

**Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)
Site 1 Impoundment, Revised Draft Project
Implementation Report (PIR) & Environmental
Assessment (EA)**

Briefing to the Task Force

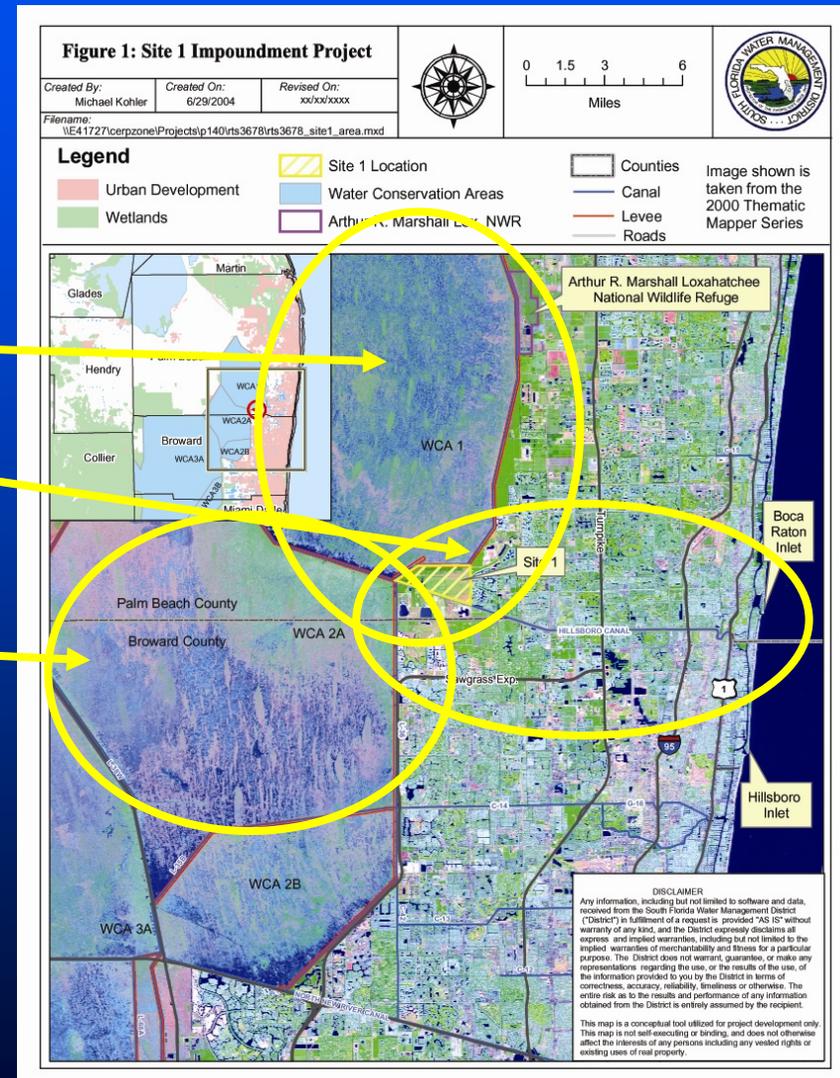
February 2006

Site 1 Impoundment Recommended Plan

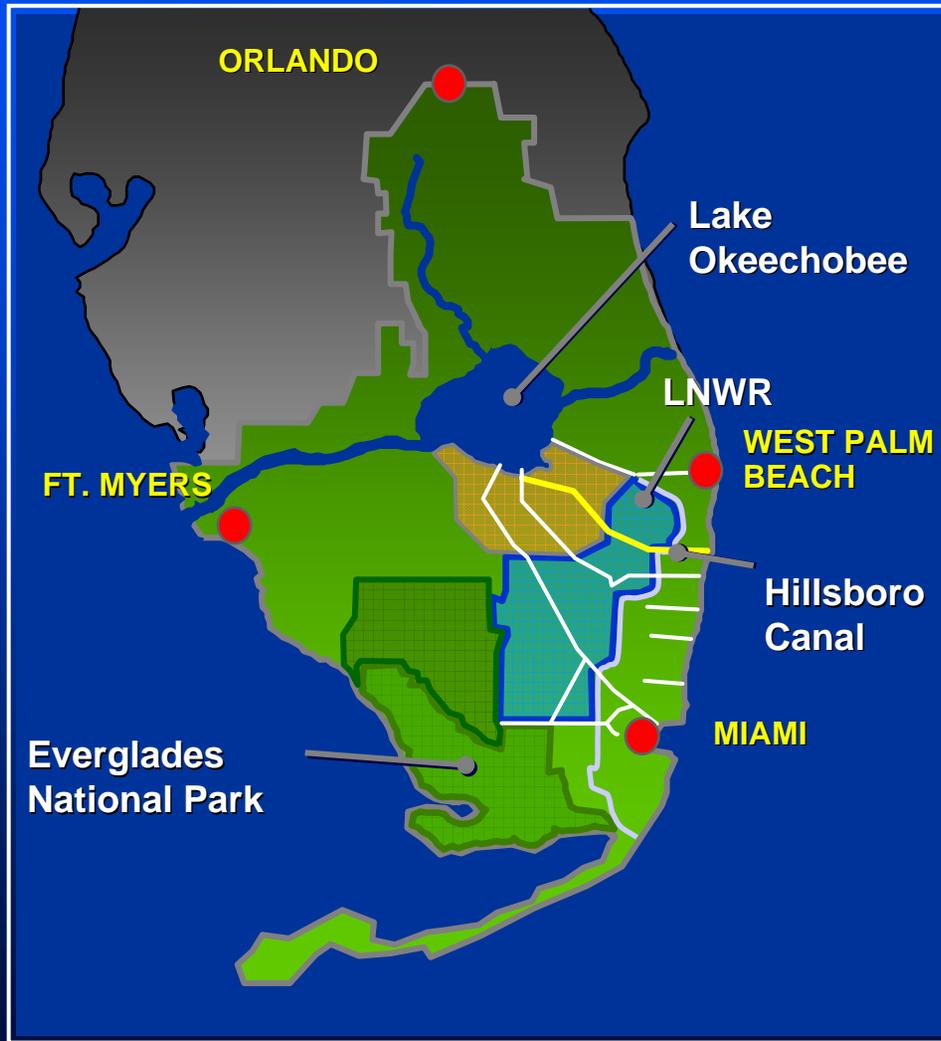
- 1,660 acre Impoundment at approximately 8 feet deep
 - Seepage collection system
 - Internal levee and structures
 - Hillsboro Canal Improvement
 - Recreation features of Recommended Plan
- Cost
 - Initial - \$50,046,000
 - Annual - \$4,481,000
- Project conditionally authorized by WRDA 2000 after PIR review and approval by the Secretary of the Army
- Funding contingent upon approval by resolutions of Congressional Committees

Study Area

- Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
- Hillsboro Canal Basin
- Water Conservation Area 2A



Site 1 Impoundment Project Purpose



- Capture and store the excess surface water runoff from the Hillsboro Watershed as well as releases made from Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (LNWR) and Lake Okeechobee which were historically discharged to tide via Hillsboro Canal
- This will help maintain water levels in the natural system and meet water demands

Problems & Opportunities

- Substantial reduction in habitat quality and availability for fish and wildlife in LNWR, WCA-2A, and estuarine portion of Hillsboro Canal
- Too much natural system water withdrawn for water supply
- Too much fresh water discharged to tide for flood protection
- Adverse changes to natural system hydroperiods and hydropatterns
- Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan identifies recreation deficits of freshwater fishing and hiking
- Opportunity to capture and store water
- Opportunity to provide recreation for the economy of south Florida

Planning Objectives

- Maximize the amount of water available to the greater Everglades system
- Reduce damaging fresh water discharges to the estuarine system
- Improve/increase ecosystem function and quality of natural areas in the LNWR, and Water Conservation Area 2A (WCA-2A)
- Increase spatial extent of functional estuarine habitat
- Improve recreation at the project site



Planning Constraints

- Savings Clause for flood protection and water supply
- Project cannot cause or contribute to violations of WQ standards
- Adjacent land use

Initial Array of Alternatives

- **1) No-Action (future-without project)**
- **2) CERP-SP (starting point)**
Included a 1,660-acre impoundment at 6-feet depth
- **3) D13R (Restudy Selected Plan)**
Included a 2,460-acre impoundment at 6-feet depth
- **4) WPAFS (Alternative Number 3)**
Included a 2,246-acre impoundment at 6-feet depth
- **5) SP (WPAFS Selected Plan)**
Included a 1,660-acre impoundment at 8-feet depth
- **6) Smaller Impoundment (SI)**
Included an 830-acre impoundment at 6-feet depth
- **7) Larger Impoundment (LI)**
Included consideration of an impoundment greater than the volume provided by 2,460-acre impoundment at 8-feet depth

Final Array of Alternatives

Two final structural alternatives (NER) alternatives were identified in addition to the no action alternative:

- Alternative A (no action)
- Alternative B (1,660 acre impoundment at 6-foot depth)
- Alternative C (1,660 acre impoundment at 8-foot depth)

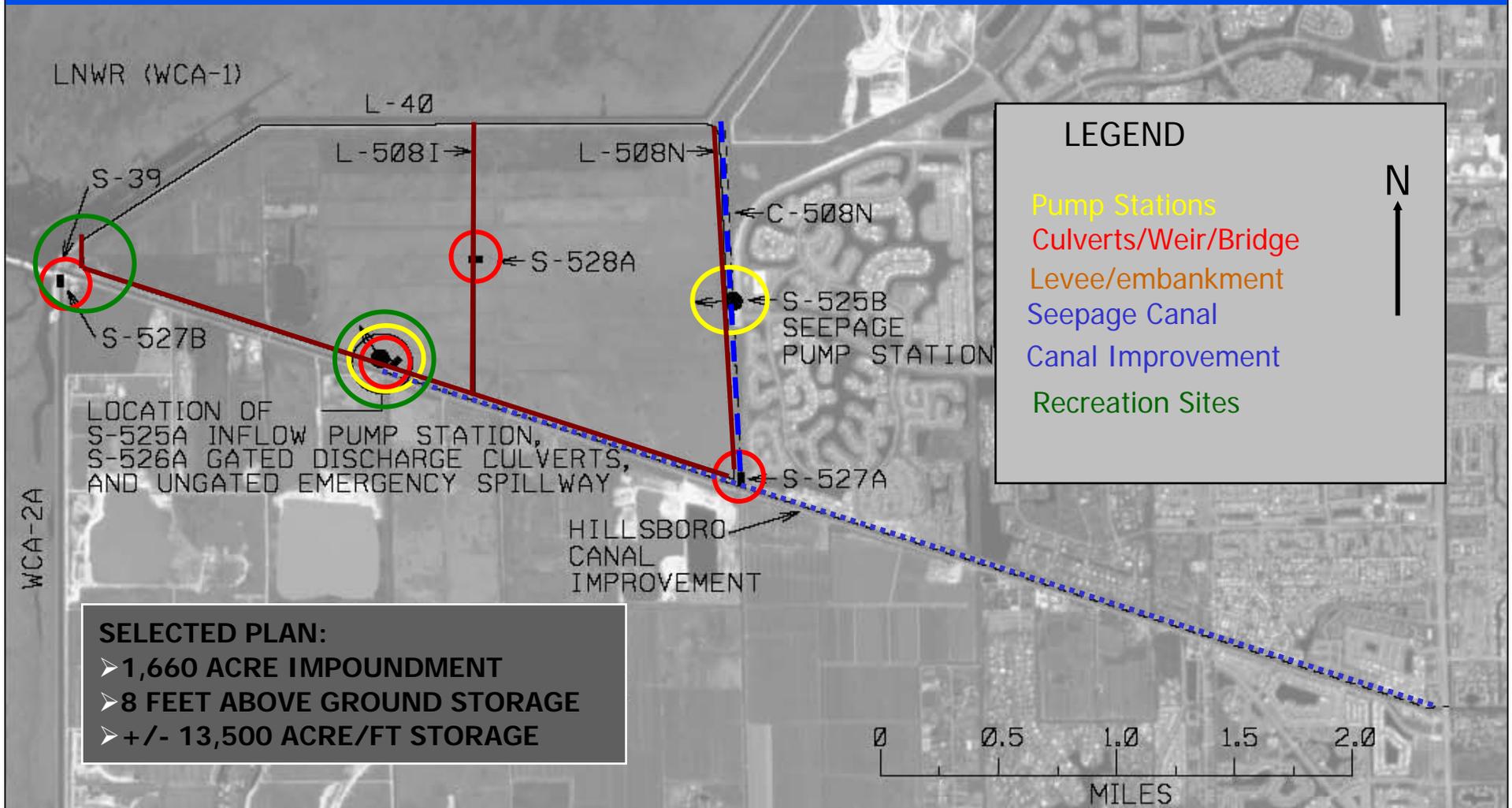
Project Assurances and the Savings Clause

- Identified beneficial water in Refuge and Everglades National Park
- Identified water to meet the other water related needs of the region
- Reduces water withdrawn from the Refuge
- No adverse effect on existing legal sources of water
- No adverse effect on the level of service for flood protection

Recommended Plan – Alternative C

- 1,660 acre Impoundment at approximately 8 feet deep
 - Seepage collection system
 - Internal levee and structures
 - Hillsboro Canal Improvement
 - Recreation features of Recommended Plan
- Produces the greatest amount of NER benefits
- Cost effective and best buy after Cost Effectiveness/Incremental Cost Analysis (CE/ICA)

Recommended Plan – Alternative C



Project Costs – Recommended Plan

Site 1 Impoundment (Alternative C: 1,660-acres at 8 ft. depth)

| Initial Costs | Cost Estimate |
|---|----------------------|
| Construction Cost | \$35,661,600 |
| Non-Construction Costs | |
| Lands and Damages | \$8,364,000 |
| Pre-Construction, Engineering, and Design | \$3,491,300 |
| Construction Management | \$2,529,100 |
| Sub-Total, Non-Construction Costs | \$14,384,400 |
| Total Initial Cost | \$50,046,000 |
| Annual Costs | |
| Interest and Amortization | \$3,388,500 |
| OMRR&R | \$760,000 |
| Restoration | \$755,500 |
| Recreation | \$5,000 |
| Monitoring | \$332,800 |
| Total Annual Cost | \$4,481,800 |

Project Implementation

- Revised Draft PIR/EA released for public review and comment: January 2006-February 2006
- Final PIR/EA completed: April 2006
- Began Design (via Acceler8 program): Mar 2005
- Begin Construction (via Acceler8): August 2006
- Section 404 Permit Application from Sponsor – Currently under review by Regulatory Division