

## LAND ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**PROJECT:** CERP Site 1 Impoundment Project

**COUNTY:** Palm Beach

**REQUEST:** Authorize declaring surplus land interests containing 15.80 acres, more or less, in Palm Beach County, Florida, together with the District's interest in and privilege to mine and develop all phosphate, minerals, metals and petroleum in, on or under said property, entering into an Interlocal Agreement with Lake Worth Drainage District for the exchange of land interests consisting of 20.03 acres, more or less, located in Palm Beach County, Florida, to be conveyed by Lake Worth Drainage District to the District for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Site 1 Impoundment Project, in exchange for 15.80 acres, more or less, located in Palm Beach County, Florida, to be conveyed to Lake Worth Drainage District, and providing for the release from United States Department of Interior Grant Agreement Number FB-1 of the land interests to be conveyed to Lake Worth Drainage District and substitution of other equivalent District land interests in their place; providing an effective date.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) owns approximately 1660 acres of land in southern Palm Beach County acquired in 1996 with Department of Interior funding. These lands comprise the CERP Site I Impoundment Project (Project). The Project, to be implemented by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps"), will store water that would otherwise flow to the Atlantic Ocean. This will provide numerous benefits including increased water supplies, habitat restoration, improvement to Lake Okeechobee and coastal estuaries, groundwater recharge, reduced saltwater intrusion, and decreased seepage out of the Everglades.

**CONSIDERATIONS:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps") is preparing to construct a reservoir and related water conveyance features commencing in early 2010. The Project Design Plans are 60% complete and encroach into a Lake Worth Drainage District (LWDD) Canal Right of Way that encumbers a 20.03 acre portion of the property. To avoid delay to the Corps' construction schedule and the additional expense associated with revising the Project design, SFWMD has negotiated an Interlocal Agreement with LWDD outlining an exchange of land interests whereby LWDD will convey the 20.03 acres to SFWMD in exchange for 15.80 acres not required for Project purposes. This proposed exchange of land interests will resolve the encroachment issue and allow the Corps' planning process to proceed. This Interlocal Agreement was approved by LWDD at their September 16, 2009 Board meeting.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No funding is required for this exchange. However, the 15.80 acre exchange parcel will need to be released from the Department of Interior Grant Agreement No. FB-1 and other equivalent District owned lands replaced in the agreement.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize declaring surplus land interests containing 15.80 acres, more or less, in Palm Beach County, Florida, together with the District's interest in and privilege to mine and develop all phosphate, minerals, metals and petroleum in, on or under said property, entering into an Interlocal Agreement with Lake Worth Drainage District for the exchange of land interests consisting of 20.03 acres, more or less, located in Palm Beach County, Florida, to be conveyed by Lake Worth Drainage District to the District for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Site 1 Impoundment Project, in exchange for

15.80 acres, more or less, located in Palm Beach County, Florida, to be conveyed to Lake Worth Drainage District, and providing for the release from United States Department of Interior Grant Agreement Number FB-1 of the land interests to be conveyed to Lake Worth Drainage District and substitution of other equivalent District land interests in their place; providing an effective date.

**Prepared by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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