



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®  
Jacksonville District



**OCTOBER 2010**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Site 1 Impoundment / Fran Reich Preserve Project, a component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), will capture and store excess surface water runoff from the Hillsboro watershed as well as releases from the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge and Lake Okeechobee. Located in the Hillsboro Canal Basin in southern Palm Beach County, the project will supplement water deliveries to the Hillsboro Canal by capturing and storing excess water currently discharged to the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. These supplemental deliveries will reduce demands on the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (LNWR). The 1,660 acre impoundment will also provide groundwater recharge, reduce seepage from adjacent natural areas, and prevent saltwater intrusion by releasing impounded water back to the Hillsboro Canal when conditions dictate.

The CERP non-federal sponsor, the South Florida Water Management District, transferred the lead role for project design and construction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project includes a 1,660-acre above-ground reservoir, an inflow pump station, discharge gated culvert, emergency overflow spillway and a seepage control canal with associated features.

## **PROJECT SPLIT INTO TWO**

The original acquisition strategy for the Site 1 project involved only one contract. Congress authorized project construction funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009; however, this was not enough to fund the entire project. Also, due to ARRA funding guidelines, the project team had to identify a standalone and usable portion of the project to execute the ARRA funds. The D-525N embankment (L-40 modifications) and construction of the S-530 spillway were identified as a standalone and usable portion of the project.

The first contract (Phase 1), D-525N (L-40 Modifications) and Miscellaneous Features, includes clearing, grubbing and dewatering activities, demolition work, establishing onsite borrow and disposal areas, earthwork modifications to about 15,000-linear feet

of the existing L-40 levee, installing dam monitoring instrumentation, and emplacing turf reinforcement mat and soil cement. The project also includes construction of a six-acre wildlife wetland area and auxiliary spillway, S-530, located in D-525N.

These Phase 1 features will reduce the amount of seepage loss from the adjacent LNWR, also known as Water Conservation Area I. Reducing seepage will help increase the amount of water that remains in that natural system, especially during dry periods. Maintaining the additional water will allow for ecological habitat improvements in the LNWR.

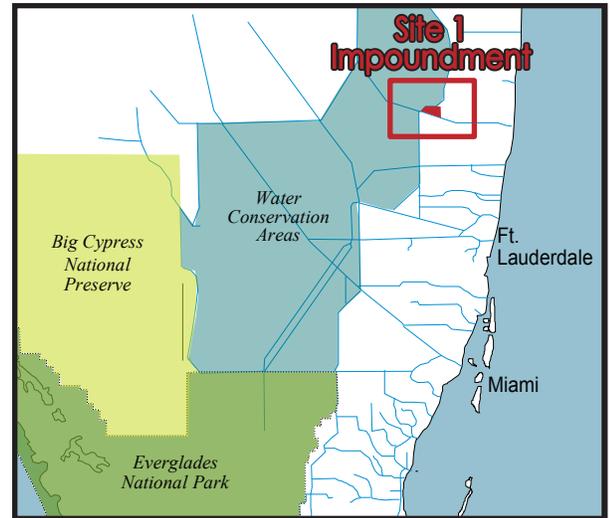
A second contract (Phase 2) will complete the Site 1 Impoundment project. Work will include additional



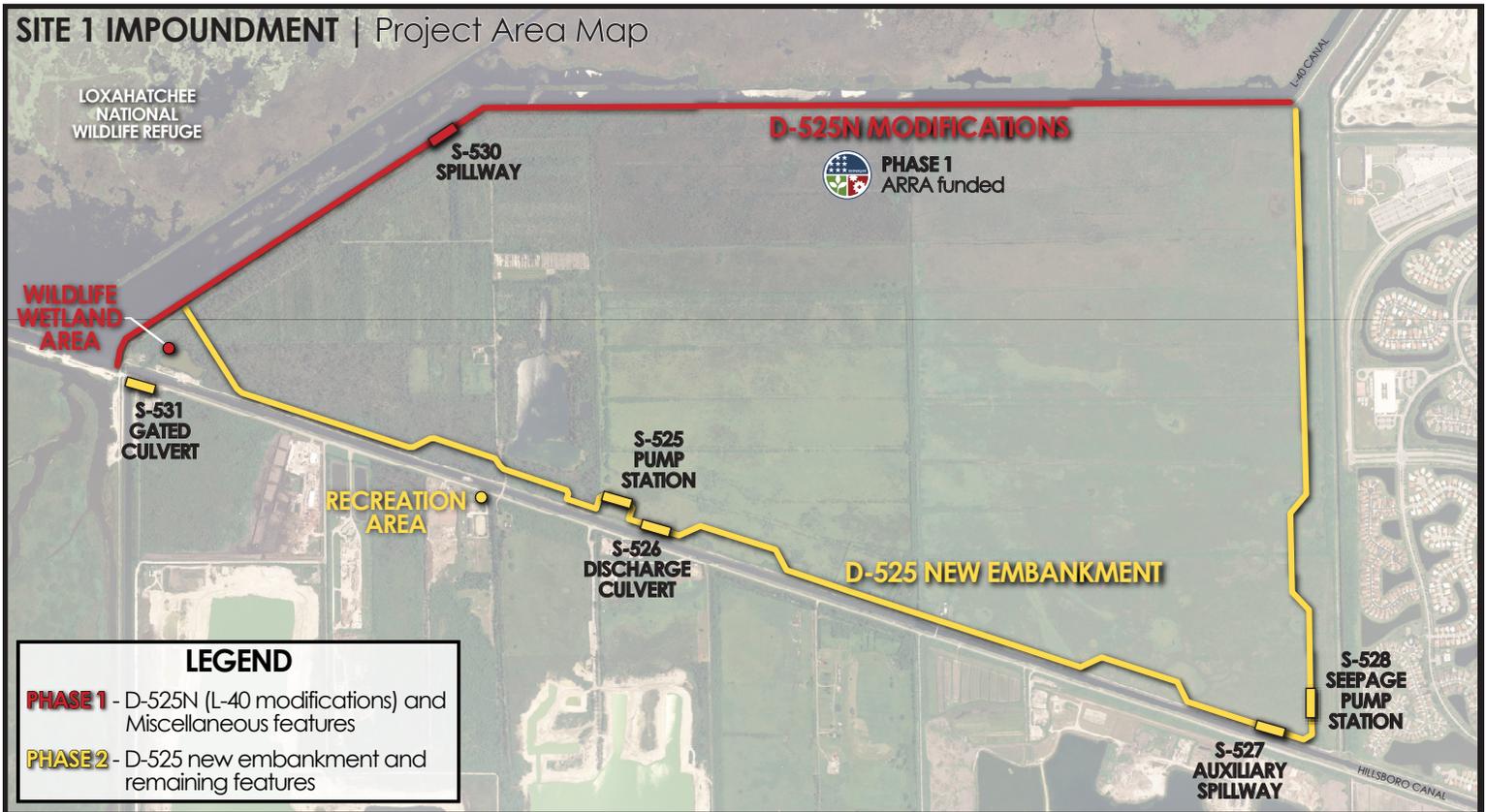
# SITE 1 IMPOUNDMENT | Fran Reich Preserve

site clearing, grubbing, miscellaneous demolitions, excavation and filling, construction of inflow and seepage pump stations, associated impoundment structures, canal improvements, D-525 embankment, embankment instrumentation, placement of geocells on embankment exterior, placement of smooth flat plate soil cement on embankment interior and other miscellaneous site work such as security fencing, gates, paving, storm structures, site pads, weep holes and a recreational area. These contract tasks are only draft; the Corps will finalize features in the contract design, which it anticipates completing in 2011.

The Site 1 Impoundment Project is a 50/50 cost-share. The Corps anticipates Phase 1 construction to go from October 2010 through October 2012, and Contract 2 construction from September 2011 through March 2014.



## SITE 1 IMPOUNDMENT | Project Area Map



## FOR MORE INFORMATION



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Jacksonville District

Project Manager  
Jason Harrah  
P.O. Box 4970  
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019  
(904) 232-1381  
jason.s.harrah@usace.army.mil  
www.saj.usace.army.mil



[sfwmd.gov](http://sfwmd.gov)

Project Manager  
Jeff Needle  
P.O. Box 24680  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680  
(561) 681-2563 ext. 3717  
jneedle@sfwmd.gov  
www.sfwmd.gov

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

