					*1,000	**1,000	**500	***12,000	14,500
Tribal									
Local									
Other									
Total	5,600	6,900			1,000	1,000	*500	12,000	27,000

* Combined with DOT funding to construct 2.5 miles of the 3 mile trail segment adjacent to SR78 where no levee exists along Fisheating Creek, which has been completed. Balance of 2007 funds, \$714,000, rolled into 2008 and 2009 funds for improvements identified in ** below.

**Funds combined to design Taylor Creek pedestrian bridge and construct 7 miles of paved trail in Glades County. Construction of Taylor Creek pedestrian bridge dependant on future funding.

*** DOT cost per mile 7 years ago was \$210,000/mile. Balance to complete is currently based on an estimate of \$250,000/mile.

Hyperlink: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/>

Contact: FDEP