



News Release

SFWMD Governing Board Fully Funds EAA Reservoir Project's STA

Final \$64 million in funding from DEP will fully fund crucial project identified by Gov. Ron DeSantis as priority for Everglades restoration

Blasting for canals that will serve EAA Reservoir Project's Stormwater Treatment Area

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board today unanimously approved fully funding the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir Project's Stormwater Treatment Area (STA).

"Today's vote will fully fund the Stormwater Treatment Area, the state's portion of the EAA Reservoir Project, and help us continue to expedite this critical project," said **SFWMD Governing Board Chairman Chauncey Goss**. "Under the leadership of Gov. Ron DeSantis, we are already turning dirt ahead of schedule to make this project a reality sooner. The EAA Reservoir Project is critical to reducing damaging discharges, sending more water south, and storing excess rainfall."

The \$64 million transfer from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection will provide SFWMD all the funds it needs to complete the 6,500-acre STA that will clean water stored in the 240,000 acre-foot EAA Reservoir and allow it to be moved south to the Everglades. SFWMD expects to complete the STA portion of the project by 2023.

When used in conjunction with other critical Everglades restoration projects that will be completed over the next several years, the EAA Reservoir

Project will reduce environmentally damaging discharges from Lake Okeechobee to the northern estuaries. The project will also increase the flow of clean water south to Everglades National Park.

The reservoir and STA are a combined Everglades restoration effort being completed by SFWMD and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The reservoir is one of more than two dozen projects that Gov. DeSantis identified shortly after taking office in 2019 as key priorities for Everglades restoration. DeSantis directed state agencies in Executive Order 19-12 to expedite the completion of these projects to support Everglades restoration and state water quality improvements.

Media Contact:

Randy Smith | rrsmith@sfwmd.gov | Office: 561-682-6197 | Cell: 561-389-3386

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern part of the state. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Our mission is to safeguard and restore South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region's water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders.

Connect with us:



This email was sent to hammo66@aol.com using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: South Florida Water Management District · 3301 Gun Club Road · West Palm Beach, FL · 33406

GOVDELIVERY 