

# **COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN**

## **EVERGLADES AGRICULTURAL AREA STORAGE RESERVOIRS PHASE 1 PROJECT**

### **Public Workshop**

**January 21, 2003  
6:30 p. m. – 8:30 p. m.**

**Lake Shore Middle School  
465 W. Canal Street  
Belle Glade, Florida**

**Presented by:**

**U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District**

**And**

**South Florida Water Management District**



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## **Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Storage Reservoirs Phase 1**

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Jacksonville District, and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is hosting this public workshop in order to receive input for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the EAA Storage Reservoirs Phase 1 project from the general public as well as to inform the public of the project's progress. The workshop is part of the scoping phase for projects requiring an EIS. There will be an open house from 6:30 to 7:00 pm with the presentations beginning at 7:00 pm. During the workshop, the USACE and SFWMD staff and their consultants will describe the EAA project and obtain public comments on the project.

### **Project Background**

- April 1999 – C&SF Project Comprehensive Review Study, Final Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (better known as the Restudy) published
  - May 2000 – Design Agreement between the Department of the Army and South Florida Water Management District signed
  - August 2000 – Master Program Management Plan for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan published
  - December 2000 – Water Resources Development Act of 2000 signed
  - February 2002 – EAA Storage Reservoirs Phase 1 Project Management Plan Approved
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### **Interagency Team Leaders**

#### **U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District - Lead Federal Agency**

- Brad Clark, Project Manager
- Stuart McLean, Planning Technical Leader
- Janet Cushing, Biologist

#### **South Florida Water Management District - Non-Federal Sponsor**

- Angela Prymas, Project Manager
  - Lewis Hornung, Regional Project Manager
  - David Stewart, Kimley-Horn
  - Angelina Fairchild, Kimley-Horn
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## **Public Involvement**

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### **Goals of the Workshop**

- To inform the public about the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Storage Reservoirs Part 1 project, which is a joint effort by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District.
  - To solicit initial public comment at an early stage in the project scoping process, and to address as many of those comments as possible during the study's public involvement process.
  - To review and consider all comments, written and oral. Please provide written comments within 30 days of the workshop to ensure consideration in the Project Implementation Report (PIR).
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### **Upcoming Public Involvement Opportunities**

Additional opportunities for public input will be provided during this study. Follow-up workshops will be scheduled during the PIR phase of the project to solicit additional public input. Notices will be mailed to all those interested parties who have signed-in and provided their mailing address during this workshop.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires a scoping process which includes public, interested parties, local, State and Federal agency input on major federal actions that may have a significant affect on the human environment.

Through NEPA, federal agencies are required to prepare a "Detailed Statement" for the proposed major action that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. This statement provides a discussion of significant impacts and shall inform decision-makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.

This public workshop represents one of multiple efforts to ensure that the public is involved in the scoping process for this project.

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# EAA STORAGE RESERVOIRS PHASE 1 PROJECT

## Goals and Objectives

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- Improved environmental releases through storage of water in the flood control stages and release of the water to the Everglades during the dry season demand
- Flood control and irrigation for the agricultural community currently served by the EAA canals
- Reduction of the Lake Okeechobee regulatory releases to the estuaries by sending the water south and into the reservoirs
- Improved overall efficiency of Stormwater Treatment Area 3/4 for treatment of water held in the reservoirs and treated in the STA and treated water discharged to Water Conservation Areas 2A and 3A

## Major Features

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- 240,000 ac-ft of storage with associated inflow, and possible outflow, pump stations and water control structures
- Improved conveyance capacity for the Miami Canal, North New River Canal, Bolles Canal and Cross Canal

## Schedule and Estimated Costs

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<u>TASK</u>	<u>DATE COMPLETE</u>	
Project Management Plan	February 2002	
Project Implementation Report	August 2004	
Design	March 2005	
Plans and Specifications	December 2005	
Construction	September 2009	
TOTAL COST		\$233,109,000

## Internet Web Sites

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General information: [www.evergladesplan.org](http://www.evergladesplan.org)      [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov)      [www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil)  
Project-specific information: [www.evergladesplan.org/pm/projects/proj\\_08.cfm](http://www.evergladesplan.org/pm/projects/proj_08.cfm)