

## **REAL ESTATE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- DATE:** January 13, 2011
- PROJECT:** South Florida Water Management District Florida Forever Work Plan
- PURPOSE:** 2011 Annual Update Contained in Chapter 6A, Volume II of the South Florida Environmental Report
- RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the SFWMD Florida Forever Work Plan, 2011 Annual Update, contained in Chapter 6A, Volume II of the South Florida Environmental Report; providing an effective date.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** The 2011 SFER – Volume II, Chapter 6A presents the 2011 Florida Forever Work Plan.

The Plan identifies the projects eligible for funding under the Florida Forever Act, as well as projects eligible for state acquisition monies from the appropriate account or trust fund under Section 373.139, Florida Statutes. Additionally, estimates of revenues and expenditures for fiscal years 2011 – 2015 are provided, along with a summary of land acquisition activity as of September 30, 2010. Details on the District's land management activities are presented in Volume II, Chapter 6B.

The 2011 Florida Forever Work Plan identifies 56 eligible projects, which include the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Florida Forever/Save Our Rivers, Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program, and other related projects. In this reporting period, the Source Control and Sub-Regional Water Quality Project has been added to the eligible list of projects. The 2010 adopted amendments adding the Fakahatchee Strand portion of the CERP Picayune Strand Restoration Project and land adjacent to the CERP C-44 Reservoir and STA Indian River Lagoon – South Project also were included. The Kissimmee Chain of Lakes Long-Term Management Plan is substantially complete and has been removed from the list. Additionally, the CERP expedited projects have been merged with the larger CERP projects.

For FY2011–FY2015, the estimated expenditures for eligible projects total \$614 million, of which \$539 million will be used to construct projects. The remaining \$75 million has been designated for land acquisition, of which \$27 million will be reserved for future acquisitions.

Five-year funding projections are conservatively estimated to include the Florida Forever/Save Our Everglades Trust Fund (FF/SOETF) funds totaling \$41 million and \$282 million, respectively.

These funding projections exclude the River of Grass land acquisition, as it is not anticipated that FF/SOETF funds will be used for this project. In benefit of Everglades restoration, the *River of Grass* land purchase of 26,800 acres costing \$194.5 million closed in October 2011.

### **FY2010 LAND ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS**

- The SFWMD obtained 2,492 acres of land and expended a total of \$32.3 million during the period
- 1,192.63 acres acquired through purchase, exchange, and off-site mitigation, and 1,299.67 acres acquired through donation

- Expended \$24.5 million to purchase 130 acres for CERP projects; an additional 87 acres of easements were granted to the District through donation
- Expended \$233,500 to acquire 130 acres of real estate interests for the Kissimmee River Restoration Project
- The SFWMD and state-funded land acquisitions totaled \$357,029
- FF/SOETF funded acquisitions totaled \$710,380 and \$24.5 million, respectively
- Expended \$33,858 of mitigation funds to acquire 10 acres of natural lands in the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) Project
- A total of 872 acres located within Stormwater Treatment Area 1 East were conveyed by the federal government to the District in FY2010, representing an expenditure of \$6.7 million in federal funds
- As of September 30, 2010, a total of 232,505 acres, or 60 percent, of land needed to implement CERP were acquired
- As an external acquisition partner, Miami-Dade County continues to acquire land located within CERP and FF/SOR projects; in FY2010, Miami-Dade County acquired a total of 1,434 acres for \$1.66 million within District projects
- Through donations and exchanges of land, state, federal, and local governments contributed over half the land acquired in the fiscal year

## CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES UNDER FLORIDA FOREVER

The District's land acquisitions over the last decade have paved the way for groundbreakings and construction starts of several CERP projects in FY2010, including the Picayune Strand Restoration, C-111 Spreader Canal – Phase 1, and Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands, Deering Estate Flow-Way projects. Construction of the Kissimmee River boat ramp – the first recreational project funded through Florida Forever Program – is nearly complete and is expected to be available for public use in 2011.

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