

Project Name: C&SF: CERP Florida Keys Tidal Restoration (OPE)
Project ID: 1302 (CERP Project WBS # 31)
Lead Agency: USACE / SFWMD
Authority: WRDA 2000 (*Programmatic Authority < \$25 M*)
Funding Source: Federal/State

Strategic Plan Goal(s) Addressed: 1-A.3

Measurable Output(s): 0.6 miles of impediments removed

April 1999 (Restudy) Project Synopsis: The purpose of this feature is to restore the tidal connection that was eliminated in the early 1900s during the construction of Flagler's railroad. Restoring the circulation to areas of surface water that have been impeded and stagnant for decades will significantly improve water quality, benthic floral and faunal communities, larval distribution of both recreational and commercial species (i.e. spiny lobster), and the overall hydrology of Florida Bay.

The project includes the use of bridges or culverts to restore the tidal connection between Florida Bay and the Atlantic Ocean in Monroe County. The four locations are as follows: (1) Tarpon Creek, just south of Mile Marker 54 on Fat Deer Key (width 150 feet); (2) Unnamed Creek between Fat Deer Key and Long Point Key, south of Mile Marker 56 (width 450 feet); (3) tidal connection adjacent to Little Crawl Key (width 300 feet); and (4) tidal connection between Florida Bay and Atlantic Ocean at Mile Marker 57 (width 2,400 feet).

Current Project Synopsis: Since issuance of the Restudy, various studies and other projects have refined this project's scope.

This project provides for the removal of approximately 0.6 miles of impediments and will restore an historic flow way between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico that were blocked during the early construction of US Highway 1. An existing tidal creek restoration project near the proposed restoration project was fully successful.

A tidal creek near Marathon, Florida was selected for restoration. Culverts to maximize flow will be located, sized, and placed under U.S. 1 between Fat Deer Key and Long Point Key (MM56) to allow tidal exchange and flushing. Monitoring of water quality, benthic community composition, and sediment particle size will be performed before construction, at six months, and one year after construction completion. Additional tidal flow way restoration projects will be subsequently identified based upon the results.

Current Status: Suspended.

Est. Cost: \$ 1,427,000

Project Schedule: TBD

Detailed Project Budget Information (rounded):

Florida Keys Tidal Restoration	Expenditures Thru FY 2011
USACE	\$846,818
SFWMD	\$548,930
Total	\$1,395,748

Hyperlink: http://www.evergladesplan.org/pm/projects/proj_31_fl_keys_tidal.cfm

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Source: Original project description summarized from the *Central and Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study (Restudy) (1999)*. Cost estimate information is updated to reflect current price levels in October 2009 dollars. Actual expenditures include all federal expenditures through FY09 (Sept, 2009) and sponsor verified and recorded in kind credit through 4th quarter FY07.

Additional Information:

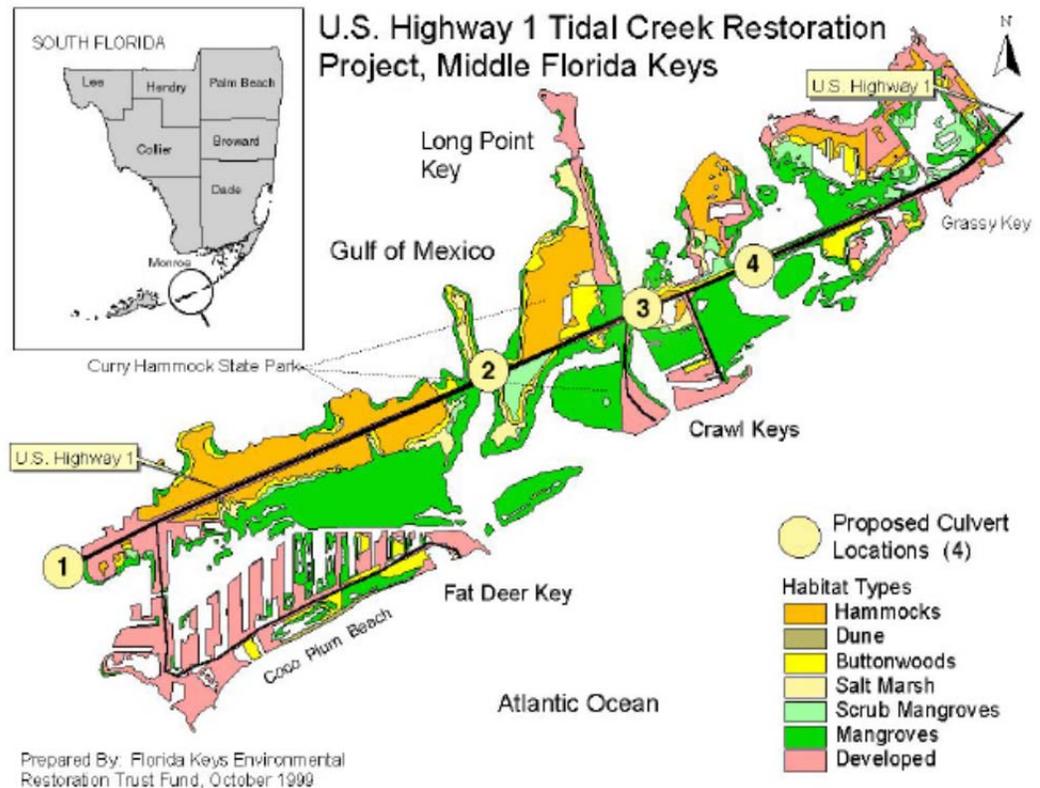


Figure 1
Florida Keys Tidal Restoration Project Area