

# Central and Southern Florida Project Comprehensive Review Study (The Restudy)

## Facts & Statistics

### FACTS ON THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

**Estimated cost of recommended plan:** - \$7.8 billion/\$182 million annually for maintenance and operation

**Cost sharing:** 50% federal; 50% state of Florida

**Implementation time:** Over 20 years

**Number of project features:** - 68 proposed features/components

**Miles of levees and canals removed:** 240 miles

**Amount of "new" water delivered to system:** 1.1 million acre feet available per year ( To imagine an acre foot think of a football field without the end zones under a foot of water.)

**Distribution of "new" water:** 80% to environmental/20% to urban-agricultural

### FACTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

**Composition of Restudy team:** More than 150 interdisciplinary experts

**Two-phase study process:** Reconnaissance report completed in Nov. 1994

Feasibility report completed in April 1999

**Report Contents:** 10 volumes totaling more than 4,000 pages

**Number of participating organizations:** More than 30 entities including federal, state, local governments; tribal interests, drainage

### THE EXISTING CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA PROJECT

**Initial Authorization:** 1948

**Construction Initiated:** In 1950

**Purpose/Benefits:** Provide flood protection, provide water, facilitate navigation and recreation. Prevent salt water from seeping into fresh groundwater supply. Protect fish and wildlife resources.

**Flood control damages prevented:** About \$500 million to date

**Features:**

-- 720 miles of Levees

-- 1,000 miles of canals

-- 16 pumping stations

-- 200 gates and other water control structures

### FACTS ON SOUTH FLORIDA

**Composition:** Includes 16 counties covering 18,000 square miles

**Population:** *Now* -- 6.3 million people accounting for nearly half (49 percent) of Florida's total

**Population Projections:** By 2010 – 8 million -- *by* 2050 – 12-15 million

**Population Concentration:** More than 60 percent of the area's population (31% of Florida's population) is concentrated in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties, also known as the lower east coast

**Amount of land in public ownership:** Almost one-third

**Climate:** Subtropical with 2 seasons -- wet summer, dry winter  
**Average rainfall:** 62 inches annually with 80% mid-May to November

#### FACTS ON SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM

**Historic Everglades:** 3 million acres or about 4,700 square miles; 100 miles long, 40 miles wide

**Gradient from Lake Okeechobee to Florida Bay:** 1 foot every 10 miles

**Number of identified species:** Thousands of identified plant and animal species

**Number of endangered/threatened species:** 68 (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and plants)

#### **Ecosystem Problems:**

- 90-95% reduction in wading bird population
- 1.7 billion gallons of water per day on average lost through discharge to the ocean
- 1 million acres of the ecosystem are under health advisories for mercury contamination
- Over 1.5 million acres are infested invasive, exotic plants
- Declining population levels of commercially and recreationally important fish species in the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee Estuaries, and Biscayne and Florida Bays

**Number of national parks and refuges:** 11

#### FACTS ON SOUTH FLORIDA ECONOMY

**Economic Base:** Services, agriculture and tourism, \$200 billion per year

#### **Agricultural Highlights:**

- Agricultural production in South Florida, excluding the EAA, consists of winter vegetables, tropical fruits and vegetables, citrus and nursery crops.
- Florida is the national leader in citrus fruit production and the manufacture of processed citrus products, accounting for 80% of the nation's citrus production.
- Florida is the world's leader in grapefruit production
- Florida produces 100% of the Nation's tangelos and over 95% of its limes

#### **Tourism Highlights:**

- 6.3 million visitors annually to the principal Everglades parks and preserves with associated revenues of over \$400 million
- Over 16 million annual user occasions of wildlife watching in the region

#### **Commercial and Recreational Fishing Highlights:**

- South Florida's commercial fisheries revenues: \$18 million annually
- South Florida's recreational fishing associated revenues: \$600 million

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